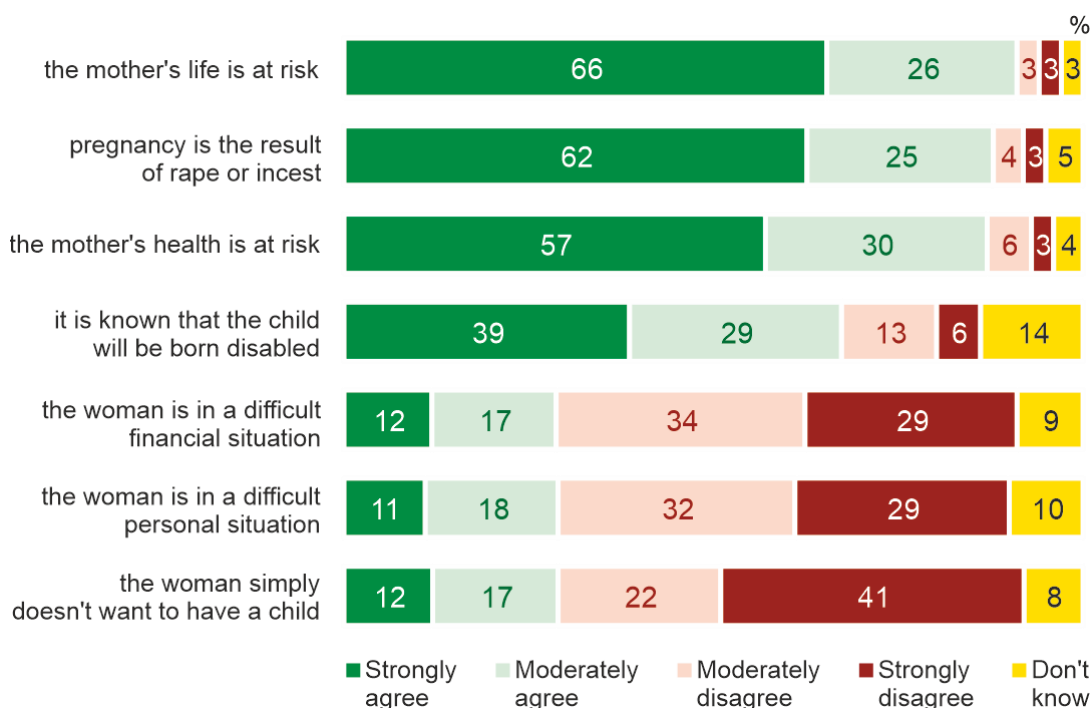


Views on the regulation of abortion

From 2021, abortion is permitted in Poland in two cases: when the pregnancy threatens the woman's life or health and when it is the result of a prohibited act (e.g. rape or incest). The current ruling coalition has announced the liberalization of the abortion law, but the coalition members do not agree on how far it should be liberalized.

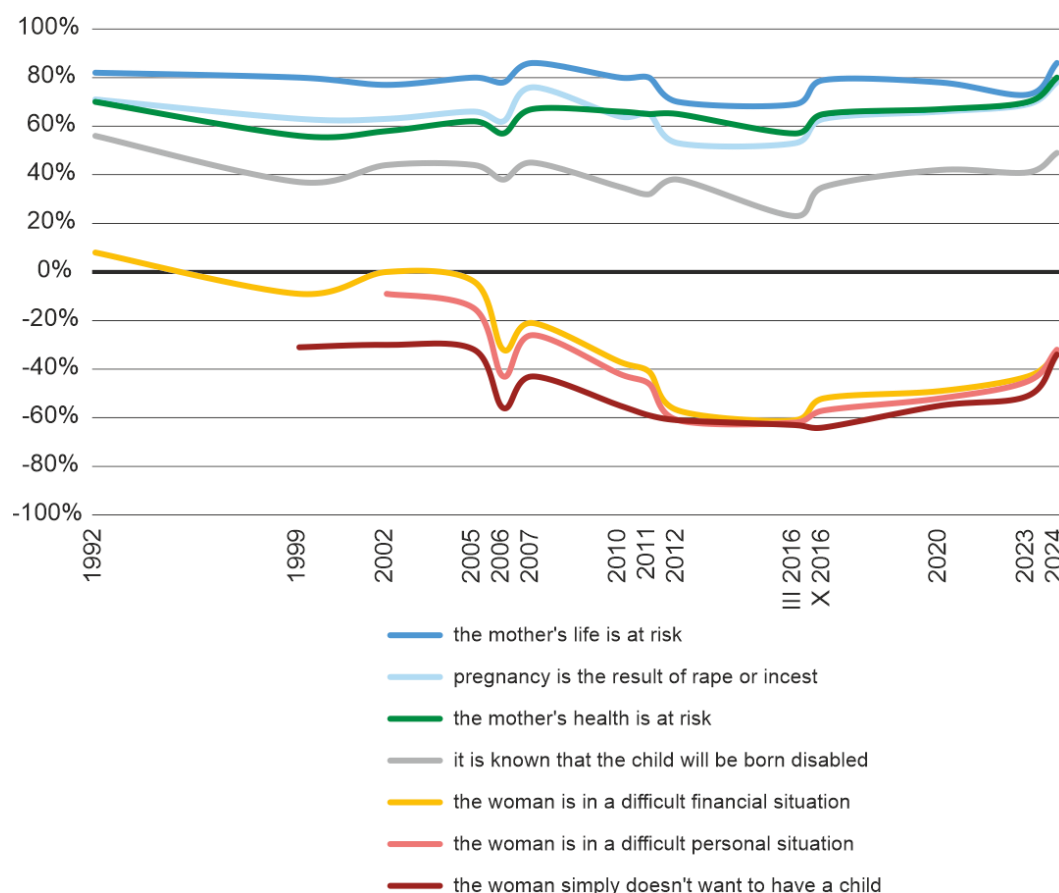
Poles overwhelmingly agree that abortion should be allowed by law when the mother's life (92%) or health (87%) are at risk. There is also almost universal support for the legality of terminating a pregnancy in a situation where it is the result of rape or incest (87%). Moreover, the majority of respondents (69% in total) believe that termination of pregnancy should be allowed in a situation where it is known that the child will be born with a disability. According to society, other circumstances should not constitute a legal basis for terminating pregnancy. In total, 29% of respondents believed that termination of pregnancy should be permissible by law when a woman is in a difficult financial or personal situation and when she simply does not want to have a child. Opposition to the legality of abortion in these situations is expressed by 61% to 63% of respondents.

Do you agree that abortion should be permitted by law when:



Compared to last year, there has been a significant increase in support for the legal of termination of pregnancy in all cases included in the study. The biggest change concerns the situation when a woman simply does not want to have a child: from 18% in 2023 to 29% now, which means an increase of 11 percentage points. Support for the legality of terminating a pregnancy when a woman is in a difficult personal situation increased by 9 percentage points, and when she is in a difficult financial situation increased by 8 points. The belief that abortion should be permitted by law in other circumstances is also stronger than last year (a rose of 6 points if it is known that the child will be born with a disability, and a 10 percentage point increase in acceptance of abortion if the mother's life is at risk) .

Do you agree that abortion should be permitted by law when:



*Difference between strongly/moderately agree and strongly/moderately disagree.
"Don't know" omitted.*

Opposition to the current abortion law is most common among young people, people who do not practice religion and those declaring left-wing political views. It is in these groups that the greatest change in thinking about the legal regulation of termination of pregnancy has recently occurred. In 2023, just over one-third of the youngest respondents (34%), people who did not practice religion (36%) and people with left-wing views (36%) believed that abortion should be permissible by law in a situation when a woman simply does not want to have a child. A year later, the percentages in these groups are: 48%, 58% and 51%, respectively.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Poles' Attitude Towards Abortion and the Morning-After Pill", February 2024. Fieldwork dates for the sample: February 2024, N=994, mixed-mode interviews. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.