

Hillel

International

Jewish College Student Experience ***Impact of Protests and Encampments on Campus***

May 2024

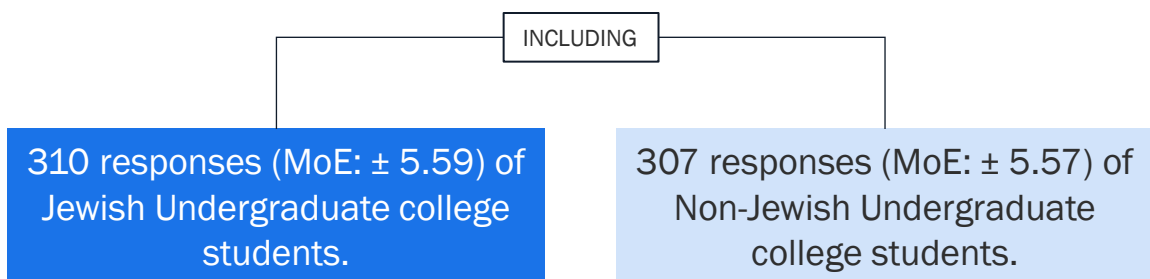


Methodology

BSG conducted a 15-minute nationwide study between **May 6th** and **May 8th, 2024.**

617

We collected **617** survey responses with **Jewish and Non-Jewish Undergraduate college students.**



Survey respondents qualified if they...

- ✓ Were between the ages of 17 and 24
- ✓ Are currently enrolled in a college or university in the United States as an undergraduate student

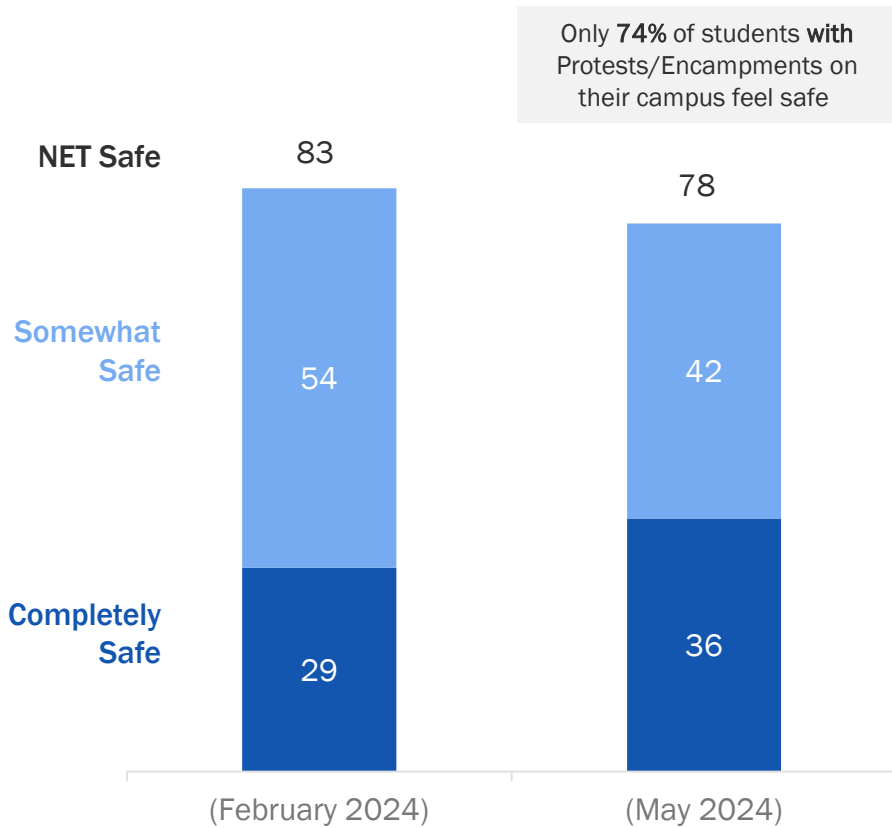


Current Campus Landscape

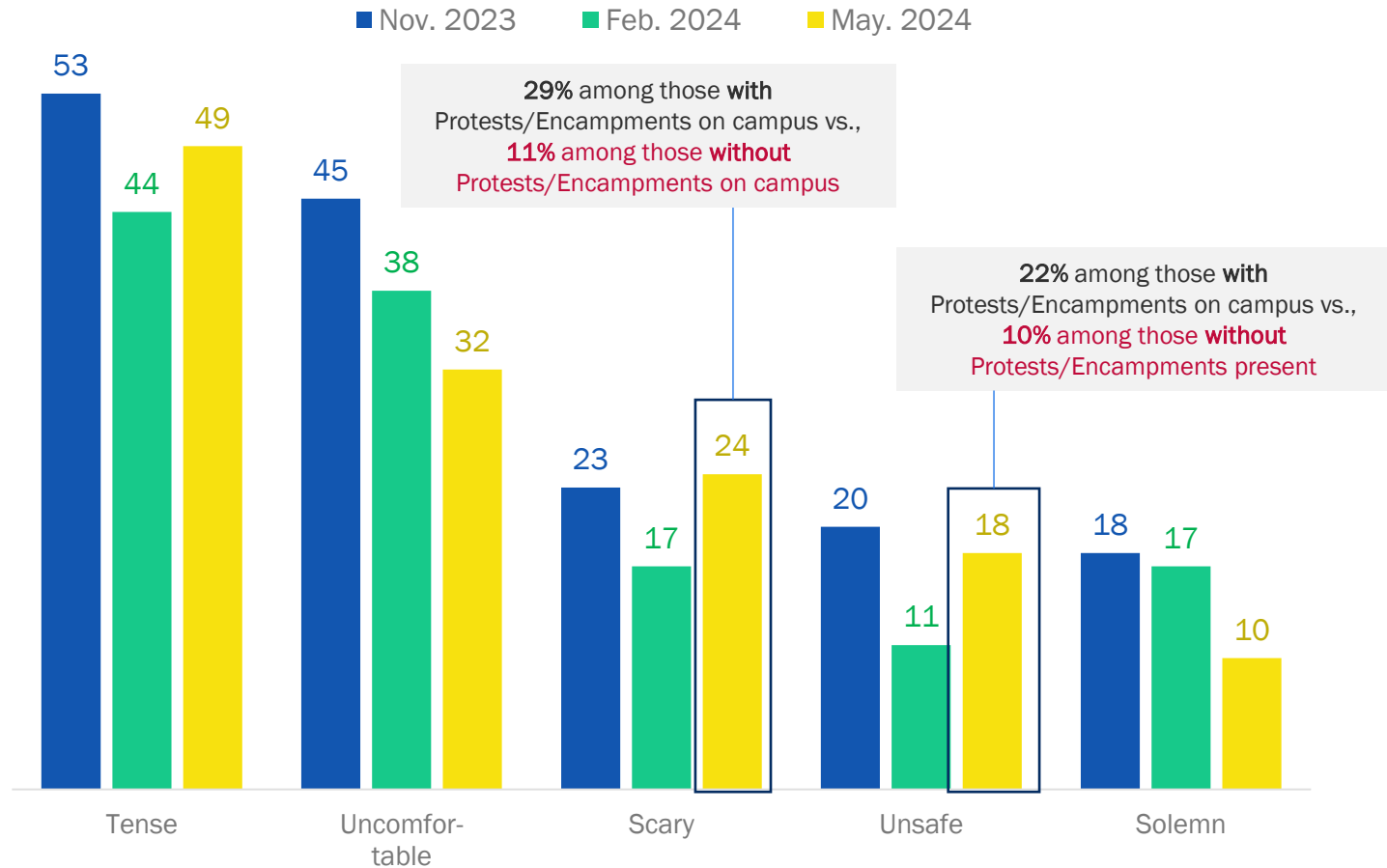


Jewish students feel less safe on campus than they did in February, with increased feelings that the climate on campus is scary and unsafe – with even stronger feelings among those with protests and encampments on their campus

Do you currently feel safe on campus? *Only among Jewish students*

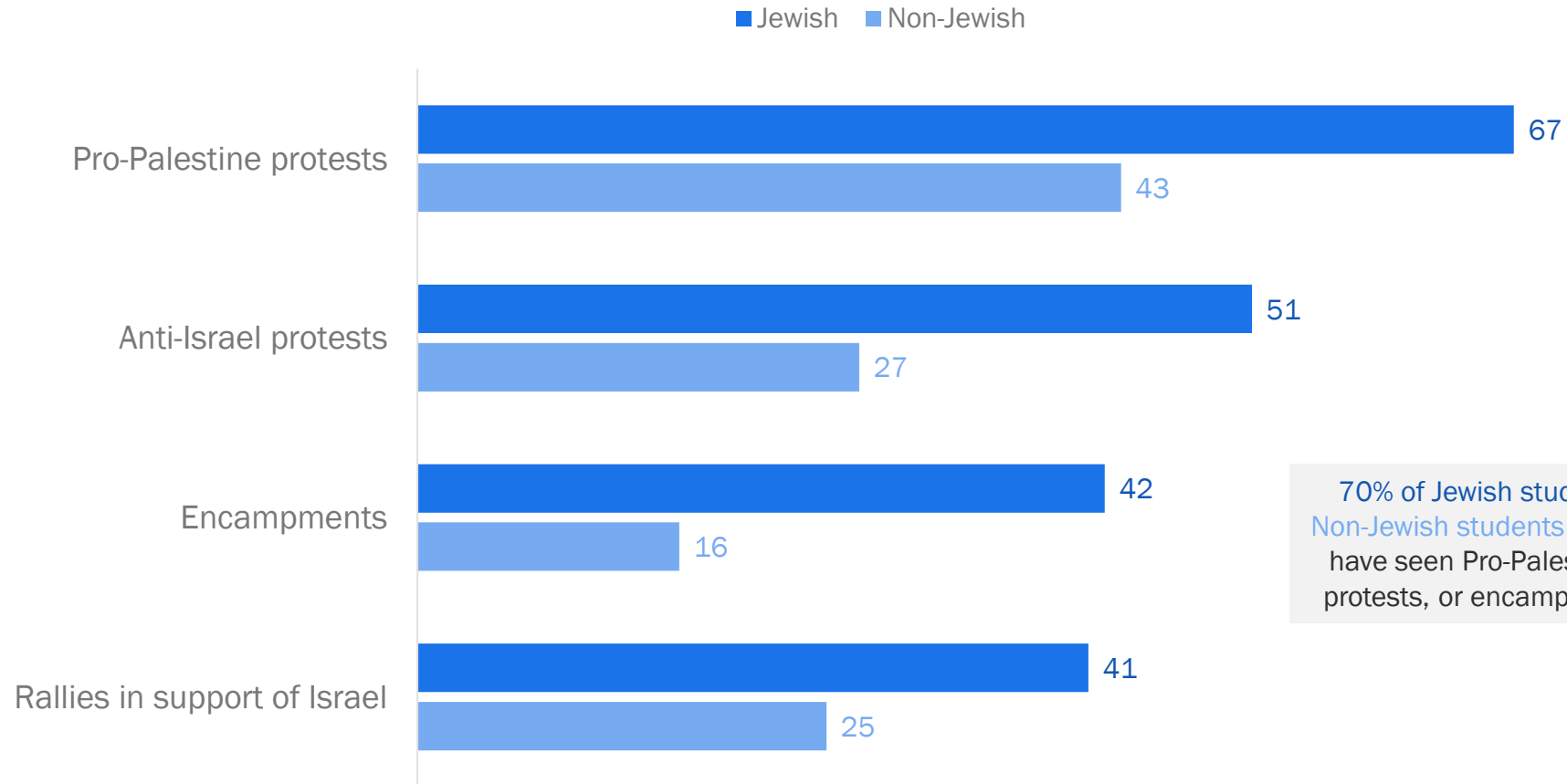


How would you describe the climate on your college or university campus over the past two weeks? *Only among Jewish students*



Protests are rampant on campuses, with 7 in 10 Jewish students indicating that there have been protests or encampments on their campus

To the best of your knowledge, have any of the following taken place at your college or university during the spring semester?



70% of Jewish students and 47% of Non-Jewish students indicated that they have seen Pro-Palestinian, Anti-Israel protests, or encampments on campus

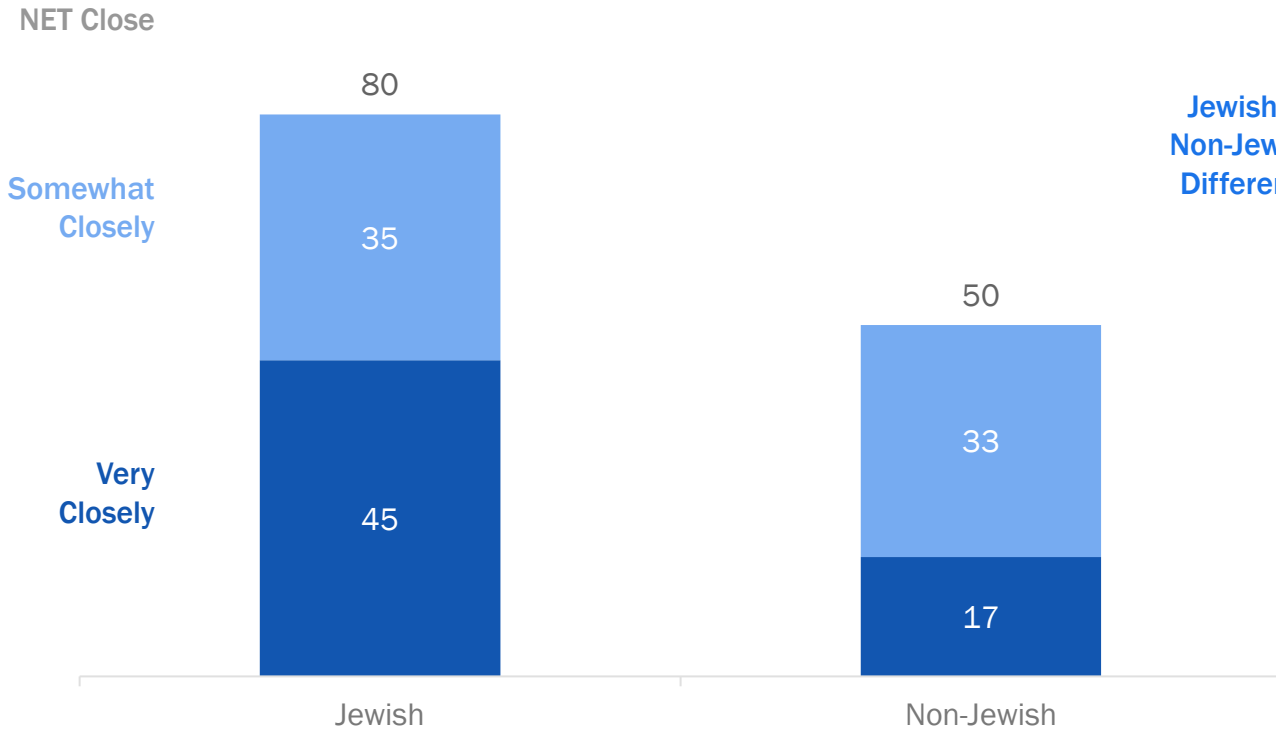


Not only are Jewish students keeping a closer eye on the university protests and encampments in comparison to Non-Jewish students, but it is also impacting them to a greater degree – with stronger feelings of frustration, sadness, and fear

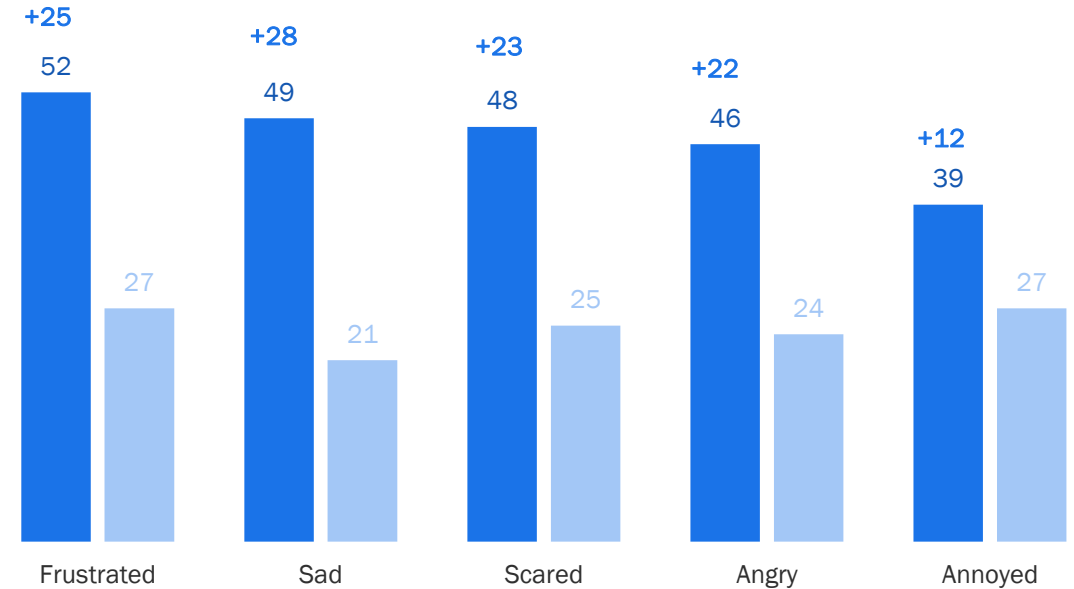
How closely have you been following these events? *Among all students*

How did you feel when you watched or read about the encampments? *Among all students*

Jewish Non-Jewish



Jewish vs. Non-Jewish Difference

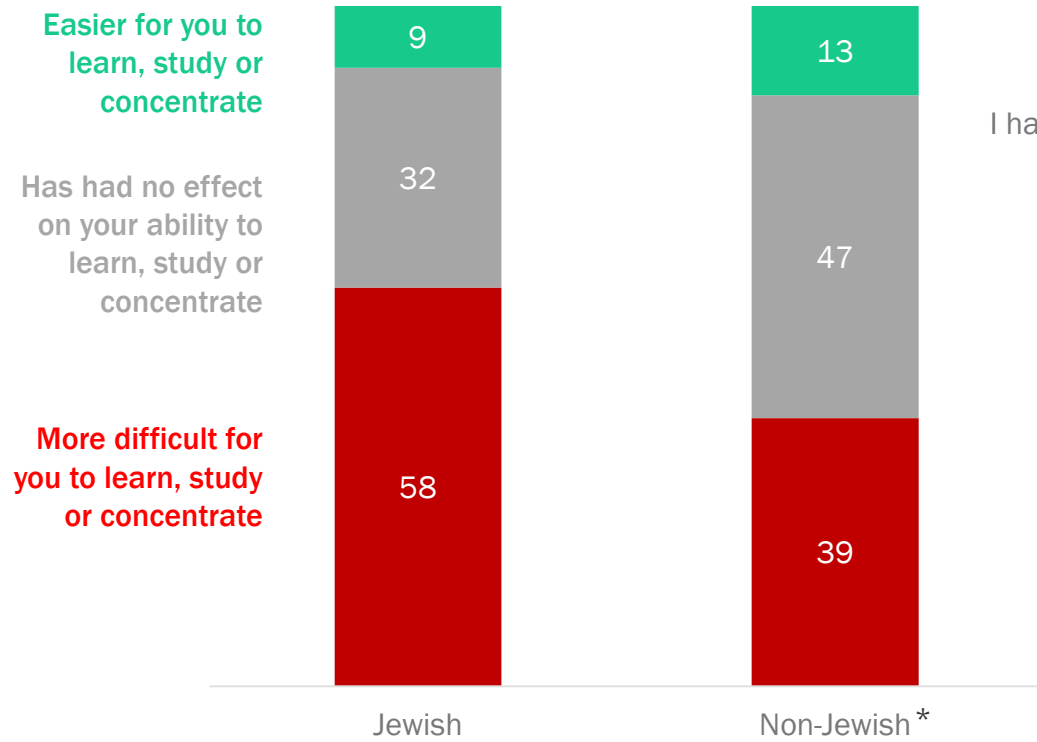


Impact of Protests and Encampments

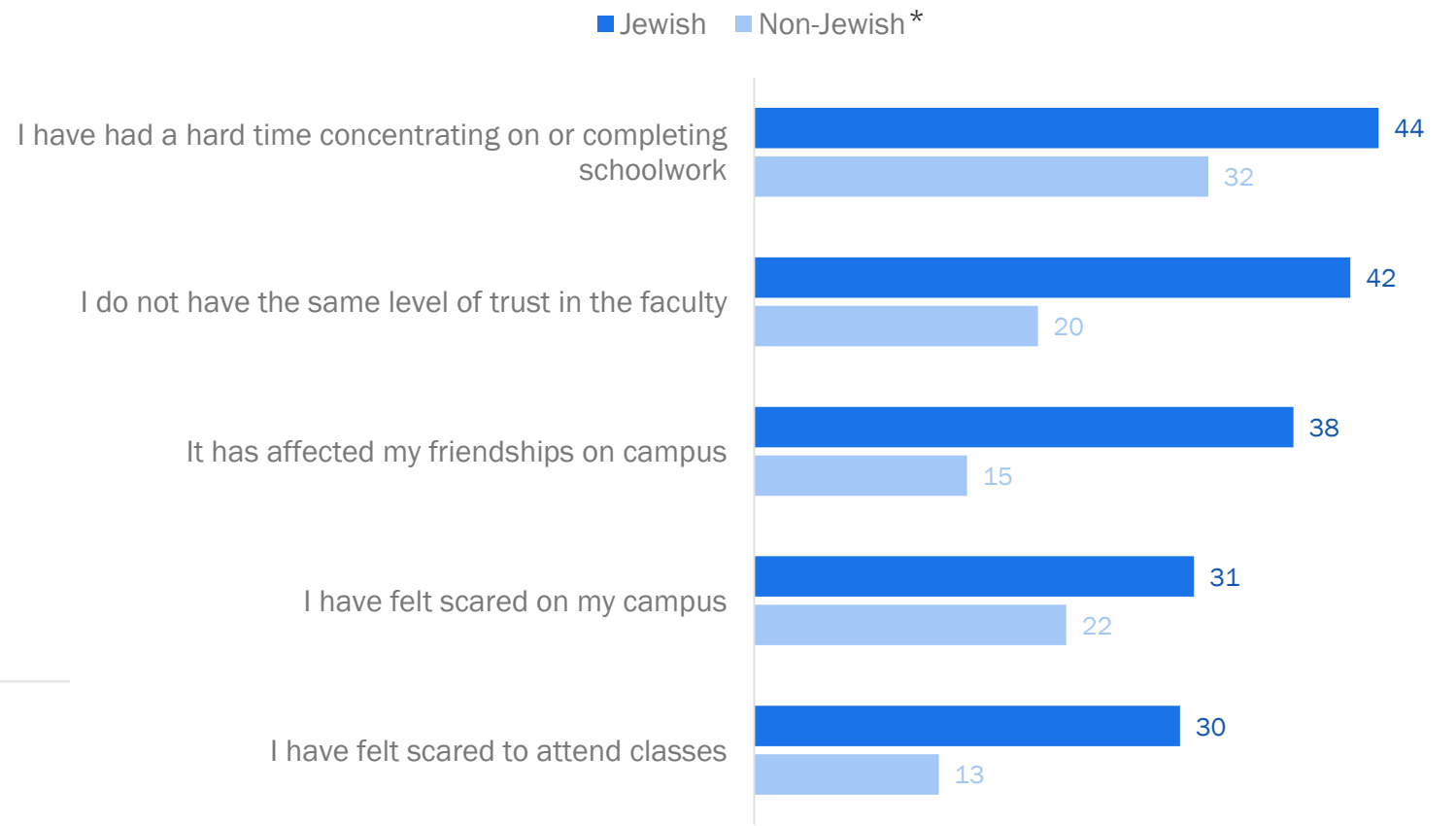


Among students with encampments on their campus, protests and encampments are having a negative impact on Jewish students – besides difficulty with their studies, it is impacting their relationship with faculty and friends

Generally speaking, since the encampments began, how has your academic experience been affected? *Among students with encampments on their campus*



Have the protests/encampments on your campus affected you negatively in any of the following ways? *Among students with encampments on their campus*

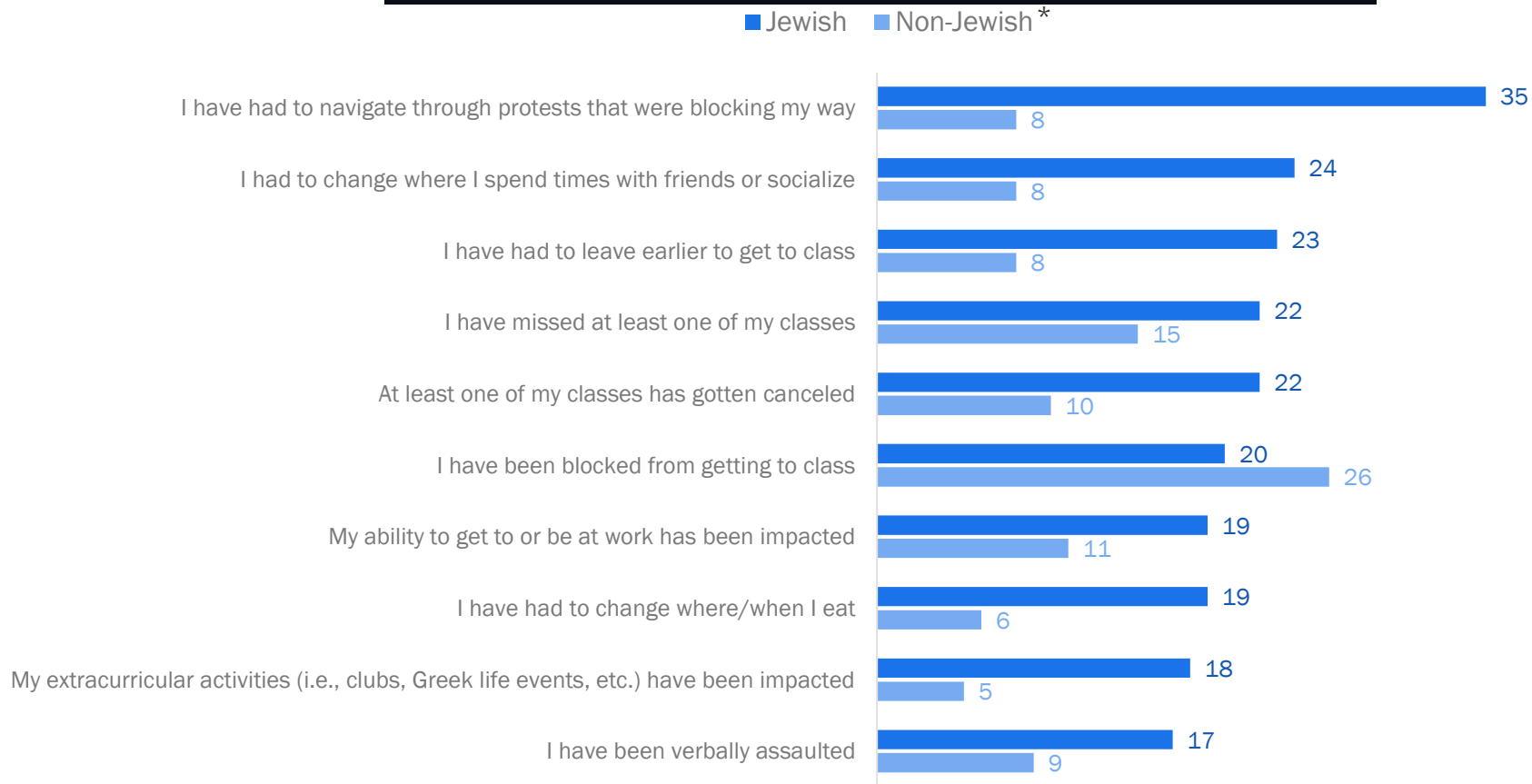


*Low base size (n=48)

Q21. Have the protests on your campus affected you negatively in any of the following ways?
 Q27. Generally speaking, since the encampments began, how has your academic experience been affected?

In addition, Jewish students have had to logistically adjust how they physically and socially navigate their campuses

How have the encampments affected your experience on campus in any way?
Among students with encampments on their campus
 Showing top 10



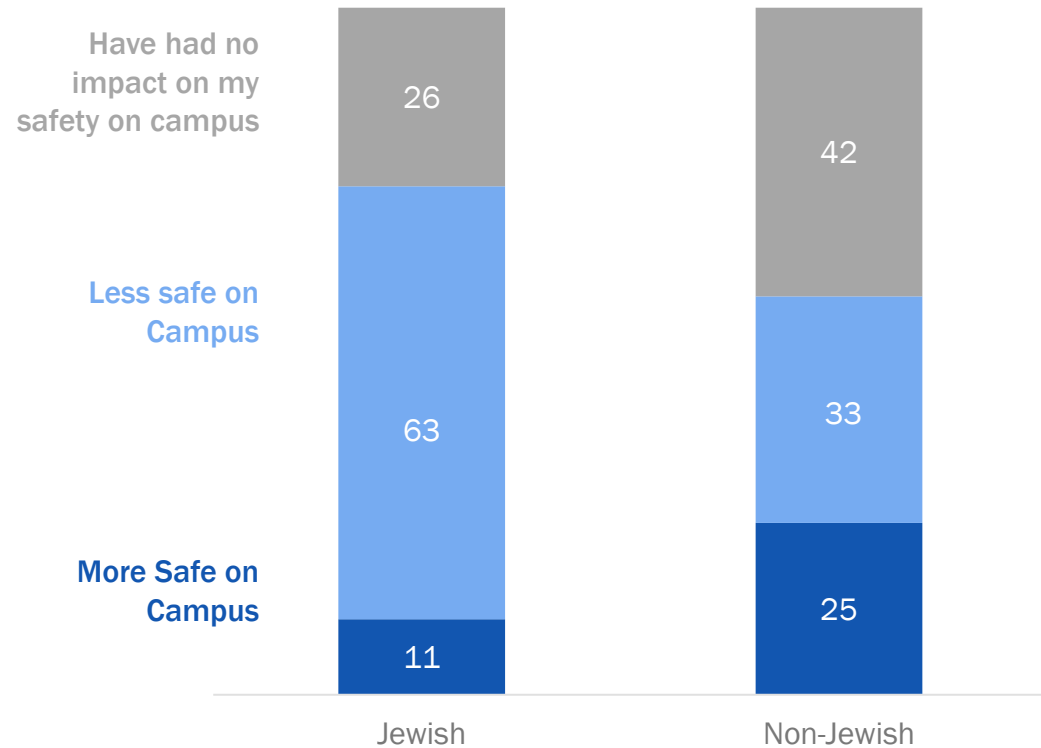
Of those **with** Protests/
 Encampments on campus...
51% have had **class affected**
18% have had **final affected**
11% have had the
commencement affected



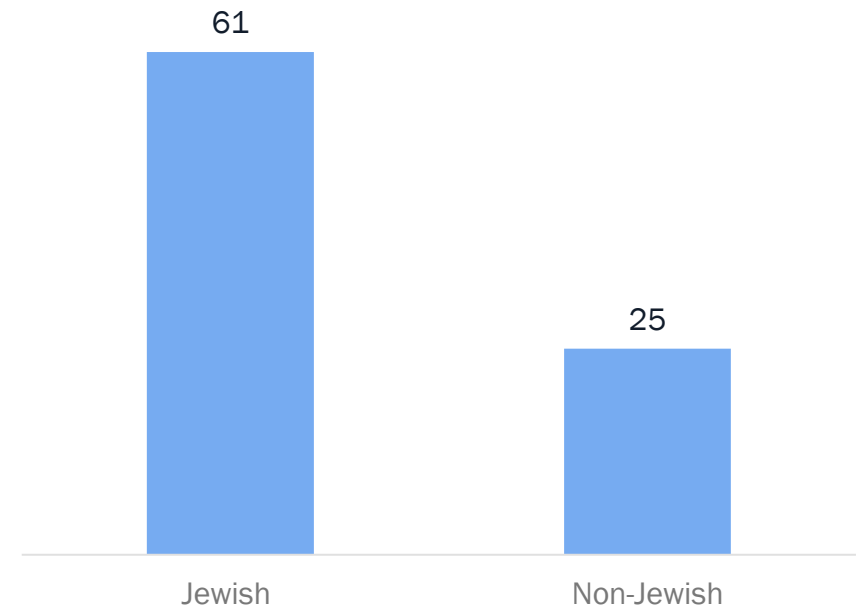
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Jewish students feel less safe on campus and have also heard more antisemitic and derogatory language during the protests

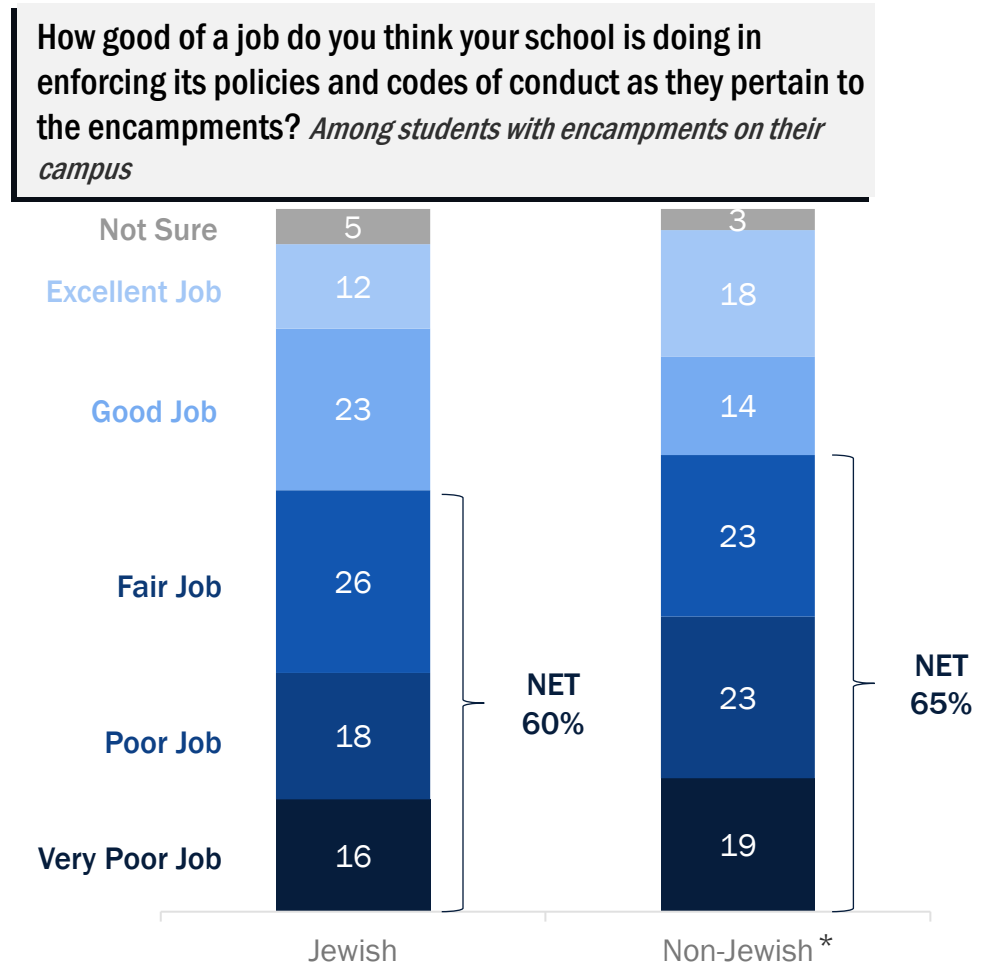
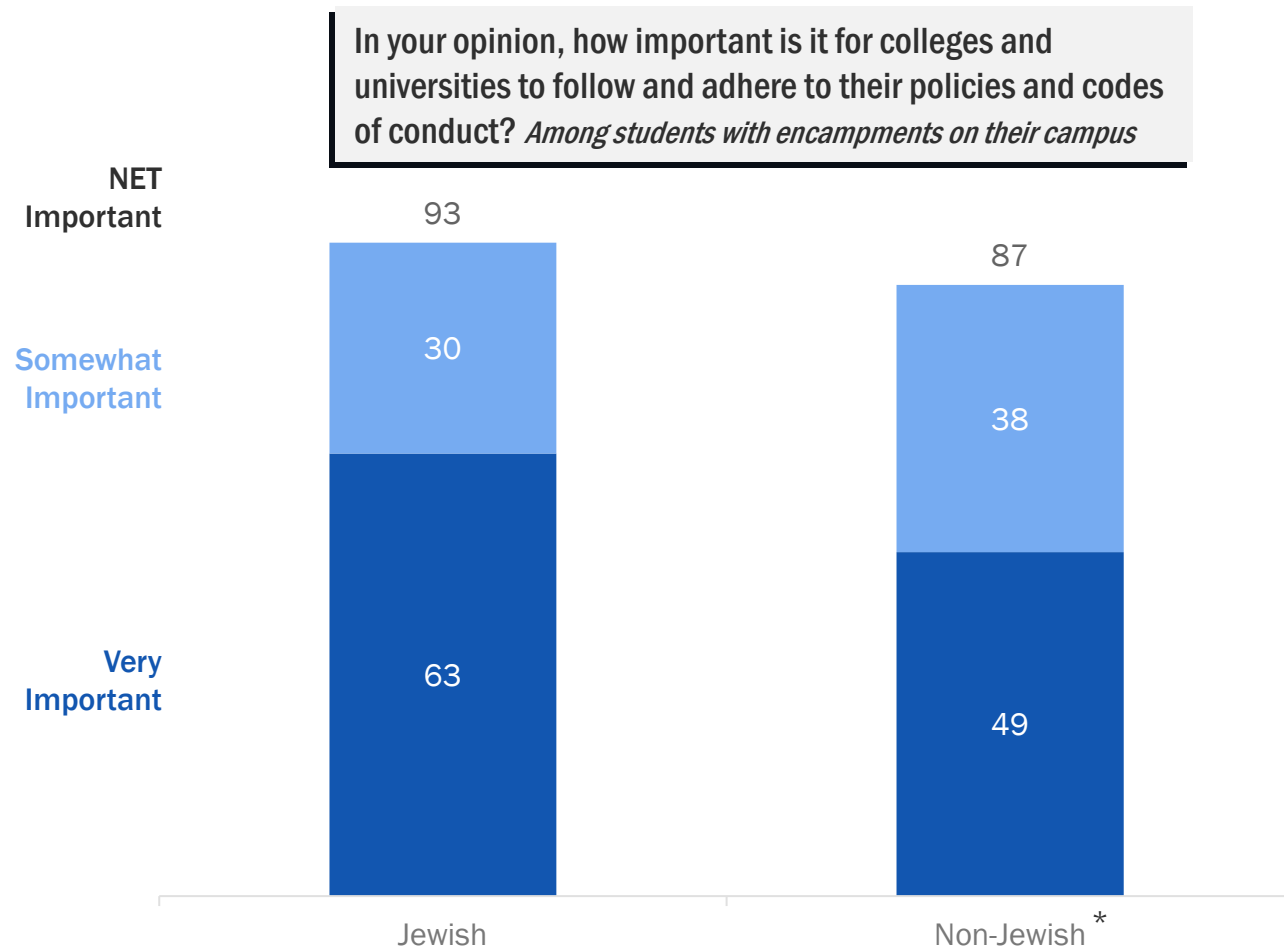
Feelings of safety from protests



Protests used language or did anything that was antisemitic, threatening or derogatory toward Jewish people



Importantly, students (Jewish and Non-Jewish alike) believe it is important their school follows and adheres to their policies - though 1 in 3 Jewish students (and even more Non-Jewish students) believe their school is doing a poor job enforcing them

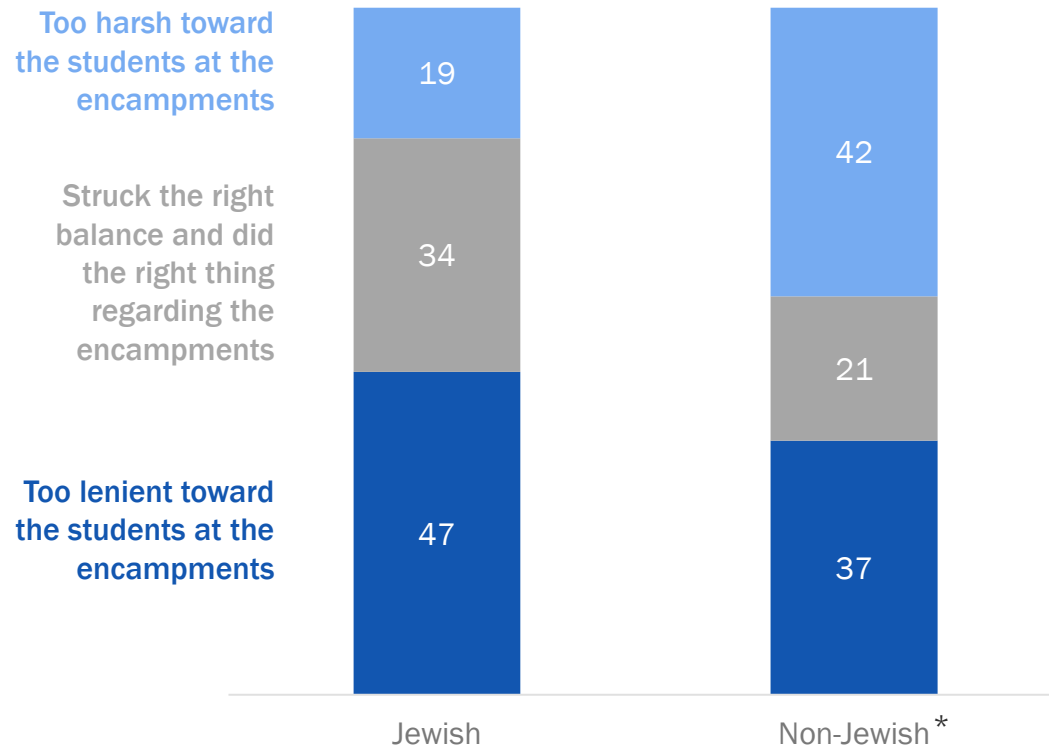


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Q32. How good of a job do you think your school is doing in enforcing its policies and codes of conduct as they pertain to the encampments?
 Q19. In your opinion, how important is it for colleges and universities to follow and adhere to their policies and codes of conduct?

And many students disagree with the actions their school's administration has taken, with a plurality of Jewish students believing they have been too lenient toward the encampments

Do you think your school's administration was... *Among students with encampments on their campus*

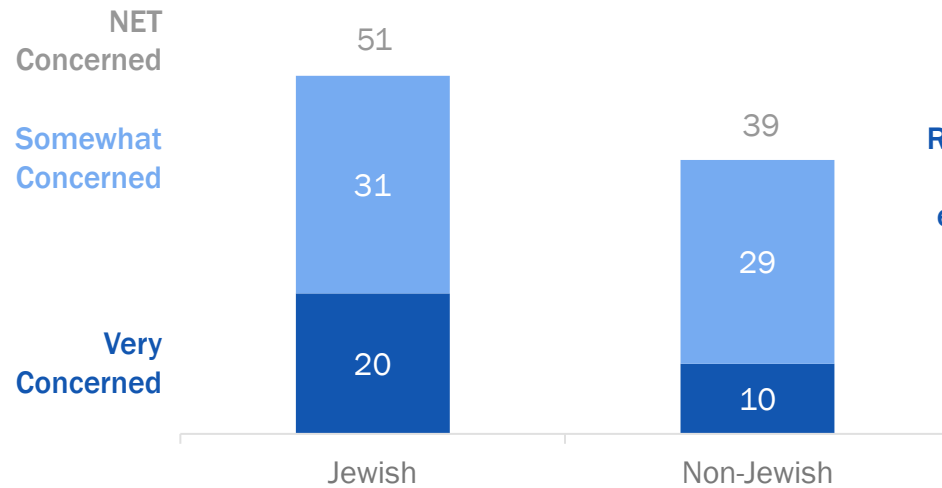


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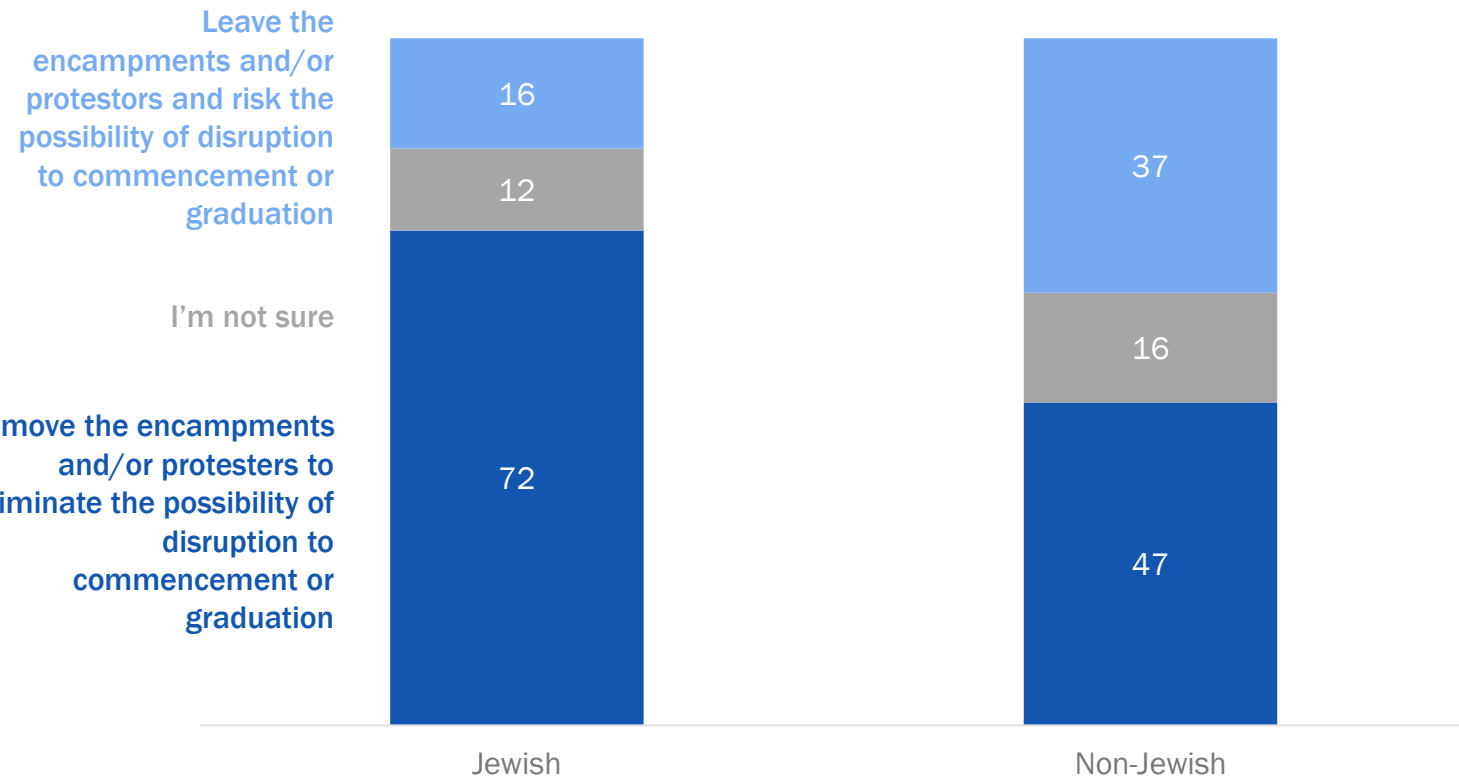


Jewish students are more likely to feel concerned that the encampments or protests will impact their commencement, with the vast majority believing that the encampments and protests should be removed in efforts to eliminate disruption

How concerned are you that protests and/or encampments will disrupt commencement or graduation at your school? *Among all students*



Do you think colleges or universities should...? *Among students who are concerned about encampments or protests on their campus*

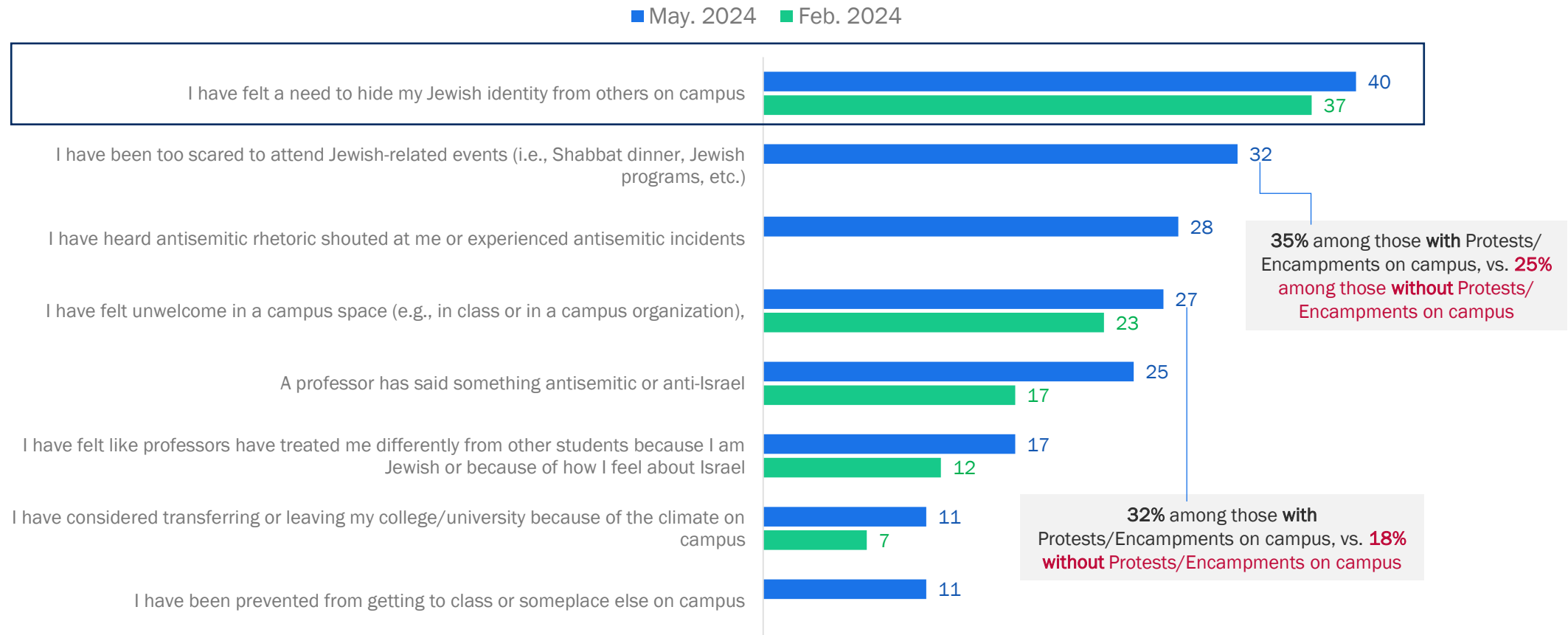


Jewish Experience



As a result of the war, Jewish students no longer feel like they can truly be themselves on their university campuses

Have you experienced any of the following on campus or within your campus community this school year?
Only among Jewish students

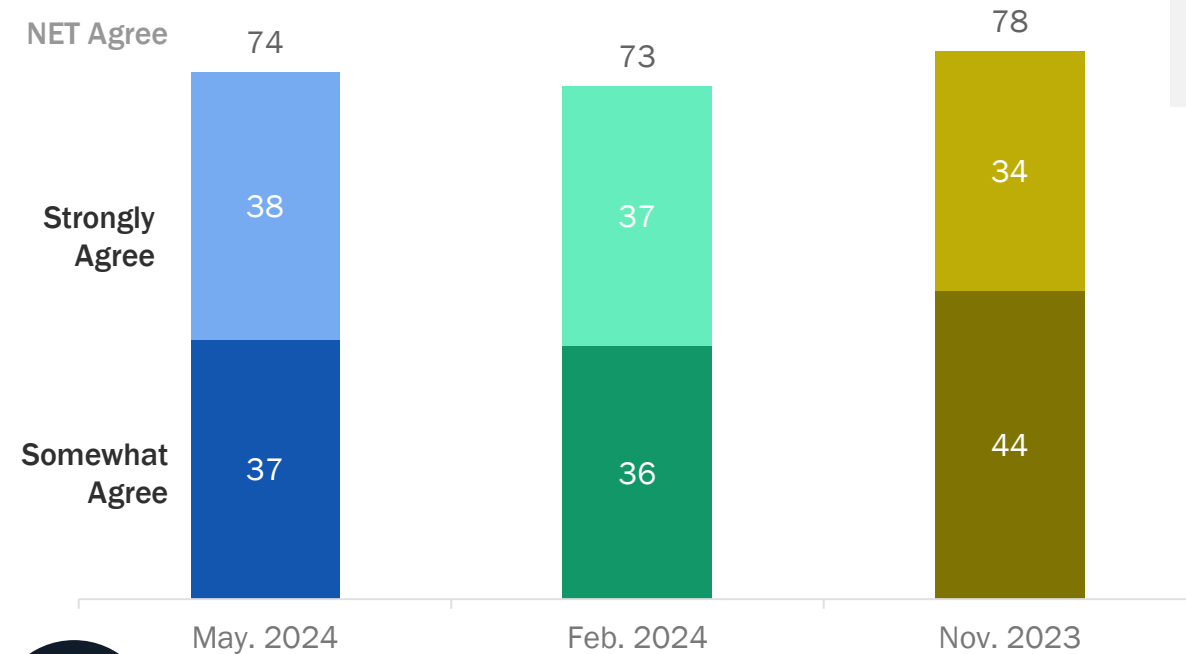


Q65. Have you experienced any of the following on campus or within your campus community this school year?

Q36. Since the war between Israel and Hamas started, have there been any acts of antisemitism, hate, or anything threatening or derogatory toward Jewish people that has happened at your campus?

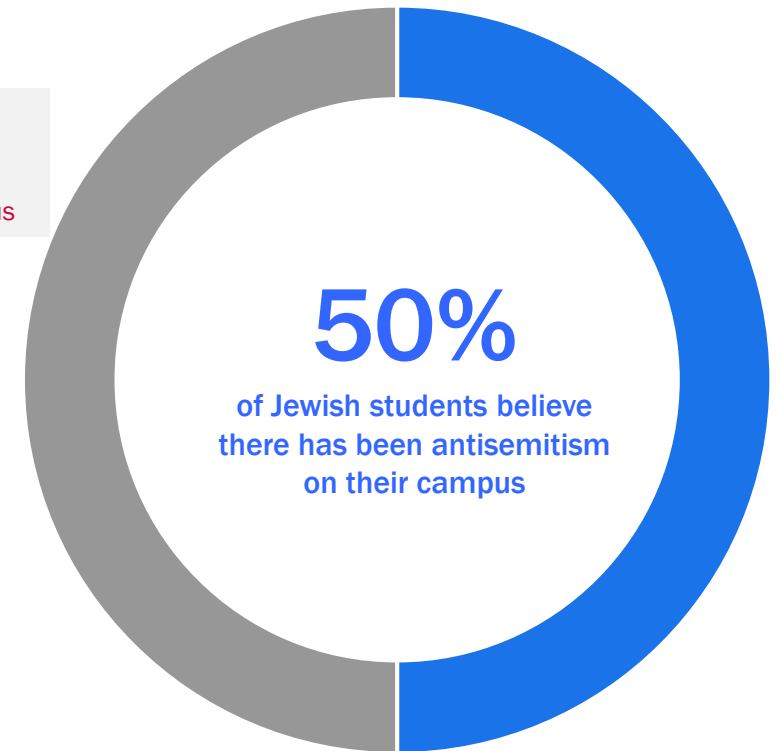
The climate on college campuses today means that the majority of Jewish students need Jewish spaces more than ever

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Since the war between Israel and Hamas started, Jewish spaces on campus have become more important to me than ever. *Only among Jewish Students*



Since the war between Israel and Hamas started, have there been any acts of antisemitism, hate, or anything threatening or derogatory toward Jewish people that has happened at your campus? *Only among Jewish students*

59% among those with Protests/Encampments on campus, vs. 29% without Protests/Encampments on campus

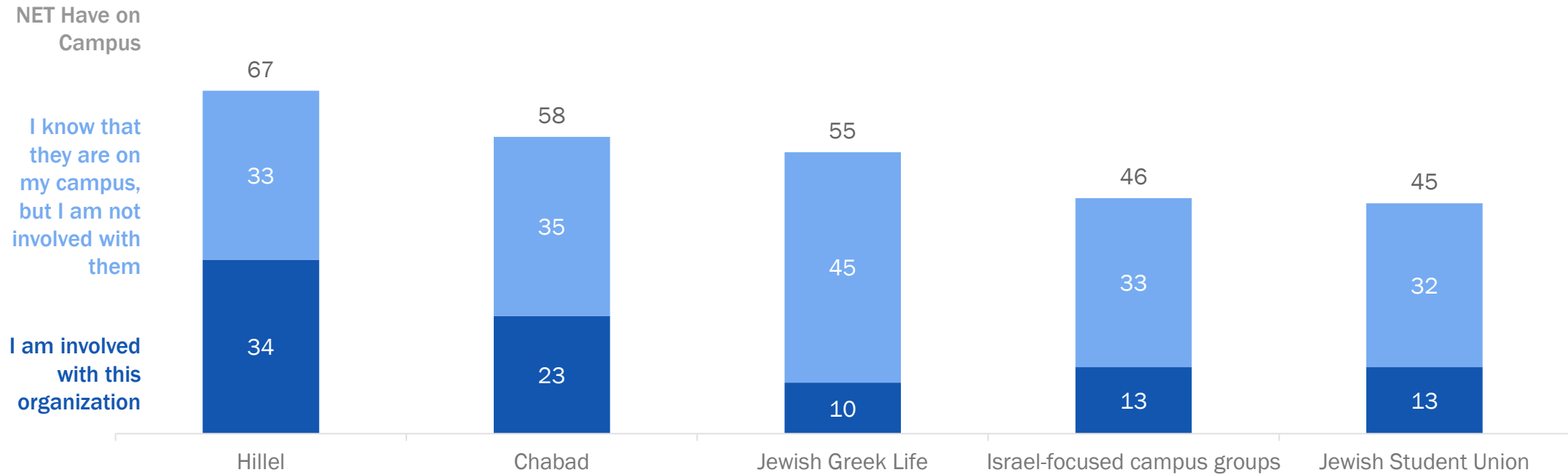


Q67. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Since the war between Israel and Hamas started, Jewish spaces on campus have become more important to me than ever.

Q36. Since the war between Israel and Hamas started, have there been any acts of antisemitism, hate, or anything threatening or derogatory toward Jewish people that has happened at your campus?

Hillel is the Jewish organization that Jewish students are most familiar with

How familiar are you with each of these types of groups/organizations?
Only among Jewish students

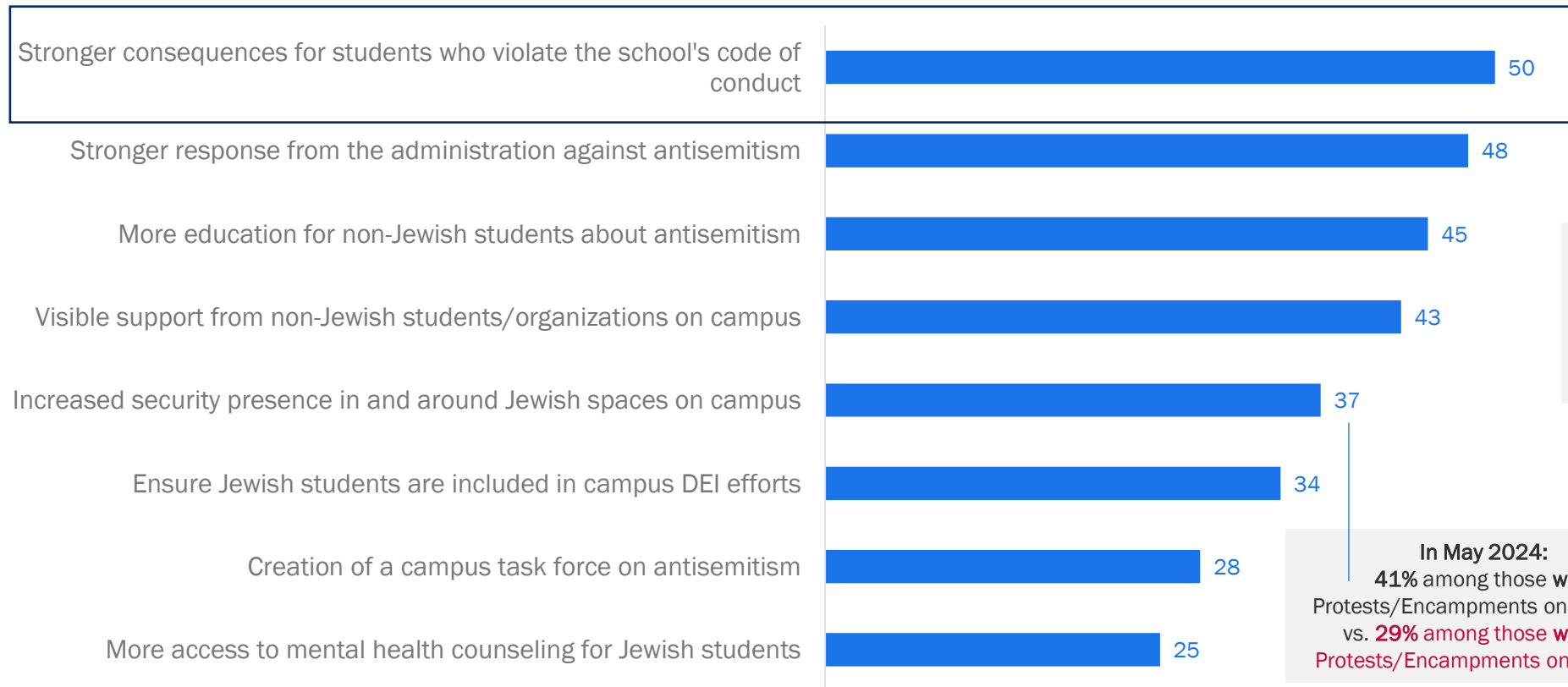


Q37. Below are some types of groups or organizations affiliated with Jewish life that may exist on your campus (this list is not intended to be exhaustive). How familiar are you with each of these types of groups/organizations?

Jewish students feel like there needs to be a stronger response from their schools' administrations and ultimately greater consequences for violating school policies – and this sentiment has only grown since the start of the encampments on campus

Which of the following would you like to see on your campus? *Only among Jewish students*

■ May, 2024



In May 2024:
 53% among those with Protests/Encampments on campus, vs. 42% among those without Protests/Encampments on campus

In May 2024:
 41% among those with Protests/Encampments on campus, vs. 29% among those without Protests/Encampments on campus



Appendix

