

Social perception of poverty and income inequalities in Poland based on the Social Cohesion Survey 2015

**SEMINAR ON POVERTY
MEASUREMENT**

GENEVA, 12-13/07/2016

ANNA BIEŃKUŃSKA, CSO OF POLAND

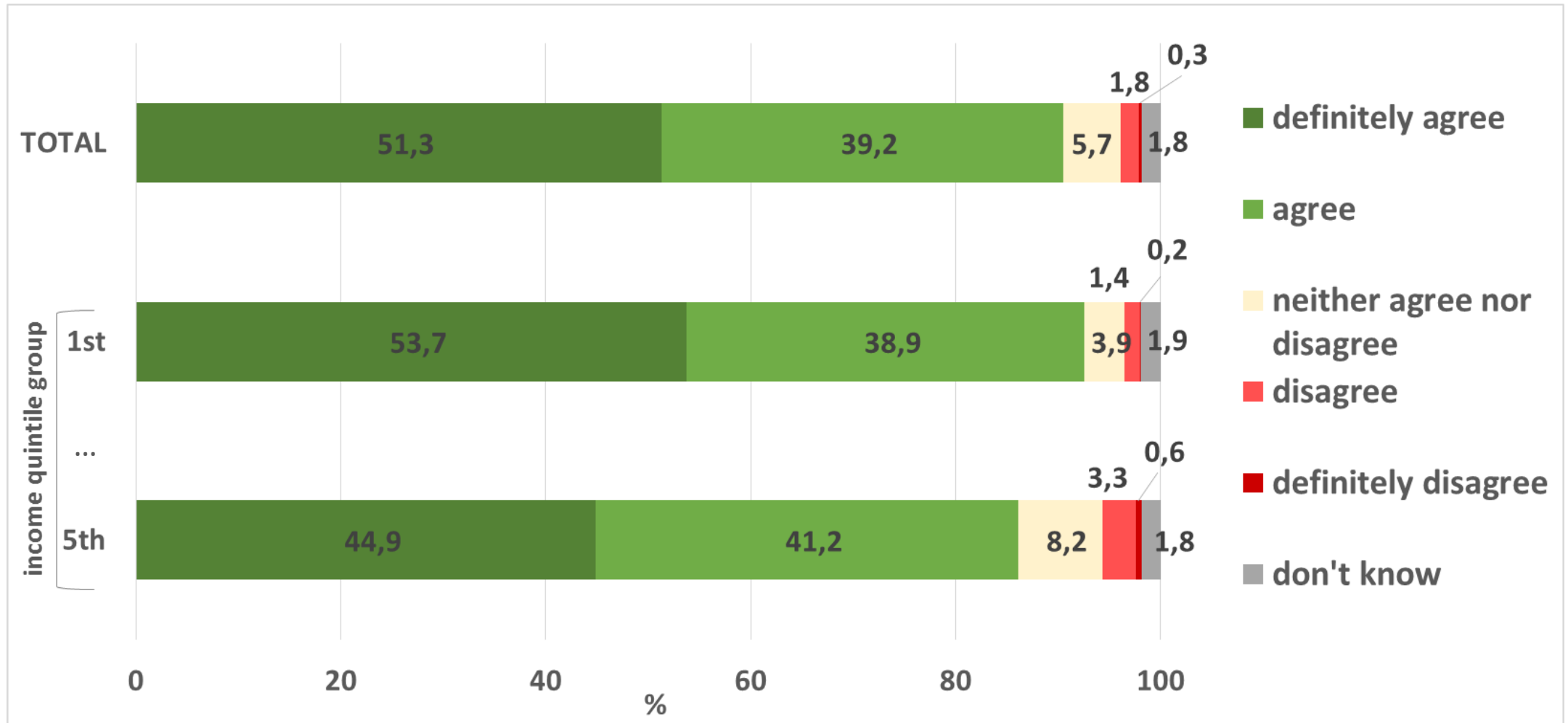
*TOMASZ PIASECKI, STATISTICAL OFFICE
IN ŁÓDŹ*

KAROL SOBESTJAŃSKI, CSO OF POLAND

What people think about income inequalities in Poland?

Please, specify what is your attitude towards the statement:
'the income inequalities in Poland are too large'

% of persons in households aged 16 or more

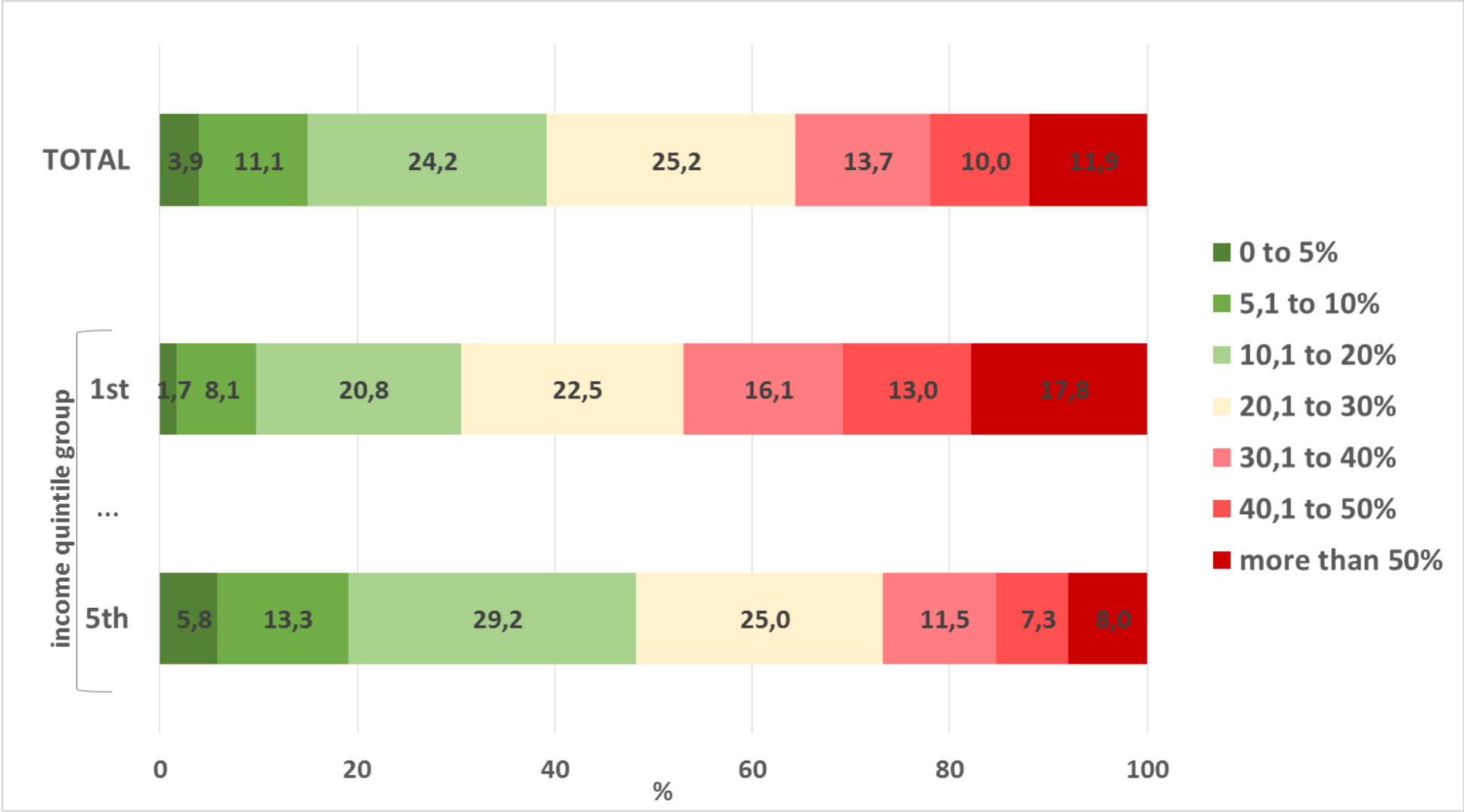


Source: Social Cohesion Survey 2015, CSO of Poland

How people see the scope of poverty and richness?

In your opinion, **what percentage - roughly - do the poor constitute in our country?** That is the people who, among other things, cannot afford to purchase food, clothing and pay their rent. Please specify %.

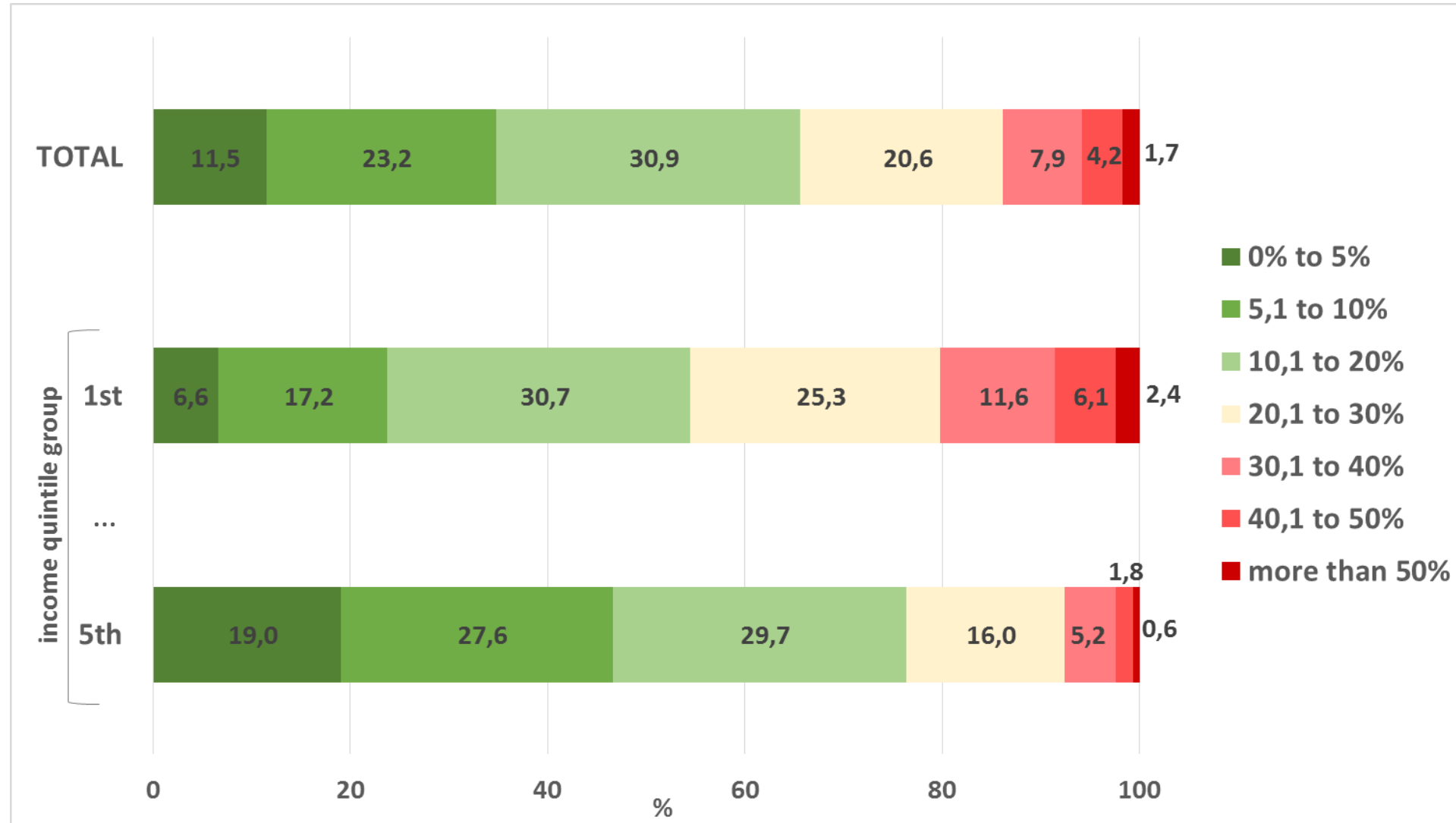
% of persons in households aged 16 or more



Source: Social Cohesion Survey 2015, CSO of Poland

In your opinion, **what percentage - roughly - do the rich constitute in our country?** That is the people who have a lot of money and live much better than others. Please specify %.

% of persons in households aged 16 or more



Source: Social Cohesion Survey 2015, CSO of Poland

What percentage of Polish inhabitants personally know poor and rich people?

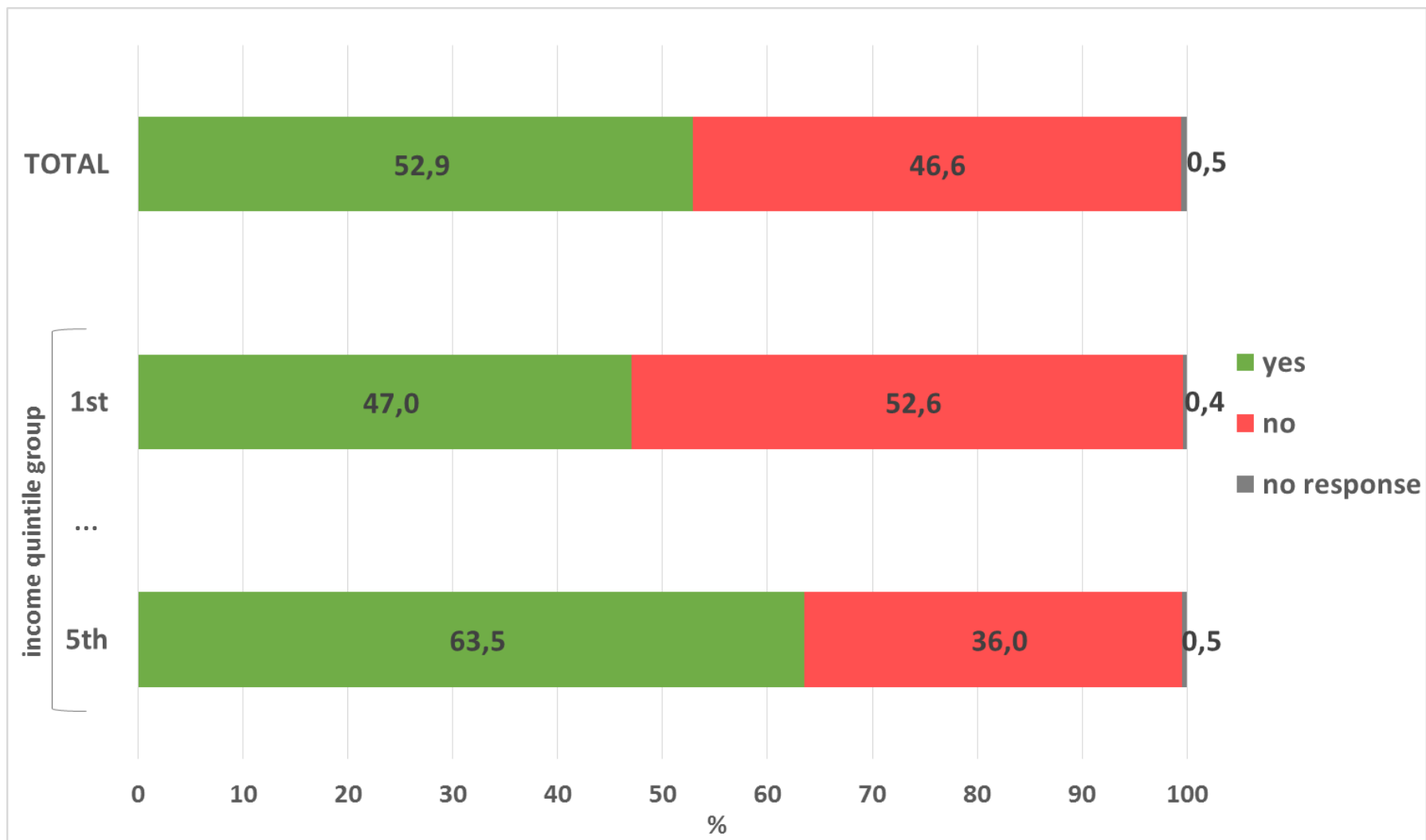
Are there any people among your acquaintances, members of your family, neighbours that **you would consider poor?**

% of persons in households aged 16 or more



Source: Social Cohesion Survey 2015, CSO of Poland

Are there any people among your acquaintances, members of your family, neighbours that **you would consider rich?**
% of persons in households aged 16 or more

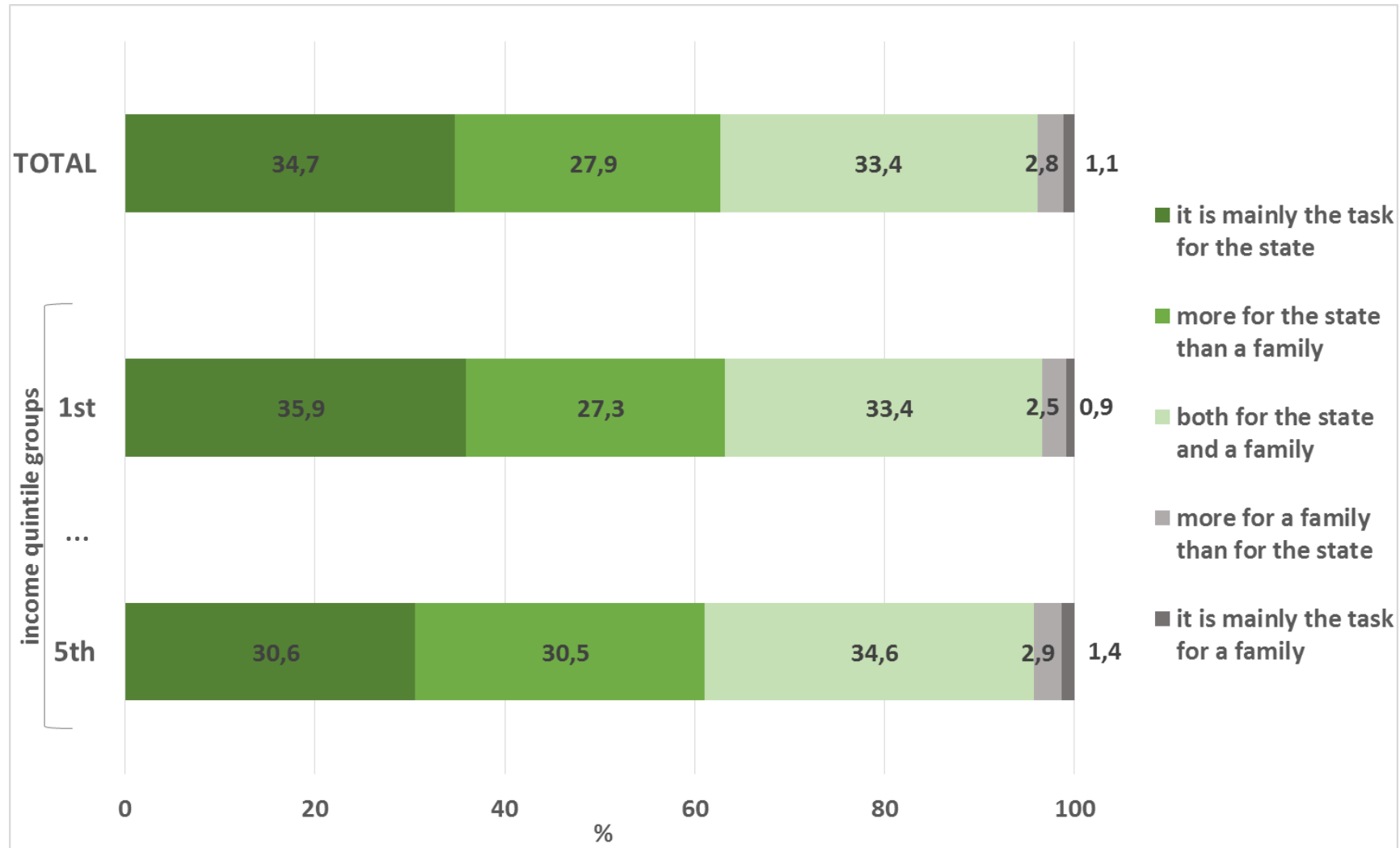


Source: Social Cohesion Survey 2015, CSO of Poland

What is a role of the state in reducing poverty and income inequalities in Poland?

Do you think that **material support for people living in poverty is a task for the state, a family or both institutions?**

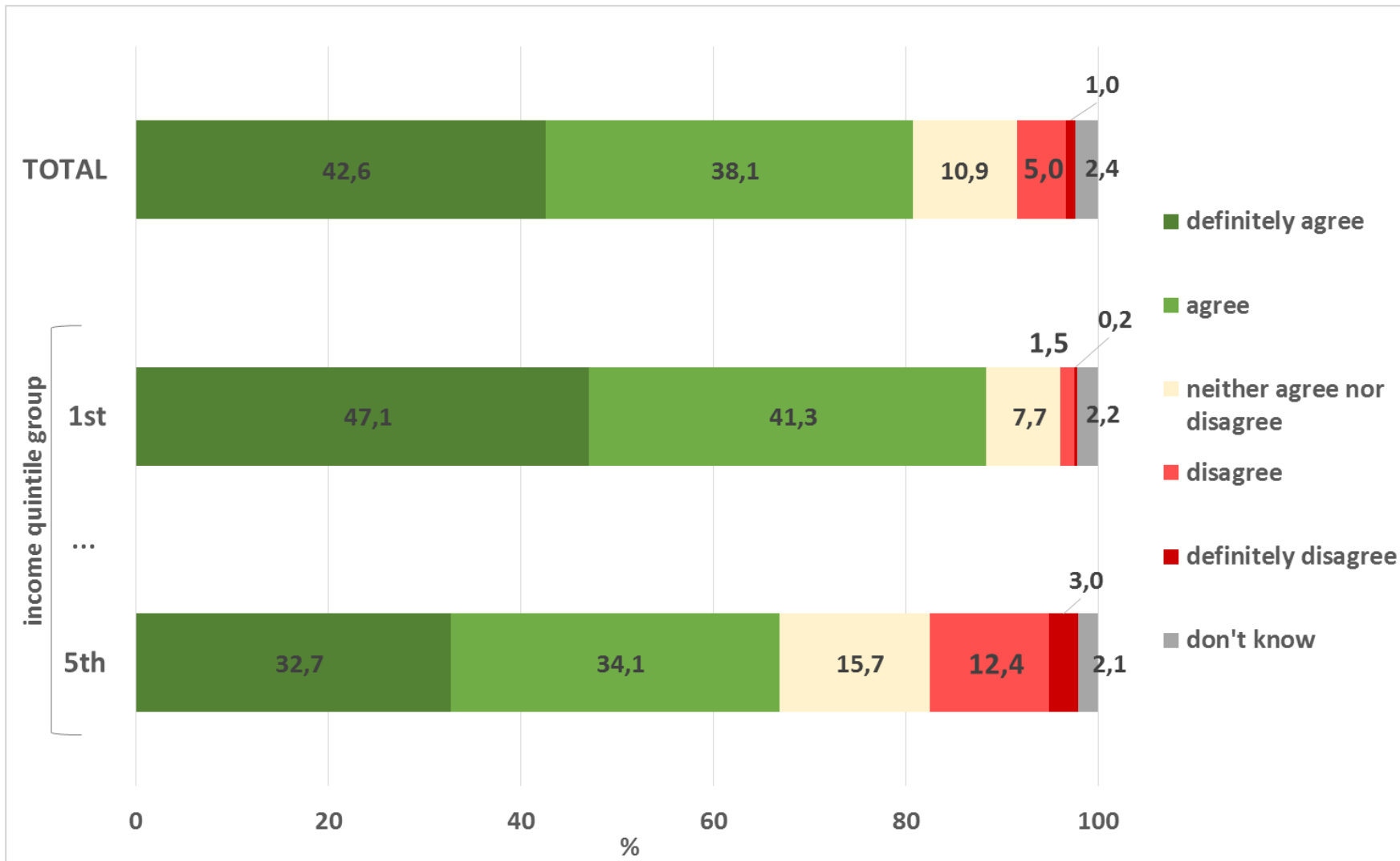
% of persons in households aged 16 or more



Source: Social Cohesion Survey 2015, CSO of Poland

Please, specify what is your attitude towards the statement: **'It should be the state's duty to reduce the discrepancies between high and low income'.**

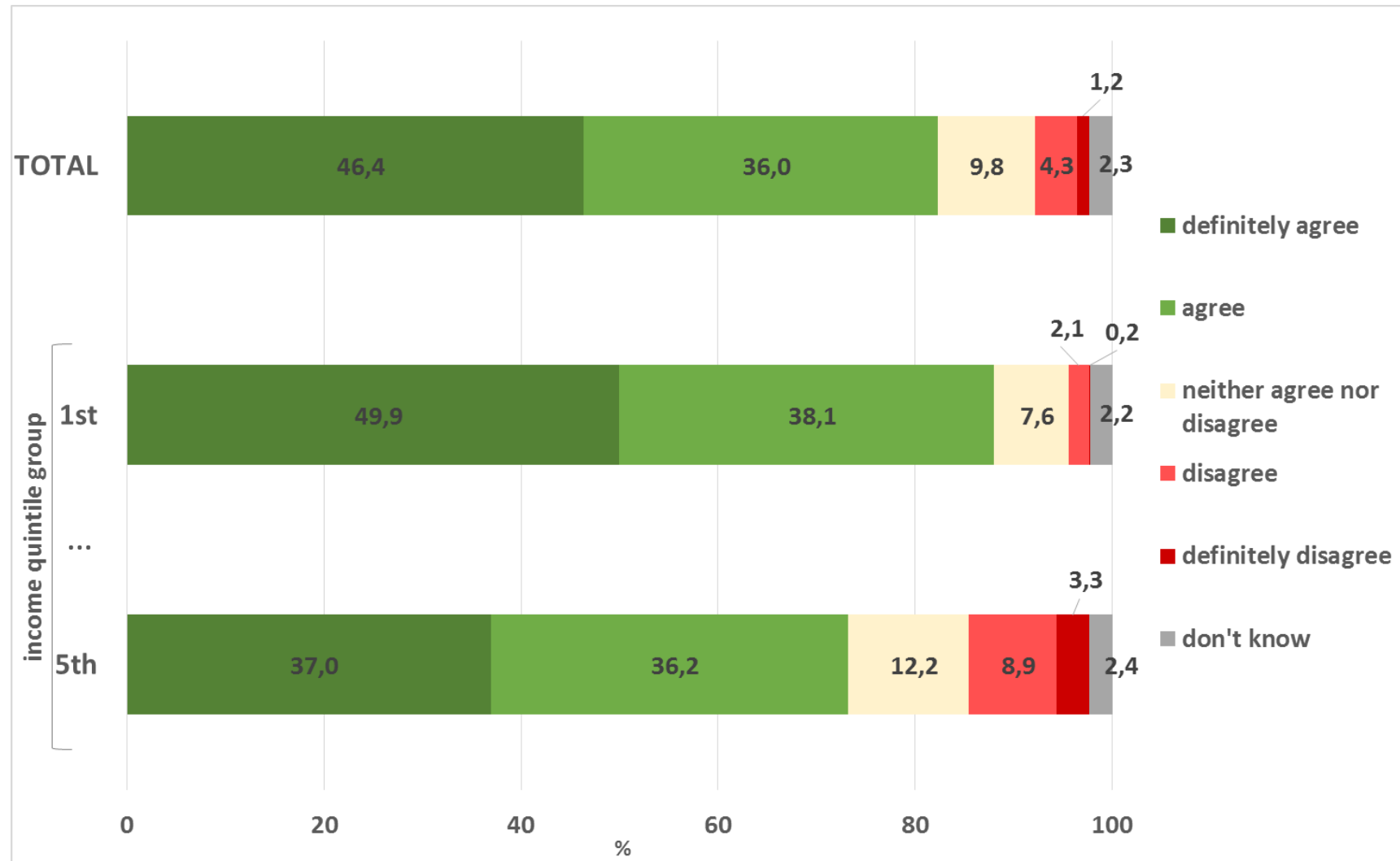
% of persons in households aged 16 or more



Source: Social Cohesion Survey 2015, CSO of Poland

Please, specify what is your attitude towards the statement: **'The state should provide everybody with the minimum income'.**

% of persons in households aged 16 or more

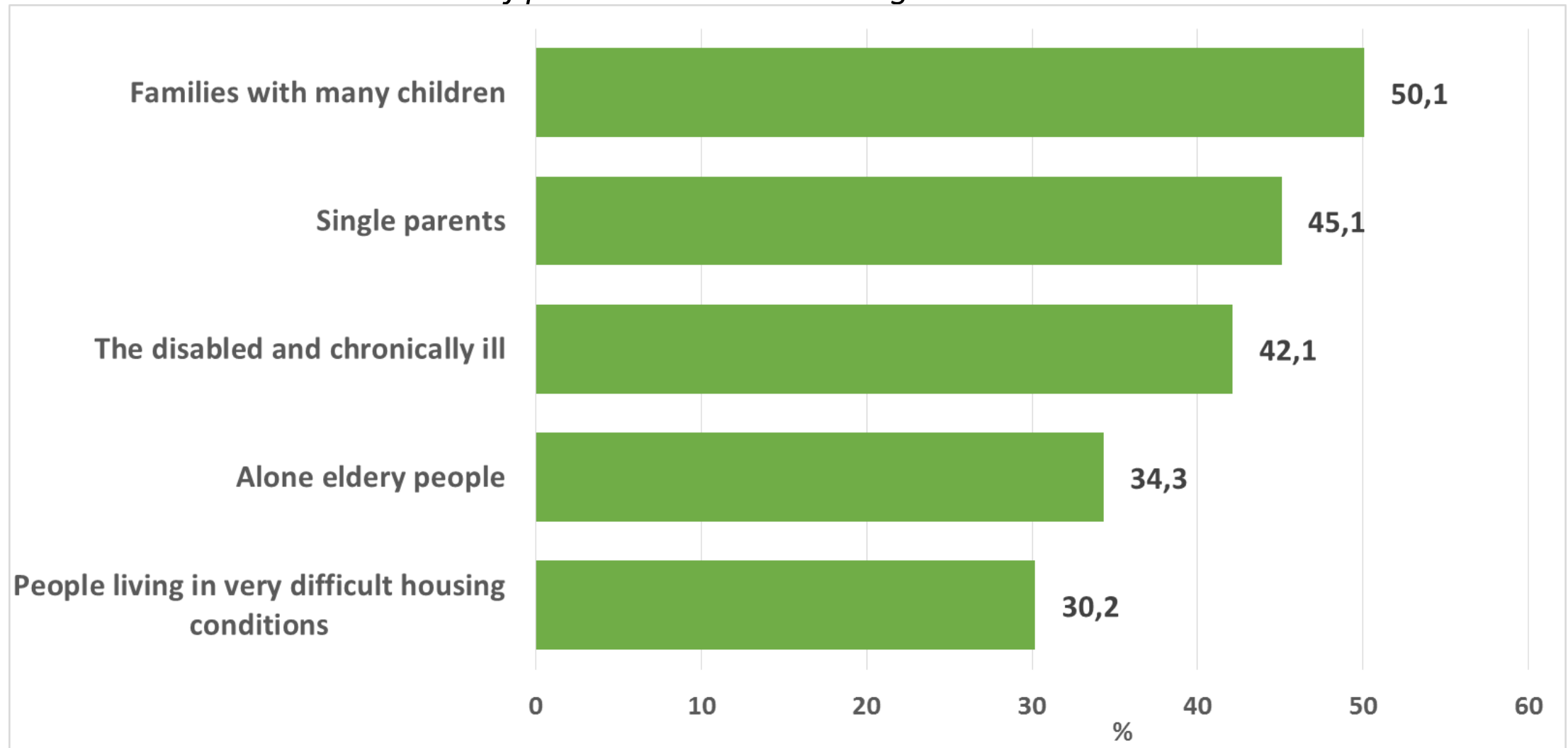


Source: Social Cohesion Survey 2015, CSO of Poland

What kind of help should be directed to the poor and who should be recipients of the social assistance?

Please choose three out of **the groups given below to which, in your opinion, social assistance should be granted first**, and to which it should be granted next? (3 possible indications)

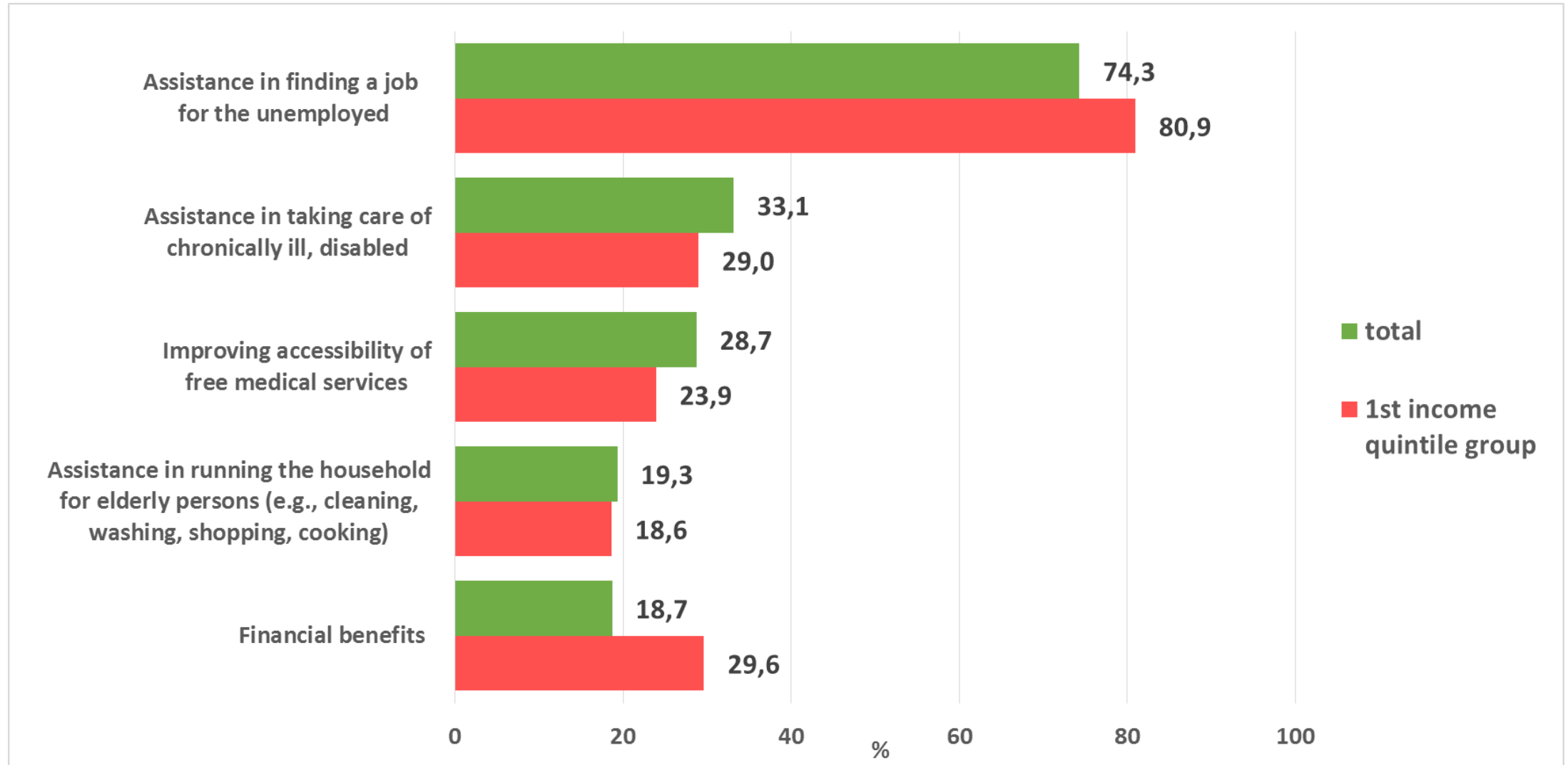
% of persons in households aged 16 or more



Source: Social Cohesion Survey 2015, CSO of Poland

Taking your place of residence into consideration - city, town, village - **what kind of assistance is most needed** for persons residing there, who you would consider as living in poverty? (3 possible indications)

% of persons in households aged 16 or more



Source: Social Cohesion Survey 2015, CSO of Poland

What is the scope of poverty and income inequalities based on the objective criterion?

Selected indicators of poverty and income inequalities in Poland

Indicator	Source	Value (year)	Definition
Extreme poverty rate	HBS	6.5% (2015)	% of persons in households with the level of equivalised expenditures below the subsistence minimum.
At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers	EU-SILC	17.0% (2014)	% of persons in households with an equivalised disposable income (after social transfers) below the threshold of 60% of the national median equivalised disposable income.
Gini coefficient	EU-SILC	30.8 (2014)	The measure of income distribution inequality; it ranges between 0 and 1 (or if multiplied by 100 - between 0 and 100). This indicator would be 0 (homogenous distribution) if all the persons had the same income, whereas it would be 1 if all the persons except one had 0 income). Presented value of coefficient refers to the equivalised disposable income.
Income quintile share ratio (S80/S20)	EU-SILC	4.9 (2014)	Ratio of total income received by the 20% of the population with the highest income(top quintile) to that received by the 20% of the population with the lowest income (lowest quintile). Presented value refers to the equivalised disposable income.

Conclusions

- diagnosis of perceived poverty and income inequalities **complement the so-called objective measures**
- **indicators of the perception shows the social moods** which can have the influence on people's activities in the fields of economy and politics
- systematic collection of data regarding social perception of so significant aspects of socio-economic reality can be **very useful in a context of social dialogue as well as creating, verification and monitoring of social policies** aimed at improving the quality of life and social cohesion