

Research at the 15th Science Picnic

Every year, the Science Picnic is accompanied by numerous sociological and evaluation research. In fact, there is no element that would not be subjected to a detailed assessment. During preparations for the next edition, all of its elements are taken into account and the things that can be changed are changed in accordance with the demands of the visitors, participating institutions and persons engaged in the evaluation.

What do we study? What do we evaluate? And why?

First of all, we evaluate the applications. To assess the applications, we set up a team working under the supervision of Professor Konrad Bajer, the chairman of the Team, and Helena Anna Jędrzejczak, the Secretary. The Team consisted of scientific demonstrators and specialists from various fields. Their task was to carefully read and evaluate each of the submitted applications and make proposals for changes in order for the shows to be more interesting, more interactive and engage visitors in a more profound way.

Secondly, we evaluated the shows as presented at the Picnic. The same Team observed all of them and examined their compliance with the application and ability to communicate with the visitors. Afterwards, the Team wrote down comments and good advice for the future.

Thirdly, we carried out a sociological study entitled “Picnic in the eyes of the visitors”. A team of interviewers collected almost 400 questionnaire interviews and 650 questionnaire forms completed by the visitors themselves. We have gained a lot of knowledge about the expectations towards the Picnic, sources of information about the event, the reasons for coming, the wish to visit the Picnic the next year, and a series of evaluations and opinions, for instance, on the role of science in the society. The entire report is available at the following site: www.pikniknaukowy.pl. The author of the study was Helena Anna Jędrzejczak from the Copernicus Science Centre.

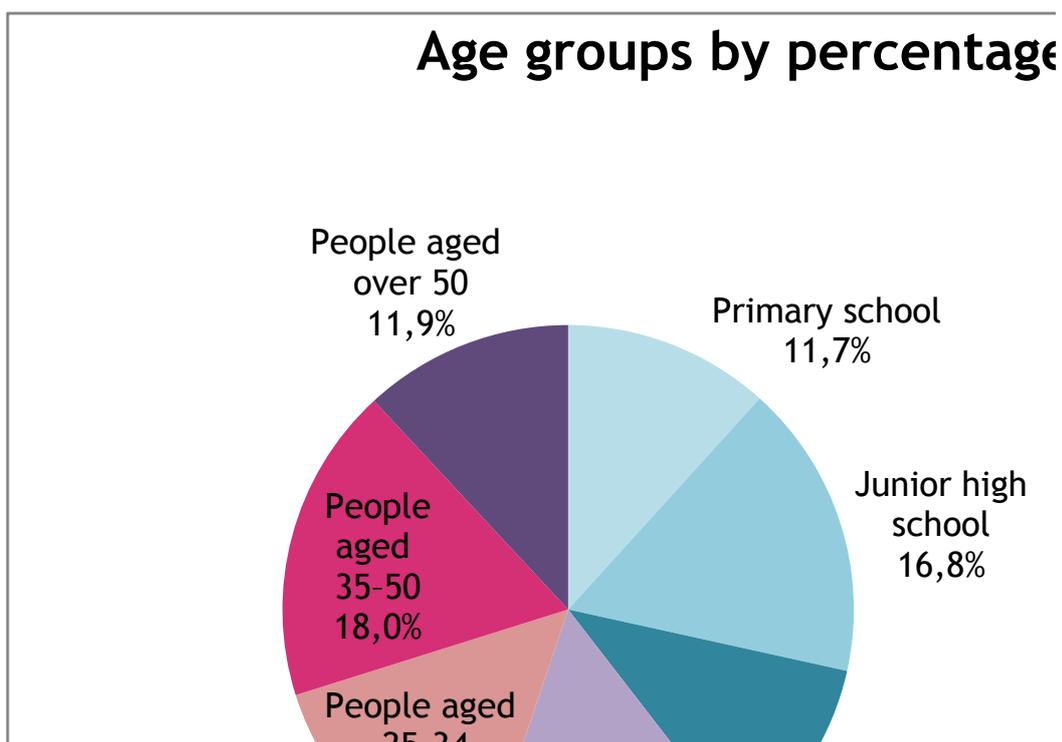
Fourthly, a handful of suggestions for the organisers, i.e. „Picnic in the eyes of institutions”, evaluation of the preparations and organisation of work carried out by participating institutions. Thanks to this study, we know what to improve and

what we are doing so well that the best we can do is continue. The author of the study was Anna Stężycka from the Copernicus Science Centre.

Fifthly, we carried out an internal evaluation of project management in the Copernicus Science Centre, i.e. a study enabling us to manage our institution better.

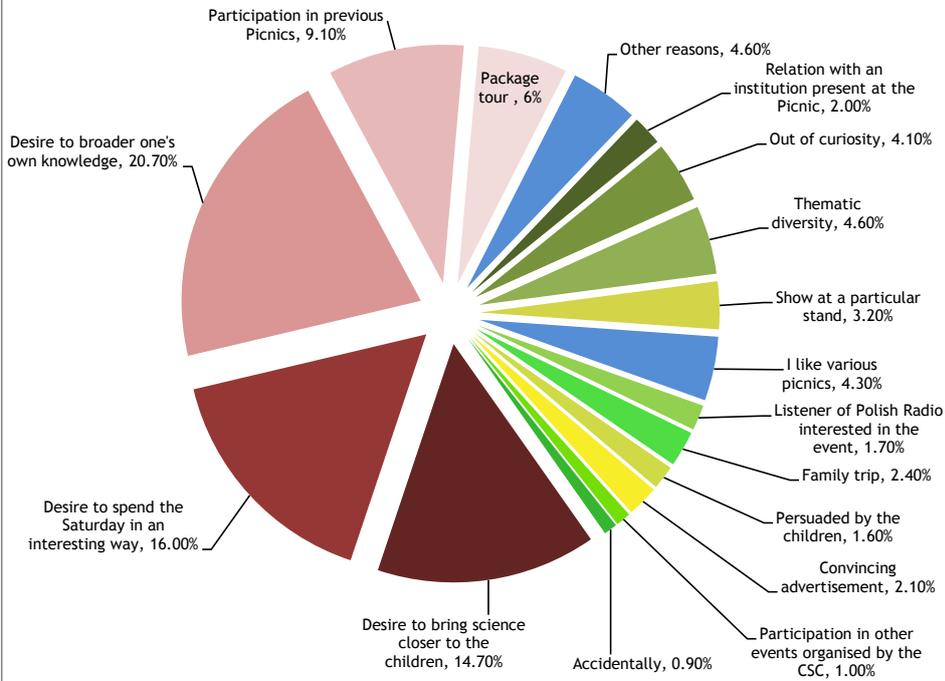
A handful of results:

The Picnic attracts people of all ages, but most of all schoolchildren and students - in total more than 55% of the surveyed participants.



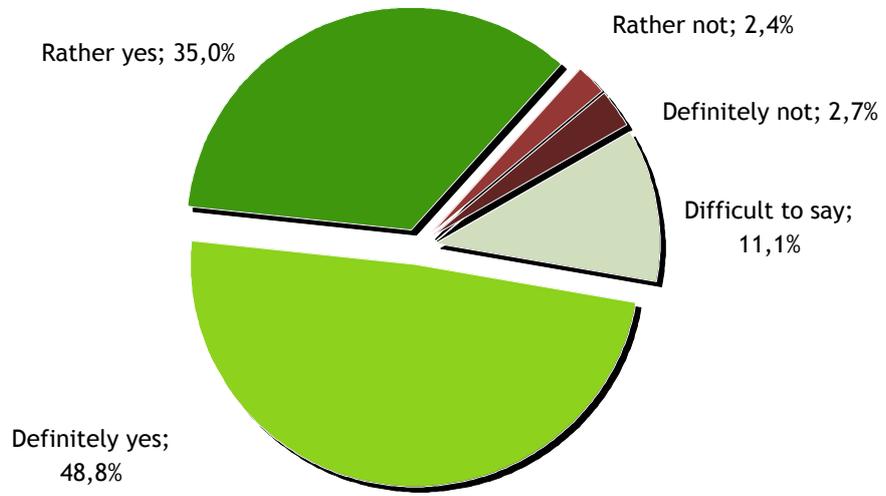
Picnic participants attend the event for various reasons, most often due to the desire to broaden their knowledge, to spend the Saturday in an interesting way and to bring the science closer to the children.

The main reason for visiting the Picnic



As many as 83,8% of this year's respondents declare that they will attend the next year's Picnic, 11,1% cannot answer this question, and 5,1% of respondents do not intend to do so.

Will you come to the Picnic next year?



Helena Anna Jędrzejczak