

How tolerant is Hungarian society?

A research has been conducted in Hungary regarding the level of tolerance of Hungarians. 1500 people, representative of the Hungarian population, were surveyed regarding their attitudes towards different groups, such as immigrants, addicts, the homeless, the unemployed, smokers – and the Roma, the biggest ethnic minority in the country¹. Respondents had to decide on a scale of 1-5 how great a problem the visibility of the above groups are posing to society.

About 26% of the Hungarian population can be called very intolerant. Younger people are the most tolerant, and people at the two extremes of the educational scale (the undereducated and those with the highest degrees) are the most intolerant. Women were found to be slightly more tolerant than men.

Altogether, 49% of the respondents rated the problem of drug users to be a very serious one, 42% rated alcohol use in public with a 5, while the third biggest “problematic” group was thought to be the homeless. The Roma came fourth, with a just a tiny bit “higher scores” than the unemployed.

For more information, contact Katalin Melles, leader of the research (katalin.melles@ipsos.com).

¹ It is estimated that about 5-8 % of the Hungarian population belong to the Roma ethnic minority.