

# Mapping the philanthropic giving in resilience and mental health in Israel post October 7

Foundation questionnaire results

December 2024



# Context and objectives of this work



## Context for this document

In this document we present an analysis based on a questionnaire filled by **40 respondents**: Private funders, foundations and federations dedicated to the advancement of resilience and mental health in Israel since the October 7 events.

This analysis presents a **snapshot in time (December 2024) for a rapidly-evolving philanthropic space**, and is particularly designed to extract insights on:

- What were the trends in giving since the October 7 events?
- Which population groups are more supported, and which are less supported?
- Where are foundations dedicating their giving since October 7, and which needs, populations & interventions may be overlooked?

**This document contains only aggregated data. All foundation-specific information shared with us remains confidential.**



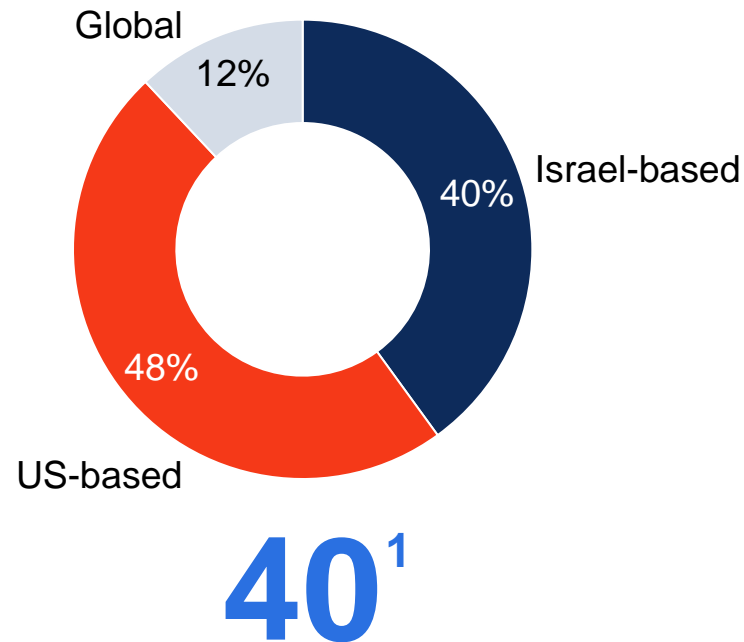
## Objectives of this document

- Begin to build a **transparent picture** of the current funding snapshot in resilience and mental health
- **Reflect the collective preferences of foundations** since October 7
- **Highlight funding gaps** based on need mapping
- **Highlight foundations' (substantial) collective eagerness for collaboration**
- **Create an internal map for JFN of the types of giving among the network to foster connections**

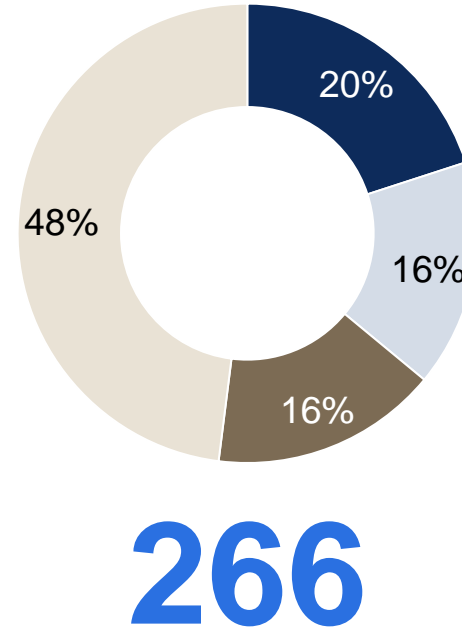
# Our dataset includes responses from 40 foundations, and a map of ~\$500M of funding

■ Resilience ■ Mental Health ■ Both ■ Unclear

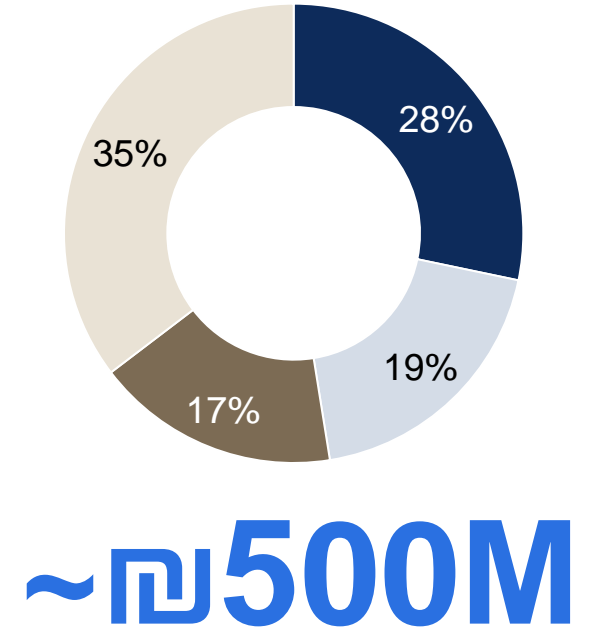
Organizations responded to questionnaire



Grantees reported



Total funding received by grantees



(with additional ~\$200M not mapped to grantees)

1. Six foundations were excluded from the analysis due to insufficient or incomplete responses

Mental Health: Funding directed towards clinical mental health treatment, including support for psychiatric hospitals, therapist and trauma training, innovative interventions (e.g., psychedelics), and mental health technology advancements.  
 Resilience: Funding for programs that enhance emotional wellbeing and community strength, including awareness campaigns, Social and Emotional Learning, support for non-clinical mental health teams, welfare and self-healing initiatives, and aid for first responders

# Since October 7, the philanthropic arena became central and significantly more active in the resilience and mental health space



More foundations are involved in the resilience and mental health space



20 before October 7

70%  
growth

34 after October 7



Most foundations dramatically increased their giving

2/3 of respondents indicated giving in resilience and mental health increased >4x due to October 7 events



Only ~1/3 of respondents indicated giving in resilience and mental health funding remained the same as before October 7



Foundations were active in their funding, with 8<sup>1</sup> grantees on average

~50% of foundations funded over 5 grantees



~30% of foundations funded over 10 grantees

Post October 7, philanthropy was the main moving force and guiding force to generate positive impact in the resilience and mental health field in the onset of the war

1. Excluding the Jewish Federations of North America due to high impact on average

**On the scale between immediate and strategic funding, most funds were given for immediate support...**

**...and a main factor for the immediacy was pressure to quickly fund a nascent and evolving field**

**Key insights from responses**

**Key themes**

**55%** of foundations funded **mostly immediate assistance**

*Foundations and federations received very large amounts of funding early on, and were under pressure to fund it quickly to make a difference*

**25%** funded **mostly strategic long-term grants**

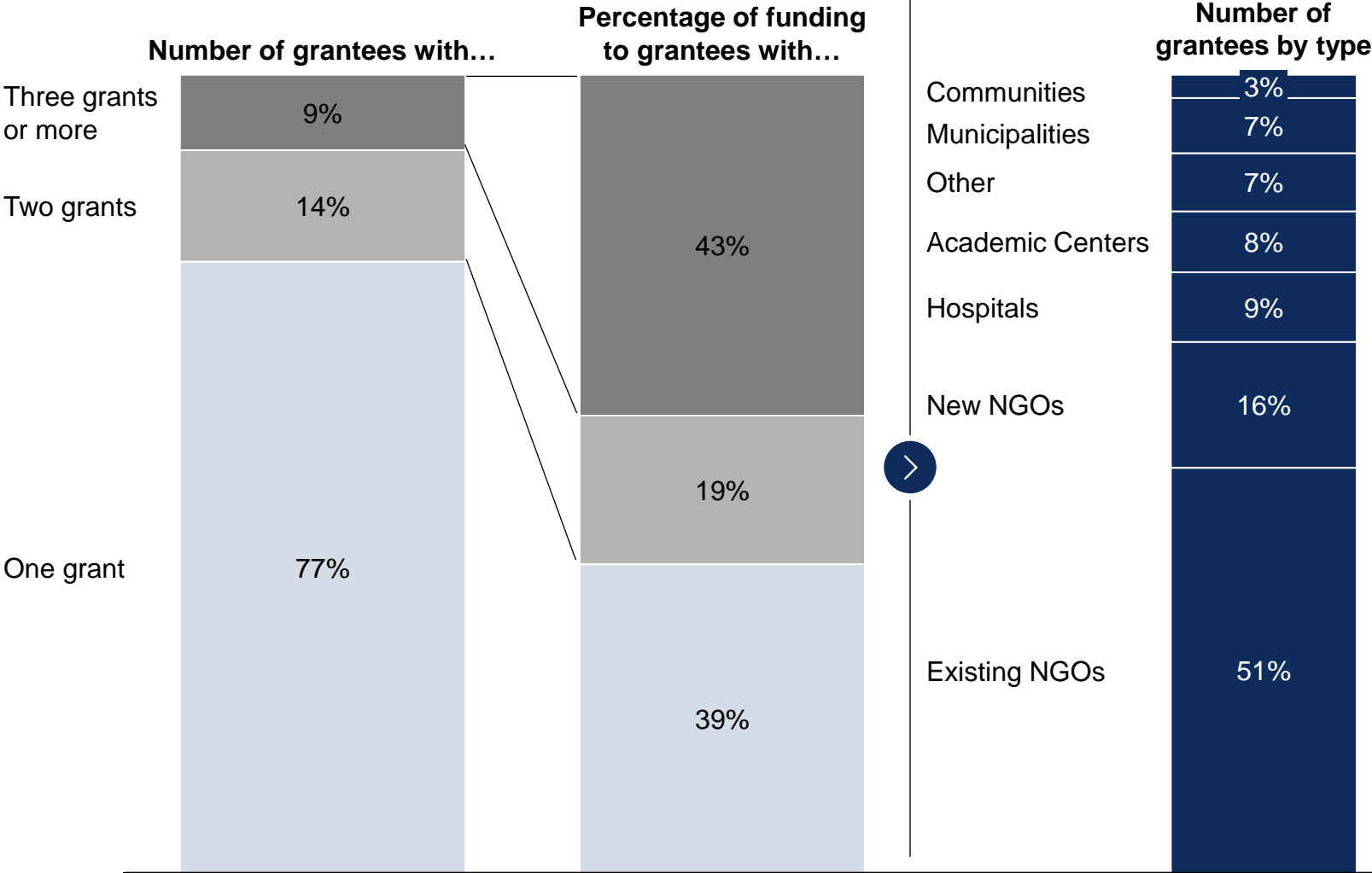
*Initially, there was not enough information on which organizations operate in which space, which are active, and which are in need of funding (which still may be an issue)*

**65%** of grants were given in **2024**

**30%** of funds were spent on **65** grassroots grantees which **did not exist prior to October 7**

*Initially foundations and federations utilized a more trust-based philanthropy model, and they now search for a more robust funding mechanism in the evolving field (i.e., understanding the expected impact or organizational capabilities before committing funds)*

# As a mirror to the funding landscape, a large and diverse set of grantees emerged



**Key theme**

*A small number of large organizations received a bulk of the funding, but a “long tail” of grantees was present in the nascent field*

# Data shows foundations exhibited five focus patterns in their giving

## How we analyzed the data

---

We crossed-referenced questionnaire responses on where foundations, private funders and federations focus their funding with:

1. Demographic data from government sources
2. Mental health disease burden pre-October 7 in Israel
3. Our analysis from December 2023 on populations impacted by the October 7 events and the predicted prevalence of mental health disorders

## Five focus patterns were identified

---



Foundations particularly support Nova survivors and evacuees from the north and south, with large grants dedicated to soldiers in active and reserve duty



Foundations target children, teens and young adults as main target demographics, and focus less on elderly population



Funding reached a broad number of groups, but Olim & LGBTQ+ left behind



Foundations focus more on clinical medical professionals than educational personnel (formal and informal)



Foundations turn to larger-scale interventions from a collective understanding that their true value lies outside the therapy room

**Trends and focus patterns in numbers**

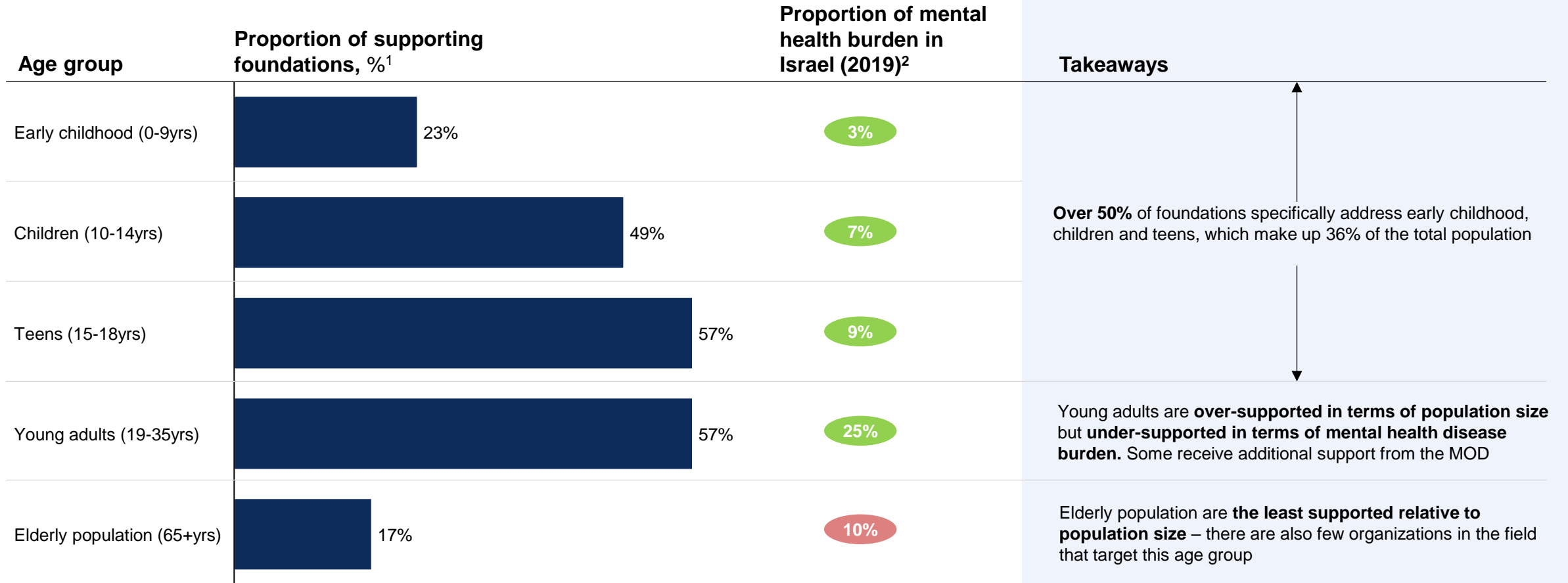


# Foundations particularly support Nova survivors and evacuees from the north and south, along with large grants for soldiers in active and reserve duty

Group		Proportion of supporting foundations, %	Civilian population, #	Post-trauma symptoms prevalence, December 2023 estimate	Insights
Evacuees	Evacuees from the north	51%	69,000	Similar to the general population on average	1. Equal focus to evacuees from the north and south based on questionnaire responses
	Evacuees from the south	51%	75,000		
Survivors	Survivors of massacres of the Nova party and adjacent parties	46%	3,000	5-10x that of the general population on average	2. Within directly-impacted groups, heightened focus on Nova survivors, with three grantees receiving multiple grants totalling several million
	Individuals kidnapped or returned and their families	37%	6,000		
	Grieving families from the events of October 7 and the war	37%			
	Soldiers (both in active duty and reserve duty) and their families	37%	630,000	Several of the grantees with the largest funding target current and former soldiers	
	First responders	31%	4,000		
	Survivors of October 7 massacre (not from Nova or adjacent parties)	23%	15,000		

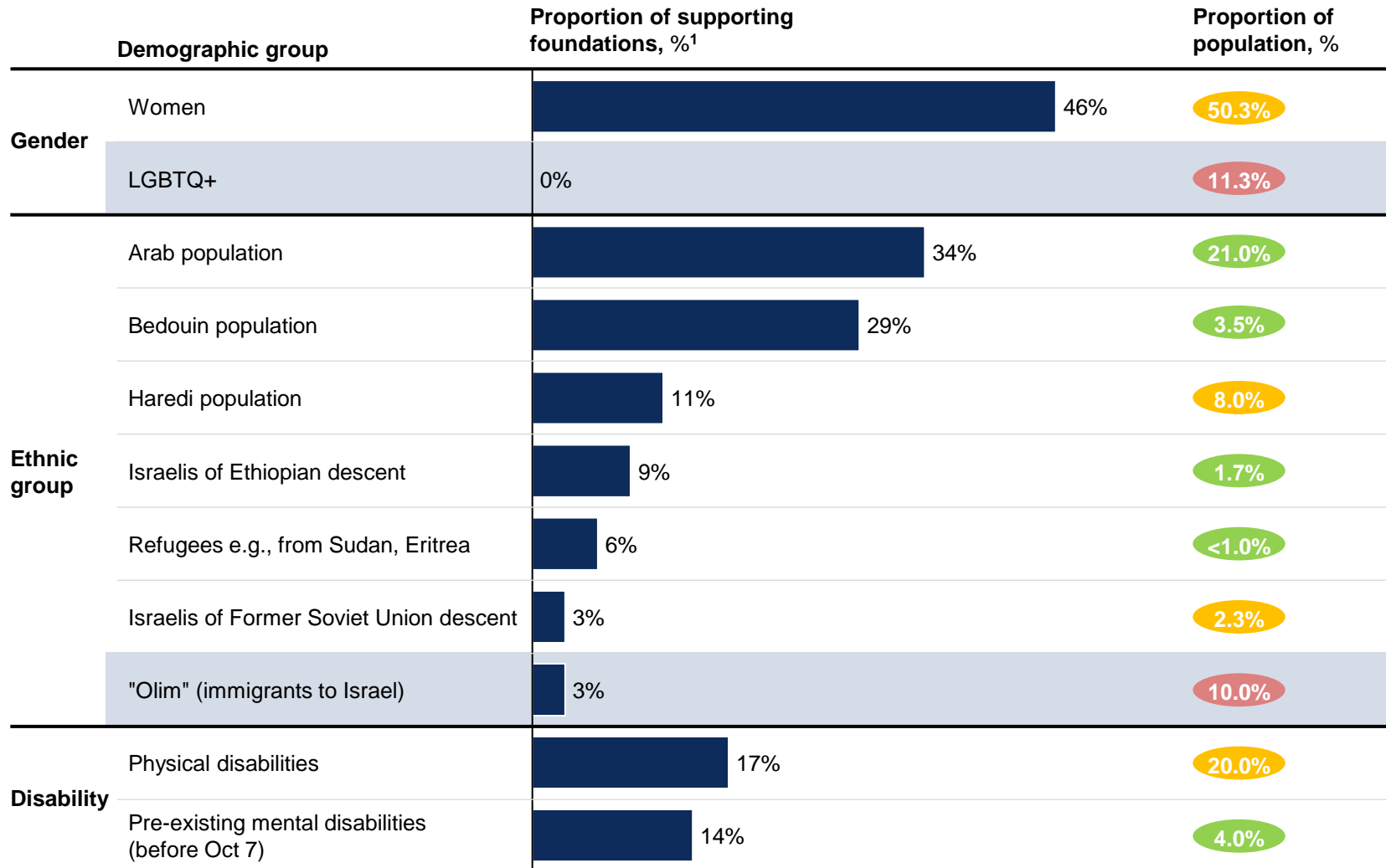
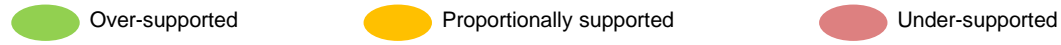
# Foundations target children, teens and young adults, and focus less on elderly population

● Over-supported     ● Under-supported



1. # of foundations targeting specific demographic group as a percentage of total supporting foundations (n=35)  
 2. Calculated as the proportion of anxiety and depression burden in DALYs. Data is specific to Israel not related to October 7 events. Source: IHME Global Burden of Disease 2019

# Funding reached a broad number of groups, with Olim & LGBTQ+ left behind

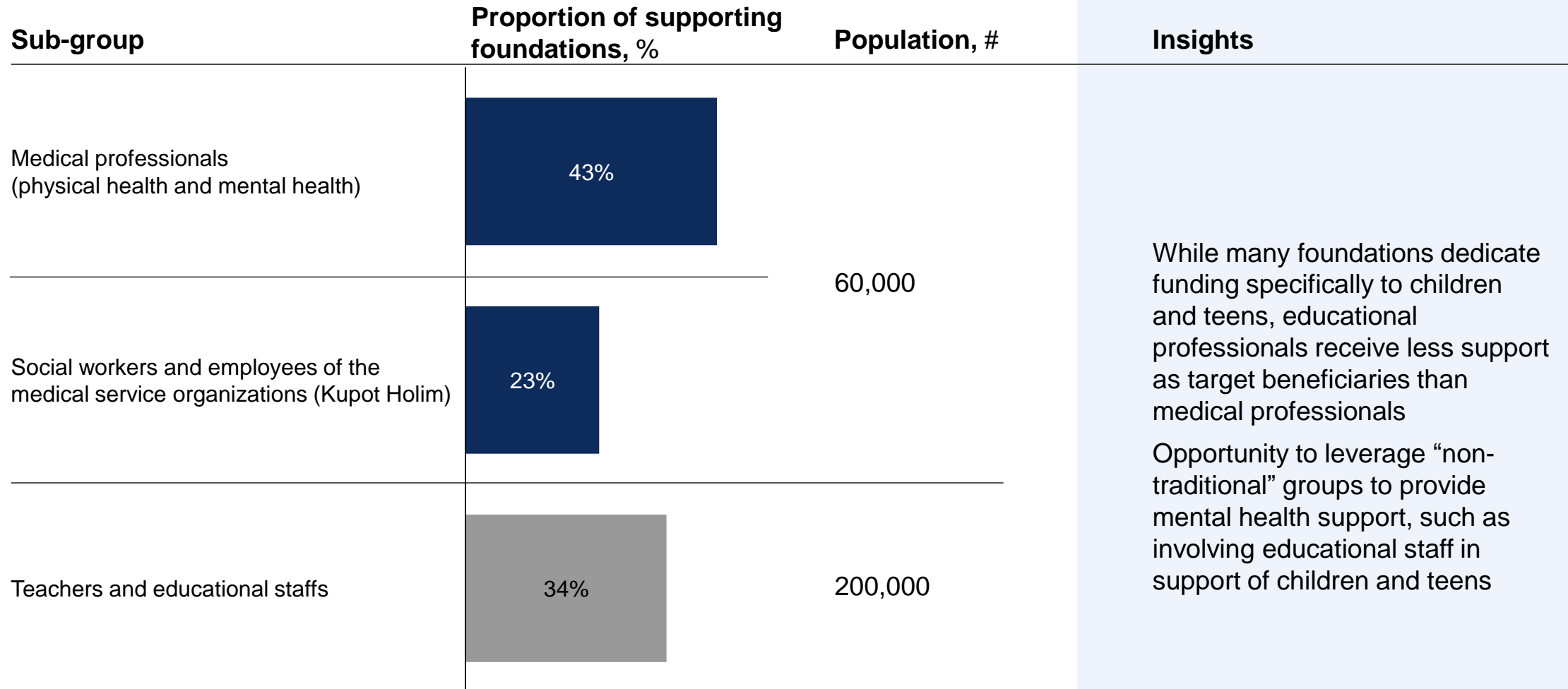


## Key theme

*After October 7, large funds were quickly redistributed to post-trauma causes, decreasing the philanthropic support to needs unrelated to the war*

1. # of foundations targeting specific demographic group as a percentage of total supporting foundations (n=35)

# Foundations focus more on medical than educational personnel

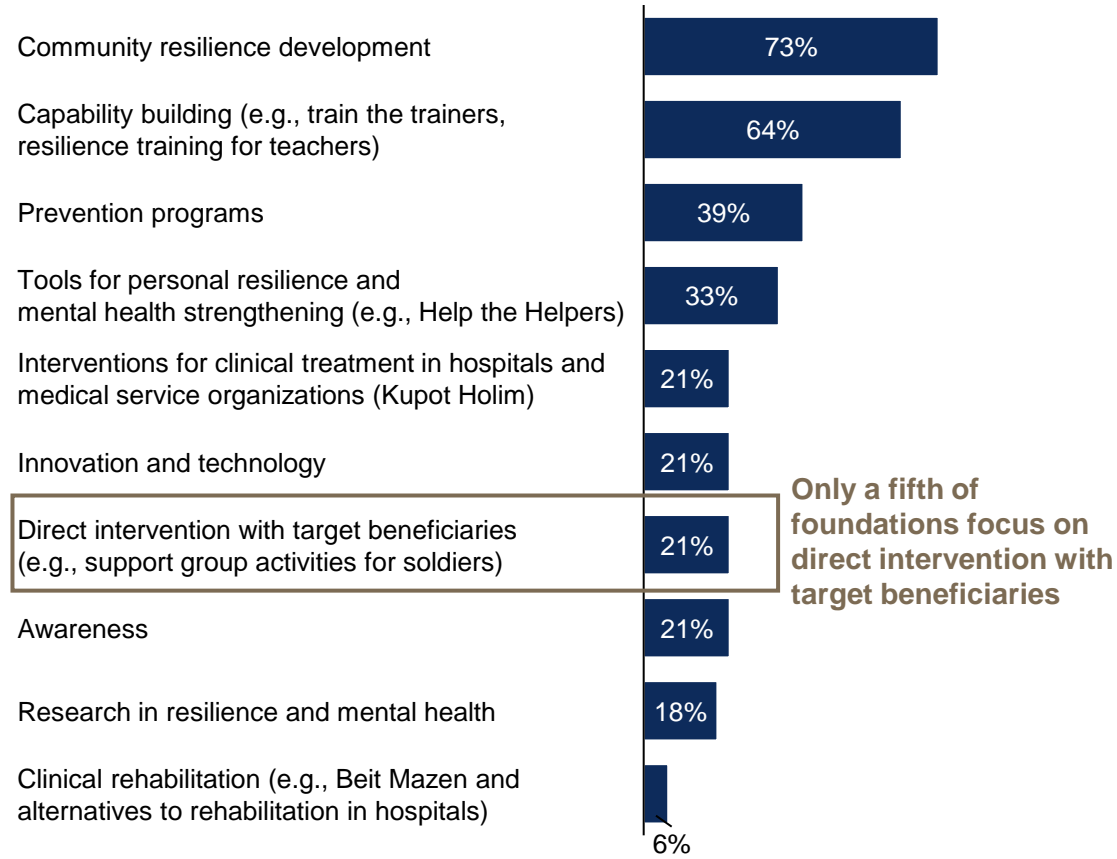


# Foundations favor indirect intervention and clinical treatment

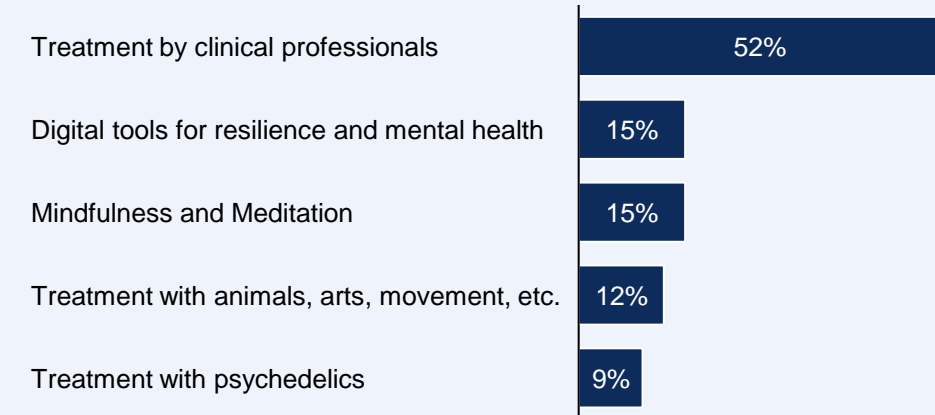
Indirect intervention = not funding clinical therapy hours

■ Proportion of supporting foundations, %

## Focus based on intervention strategy



## Focus based on treatment method



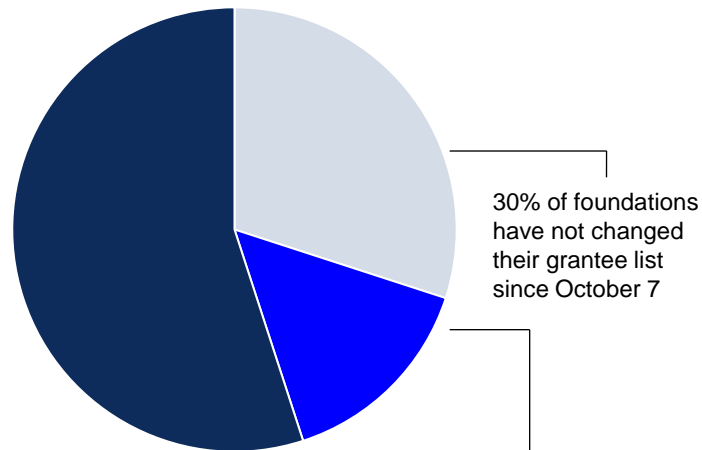
### Key theme

*Foundations turn to larger scale interventions and believe the main impact of their giving is outside the therapy room*

## Looking ahead:

### Foundations wish to have a more strategic impact on the field...

**55%** of foundations became more strategic since October 7...

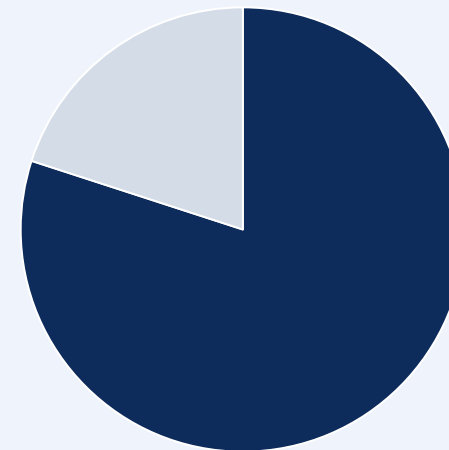


...and **15%** are currently undergoing strategic evaluation

Respondents also expressed a need for analyses and a deeper understanding of the evolving field, and a mapping of organizations based on target populations and focus areas

### ...and wish to work collaboratively for this cause

More than **80%** of foundations expressed a desire to **collaborate with others** in the resilience and mental health sector...



...and **1/3** identified **connections and collaboration with other foundations** as a bottleneck to enhance impact

---

## Questions for thought and discussion

---

- 
- 1 Given the rapidly changing situation in Israel, what do you believe are the most critical emerging needs?

---

  - 2 What do you feel that you need in order to improve your involvement and giving in the field of resilience and mental health in Israel?

---

  - 3 How can we as a broader funding community help each other and help the broader public space to address the continuing mental health challenges in Israeli society?
-