

Survey Results

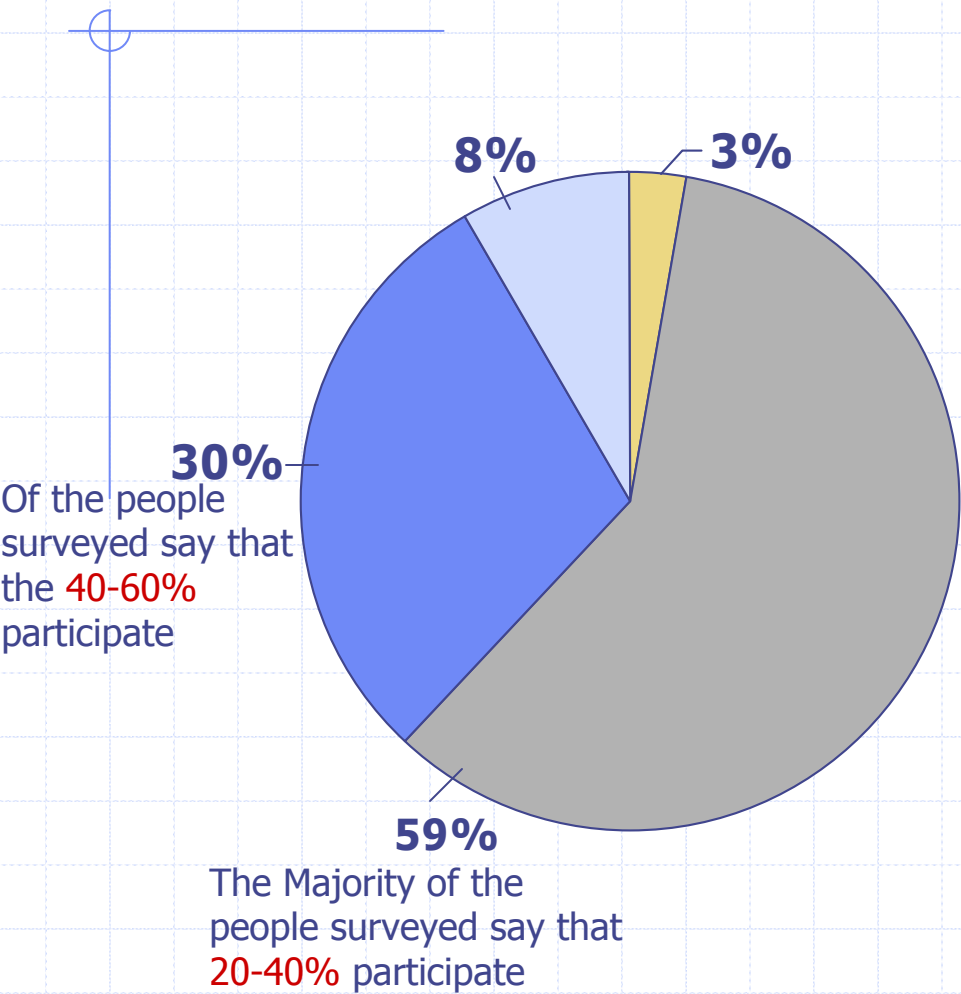
General Assembly Budapest
May 27-30, 2004



The American Jewish
Joint Distribution
Committee



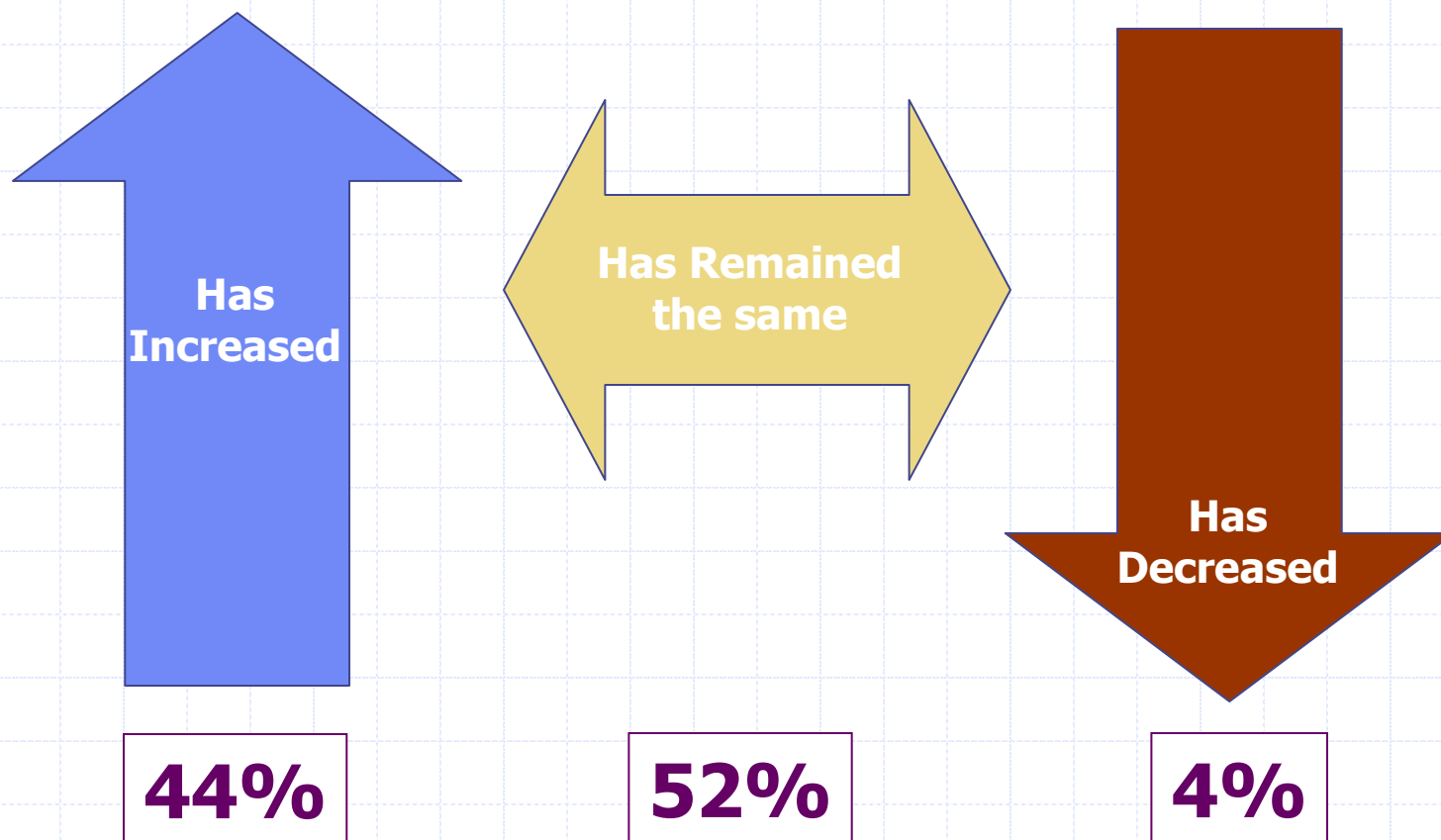
1. The percentage of Jews living in my city (and surrounding area) participating in Community programs is:



- Less than 20%
- 20% to 40% participate
- 40% to 60% participate
- 60% to 80% participate

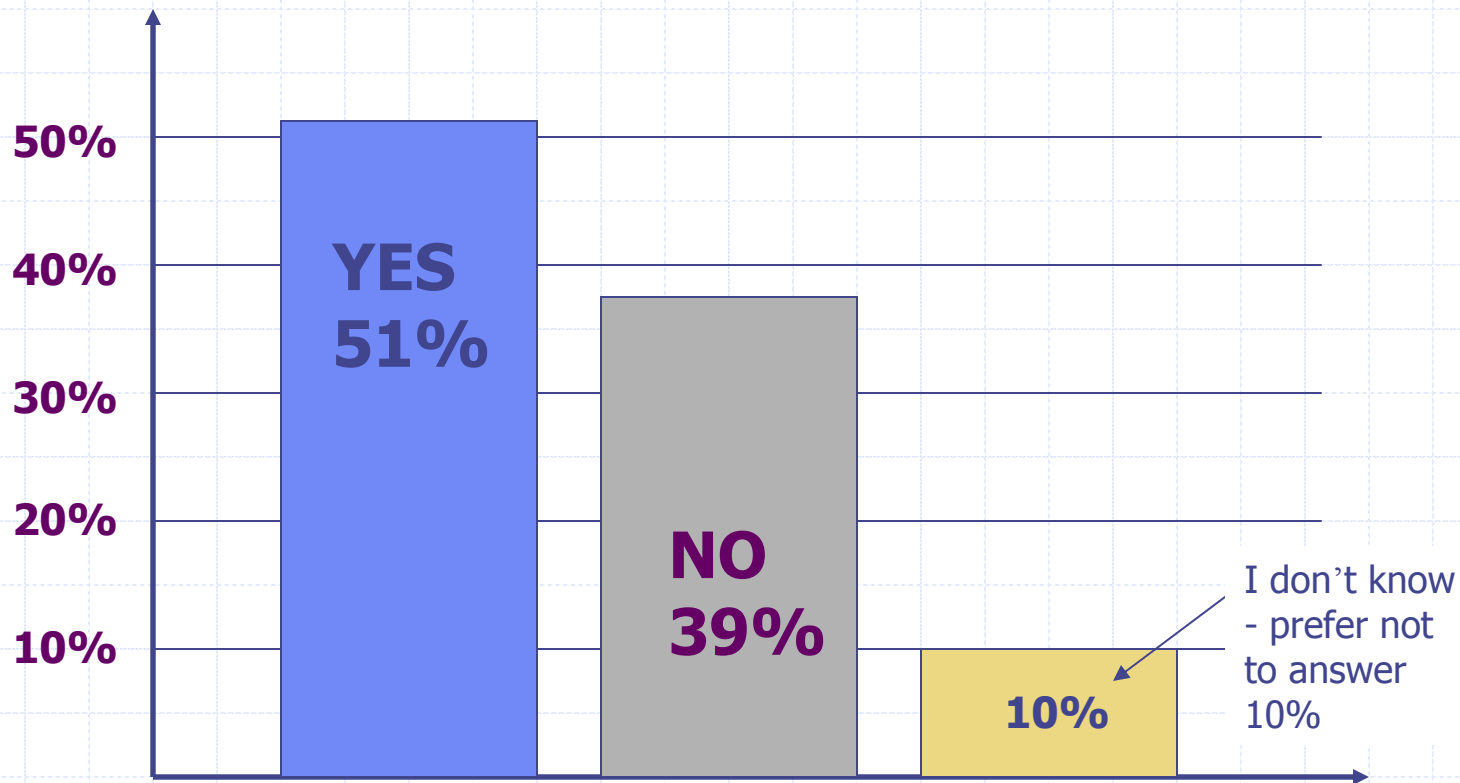
- Over 90% of the people surveyed say that the level of participation in community programs is less than 60%.
- 59% of the people surveyed affirm that the percentage of participation oscillates between around 20%-40%
- 30% of the people surveyed affirm that the percentage of participation oscillates between around 40% and 60%
- This means that 89% of the people surveyed confirm with certainty that **40% of the Jewish population does not participate in Jewish life.**

2. In the last 3 years, the number of people attending community activities:



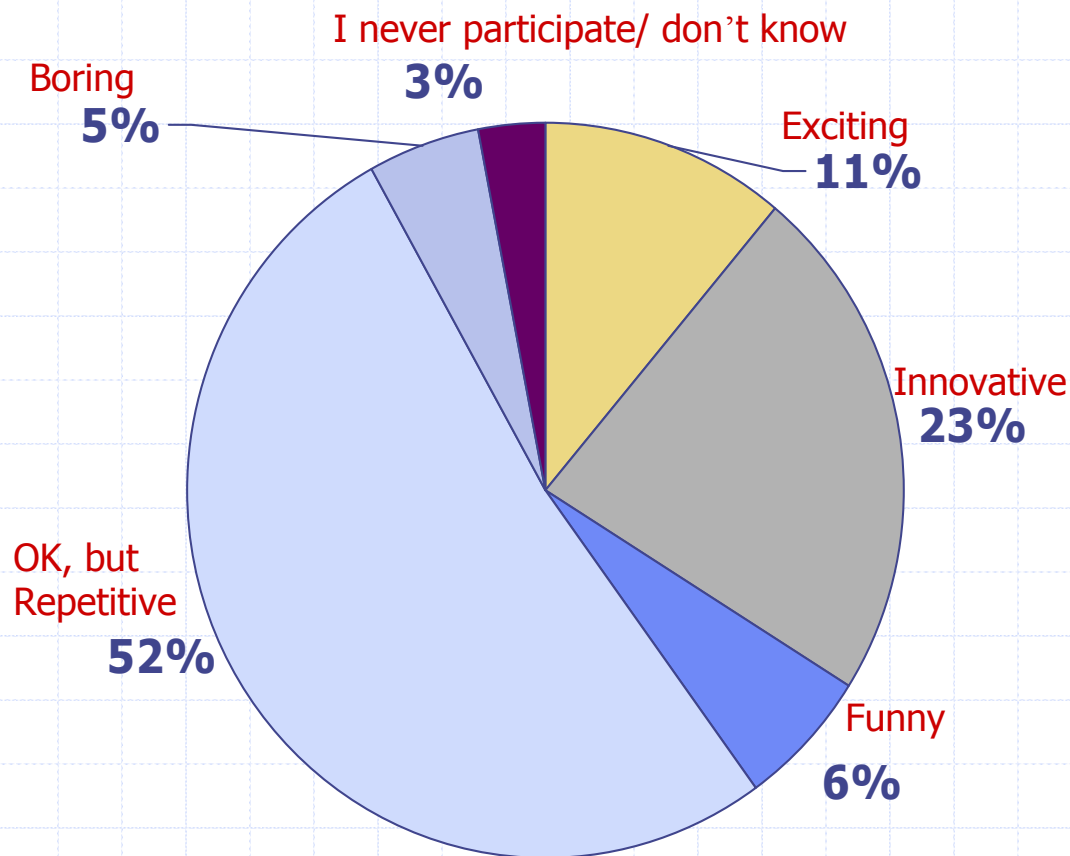
The vast majority of people surveyed registered either **no modification** in the number of people participating in the community activities or an **increase**.

3. Is the Jewish Leadership in my Community representative of its diversity (in terms of age, affiliation, gender, interests, etc.)?



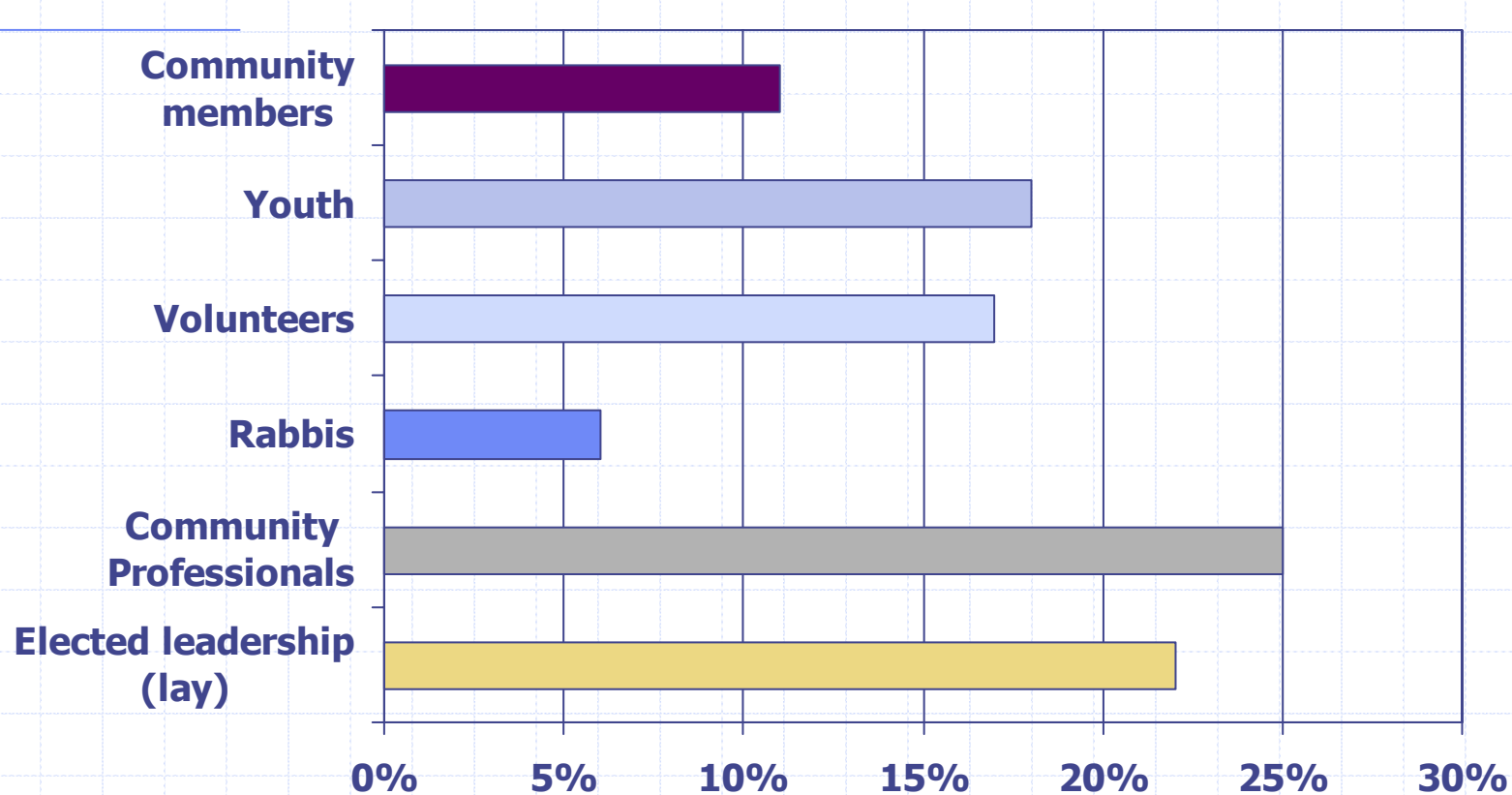
Although just over half of the people surveyed think that the leadership truly represents the community, 40% have the opposite view.

4. Regarding the Programs and Activities my Jewish Community offers which of the following best describes them:



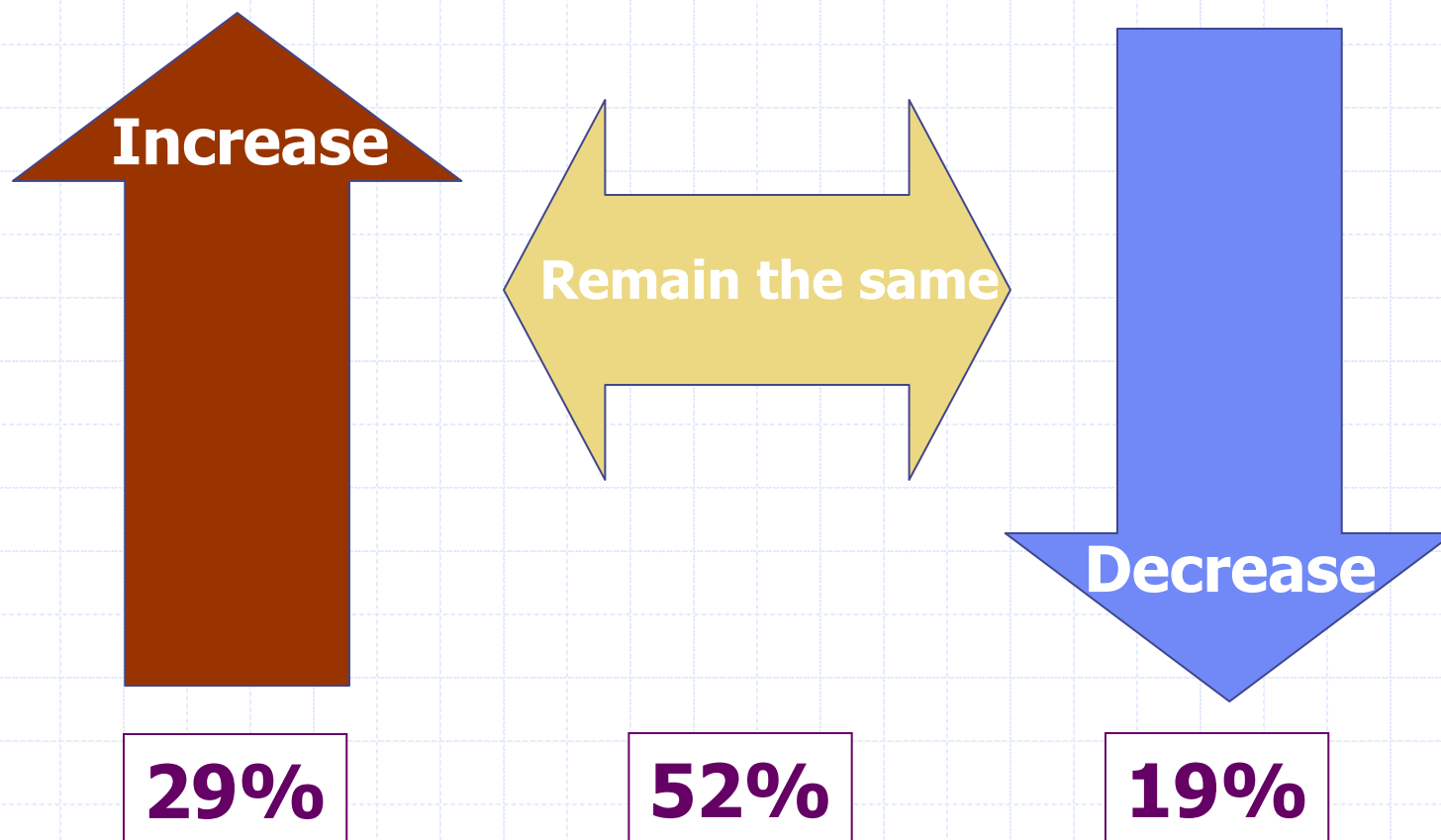
- Repetition seems to be one of the characteristics of community programming (52%).
- Innovative and exciting programs (34%) are the exception.
- It would be recommendable to **dedicate time and resources** to planning and creative thinking in order to develop a more diverse selection of activities and programs thus avoiding repetition and perhaps increasing participation.

5. I expect changes in my Jewish Community to be initiated by the following group of people:



➔ All of the people surveyed mentioned several groups in the community, inferring that cooperation and collaboration are needed to initiate changes. Community Professionals are perceived as having the prime responsibility, followed by elected leadership and volunteers. This result could be interpreted as the need for **collaboration and team work** between the different groups in the community, to introduce change according to the needs of the affiliated.

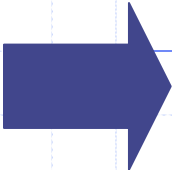
6. In the next 5 years, division and polarization in my Community will:



Polarization is defined as a situation of extreme separation and division in the community. The data shows that the perspective of improvement in the political life of the community is a view held by the minority. Strategies and policies leading to conviviality and cooperation in spite of differences must to be encouraged.

7. The following phrase best represents me:

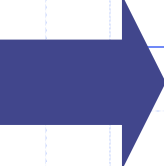
- ◆ I am Jewish and _____ (nationality) **30%**
- ◆ I am a Jew living in my country / Europe **28%**
- ◆ I am _____ (nationality) and Jewish **25%**
- ◆ I am European and Jewish **13%**
- ◆ I don't know / prefer not to answer **4%**



Over 60% of people surveyed feel Jewish **FIRST**. The identification of oneself as European is very low: the majority of people surveyed feel more connected to the country they live in than "Europe".

The percentage of people "in doubt" about their identity is very low. Due to the fact, that the people interviewed are somehow engaged with Jewish life, this small percentage must not be considered as representative.

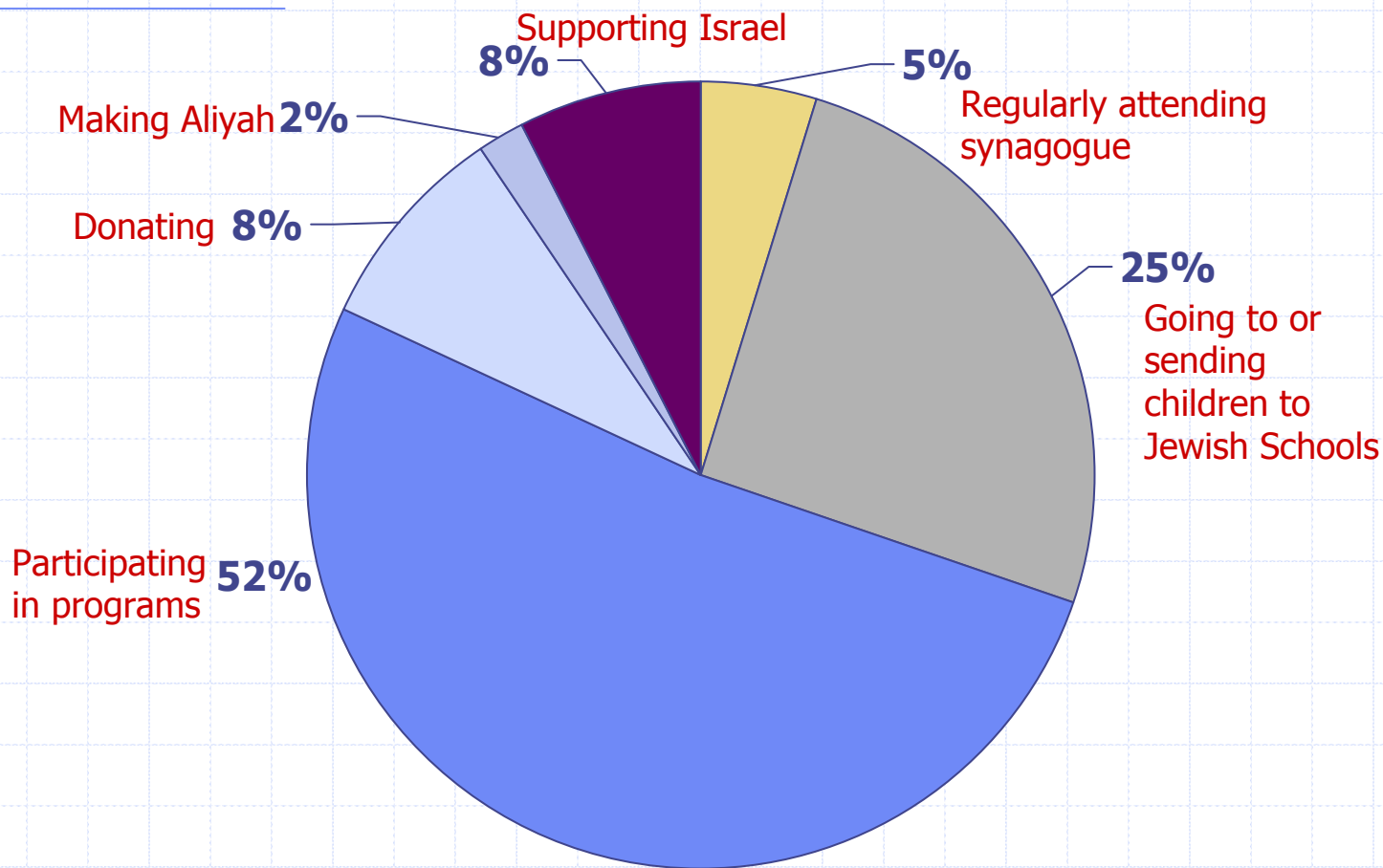
8. My Community would be more successful in attracting the unaffiliated if it would:



> Be more pluralistic and inclusive	33%
> Provide more social and recreational activities	29%
> Include liberal (reform, masorti, conservative).	18%
> Offer more Jewish Education programs	17%
> Offer more religious activities	3%

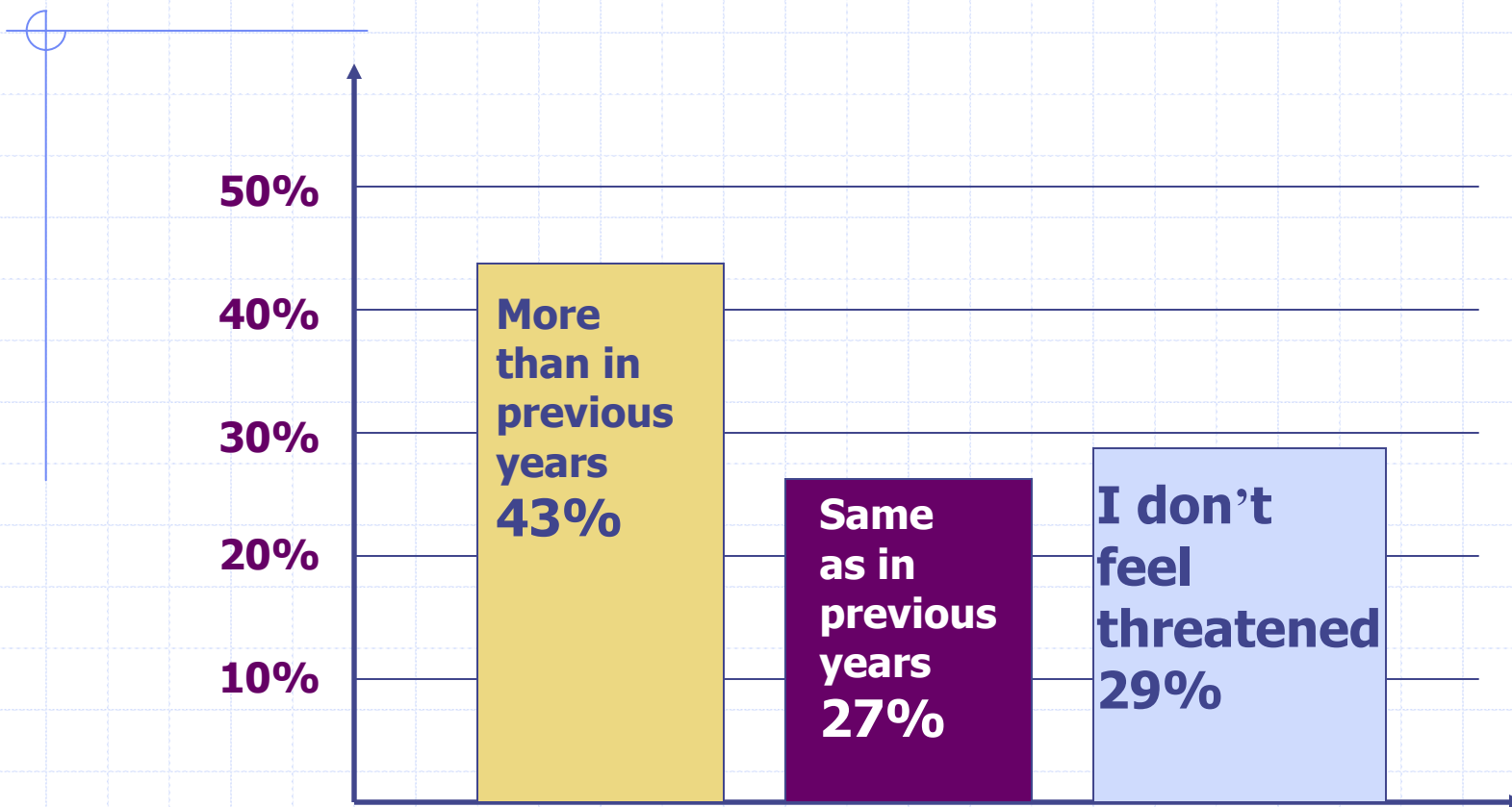
- This illustrates an evident need to broaden the variety and scope of programs and activities offered, where discussions and alternative thinking would be tolerated, encouraged and respected.
- Socialization and fun are areas which must not be neglected: 30% of the people surveyed think they not only have a place in Jewish institutions but that they are important.
- Jewish religious alternatives and Jewish educational programs are important to 35% of the people surveyed: this shows an interest in learning about Judaism and learning other approaches to Judaism than orthodoxy.

9. Of the following practices, I consider this one to be most important:



Globally, **participation** is seen as the most important way to be involved in the community. Another point to highlight is the importance of Jewish Education/Continuity. Donating, supporting Israel and attending synagogue are of less importance when it comes to ranking means of involvement.

10. I feel threatened by Anti-Semitism....



➔ The opinions of the people surveyed regarding Anti-Semitism is completely heterogeneous.

About the Survey and the People Surveyed

- ◆ The survey is partially based on the DELPHI Method, which is a technique used in Applied Social Research. According to this method, a selected population of experts in a specific field replies to anonymous questionnaires. The results are simultaneously displayed on an evaluation scale thus allowing trends to be detected.
- ◆ The survey was given to participants at the 3rd General Assembly of European Jewry which took place in Budapest May 27-30, 2004. Over 1000 leaders of Jewish communities from throughout Europe were present to participate in workshops and dialogue on such topics as Judaism in contemporary Europe, Education and Fundraising to name a few.