

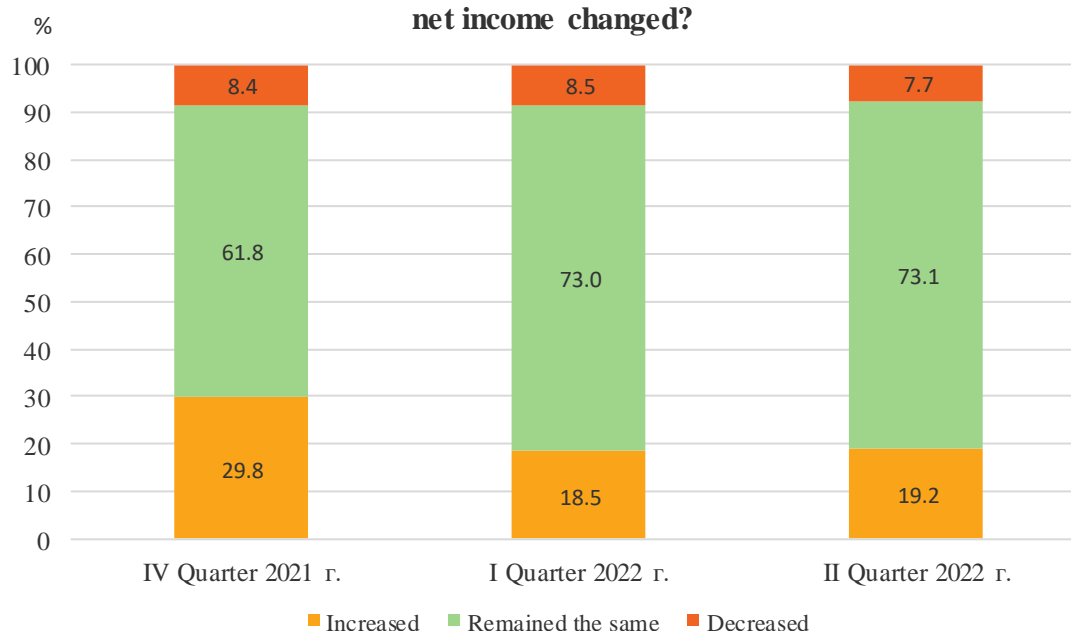
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE UNDER THE HOUSEHOLD BUDGET SURVEY IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2022

In the second quarter of 2022, the National Statistical Institute continued conducting an additional survey to the Household Budget Survey, under ‘Income and Living Conditions (ILC) - Statistical infrastructure under IESS - SILC 2022 module - 2021 and 2022 Infra-annual data collection’ project, the implementation of which is in accordance with Grant Agreement with the European Commission No. 101052273 - 2021-BG-ILC-SILC. The additional survey aims to carry out quarterly monitoring of changes in the living conditions of households because of the COVID-19 pandemic. For the study, 5 740 persons aged 16 and over from 3 053 households were surveyed.

Most household incomes remain unchanged

During the second quarter of 2022, for 73% of the persons, household income remained unchanged compared to the last 12 months. An increase in income was indicated by 19.2% of the persons, which is 0.7 percentage points more compared to the first quarter of 2022 but 10.6 percentage points less compared to the fourth quarter of 2021 when 29.8% of the persons had an increase.

Figure 1. In the past 12 months, how has your total household net income changed?

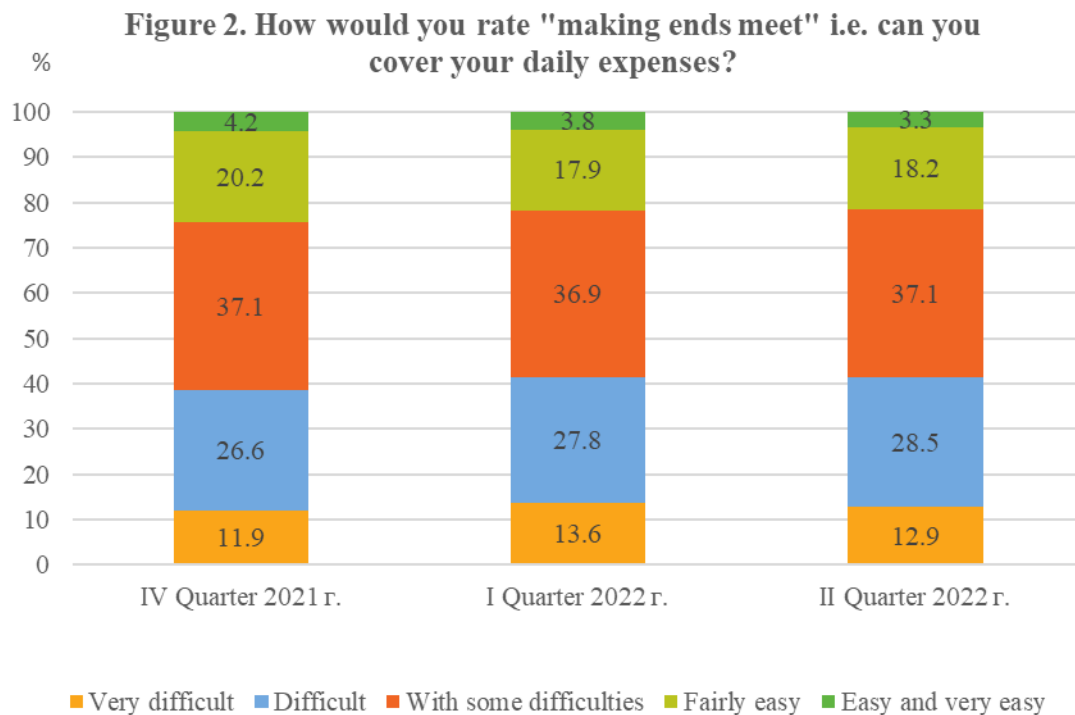


The main reasons for the increase in income in all three surveyed quarters are an increase in pensions and social benefits and indexation/recalculation of the salary.

A decrease in income for the last 12 months was indicated by 7.7% of the persons. As the main reasons are job loss/unemployment/bankruptcy of own enterprise and reduction of working time, wage or salary.

Difficulties in meeting daily expenses remain significant

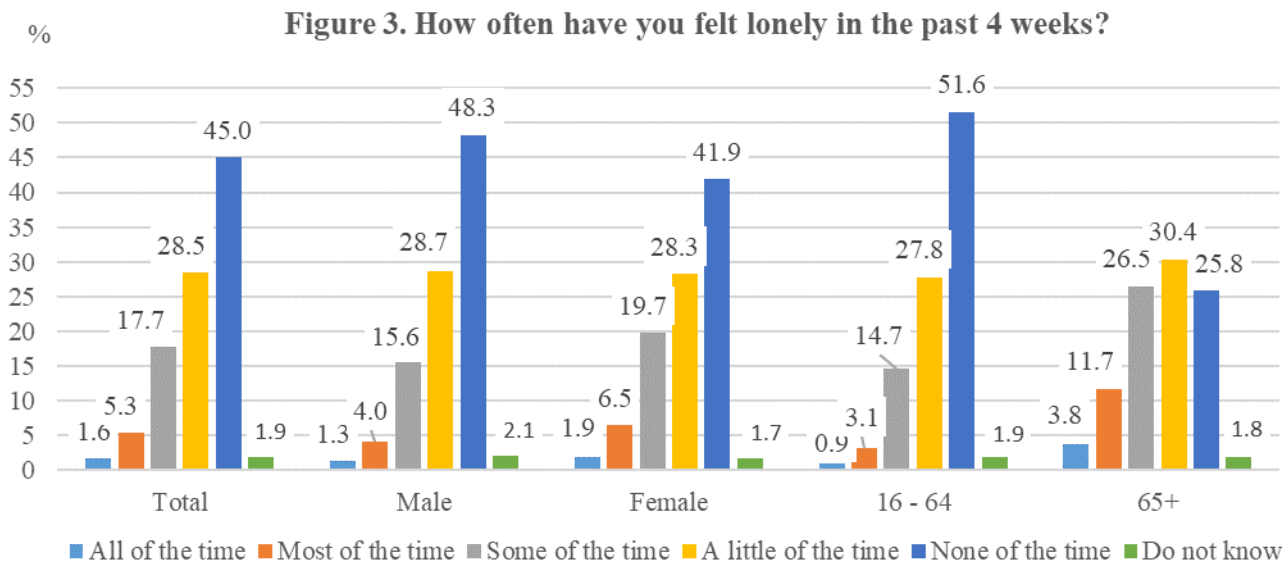
In the second quarter of 2022, as well as the previous two quarters, the share of individuals who have difficulty covering their daily expenses is relatively high - over 75%. 37.1% of individuals have some difficulties, 28.5% define covering daily expenses as difficult, and 12.9% - as very difficult.



18.2% of individuals can fairly easy cover their daily expenses, and only 3.3% do not experience any difficulties. In total, the share of persons without difficulties in the second quarter of 2022 decreased by 0.2 percentage points compared to the first quarter of 2022 and by 2.9 percentage points compared to the fourth quarter of 2021.

The feeling of loneliness prevails among persons 65 and older

In the second quarter of 2022, 6.9% of individuals reported feeling lonely all or most of the time in the past four weeks, while 45.0% did not feel lonely at any time. The feeling of loneliness is more pronounced among women - 8.4% felt lonely all or most of the time, or by 3.1 percentage points more compared to men - 5.3%.



Elderly, who did not feel lonely at any time take a share of 25.8%. Approximately twice as many, or 51.6%, of those aged 16 to 64 had never experienced loneliness in the past four weeks.

Personal relationship satisfaction is the highest

In all three surveyed quarters, the respondents gave a relatively high score regarding their satisfaction with personal relationships with family, friends, neighbours and other persons - an average of about 7 on a scale of measurement from 0 to 10.

The lowest is the average satisfaction of persons aged 16 and over with the financial situation of their households - 4.61 for the fourth quarter of 2021, 4.51 for the first quarter of 2022 and 4.64 for the second quarter of 2022. The level of income affects the overall satisfaction with the financial situation. For the 20 percent of households with the highest net incomes, the average satisfaction of individuals in both quarters is about 6, and for the 20 percent of households with the lowest net incomes, the satisfaction of individuals with the financial situation in both quarters is about 3.

The overall life satisfaction average for respondents was 5.85 in the fourth quarter of 2021, 5.71 in the first quarter of 2022 and 5.96 in the second quarter of 2022, measured on the same 0 to 10 scale.



Methodological notes

Household Budget Survey is a quarterly sample survey on a sample of 3 060 randomly selected households divided into three sub-samples each containing 1 020 households. Each sub-sample is being monitored for 1 month every quarter. Information from the additional questionnaire is collected monthly in the sub-sample active for the respective month, in parallel with the main observation forms of the survey, and is aggregated and processed quarterly.

The additional questionnaire includes two groups of questions: household questions answered by only one member of the household and individual questions answered by each household member aged 16 and over.

The household questions aim to monitor on a quarterly basis the reasons for changes in the current income of the households and possible financial difficulties in paying for some of the basic household expenses. The individual questions refer to the subjective judgments of the respondents about the level of their life satisfaction.

During the additional survey, the Household Budget Survey interviewers personally interview persons aged 16 and over and fill out a paper form. Basic socio-economic characteristics of the monitored persons, registered with the regular forms of the Household Budget Survey, are added to the collected information. Due to the sample nature of the survey, the collected data are weighed and calibrated to obtain the actual number of persons in the country and their structure by sex and age groups (16 - 64 years; 65 years and older).

Annex

Distributions of persons aged 16 and over according to the answers to the survey questions:

In the past 12 months, how has your total household net income changed?	IV Quarter 2021	I Quarter 2022	II Quarter 2022
Increased	29.8	18.5	19.2
Remained the same	61.8	73.0	73.1
Decreased	8.4	8.5	7.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
How would you rate “making ends meet” i.e. can you cover your daily expenses?			
Very difficult	11.9	13.6	12.9
Difficult	26.6	27.8	28.5
With some difficulties	37.1	36.9	37.1
Fairly easy	20.2	17.9	18.2
Easy	3.7	3.4	3.1
Very easy	0.5	0.4	0.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
During the previous quarter, was there a situation where your household has been in arrears, i.e. has been unable to pay on time the loan/mortgage/rent/housing costs for the main dwelling due to financial difficulties?			
Yes	13.7	15.3	13.0
No	86.3	84.7	87.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

How often have you felt lonely in the past 4 weeks?

	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	A little of the time	None of the time	Do not know
IV Quarter 2021						
Total	1.9	7.0	17.2	28.9	43.0	2.0
Male	1.4	6.0	16.4	27.6	46.6	2.0
Female	2.4	8.0	18.0	30.1	39.7	1.9
16 - 64	1.1	4.1	14.5	29.3	49.0	2.0
65+	4.2	15.4	25.1	27.9	25.5	1.9
I Quarter 2022						
Total	1.5	6.5	21.2	31.1	37.6	2.0
Male	1.1	5.5	20.1	31.1	40.1	2.1
Female	2.0	7.4	22.2	31.0	35.4	2.0
16 - 64	0.9	3.8	18.5	31.7	43.1	2.0
65+	3.5	14.6	28.9	29.3	21.7	2.1

How often have you felt lonely in the past 4 weeks?

	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	A little of the time	None of the time	Do not know
II Quarter 2022						
Total	1.6	5.3	17.7	28.5	45.0	1.9
Male	1.3	4.0	15.6	28.7	48.3	2.1
Female	1.9	6.5	19.7	28.3	41.9	1.7
16 - 64	0.9	3.1	14.7	27.8	51.6	1.9
65+	3.8	11.7	26.5	30.4	25.8	1.8

Level of satisfaction on average per person for the persons aged 16 and over on a scale of 0 to 10:

Satisfaction with the financial situation of the household	IV Quarter 2021	I Quarter 2022	II Quarter 2022
	Average value		
Total for the persons aged 16 and over	4.61	4.51	4.64
<i>Activity status</i>			
Employed	5.09	4.97	5.00
Unemployed	3.18	3.10	3.42
Retired	4.26	4.17	4.48
Other	4.45	4.41	4.16
<i>Education</i>			
Primary	3.73	3.64	3.79
Secondary	4.56	4.45	4.63
Higher	5.56	5.45	5.34
<i>Quantile income groups</i>			
Q1 20% households	2.89	2.92	2.85
Q2 20% households	3.88	3.83	3.94
Q3 20% households	4.44	4.35	4.51
Q4 20% households	4.92	4.83	5.10
Q5 20% households	6.17	6.01	5.88



Satisfaction with life these days	IV Quarter 2021	I Quarter 2022	II Quarter 2022
	Average value		
Total for the persons aged 16 and over	5.85	5.71	5.96
<i>Sex</i>			
Male	5.96	5.82	6.08
Female	5.75	5.61	5.86
<i>Age</i>			
Persons aged 16 - 64	6.09	5.94	6.18
Persons aged 65 and over	5.17	5.05	5.33
<i>Activity status</i>			
Employed	6.27	6.14	6.33
Unemployed	4.94	4.65	5.07
Retired	5.14	5.02	5.39
Other	6.34	6.22	6.30
<i>Education</i>			
Primary	5.31	5.17	5.44
Secondary	5.79	5.68	5.95
Higher	6.47	6.25	6.40

Satisfaction with personal relationships with family, friends, neighbours and other people	IV Quarter 2021	I Quarter 2022	II Quarter 2022
	Average value		
Total for the persons aged 16 and over	7.18	7.17	7.27
<i>Sex</i>			
Male	7.19	7.15	7.27
Female	7.17	7.17	7.26
<i>Age</i>			
Persons aged 16 - 64	7.33	7.31	7.41
Persons aged 65 and over	6.74	6.75	6.86
<i>Activity status</i>			
Employed	7.40	7.42	7.48
Unemployed	6.90	6.80	7.03
Retired	6.70	6.73	6.87
Other	7.58	7.37	7.49
<i>Education</i>			
Primary	6.86	6.78	7.09
Secondary	7.13	7.14	7.20
Higher	7.58	7.57	7.61