

Highlights of the Pew Research Center's 2013 Survey of U.S. Jews

Prepared by
The Berman Jewish DataBank

Source:

Pew Research Center's *Portrait of Jewish Americans*:

<http://www.pewforum.org/2013/10/01/jewish-american-beliefs-attitudes-culture-survey/>

and

Berman Jewish DataBank analysis of

Pew Research Center's 2013 Survey of U.S. Jews data file

BERMAN JEWISH
DATABANK

A Project of
The Jewish Federations
OF NORTH AMERICA



Background to the survey

- Conducted by Pew Research Center
 - Non-partisan, non-advocacy “fact” tank
 - Funded primarily by Pew Charitable Trusts but Center has research and editorial independence
 - Conducts wide range of research in US and globally
 - No policy recommendations
 - No commissioned work
- National Jewish Population Surveys in 1970-71, 1990, and 2000-01 commissioned by Federation system, but no NJPS in 2010
- Pew advisory committee
 - Social scientists, historians, journalists and foundation professionals
 - Provided guidance on survey instrument, sampling, data analysis, and report writing
 - Pew maintained final responsibility for all aspects of the project



Methodology

- Stratified random digit dial (RDD) survey using both landline and cell phone sampling frames
- No organizational lists or distinctive Jewish names were used for sampling purposes
- 70,000+ screening interviews with Jews and non-Jews
- N= 3,475 Jewish respondents
- Margin of error= +/- 3%
- Response rate = 16%
- Data were weighted to account for unequal probability of being in the sample and disproportionate non-response
 - Weighted data produce a representative sample of U.S. Jews that can be generalized to the entire population



Population and demographics

- Who's a Jew?
- Population estimate
- Demographic distinctiveness
- Age
- Education
- Income
- Fertility
- Region
- Immigrants



Who's a Jew?

- Respondents were defined as Jewish if:
 - Their religion is Jewish/Judaism
- OR
- They have no religion but
 - They have a Jewish background (Jewish parent or raised Jewish), and
 - They currently consider themselves Jewish aside from religion



Population estimate

- The U.S. Jewish population is estimated at 6.7 million people:
 - 5.3 million adults (18 and older)
 - 1.3 million children (17 and younger)
- Jews are 2.2% of the total U.S. population
 - Proportion of Jews in the U.S. has been steadily falling for more than 50 years



Demographic distinctiveness

- Compared to other Americans, Jews on average
 - are older
 - have higher levels of education
 - earn higher incomes
 - are more likely to be first or second generation immigrants
 - are more likely to live in urban/suburban areas
 - are more likely to be in the labor force
 - have fewer children



Age

- Median age
 - Jewish adults: 50
 - US adults overall: 46
- Adults age 65+
 - Jewish adults: 24%
 - US adults overall: 18%

Median age among Jews:

- Jews by religion: 52
- Jews of no religion: 43
- Conservative: 55
- Reform: 54
- No denomination: 43
- Orthodox: 40



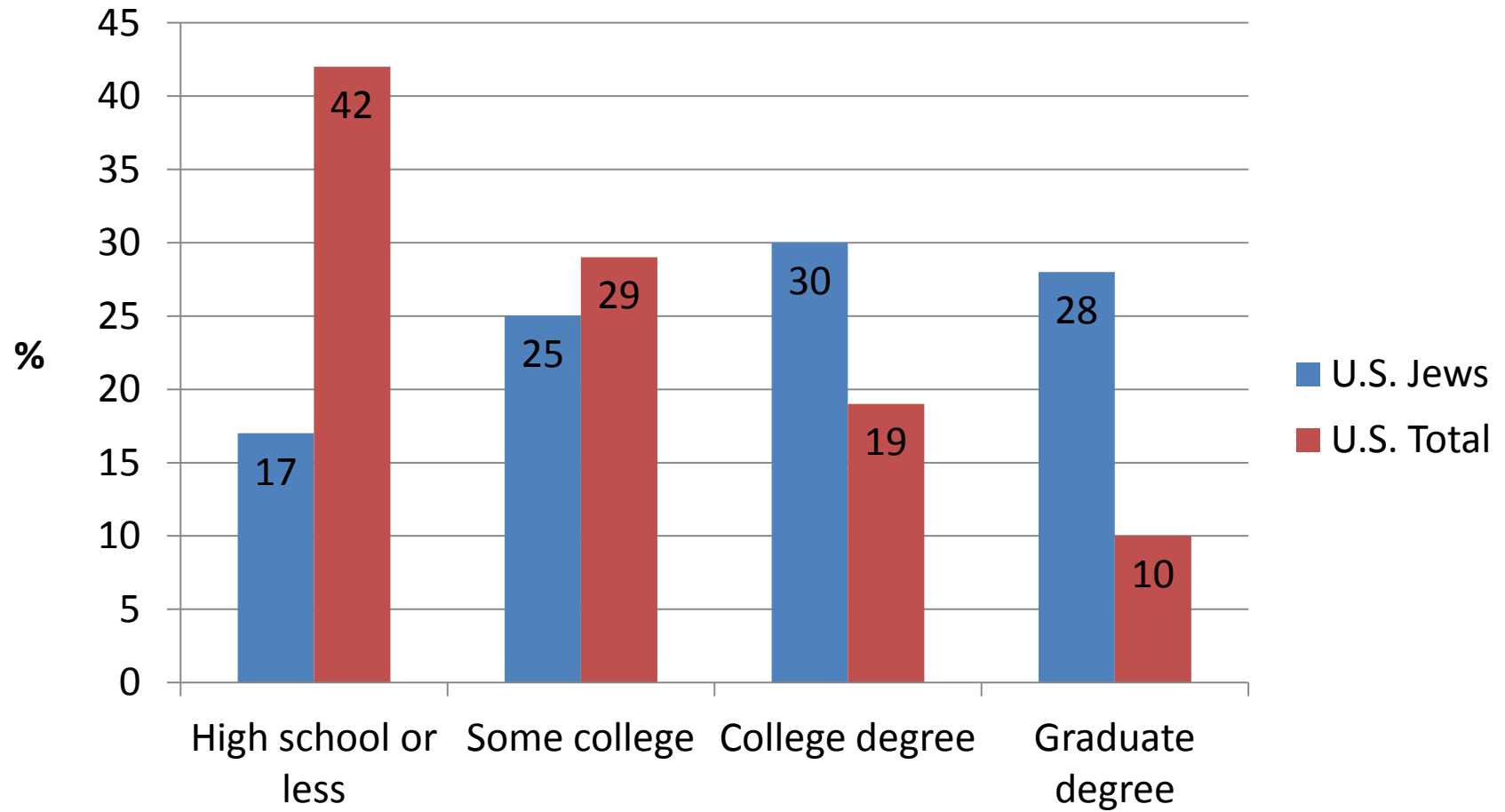
Age of U.S. Jewish and total adults

Age groups	% U.S. Jewish adults	% U.S. total adults
18-29	20	22
30-49	28	34
Net 18-49	<u>48</u>	<u>56</u>
50-64	27	26
65 and older	24	18
Net 50 and older	<u>51</u>	<u>44</u>
Total	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
Median age	50	46

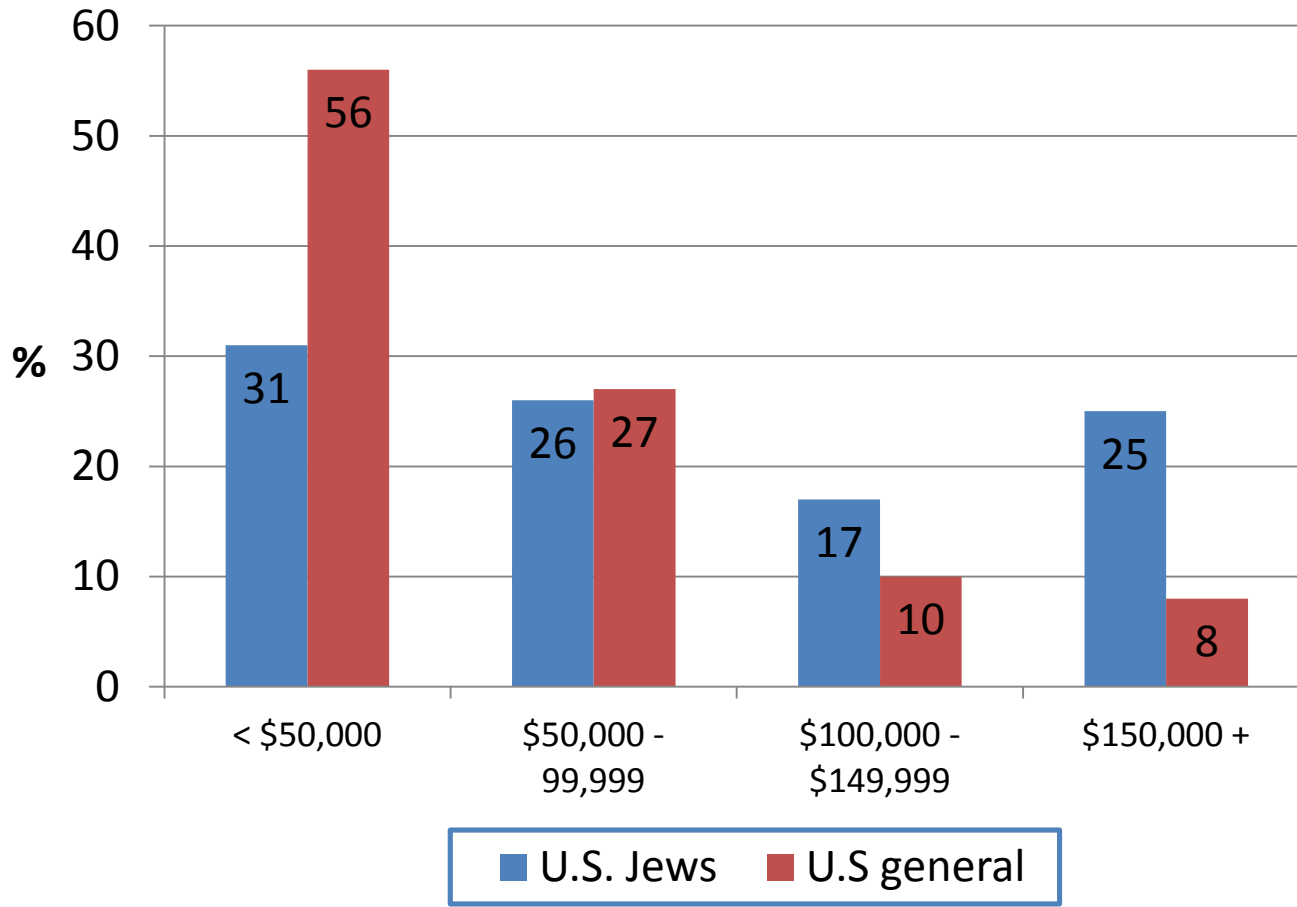


Highest educational level

(all adults age 18+)



Household income



Median household Income*

U.S. Jews = \$87,500

U.S. general = \$44,000



Household income

- Median household income*
 - Jewish adults: \$87,500
 - US adults overall: \$44,000
- Top income: over \$150,000
 - Jewish adults: 25%
 - US adults overall: 8%
- Low income: under \$30,000
 - Jewish adults: 20%
 - US adults overall: 36%
 - For Jewish adults, low income is more common among those under age 30 (38%) and those ages 65+ (24%)

* Median incomes calculated by JFNA based on income distributions in Pew report



Fertility

- All else being equal, a group needs to have 2.1 children per adult for population replacement
- U.S. adults overall: 2.2 children
- Jewish adults: 1.9 children
 - Orthodox: 4.1 children
 - Conservative: 1.8 children
 - Reform: 1.7 children
 - No denomination: 1.4 children



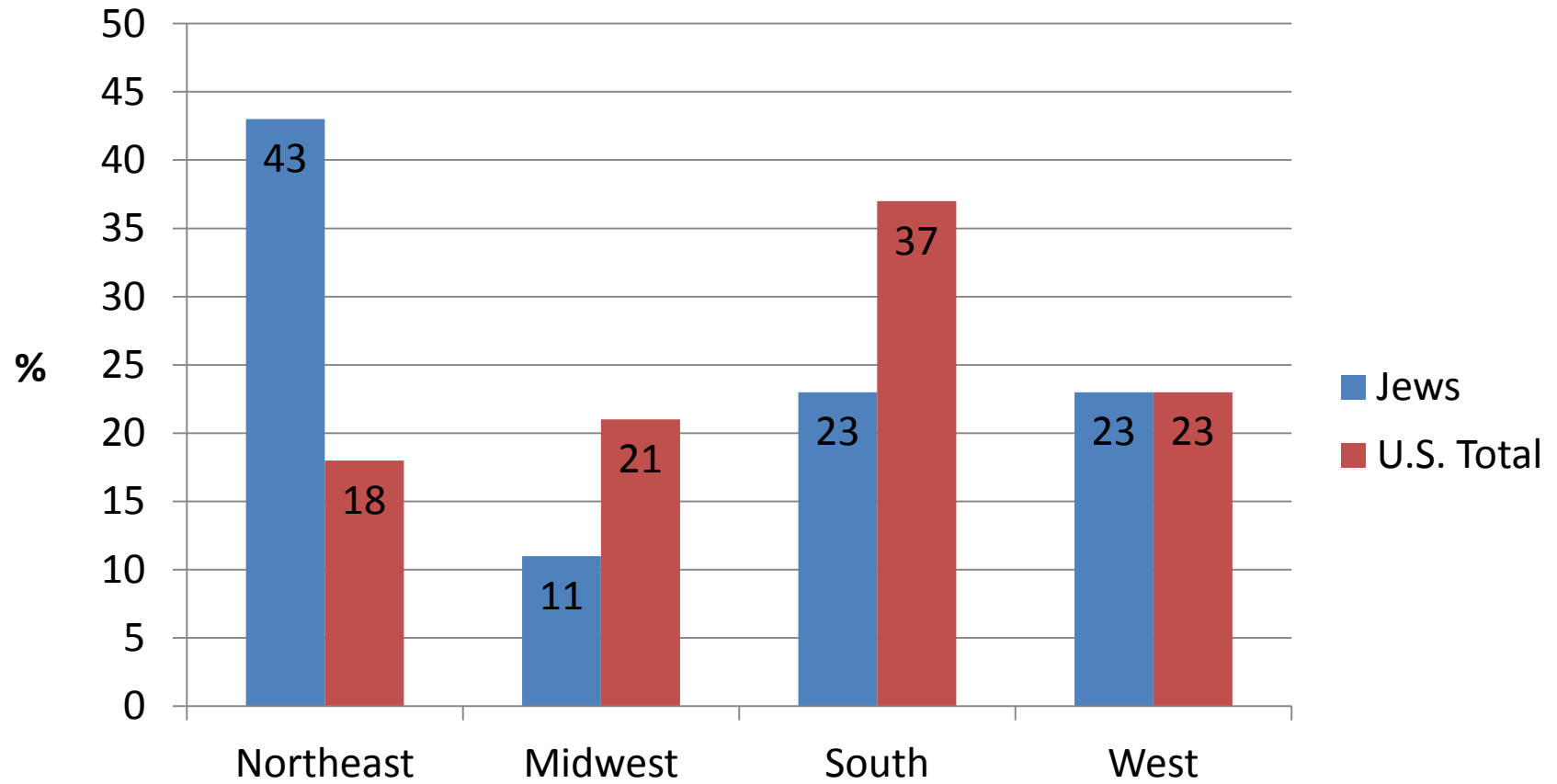
Effective Jewish fertility rate

- Adjusts fertility rate to account for proportion of Jewish children being raised Jewish in some way *
- Jewish adults: ~1.5 children raised Jewish
 - Orthodox: ~4.0 children raised Jewish
 - Conservative: ~1.7 children raised Jewish
 - Reform: ~1.4 children raised Jewish
 - No denomination: ~.75 children raised Jewish

* Effective Jewish fertility rates calculated by JFNA research staff and Steven M. Cohen.

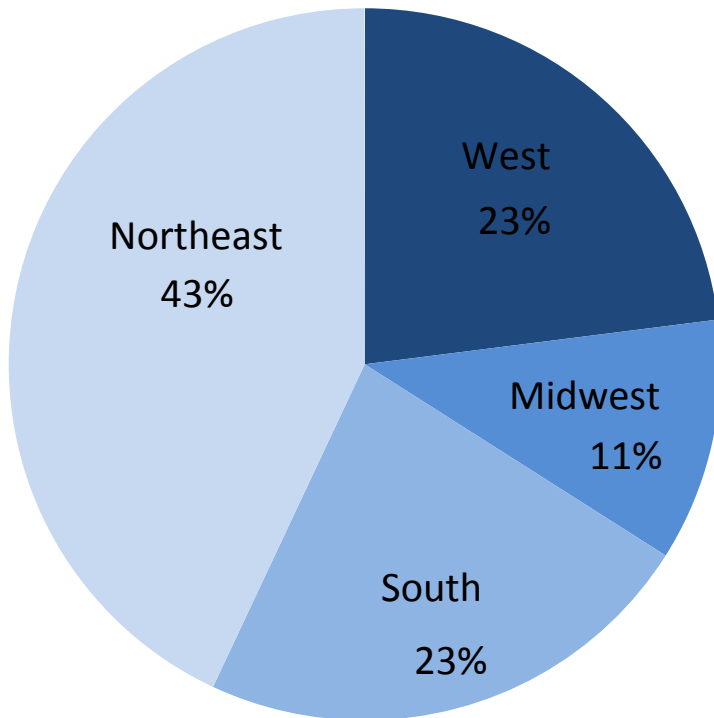


Region

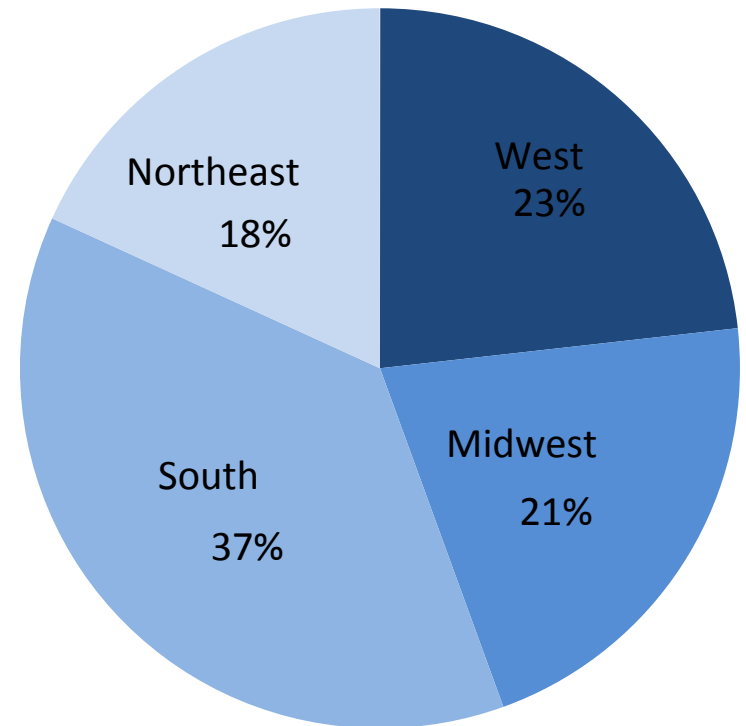


Region

Regional Distribution of U.S. Jews



Regional Distribution of U.S. General Public



Immigrants

- More than a third of Jewish adults are immigrants themselves or the children of immigrants
- First generation (immigrants)
 - Jewish adults: 14%
 - US adults overall: 17%
- Second generation (children of immigrants)
 - Jewish adults: 22%
 - US adults overall: 8%
- Among first and second generation Jewish immigrants:
 - 1 in 3 from the FSU
 - 1 in 3 from non-FSU Europe
 - 1 in ten from Israel

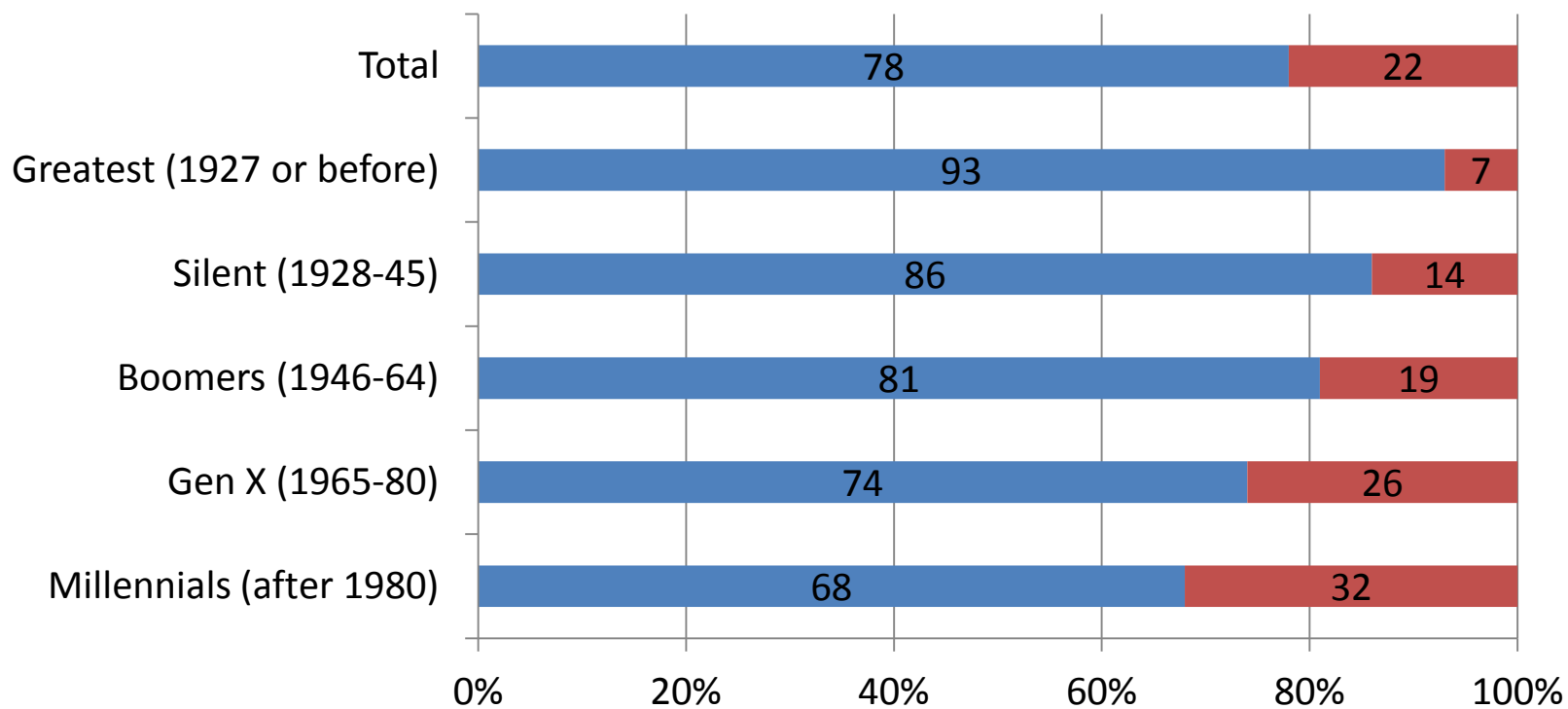


Jewish characteristics

- Jews by religion and Jews of no religion
- Denomination
- Intermarriage
- Community density



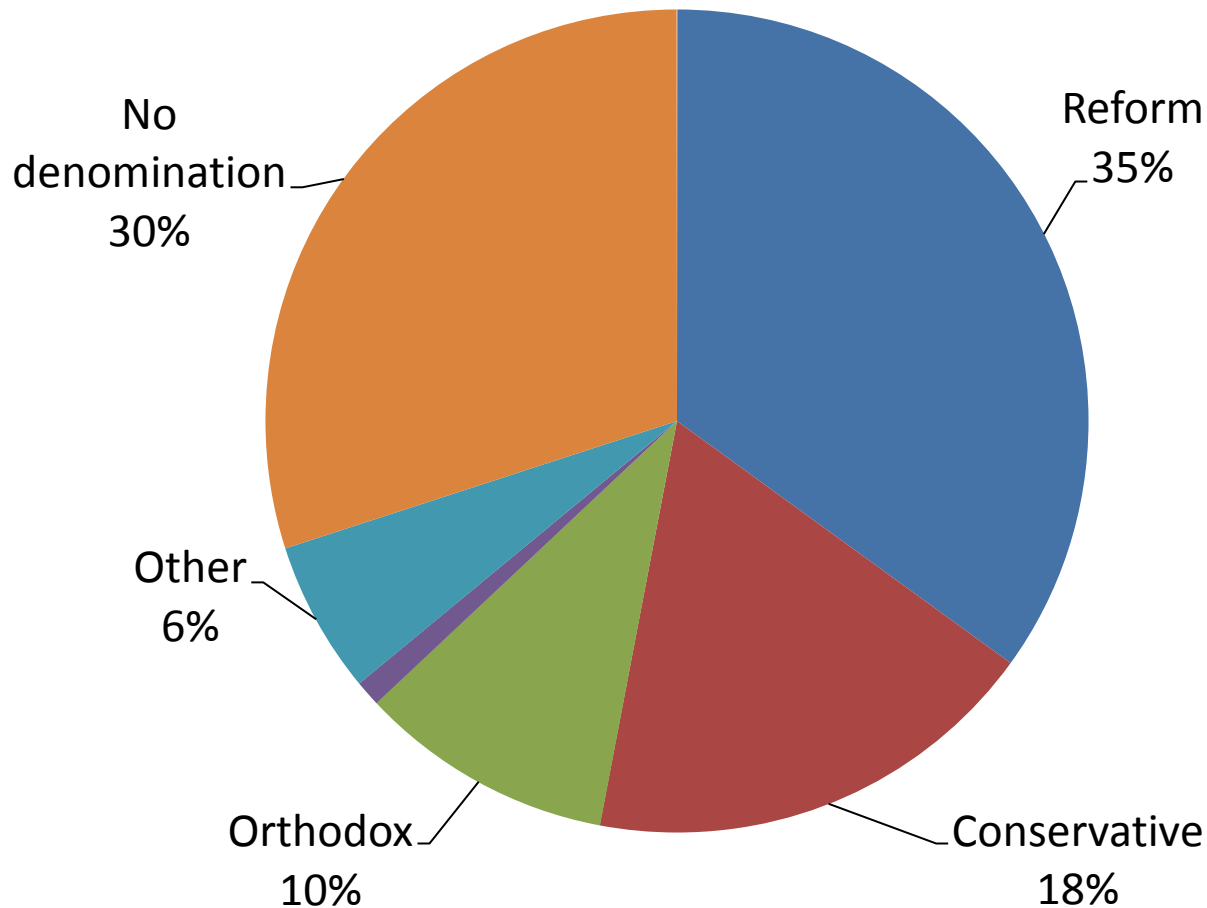
Jews by religion and Jews of no religion by generation



■ Jews by religion ■ Jews with no religion



Jewish denominational identity



Over time:

- Decline in Conservative identity
- Increase in no denomination



Jewish denominational identity

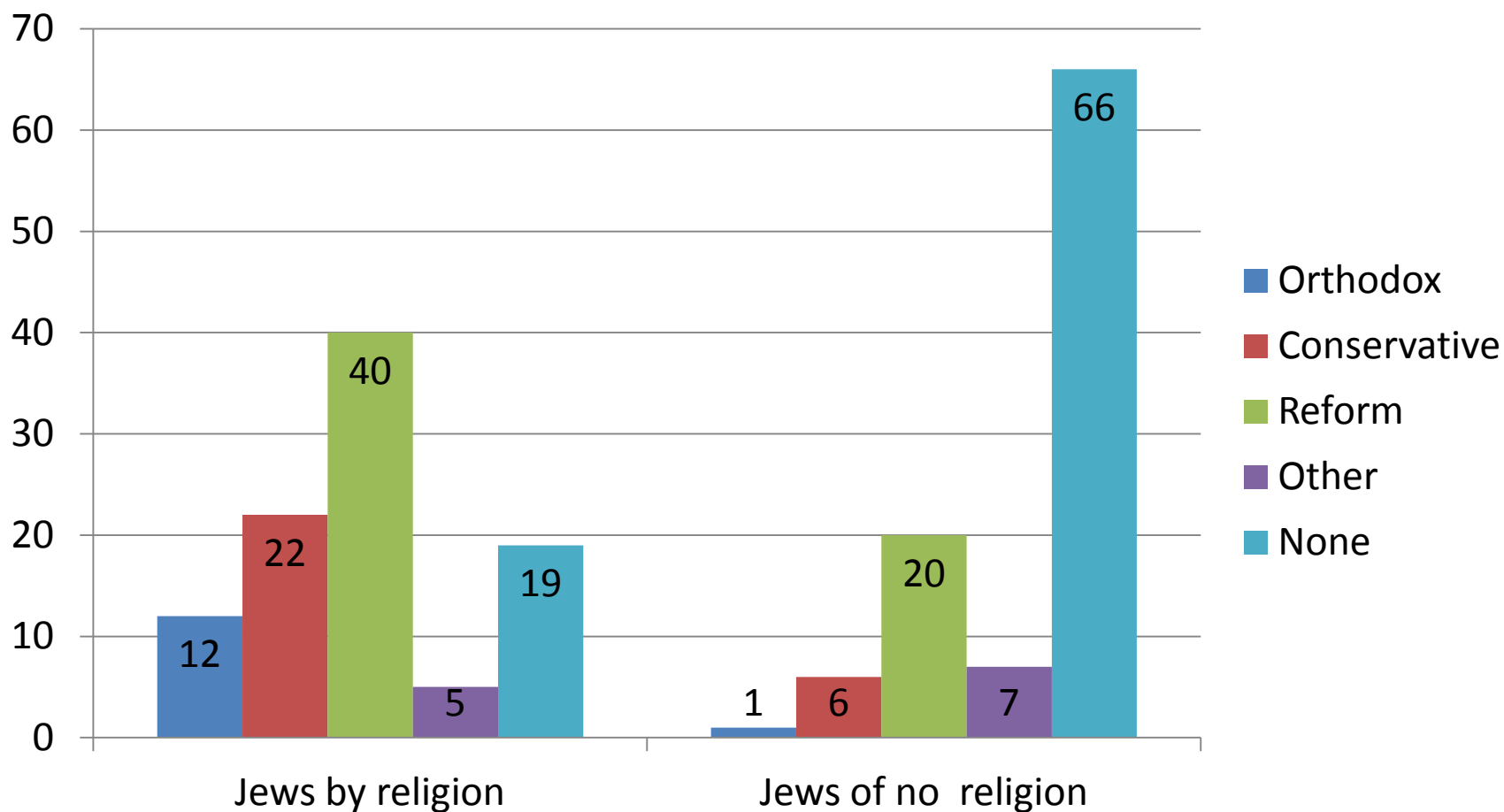
JEWISH DENOMINATION	% ADULTS
Orthodox	10
Conservative	18
Reform	35
Other	6
No denomination	30
Unclassifiable	1
Total	100

Over time:

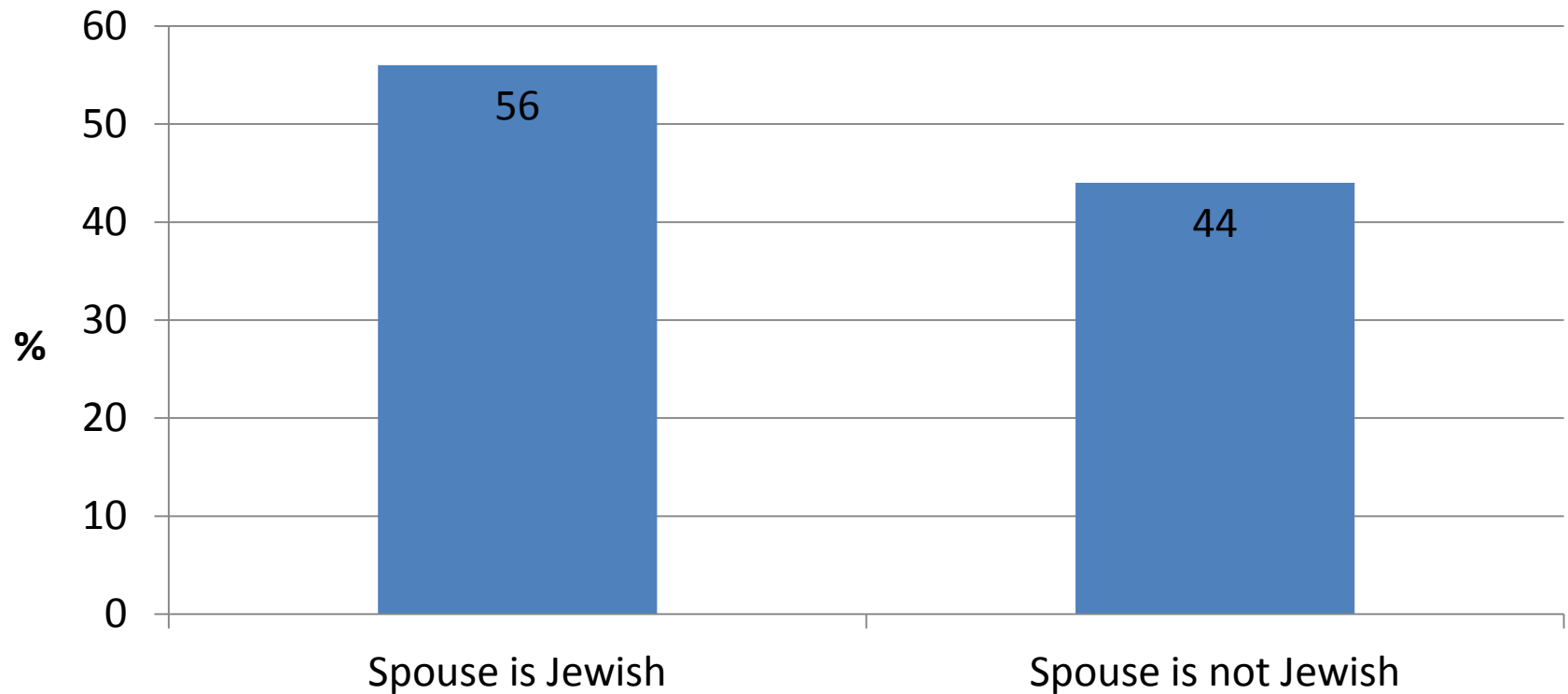
- Decline in Conservative identity
- Increase in no denomination



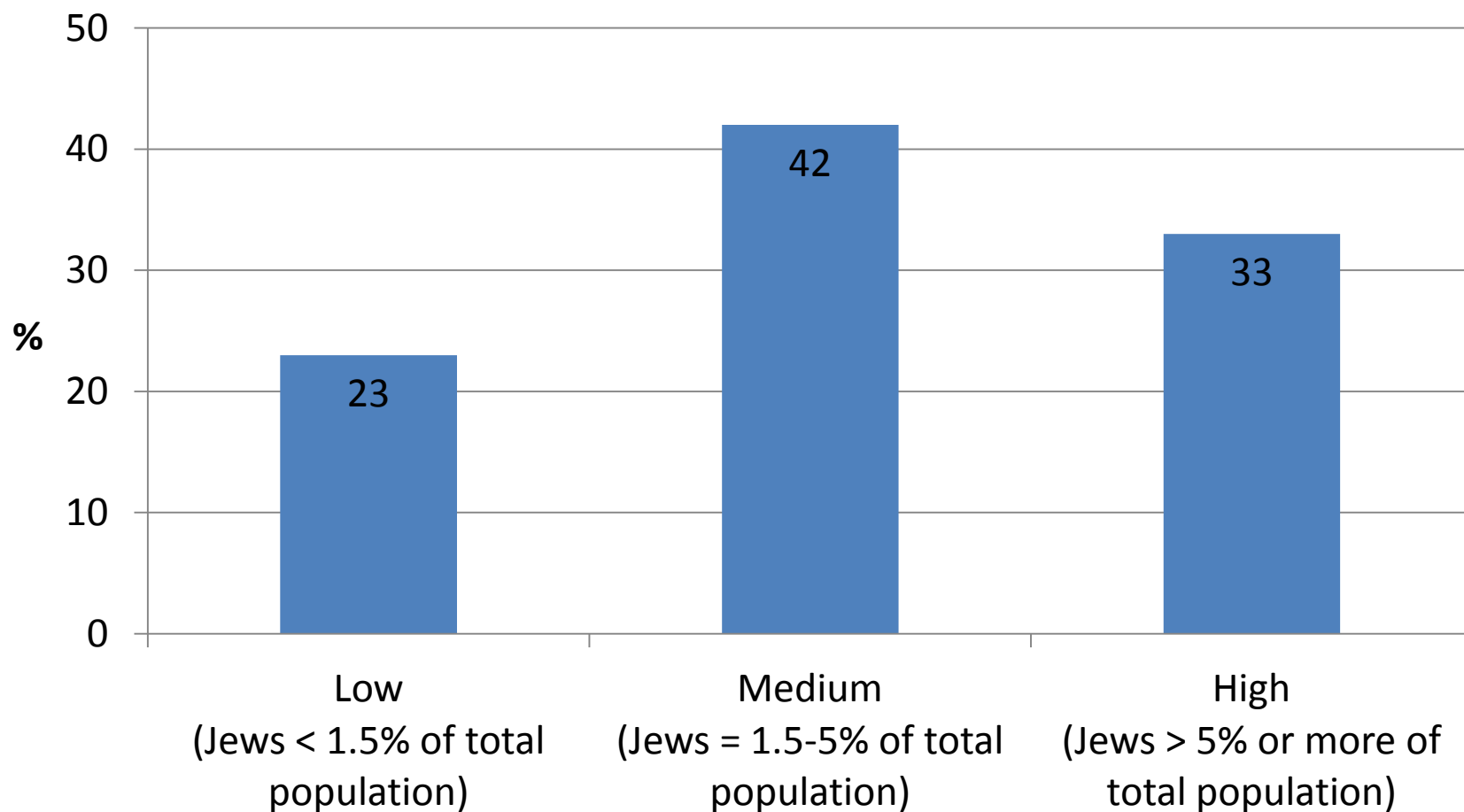
Jewish denomination by JBR/JNR



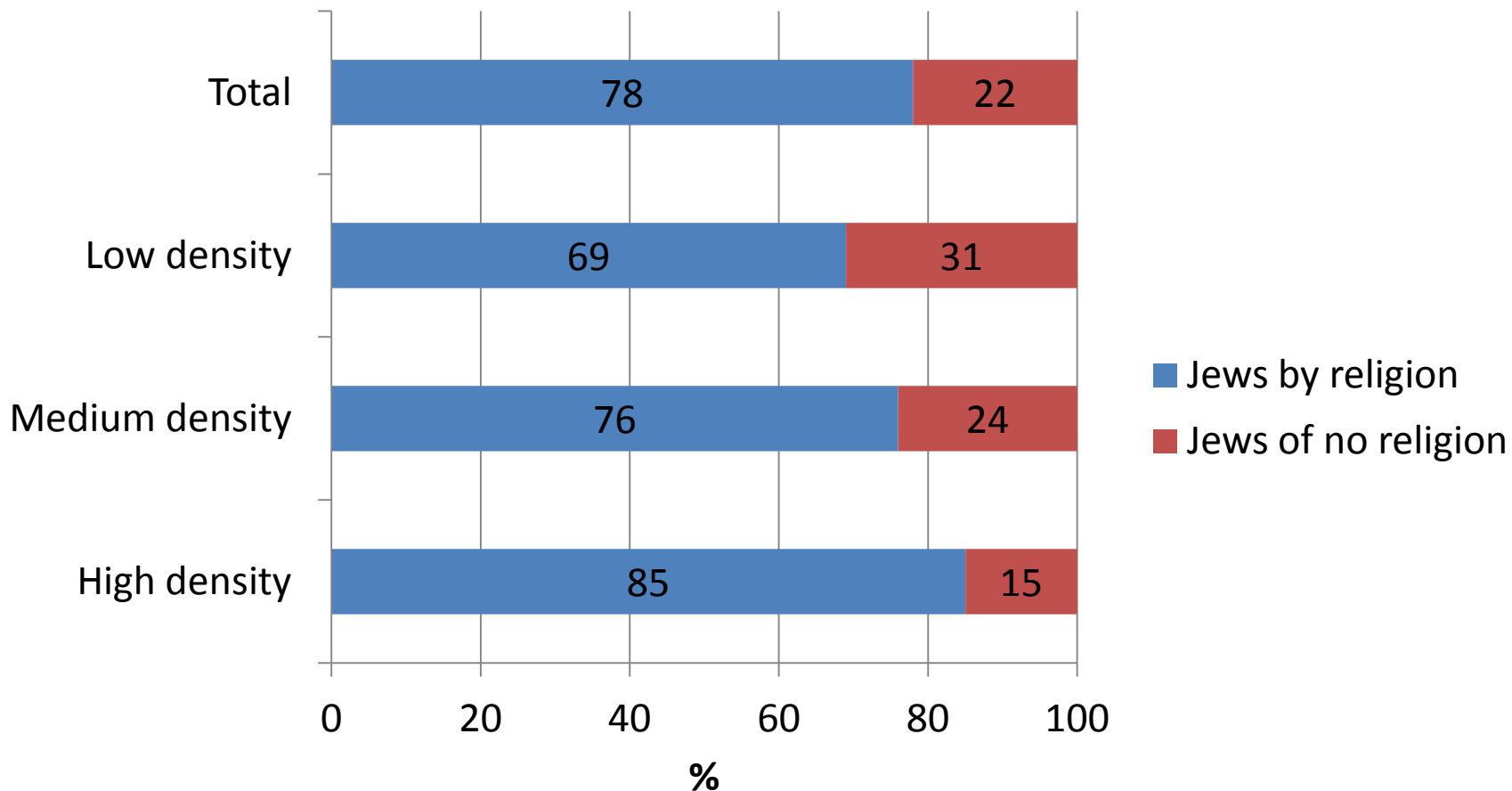
Intermarriage (currently married Jews)



Jewish community density



Jews by religion and Jews of no religion by density



Attitudes

- Proud to be Jewish
- Being Jewish very or somewhat important
- Strong sense of belonging to Jewish people
- Being part of Jewish community is essential/important to being Jewish
- Special responsibility to care for Jews in need



Attitudes

	Total Jews	Jews by religion	Jews of no religion
Are proud to be Jewish	94%	97%	83%
Being Jewish is very or somewhat important in life	80	90	46
Have strong sense of belonging to Jewish people	75	85	42
Being part of a Jewish community is essential or important	70	79	42
Have special responsibility to care for Jews in need	63	71	36



Attitudes

	Total Jews	Orthodox	Conservative	Reform	No denomination
Are proud to be Jewish	94%	98%	98%	96%	87%
Being Jewish is very or somewhat important in life	80	99	93	86	58
Have strong sense of belonging to Jewish people	75	99	92	78	53
Being part of a Jewish community is essential or important	70	97	85	74	49
Have special responsibility to care for Jews in need	63	92	82	64	39



Attitudes

	Total Jews	In-married	Intermarried
Are proud to be Jewish	94%	97%	89%
Being Jewish is very or somewhat important in life	80	93	68
Have strong sense of belonging to Jewish people	75	92	59
Being part of a Jewish community essential or important	70	87	52
Have special responsibility to care for Jews in need	63	80	49



Attitudes

	Total Jews	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Are proud to be Jewish	94%	96%	94%	93%	94%
Being Jewish is very or somewhat important in life	80	77	75	81	85
Have strong sense of belonging to Jewish people	75	69	71	77	84
Being part of a Jewish community essential or important	70	73	71	68	69
Have special responsibility to care for Jews in need	63	60	62	61	67



Attitudes

	Total Jews	Low density areas	Medium density areas	High density areas
Are proud to be Jewish	94%	92%	94%	96%
Being Jewish is very or somewhat important in life	80	72	80	85
Have strong sense of belonging to Jewish people	75	67	75	83
Have special responsibility to care for Jews in need	63	56	62	69



Attitudes

	Total Jews	West	Northeast	Midwest	South
Are proud to be Jewish	94%	92%	95%	95%	94%
Being Jewish is very or somewhat important in life	80	73	82	84	80
Have strong sense of belonging to Jewish people	75	70	76	79	78
Have special responsibility to care for Jews in need	63	52	65	75	63



What's essential to being Jewish?

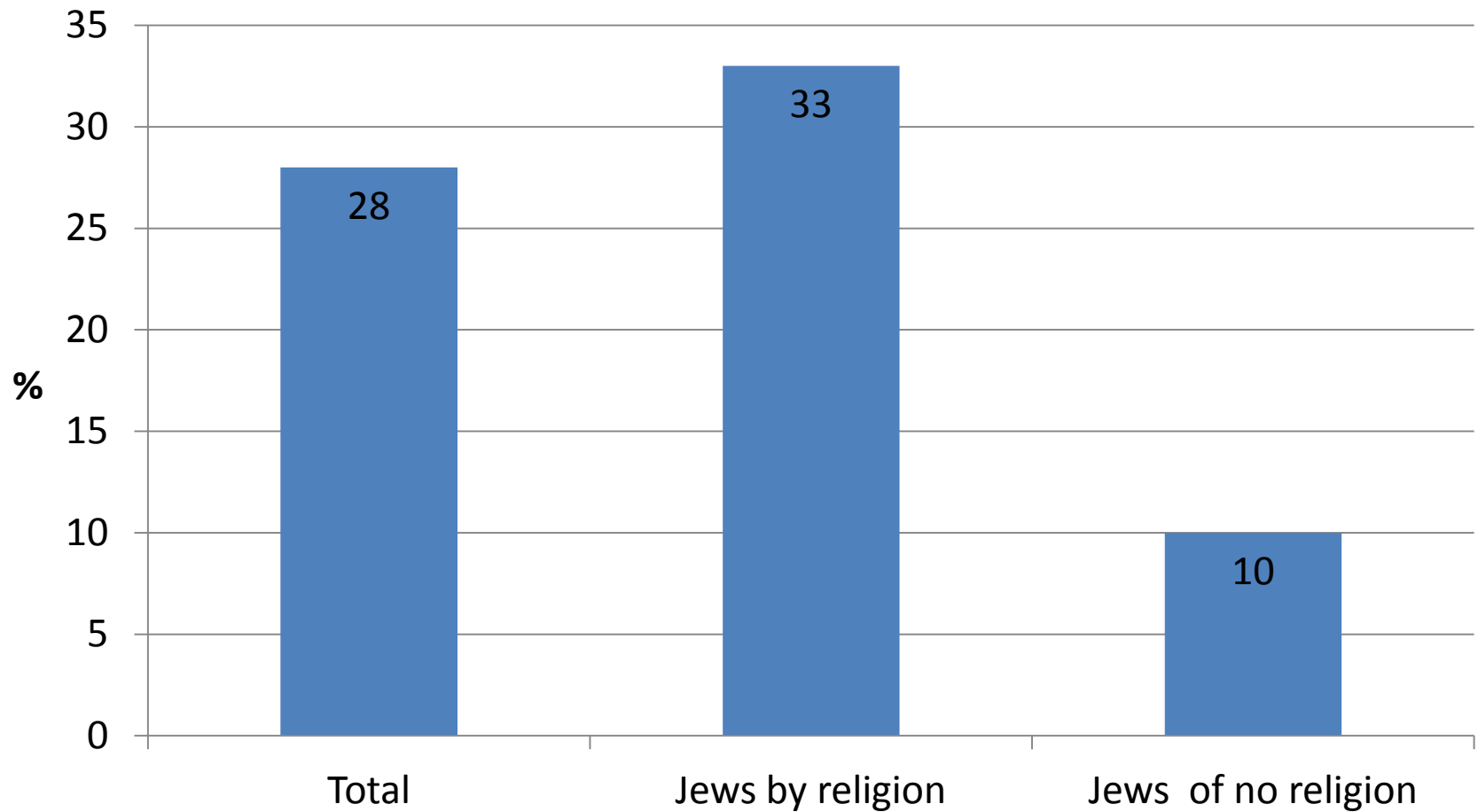
What's Essential to Being Jewish?

% saying _____ is an essential part of what being Jewish means to them

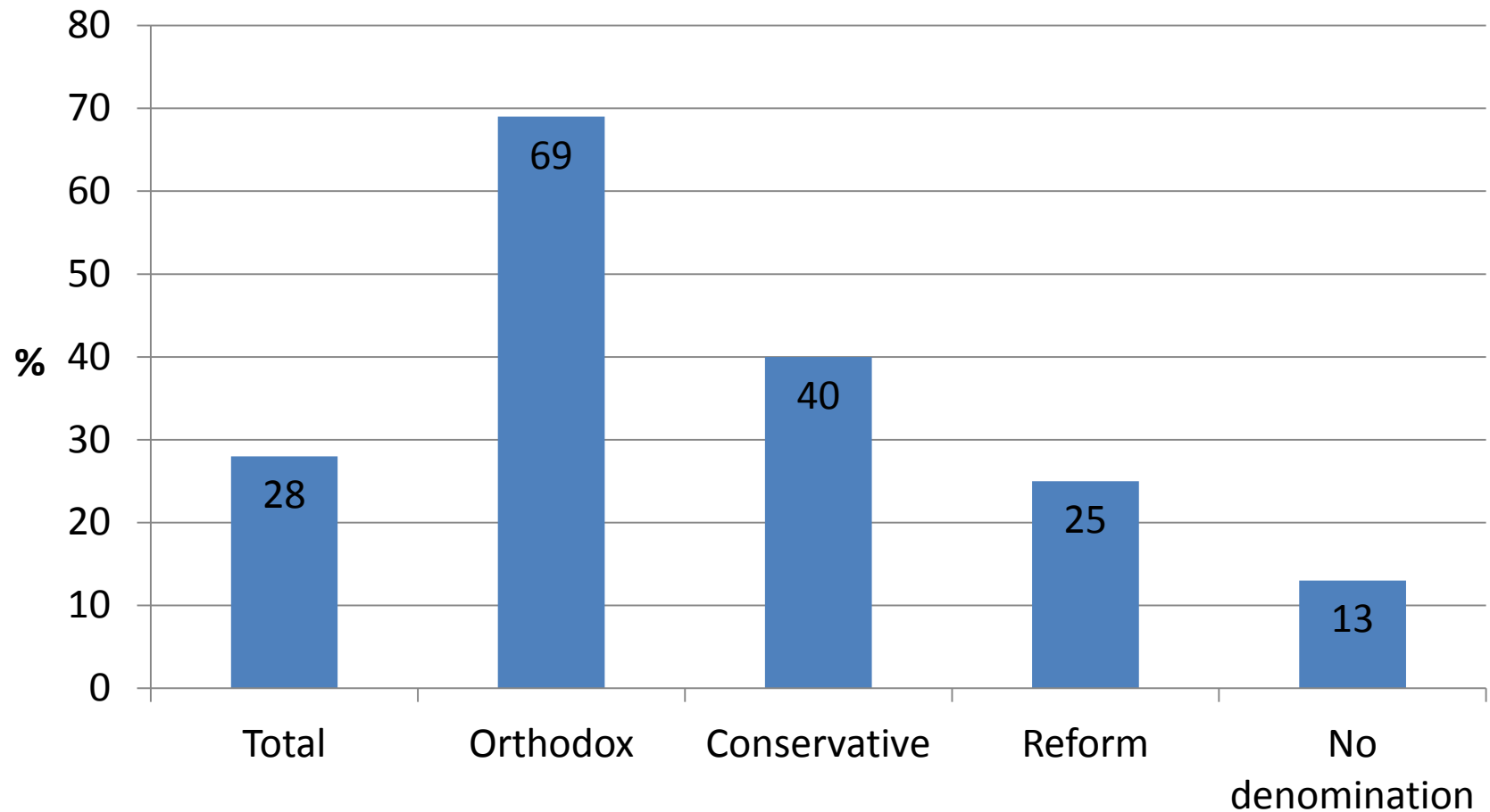
	%
Remembering the Holocaust	73
Leading an ethical and moral life	69
Working for justice/equality	56
Being intellectually curious	49
<i>Caring about Israel</i>	43
Having good sense of humor	42
<i>Being part of a Jewish community</i>	28
Observing Jewish law	19
Eating traditional Jewish foods	14



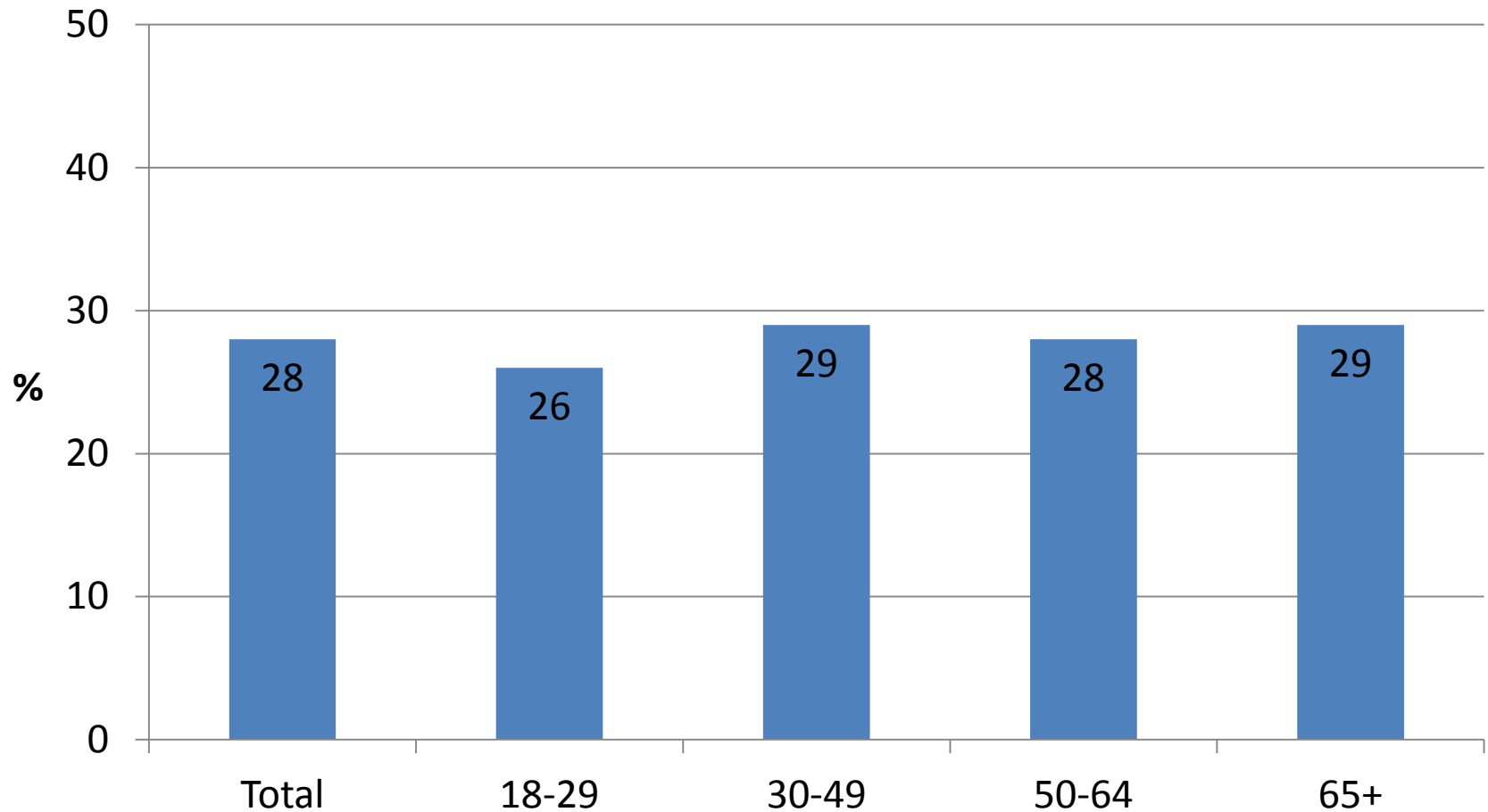
Being part of a Jewish community is essential to being Jewish



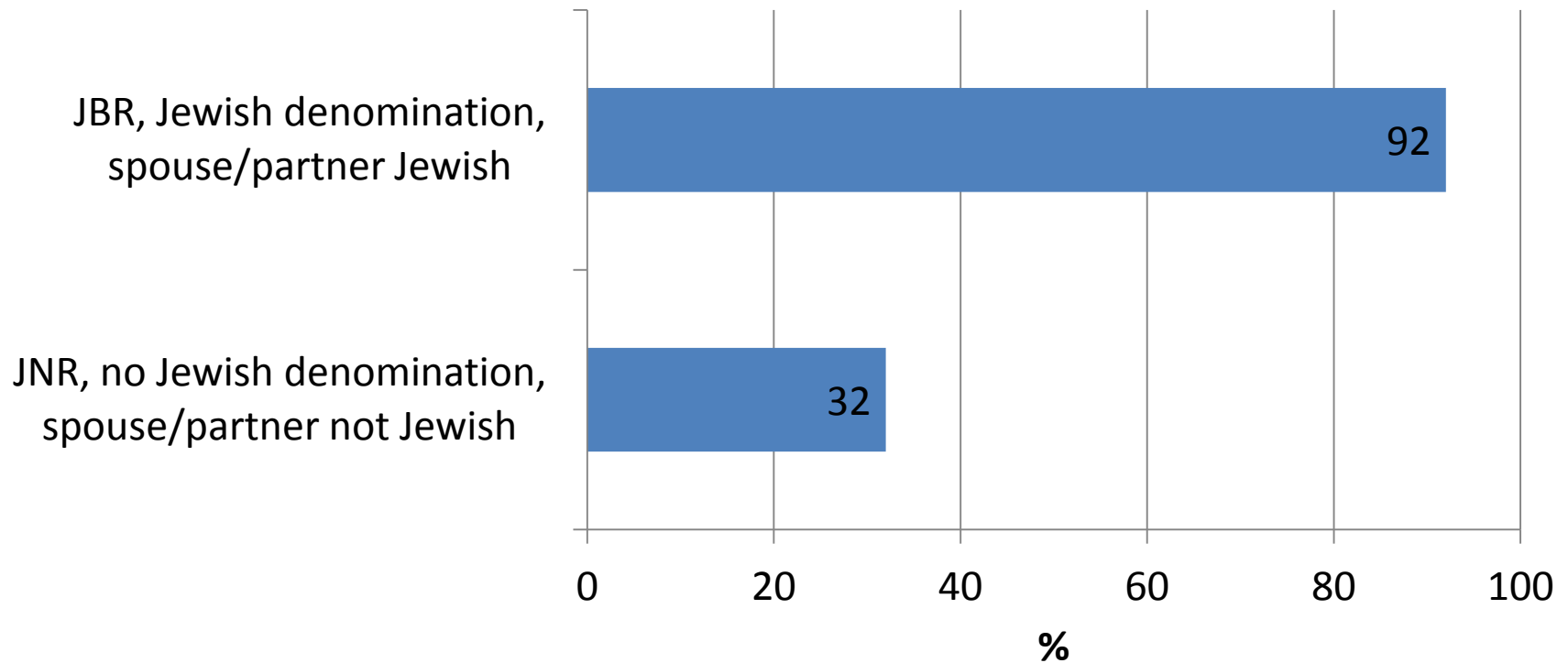
Being part of a Jewish community is essential to being Jewish



Being part of a Jewish community is essential to being Jewish



Being part of a Jewish community is essential or important to being Jewish



Behaviors

- Organizational affiliations
- Religious service attendance
- Donations to Jewish causes
- All/most close friends Jewish
- Can have conversation in Hebrew



Organizational affiliations

	Total Jews	Jews by religion	Jews of no religion
Synagogue members	31%	39%	4%
Other Jewish organization members	18	22	4
Donated to Jewish cause in past year	56	67	20



Organizational affiliations

	Total Jews	Orthodox	Conservative	Reform	No denomination
Synagogue members	31%	69%	50%	34%	6%
Other Jewish organization members	18	39	27	20	4
Donated to Jewish cause in past year	56	92	80	60	29



Organizational affiliations

	Total Jews	In-married	Intermarried
Synagogue members	31%	59%	14%
Other Jewish organization members	18	33	6
Donated to Jewish cause in past year	56	88	42



Organizational affiliations

	Total Jews	Low density	Medium density	High density
Synagogue members	31%	24%	31%	36%
Other Jewish organization members	18	14	17	23
Donated to Jewish cause in past year	56	47	55	66



Organizational affiliations

	Total Jews	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Synagogue members	31%	24%	29%	36%	31%
Other Jewish organization members	18	16	15	18	24
Donated to Jewish cause in past year	56	39	52	62	71



Organizational affiliations

	Total Jews	<\$50,000 income	\$50-99,999 income	\$100-149,999 income	\$150,000+ income
Synagogue members	31%	18%	30%	37%	41%
Other Jewish organization members	18	14	16	22	22
Donated to Jewish cause in past year	56	47	54	60	65

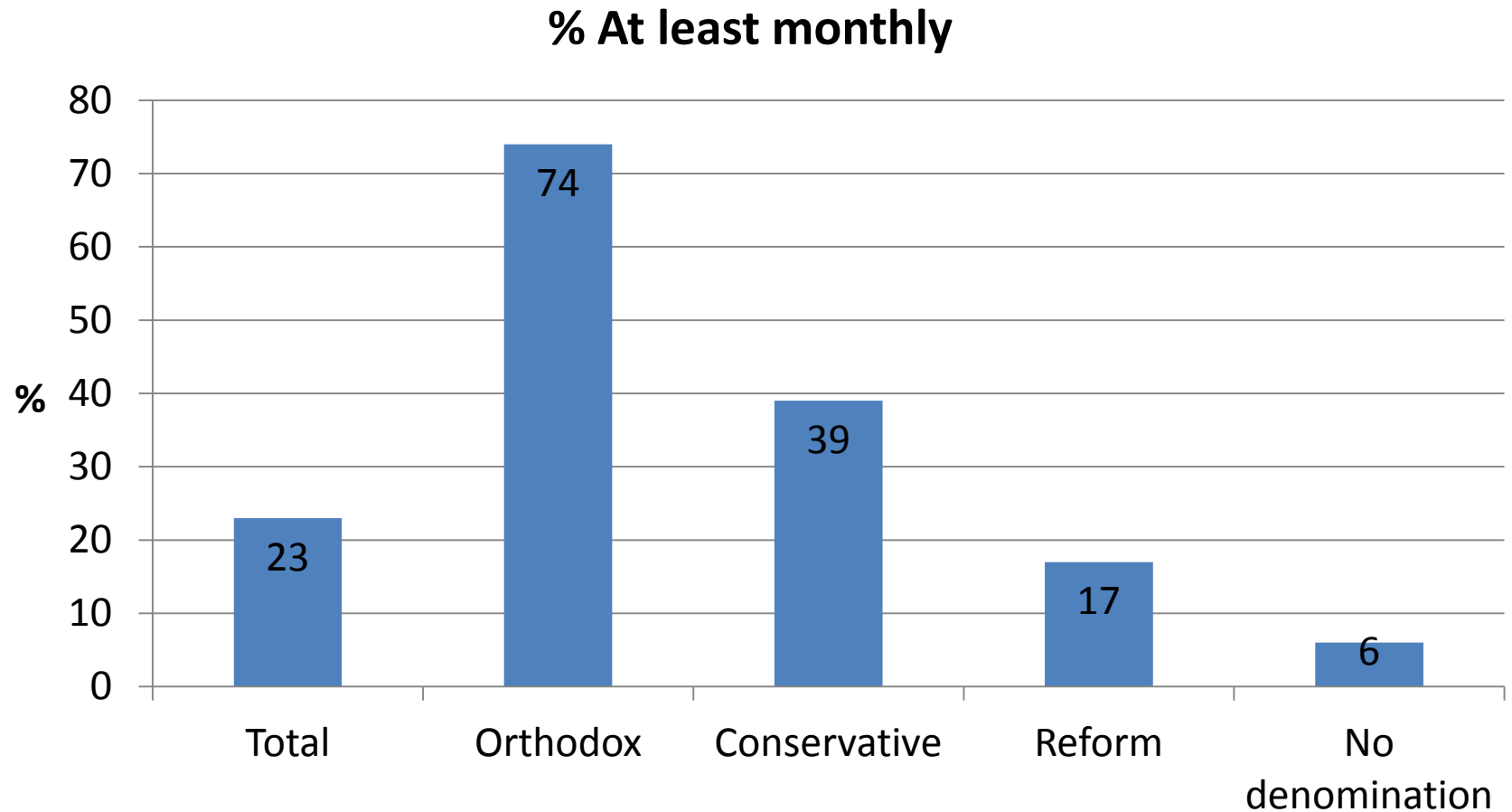


Organizational affiliations

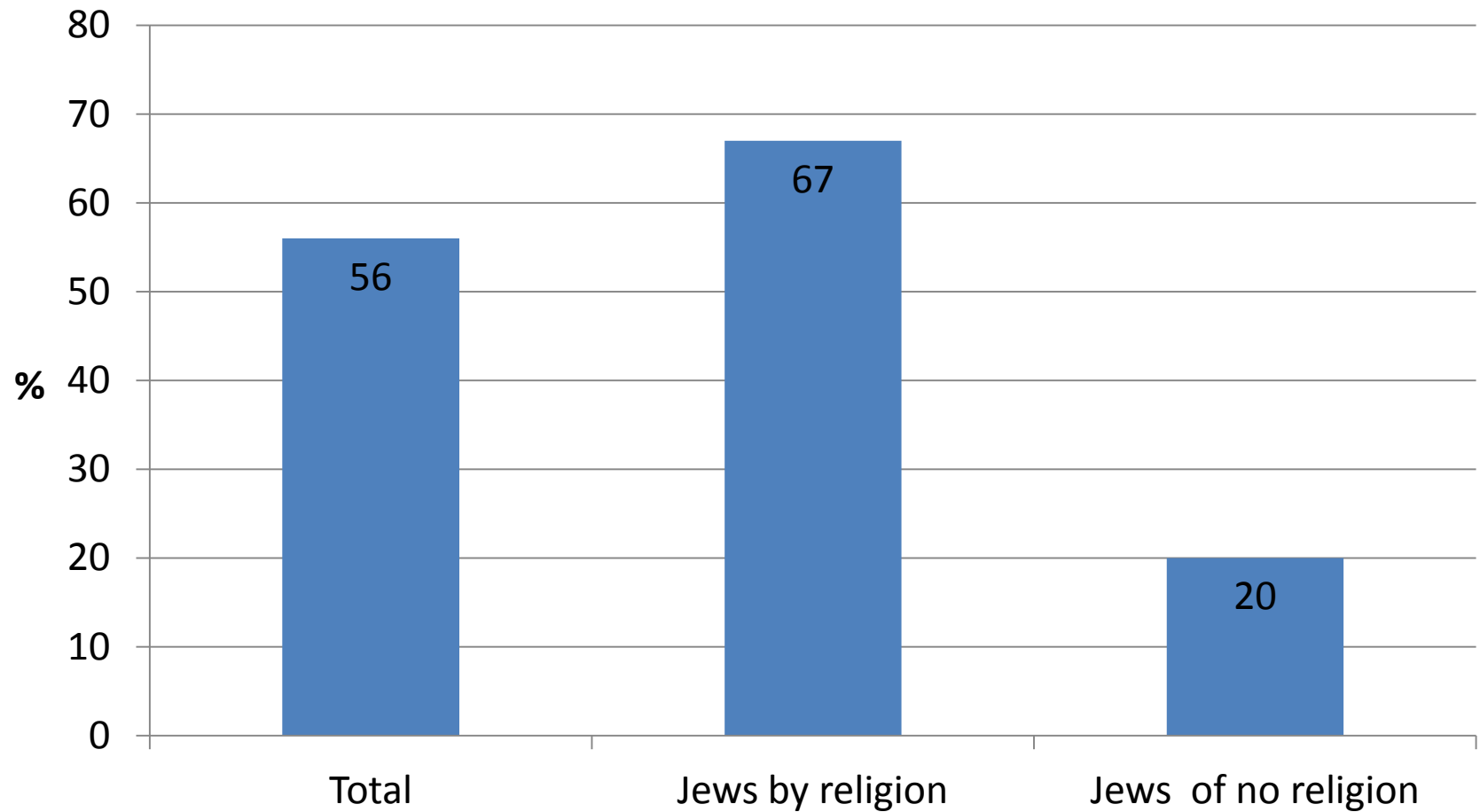
	Total Jews	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Synagogue members	31%	32%	36%	32%	24%
Other Jewish organization members	18	20	21	20	11
Donated to Jewish cause in past year	56	60	62	61	41



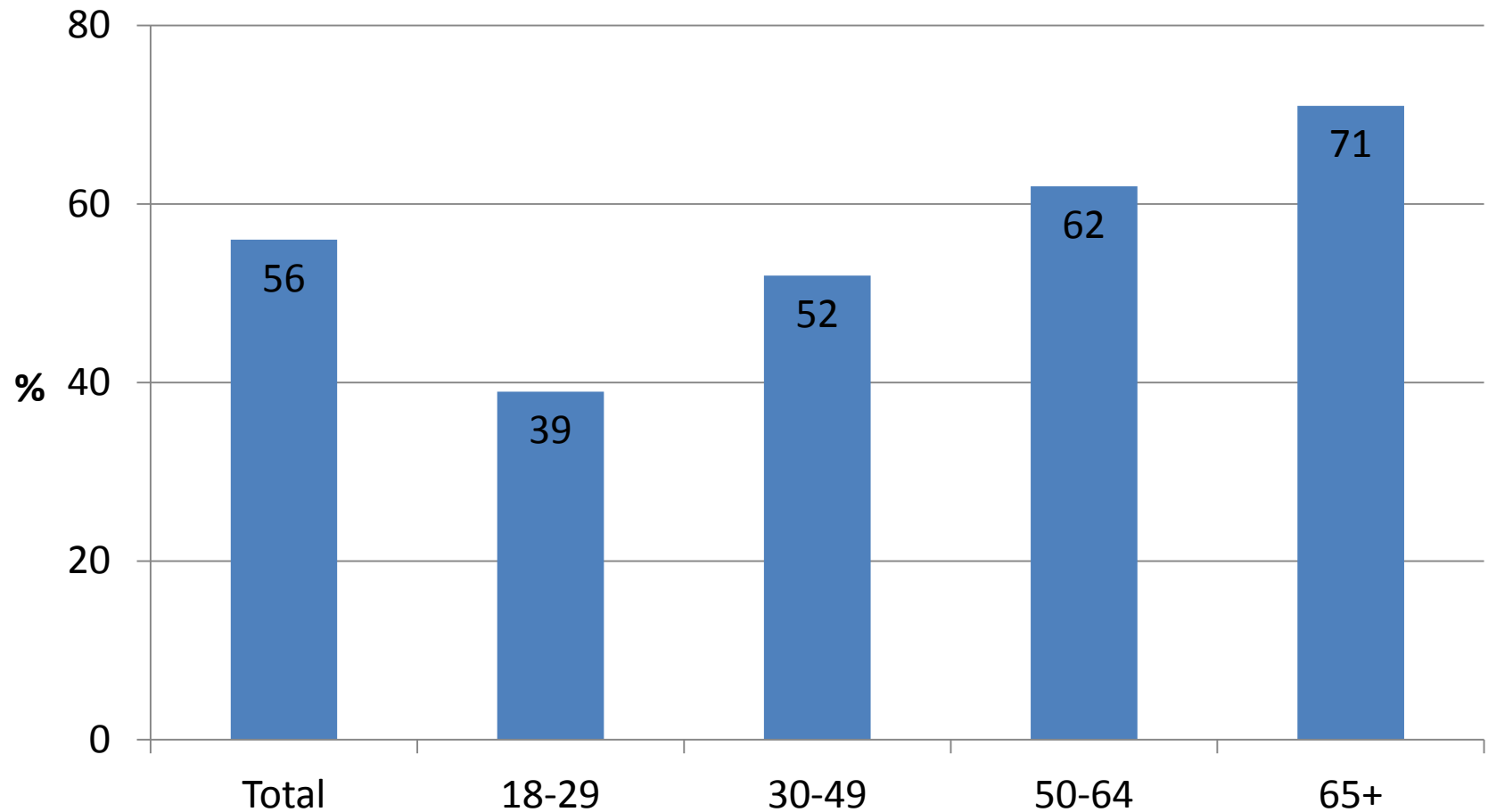
Religious service attendance



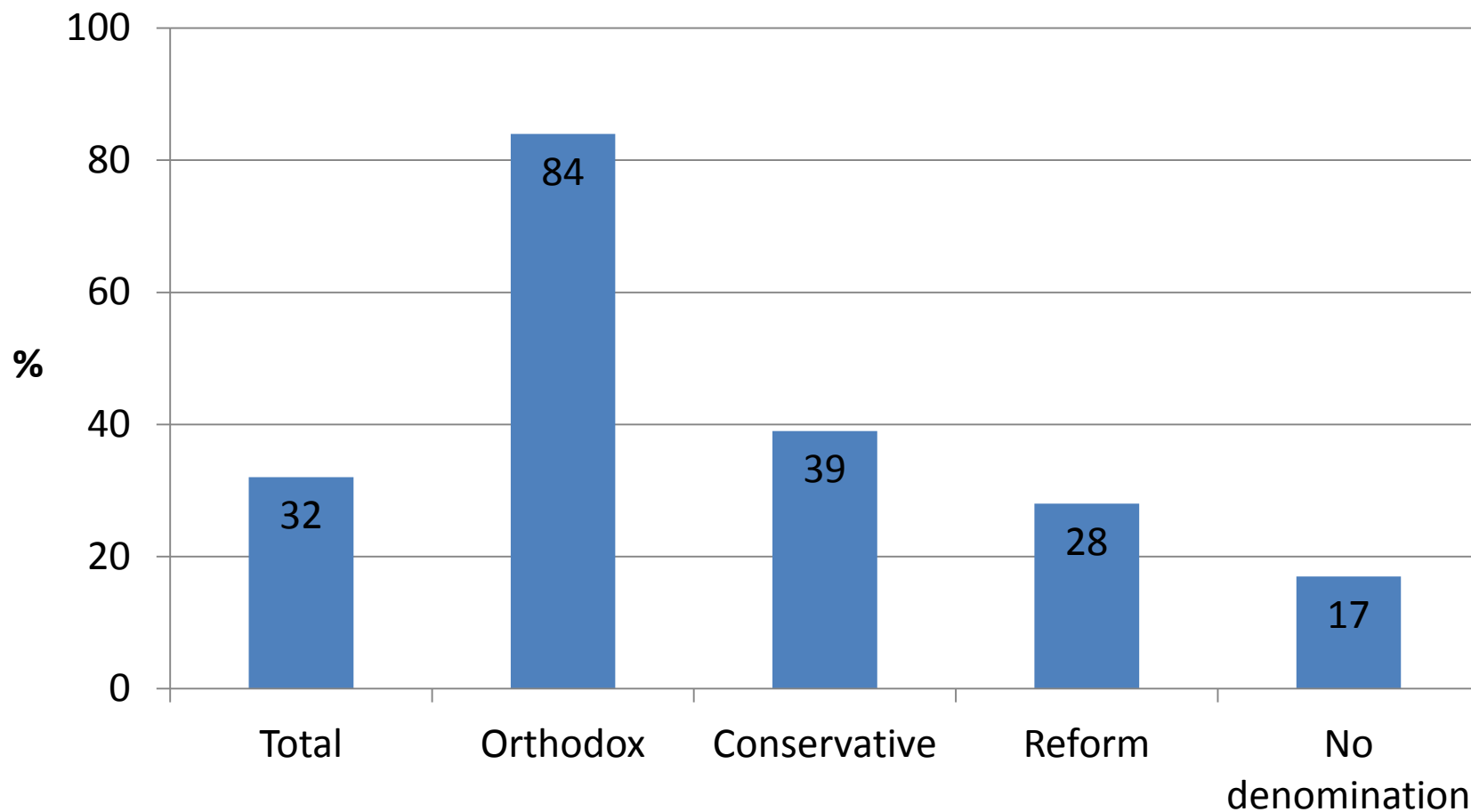
Donated to Jewish cause in past year



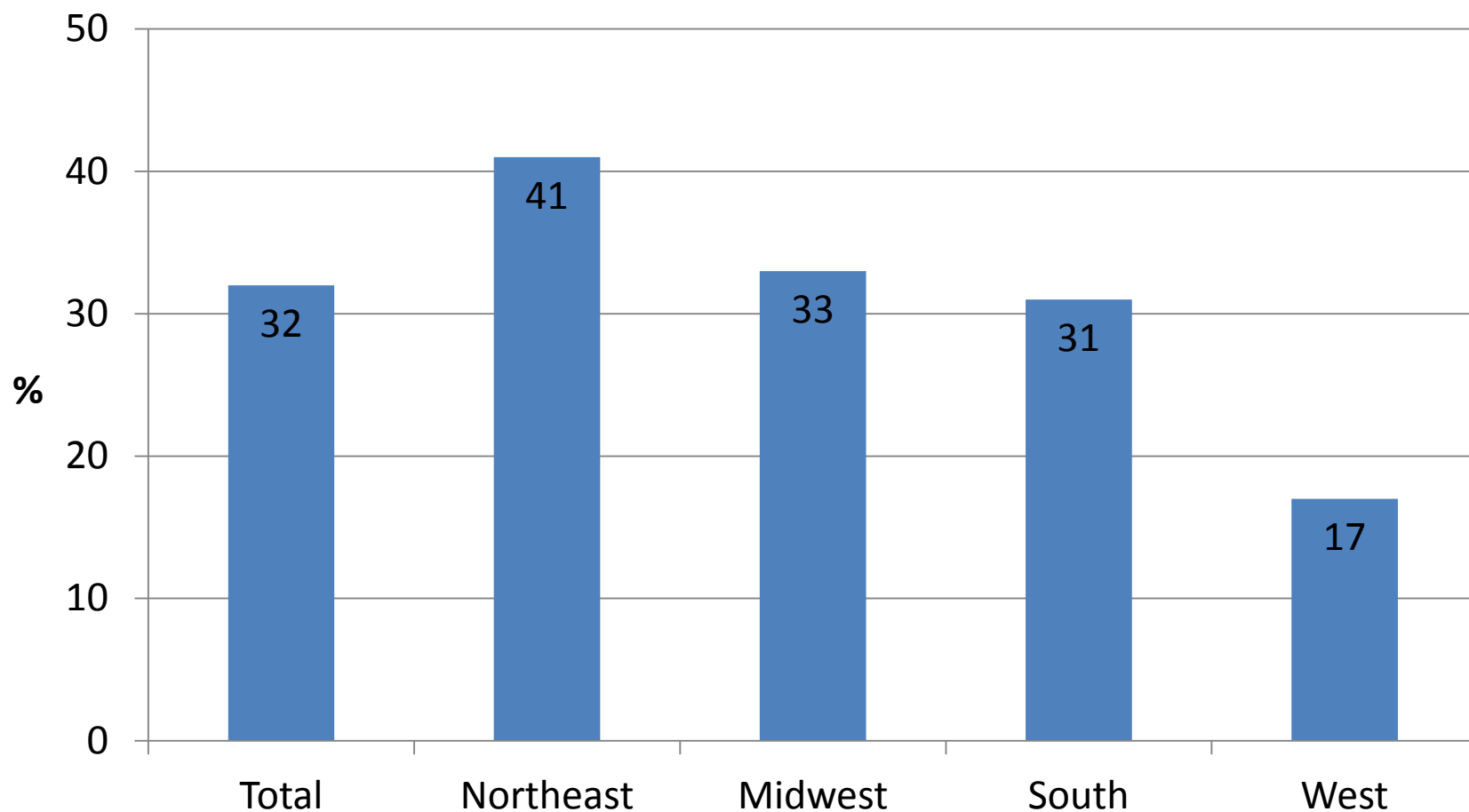
Donated to Jewish cause in past year



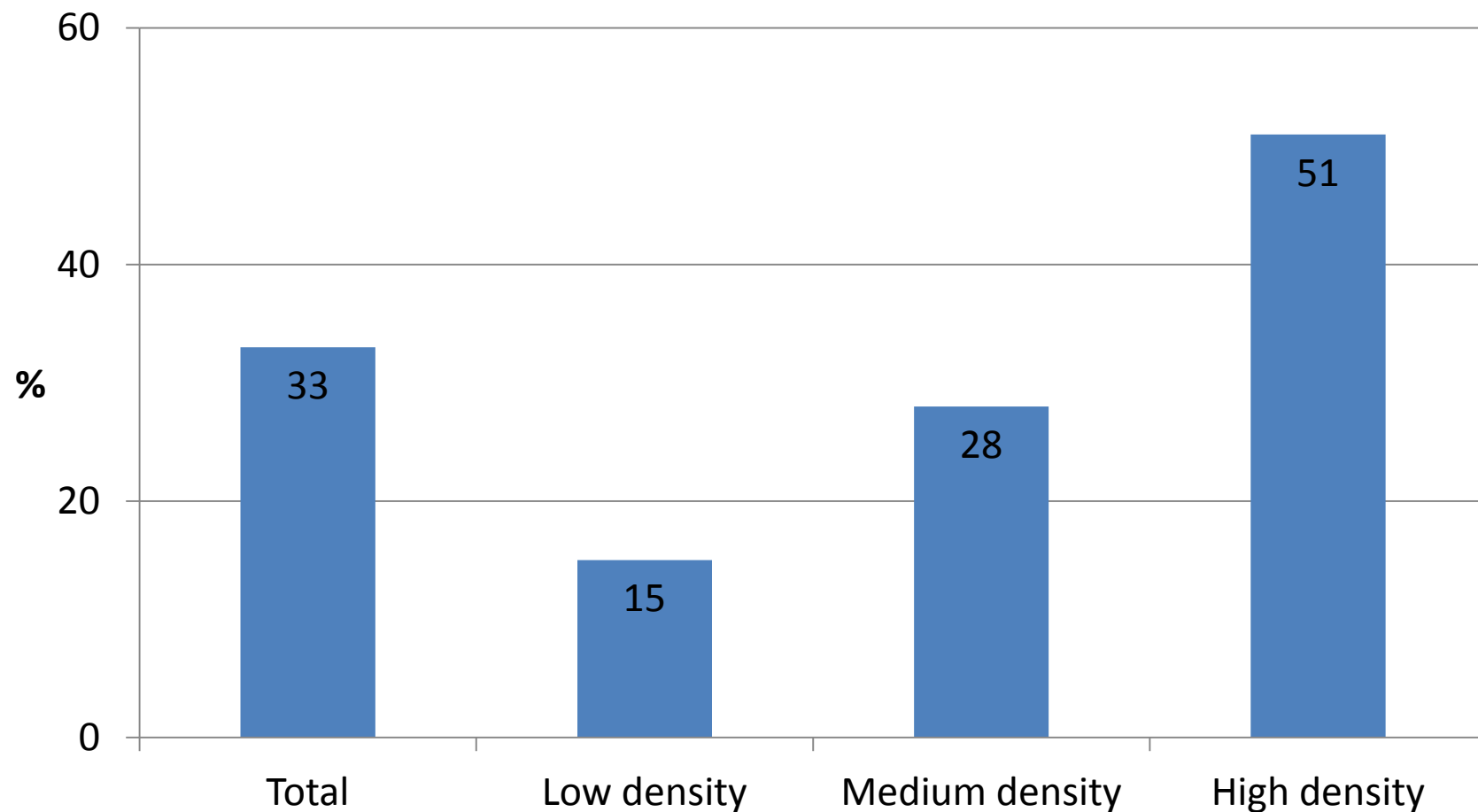
All/most close friends are Jewish



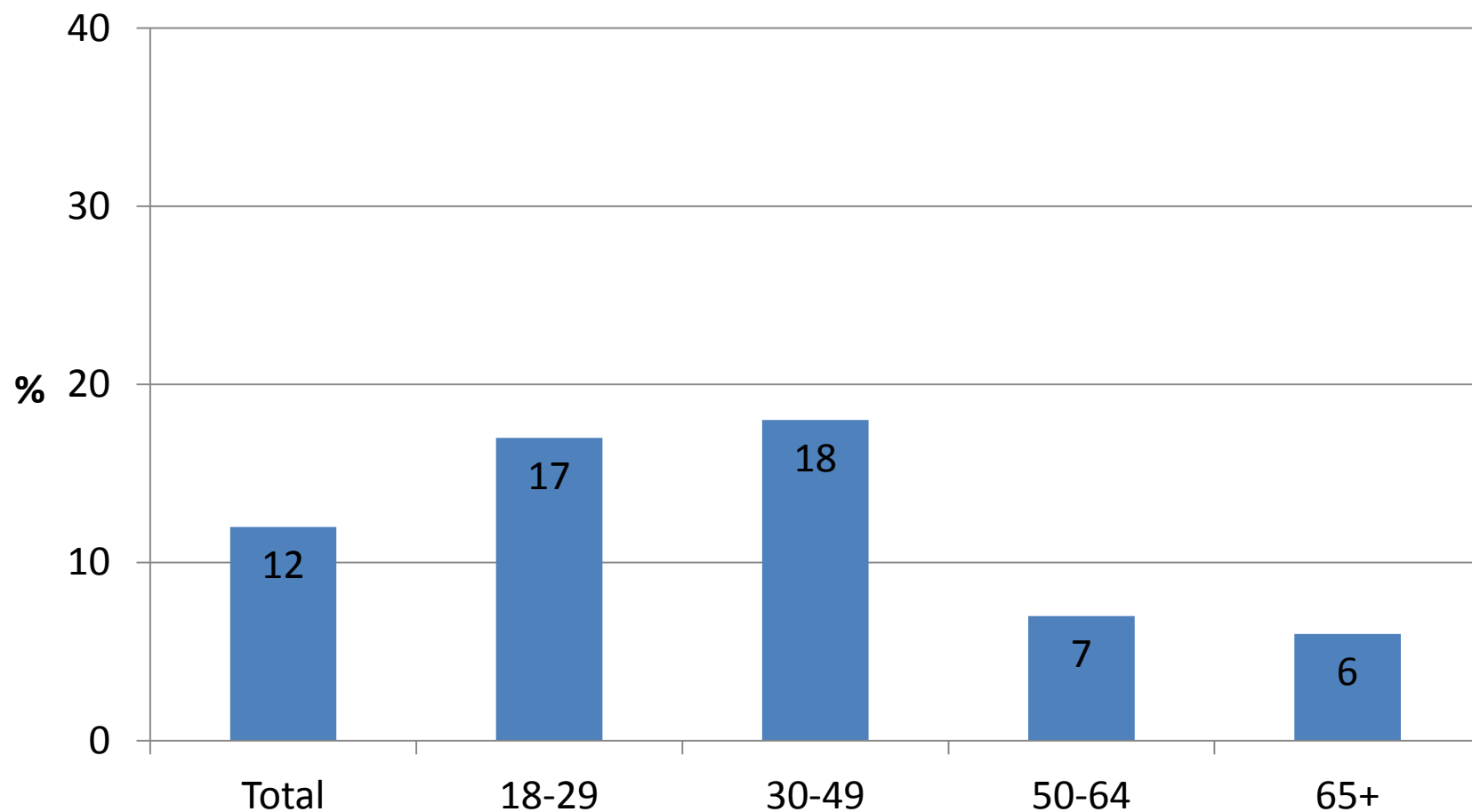
All/most close friends are Jewish



All/most close friends are Jewish



Can have conversation in Hebrew



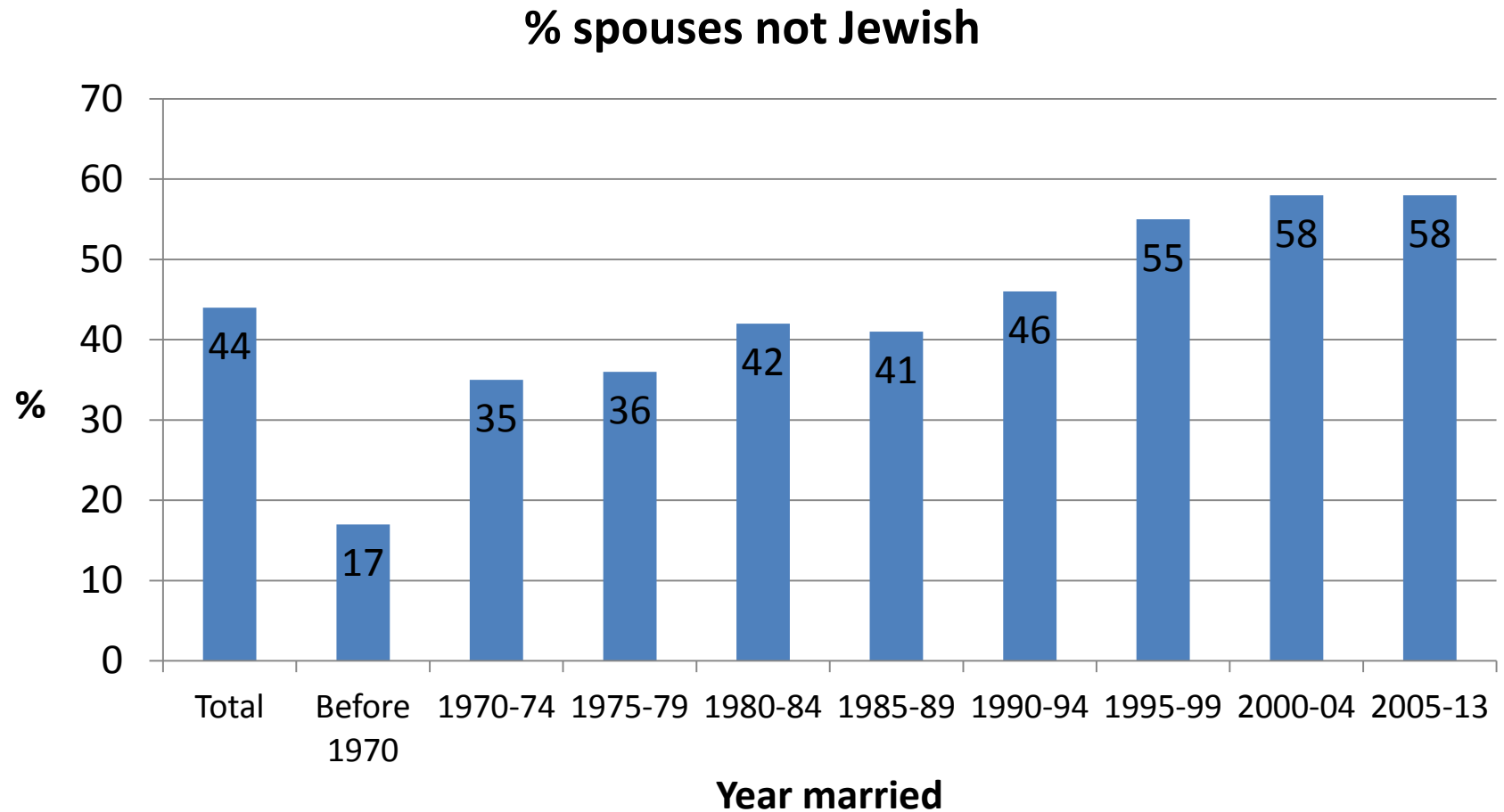
Intermarriage

(current marriages)

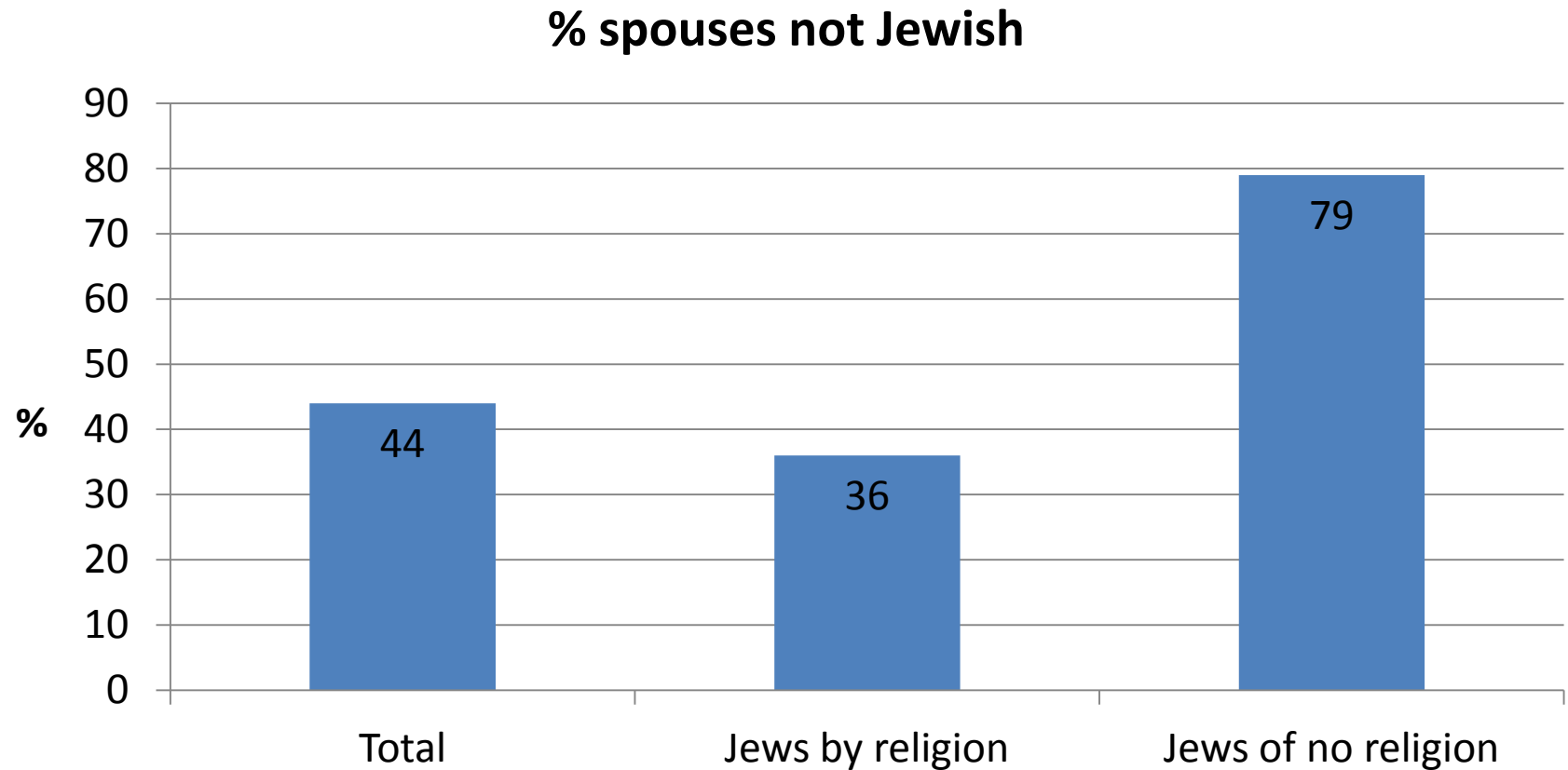
- Intermarriage by:
 - Year marriage started
 - JBR/JNR
 - Denomination
 - Density



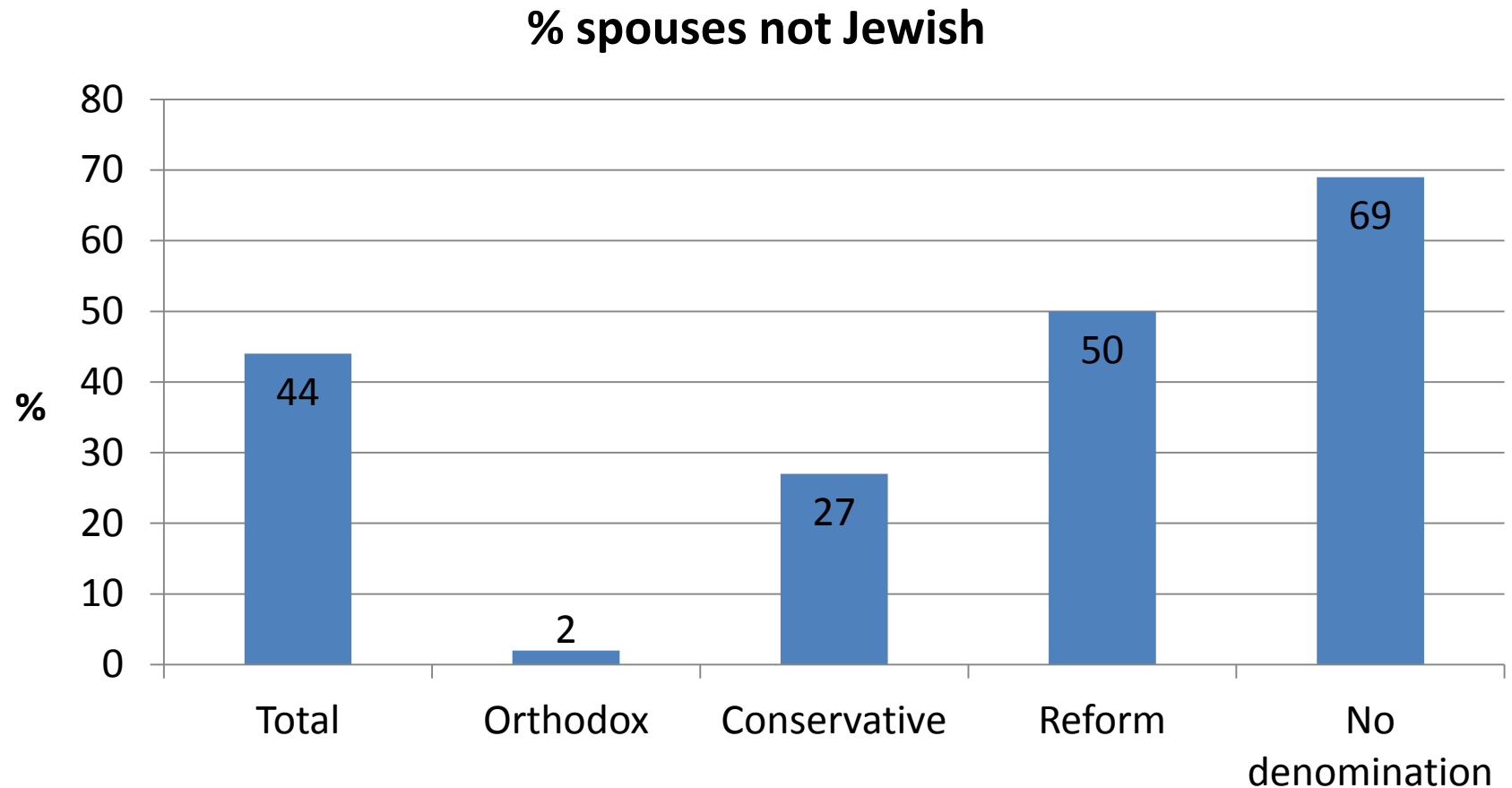
Intermarriage (current marriages)



Intermarriage by JBR/JNR (current marriages)

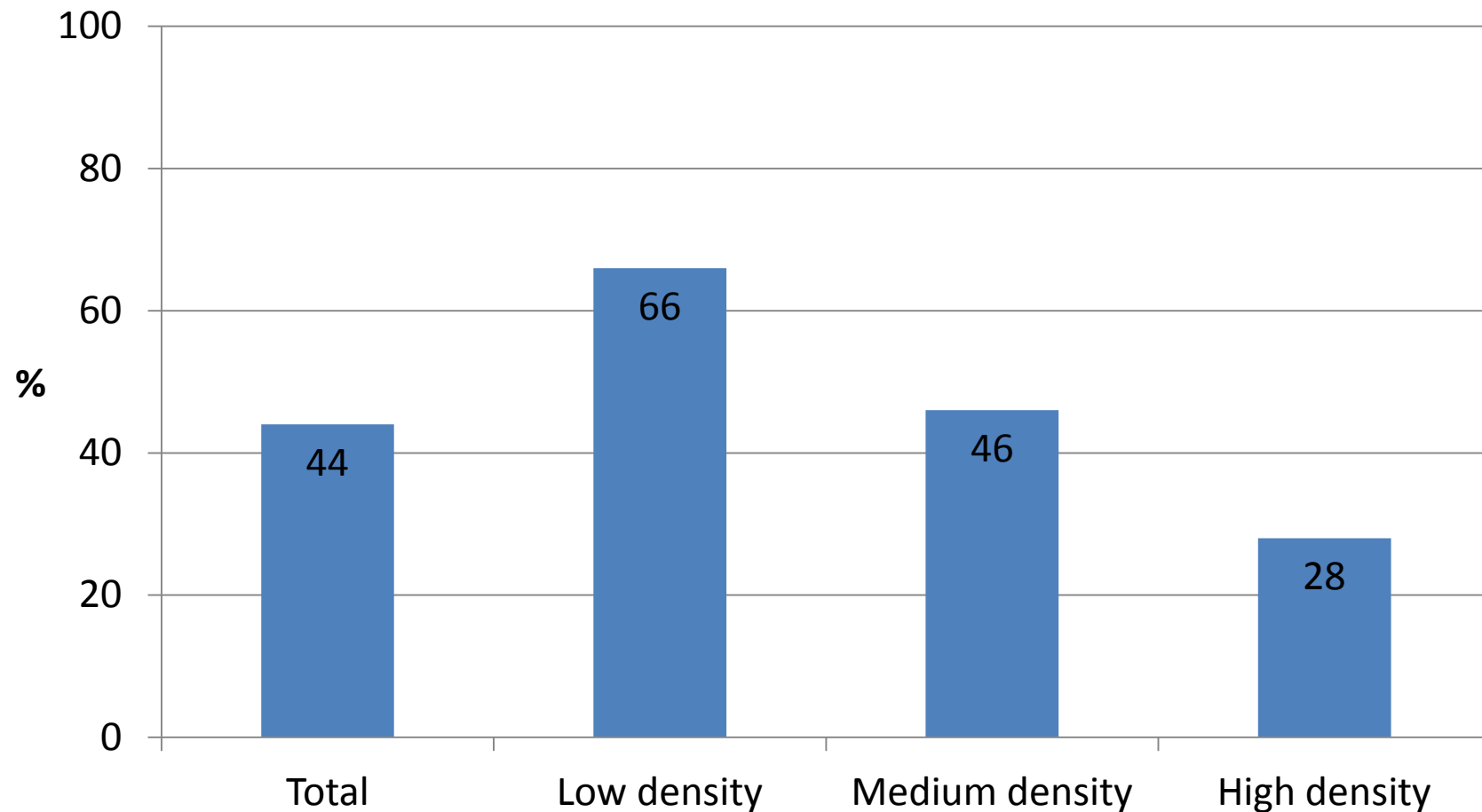


Intermarriage by denomination (current marriages)



Intermarriage by density

(current marriages)



Raising children Jewish

- Raising children Jewish by:
 - JBR/JNR
 - Denomination
 - Inter-marriage



Raising children Jewish

(adults with minor children at home)

	Total Jews	Jews by religion	Jews of no religion
Exclusively Jewish by religion	59%	71%	8%
Partly Jewish by religion	14	15	11
Jewish aside from religion	8	7	11
Not Jewish in any way	18	7	67
Other	1	0	2
Total	100	100	99



Raising children Jewish

(adults with minor children at home)

	Total Jews	Orthodox	Conservative	Reform	No denomination
Exclusively Jewish by religion	59%	97%	88%	60%	19%
Partly Jewish by religion	14	1	4	20	17
Jewish aside from religion	8	-	1	9	16
Not Jewish in any way	18	2	7	10	47
Other	1	0	1	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100



Raising children Jewish

(adults with minor children at home)

	Total Jews	In-married	Intermarried
Exclusively Jewish by religion	59%	96%	20%
Partly Jewish by religion	14	2	25
Jewish aside from religion	8	1	16
Not Jewish in any way	18	1	37
Other	1	0	1
Total	100	100	99



Providing Jewish education for children

- Providing Jewish education for children by:
 - JBR/JNR
 - Denomination
 - Inter-marriage
 - Income



Providing Jewish education for children (adults with minor children at home)

	Total Jews	Jews by religion	Jews of no religion
Yeshiva/day school	25%	30%	3%
Other formal Jewish education program	22	27	3
Other Jewish youth programs (day care, youth groups, summer camp)	35	42	10
At least one of the above	50	59	13



Providing Jewish education for children (adults with minor children at home)

	Total Jews	Orthodox	Conservative	Reform	No denomination
Yeshiva/day school	25%	81%	30%	9%	3%
Other formal Jewish education program	22	16	50	28	7
Other Jewish youth programs (day care, youth groups, summer camp)	35	69	50	33	8
At least one of the above	50	87	77	48	14



Providing Jewish education for children (adults with minor children at home)

	Total Jews	In-married	Intermarried
Yeshiva/day school	25%	47%	5%
Other formal Jewish education program	22	34	13
Other Jewish youth programs (day care, youth groups, summer camp)	35	59	14
At least one of the above	50	82	22



Providing Jewish education for children (adults with minor children at home)

	Total Jews	<\$50,000	\$50-99,999	\$100-149,999	\$150,000+
Yeshiva/day school	25%	37%	22%	23%	20%
Other formal Jewish education program	22	19	17	26	24
Other Jewish youth programs (day care, youth groups, summer camp)	35	34	26	42	36

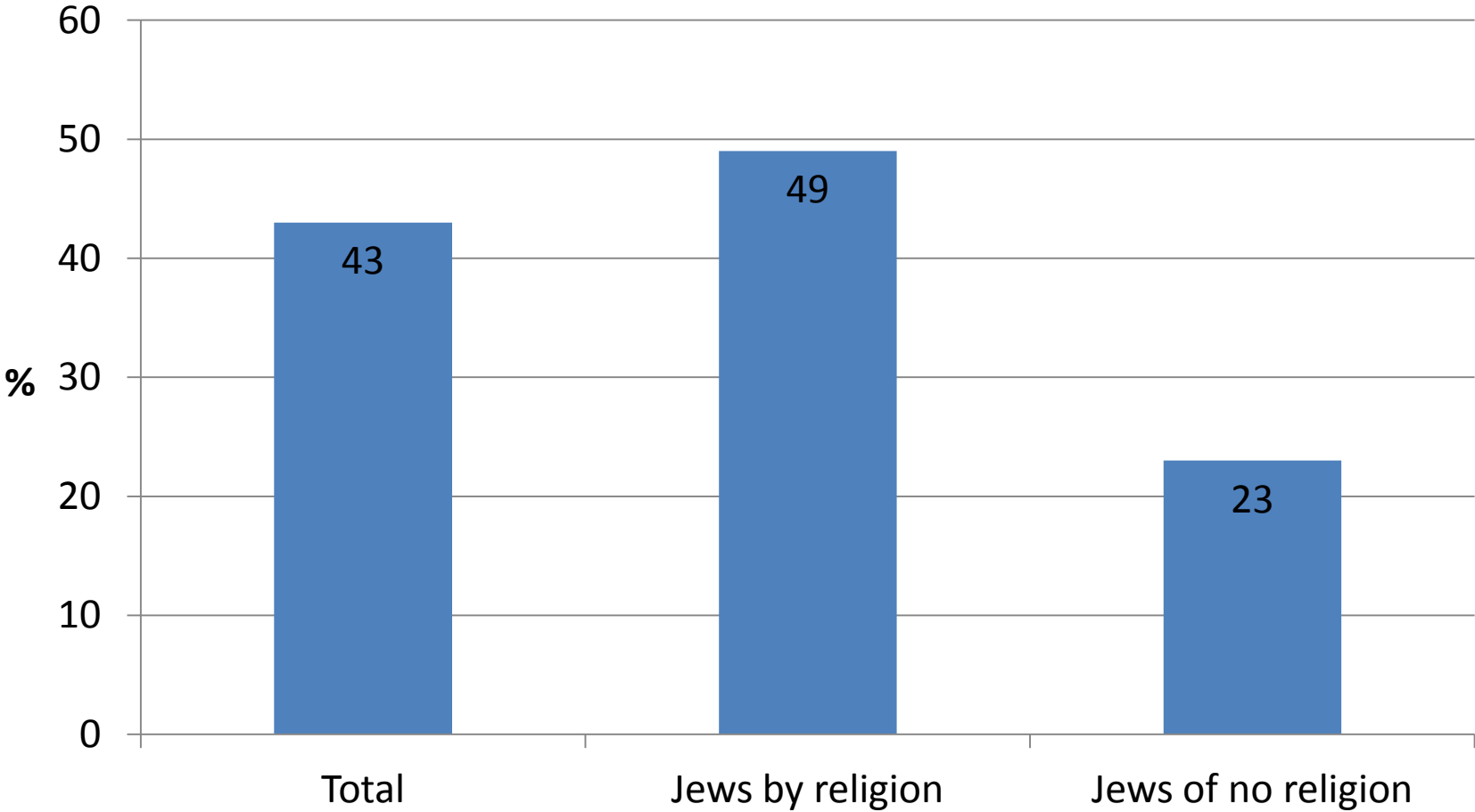


Israel

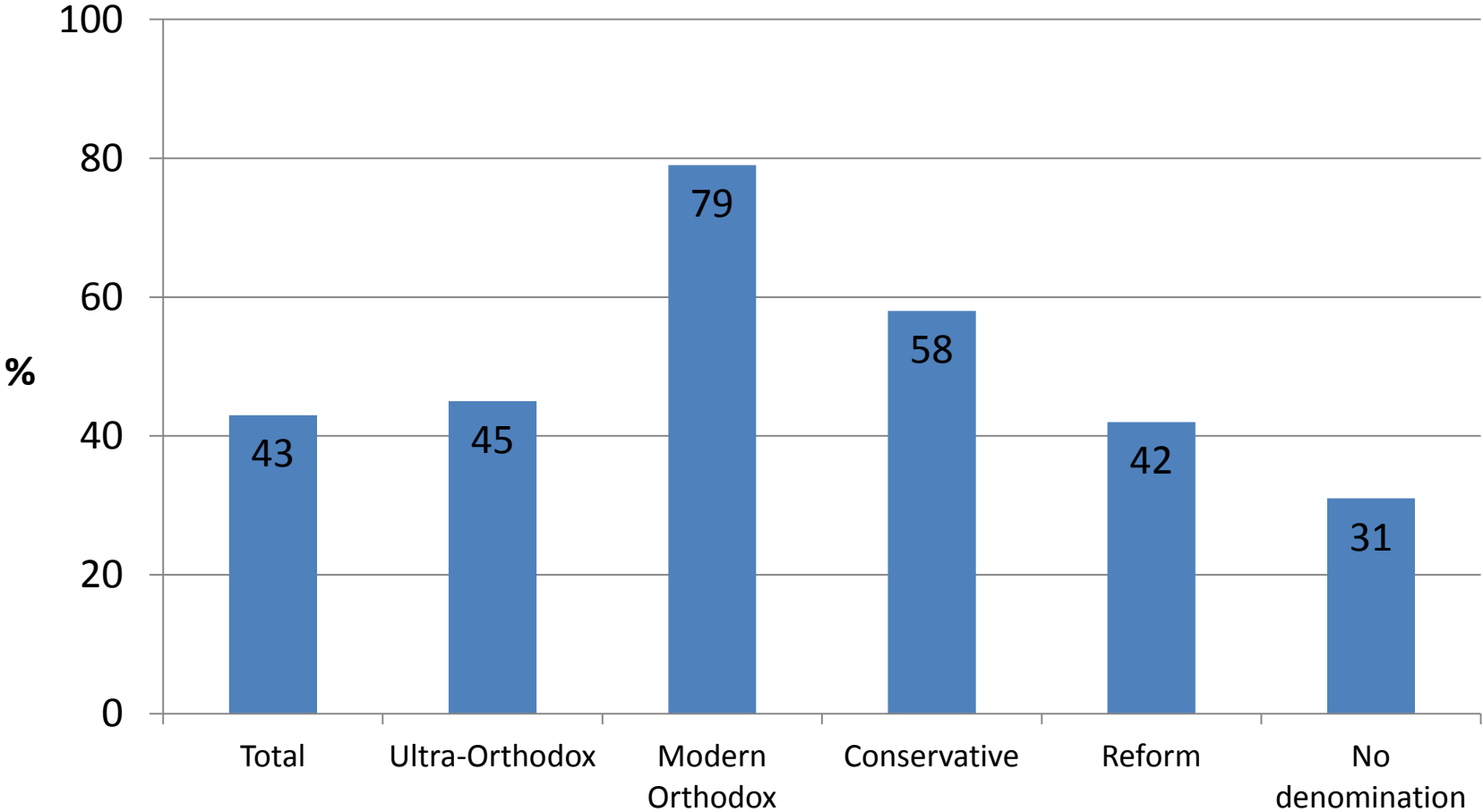
- Caring about Israel is essential to being Jewish
- Emotional attachment to Israel
- Israeli government is making a sincere effort for peace
- Travel to Israel
- U.S. support for Israel
- Connections to Israel



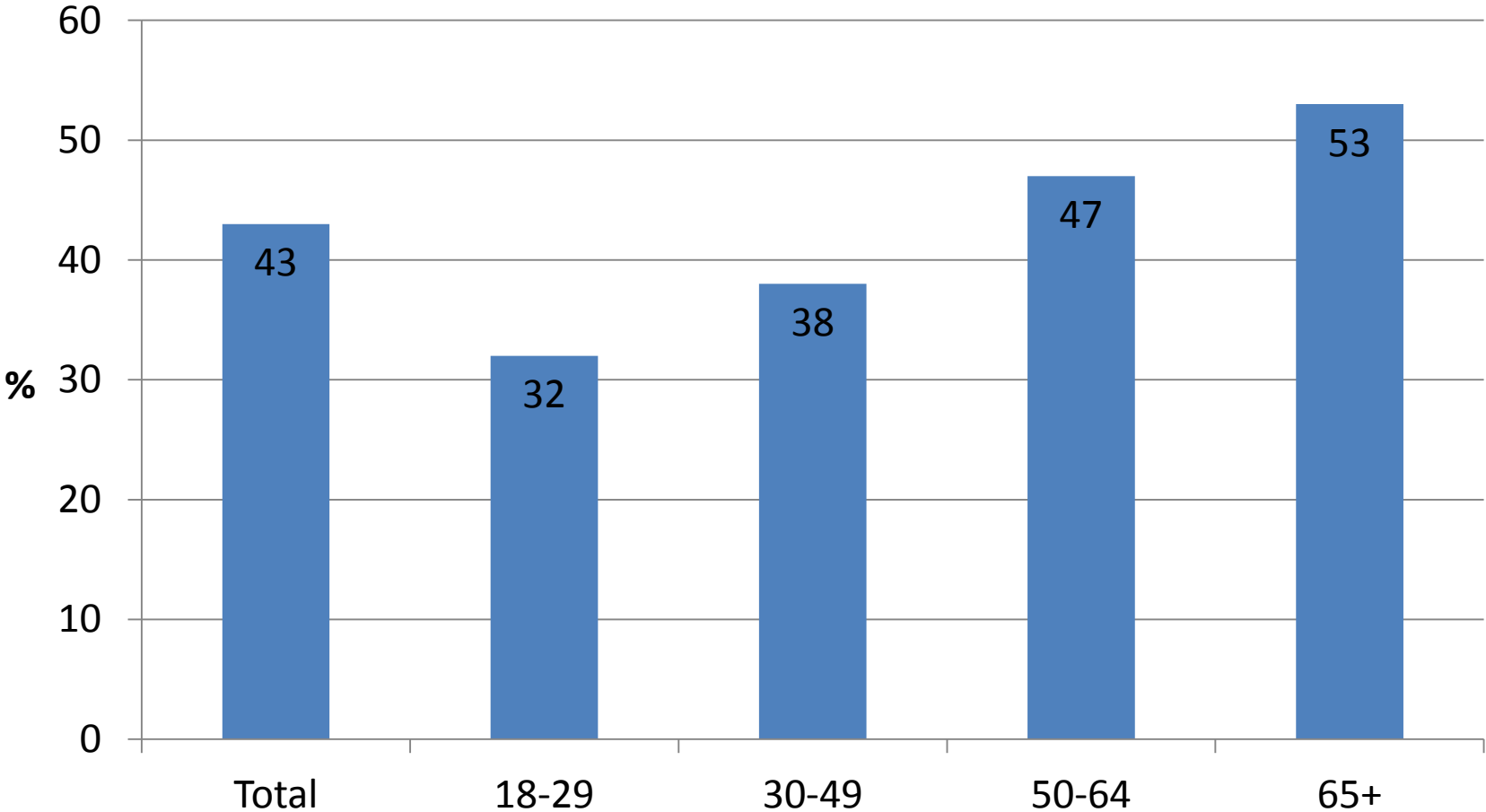
Caring about Israel is essential to being Jewish



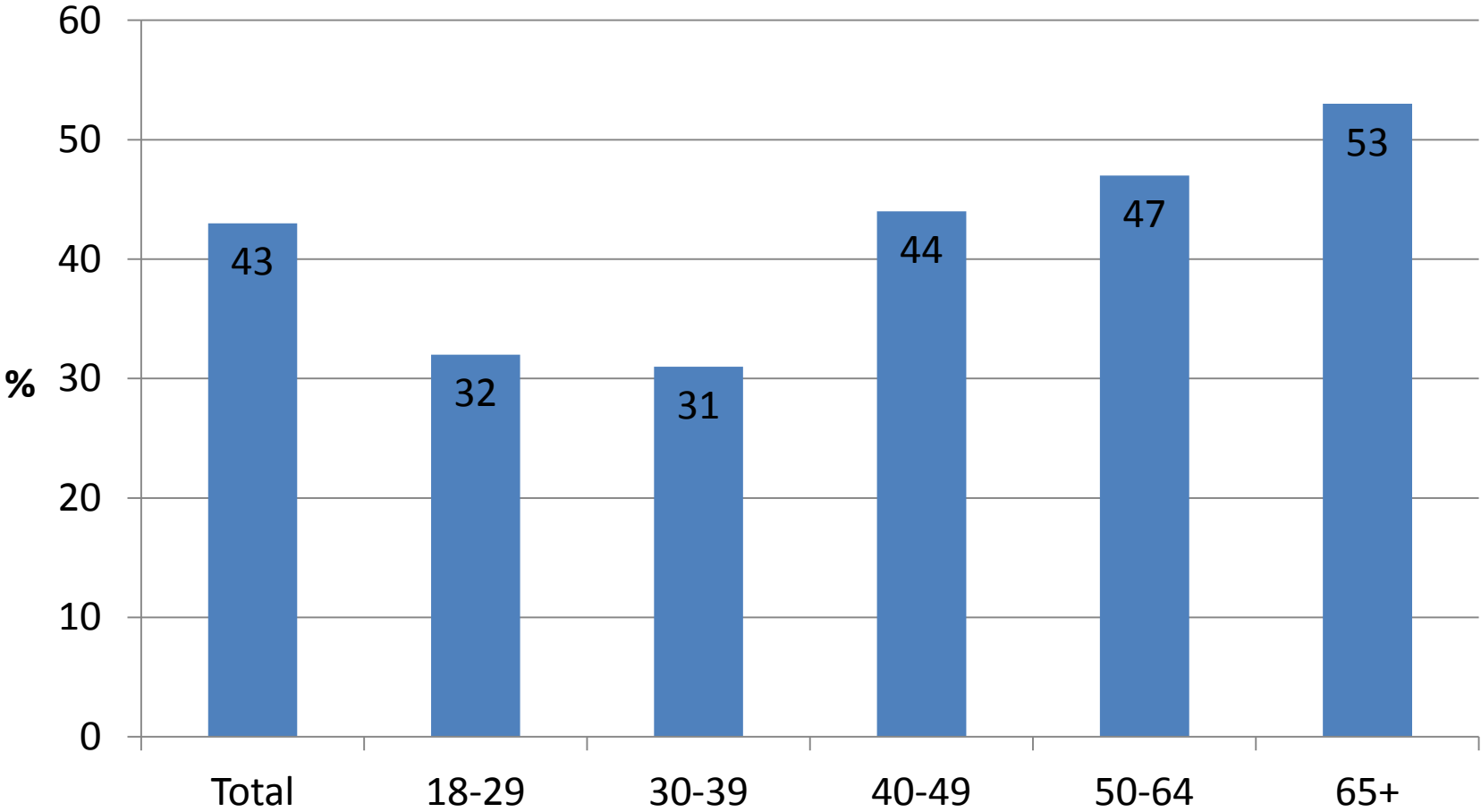
Caring about Israel is essential to being Jewish



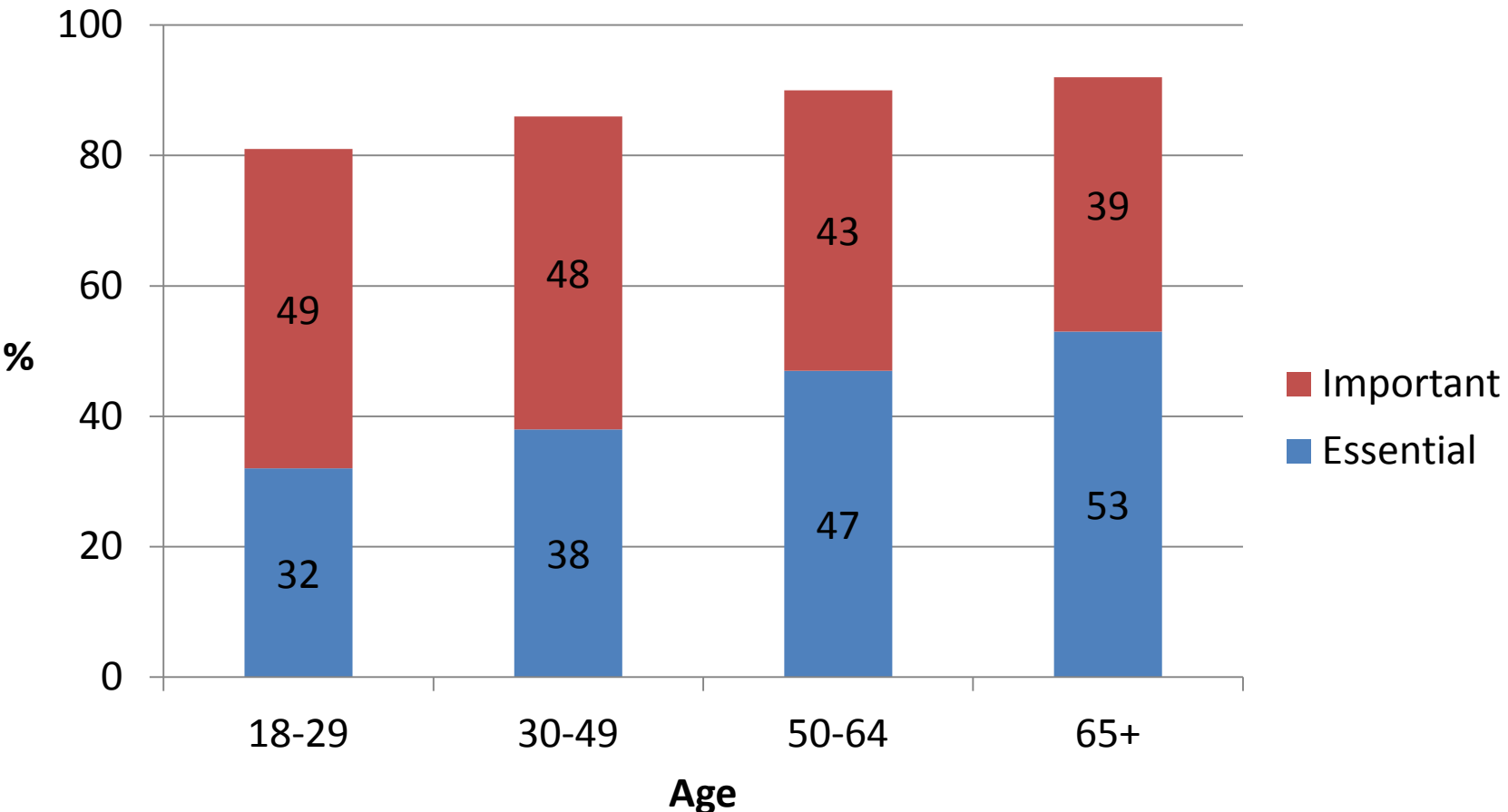
Caring about Israel is essential to being Jewish



Caring about Israel is essential to being Jewish



Caring about Israel

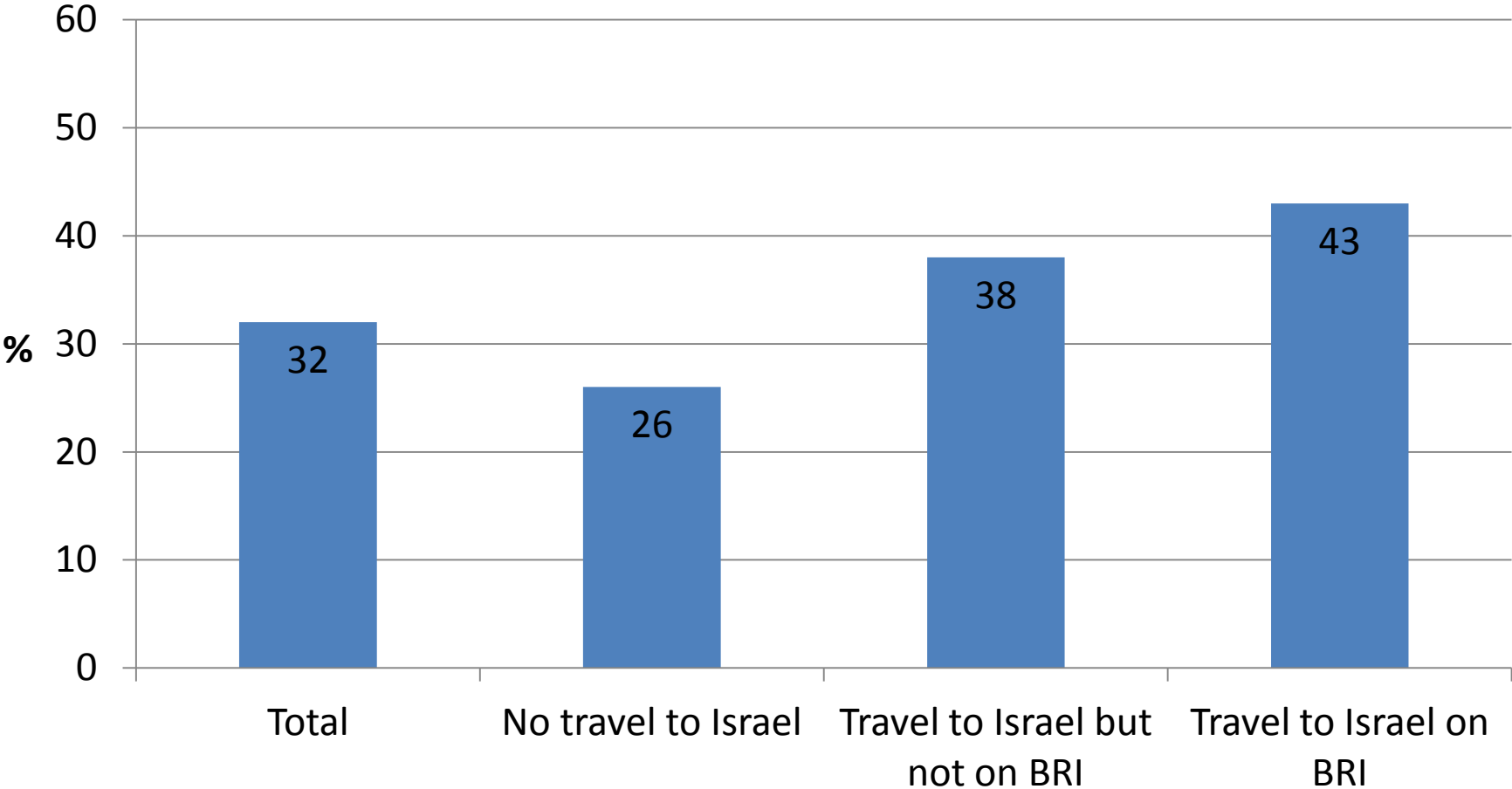


Caring about Israel

	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Essential part of being Jewish	32	38	47	53
Important but not essential	49	48	43	39
Not important part of being Jewish	19	14	10	7
Don't Know	1	1	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100

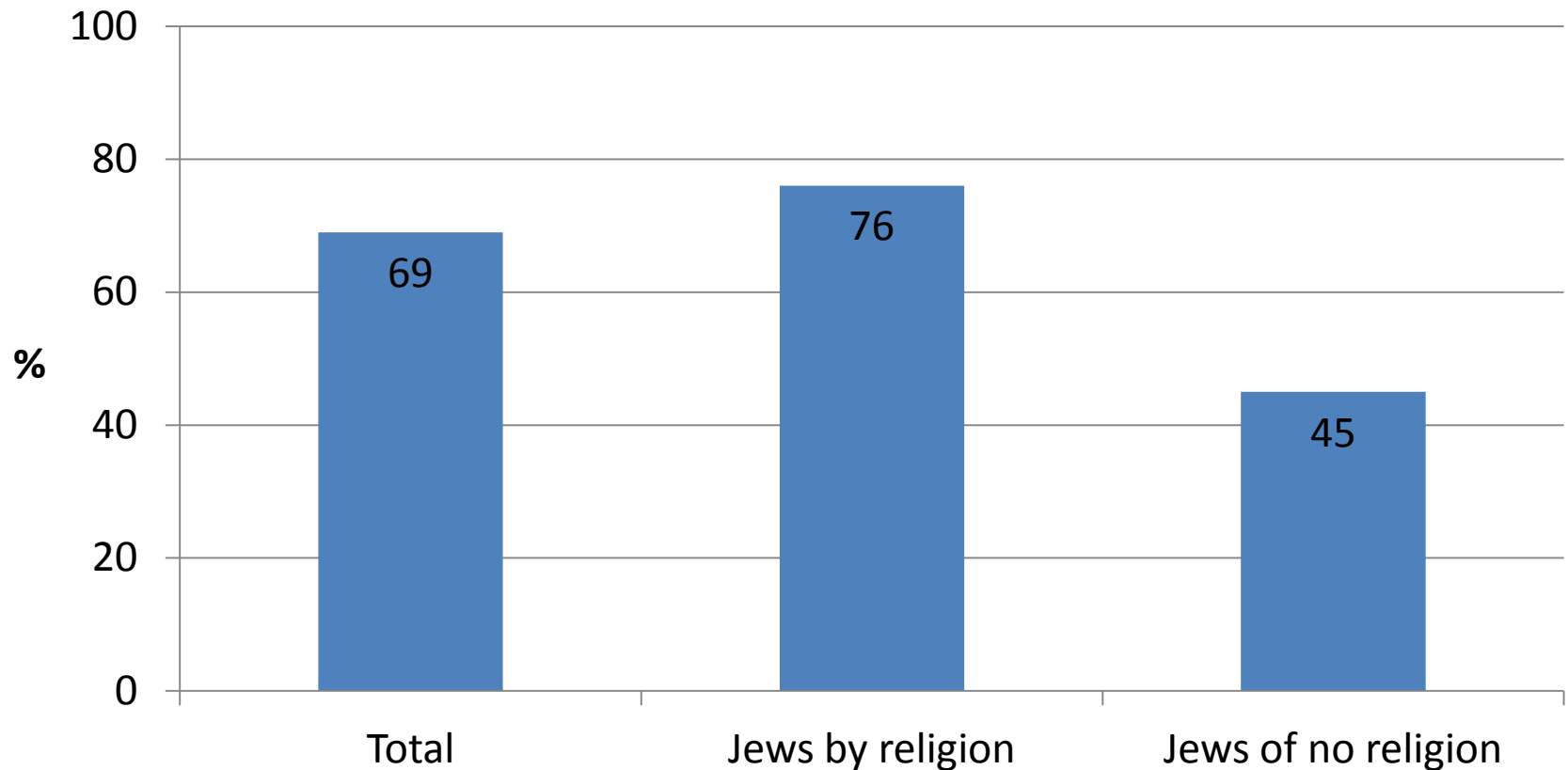


Caring about Israel is essential to being Jewish (18-39 year olds)



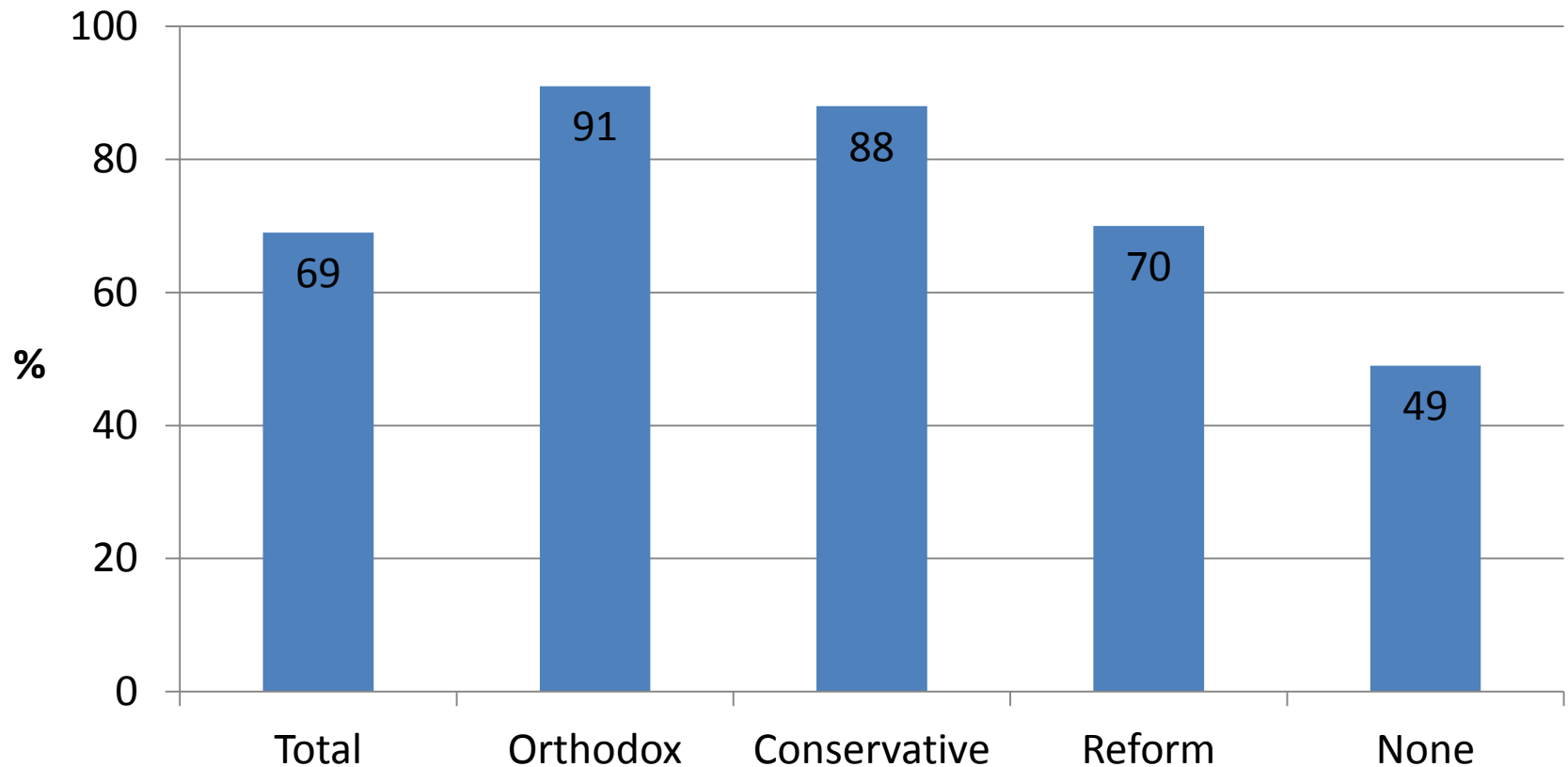
Emotional attachment to Israel

% Strongly or somewhat emotionally attached to Israel



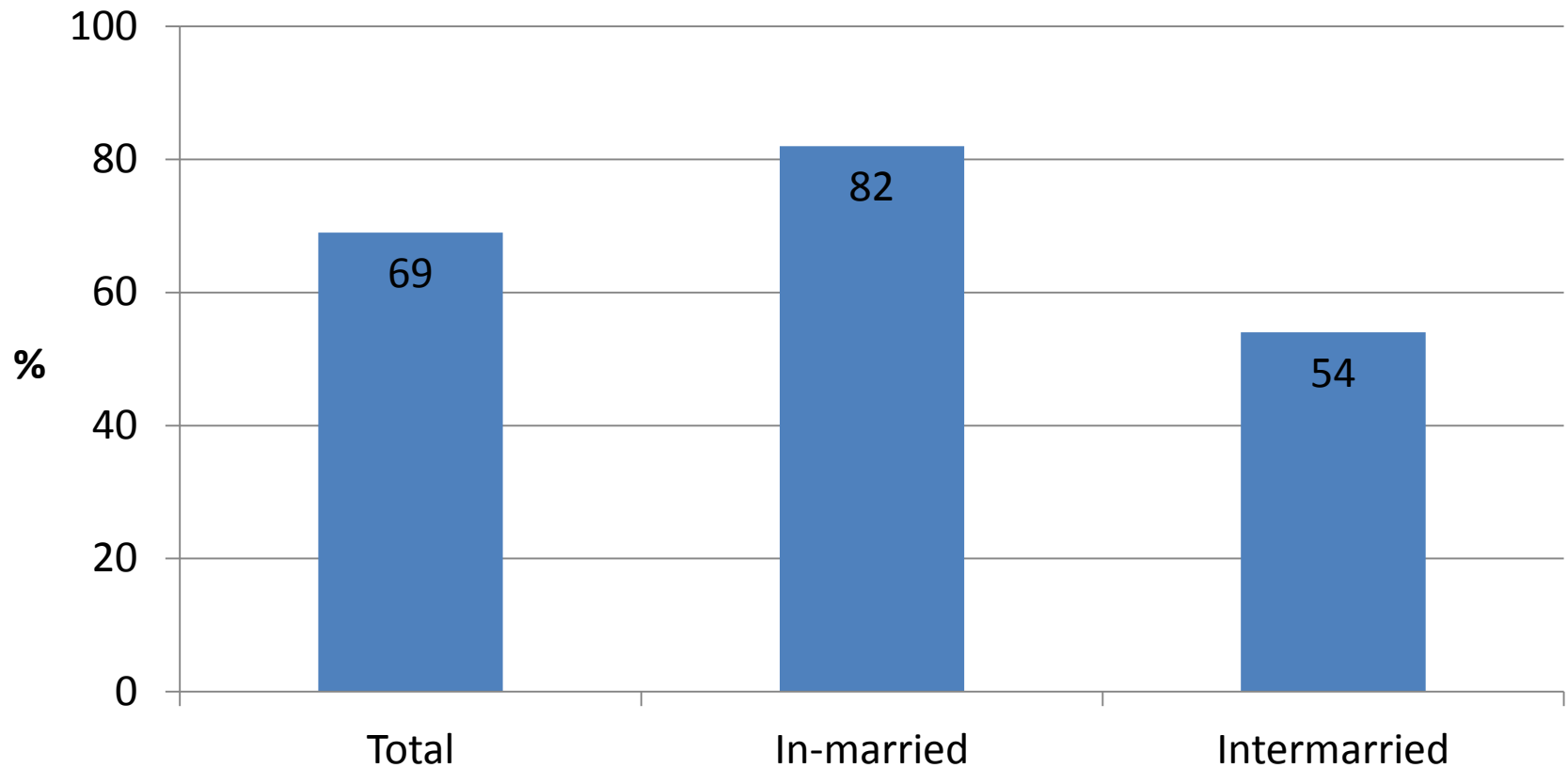
Emotional attachment to Israel

% Strongly or somewhat emotionally attached to Israel



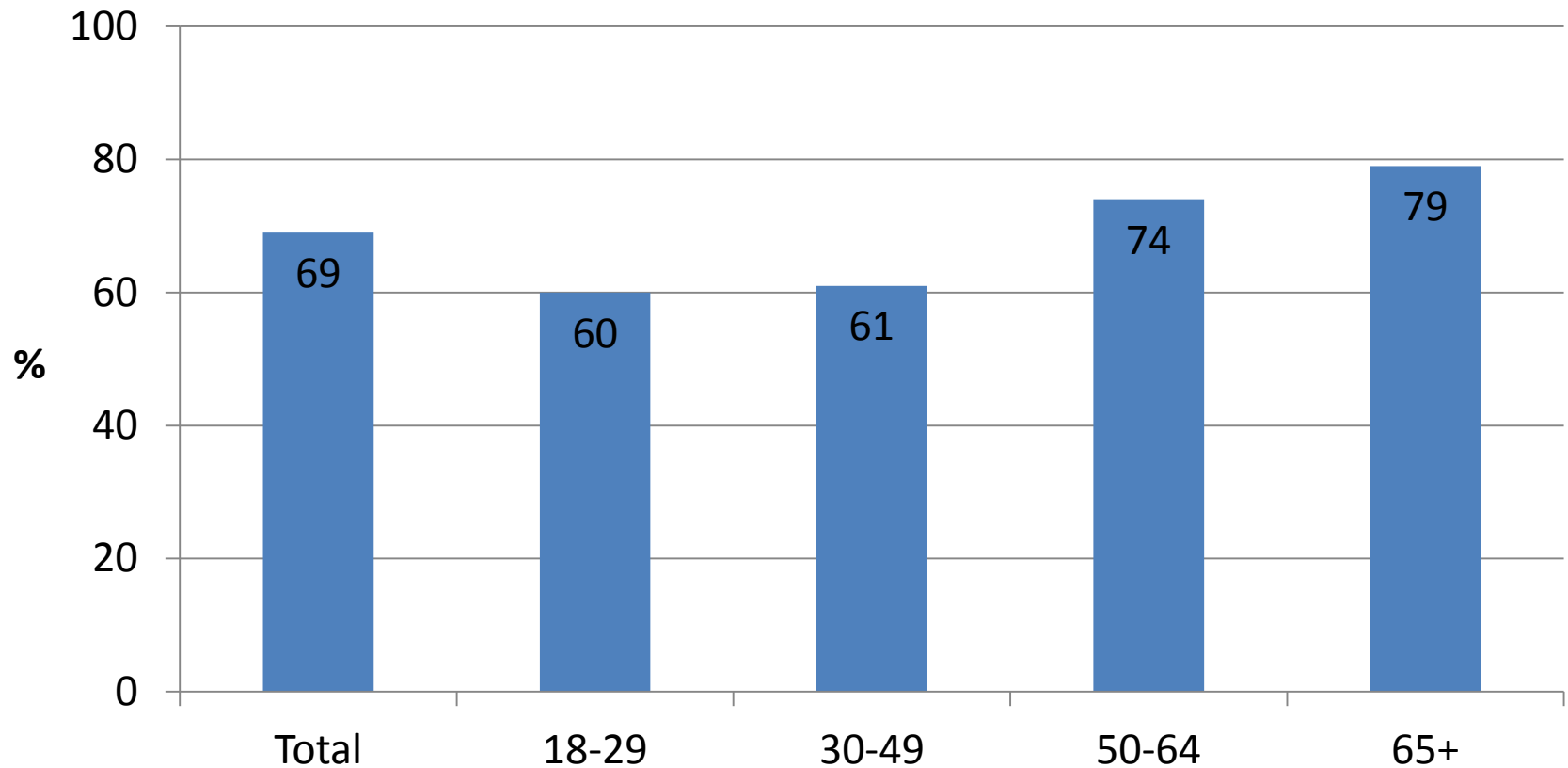
Emotional attachment to Israel

% Strongly or somewhat emotionally attached to Israel



Emotional attachment to Israel

% Strongly or somewhat emotionally attached to Israel

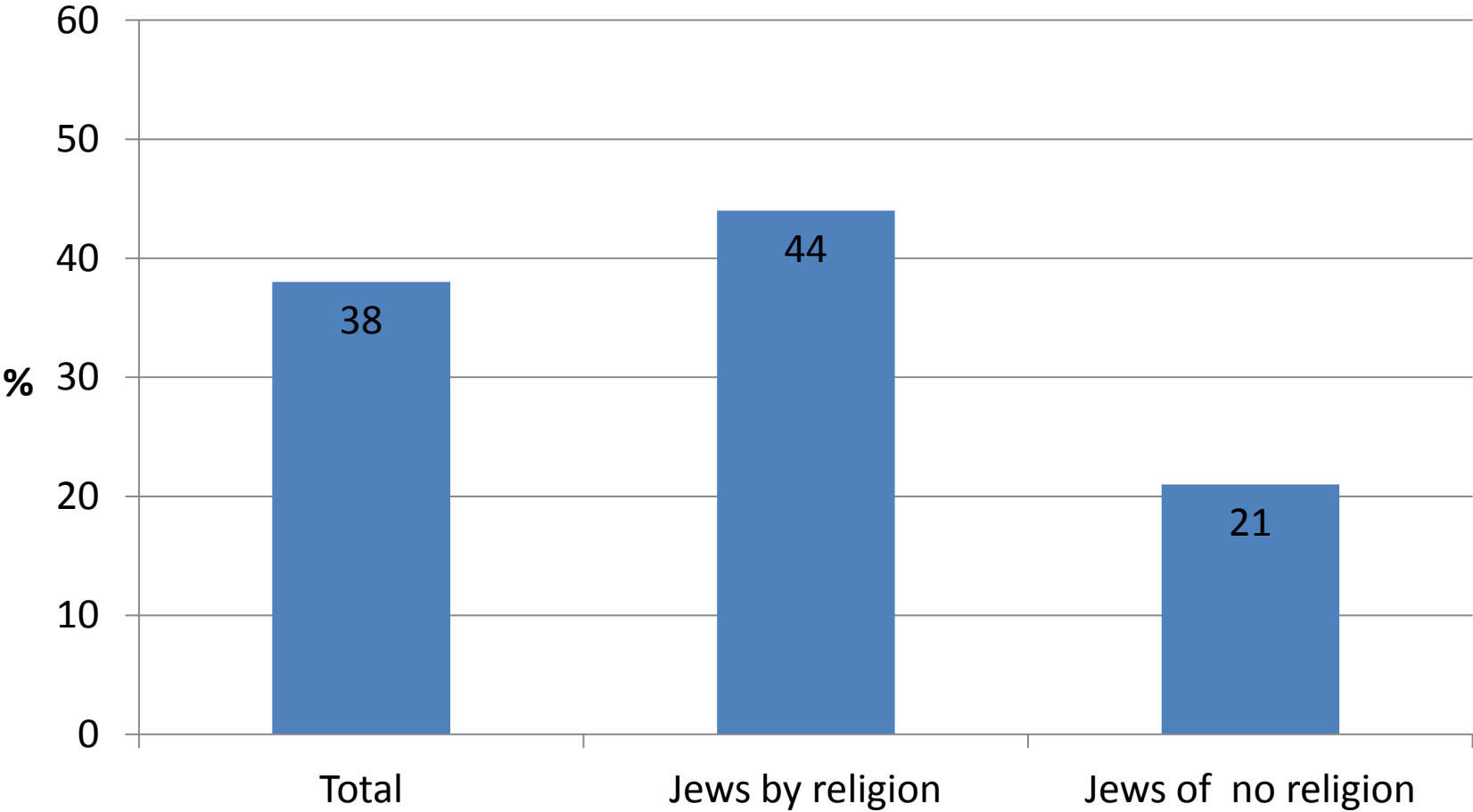


Emotional attachment to Israel

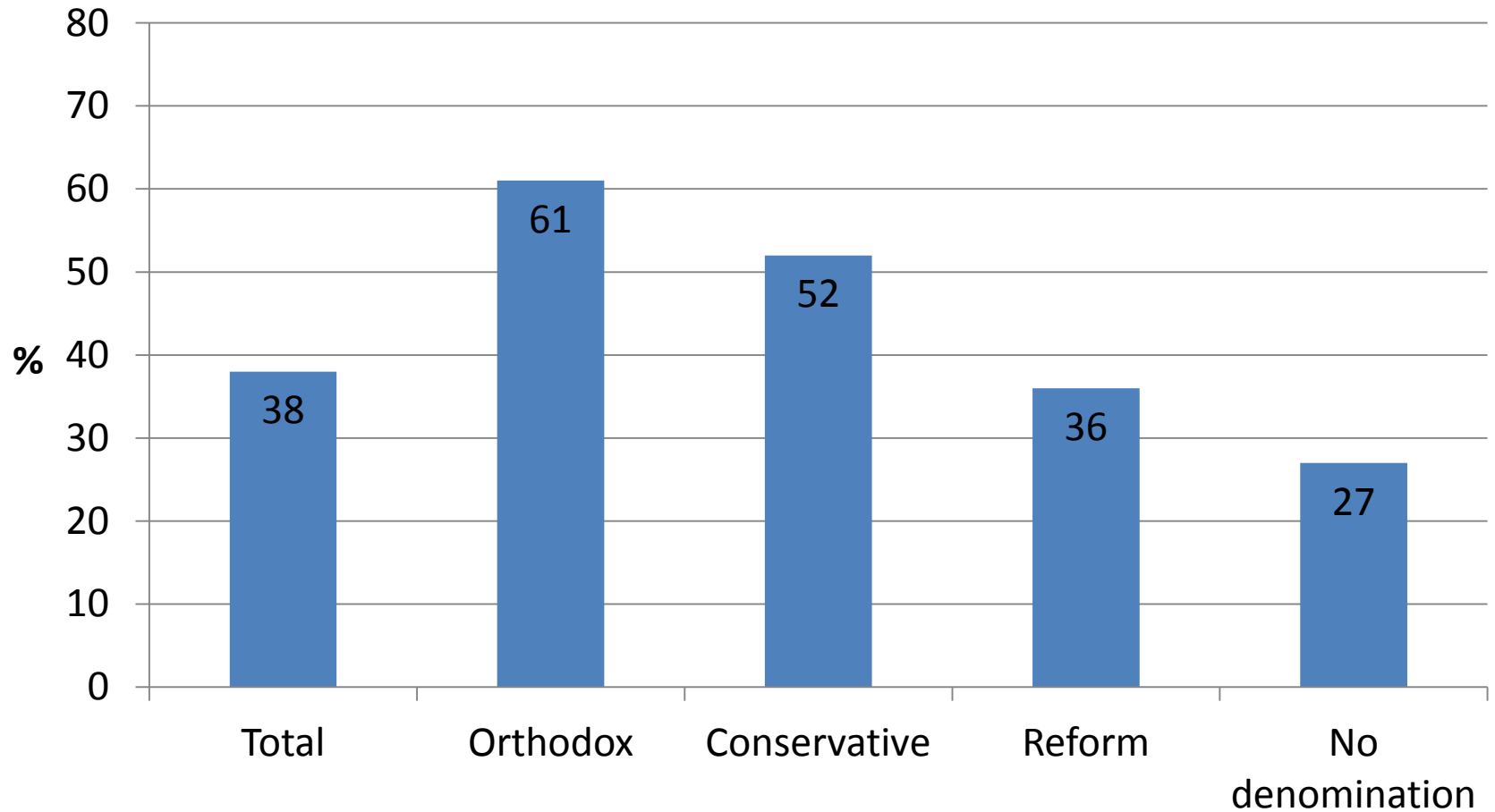
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Very attached	25	25	32	38
Somewhat attached	35	36	42	41
Sub-total “attached”	60	61	74	79
Not very attached	27	29	18	14
Not at all attached	11	10	7	7
Don’t Know	2	0	0	1
Total	100	100	100	100



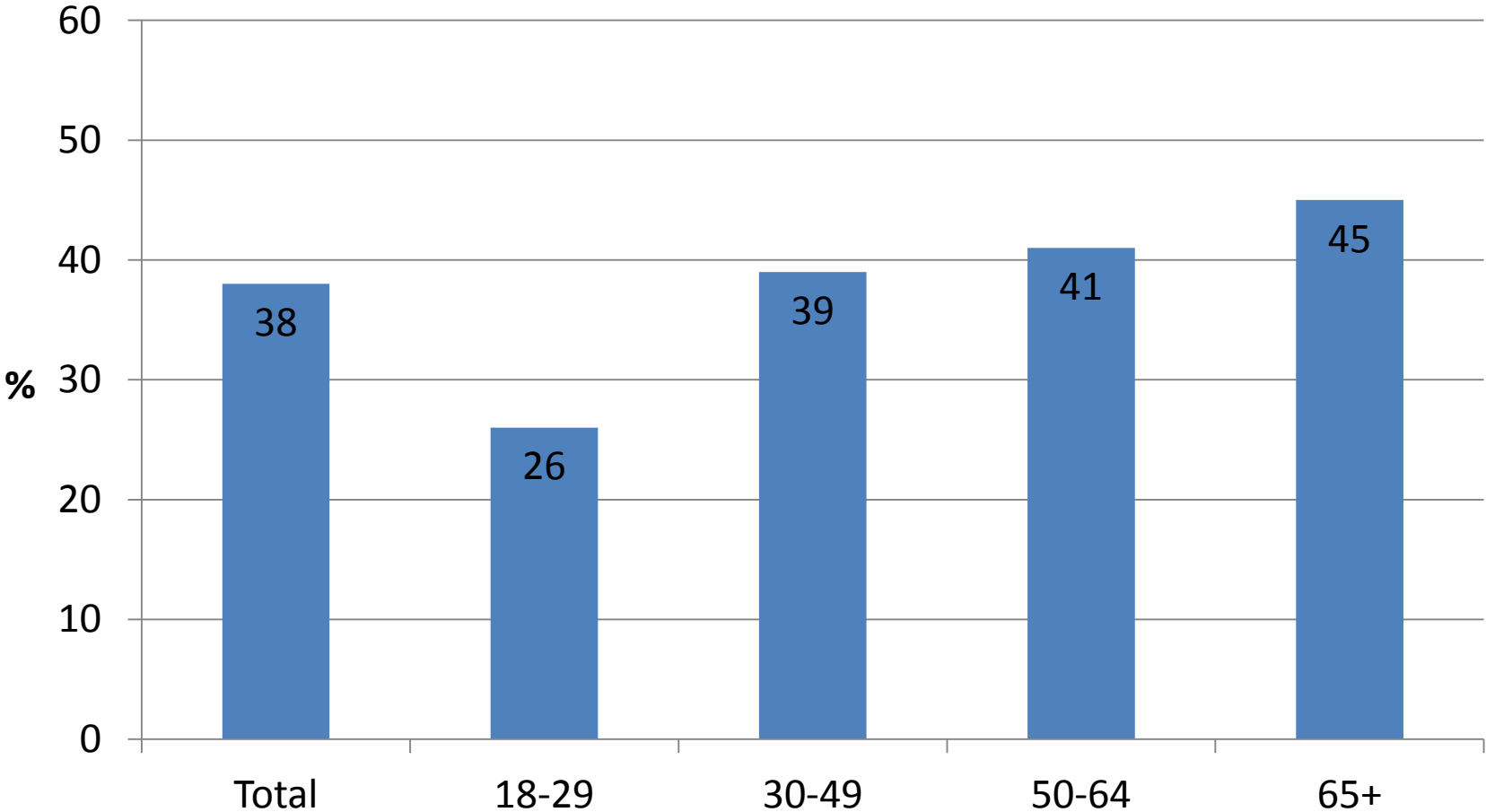
Israeli government is making a sincere effort for peace



Israeli government is making a sincere effort for peace

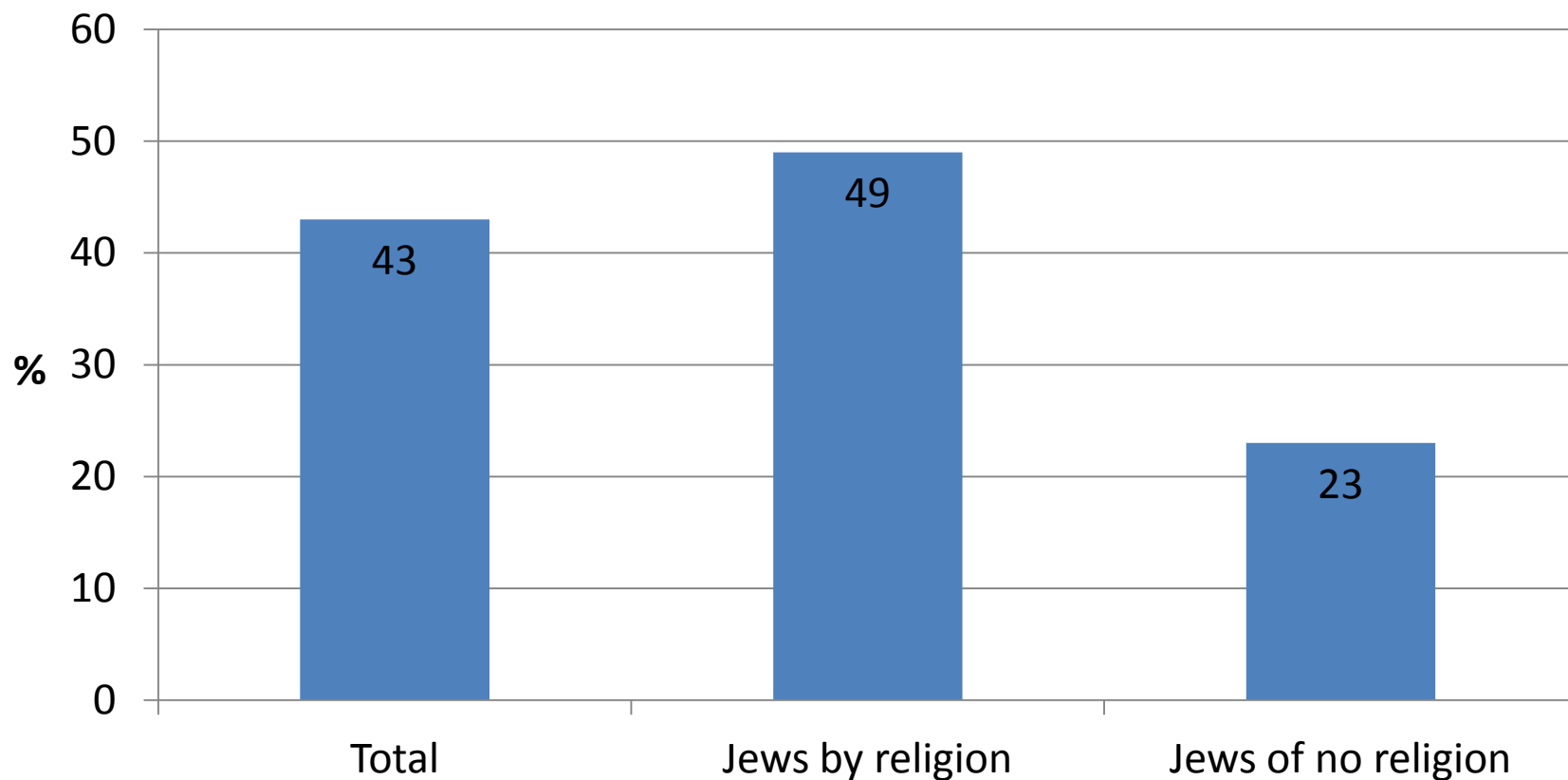


Israeli government is making a sincere effort for peace



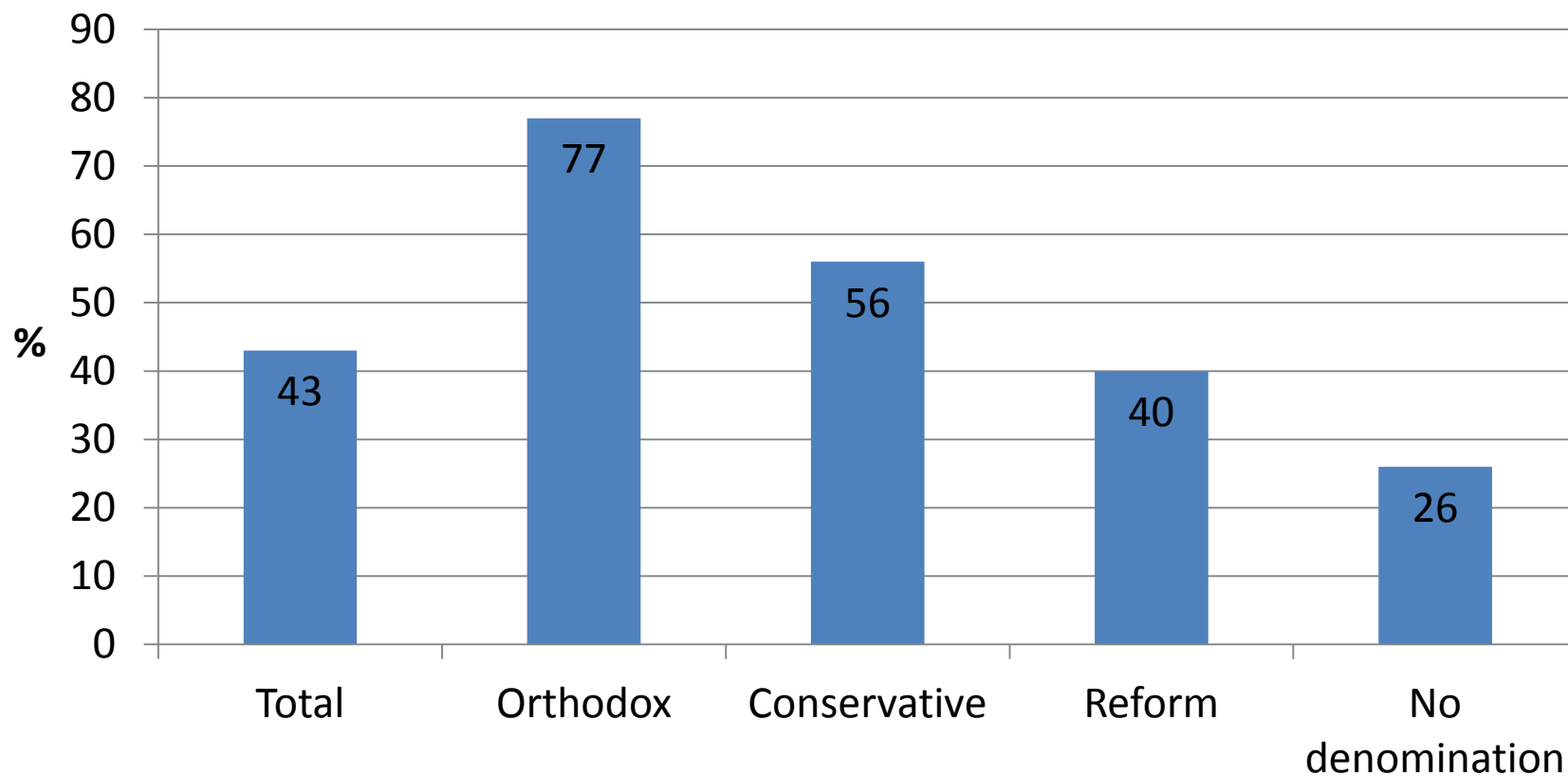
Travel to Israel

% Been to Israel at least once



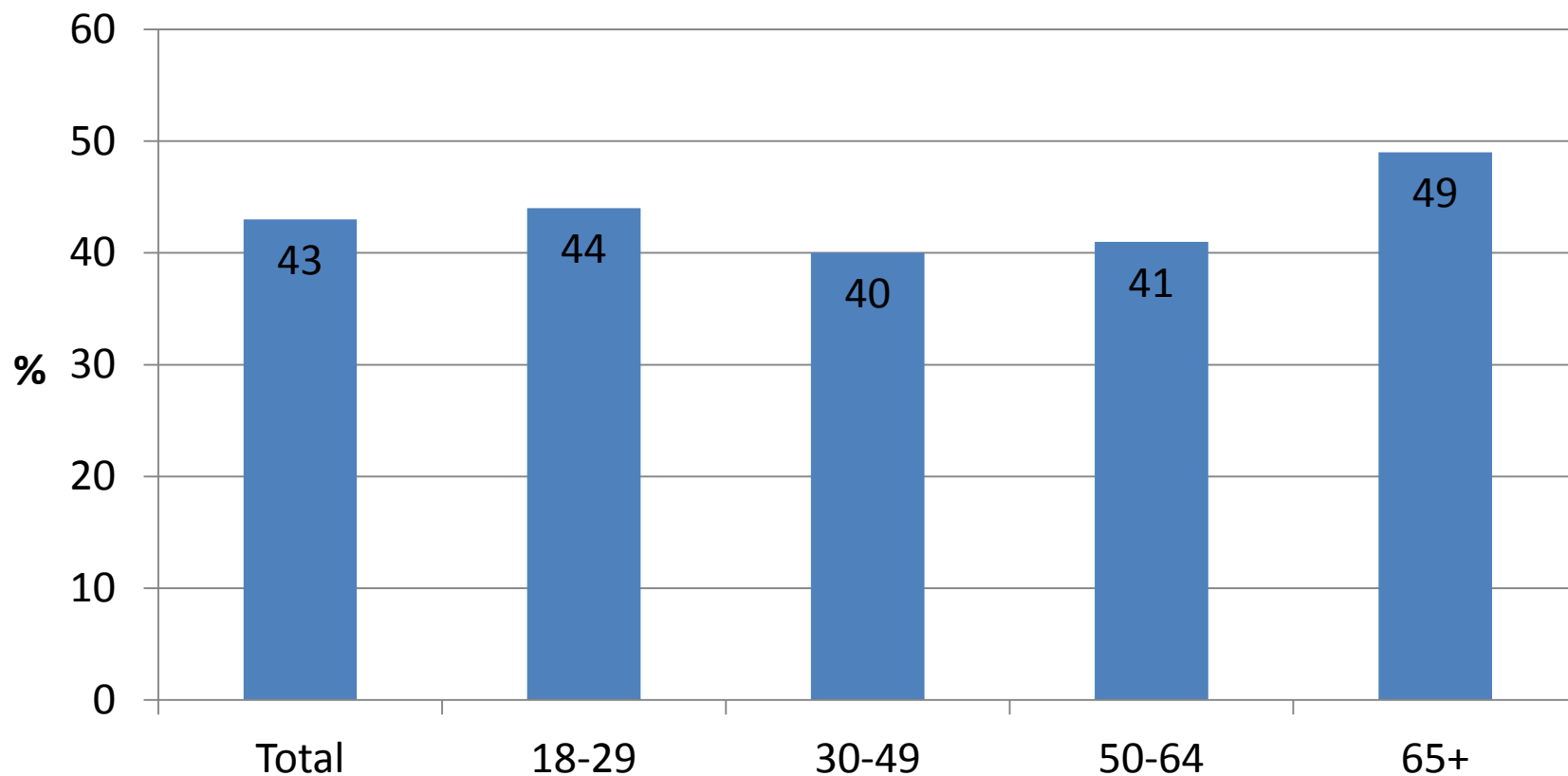
Travel to Israel

% Been to Israel at least once

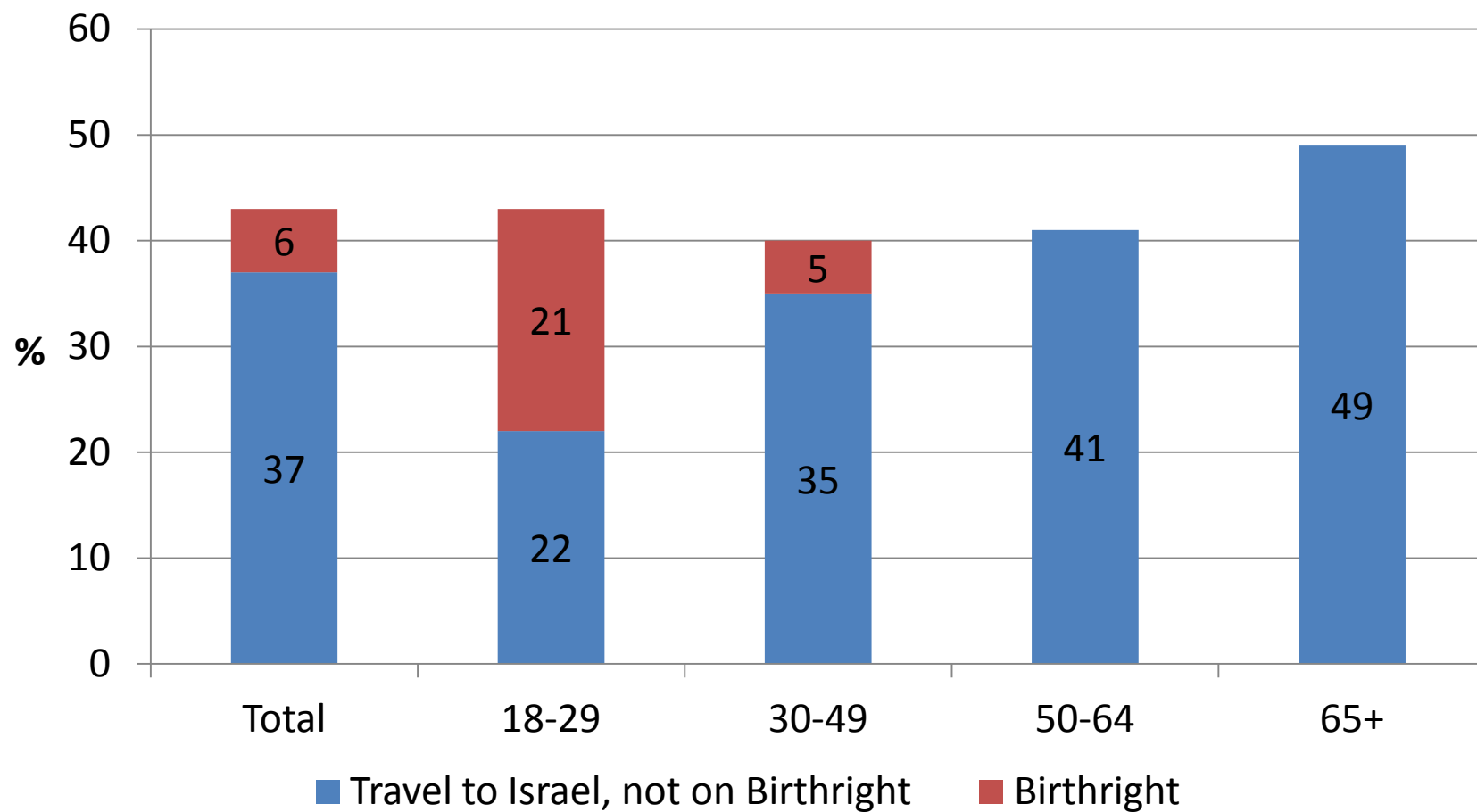


Travel to Israel

% Been to Israel at least once



Travel to Israel



U.S. support for Israel

	Total Jews	Jews by religion	Jews of no religion
Too supportive	11%	7%	27%
About right	54	56	50
Not supportive enough	31	35	17
Don't Know	3	3	6
Total	100	100	100



U.S. support for Israel

	Total Jews	Orthodox	Conservative	Reform	No denomination
Too supportive	11%	2%	3%	11%	20%
About right	54	41	54	57	57
Not supportive enough	31	53	42	30	17
Don't Know	3	3	1	2	6
Total	99	99	100	100	100



U.S. support for Israel

	Total Jews	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Too supportive	11%	25	12	6	5
About right	54	42	56	58	60
Not supportive enough	31	29	28	34	31
Don't Know	3	5	4	2	3
Total	100	100	100	100	100



Connections to Israel

	Total Jews	Low density areas	Medium density areas	High density areas
Travel to Israel	43%	25%	44%	55%
Caring about Israel is essential to being Jewish	43	41	41	46
Very emotionally attached to Israel	30	28	27	36
U.S. policy toward Israel is not supportive enough	32	33	27	37
Approve of the way Obama is handling US policy toward Israel	67	68	69	62



Connections to Israel

	Total Jews	West	Northeast	Midwest	South
Travel to Israel	43%	34%	47%	41%	45%
Very/somewhat emotionally attached to Israel	69	63	69	73	72
Caring about Israel is essential to being Jewish	43	39	42	46	47



Regional Differences

- Map of regions
- Regional differences



Map of regions



Regional differences

- Jews in the South, Midwest and Northeast are very similar to each other on most measures of Jewish connections
- Jews in the West tend to be different than Jews in the other regions

	Total	South	Midwest	Northeast	West
Synagogue member	31%	32%	36%	32%	24%
Other Jewish organization member	18	20	21	20	11
Donation to Jewish cause	56	61	62	60	41



Regional differences

	Total Jews	West	Northeast	Midwest	South
Jews of no religion	23%	31%	17%	31%	21%
No denominational identity	30	42	28	28	23
Intermarried (among all married)	44	60	37	49	44

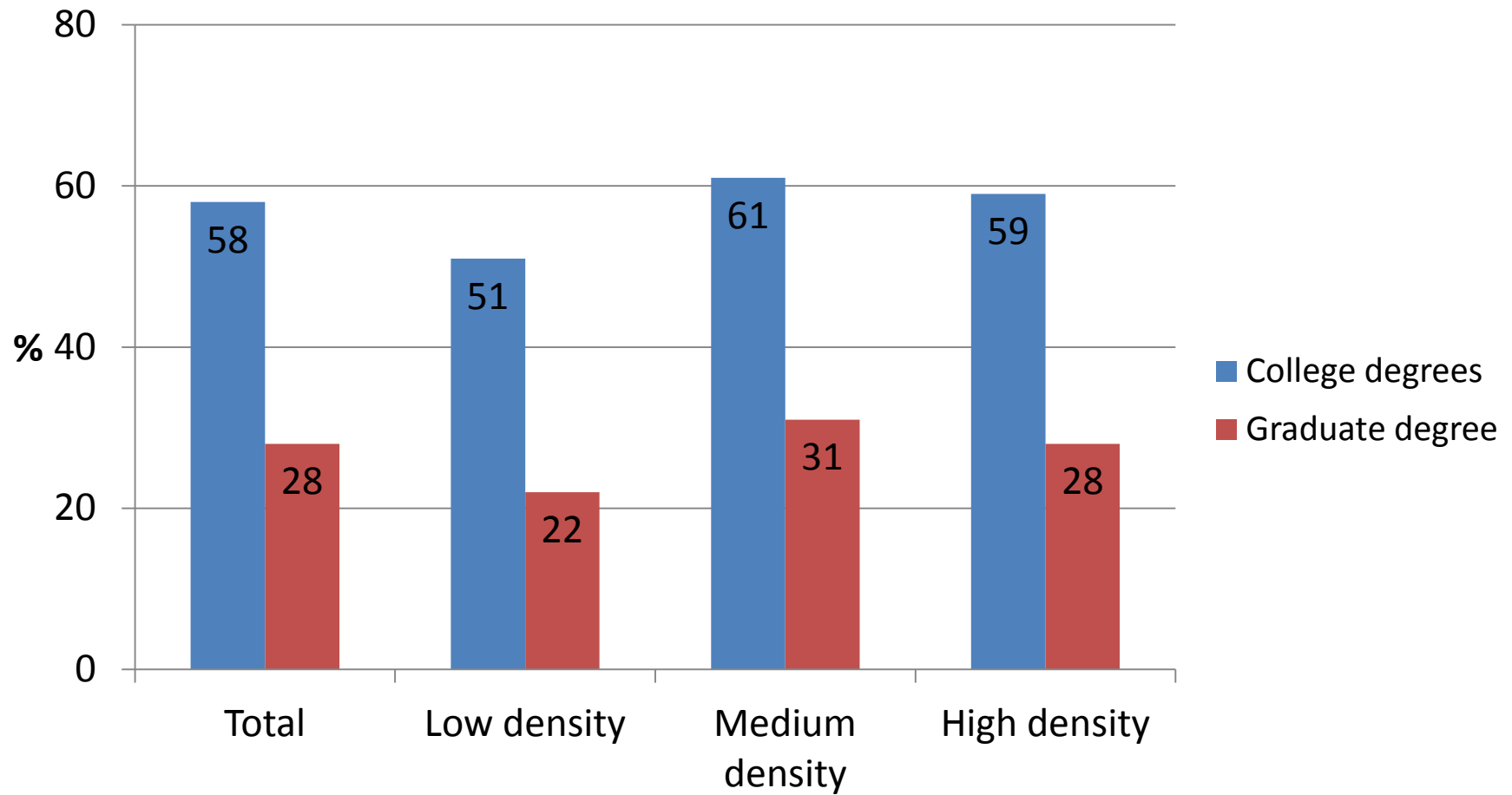


Community density

- Education
- Income
- Age
- Marital status
- Political party support
- Political ideology
- U.S. citizenship



Education

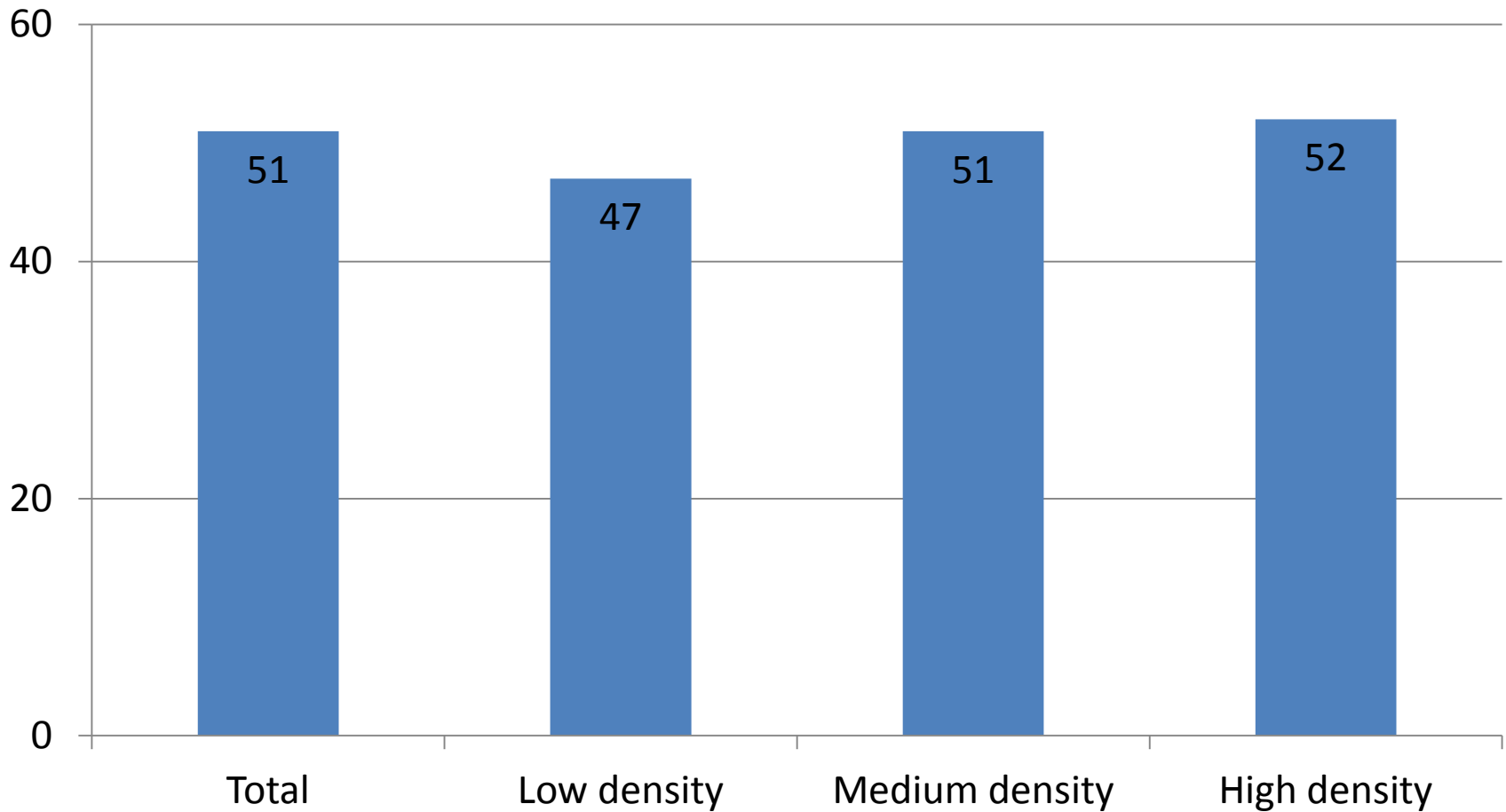


Income

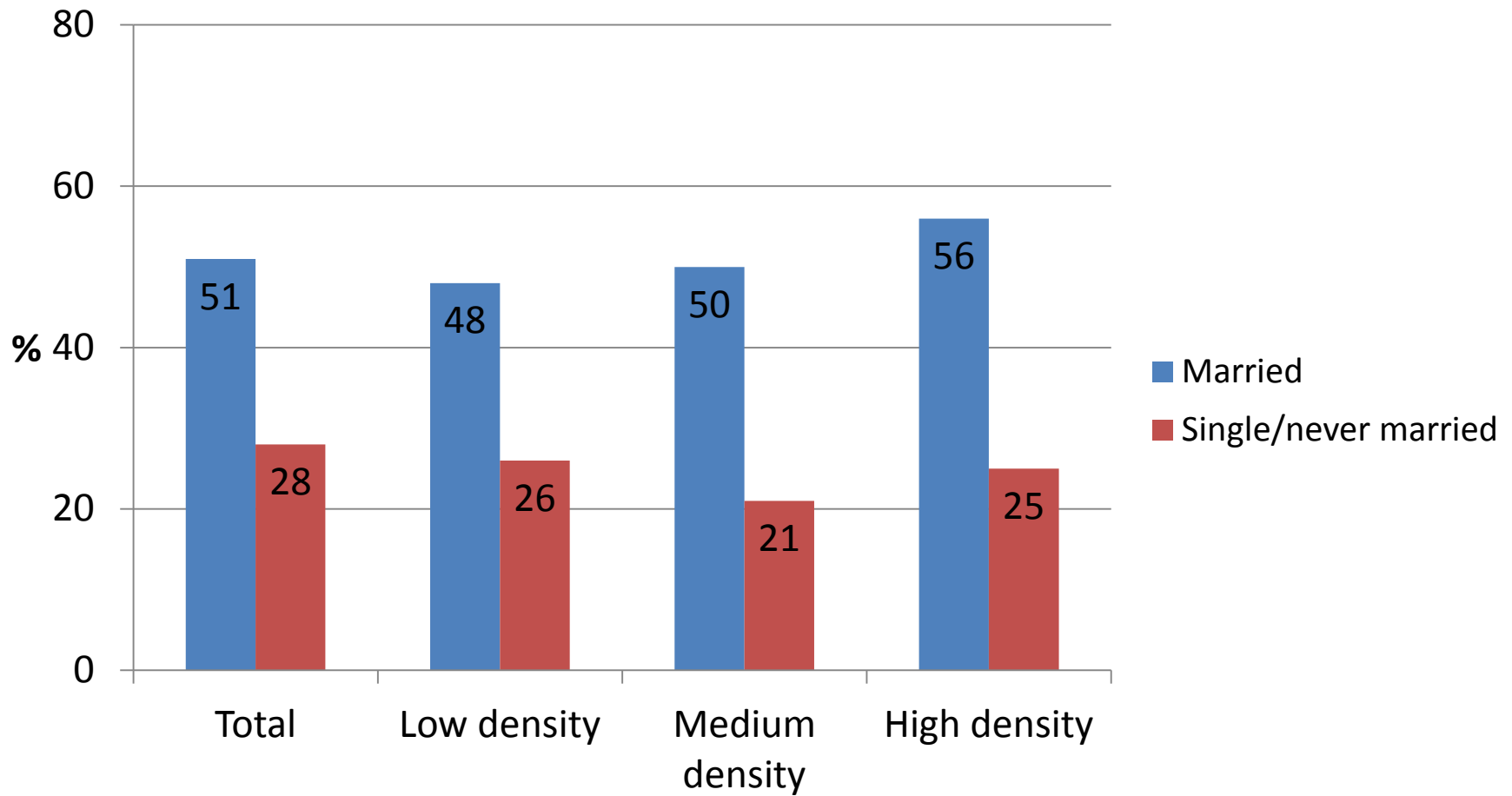
	Total Jews	Low density	Medium density	High density
Median	\$85,800	\$79,300	\$87,100	\$89,600
\$150,000 or more	25%	19%	26%	28%
Less than \$30,000	20%	20%	22%	19%



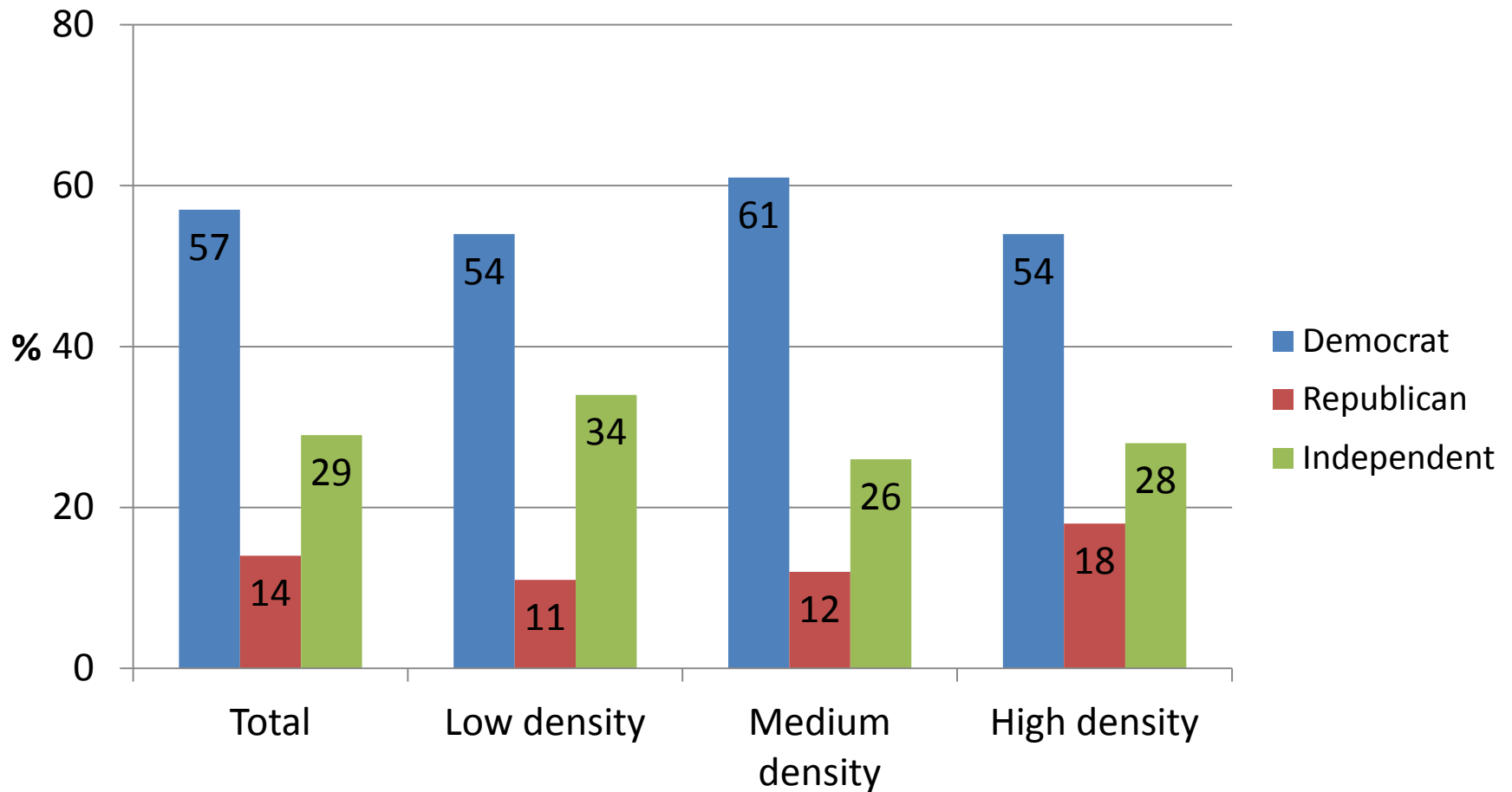
Median adult age



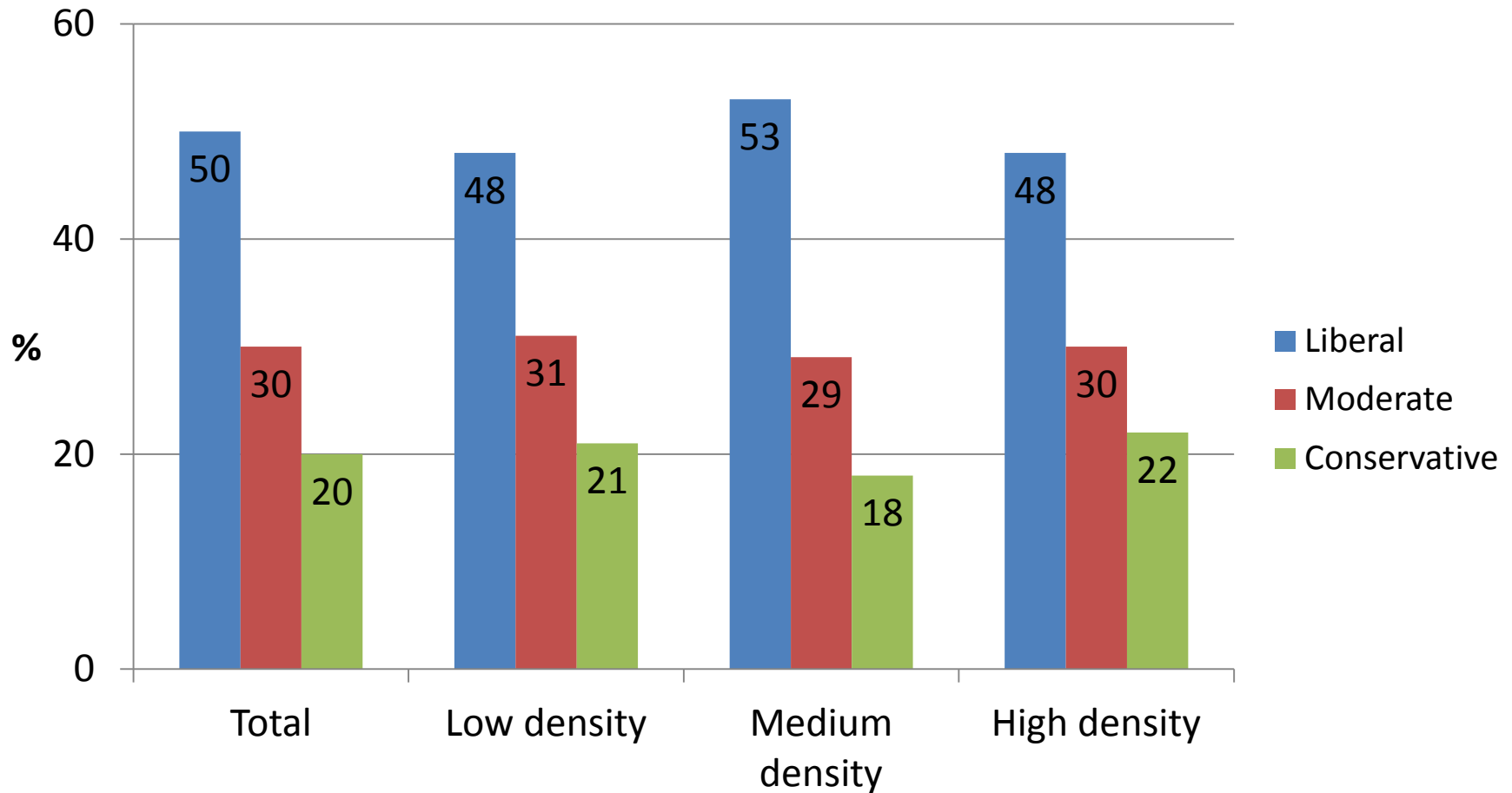
Marital status



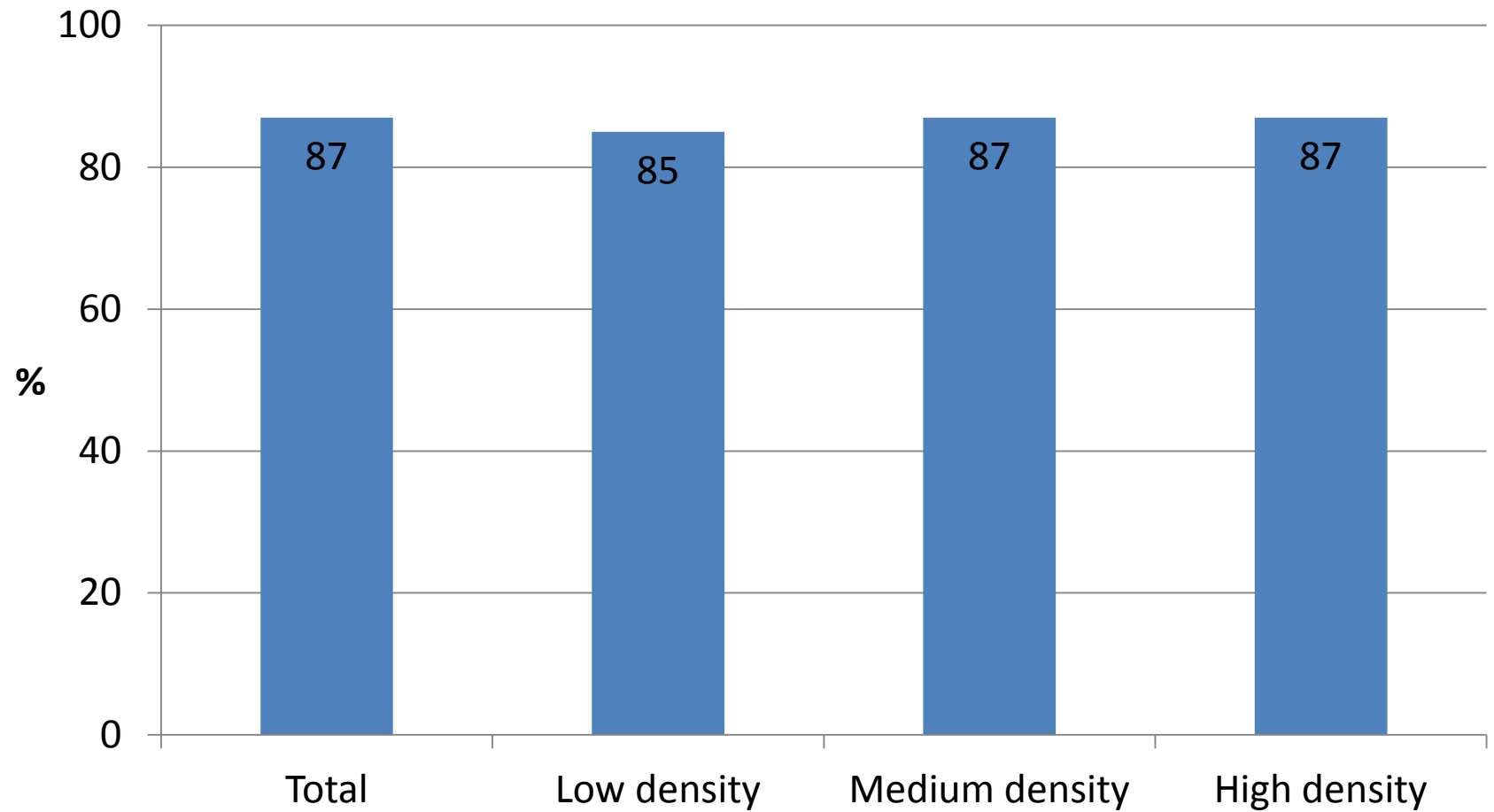
Partisanship



Political ideology



U.S. citizens



Politics

- U.S. politics
- Support or lean toward Democratic party

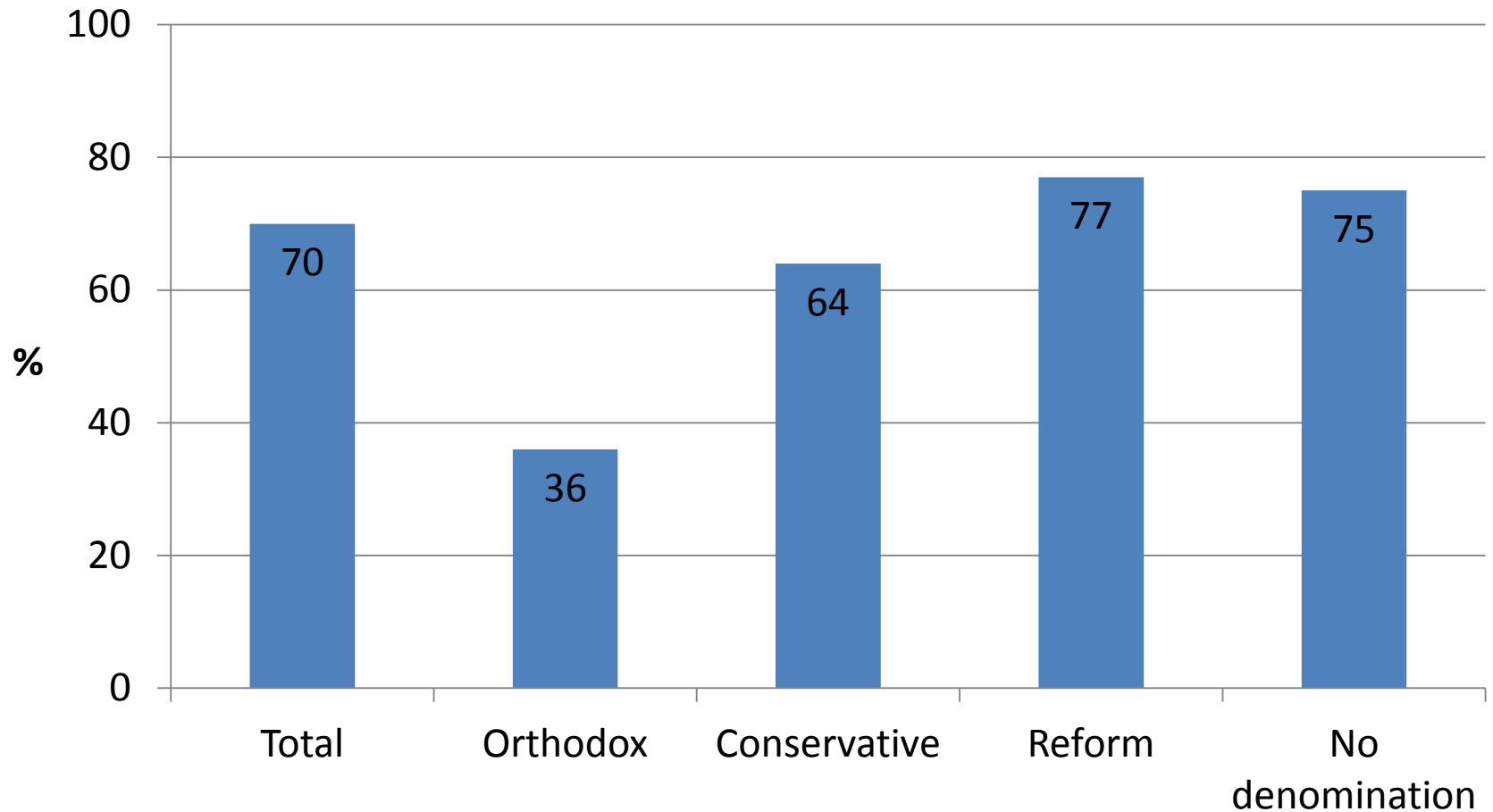


U.S. politics

- Jews remain largely Democratic and liberal in their politics
 - 70% identify with or lean Democratic
 - 65% approve of Obama's job performance
 - 49% liberal and 29% moderate
 - 55% favor bigger government with more services
- Jews of no religion are even more Democratic and liberal than Jews by religion
- Orthodox Jews are the exception to the population's overall political patterns



Support or lean toward Democratic party



Thank you

For more information, please contact:
Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz
Director, Berman Jewish DataBank
info@jewishdatabank.org

This slide deck and other materials on the Pew Research Center 2013 Survey of U.S. Jews can be found at:

<http://www.jewishdatabank.org/Studies/details.cfm?StudyID=715>

