

Effectiveness of a Workshop to Reduce Violence and Alienation in Schools

August 2022



MATZMICHIM

The Israeli Violence
Reduction Organization

Background and Methodology

Background:

- Matzmichim Centers (Registered association) primary goal is to reduce violence in schools. It has been working for 18 years to minimize students' pain and suffering and to make classes in Israel safer as well as increase their sense of belonging.
- The center runs thousands of intervention workshops in classes and training for teachers and educators throughout the country. In the centers, the teachers get to know unique intervention models by demonstrating the center's working method directly to students.
- 2022 is the 6th year the center has evaluated the workshop's effectiveness and its contribution to violence prevention.

Goal:

- The evaluation of the satisfaction with the workshop and its contribution to the teacher's ability to prevent violence.

Methodology:

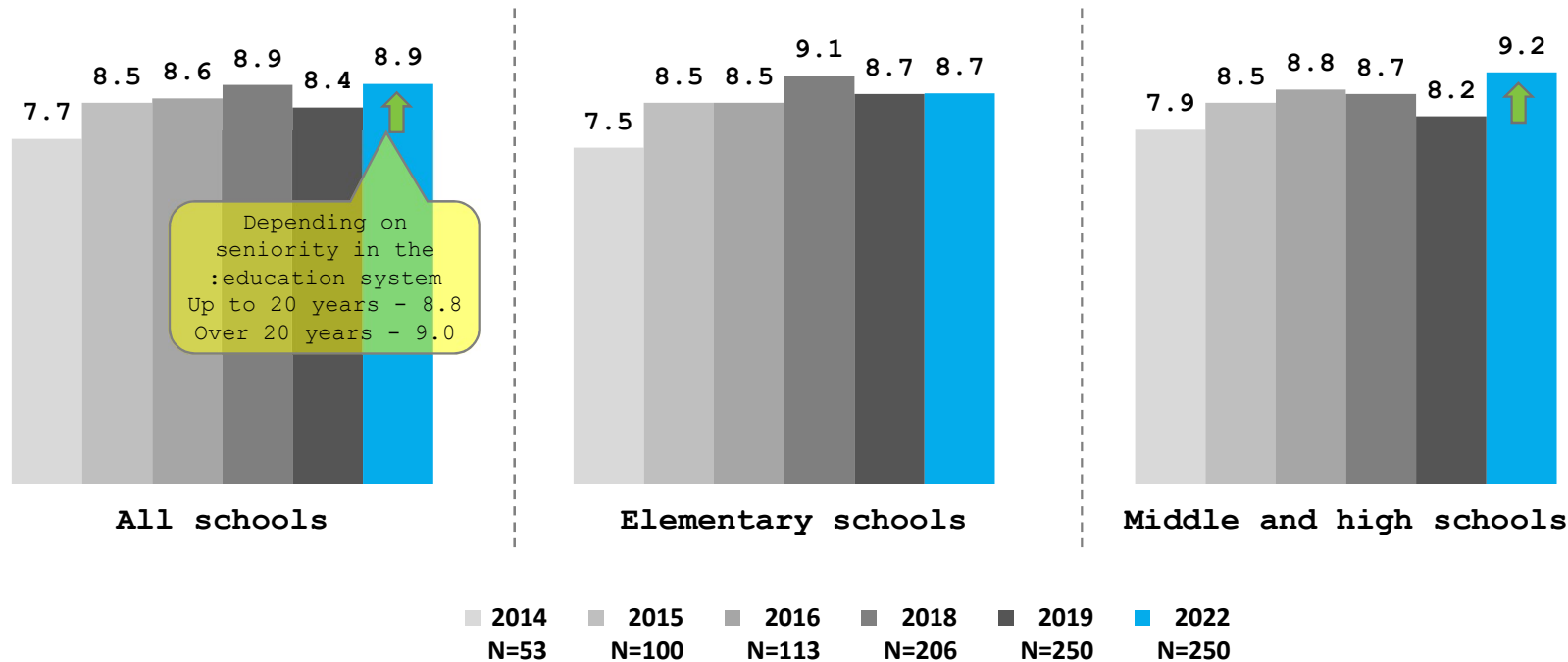
- A survey was conducted among 250 teachers who participated in the workshop: 137 teachers who teach in elementary schools, 112 teachers who teach in junior high schools and high schools.
- The date of the survey: during the month of July-August 2022.

Summary

- This year, the satisfaction with the workshop was high and at the same level as in 2018. Improvements were seen in more experienced teachers and middle and high school teachers.
- Teachers who participated in the workshops over the past year felt more than their predecessors that they received new tools and reported that it strengthened their emotional connection with their students.
- What is still missing is the continuity of the process through additional meetings during the year. These can help to integrate the new method into the daily educational routine.
- The weak spot is young teachers (up to 3 years seniority) competence in dealing with cases of actual violence. They report difficulties in implementing the tools they acquired in the face of claims of aggression and violence in the classroom. Especially compared to teachers with more seniority, there was a significant difference this year. These difficulties could be due to a general lack of experience with the education system. Matzmichim recommends additional counseling or guidance beyond the workshop..

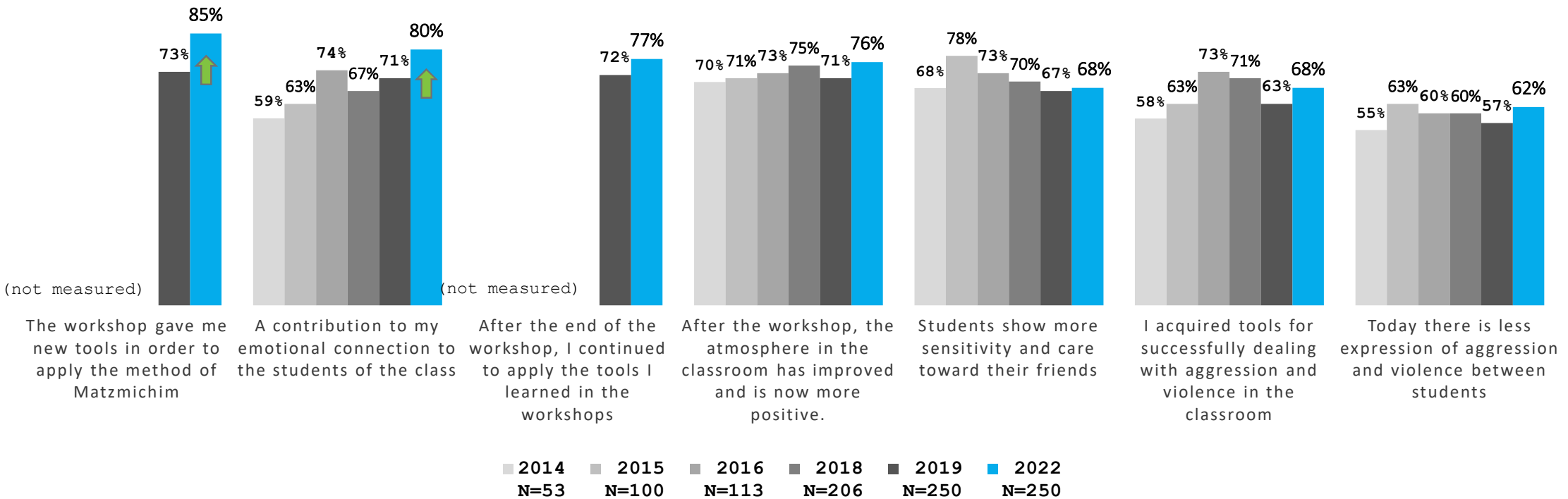
.This year, faculty satisfaction with the workshop has recovered, and faculty enthusiasm has reached new record level

Overall satisfaction with the workshop (average, scale of 1-10)

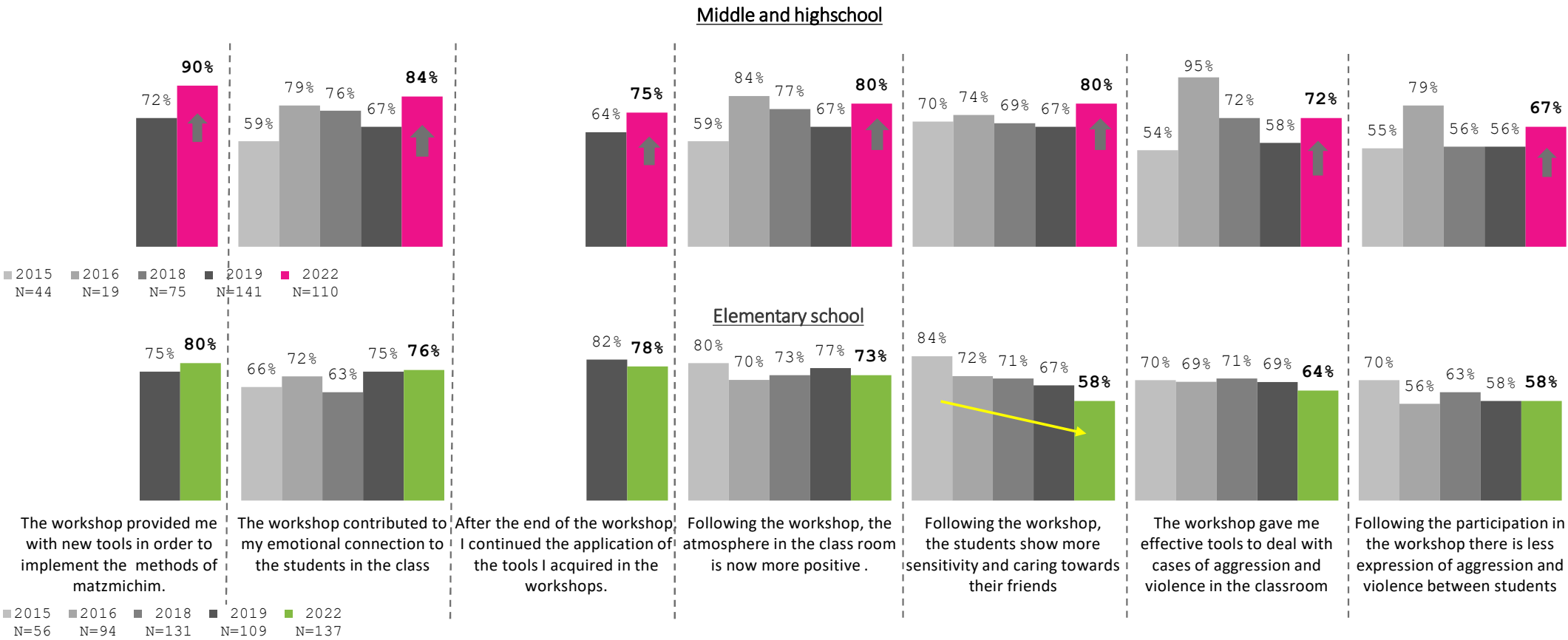


This year, teachers are more optimistic about the workshop's impact in practice - and even more confident in the tools the Matzmichim Method gives them and in the workshop's contribution to their emotional connection with their students in the classroom

Perception of the actual workshop's impact (agreement rate in % according to each statement)

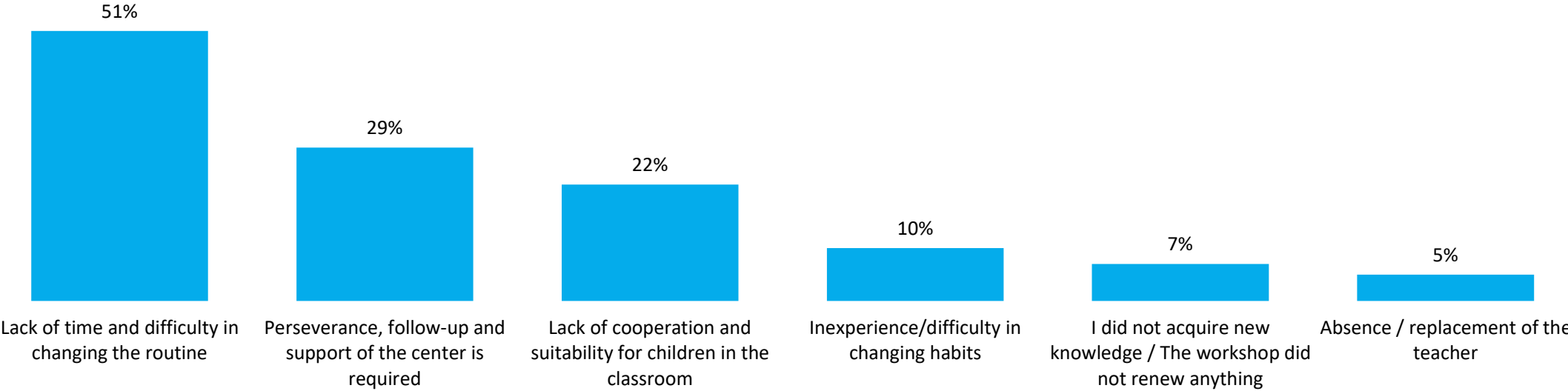


The implementation of the method improved in middle and high schools. At the same time, elementary schools are succeeding in implementing the techniques and tools, but the workshop's contribution to student sensitivity and caring in the classroom erodes over time. *Perception of the effect of the workshop in practice (the rate of agreement with each statement)*



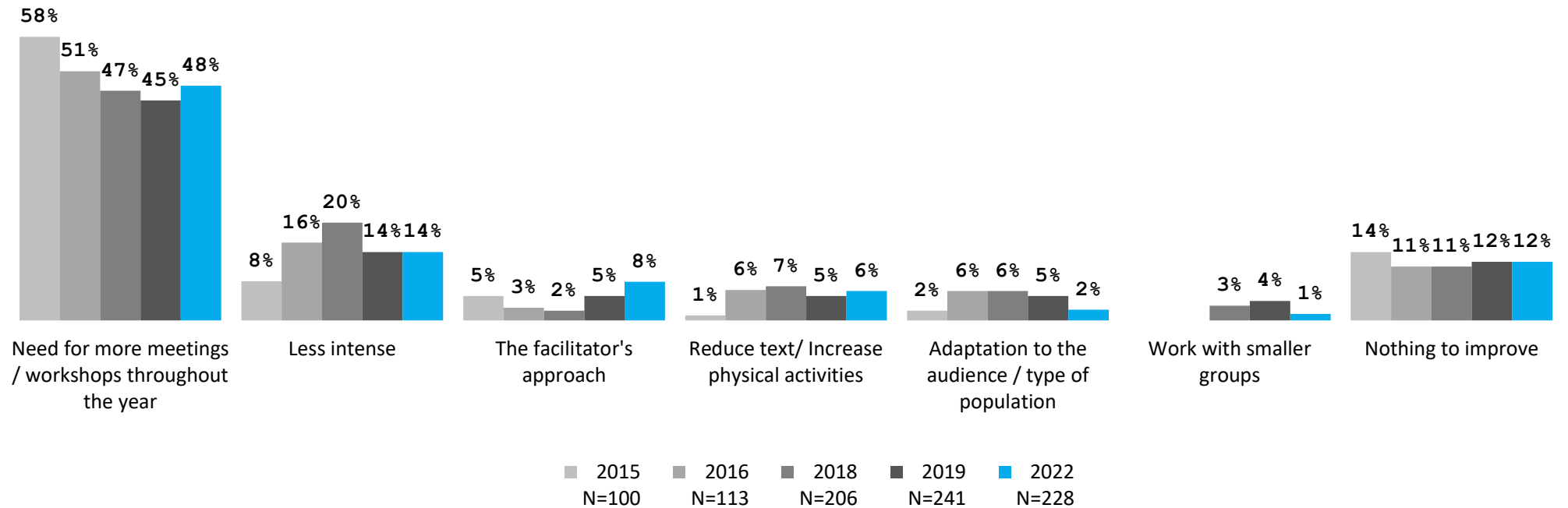
The teachers continue to struggle with time and routine challenges when trying to apply the tools they have acquired. In addition, there is a lack of cooperation on the student's part. Therefore, every third teacher needs support and systemic motivation to integrate the method into the learning routine.

Barriers to the implementation of the tools taught in the workshop (among those who gave a relatively low score in the parameter "implementation of tools" N=41)



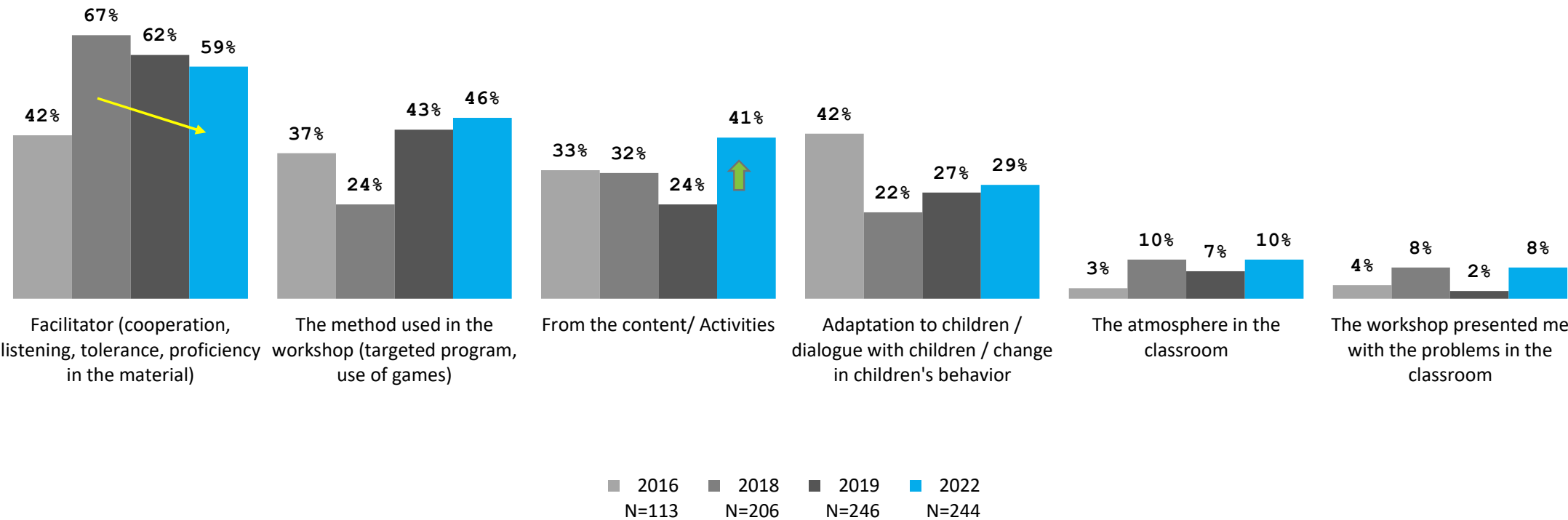
As in the past, every other teacher (regardless of seniority) raises the need for continuity of the process by offering additional sessions during the school year

Suggestions for improving the workshop - all participants



The connection with the facilitator still dramatically influences the satisfaction and success of the workshop. But not just that- this year, the quality of the content/activities and the method's effectiveness also influenced the results.

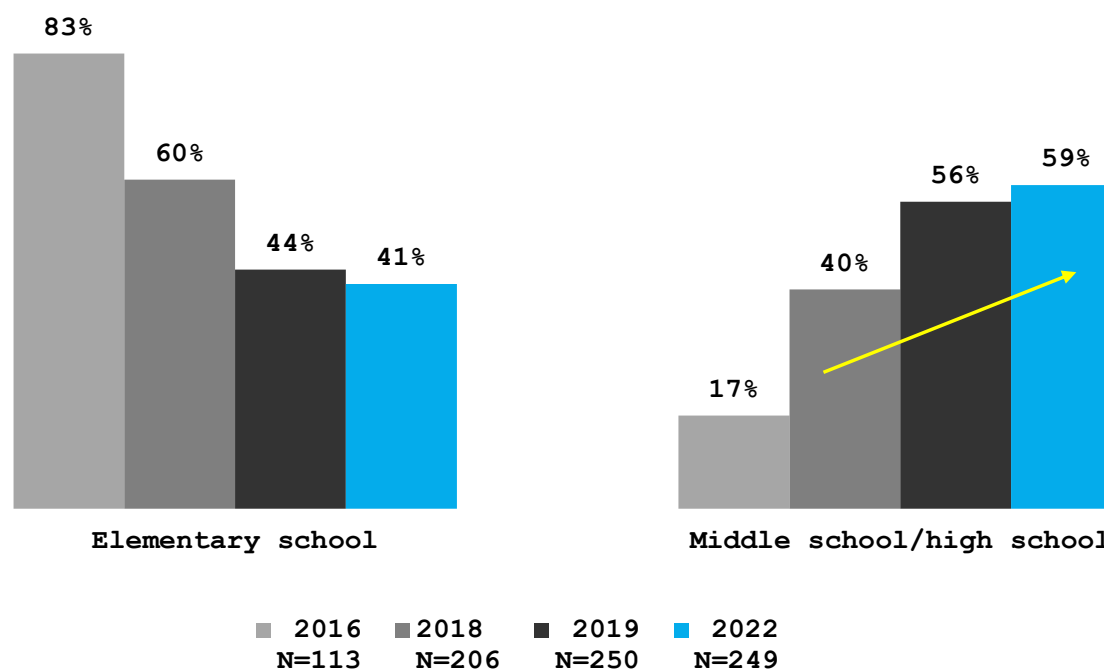
Satisfaction factors from the workshop - all participants



The phrasing of the question:
- What did you like about the workshop? [Open question.]
Answers add up to more than 100% because of the possibility of giving more than one answer.

The share of secondary schools has increased in the feedback survey over the years and is stable compared to 2019.

Sample structure – school type



Less experienced teachers (up to 3 years of seniority) still struggle to apply the tools they acquired in cases of aggression and violence in the classroom. Especially this year, the difference between less experienced and more experienced teachers is evident.

Evaluation of the workshop according to the seniority of the teacher

Over 20 years	years 10-20	years 3-7	Up to 3 years	Overall satisfaction with the workshop (average)	
9.0 ↓	9.2 ↑	8.7	8.6		
85 ↑	86 ↑	81	90 ↑	The workshop provided me with new tools to implement the Matzmichim- Method.	Perception of the effect of the workshop in practice <i>(the rate of agreement with each statement)</i>
82 ↑	81	76	79	Contributing to my emotional connection to the students in the class	
71	89 ↑	68	86 ↑	After the workshop's end, I continued applying the tools you acquired in the workshops.	
76	80	76	66	Following the workshop, the atmosphere in the classroom has improved and is now more positive.	
75	70	65	55	Students show more sensitivity and caring towards their peers	
73	72	70	44 ↓	Obtaining tools to successfully deal with cases of aggression and violence in the classroom.	
66	64	63	45	Nowadays, there is less expression of aggression and violence between students.	

Teachers in the Arab-Israeli sector express a similar overall satisfaction level as teachers in the Jewish sector. However, when it comes to the practice and impact of the workshop, teachers in the Arab sector rate the contribution of the workshop more positively. They are satisfied with the tools provided to them and their use in the classroom, with the creation of an emotional connection with the students, with the improvement of the atmosphere in the classroom, and with the appearance of sensitivity and caring in the students. The challenge is maintaining satisfaction and appreciation in the Arab sector in the long term.

Evaluation of the workshop by sectors

Arab Sector N=44	Jewish Sector N=205		
9.1	8.9	Overall satisfaction with the workshop (average)	
95	82 ↓	The workshop provided me with new tools to implement the Matzmichim- Method	Perception of the effect of the workshop in practice (the rate of agreement with each statement)
95	76	Contributing to my emotional connection to the students in the class	
91	74	After the workshop's end, I continued applying the tools you acquired in the workshops.	
88	74	Following the workshop, the atmosphere in the classroom has improved and is now more positive.	
91	63	Students show more sensitivity and caring toward their peers	
Only 5 respondents	67 (129 Respondents)	Obtaining tools to successfully deal with cases of aggression and violence in the classroom	
75	59	Nowadays, there is less expression of aggression and violence between students	