



Switzerland



Spain



Italy



Austria



The Netherlands



**European Attitudes Toward Jews:
A Five Country Survey**

October 2002

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Methodology

- **First International Resources was commissioned by the Anti-Defamation League to research attitudes and opinions in five European nations toward Jews.**
- **Our research focused on the prevalent attitudes of the general public in the Netherlands, Austria, Italy, Spain, and Switzerland.**
- **In addition to the individual country results, we have compiled overall statistics which take into account the findings from the five countries surveyed as a whole.**
- **These five country figures are “combined” results from our surveys, with each country’s findings being weighed equally as one-fifth of the whole.**
- **Data results for each individual country were weighted based on age and gender. The completed interview data underwent minor weighting to national population data using official government information on age and gender.**
- **Fieldwork was done by Taylor Nelson Sofres, which conducted a total of 2,500 telephone interviews -- 500 in each of the five countries -- among the general public between September 9-29, 2002.**
- **Interviews were conducted in the native language of each of the countries and were completed by TNS’s Research Group at its facilities in the United Kingdom.**
- **The margin of error is +/- 4.4 at 95% level of confidence.**

Anti-Semitism in Europe

ANTI-SEMITISM INDEX

Since 1964, the Anti-Defamation League has conducted a series of public opinion surveys in the United States to measure levels of anti-Semitism in the country. An index of 11 questions was developed by researchers at the University of California to be used in these public opinion surveys to provide an analytical tool for identifying which respondents have a propensity to be more prejudiced toward Jews.

This index of 11 questions was employed for the first time in Europe in September 2002. As in the United States, those respondents who agreed with six or more of the statements listed below were considered “most anti-Semitic.”

Before answering the index questions, respondents were read the following statement: “I am now going to read out another series of statements, again some of them you will agree with and some of them you will not. Please say which ones you think are probably true and which ones you think are probably false.”

The following are the eleven statements that constitute the anti-Semitism index.

- 1) Jews don't care what happens to anyone but their own kind.
- 2) Jews are more willing than others to use shady practices to get what they want.
- 3) Jews are more loyal to Israel than to this country.
- 4) Jews have too much power in the business world.
- 5) Jews have lots of irritating faults.
- 6) Jews stick together more than other Italians (Spanish, Dutch, Swiss, Austrians).
- 7) Jews always like to be at the head of things.
- 8) Jews have too much power in international financial markets.
- 9) Jews have too much power in our country today.

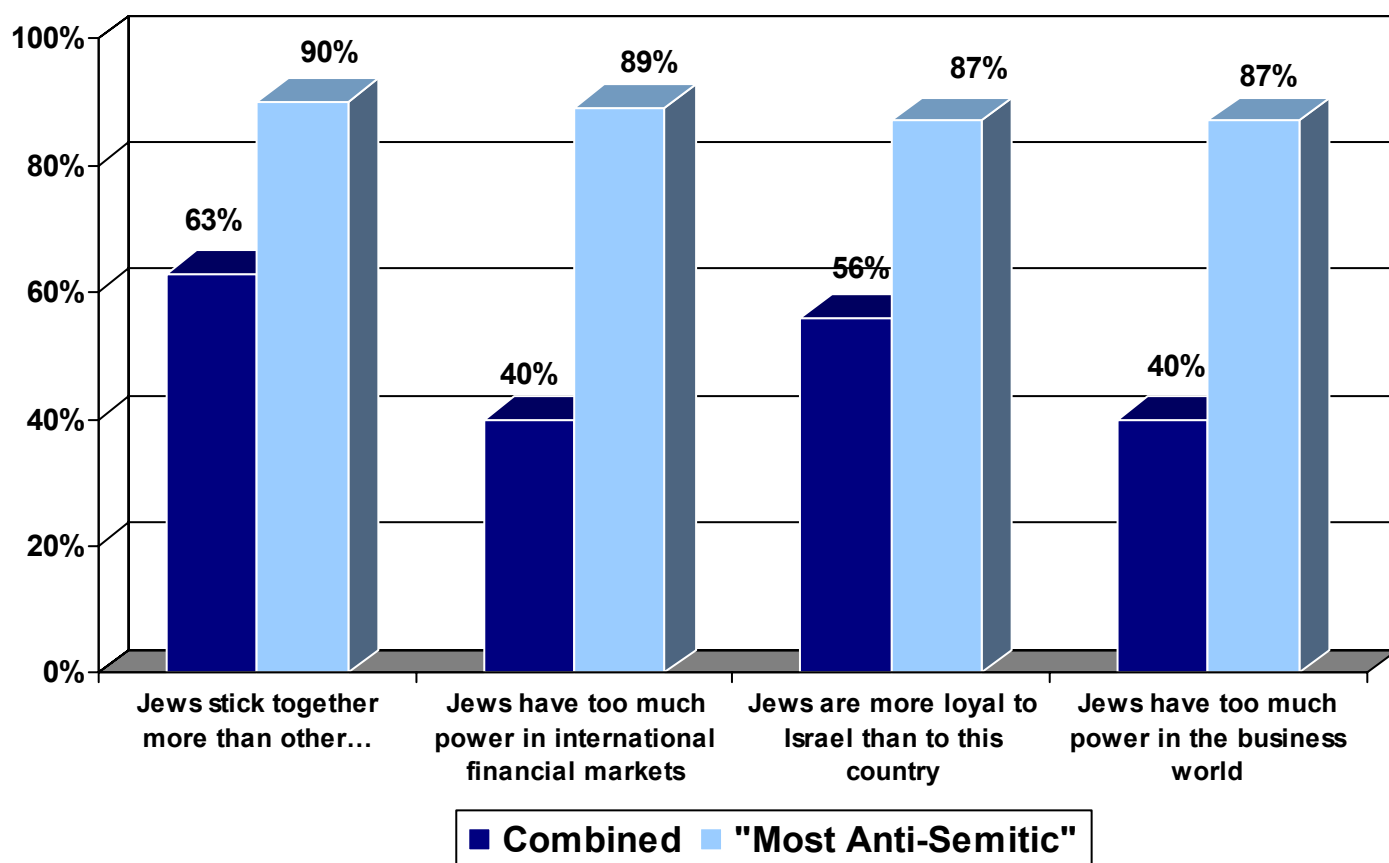
- 10) Jewish business people are so shrewd that others do not have a fair chance to compete.
 - 11) Jews are just as honest as other business people.
(Considered prejudiced if answered “probably false” to this statement.)
- The data indicates that one out of five respondents, 21 percent, are characterized as “most anti-Semitic.”
 - Of the five countries surveyed, Spanish respondents harbor the most anti-Semitic views while Dutch respondents harbor the fewest anti-Semitic views.
 - 34 percent of those surveyed in Spain are considered “most anti-Semitic,” 23 percent of those polled in Italy are considered “most anti-Semitic,” 19 percent of Austrians are considered “most anti-Semitic,” 22 percent of Swiss respondents are considered “most anti-Semitic,” and 7 percent of Dutch respondents are considered “most anti-Semitic.”
 - A majority, 56 percent, responded that it is “probably true” to characterize Jews as being more loyal to Israel than to their own country.
 - Nearly three-quarters of Spanish respondents, 72 percent, believe that Jews are more loyal to Israel than to Spain.
 - 40 percent of the respondents believe that Jews have too much power in the international financial markets.
 - Again, 71 percent, of those surveyed in Spain believe that Jews have too much power in the international financial markets – almost twice the overall average.
 - 40 percent say that Jews have too much power in the business world, with 63 percent of Spanish respondents saying this is “probably true.”
 - Nearly two-thirds, 63 percent, of respondents believe that Jews stick together more than other people in the country.
 - 29 percent believe that Jews do not care what happens to anyone but their own kind.

- **16 percent of respondents overall believe that Jews have lots of irritating faults.**
- **However, despite the fact that only 7 percent of Spanish respondents say that they come into contact with Jews, 32 percent of them believe that Jews have lots of irritating faults.**
- **29 percent of respondents in all five countries believe that Jews always like to be at the head of things.**
- **9 percent of respondents believe that Jews have too much power within their particular country.**
- **18 percent of all respondents believe that Jewish business people are so shrewd that others do not have a fair chance to compete.**
- **11 percent believe that Jews are not as honest as other business people.**

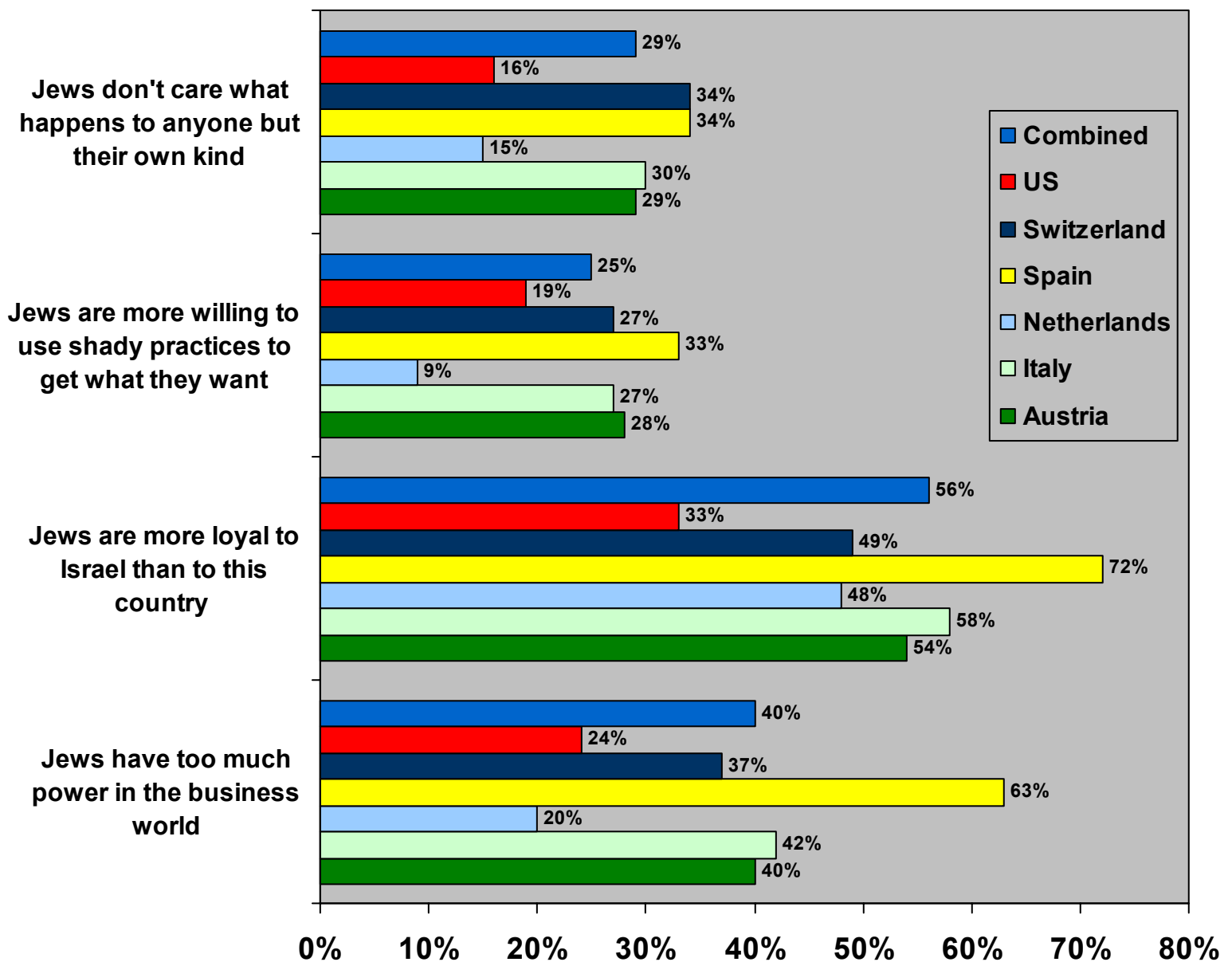
Attitudes of “Most Anti-Semitic”

Those respondents considered “Most Anti-Semitic,” are most likely to believe that Jews stick together more than others, have too much power in the business world and international financial markets, and that they are not loyal to their country.

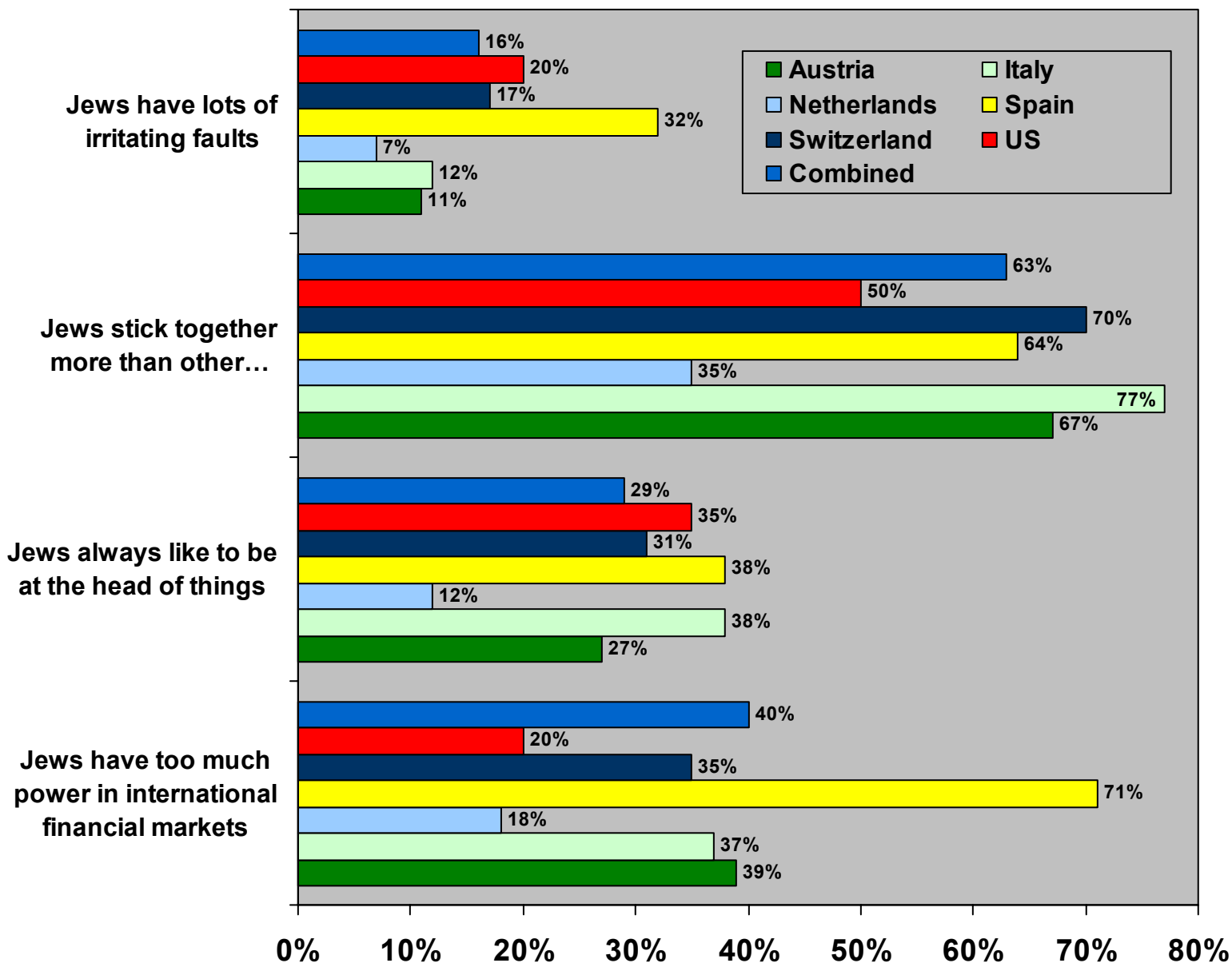
Percent responding “probably true” to each statement.



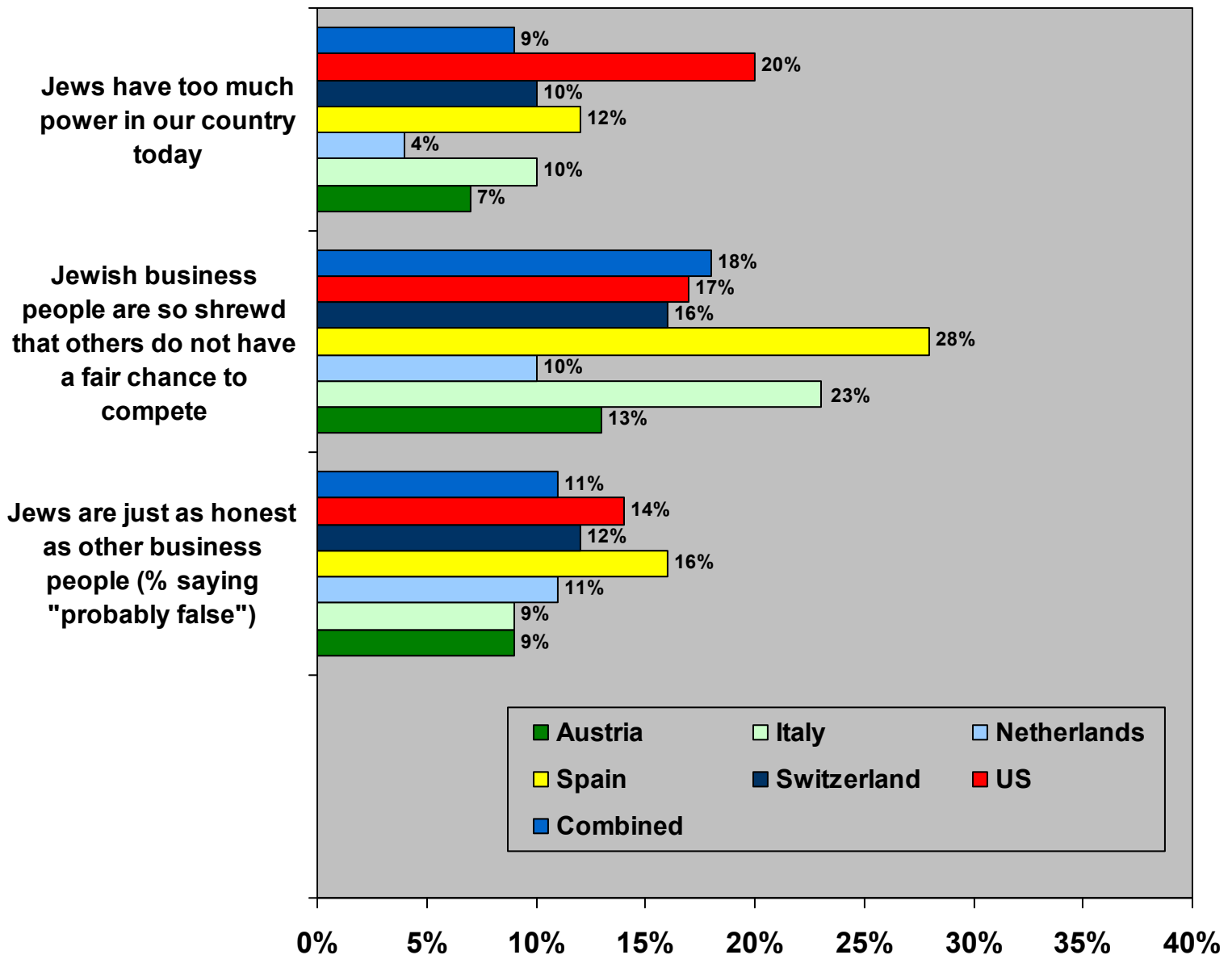
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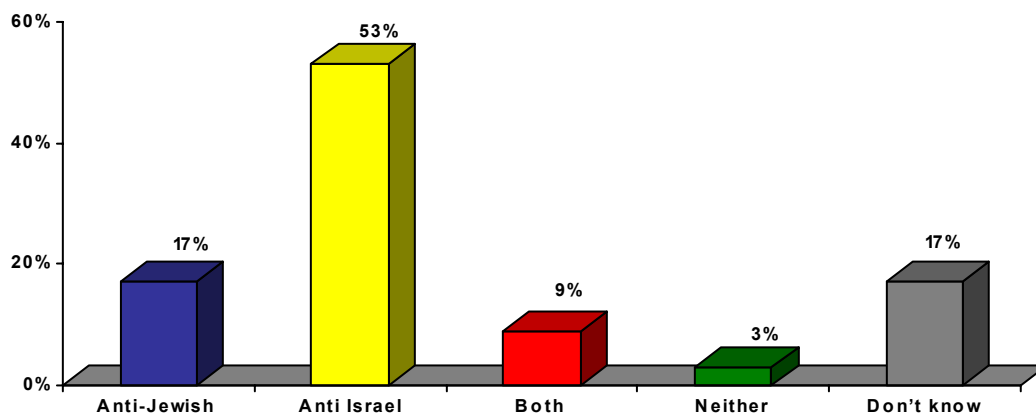


Percent responding “probably true” to each statement.

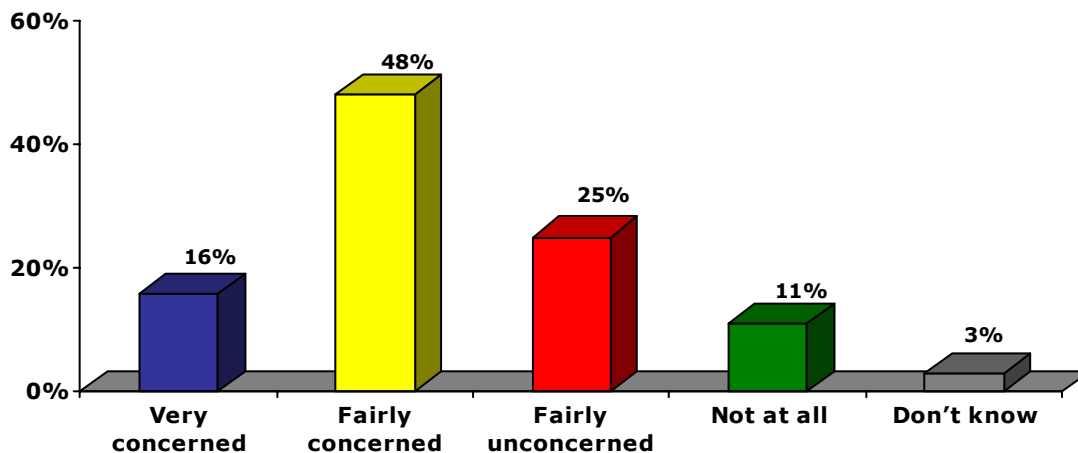


Attitudes Toward Jews

- The results of this survey reconfirm previous results which point to a new form of anti-Semitism taking hold in Europe. This new anti-Semitism is fueled by anti-Israel sentiment and questions the loyalty of Jewish citizens.
- A majority, 56 percent, believe that Jewish citizens in their respective countries are more loyal to Israel than to the country they live in.
- 53 percent of those surveyed believe that the recent outbreak of violence against Jews in Europe is a result of anti-Israel sentiment, while 17 percent believe it is a result of anti-Jewish feelings. 9 percent feel that both are contributing factors. 3 percent feel that neither are contributing factors.



- Almost two-thirds, 64 percent, say they are either “very” or “fairly” concerned about the recent outbreak of violence against Jews.



- 21 percent of Italian respondents say they are “very concerned” about the recent outbreak of violence directed at Jews. 46 percent say they are “fairly concerned,” while 30 percent are “fairly unconcerned” or “not concerned at all” about the violence directed at Jews.

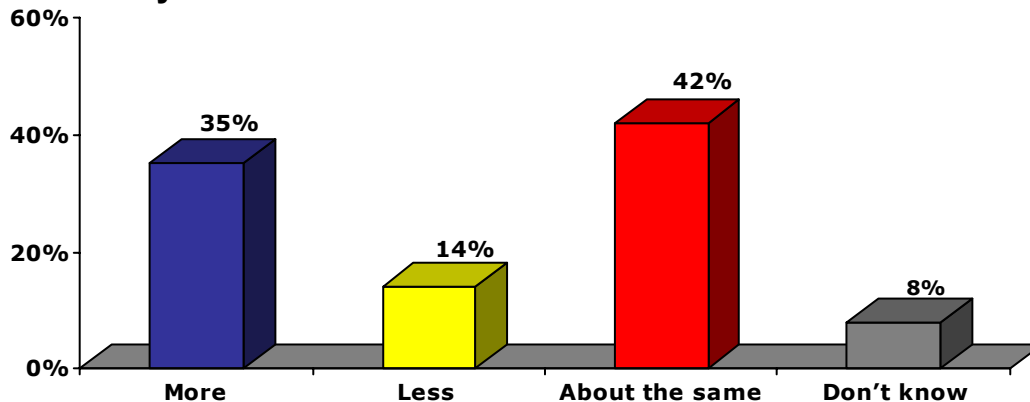
	Austria	Italy	Netherlands	Spain	Switzerland
Very concerned	16%	21%	13%	13%	17%
Fairly concerned	48%	46%	46%	38%	47%
Fairly unconcerned	25%	20%	27%	26%	25%
Very unconcerned	6%	10%	12%	18%	9%
Don't know	5%	3%	2%	5%	2%

- A majority, 57 percent, think that their governments are doing enough to ensure the safety and security of Jewish citizens.
- Thirty percent of Spanish and Italian respondents do not think that their government is doing enough to ensure the safety and security of its Jewish citizens – the highest percentage among the countries surveyed.

Do you think your government is doing enough to ensure the safety and security of its Jewish citizens?

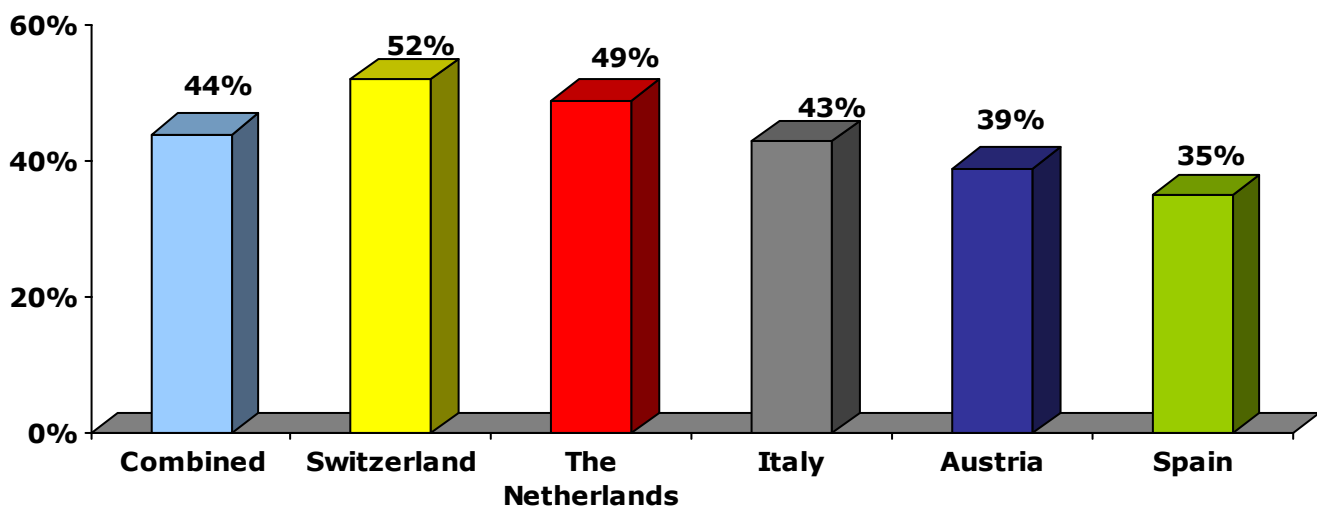
	Austria	Italy	Netherlands	Spain	Switzerland
Yes	74%	44%	55%	39%	74%
No	15%	30%	19%	30%	9%
on't know	11%	26%	25%	30%	16%

- A plurality, 42 percent, believe that anti-Jewish feelings have remained the same over the last five years, while 35 percent think they have increased.



- However, by a margin of 35%-14%, respondents are more likely to say that anti-Jewish feelings have increased as opposed to decreased.
- Overall, 44 percent of respondents believe there is a possibility of an increase in anti-Jewish feelings within their respective countries over the next few years.
- Swiss and Dutch respondents (52 and 49 percent respectively) are most likely to believe that anti-Jewish feelings could rise within their borders.

Do you see any possibility of an increase in anti-Jewish feeling around the country in the next few years? Percentage responding "Yes."

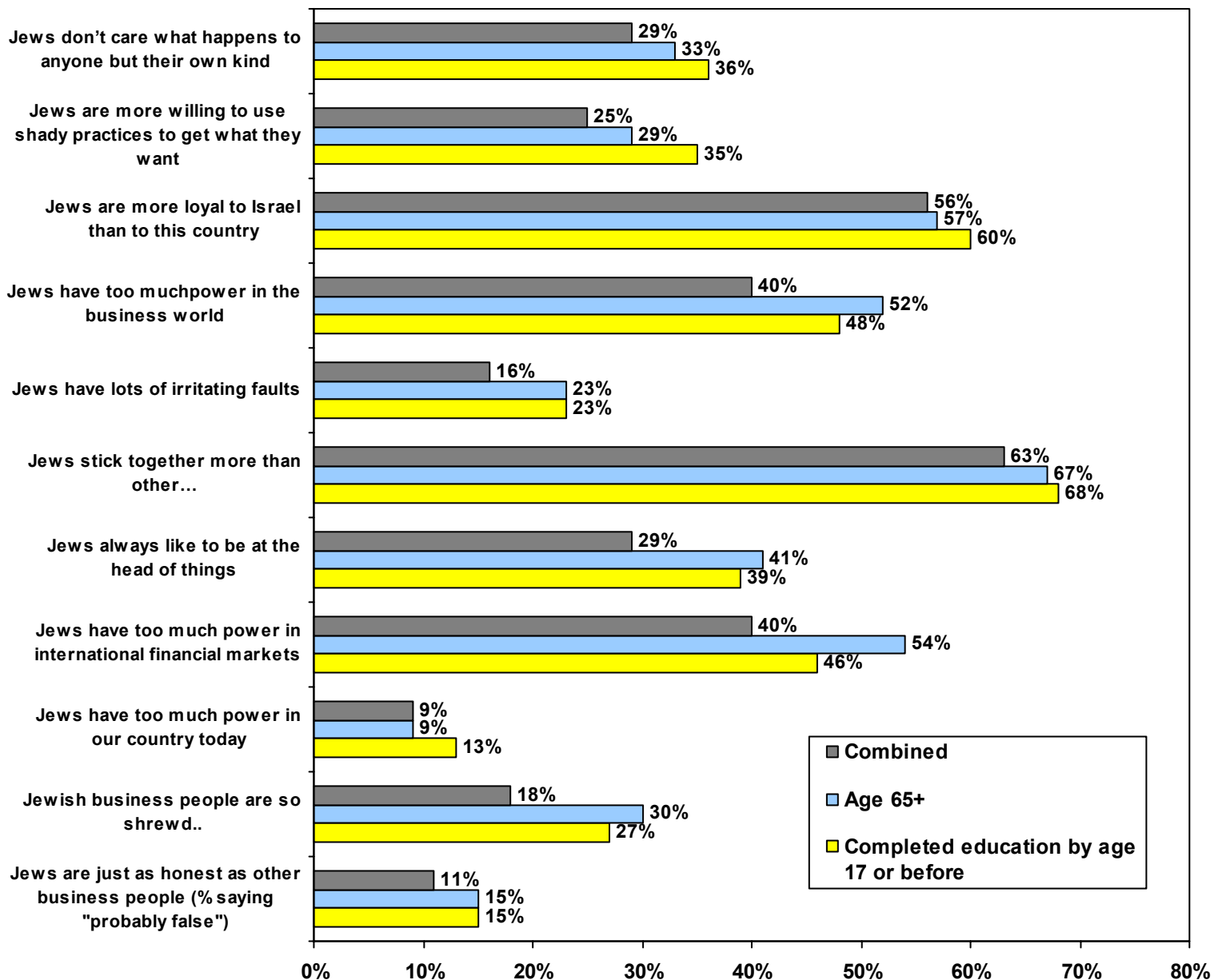


- A majority, 53 percent, believe that it is "very" or "fairly" likely that there could be a serious increase in anti-Jewish feeling around the world in the next few years.
- When asked the same question in the United States, 63 percent of respondents felt it was likely that there could be a serious increase in anti-Jewish feeling around the world in the next few years.

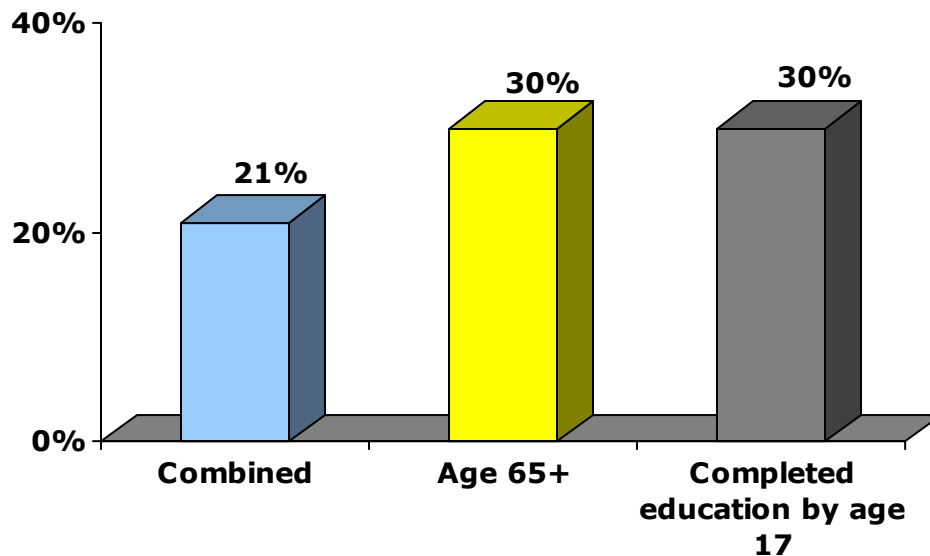
- **Nearly half of all respondents, 49 percent, say that Jews still talk too much about what happened to them in the Holocaust.**
- **Respondents in Spain, 57 percent, and Austria, 56 percent, are most likely to feel that Jews still talk too much about the Holocaust.**
- **69 percent say that most people in their country are prejudiced against other ethnic groups, even if they don't admit to it in public.**

Age and Education

- The data indicates that in all five countries surveyed, age or education are key factors in determining the likelihood of a respondent believing in traditional anti-Semitic stereotypes.
- Those over the age of 65 and those who completed their education by age 17 or before, are more likely than the rest of the population to agree with the anti-Semitic characterizations presented in the survey.



- In addition, those over the age of 65 and those who completed their education by age 17 or before, are more likely than the rest of the population to be considered “most anti-Semitic.”



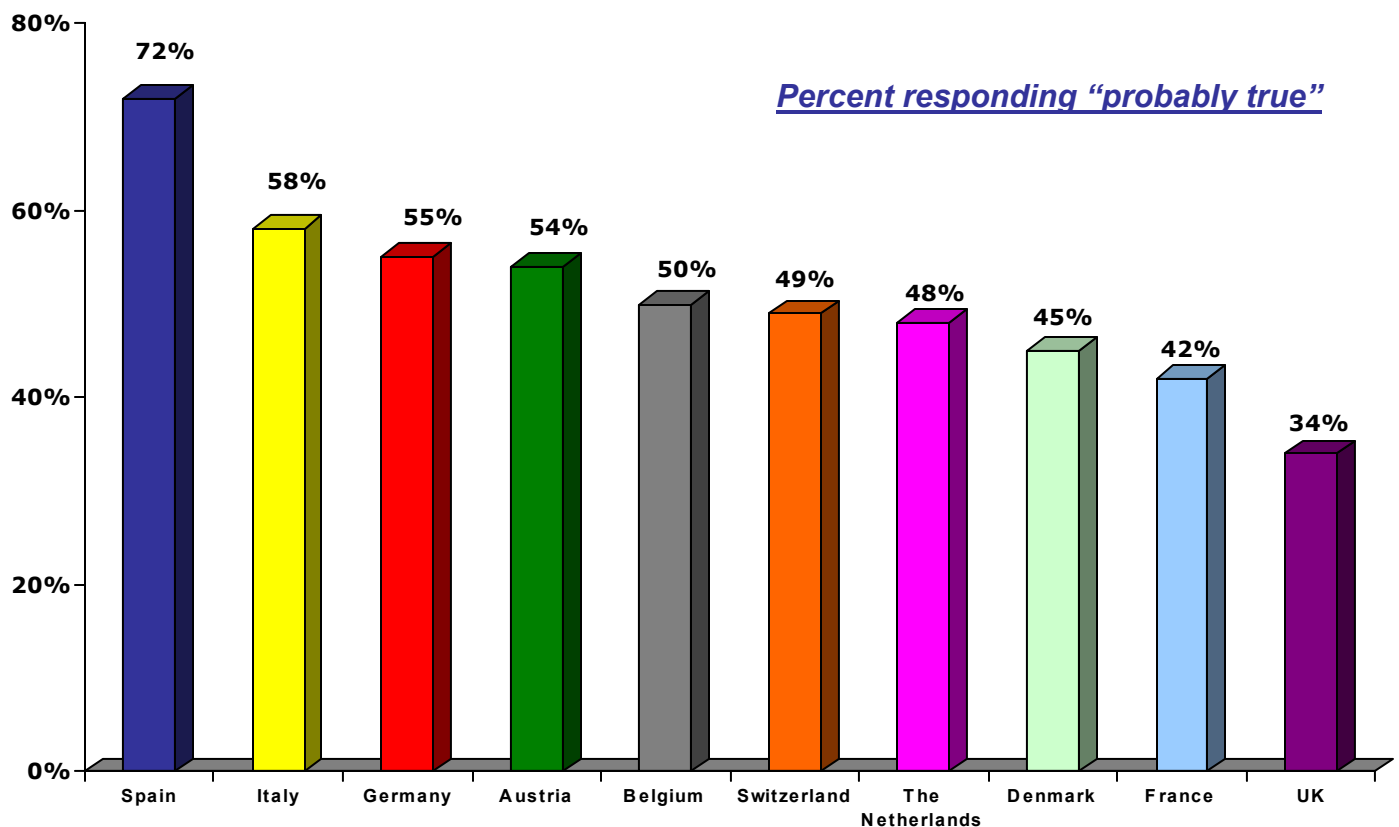
- The following table illustrates the same trend on a country-by-country basis.

	Austria	Italy	Netherlands	Spain	Switzerland
Overall "Most Anti-Semitic"	19%	23%	7%	34%	22%
"Most Anti-Semitic" among those Age 65+	34%	31%	13%	40%	30%
"Most Anti-Semitic" among those who completed their education by age 17 or before	31%	28%	12%	45%	26%

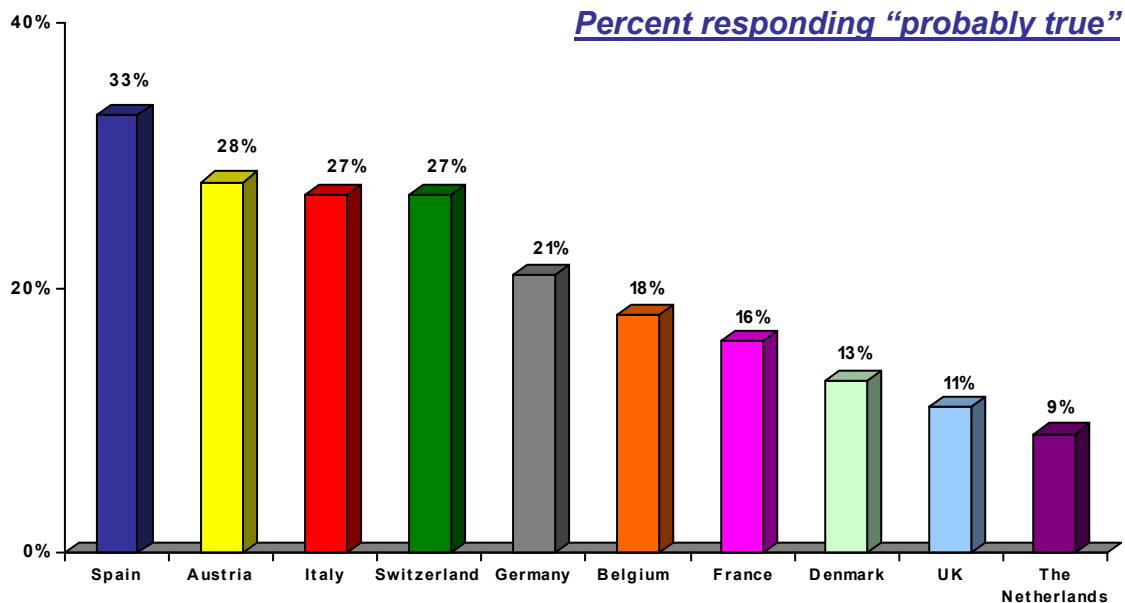
European Trends

In June 2002, the Anti-Defamation League conducted a similar survey of attitudes toward Jews in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Denmark, and Belgium. Where applicable, the following section compares results from the June 2002 survey with results from the October 2002 survey.

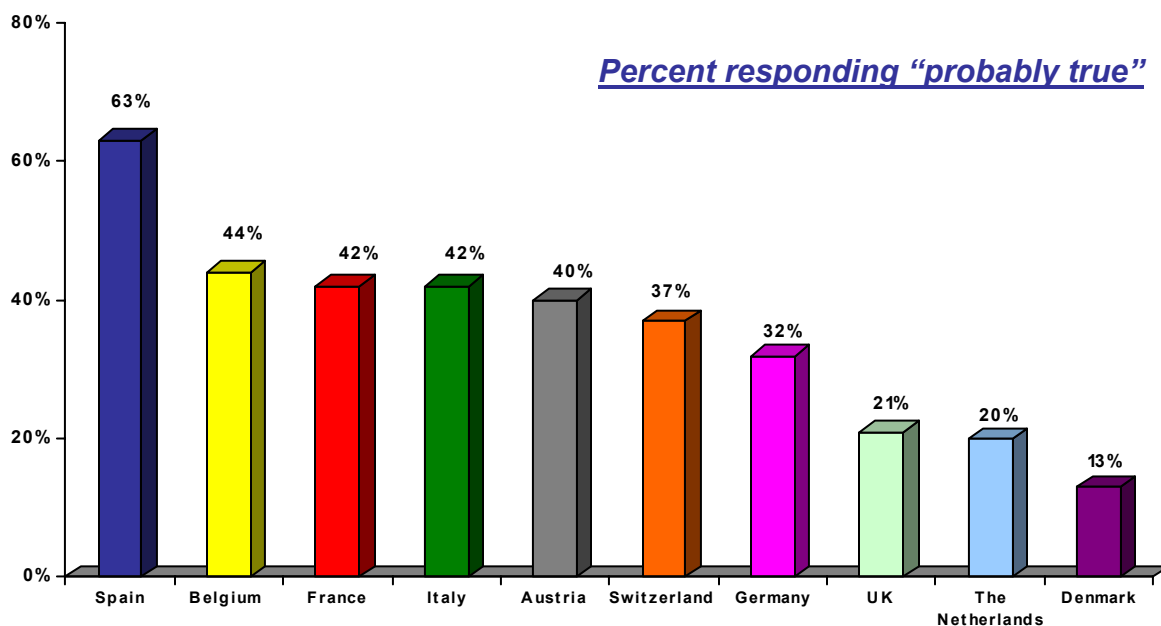
1. Jews are more loyal to Israel than to this country.



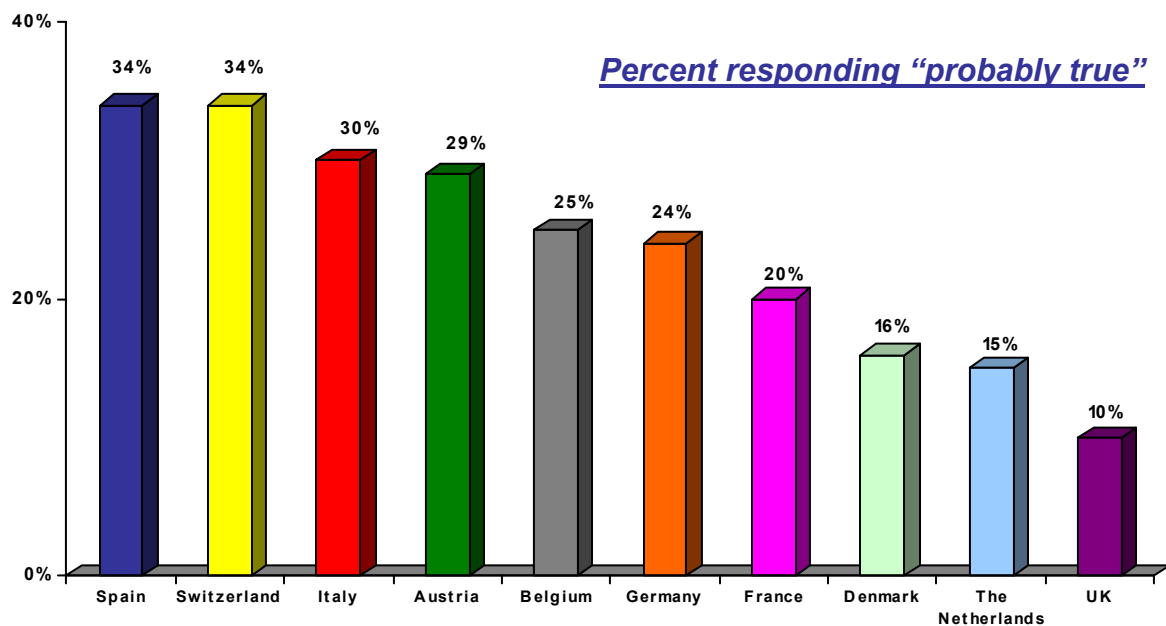
2. Jews are more willing than other to use shady practices to get what they want.



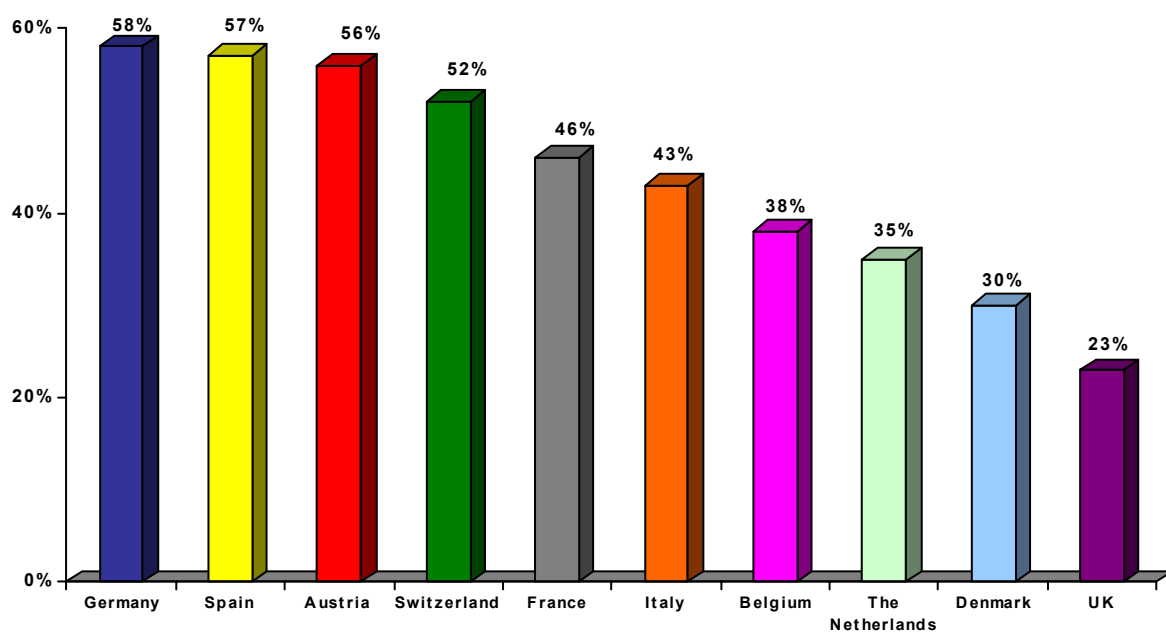
3. Jews have too much power in the business world.



4. Jews don't care what happens to anyone but their own kind.



5. Jews still talk too much about what happened to them in the Holocaust.



6. How likely do you think it is that there could be a serious increase in anti-Jewish feeling around the world in the next few years?

