



SITUATION REPORT OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN GERMANY 2026

The third nationwide survey on the security situation, the perception of security, and current challenges facing Jewish communities

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INITIAL SITUATION AND STUDY DESIGN

Following the Hamas massacres in Israel on October 7, 2023, and Israel’s subsequent defensive war, the security situation for Jewish individuals and institutions in Germany has deteriorated significantly. The Central Council of Jews in Germany produced comprehensive assessments regarding this matter in both 2023 and 2024. In March 2026, a third nationwide survey was con-

ducted based on quantitative and qualitative methods, involving the participation of 102 Jewish communities and regional associations.

Comparison of these three surveys serves our effort to continuously monitor the situation, highlight developments and trends, systematically document changes and structural challenges, and identify needs for action.

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KEY FINDINGS



THE NEW NORMAL

Jewish communities operate under heightened security requirements in a situation that offers no prospect of relief. This security situation has profound repercussions on the daily lives, behavior, and psychological stability of Jews in Germany.



HEIGHTENED INSECURITY

Not only did the ceasefire in Gaza not lead to any improvement in the sense of insecurity felt by Jewish communities; this feeling of insecurity has in fact intensified following the outbreak of the war against the Iranian Mullah regime.



WANING SOLIDARITY

The normalization of threats against Jewish communities is accompanied by a decline in solidarity from civil society. Relations with Muslim associations, in particular, have deteriorated.



EXCLUSION FROM THE PUBLIC SPHERE

The ongoing crisis and escalating threats have led to a decline in the visibility of Jewish life in Germany.



GREAT RESILIENCE

Cohesion within the Jewish community has strengthened, and its communal structures are generally well established.



SECURITY

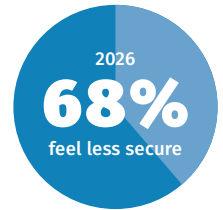
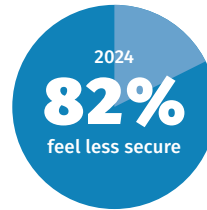
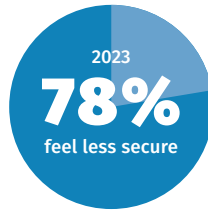
Cooperation with security authorities remains strong; however, structural deficits persist regarding security personnel.



3

SECURITY

The majority of Jewish communities continue to perceive life as less safe since October 7, 2023.



How is that insecurity expressed?



Fear caused by aggressive demonstrations against Israel



Fear triggered by an increase in antisemitic incidents



Concealment of Jewish identity (especially among children and youths)

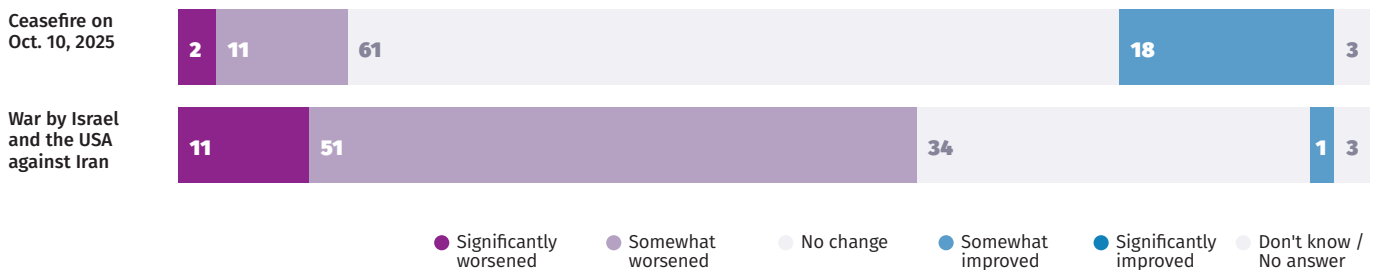


Refraining from wearing Jewish symbols

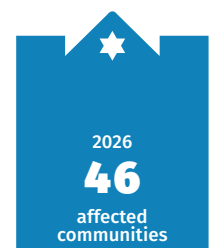
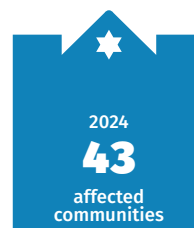
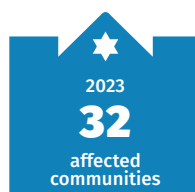
● **THE CEASEFIRE** between Israel and the terrorist organization Hamas in October 2025 did not, according to **66%** of respondents, lead to an improvement in the perception of safety. **13%** even reported a deterioration.

● **THE WAR WITH IRAN**, conversely, led to a deterioration in the sense of security for around **62%** of respondents.

TO WHAT EXTENT HAVE THE FOLLOWING EVENTS CONTRIBUTED TO A CHANGE IN THE SITUATION?








Antisemitic incidents targeting communities have been continuously increasing in recent years.

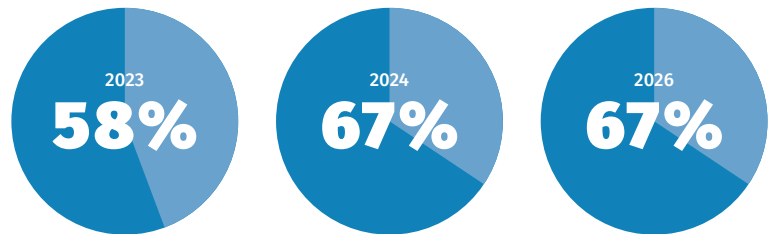




These incidents primarily involved:

-  **64%** Antisemitic insults or incitement to hatred
-  **62%** Hostile acts or hate comments on social media
-  **49%** Threatening phone calls or antisemitic letters / mails
-  **49%** Vandalism or graffiti on buildings
-  **28%** Protests or demonstrations directed against the community, or deliberately taking place in the vicinity of the community

67% of communities consider their security measures to be adequate; **33%** of communities find ongoing deficiencies.



The greatest deficiencies are found in the areas of:



Security personnel



Training and professional development



Organizational security measures (emergency plans, protocols, communication)



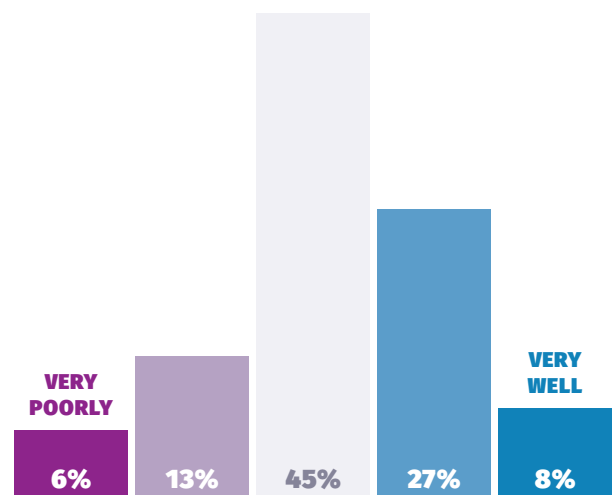
Technical equipment (video/IT)



Building security / structural measures

Preparedness for emergency situations is rated as merely mediocre on average, pointing to a need for improvement.

HOW WELL ARE YOU AND YOUR STAFF TRAINED AND PREPARED FOR POTENTIAL EMERGENCY SITUATIONS?





To improve preparedness for emergency situations, one must address the lack of:



Training and exercises on how to behave in emergency situations



Professional security personnel



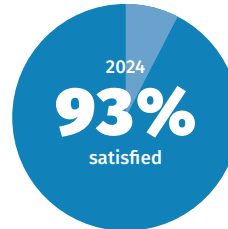
Security awareness among employees, volunteers, and community members



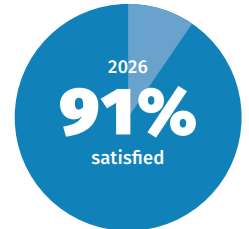
Cooperation with the police and security authorities continues to be rated very positively, at **91%**.



4% partially satisfied



6% partially satisfied
1% dissatisfied



7% partially satisfied
2% dissatisfied

Cooperation with the police and security authorities could benefit from the following measures:



Regular exchange of information regarding the security situation



Increased presence at events



Dedicated points of contact and direct communication

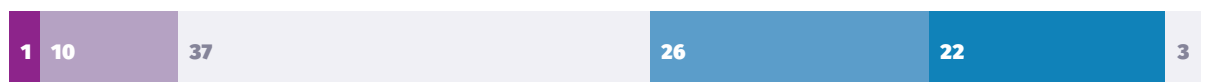


Joint on-site training



Terrorist attacks abroad noticeably affect the sense of security in many communities and seem to reinforce existing fears.

TO WHAT EXTENT DO TERRORIST ATTACKS IN OTHER COUNTRIES IMPACT THE SENSE OF SECURITY IN YOUR COMMUNITY?



● Not at all ● Only slightly ● Somewhat ● Quite significantly ● Very significantly ● Don't know / cannot assess

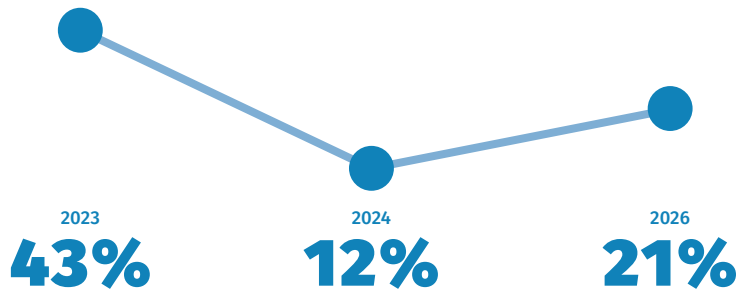


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COMMUNITY LIFE



For security reasons, **21%** of communities have canceled events within the last 12 months.



Communal religious and social life continues to take place in **95%** of communities, despite isolated restrictions such as event cancellations. In 2023, this was the case in **73%** of communities.

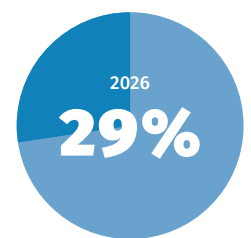
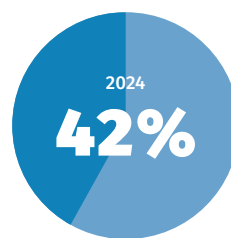
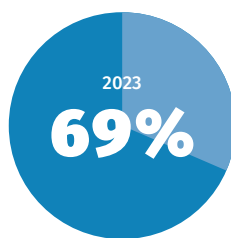


95%
YES



5%
NO

Member participation in programs has generally stabilized. In 2026, **29%** of communities have seen a decline in participant numbers.



Seniors, children, and families are particularly affected.



SENIORS



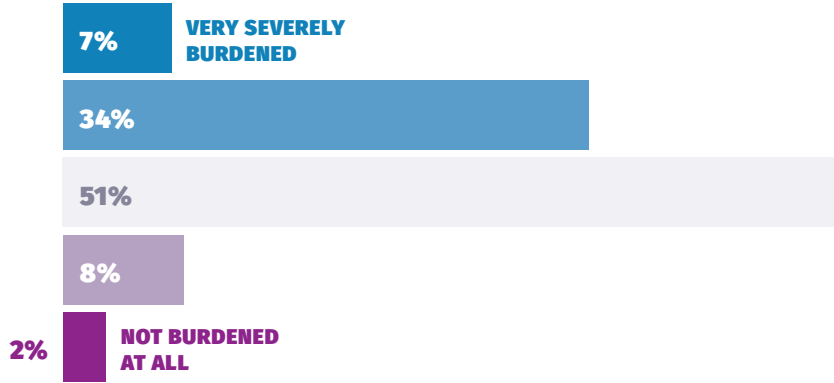
CHILDREN



FAMILIES



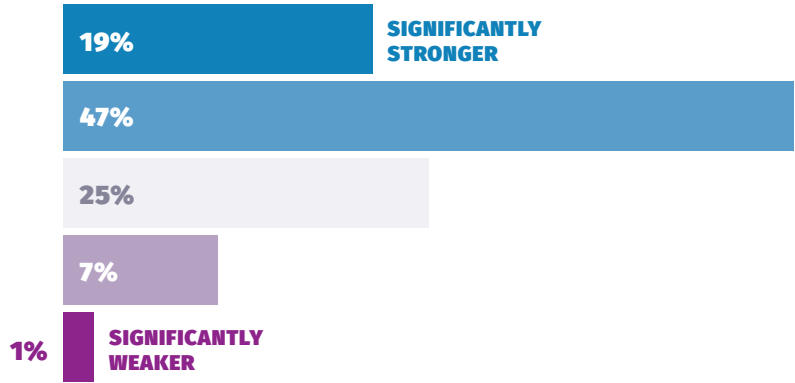
More than **90%** of community leaders and staff are noticeably burdened by the situation (**41%** severely or very severely; **51%** moderately).



THE REQUEST FOR PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT HAS INCREASED IN **63%** OF THE COMMUNITIES.



The sense of belonging has strengthened in **66%** of communities; in **25%** of communities, it remains unchanged compared to the pre-crisis period.

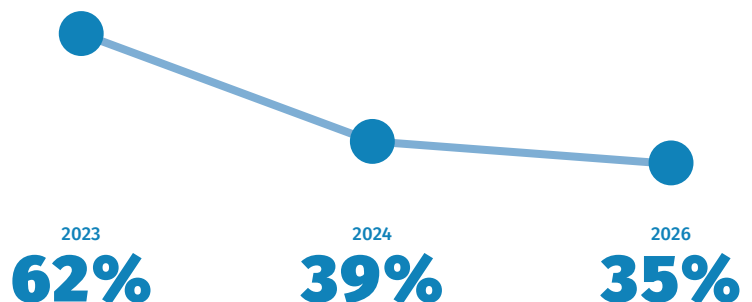


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PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT



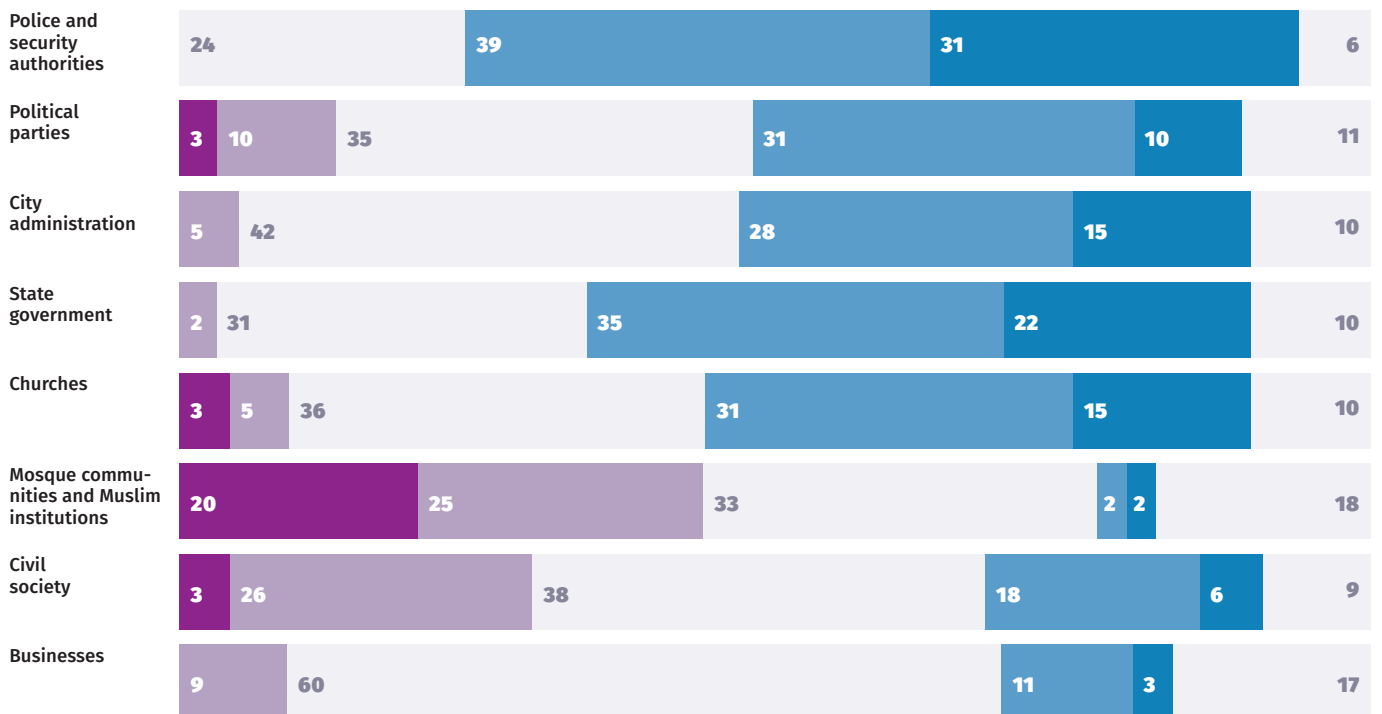
Support from civil society is increasingly perceived as waning, registering a particularly low figure of **35%** compared to the 2023 survey.





Relationships with state actors—such as the police, administrative bodies, and political representatives—have, for the most part, improved. In contrast, relationships with civil society and Muslim institutions have in many cases deteriorated.

HOW HAVE YOUR COMMUNITY'S RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE FOLLOWING ACTORS EVOLVED SINCE OCTOBER 7TH?

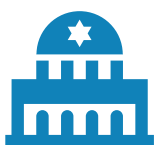


● Significantly worsened
 ● Somewhat worsened
 ● No change
 ● Somewhat improved
 ● Significantly improved
 ● Don't know / No answer

The most important supporters of the communities are:



Police and security authorities



Jewish organizations and associations



Churches and Christian associations



Local political actors



Antisemitism initiatives, foundations, and individuals



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CHALLENGES AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

Community leaders identified the following as the greatest challenges:



Ensuring security

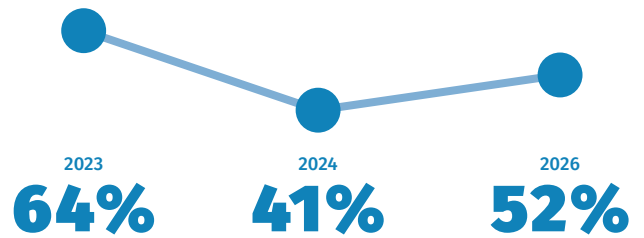


Revising security concepts and security measures



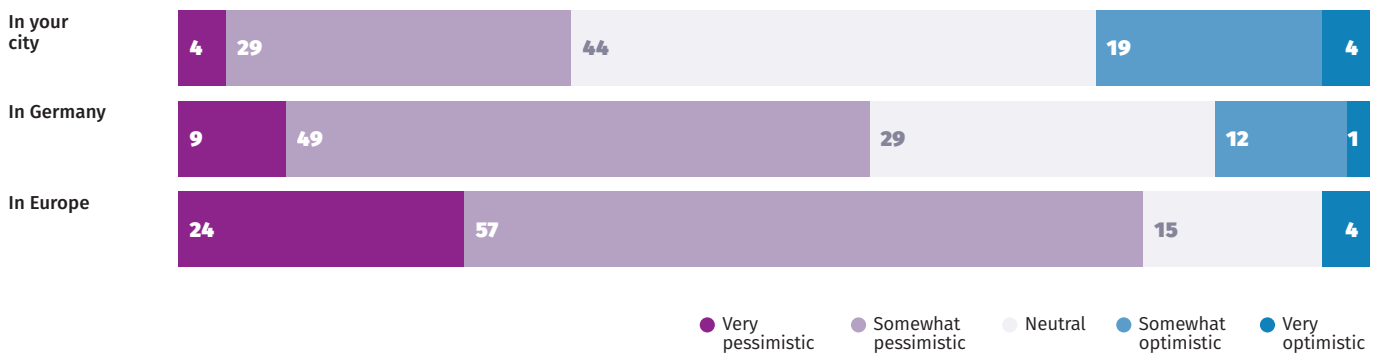
Additional financial expenditures for security measures

More than half of communal leaders surveyed have adjusted their work priorities since October 7. This figure had temporarily dipped slightly in 2024 but has since risen again by more than 10%.



Today's focus lies particularly on security measures, prevention, educational work, and cooperation with authorities.

The outlook for Jewish life, particularly for Germany and Europe, is predominantly pessimistic. The outlook at the local level appears more optimistic by comparison.



61% of the surveyed community leaders stated that their personal lives have changed since October 7. These changes manifest primarily through:



Generally heightened caution, fear, and insecurity in public spaces



Avoidance of wearing Jewish symbols



Increased vigilance and enhanced security measures in their home environment