

ENROLLMENT PULSE SURVEY REPORT

Jewish Day School and Yeshiva Enrollment Trends

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REPORT BY

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PRIZMAH
Center for Jewish Day Schools



Prizmah is dedicated to creating a strategic and systematic approach to research, data collection and knowledge sharing. We work to collect learning and insights from the field of Jewish day schools and yeshivas in order to inform, inspire and empower each individual and community.

This pulse survey sought to understand enrollment trends, including retention and recruitment, the continued impact of the pandemic on enrollment, and how student mental health/support services needs are affecting enrollment trends.

The survey was fielded from August through October 2022. The following is a report and analysis of the findings.

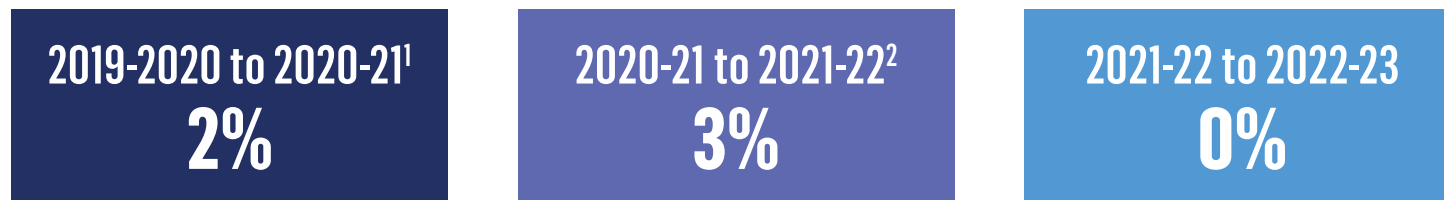
View our previous pulse surveys [here](#).

JEWISH DAY SCHOOLS MAINTAIN ENROLLMENT INCREASES

K-12

Beginning in 2020, Prizmah began conducting enrollment pulse surveys to understand enrollment trends during the pandemic. In this third pulse survey report, a positive trend in enrollment continues as the gains experienced in the past two years have solidified.

Enrollment Pulse Survey Report K-12 Enrollment Percent Change



1. Fall 2020 Enrollment Survey Results

2. Enrollment Pulse Survey Report October 2021

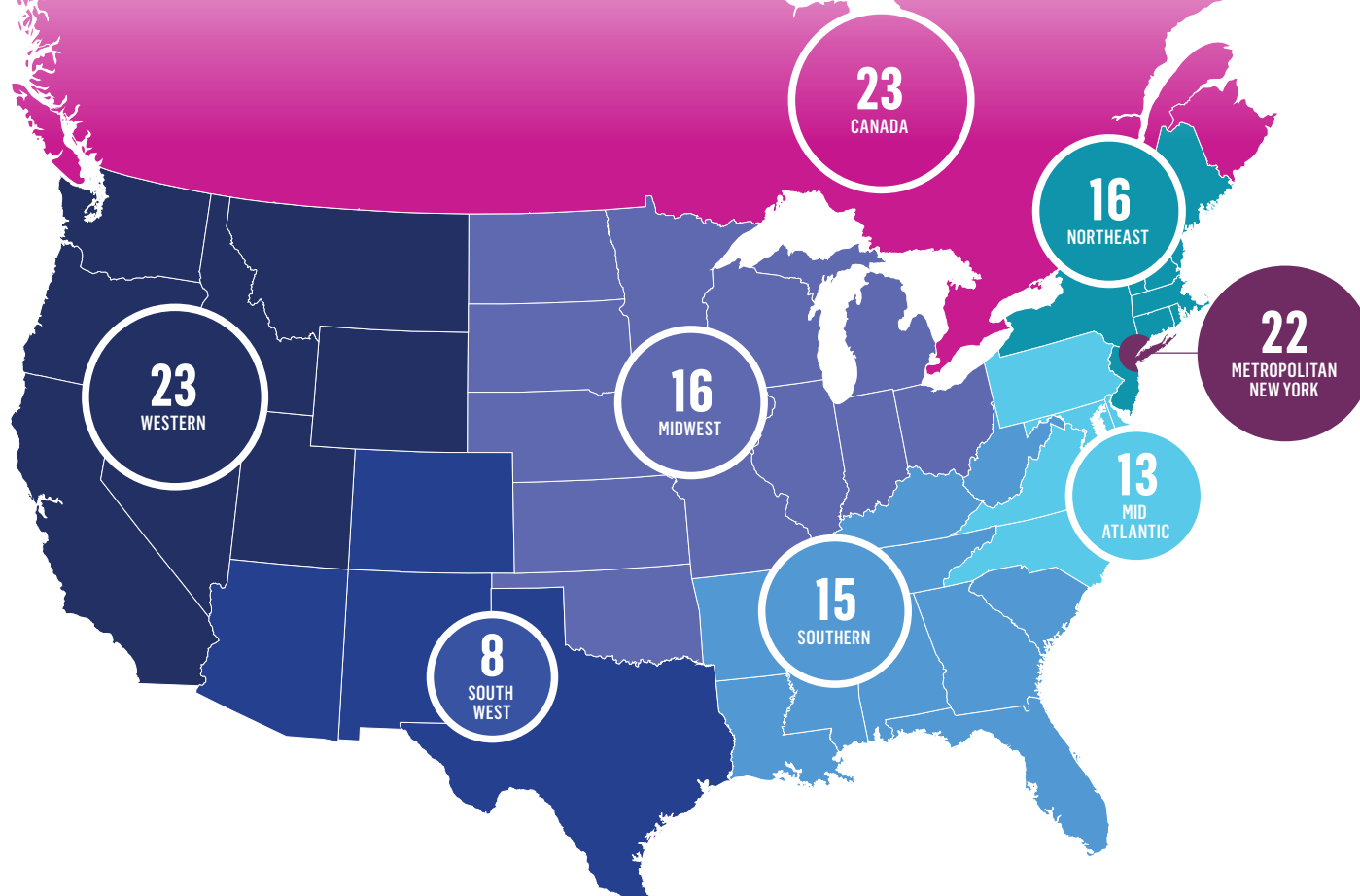


KEY FINDINGS

- Continuing the positive trends in enrollment for school years 2020-21 and 2021-22, Jewish day school and yeshiva enrollment maintained increases in 2022-23 in K-12 schools.
- From 2020-21 to 2022-23, 65% of the schools surveyed have either grown or had stable enrollment, with 34% reporting a decrease.
- Schools with enrollment over 500 experienced the greatest net increases in student enrollment.
- Seventy-two percent of students who enrolled due to the pandemic re-enrolled for the 2022-23 academic year, showing strong retention rates.
- Total enrollment in preschool programs increased by 5% in 2022-23 from the previous year.

PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS

The survey was targeted to admissions professionals and/or heads of school of Jewish day schools and yeshivas in the United States and Canada. In total, 136 schools responded, representing broad geographic, religious and enrollment diversity. Community/Non-denominational, Conservative, Pluralistic and Reform schools comprised 67% of the respondents, and Orthodox schools comprised 33%. Nearly 30% of responding schools are located in the Northeast or Metropolitan New York area.



ENROLLMENT SIZES	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	PERCENT OF SCHOOLS
75 and under	23	17%
76-150	16	12%
151-300	41	30%
301-500	33	24%
501-700	11	8%
701-1000	7	5%
1001 and above	5	4%
Total	136	100%

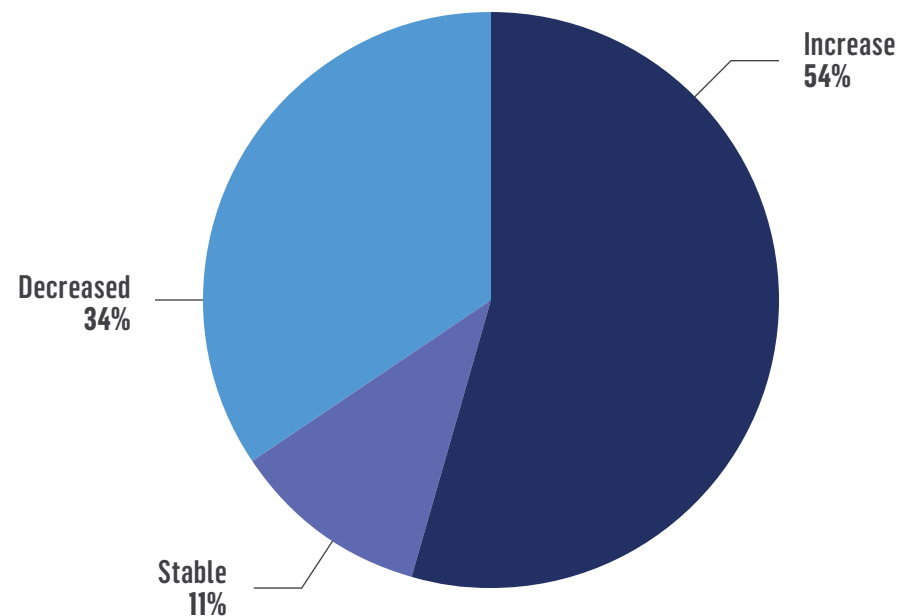
SCHOOL RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	PERCENT OF SCHOOLS
Community/Non-denominational	54	40%
Conservative	13	10%
Orthodox	45	33%
Pluralistic	14	10%
Reform	10	7%
Total	136	100%

MORE THAN HALF OF SCHOOLS HAVE INCREASED ENROLLMENT SINCE 2020-21

K-12

From 2020-21 to 2022-23, 65% of the schools surveyed have either grown or had stable enrollment, with 34% reporting a decrease.

Percentage of Schools with Increased, Decreased, or Stable Enrollment from 2020-21 to 2022-23



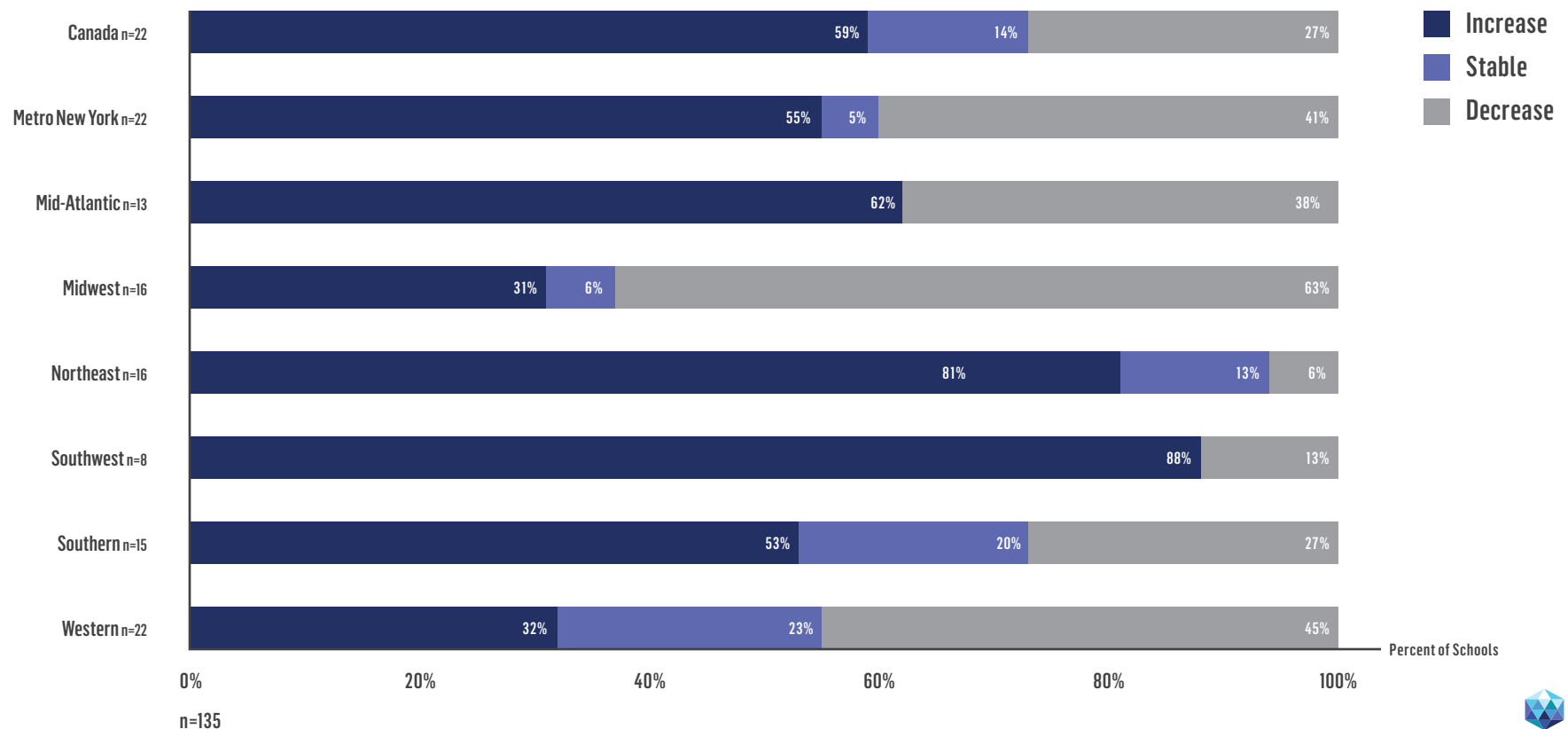
n = 135

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT TRENDS BY REGION

K-12

When analyzed regionally, the majority of schools (54%) have experienced enrollment increases for the past three years. In six out of eight regions, more than 50% of schools reported an increase in enrollment, with over 80% of schools in the Northeast and Southwest reporting increases. At the same time, 63% of schools in the Midwest and 45% of schools in the Western region reported enrollment decreases, showing a starker picture of enrollment trends in these areas.

Positive, Stable or Decreased Enrollment 2021-22 to 2022-23 by Region

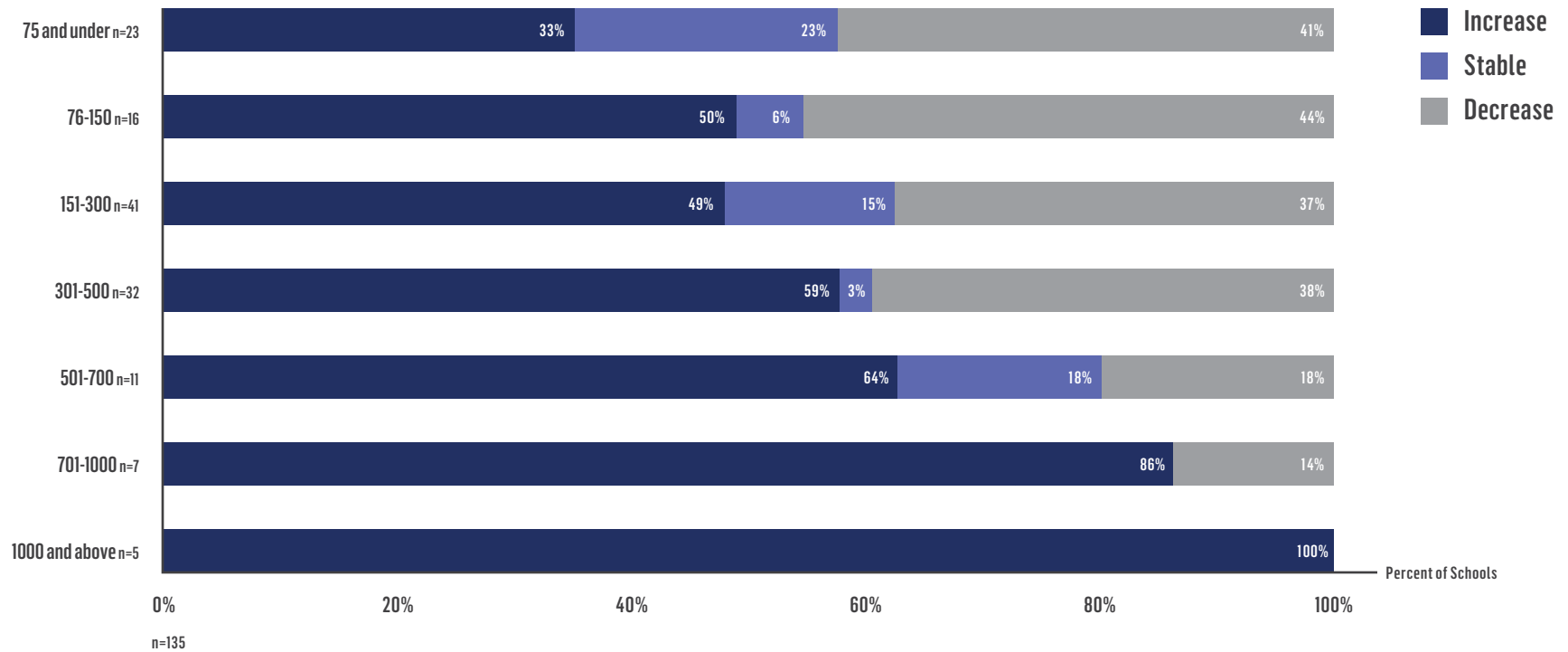


ENROLLMENT TRENDS BY SCHOOL SIZE

K-12

The percentage of schools with positive enrollment trends from 2020-21 to 2022-23 increases by school size. In schools with 76-150 students, 50% experienced enrollment increases, and in schools with over 1,000 students, 100% reported increases.

Positive, Stable or Decreased Enrollment 2020-21 to 2022-23 by School Enrollment Size



TOP REPORTED REASONS FOR ENROLLMENT TRENDS

TOP REASONS FOR ENROLLMENT INCREASE

- 1 School Reputation
- 2 Academics
- 3 Student Support Services

TOP REASONS FOR ENROLLMENT FLAT/STABLE

- 1 School reputation
- 2 Location/relocation out of the area
- 3 Family mission alignment to the school

TOP REASONS FOR ENROLLMENT DECREASE

- 1 School reputation
- 2 Location/relocation out of the area
- 3 Family mission alignment to the school



ENROLLMENT INCREASES

PRESCHOOL

Schools reported their preschool enrollment in 2021-22 and 2022-23. Total enrollment in preschool programs increased by 5% in 2022-23 from the previous year. For the second consecutive year, schools with preschool programs reported increases in enrollment.

Nursery to Pre-K Percentage Change 2021-22 to 22-23



n=75

2022-2023 PANDEMIC-RELATED ENROLLMENT TRENDS

PANDEMIC-RELATED RE-ENROLLMENT

Of new students who enrolled due to the pandemic in 2020-21, 72% re-enrolled for the 2022-23 academic year. Primary reasons cited for families who did not re-enroll in 2022-23 include financial, geographical, and social. Other reasons for not re-enrolling were religious alignment and academic considerations.

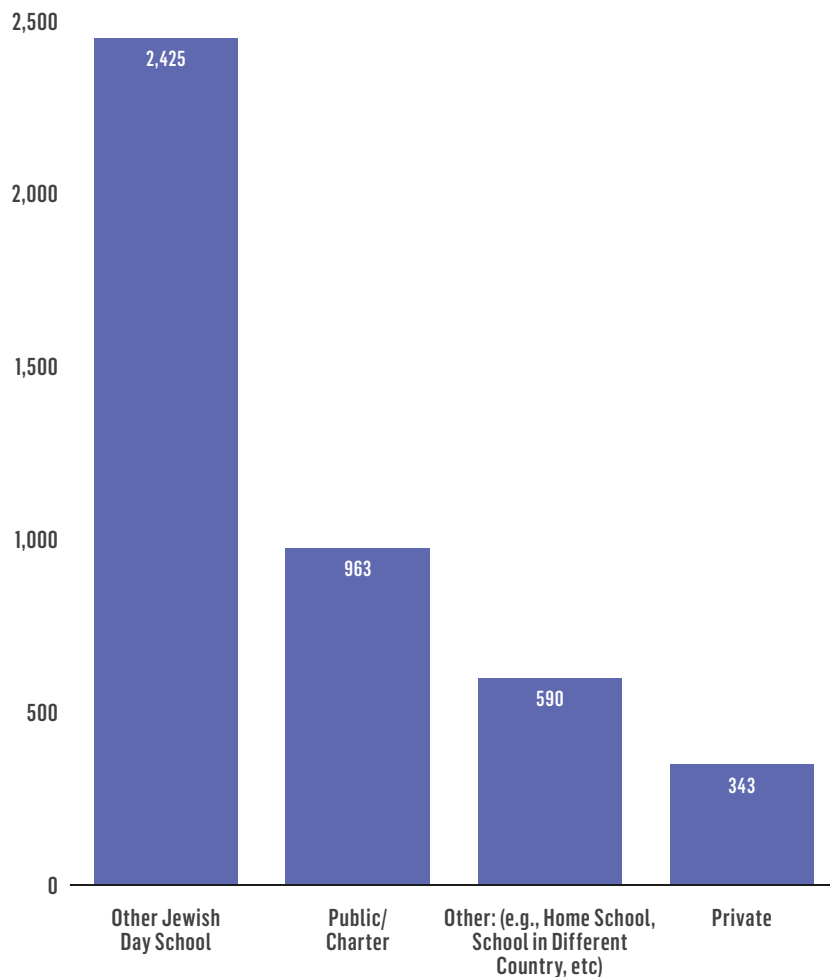
Religious Affiliation	Percentage of students who re-enrolled in 2022-23
Community/Non-Denominational, Conservative, Pluralistic and Reform	70%
Orthodox	95%
Total	72%
n=1,127	



STUDENT TRANSFERS TO JEWISH DAY SCHOOLS AND YESHIVAS

In 2022-23, the largest sources of transfer students were other Jewish day schools and yeshivas. The second-largest sources were public schools.

Sources of Transfer Students 2022-23



INCREASED SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL AND ACADEMIC NEEDS

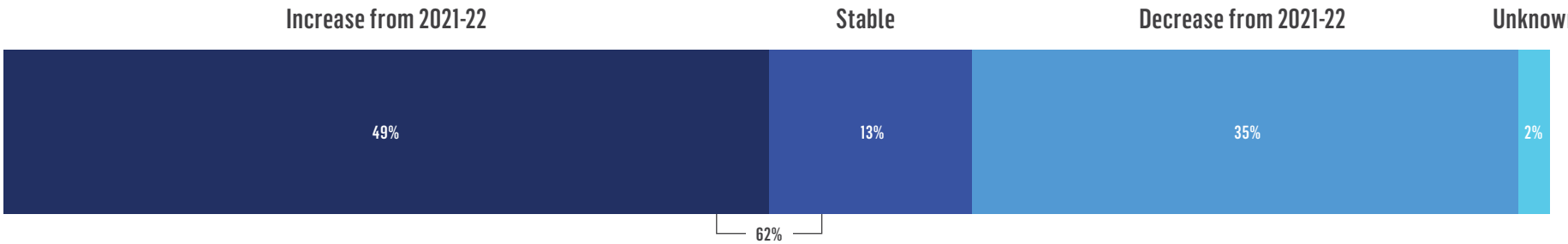
Schools strengthened social-emotional support for students before and during the height of the pandemic, yet 20% of schools reported increased needs for social-emotional and student academic support in 2022-23.



NEW STUDENT APPLICATIONS INCREASE

Sixty-two percent of schools reported that the number of applications for new students had grown or remained steady.

New Student Applications 2022-23 Compared to Previous Year



n=75



TOP REPORTED REASONS WHY ACCEPTED APPLICANTS DECLINED TO ENROLL

CONSERVATIVE, COMMUNITY, NON-DENOMINATIONAL, PLURALISTIC AND REFORM SCHOOLS

- 1 Financial
- 2 Location
- 3 Religious alignment
- 4 Academic
- 5 Social

ORTHODOX SCHOOLS

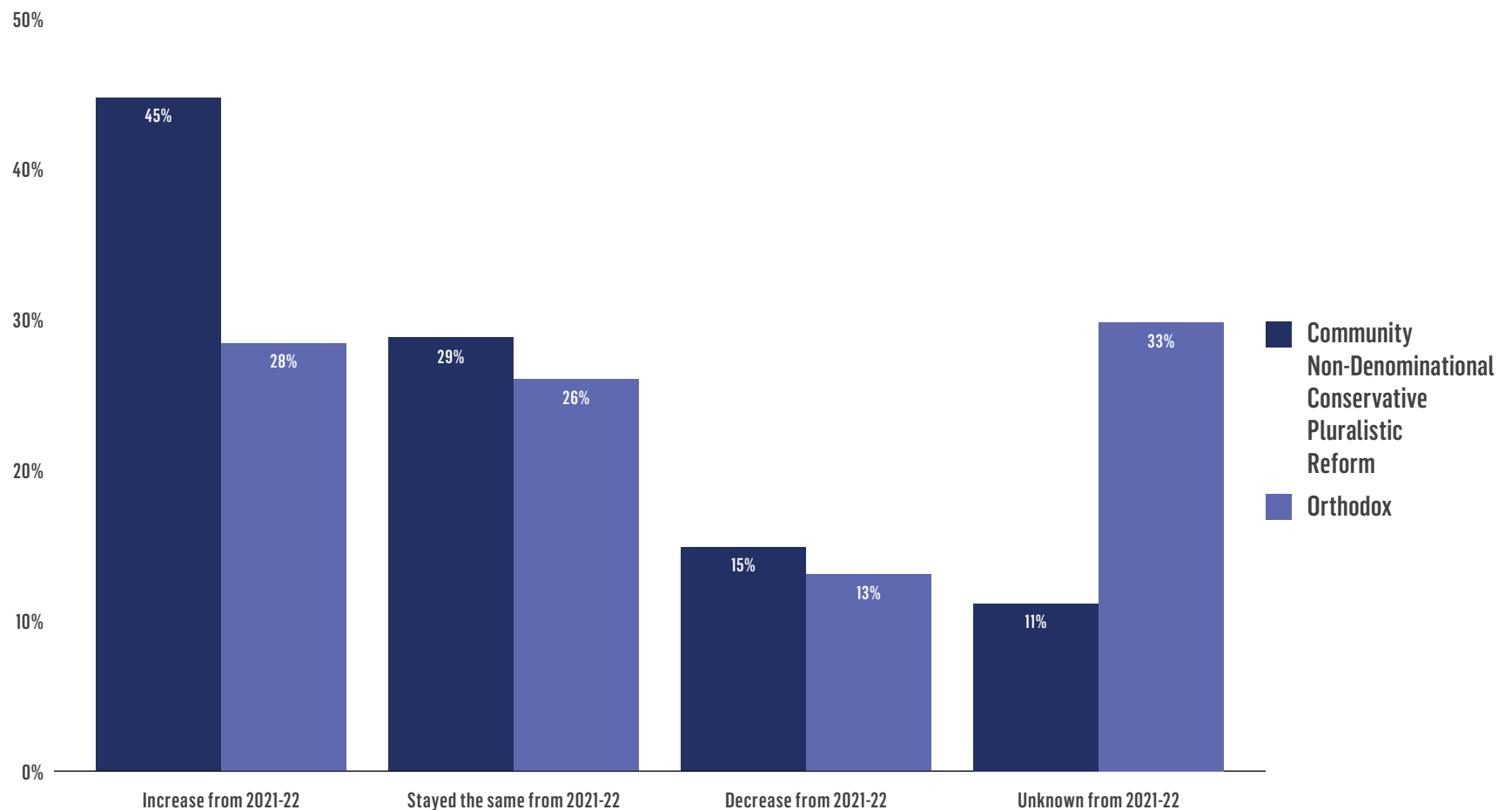
- 1 Location
- 2 Social
- 3 Financial
- 4 Religious alignment
- 5 Academic



TUITION-ASSISTANCE INQUIRIES

Forty-five percent of Conservative, Community/Non-denominational, Pluralistic and Reform schools responded that tuition-assistance inquiries had increased for 2022-2023 compared to the previous year, while 28% of Orthodox schools reported increases in such requests.

Tuition-Assistance Inquiries for 2022-23 Compared to 2021-22



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