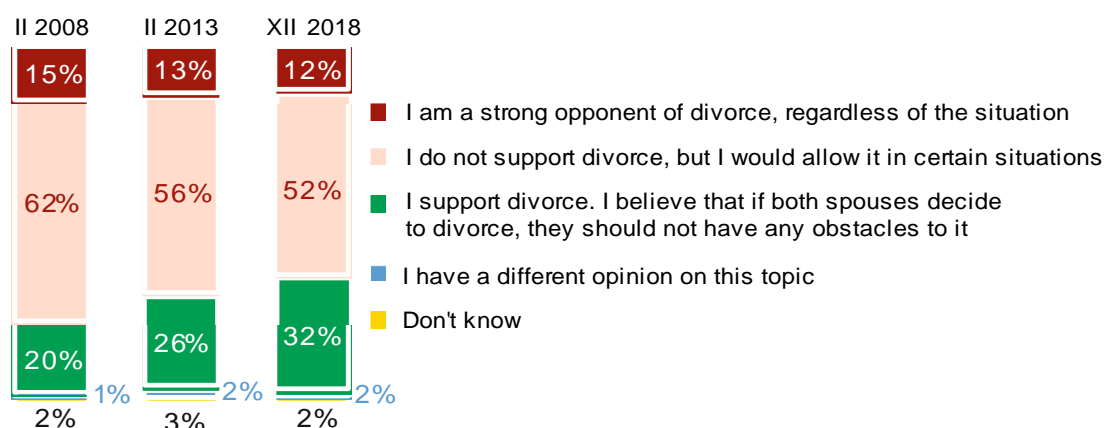


## Attitude towards divorce

In Poland, about a third of marriages break apart. The ratio of marriages to divorces has remained at a similar level since 2014.

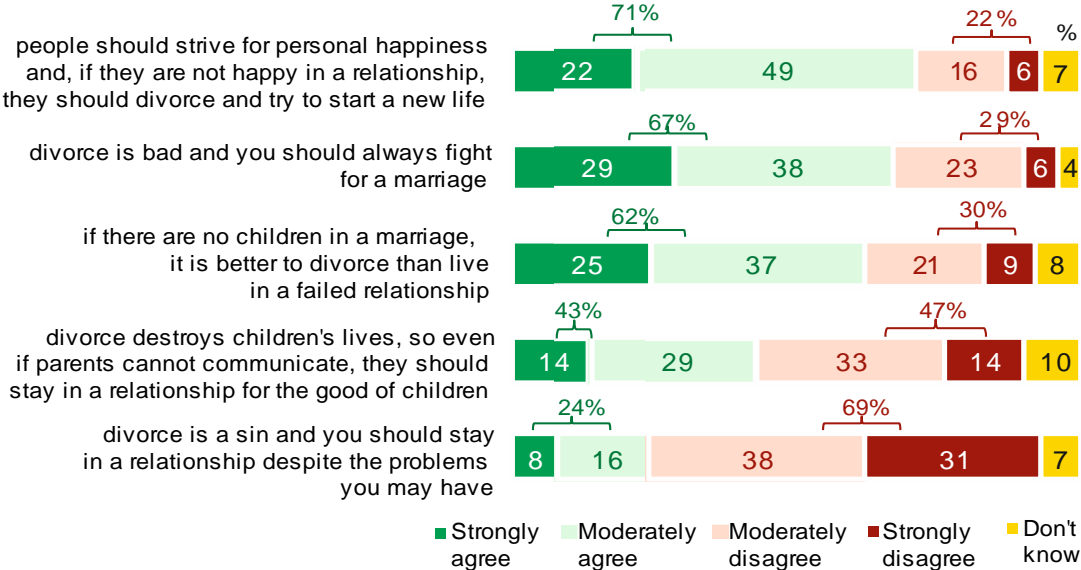
Strong supporters of divorces constitute a group almost three times larger than their ardent opponents. Currently, less than one-eighth (12%) are strong opponents of divorce, whereas a third (32%, increase by 6 points from 2013 and 10 points from 2008) assume that if both spouses decide to dissolve their marriage in court, they should not have any obstacles to doing so. Still the biggest, though decreasing, group of respondents (52%, drop by 4 points) are moderate supporters of divorces, who generally do not support it, but in some situations deem it acceptable.

### What is your attitude to divorce?



Detailed opinions of Poles about divorces are quite diverse and ambiguous. Although nearly three-fourths of respondents think that personal happiness is the most important, and if a person is not happy in the current relationship, he or she should divorce and try to start a new life (71%), almost equally often (67% of responses) the opinion is shared that divorce is wrong and you should always fight for a marriage.

**Do you agree with the following statements:**



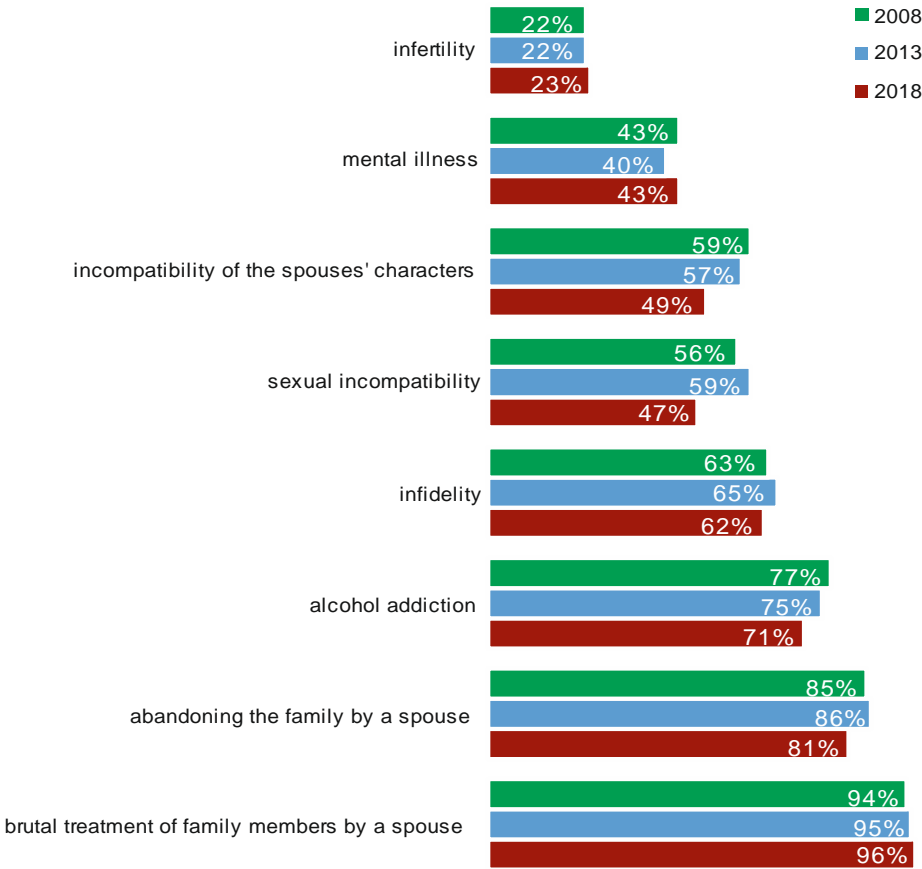
Most respondents have no doubt that when there are no children in a marriage, it is better to divorce than to live in a failed relationship (62% of indications), but when the spouses have children, the matter is not so obvious. The opinions of supporters and opponents of the statement that due to the devastation that divorce causes in children's lives, even when parents are unable to communicate, they should remain in a relationship for the benefit of their charges are spread almost equally (43% and 47% respectively). On the other hand, the majority of Poles (69%) disagree with the statement that the relationship should be continued for religious reasons and despite the problems, divorced is not right, because it is a sin. Only one in four respondents shares this belief (24%).

In public opinion, the main and sufficient reasons for the dissolution of marriage are: brutal treatment of family members by a spouse (in this case, consent to divorce reaches as much as 96%), leaving the family (81%) and alcohol addiction of a spouse (71%). Less than two-thirds of respondents consider infidelity to be a sufficient reason (62%), and almost half cite in this context the incompatibility of the spouses' characters (49%) and their sexual

incompatibility (47%). The arguments that are less frequently seen as justifying divorce are: mental illness (43%) or venereal disease (35%) of a spouse and the inability of one of the married people to have children (23%). While in the last decade the general consent to divorce has increased quite significantly, opinions on the reasons that may be a sufficient for terminating the marriage in court are unchanged, and in many cases even greater rigor is observed.

**Do you think that a sufficient reason for divorce is:**

*Total affirmative answers*



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Attitudes towards Divorce", January 2019. Fieldwork for national sample: December 2018, N=942. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.