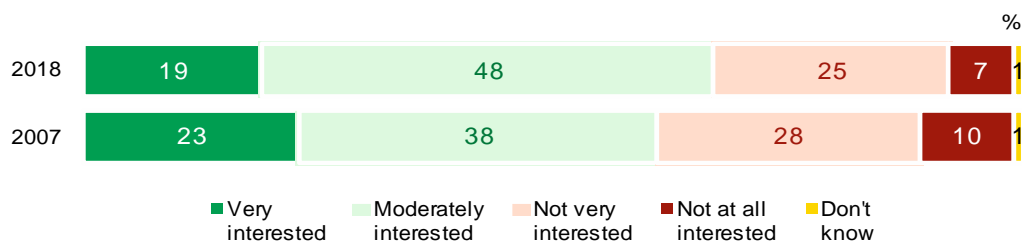


Family history

In total, more than two-thirds of respondents (67%) declare that they are interested in the history of their family, including nearly one fifth (19%) expressing this interest in a strong way. Although the percentage of people interested in the history of their own family has increased in the last eleven years by 6 percentage points, the percentage of people who are very interested has decreased slightly (by 4 points).

Are you interested in the history of your family?

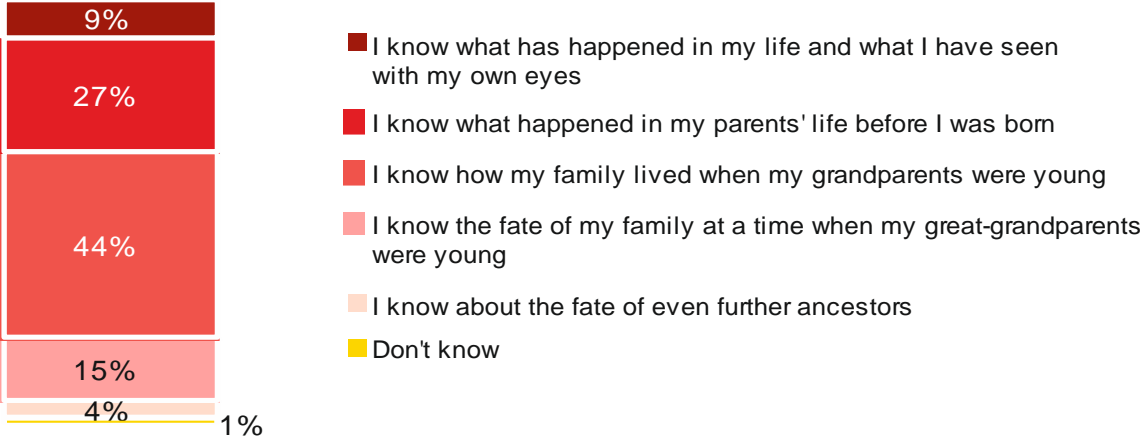


Over time, there has been an increase in number of people who declare knowledge that includes not only family history during respondent's life and his/her parents' youth, but also the grandparents' youth, and even further ancestors. In the second half of the 1980s, less than a third of respondents admitted that their knowledge of family history dates back to the youth of grandparents, great-grandparents or further ancestors. In the 1990s such

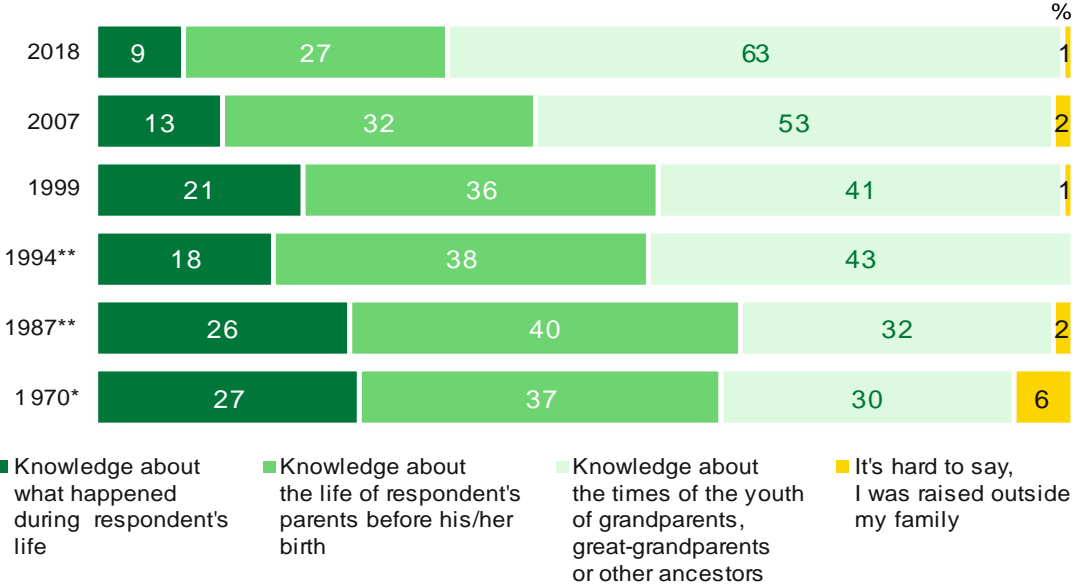
knowledge was declared by roughly two-fifths of respondents, in the previous decade by slightly more than half, this year by almost two-thirds.

At present, the plurality of respondents (44%) declare that they have knowledge reaching back two generations. More than one-fourth (27%) know the life of their parents, and every eleventh (9%) does not even know this much. On the other hand, 15% of respondents know the life of great-grandparents, and another 4% reach back to even earlier generations.

How far in the past do you know the history of your family?



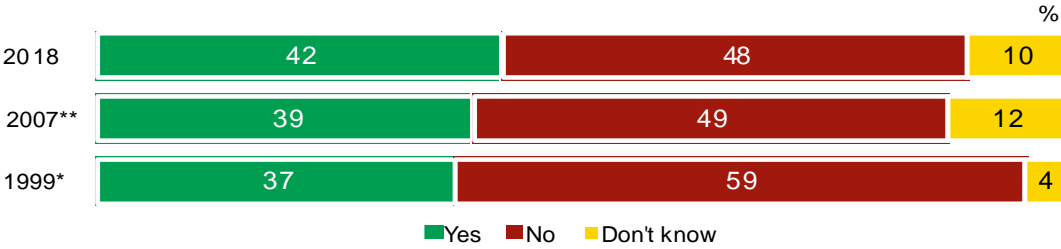
Extent of information about the family's past



* J. Szacki's research by OBOP
 ** CBOS research commissioned by "Polityka"

Over two fifths of respondents (42%) declare that there were people in their family who took part in important historical events in the 20th century. Currently, despite the narrowing of the period to which the question pertained to the twentieth century only, slightly more people than in previous decades indicate the participation of family members in important historical events.

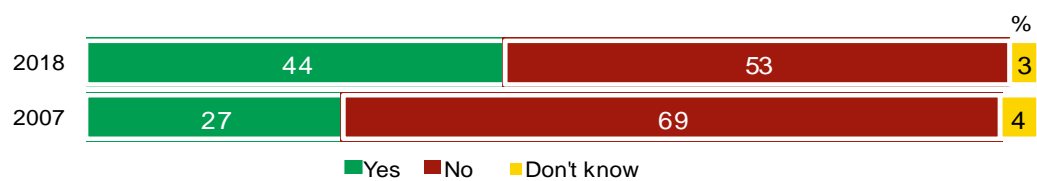
Did any member of your family who participate in important historical events in the 20th century?



According to the declarations of respondents, family history was largely influenced by the World War II. The experience of war, either through active participation in combat or through being a victim of repression and persecution, shapes the memory of the family history to a greater extent than any other event of the 20th century. In total, 88% of respondents who declared that there were people in their family who took part in important historical events, refer to World War II. A large group of respondents list earlier historical events: 10% indicate the participation of ancestors in World War I, 6% mention Silesian or the Greater Poland Uprising, 5% talk about the Polish-Soviet war. A noticeable percentage of respondents (6%) point to the involvement of family members in the opposition activities in the period of the Polish People's Republic, including in the Solidarity movement, or to participation in strikes.

Over two fifths of respondents (44%) declare that someone in the family was involved in the reconstruction of a family tree or described family history. In the last eleven years, the percentage of people who made such attempts has increased by 17 percentage points.

Did any member of your family try to recreate the family tree or describe the family history?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Family Histories", September 2018. Fieldwork for national sample: June 2018, N=989. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.