

The Nottingham Jewish Student Census: What's Happening on Campus?

Presented by Matthew Davis

About me

- ▶ Nottingham Undergraduate in my final year
- ▶ Studying Sociology
- ▶ Research Methods background
- ▶ Orthodox Jew

Origins of this projects

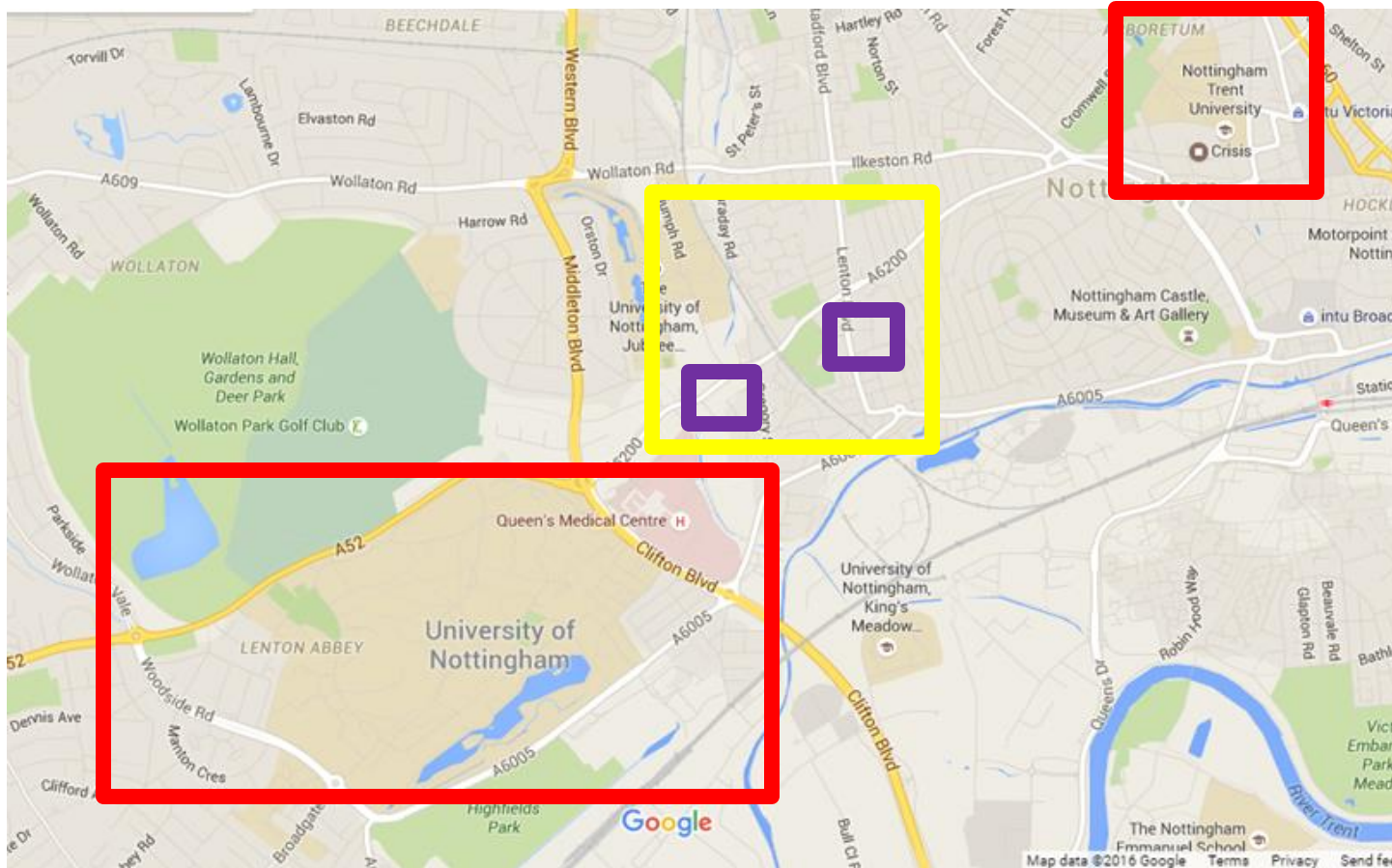
- ▶ Set up by Nottingham Jsoc in 2014
- ▶ Nottingham as a 'Jewni'

Aims

- ▶ Aimed to understand who Nottingham students are
- ▶ Wanted to increase satisfaction
- ▶ Looked at how the student Jewish experience could be improved
- ▶ Fears that too many organisations are fragmenting the Jewish student experience

Nottingham Breakdown

- University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University



Organisations in Nottingham - Aish/Genesis



19th May 2016


Organisations in Nottingham - Chabad








19th May 2016




Pesach



WITH NOTTINGHAM CHABAD
- a home away from home -

 MATZA DISTRIBUTED TO **80 PPL**

60 CHICKENS  **280** LITRES SOUP
110 KG MEAT  **14** KG MATZA
60 KG FISH  **6** CASES WINE

 **180** STUDENTS 
1000 HOME-COOKED MEALS

 **60** LITRES OIL  **950** EGGS  **450** KG FRUIT & VEG

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Jewish and Israel Society - JSoc



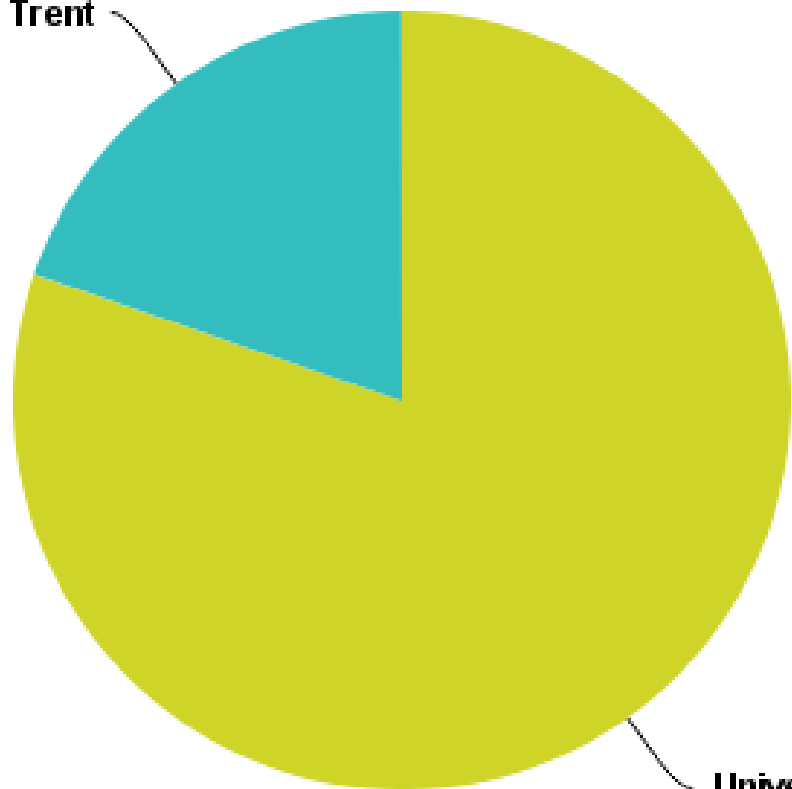
19th May 2016

Sample breakdown

- ▶ Date Created: Wednesday, March 05, 2014
- ▶ 151 Engagements
- ▶ 114 completed responses

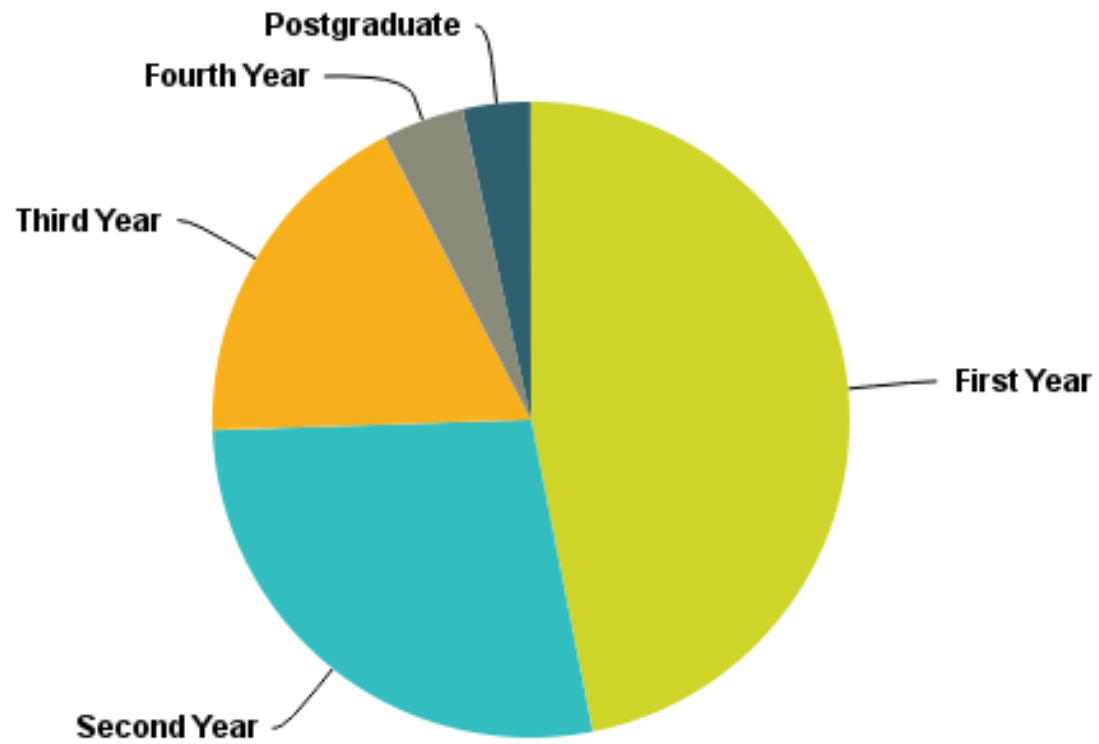
Sample

**Nottingham Trent
University**

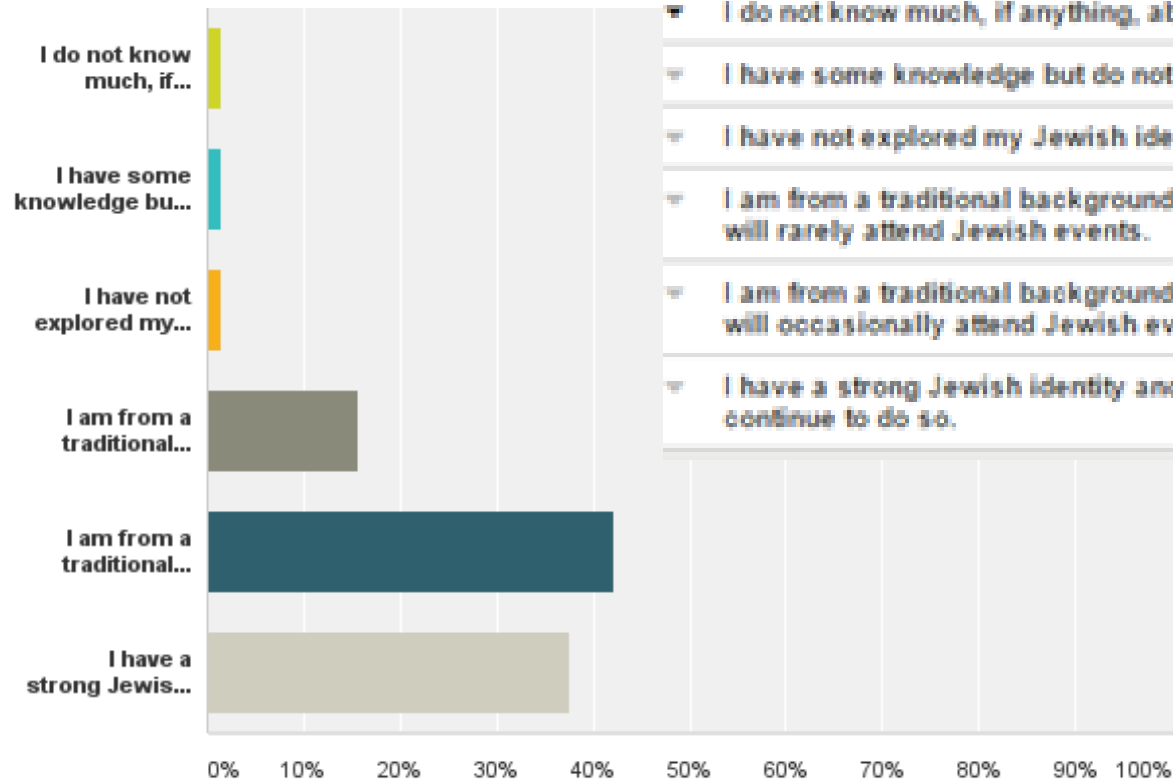


**University of
Nottingham**

Year of Study



How best would you describe your Jewish identity?

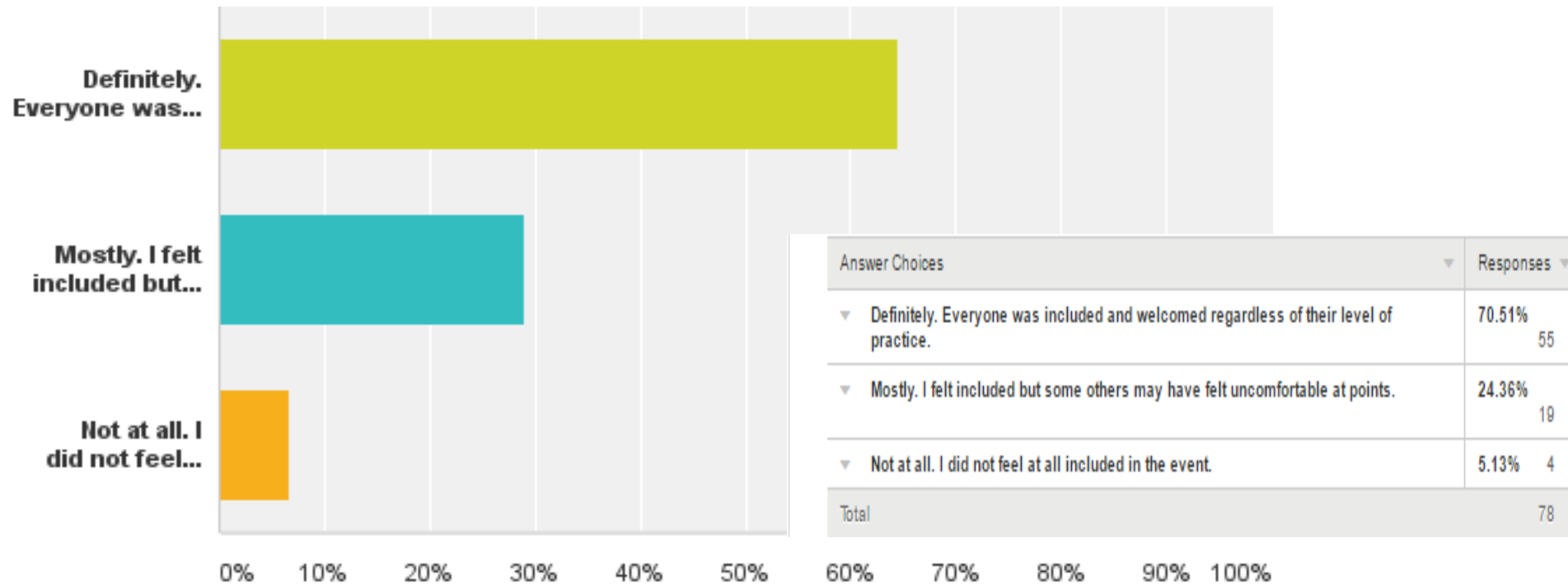


Answer Choices	Response
I do not know much, if anything, about being Jewish.	1.19%
I have some knowledge but do not attend Jewish events.	1.19%
I have not explored my Jewish identity but I am open to do so in the future.	0.00%
I am from a traditional background and have a moderately weak Jewish identity. I will rarely attend Jewish events.	14.29%
I am from a traditional background and have a moderately strong Jewish identity. I will occasionally attend Jewish events.	36.90%
I have a strong Jewish identity and attend many Jewish events and wish to continue to do so.	46.43%

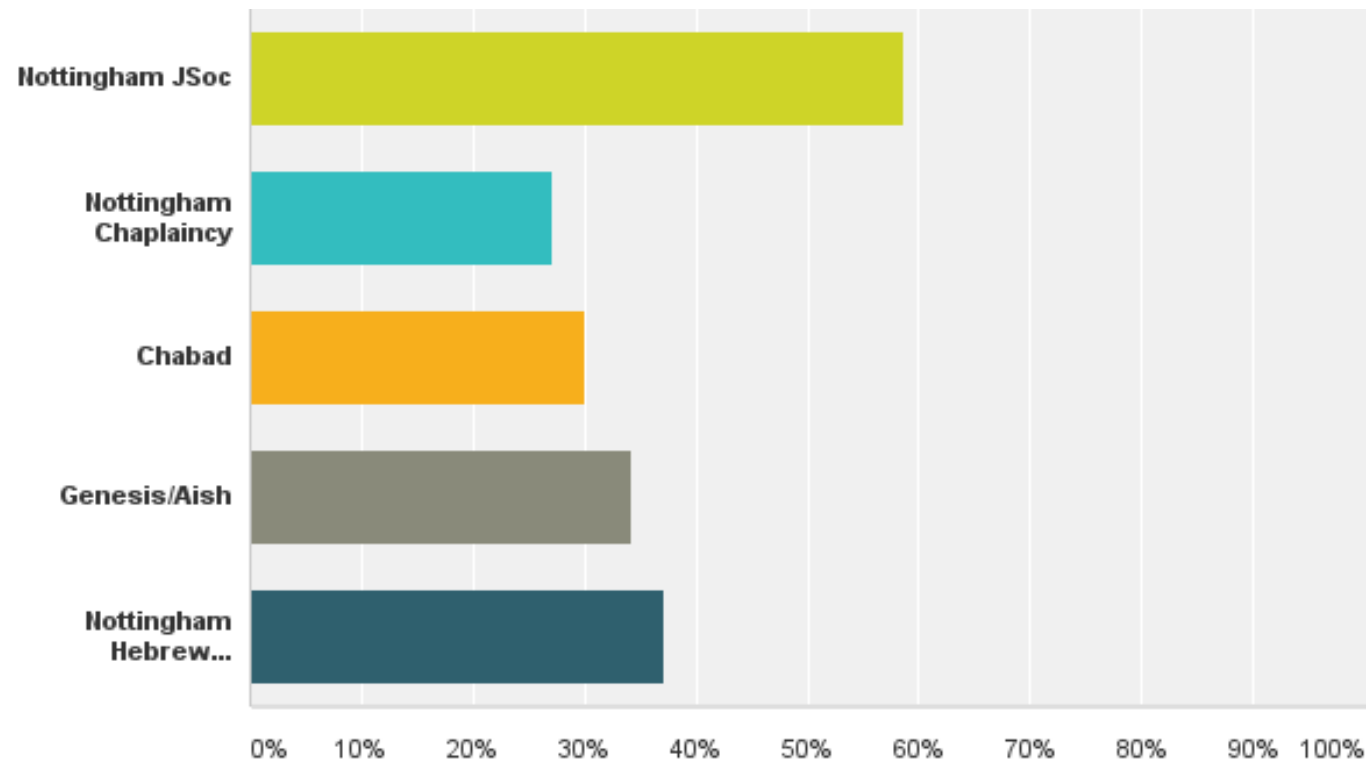
Frequency of attendance

	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently	Always	Total
Nottingham JSec	13.41% 11	28.05% 23	28.05% 23	21.95% 18	8.54% 7	82
Nottingham Chaplaincy	29.27% 24	25.61% 21	21.95% 18	20.73% 17	2.44% 2	82
Chabad	22.89% 19	14.46% 12	25.30% 21	31.33% 26	6.02% 5	83
Aish/Genesis	24.39% 20	25.61% 21	15.85% 13	19.51% 16	14.63% 12	82
Nottingham Hebrew Congregation	70.37% 57	16.05% 13	9.88% 8	3.70% 3	0.00% 0	81

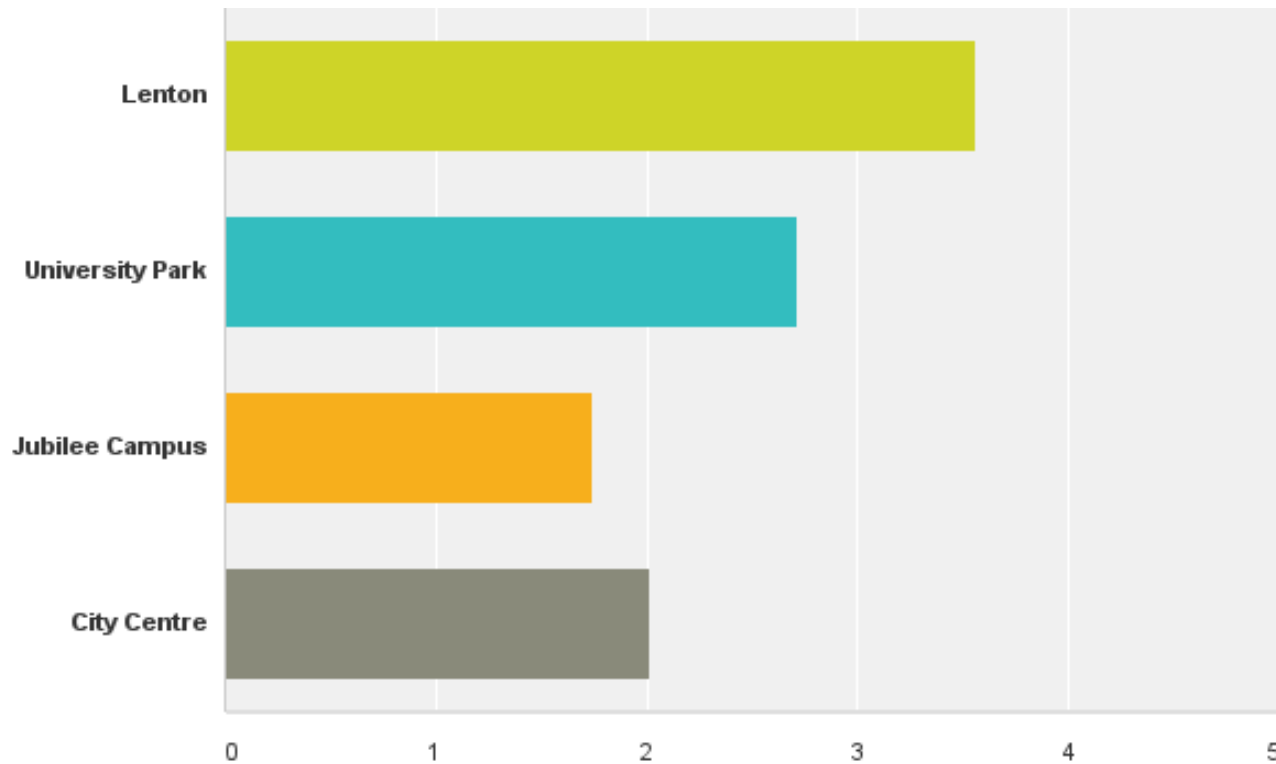
Inclusivity: Did you feel that the event was inclusive for all?



Inclusivity: Which organisation could do more to improve inclusivity?

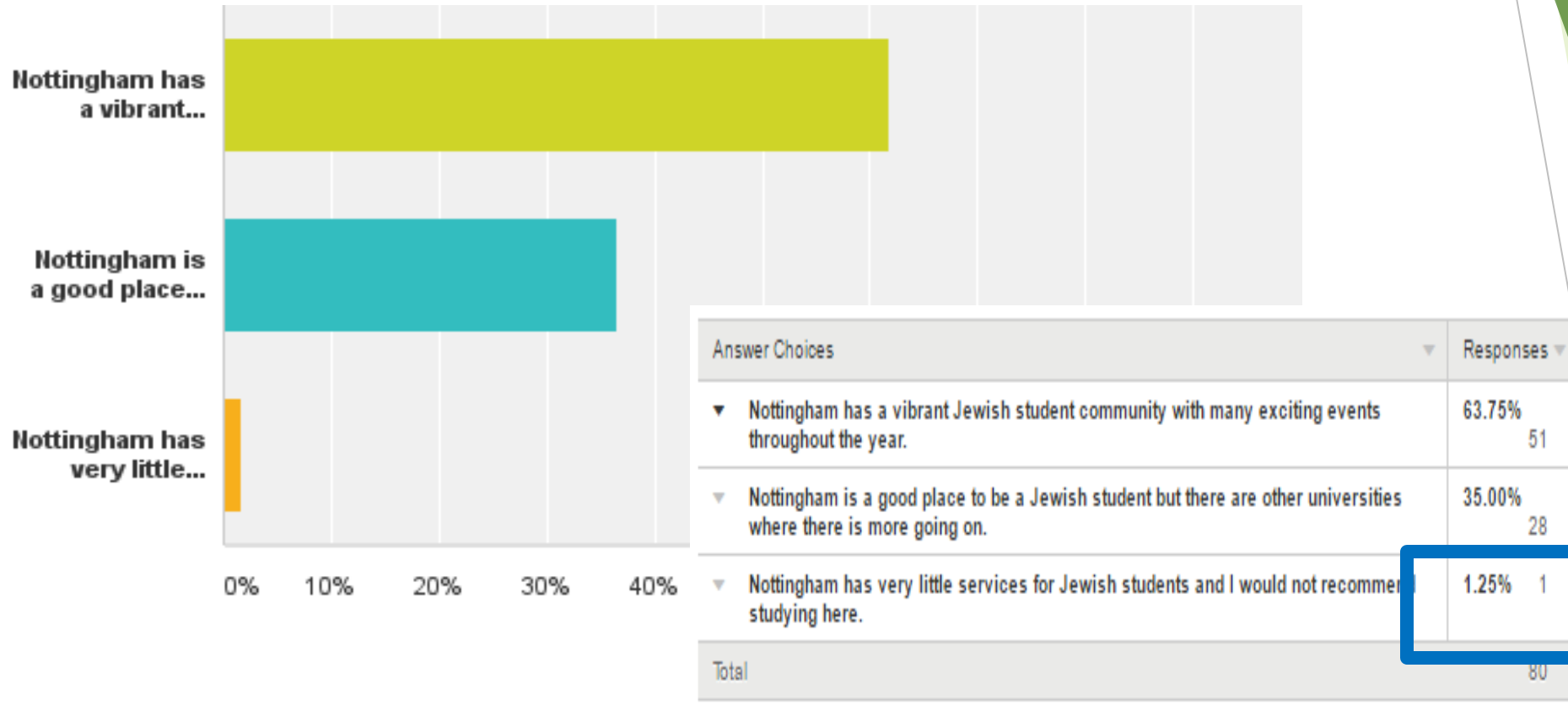


Location: Asked to rank ideal location for Friday Night Dinner



Only 3 people voted against Lenton being their 1st or 2nd choice, and helps to explain one of the reasons as to the popularity of Chabad and Aish

Positive Jewish Experience in Nottingham



Positive Jewish Experience in Nottingham

- ▶ “I wear a kippah openly at university and used to wear my tzitzit out for a few months. I've never experienced anti-Semitism on my campus. In fact, I've experienced curiosity and encouragement more than anything from both Jews and non-Jews.”
- ▶ No responses informing of anti-Semitism on campus
- ▶ “I think coming to Nottingham has heightened my sense of Jewish identity. I have a lot more Jewish friends which has encouraged my Judaism. I have also brought some of my Jewish friends who had not grown up in a strictly Jewish background to Jewish events. “

Key Finding - The need for a JSoc House in Lenton

- ▶ Need to have a base in Lenton to accommodate a central location for most students to access
- ▶ Would allow the JSoc to have a space for more speakers and promote inclusivity

What's happened since?

- ▶ Findings were presented to UJS and UJIA
- ▶ Helped to inform successive Jewish societies
- ▶ Led to motion being put forward at UJS conference in December 2015

Thank you for listening and I will now answer any questions you may have.

For further enquiries I can be contacted at matthew.davis11@gmail.com