

2023 Israel Hamas War Sentiment Survey

Findings from a poll of Americans – General Public and Jewish

October 29-November 1

Methodology

Survey Methodology

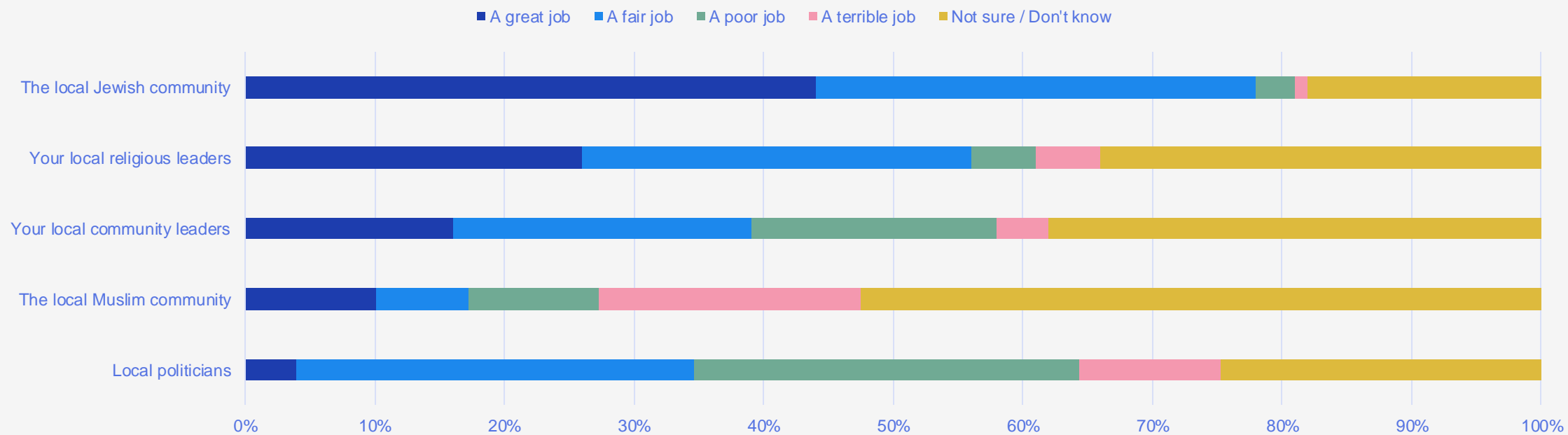
- Goal: Understand the sentiment and needs of American Adults, Jewish and the general public, so that Federations & partners can better serve their local communities.
- JFNA Conducted a national survey in the US October 29th-November 1st
- SMS text-based study fielded by Benenson Strategy Group
- Random sample US Adults and Jewish Americans using Civis Analytics data set
- Sample stratified by the estimated number of Jews within 5 miles of a Zip Code to analyze differences by local Jewish population size and Civis' prediction of how likely someone was to be Jewish
- Jewish Adults: 2199
- Total Respondents, including Jewish: 3777
 - Responses weighted to represent the general American adult population

Feedback on Response

Perception of Leadership Response: Jewish

Jewish respondents report their local Jewish community is doing a good job responding to the war. They feel more negatively about the job of local politicians and community.

How well or poor of a job are the following doing in addressing the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas?



Philanthropy

\$603,000,000+

Raised to date through Federations to support the
Israel Crisis Fund

92% People who have donated

Indicate they will donate again in the next few months

29% Jewish people

indicate they have already donated to a Jewish cause since October 7th

58% those who have not donated

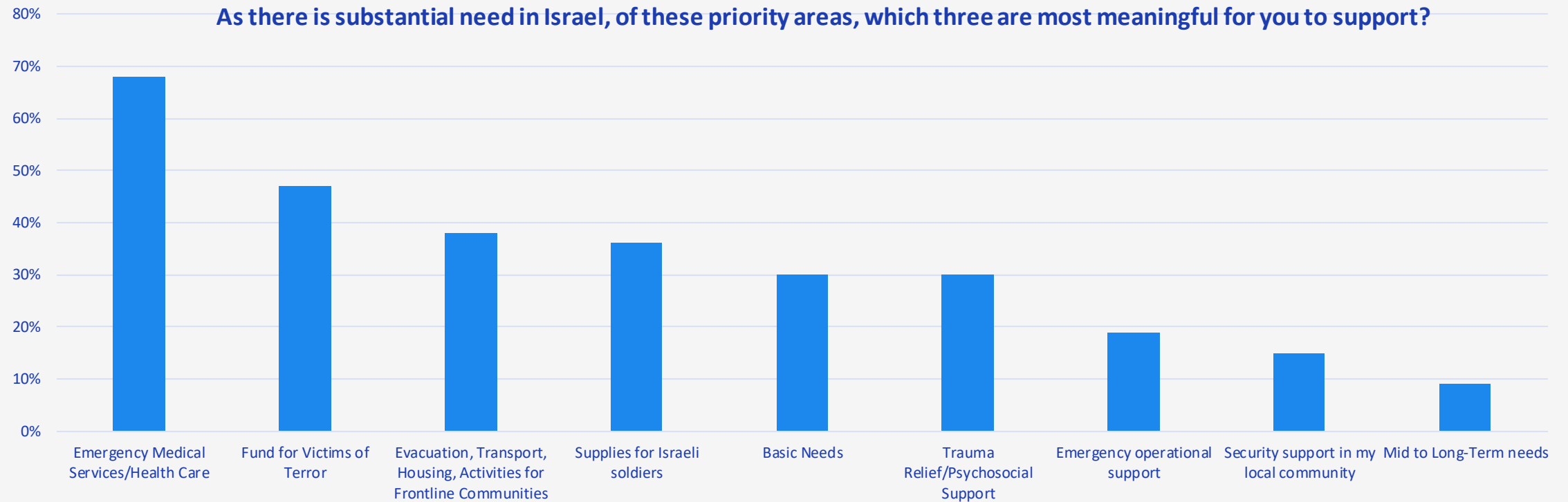
say they will in the next few months

37% who have never donated

say they will donate to support Israel in the next few months

Donor Interests

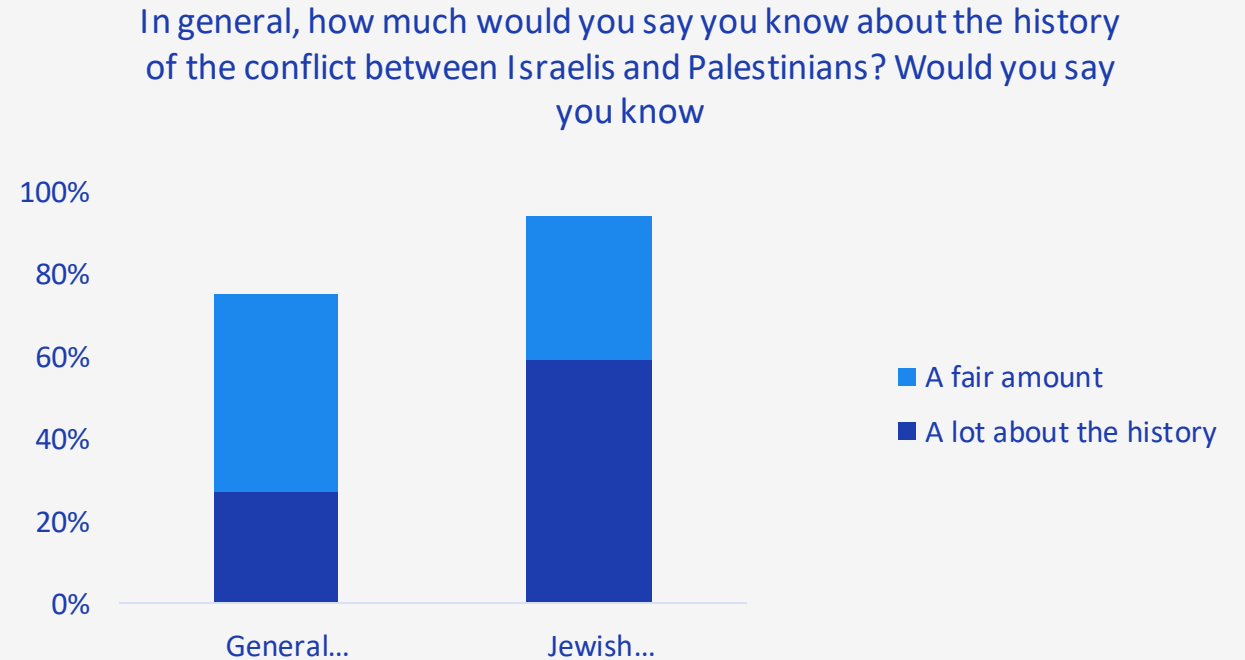
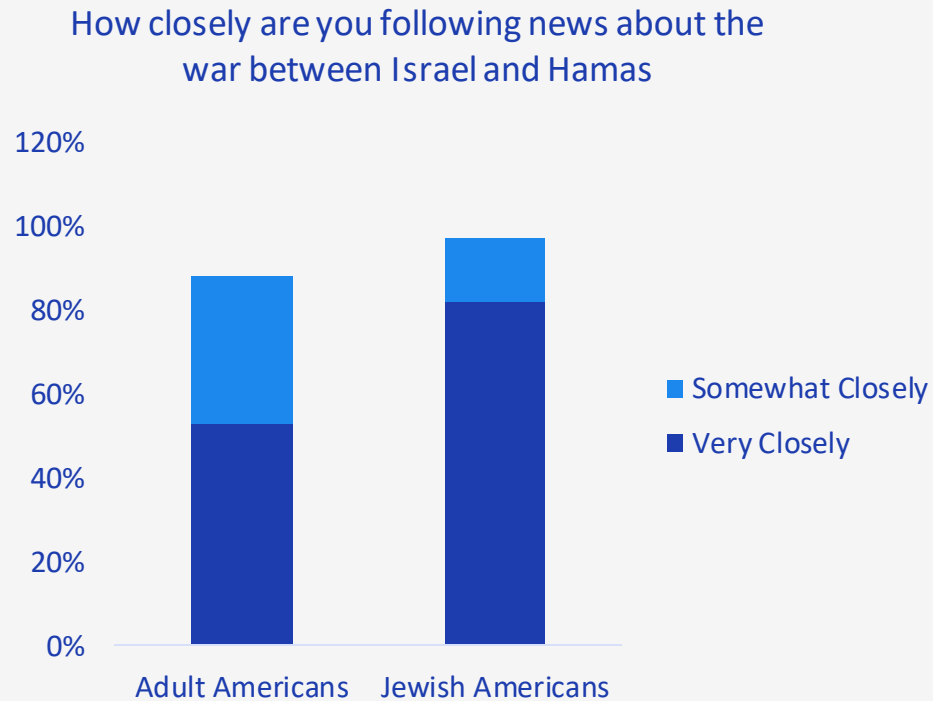
Immediate needs are the most meaningful for Jewish donors in this moment. Only under 10% said mid to long-term needs are one of their top 3 priorities right now.



Communication

Americans are Closely Following the War Between Israel and Hamas

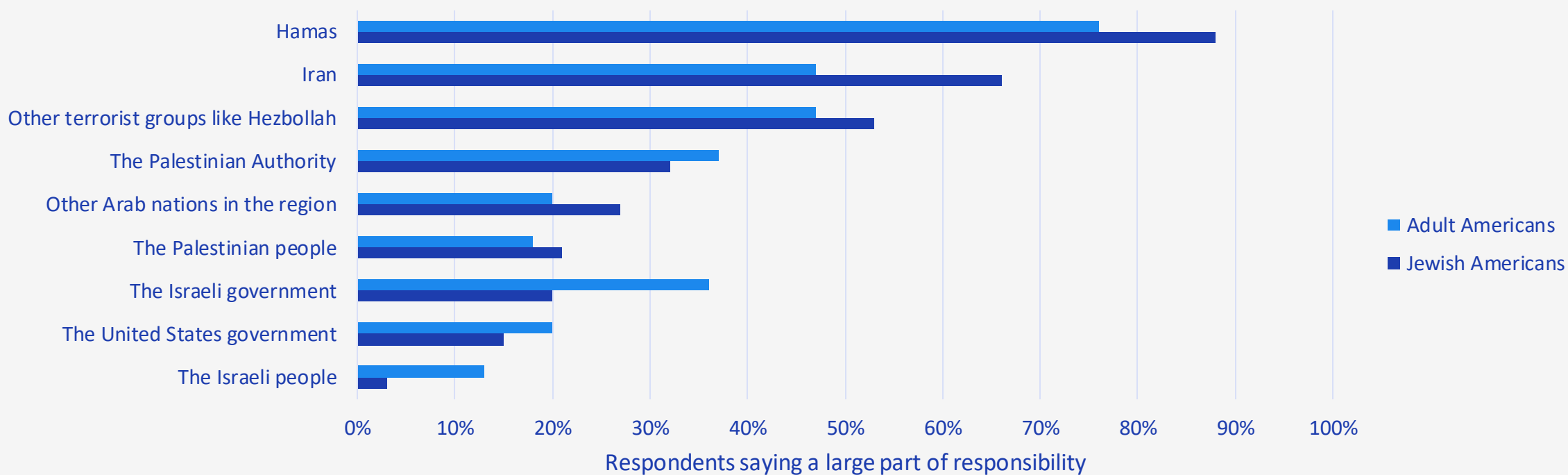
75% feel they know a lot or fair amount about the history of the conflict.



Responsibility for the War

Americans view Hamas, Iran, and other terrorist organizations responsible for the current war.

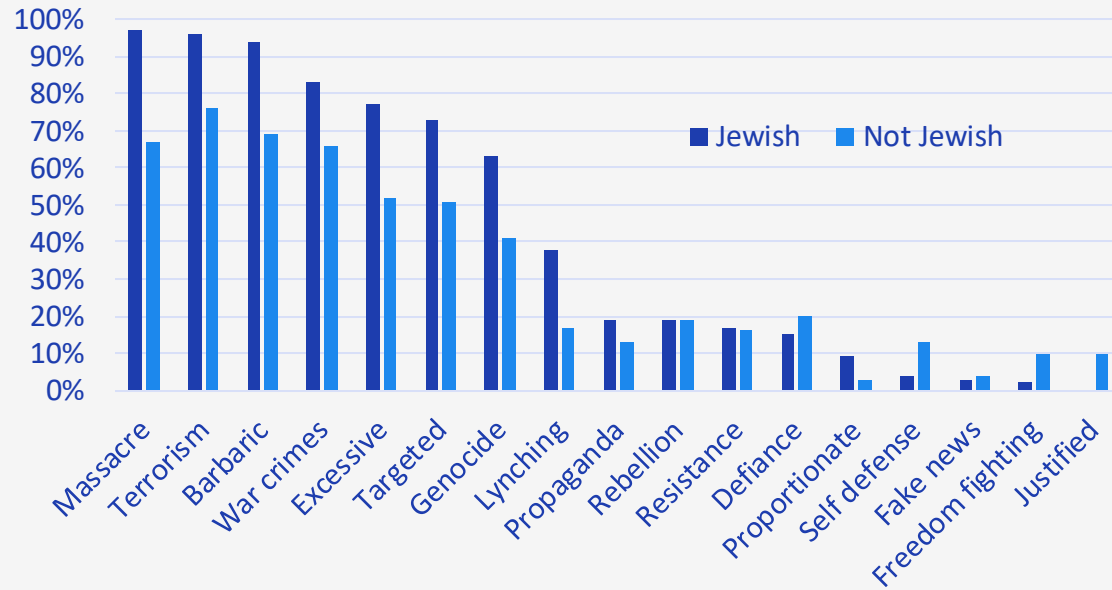
How much, if any, responsibility do you feel each of the following has for the current war that is going on between Israel and Hamas right now?



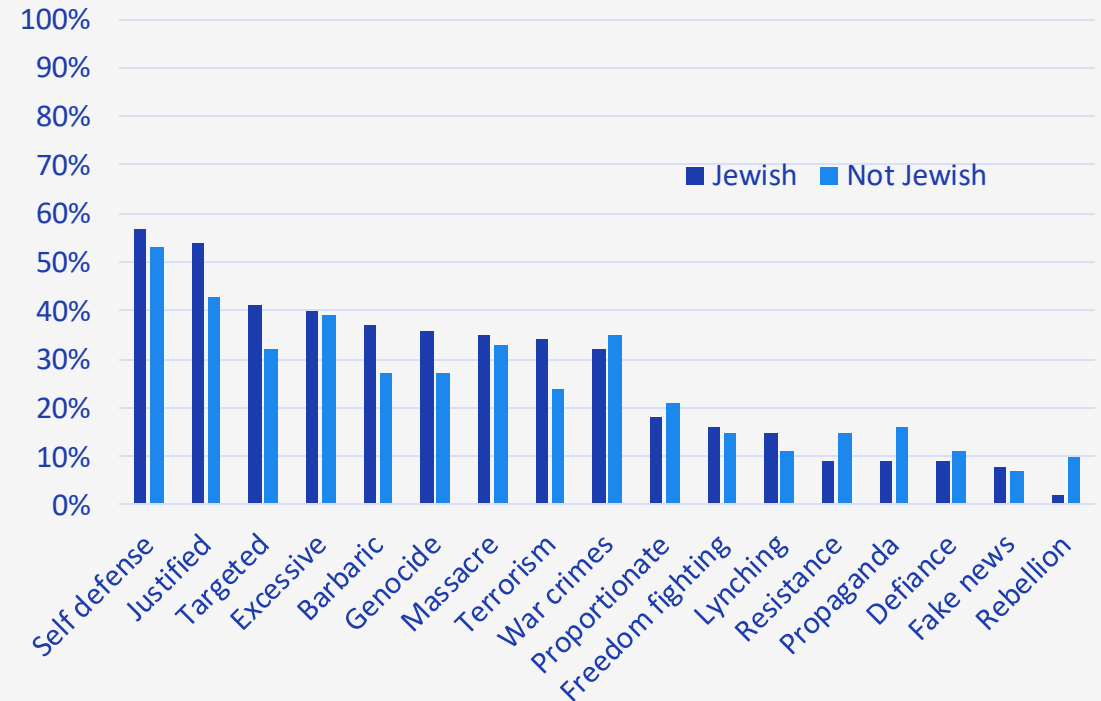
Words to Describe October 7th

Nearly all people use the words Terrorism, Barbaric and Massacre to describe Hamas’s attack on Israel. Most people use self-defense and justified to describe Israel’s response, with many also saying it is excessive.

What adjectives do you feel best describe Hamas' attack on Israel on October 7th?

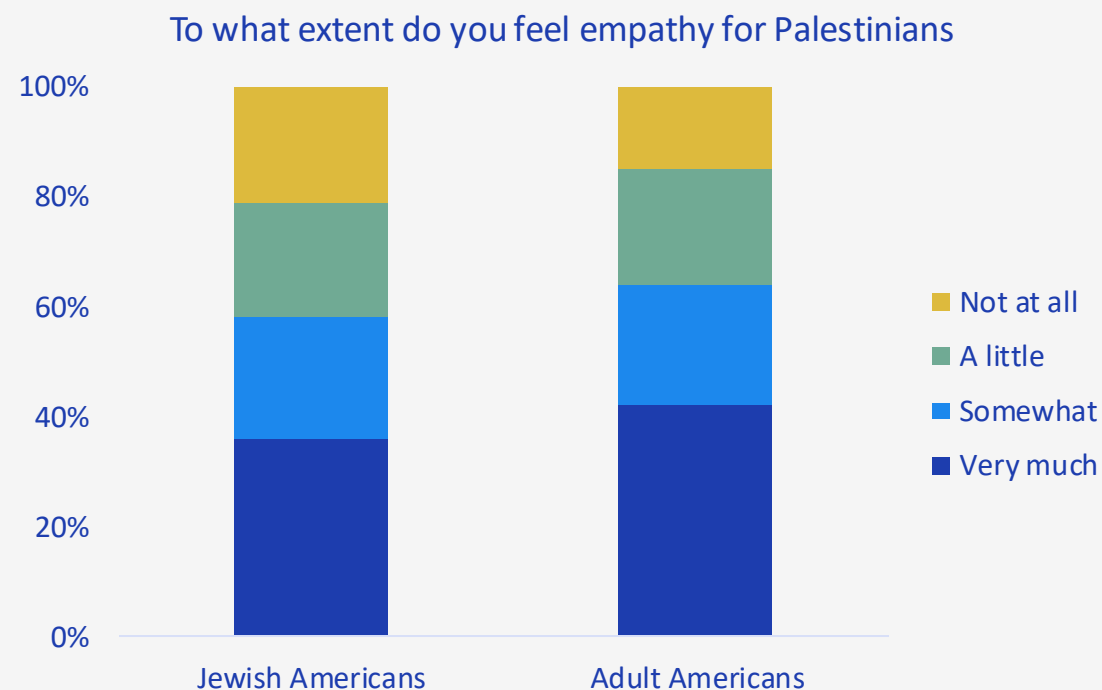
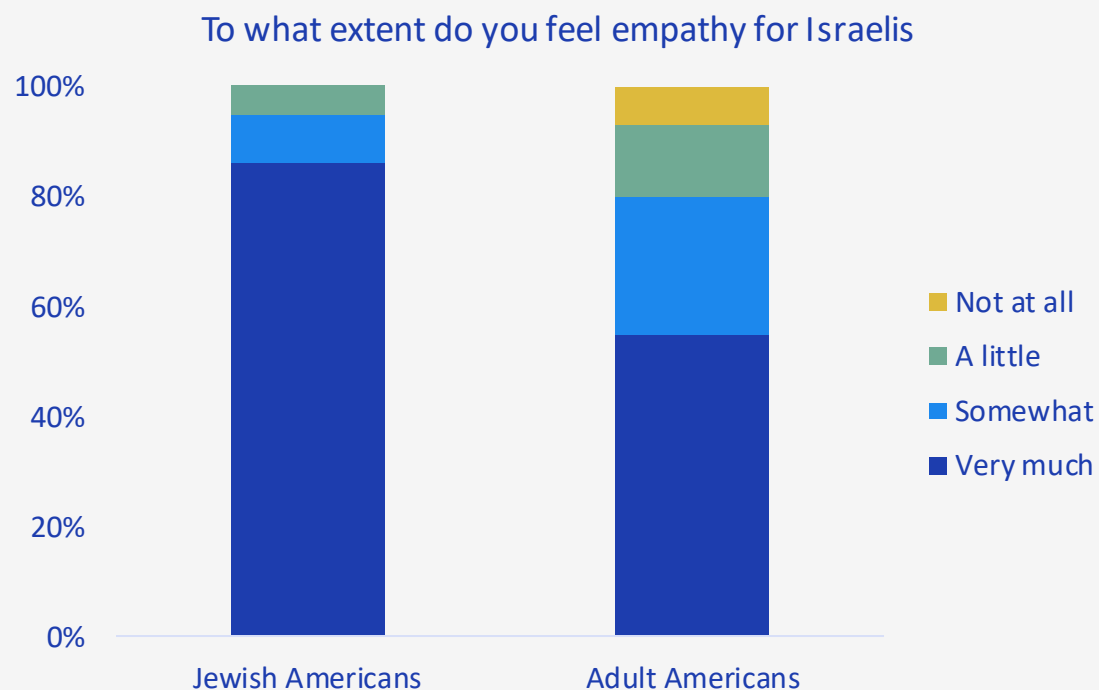


What adjectives do you feel best describes Israel's response to the attack of October 7th?



Where Does Empathy Lie?

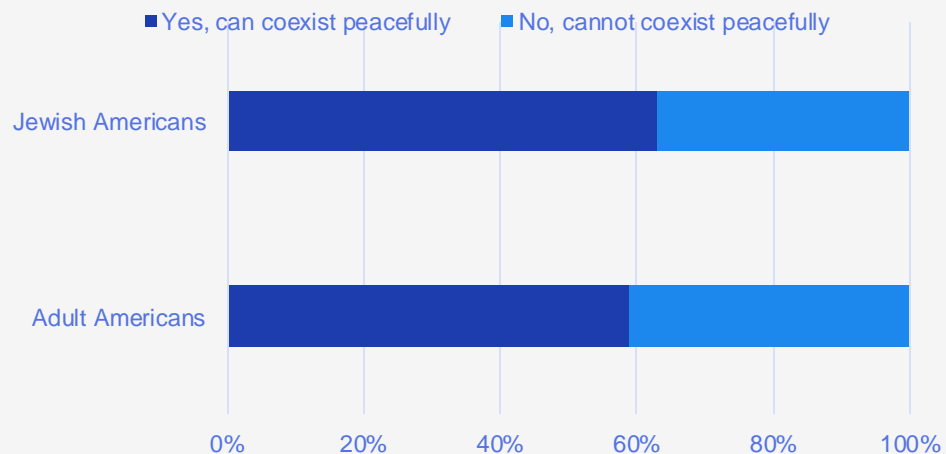
People feel empathy for both Israelis and Palestinians, with greater amounts for Israelis from all Americans including Jews.



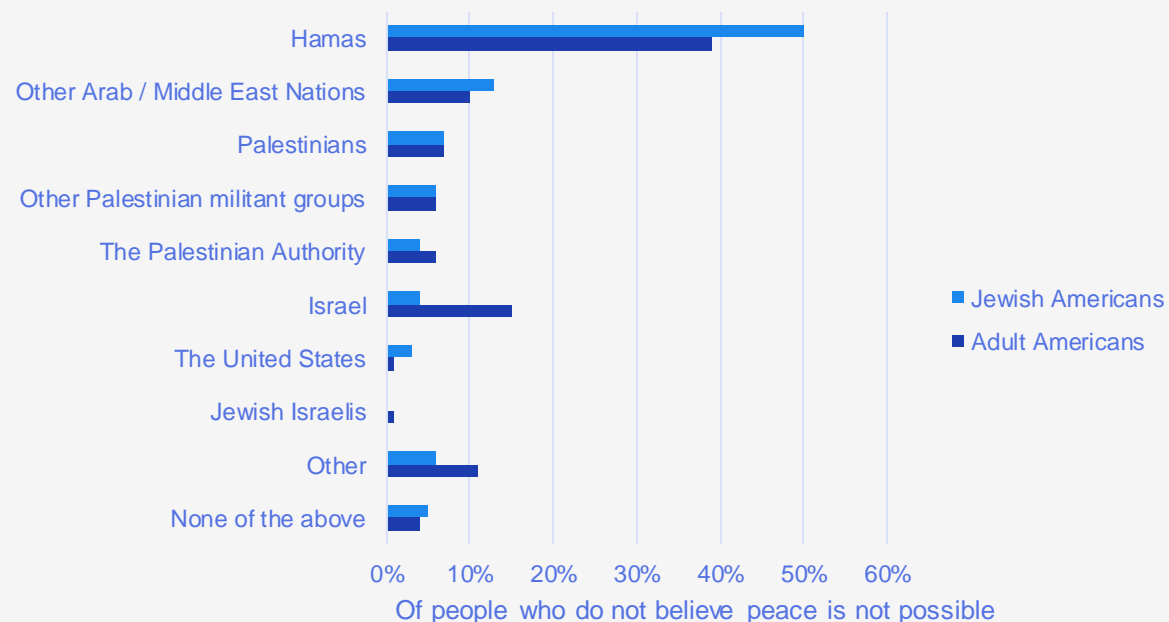
People Still Believe Peace is Possible

There has been no change since 2020 on more than half of Americans including Jews feeling that peace is possible.

In your opinion, do you think a way can be found for Israel and an independent Palestinian state to coexist peacefully with each other?



Which of the following do you think is most to blame for Israel and Palestine not being able to coexist peacefully?



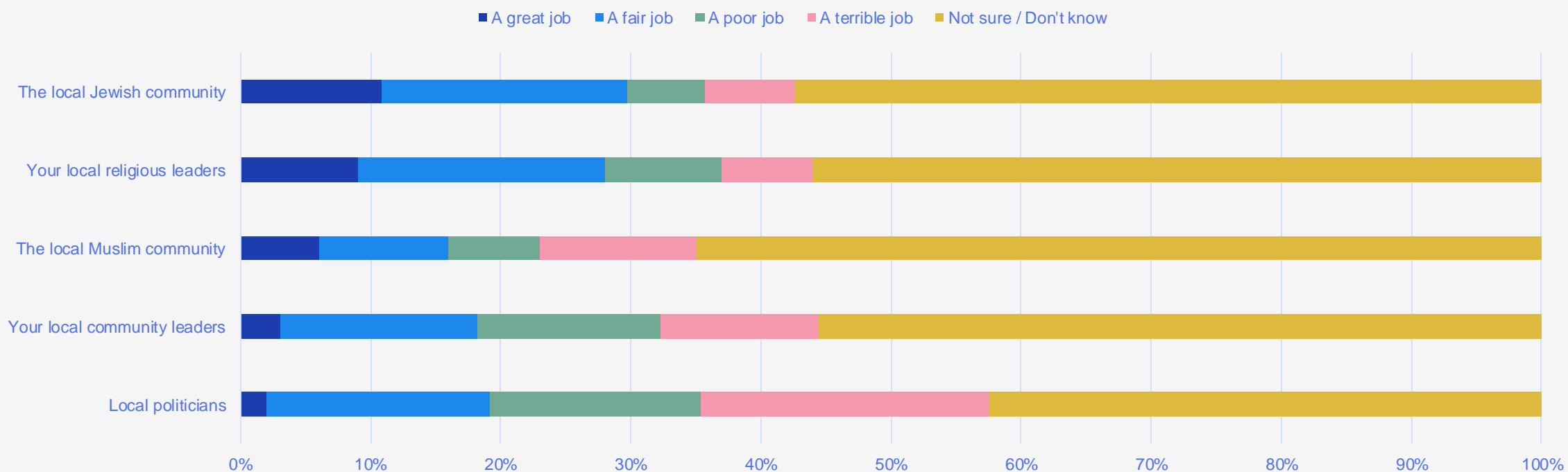


Community Relations

Perception of Leadership Response: All

Nearly 30% of adults indicate the Jewish community is doing a good job responding to the war, the highest of any measured group. They give local politicians the lowest ratings.

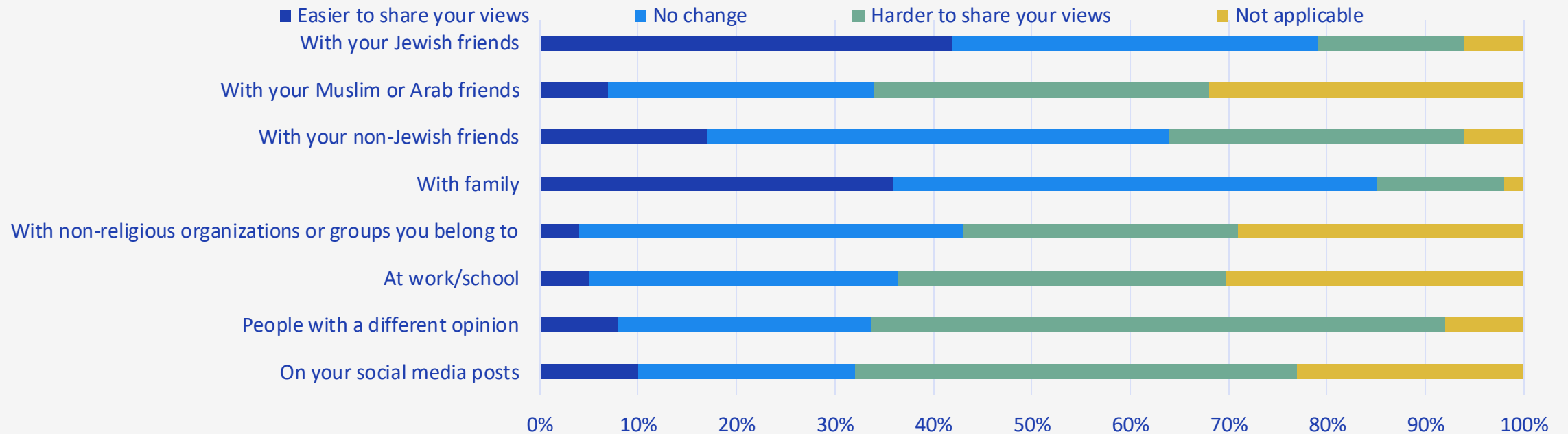
How well or poor of a job are the following doing in addressing the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas?



Talking about the War with Others - Jews

It has become harder for Jews to share their views with people with different opinions and on social media, and the same or easier with family and Jewish friends.

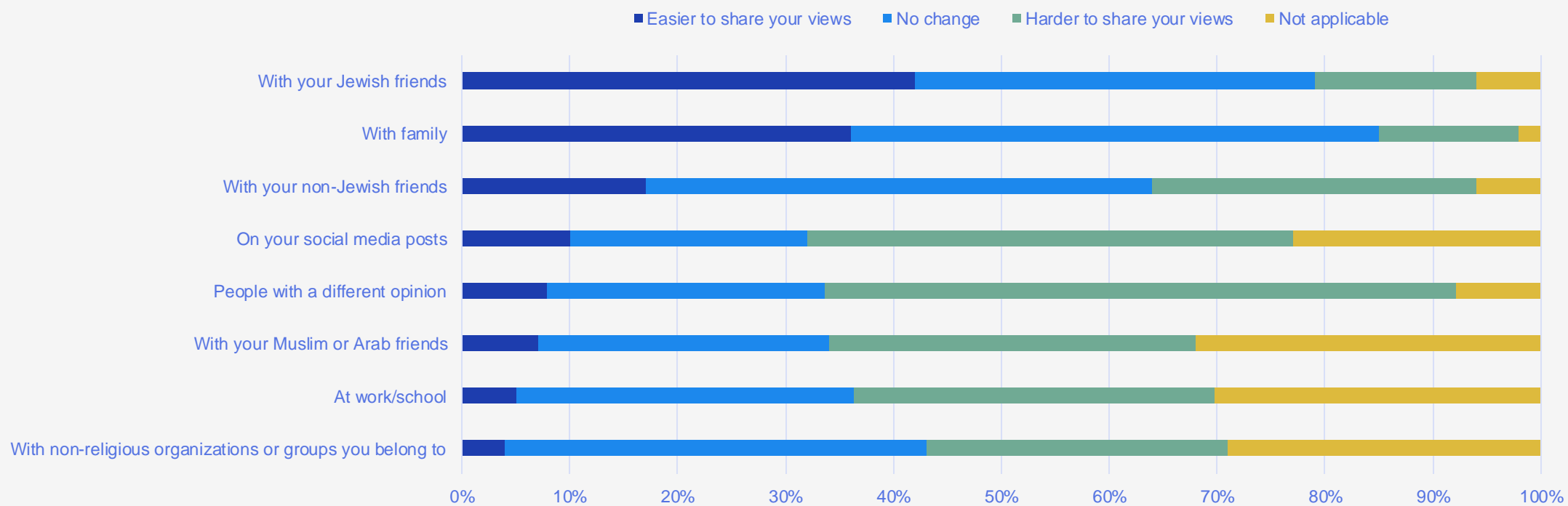
Since the war between Israel and Hamas started, how has it affected your ability to share your views about what's going on there with each of the following entities? Has it been harder, easier or has there been no change?



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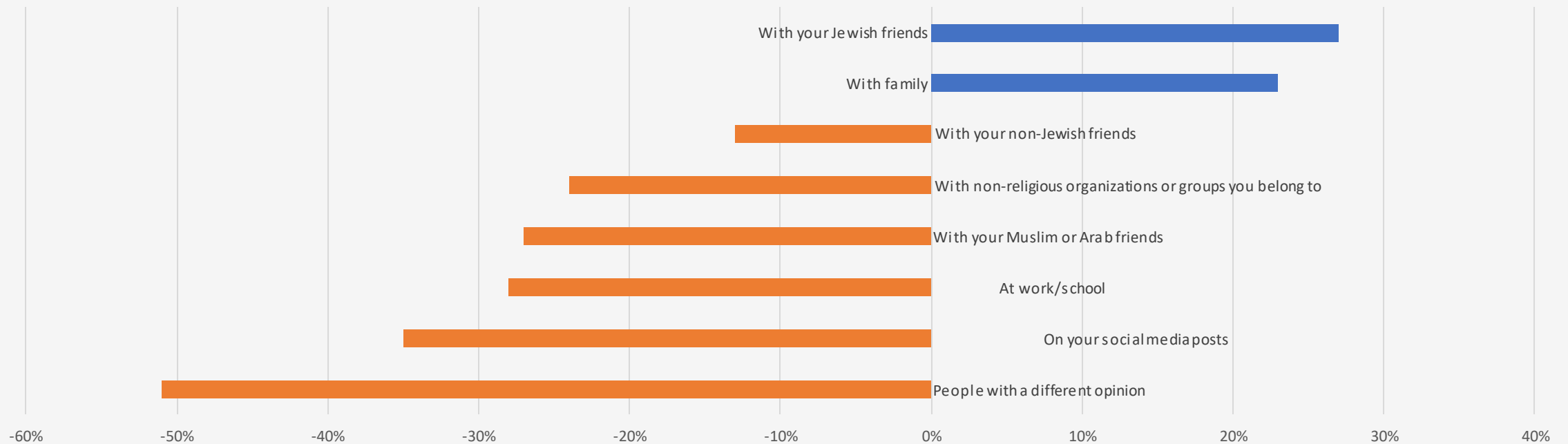


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Net Change: Easier-Harder

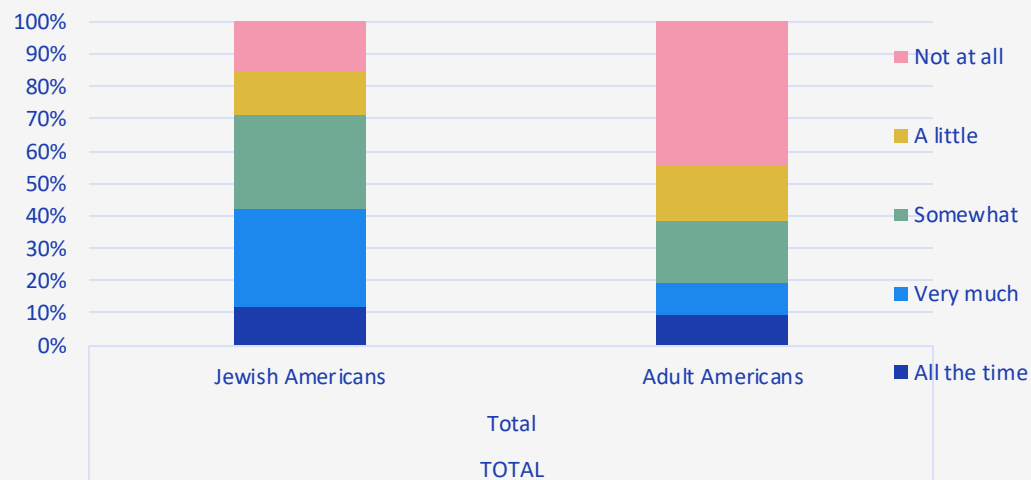


Antisemitism & Security

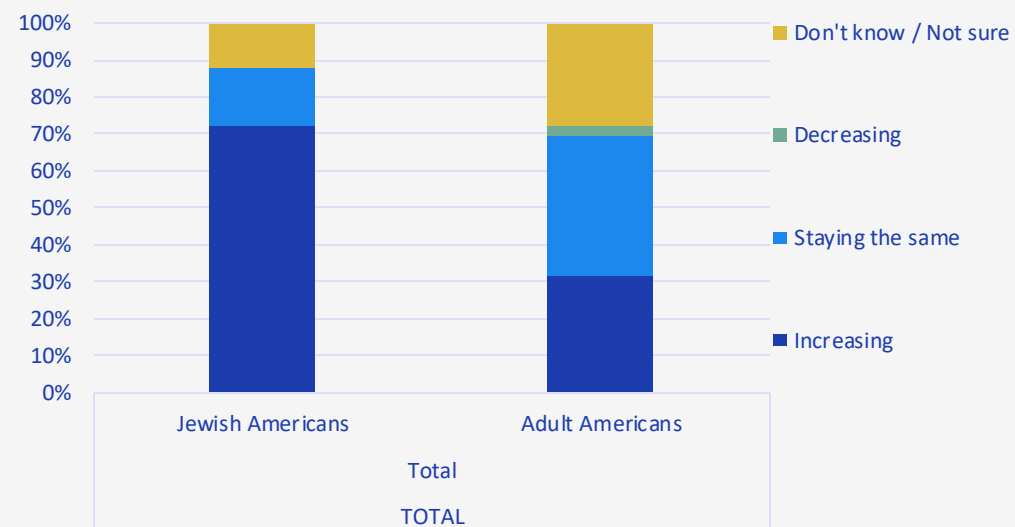
Local Antisemitism and safety concerns

Jewish Americans are worried about their safety and see antisemitism rising in their local communities. All Americans also see rising levels of local antisemitism.

In the past month, how often have you been worried about your personal safety because of your race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability status, or other defining personal characteristics?

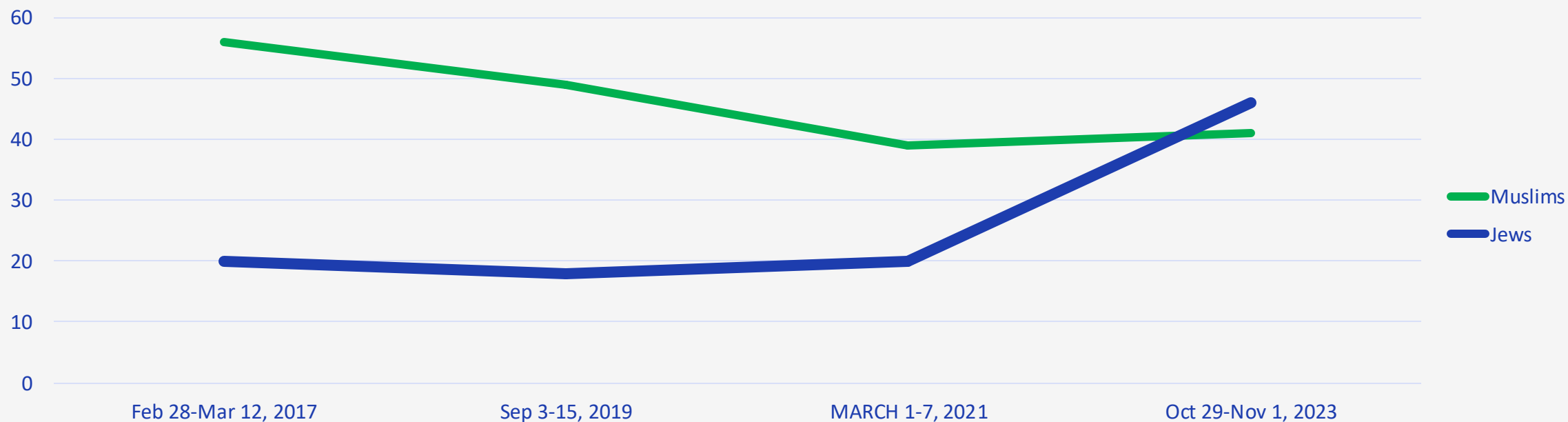


Thinking just about the past few weeks, do you think the level of antisemitism and antisemitic feelings in your local community are...



Americans have seen more than 2x growth in discrimination against Jews in the last 2 years

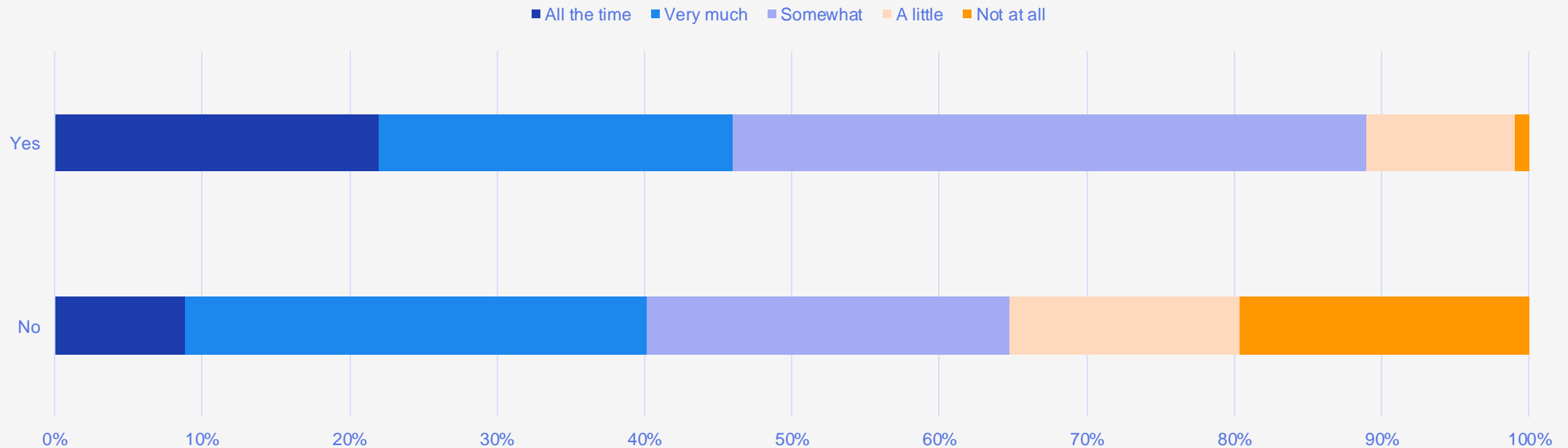
Please tell us how much discrimination there is against each of these groups in our society today.
Percent of general public reporting "A lot"



Wearing Distinctive Jewish Items

Community members who “wear something distinctively Jewish such as a kippa (yarmulke) or a chain or bracelet with a Star of David or chai symbol” are more than twice as likely to report always being concerned for their safety right now.

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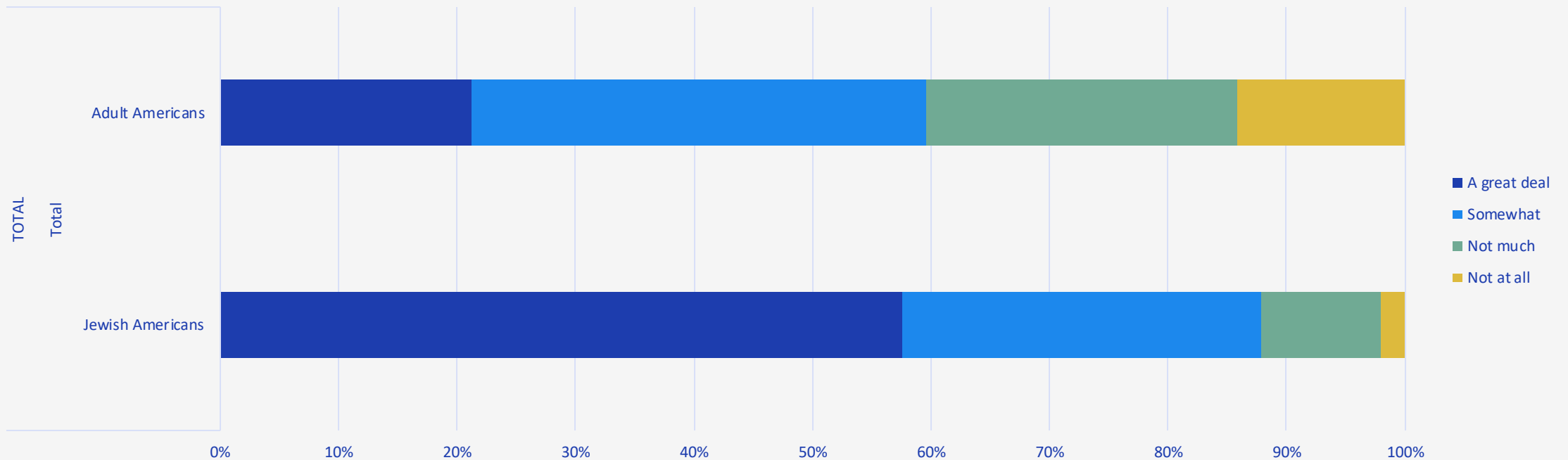


Mental Health

The War is Taking an Emotional Toll

Nearly 90% of Jewish respondents report the war affecting them emotionally.

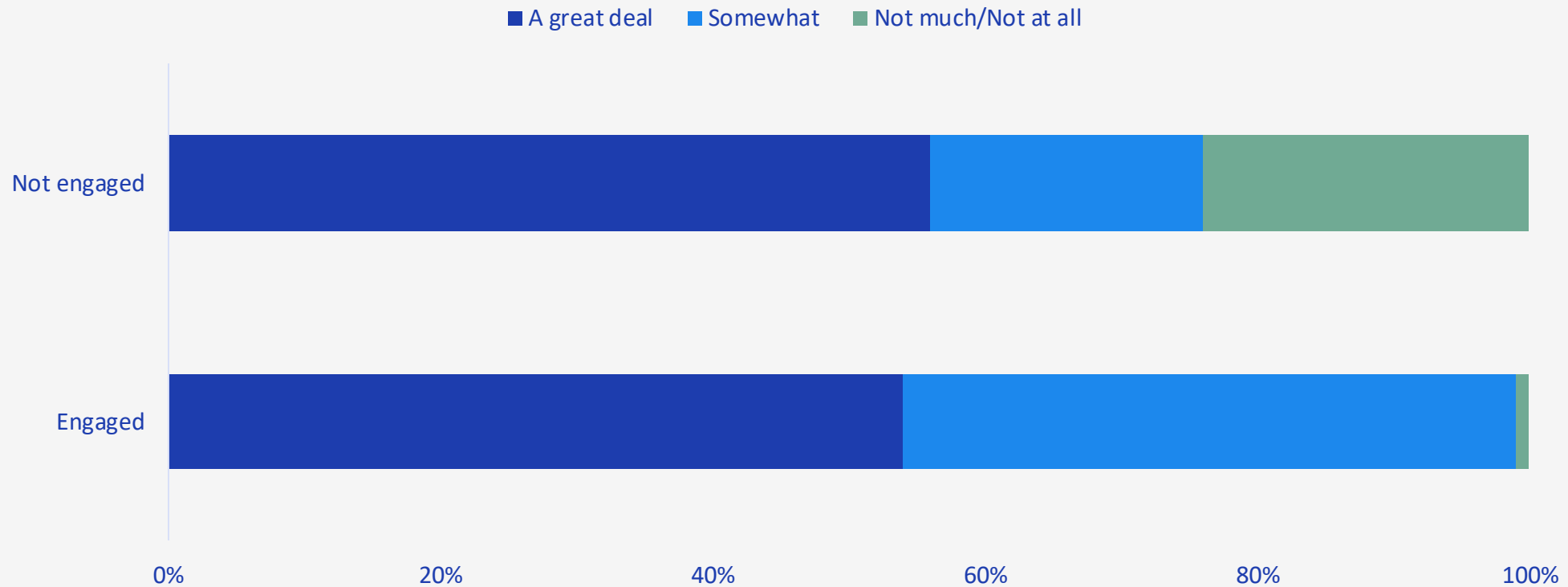
How much, if at all, is the news about the war between Israel and Hamas emotionally affecting you?
Is it affecting you...



Emotional Impact of War

Both engaged and non-engaged Jews are emotionally impacted by the war.

How much, if at all, is the news about the war between Israel and Hamas emotionally affecting you?

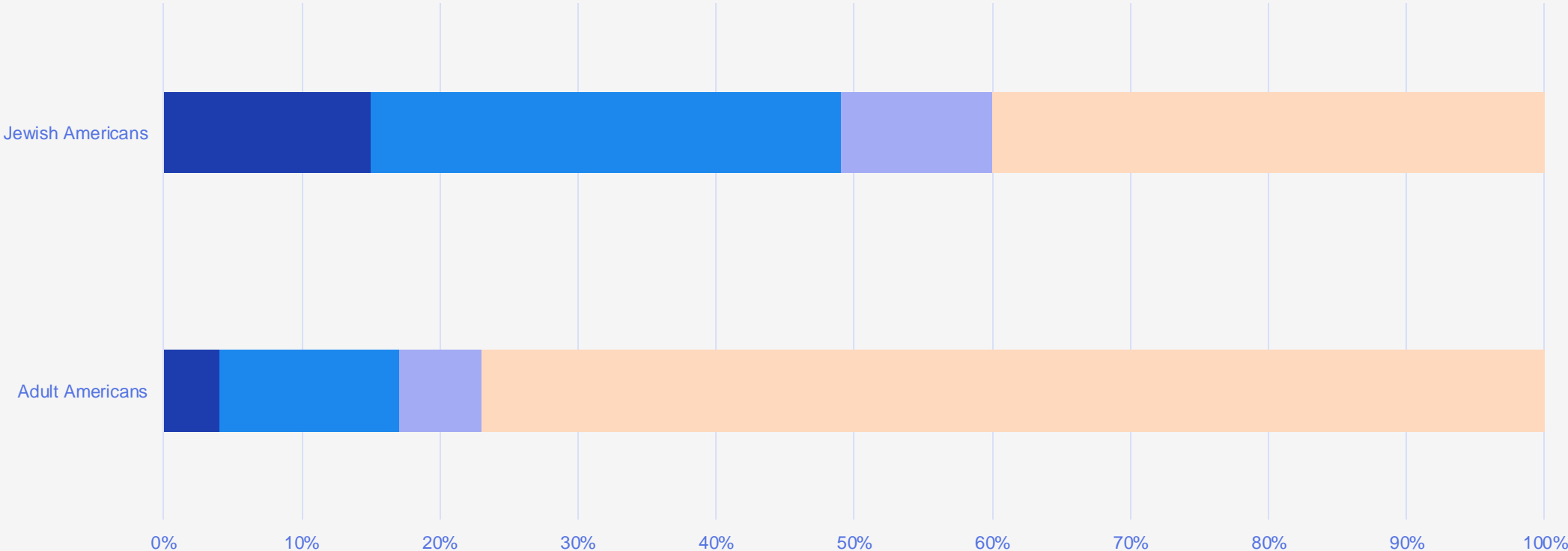


Personal Connections to Israelis

60% of the Jewish community is personally connected to someone who has been hurt, killed or displaced

Do you personally know someone who has been killed, hurt, or displaced because of this conflict?

■ I personally know someone ■ I have friends who know someone ■ Friends of friends know someone ■ I do not know have personal connections to victims

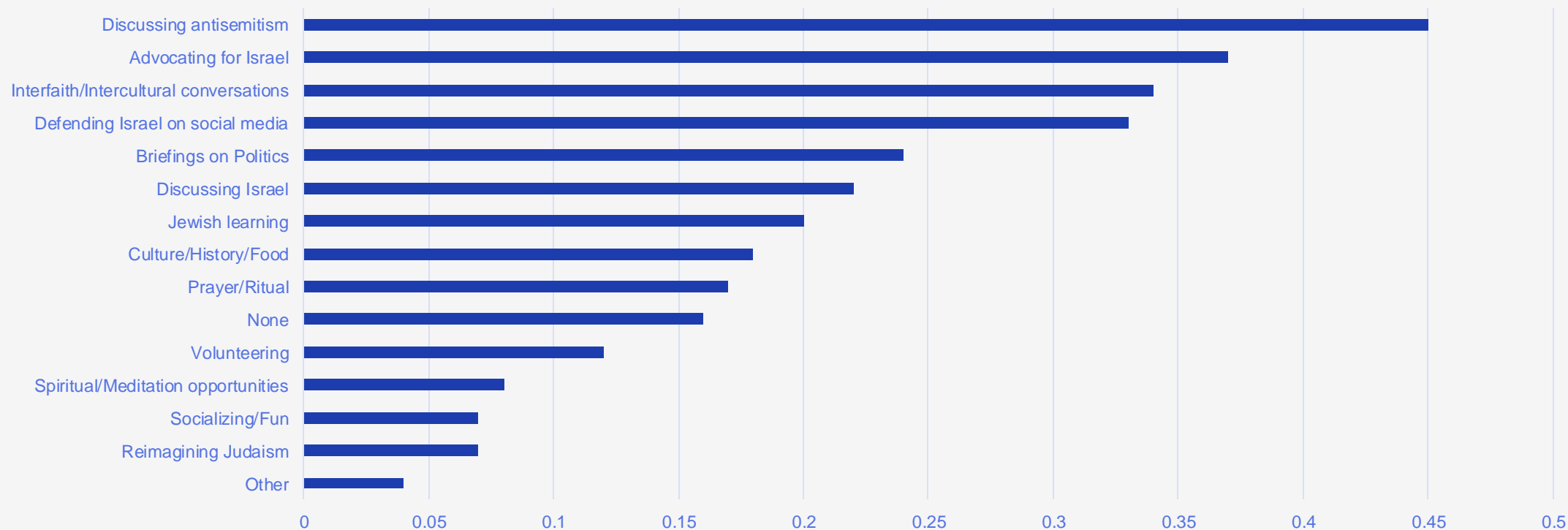


Jewish Life/Engagement

Interest Areas

Three main areas of interest among the Jewish community are discussing antisemitism, Israel advocacy, and Interfaith/Intercultural conversations. They are much less interested in spirituality and socializing than in recent studies in non-crisis times.

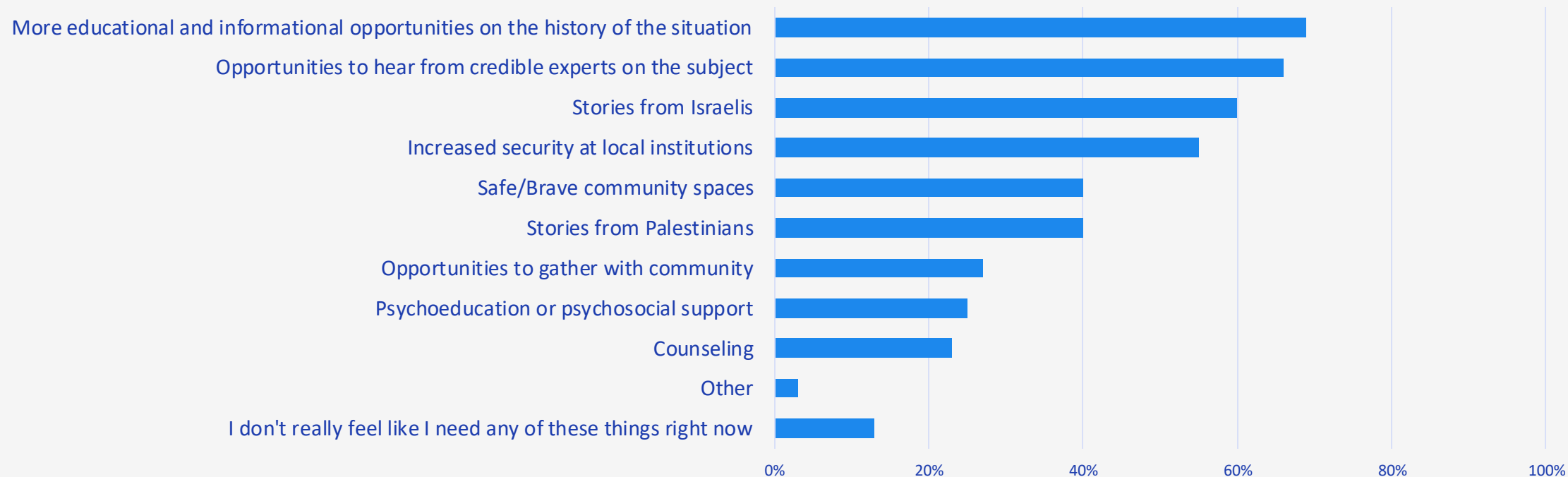
What kind of programming would you be most interested in at the current time (choose up to 4)?



Increased Local Opportunities - Jewish

Jewish Americans are looking for opportunities for learning, expertise, and stories about Israelis in addition to wanting increased security locally

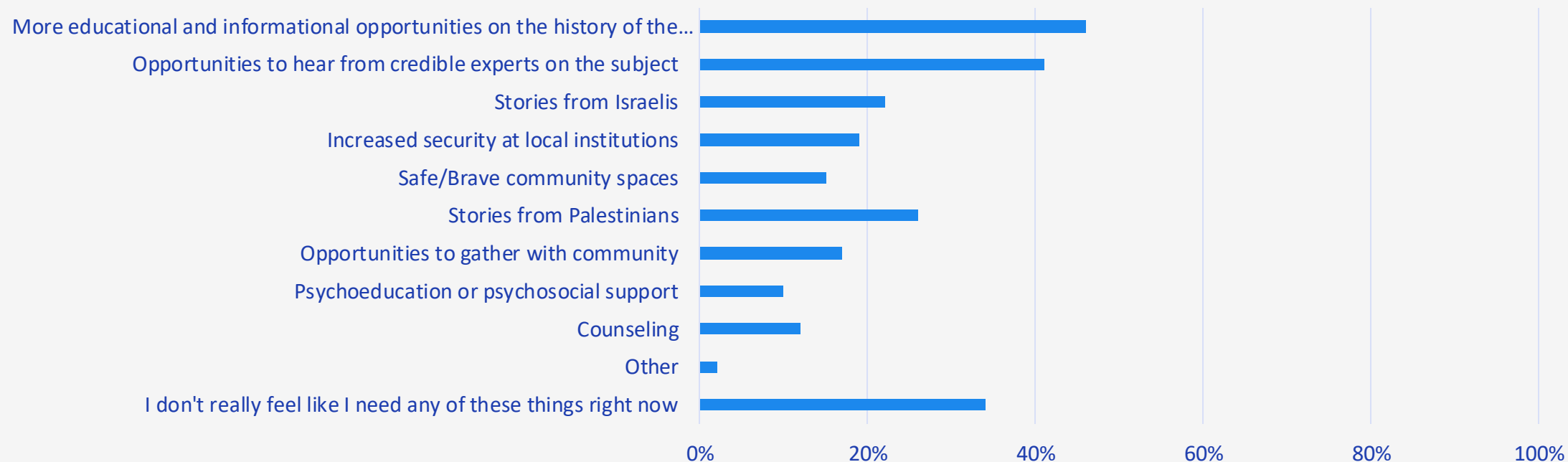
Since the war between Israel and Hamas started, would you want more of any of the following opportunities in your community or area? Please select all that apply.



Increased Local Opportunities – All Americans

While less interested overall, non-Jewish respondents also want educational opportunities.

Since the war between Israel and Hamas started, would you want more of any of the following opportunities in your community or area? Please select all that apply.





Thank You!