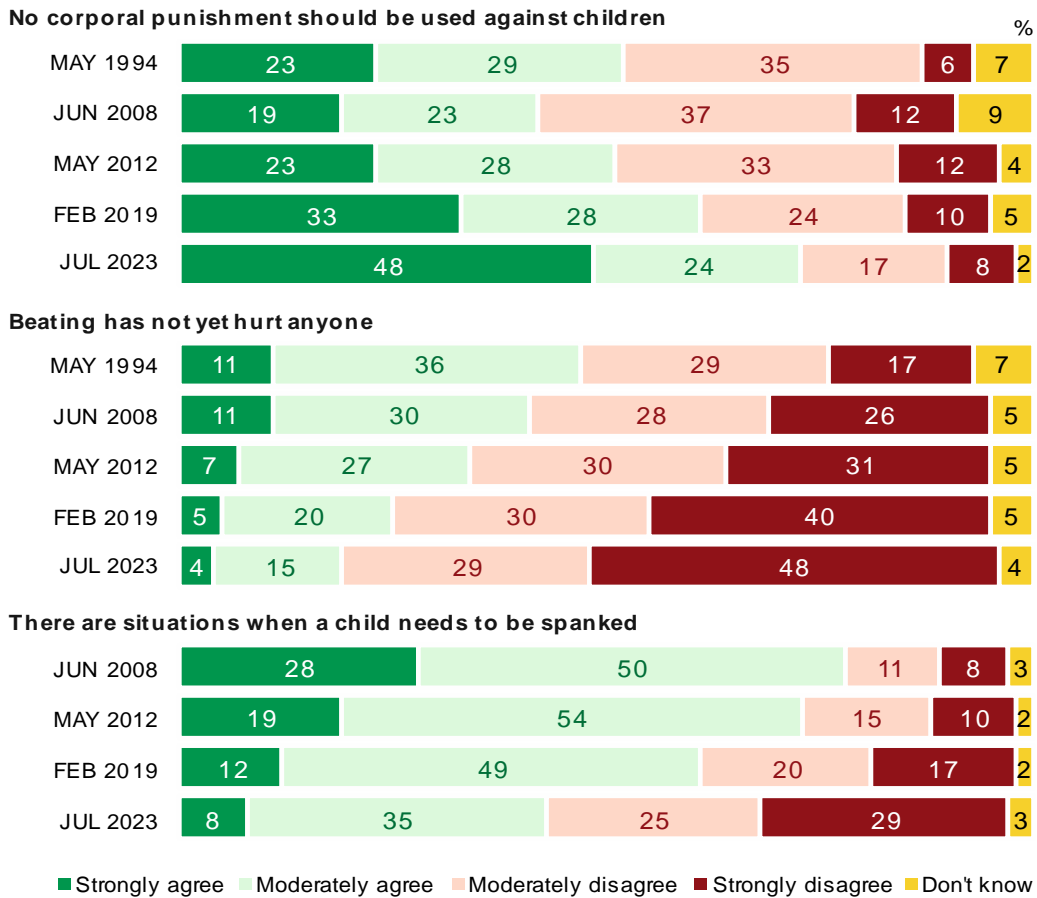


Violence against children – opinions and experiences

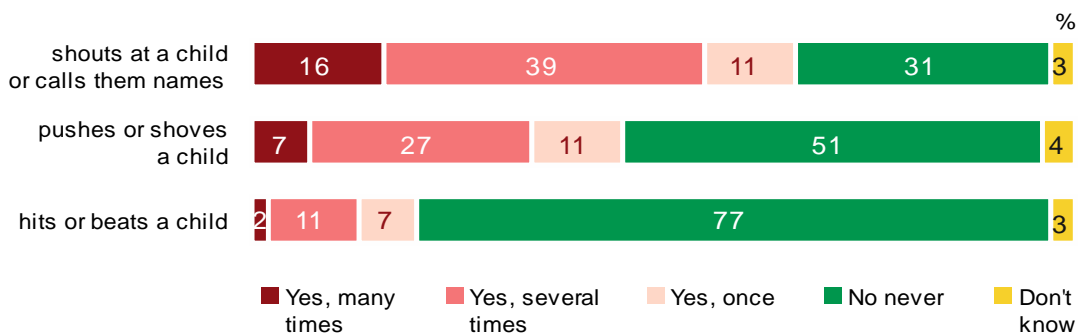
Over the past four years, disapproval of corporal punishment of children has strengthened. Not only do more people than in 2019 believe that such punishment should not be used against them (an increase of 11 percentage points, to 72%), but also more people object to beating children (an increase from 70% to 77%) and spanking (an increase from 37% to 54%). The percentage of adults who accept physical punishment decreased accordingly (down by 9 points, to 25%). There is a decrease in the number of Poles who agree with the opinions that spanking has not yet harmed anyone (down by 6 points, to 19%), and that there are situations in which a child should be given spanking (down 18 points, to 43%). For the first time since we last studied it, i.e. since 2008, those who disapprove of spanking outweigh those who approve of it (54% vs. 43%). Generally, looking from a longer perspective, the change in Poles' attitude towards violence against children is even more visible.

Do you agree with the following statements?



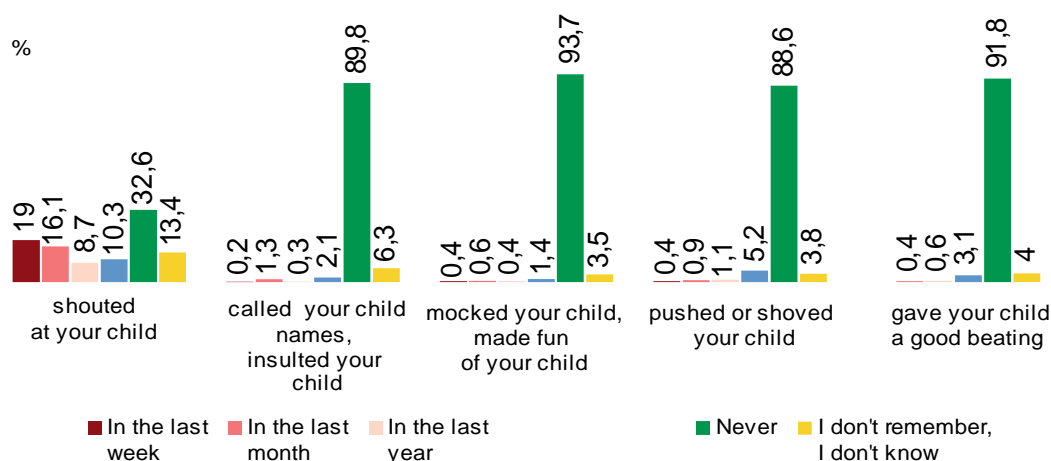
Most respondents have witnessed violence against children in public places. The largest percentage of respondents (66%) saw at least once in a place such as a shop or park a situation in which an adult shouted at a child or called them names. Less frequently, respondents witnessed a situation in which an adult pushed or pulled a child in a public place - 45% encountered such a situation at least once. In total, one-fifth witnessed a child being beaten in a public place.

Have you ever seen in a public place - e.g. in a store, in a park - a situation in which an adult:



More than half of respondents with children under 20 years of age (54%) declare that they or people with whom they are in a relationship have shouted at children, including more than two fifths (44%) doing in the last year. Four out of a hundred respondents (4%) admit to calling and insulting children, and three out of a hundred (3%) admit to mocking and ridiculing them. Pulling and pushing was declared by 8% of parents with children up to 19 years of age, and strong beatings defined in the question as "heavy spanking" were declared by 4%, with the majority of respondents from this group (i.e. 3% of the total) indicating that they had done it earlier than a year ago, when the child was younger.

When was the last time you or your spouse (partner) ...



Declarations of people with children up to 19 years of age (N=301)

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Using Health Benefits and Insurance", August 2023. Fieldwork for national sample: June 2023, N=1054, mixed-mode interviews. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.