

## ISS: Victim Survey 2007

January 2008

---

“Studying social phenomenon makes for better science and more informed policy debate”  
*American Sociological Association, 2003*

## Site map

**1. Providing some context**

**2. Nuts & bolts**

**3. General thinking on crime**

**4. Personal safety**

**5. Individual & community responses to crime**

**6. Witness killings**

**12. Executive Summary and a few thoughts**

**7. Policing**

**8. Courts**

**9. Corruption**

**10. Experience of crime**

**11. Justification of crime**

## Background

ISS: Victim Survey 2007 aimed at collecting information on people's opinions about:

- General Thinking / Beliefs on Crime
- Personal Safety
- Individual and community response to crime
- Experience as a witness of killings
- Victim Support and Other Interventions
- Citizen Interaction / Social Cohesion
- Police
- Courts
- Corruption
- Experiences of crime

The study covered all 9 provinces in South Africa and a total of 4 500 interviews were conducted across the study locations.

## Unpacking overall organisation vs. research objectives

### Organisation objectives

As one of Africa's leading human security research institutions the ISS is focused on ensuring it:

- **Engages the international debate** on human security, informing the debate with an **African perspective**
- **Builds capacity** at a senior level (within both governmental and non-governmental agencies) through assistance in terms of policy development and implementation monitoring

### Project objectives

To successfully **develop an accurate and realistic understanding of South Africa's crime levels**, thus creating a foundation for effective, informed and impactful policies and programmes for policy makers, researchers and the public at large

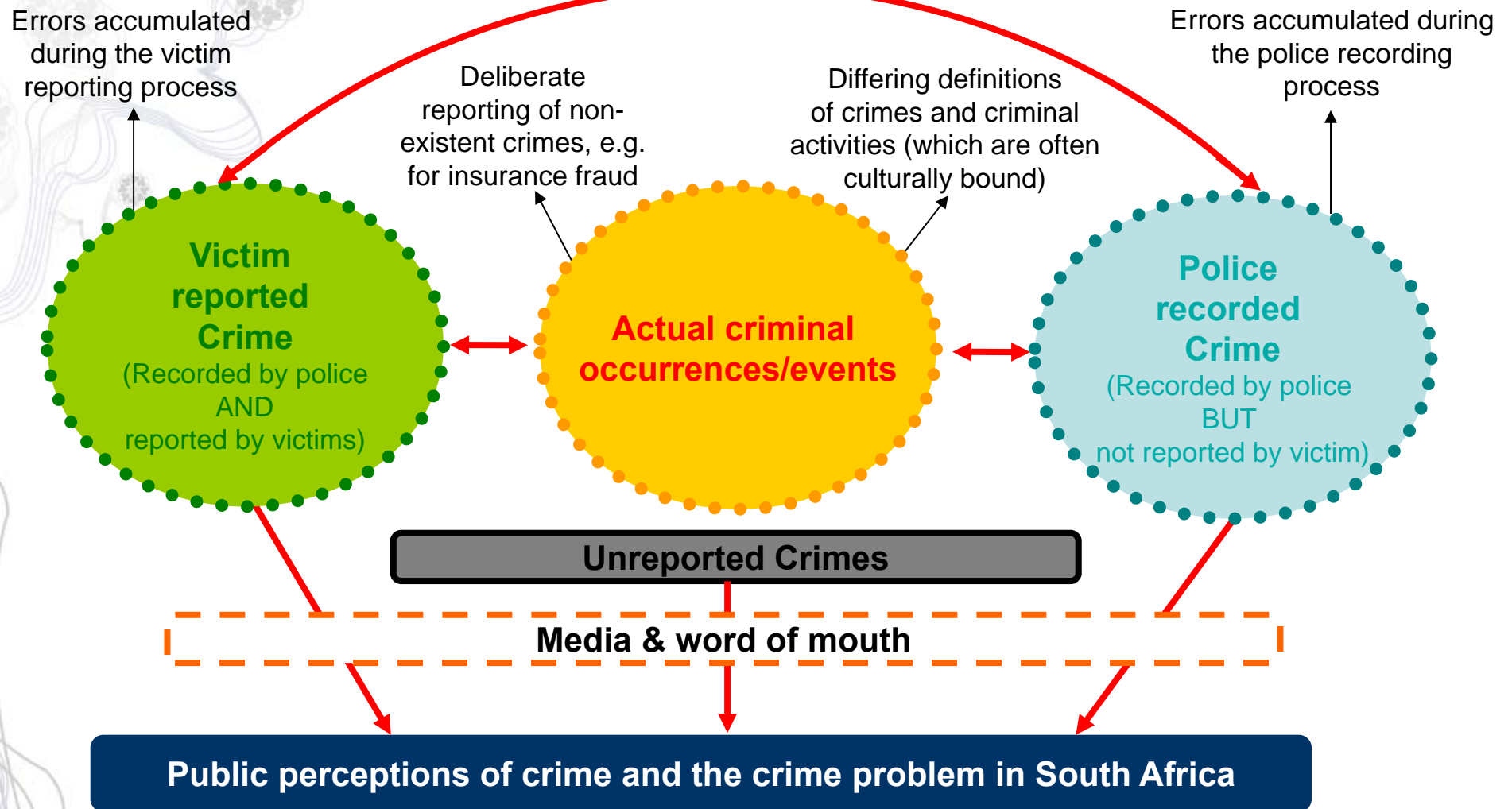
### Research objectives

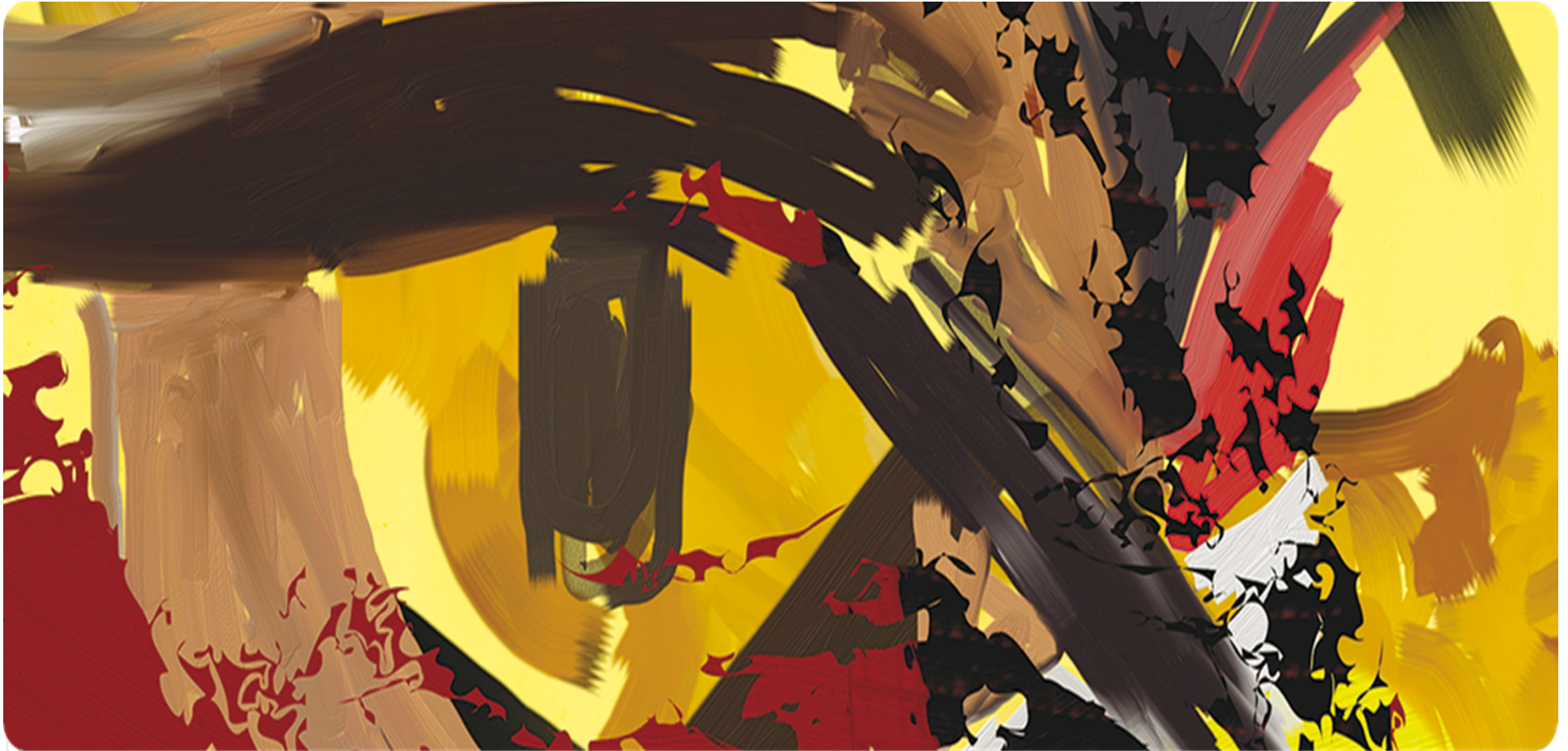
To collect data from South African adults on **levels of victimisation** according to specific crime type and **better understand these crime experiences**, enhance understandings of the **nature of these crimes**, uncover and assess **public perception of crime, safety and the criminal justice system** as a whole.

Ipsos Markinor will do a comparative analysis with the 1998 and 2003 Victims surveys if provided with the datasets from these surveys.



## Aspects of compiling crime statistics





---

**Nuts & bolts**





## Field Design

### Data Collection Technique:

A face-to-face personal interviewing technique was used in respondents' homes using a probability sampling method.

### Respondents:

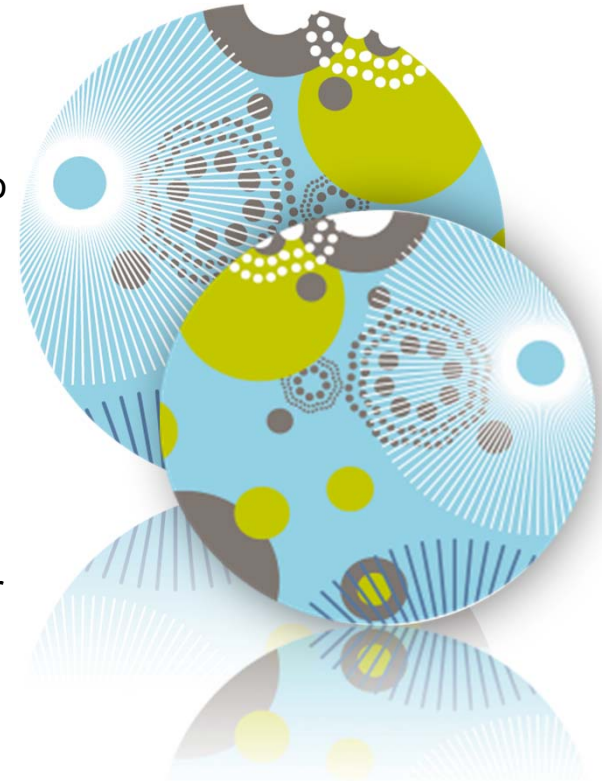
The survey was based on a representative sample of the population; both male and female respondents aged 16 years and above and who are residents in South Africa.

### Briefing/Training:

The project was briefed into field on 5 October 2007. All the relevant field and data processing people attended the briefing. A teleconference was also held in the same meeting with all branch managers.

During the briefing sessions [this cuts across all the study locations], the following points were fully explained and discussed amongst other relevant points:

- The project objectives and background to the study
- Sampling methodologies to be adopted
- Definitions crimes
- Procedure on questionnaire's administration
- The questionnaire



## Field Design

### **Mock Sessions and Trial Calls:**

At the end of the briefing sessions each interviewer conducted a mock interview. The mock interviews were checked by Robyn Pharoah on behalf of the ISS, the quality control and editing departments. This was followed by a feedback session to all interviewers.

### **Questionnaire Translation:**

In order to facilitate the quality of field operations, the questionnaire was translated Afrikaans, Zulu, Xhosa, South Sotho, Tswana and North Sotho (Pedi).

### **Actual Fieldwork Duration:**

The fieldwork took place from 15 October 2007 to 23 November 2007.

### **Sampling procedure:**

Selection of respondents for the project followed a probability sampling procedure



## Field Design

### **The question-by-question review:**

The following are problems encountered by or comments made by interviewers and supervisors working on this study:

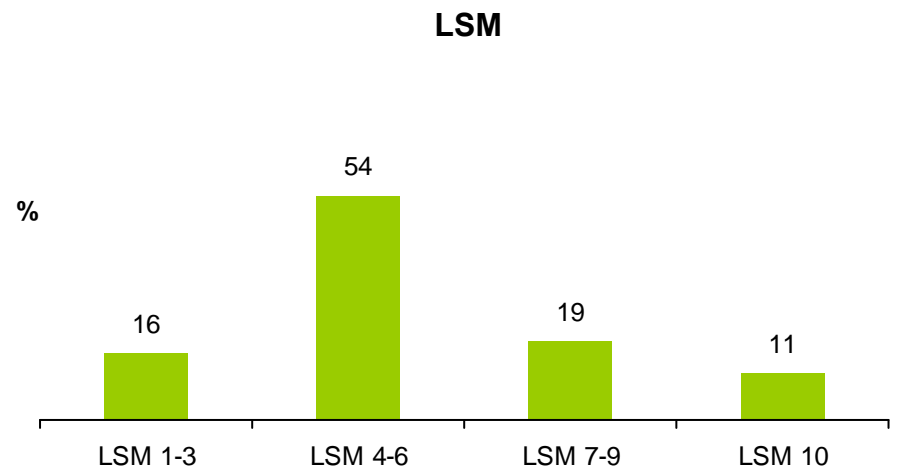
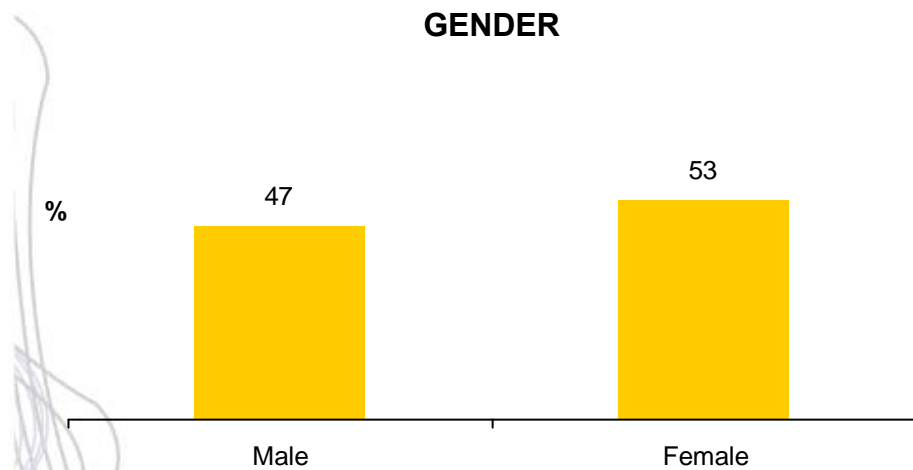
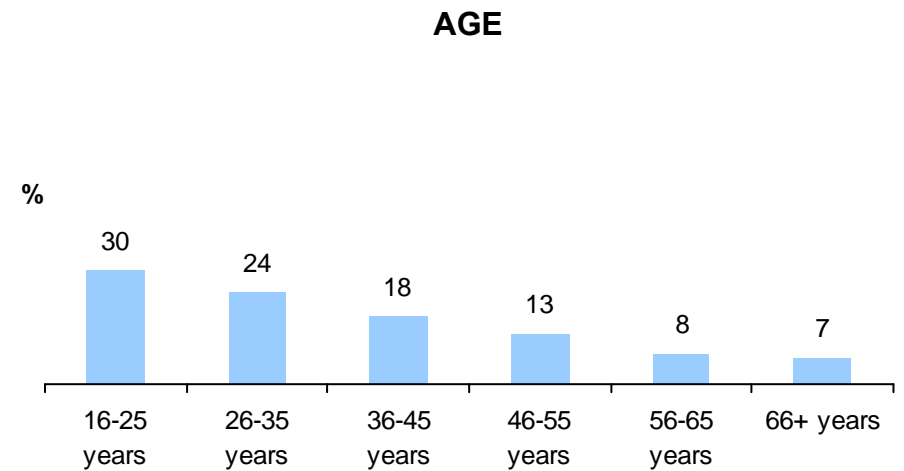
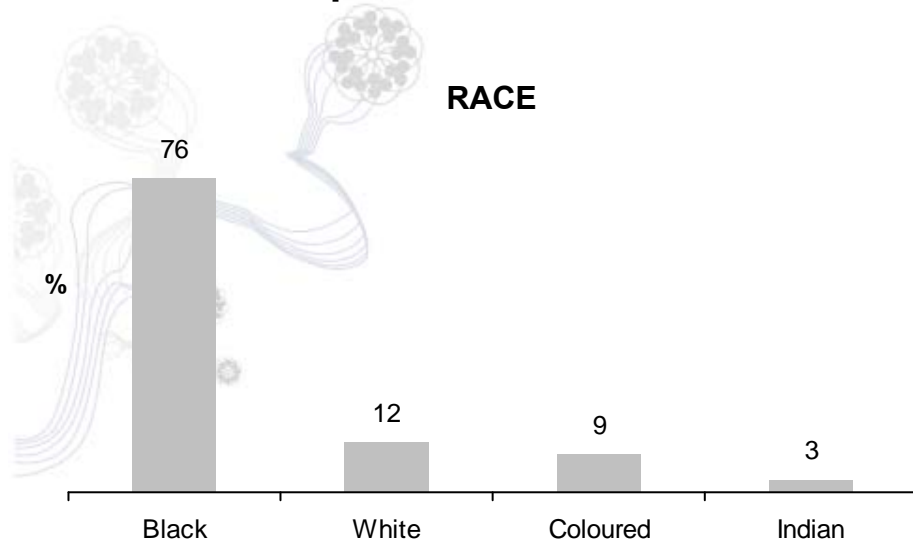
Page 7, Q.1.5 – The question indicates showcard and there wasn't one supplied with the questionnaire

Page 8, Q.2.1.2 – Did not know if this question included garages and maids quarters

Page 17, Q.5.3.2 – battled to get One Mention Only as some people wanted to give multiple mentions

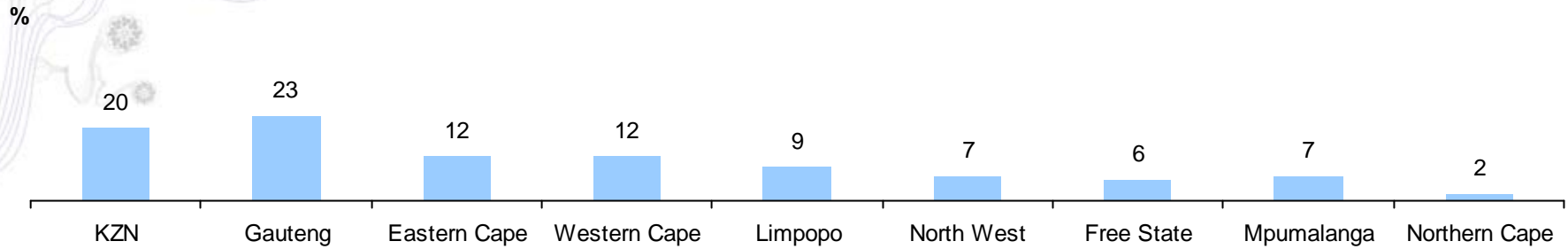


## Achieved sample frame

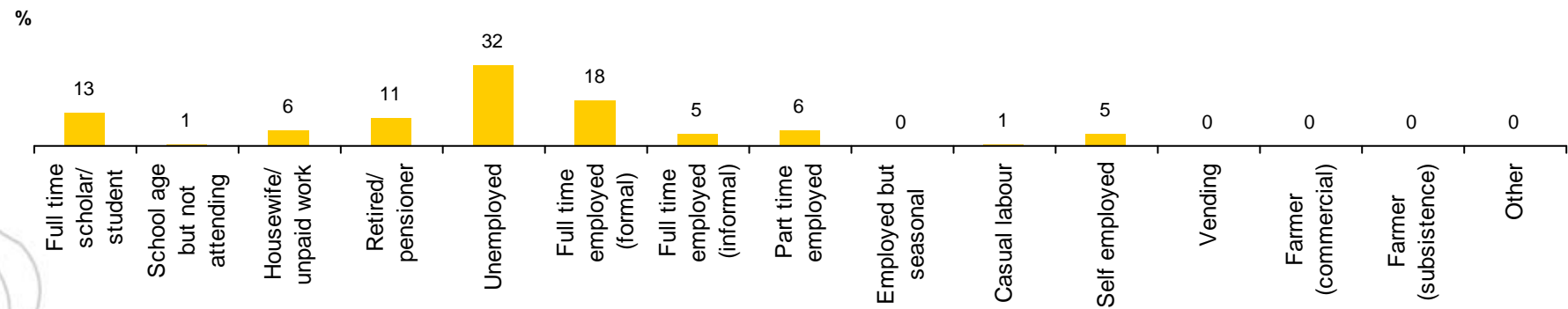


## Achieved sample frame

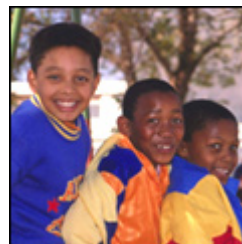
### PROVINCE



### OCCUPATION



## What South Africans had to say...





Please note that  
not all charts  
may add up to 100%,  
as in some cases  
“don’t know” and  
“refused” responses  
have not been included,  
depending on their  
content and relevance

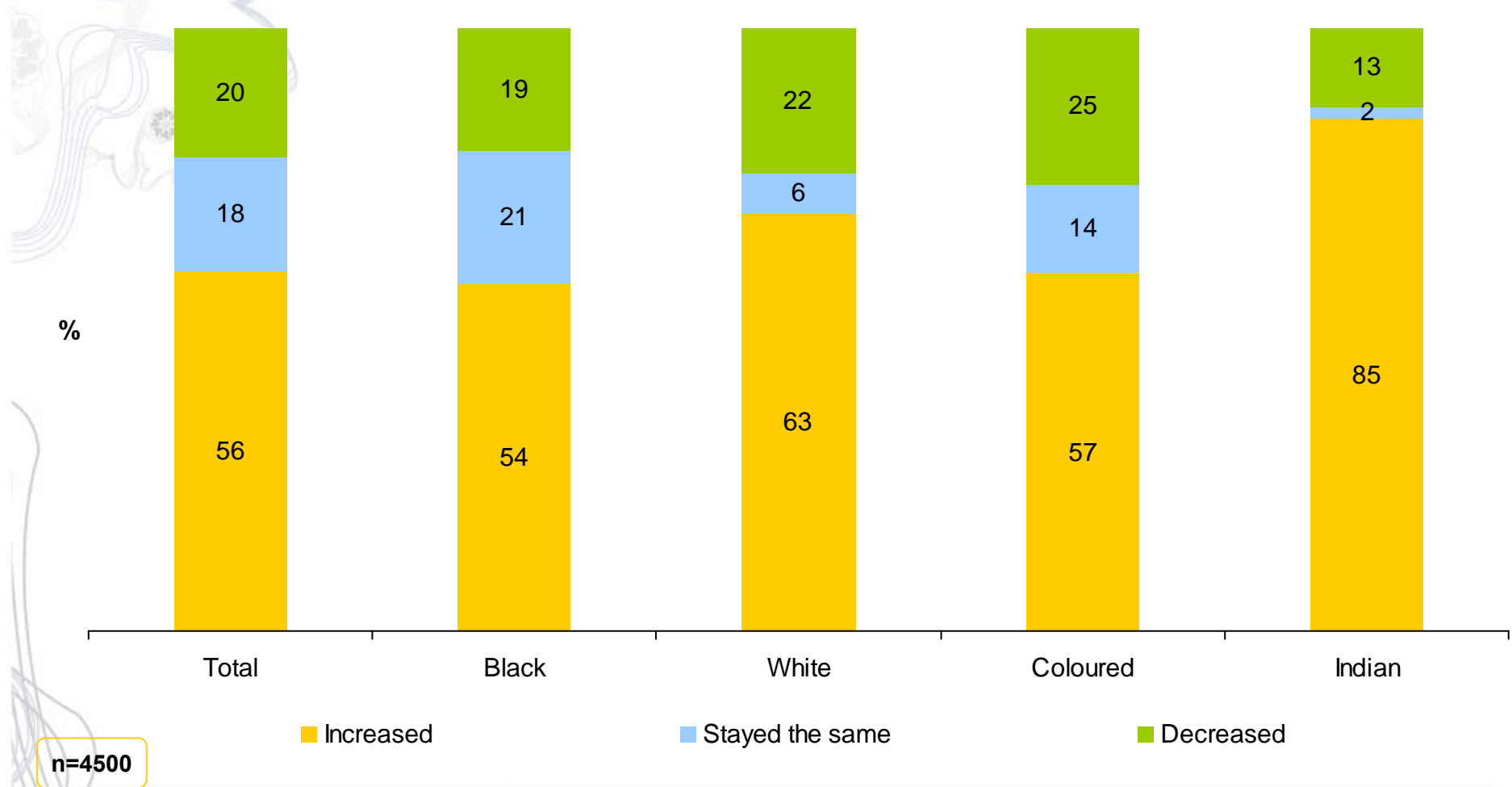




**General thinking/beliefs on crime**

## Perceptions of crime levels

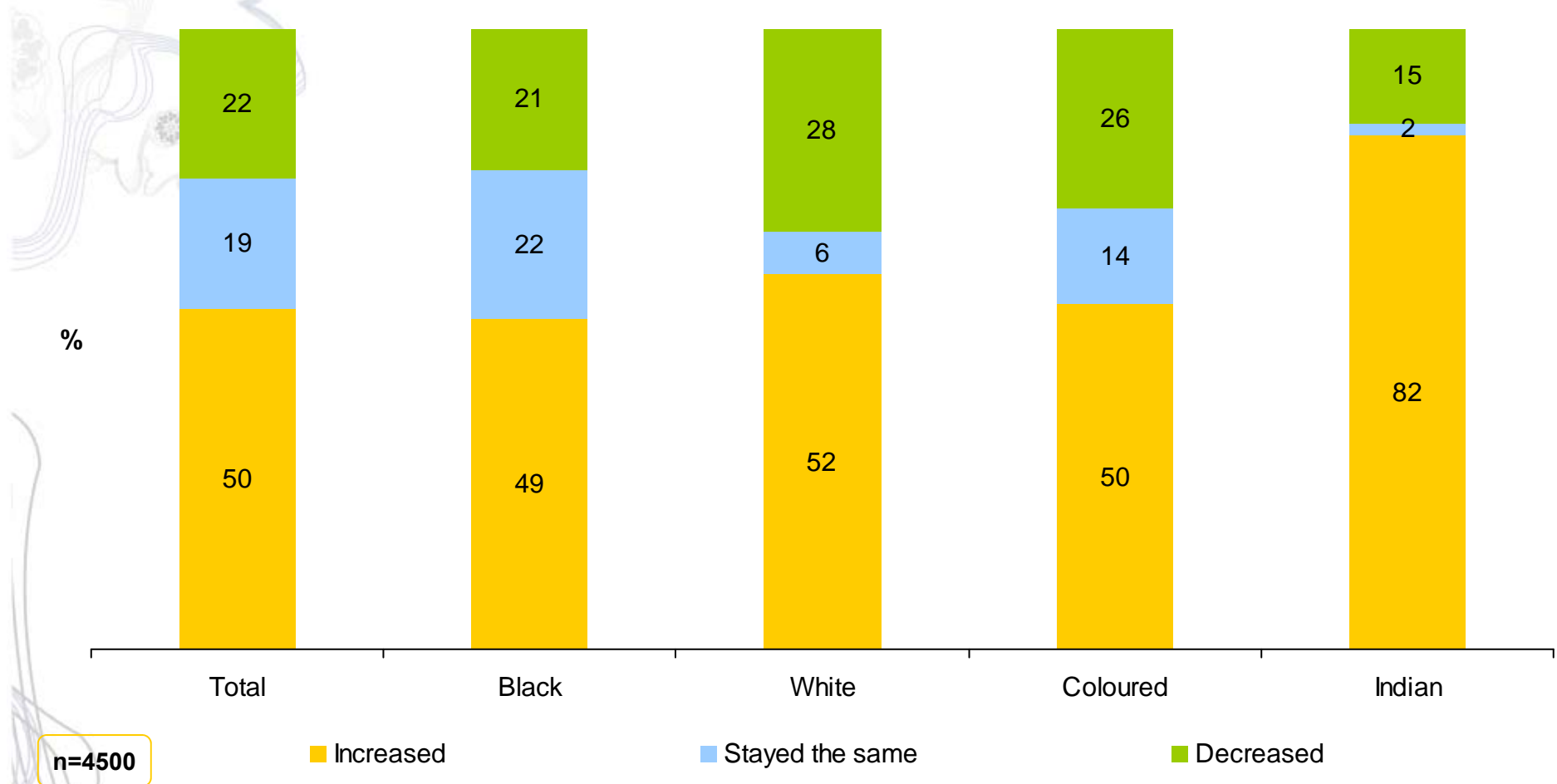
Do you think crime has increased, decreased or stayed the same in your area in the last 4 years (Oct 2003-2007)?



The feeling among the majority of South Africans is that there has been a rise in crime over the past 4 years. This sense is particularly marked among Indians. Blacks are most likely to regard the levels of crime to have dropped over this period.

## Perceptions of crime levels

Do you think violent crime has increased, decreased or stayed the same in your area in the last 4 years (Oct 2003-2007)?

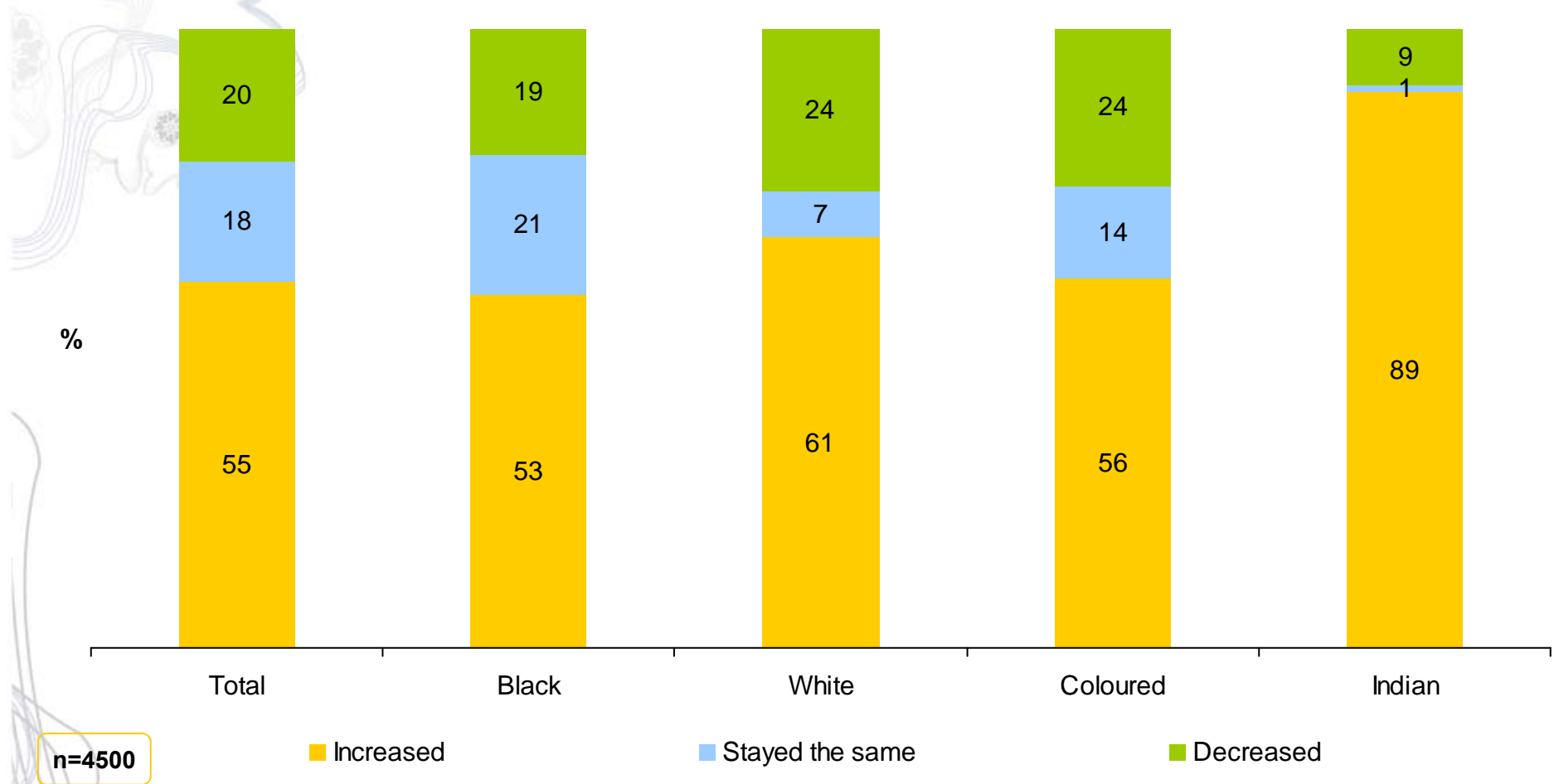


Note again the startling results among Indian respondents when compared to the other population groups. Is this group more vulnerable and susceptible to criminal attacks than others, or is this just a perception? One possible explanation could be the wealthier Indian community's proximity in some cases to more marginal, poorer communities, perhaps making them more exposed to criminal activities.



## Perceptions of crime levels

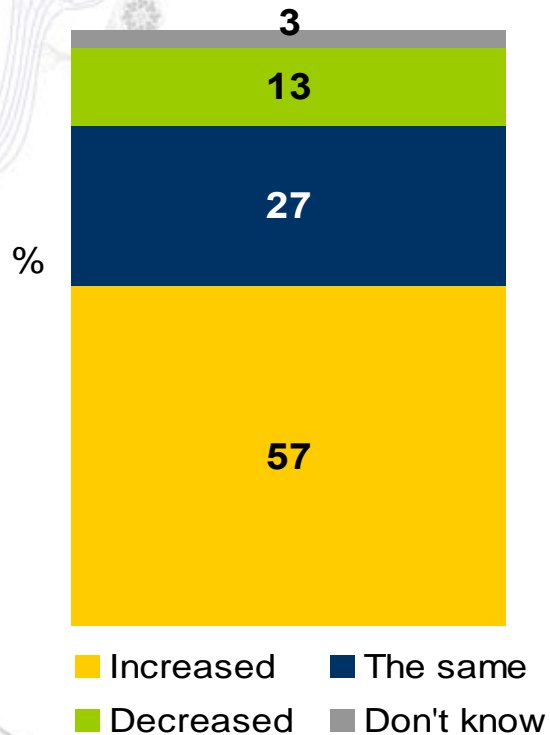
Do you think property crime has increased, decreased or stayed the same in your area in the last 4 years (Oct 2003-2007)?



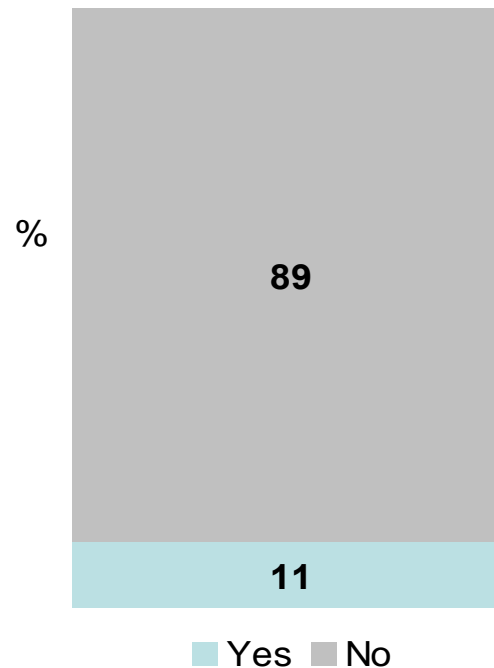
The question on property crime in the past 4 years recorded the highest negative response among Indian respondents.

## Perceptions on crime levels: Cross-checking results with Project Crime

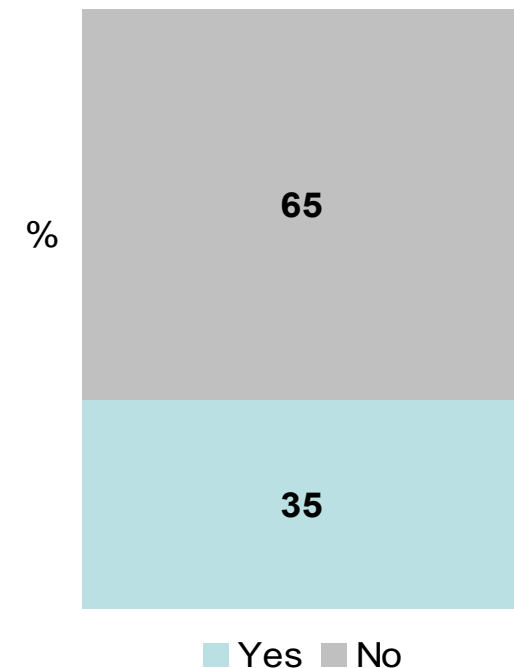
Do you think the crime rate has increased, decreased or stayed the same over the past 6 months?



Have you personally been a victim of any kind of crime in the last 6 months?



Has anybody you know been a victim of any kind of crime in the last 6 months?



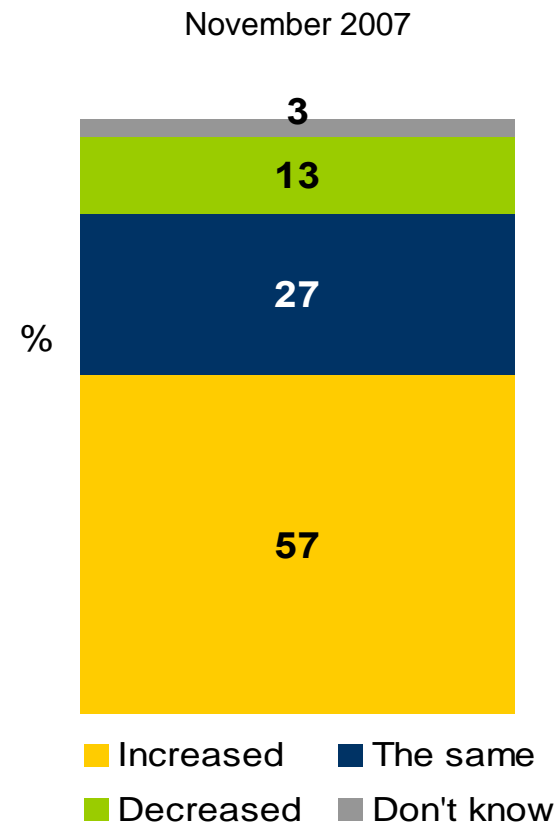
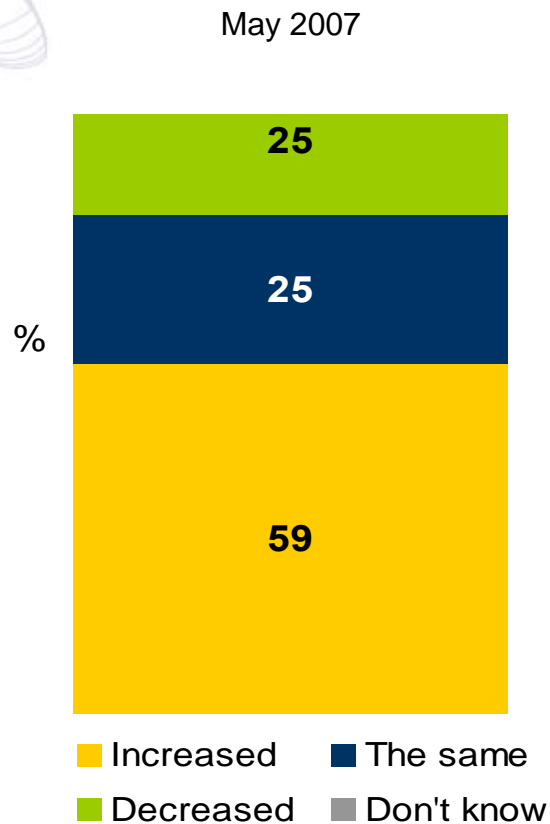
Source: Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime  
November 2007

Perception of the crime problem in South Africa is much worse than reality. There was no statistically significant difference in the responses received from men and women. Interestingly, corresponding with the Victims Survey, Indians were recorded as having disproportionately higher levels of negative perceptions AND victimisation, accounting for their overall more negative perceptions of the problem in South Africa.



## Perceptions on crime levels: Cross-checking results with Project Crime

Do you think the crime rate has increased, decreased or stayed the same over the past 6 months?



Source: Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime  
November 2007

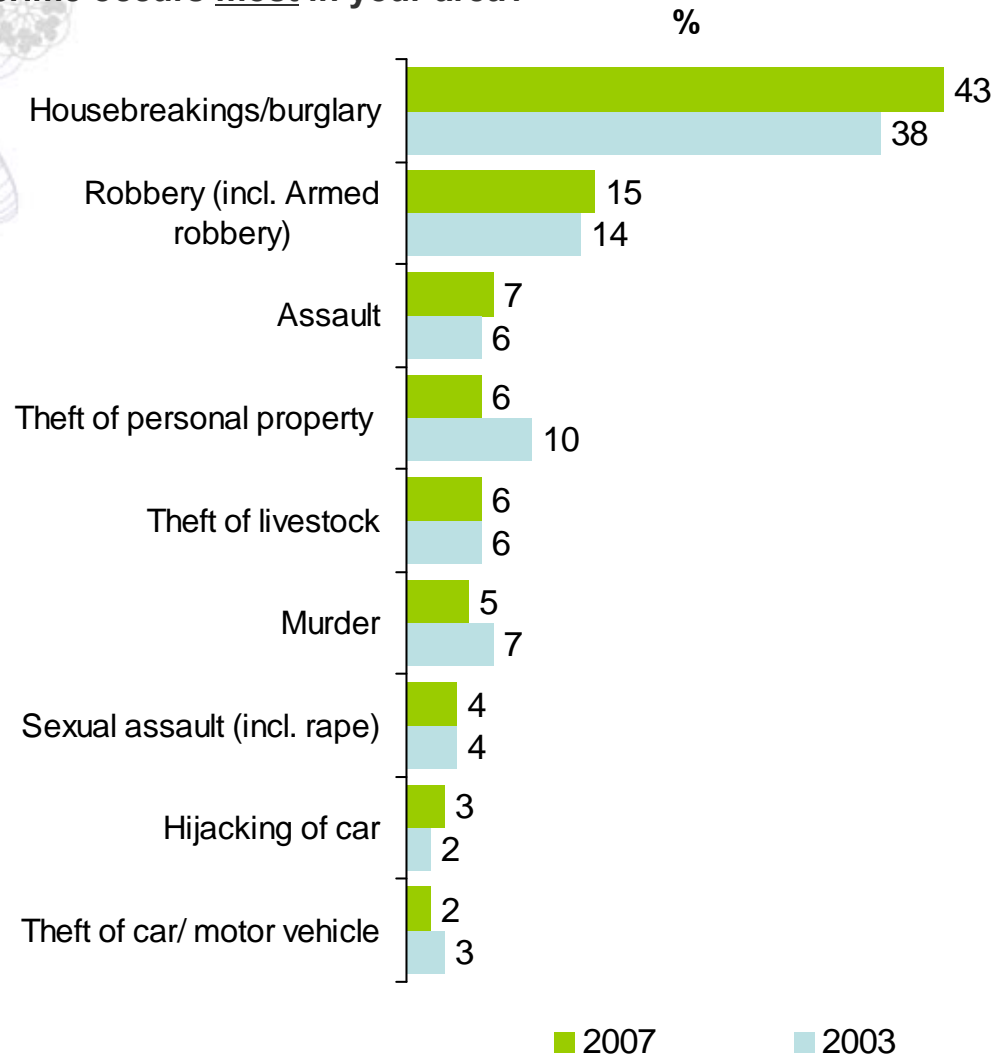
Perceptions that crime has increased are at lower levels than those measured 6 months ago, but not at a statistically significant level. On a sample size of 3500 differences of 3% or more are statistically significant.



## Perceptions of crime levels

What one type of crime occurs most in your area?

-Total-



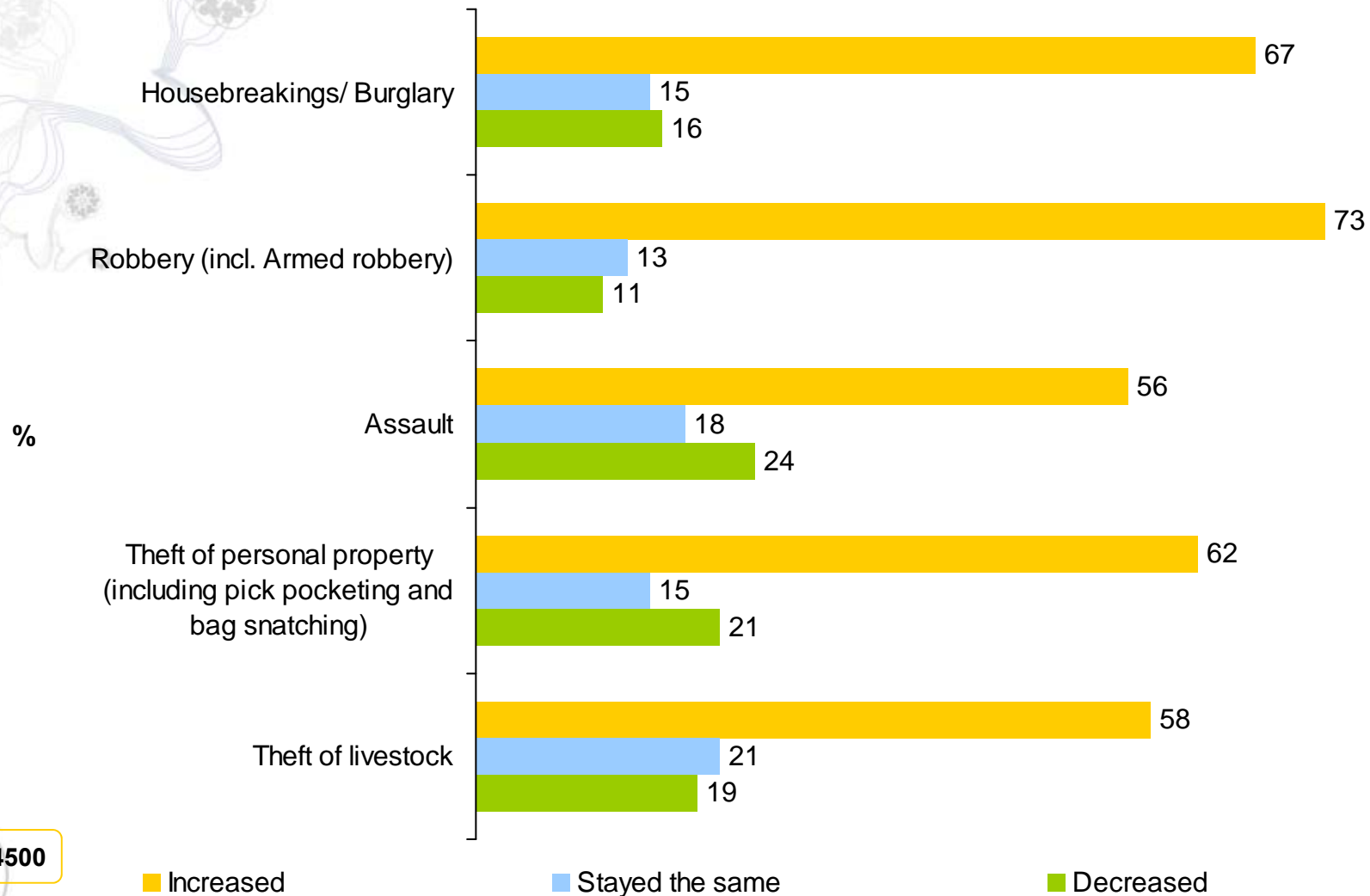
n=4500

The perception that housebreakings are by far the most commonly occurring crime is reinforced by the fact that this is the crime that the greatest percentage of South Africans have experienced, and undoubtedly influenced by word of mouth as well.



## Perceptions of crime levels

How do you think this crime has changed over the past 4 years (Oct 2003-2007)?



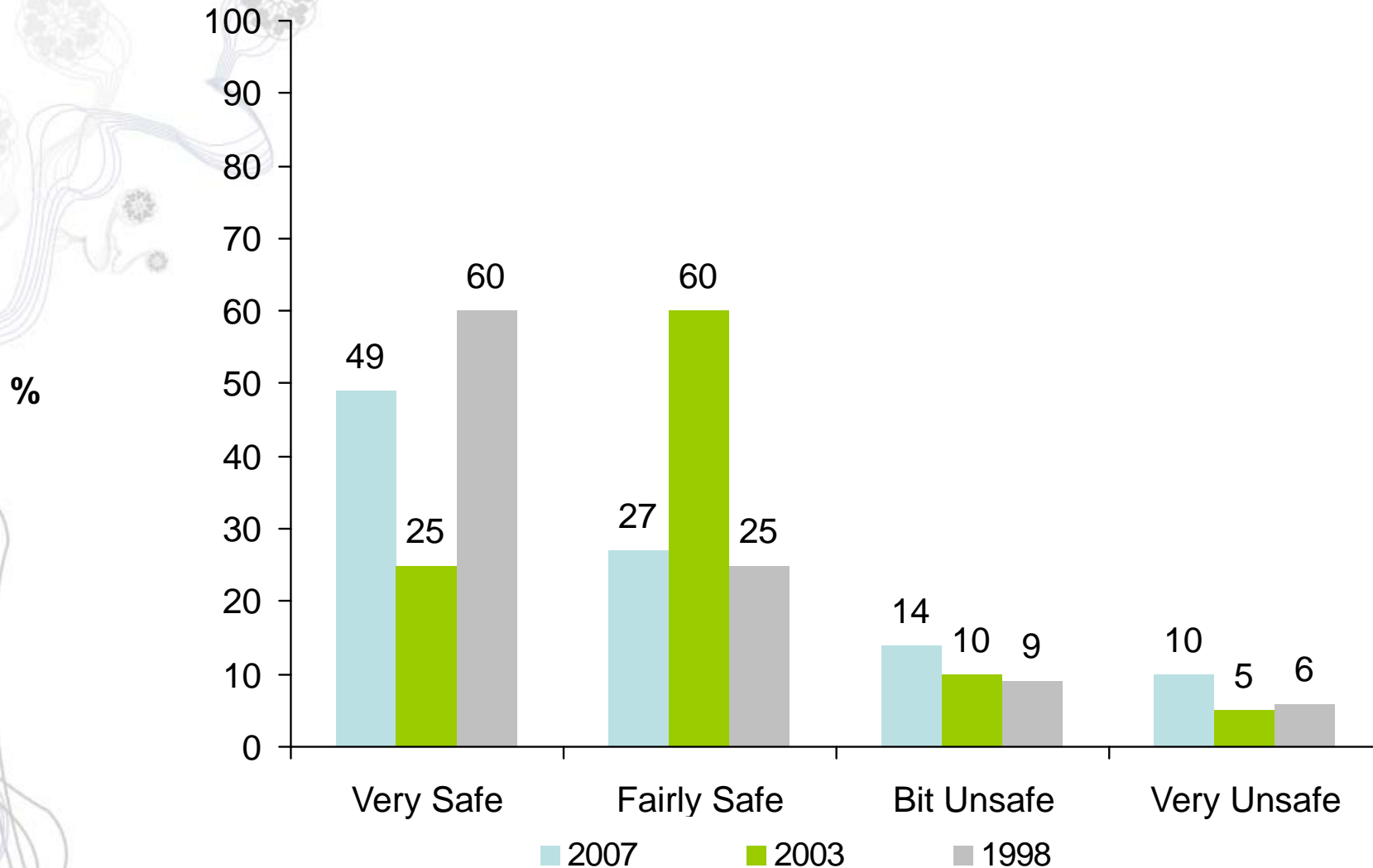
These figures correlate directly with the overall perceptions of approximately 6 out of 10 South Africans who believe crime has increased over the last 4 years.



## Personal Safety

## Personal Safety: Total in comparison to the past...

How safe do you feel walking alone in your area during the day?



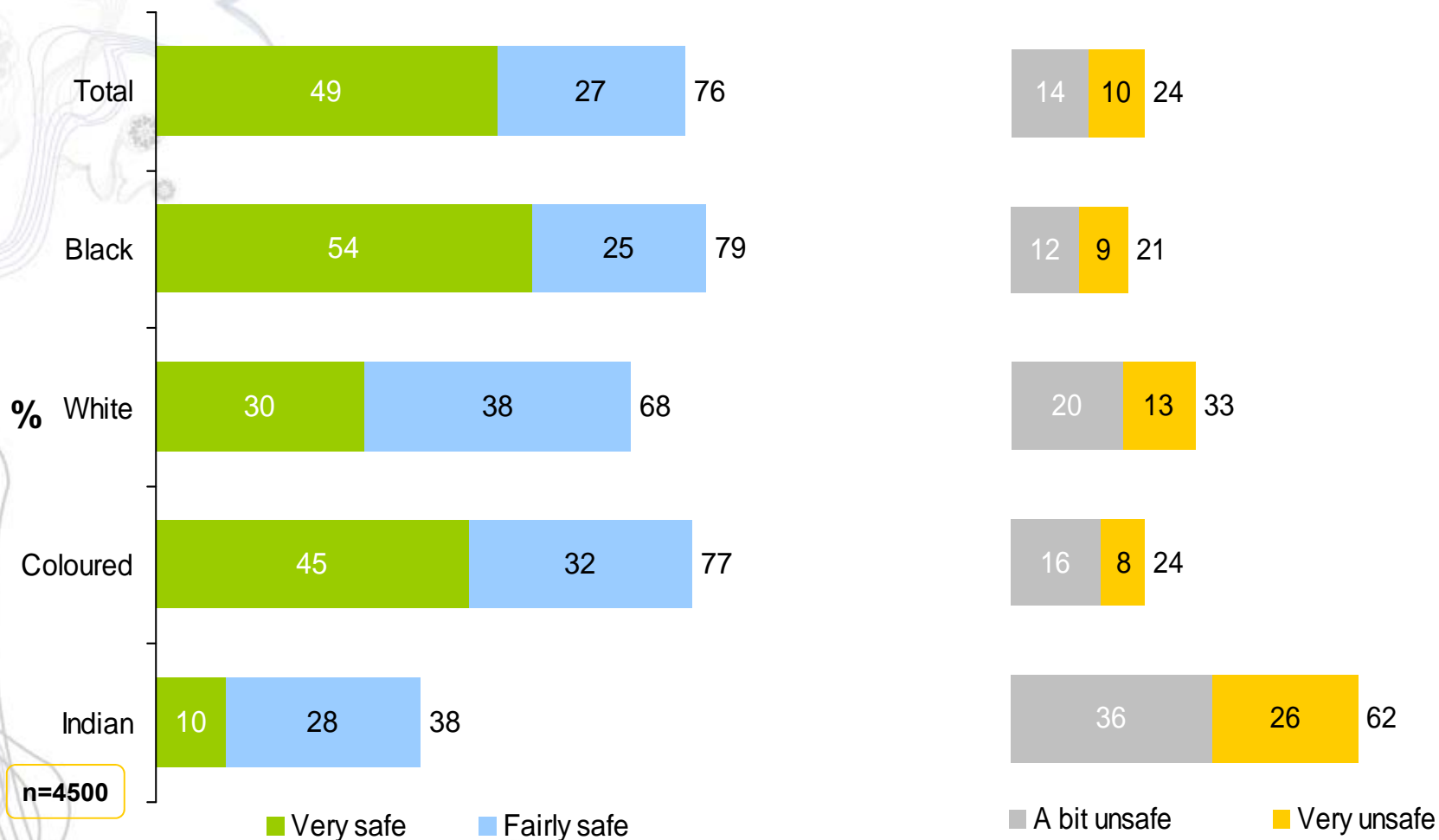
Overall respondents feelings of safety when walking alone during the day are more similar to 1998 than the 2003 results. Those describing their feeling of safety when walking alone during the day as 'Very safe' has doubled since 2003.

## Personal Safety: Total and by race

How safe do you feel walking alone in your area during the day?

### Top two: very/fairly safe

### Bottom two: bit/very unsafe

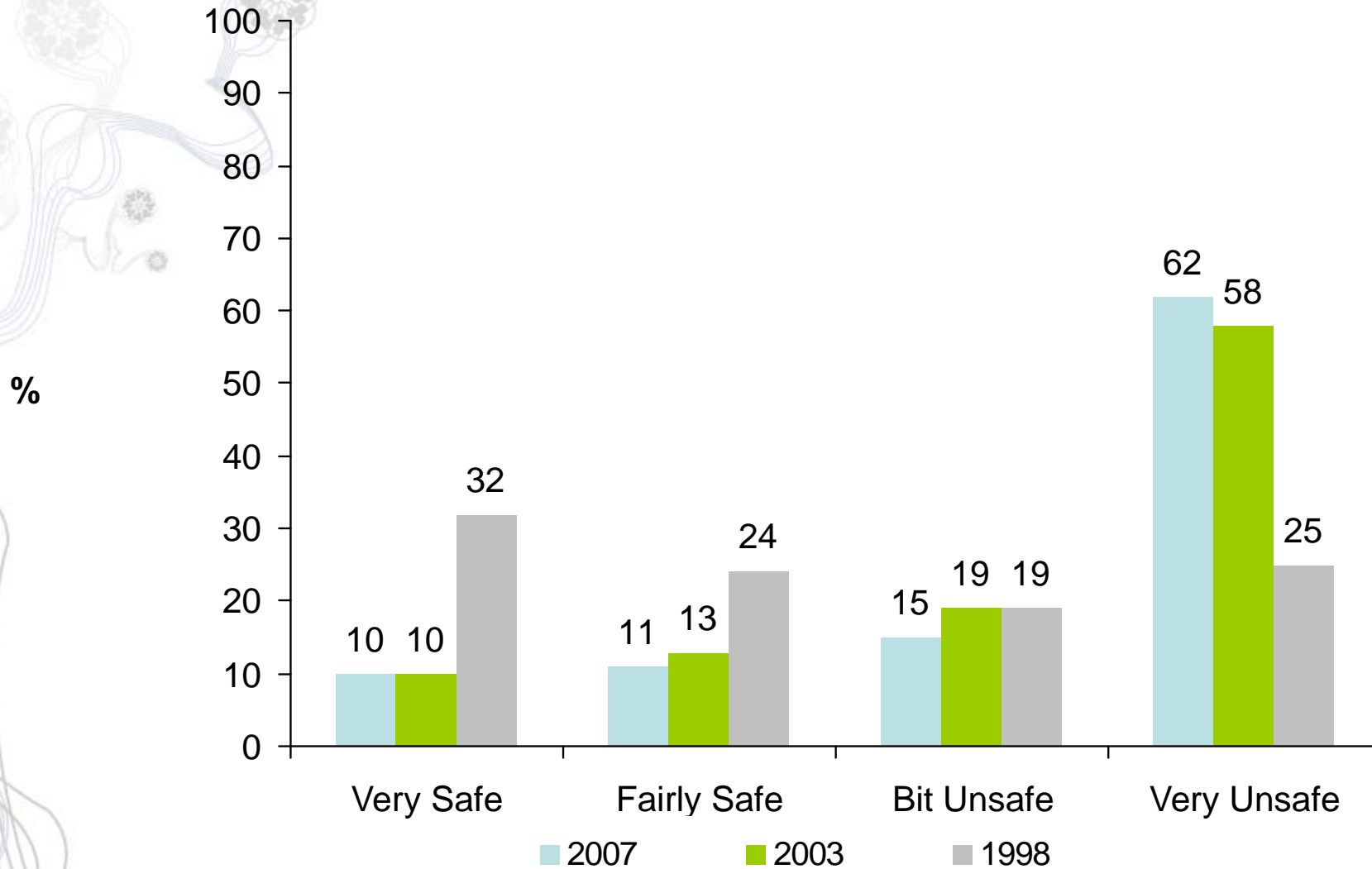


Overall respondents still feel safe during the day, with the exception of Indians, whose results are in stark contrast to those of the other population groups.



## Personal Safety: Total in comparison to the past...

How safe do you feel walking alone in your area after dark?



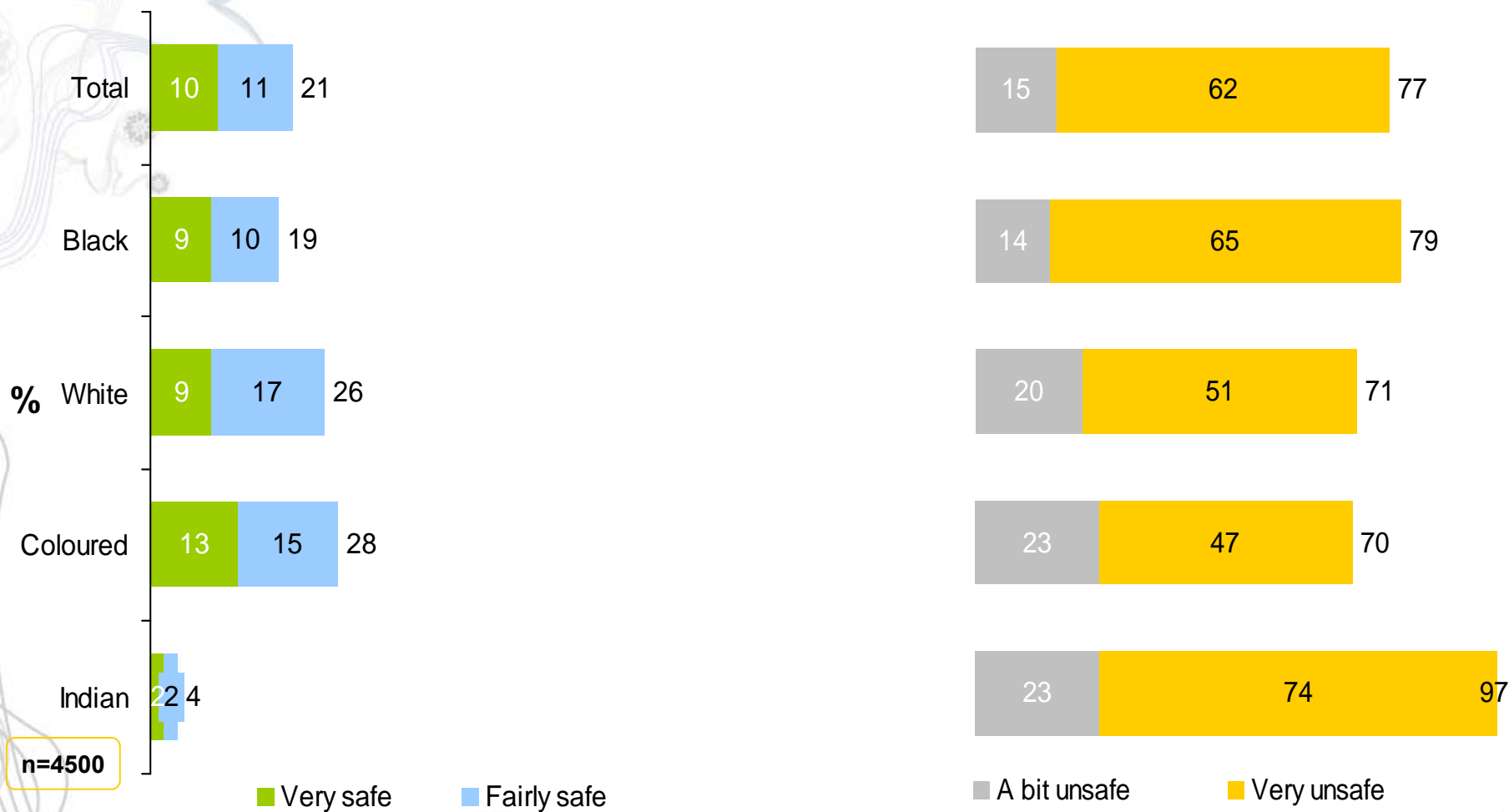
The number of South Africans who feel very unsafe when walking alone in their area after dark has steadily increased on both the 1998 and 2003 results.

## Personal Safety: Total and by race

How safe do you feel walking alone in your area after dark?

### Top two: very/fairly safe

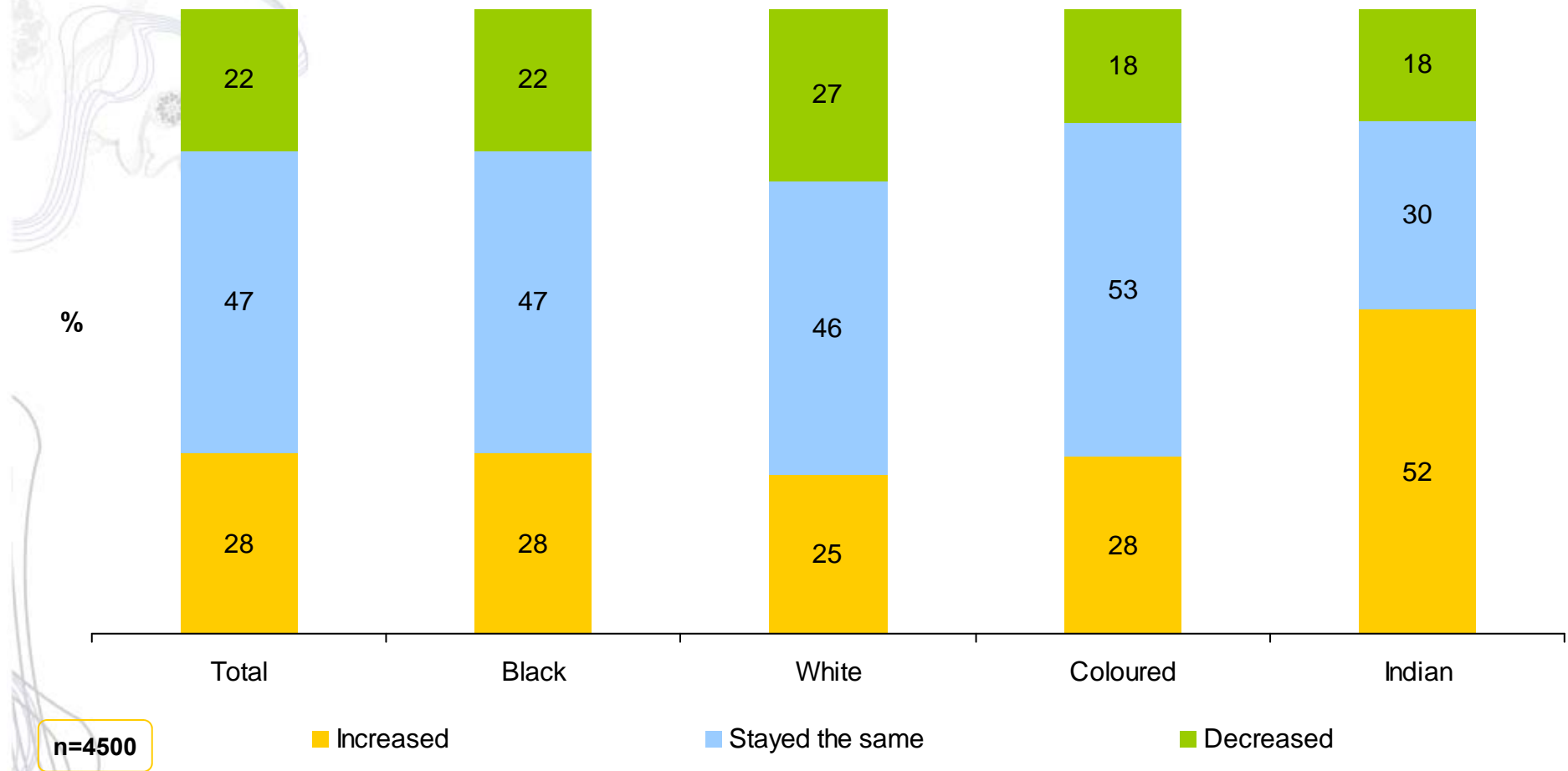
### Bottom two: bit/very unsafe



Overall respondents still feel safe during the day, with the exception of Indians, whose results are in stark contrast to those of the other population groups.

## Personal Safety: Increased or decreased?

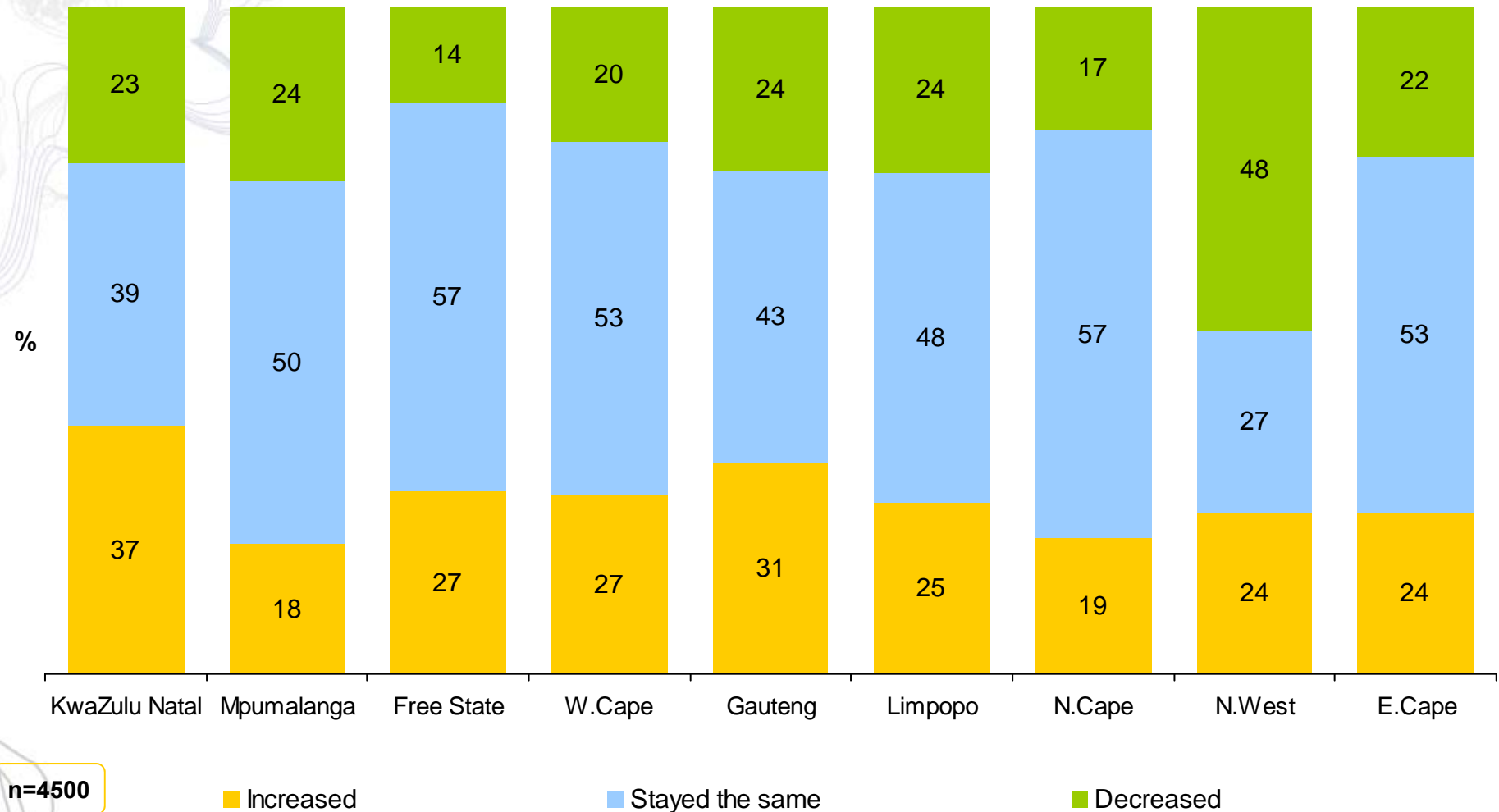
How do you think your personal safety has changed in the last 12 months  
(Oct 2006-2007)?



An interesting outcome with black, white and coloured results similar, while most Indians have felt that their personal safety has increased over the past year, despite previous purported negative experiences and attitudes – related to the low starting points i.t.o feelings of personal safety.

## Personal Safety: Increased or decreased?

How do you think your personal safety has changed in the last 12 months  
(Oct 2006-2007)?

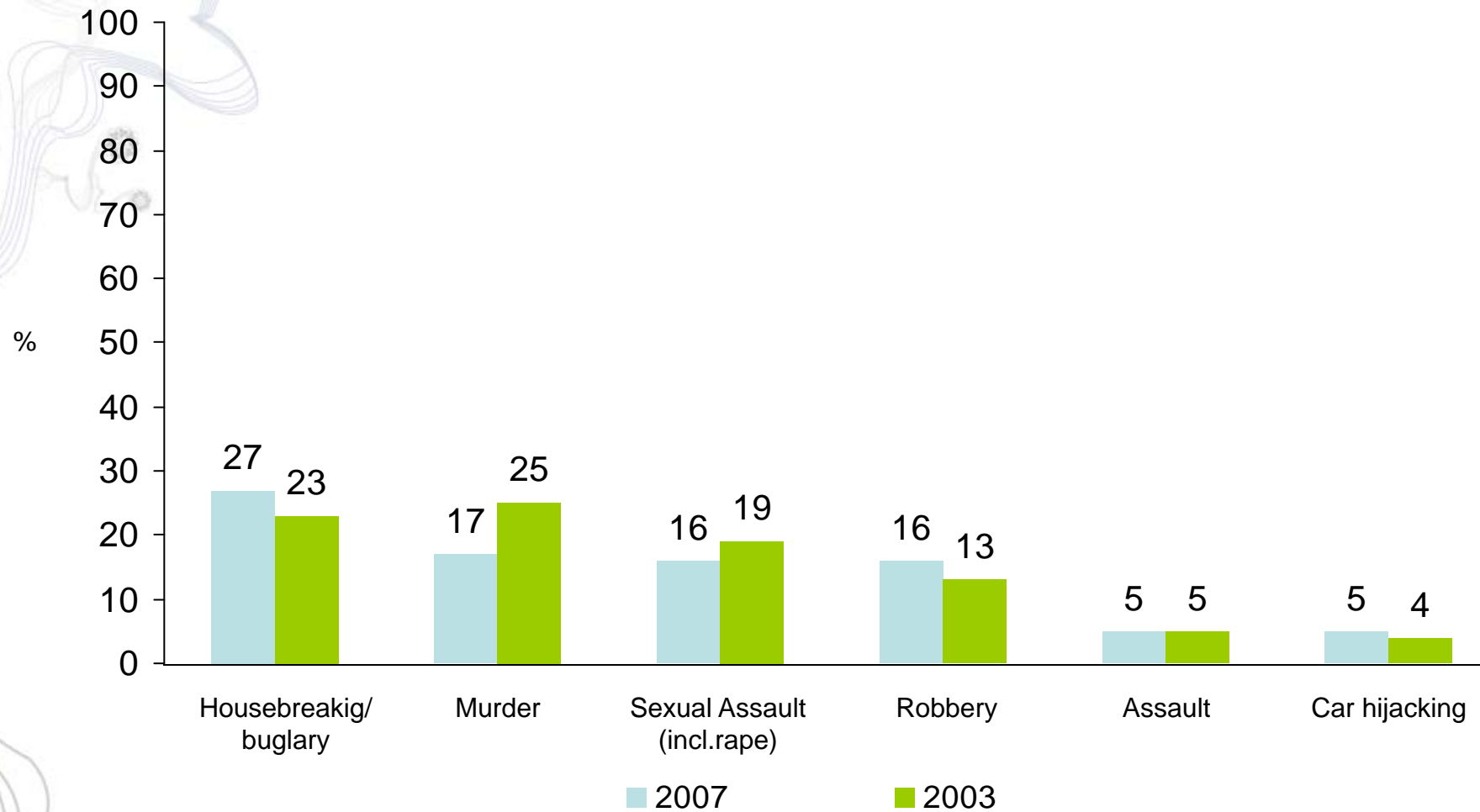


KZN residents are most likely to feel an improvement in their personal safety over the past year – corresponding with the higher number of Indians who say the same and the larger concentration of this population group in this province.



## Personal Safety: Increased or decreased?

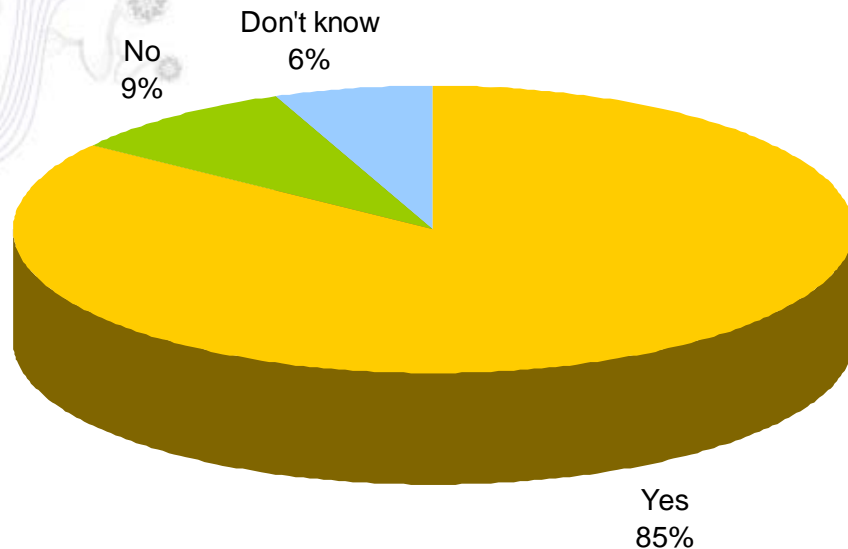
What one crime are you most afraid of in this area?



KZN residents are most likely to feel an improvement in their personal safety over the past year – corresponding with the higher number of Indians who say the same and the larger concentration of this population group in this province.

## Personal Safety: Gun laws

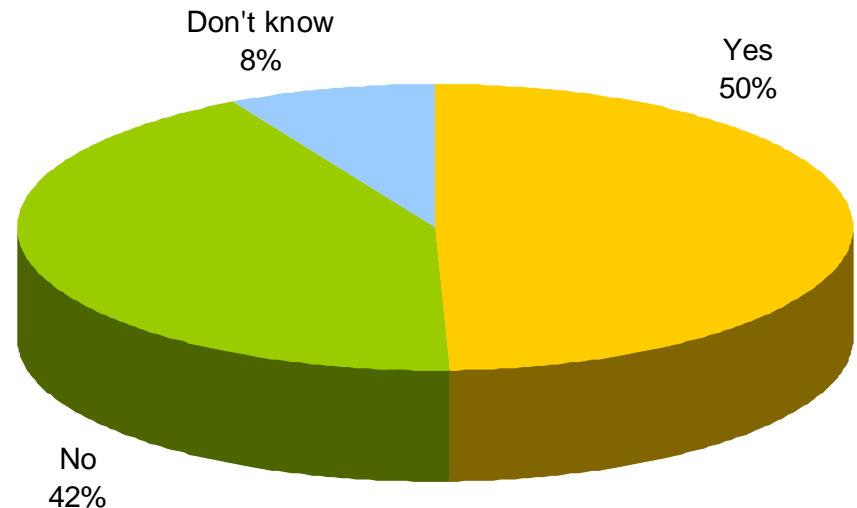
Do you think South Africa's gun laws should be stricter?



There's no doubt that the overwhelming majority of South Africans feel that the gun laws should be tightened, with Indians, Coloureds and blacks feeling strongest about this issue –with 90%, 80% and 87% respectively, compared to whites of whom 72% concur.

n=4500

Should guns be banned?



Half of South Africans believe guns should be banned. Vastly different results were collected across the race groups, with whites and Indians opposed to the complete banning of guns – with 24% and 31% respectively agreeing guns should be banned. This compared to blacks and Coloureds of whom 55% and 44% agreed guns should be banned.

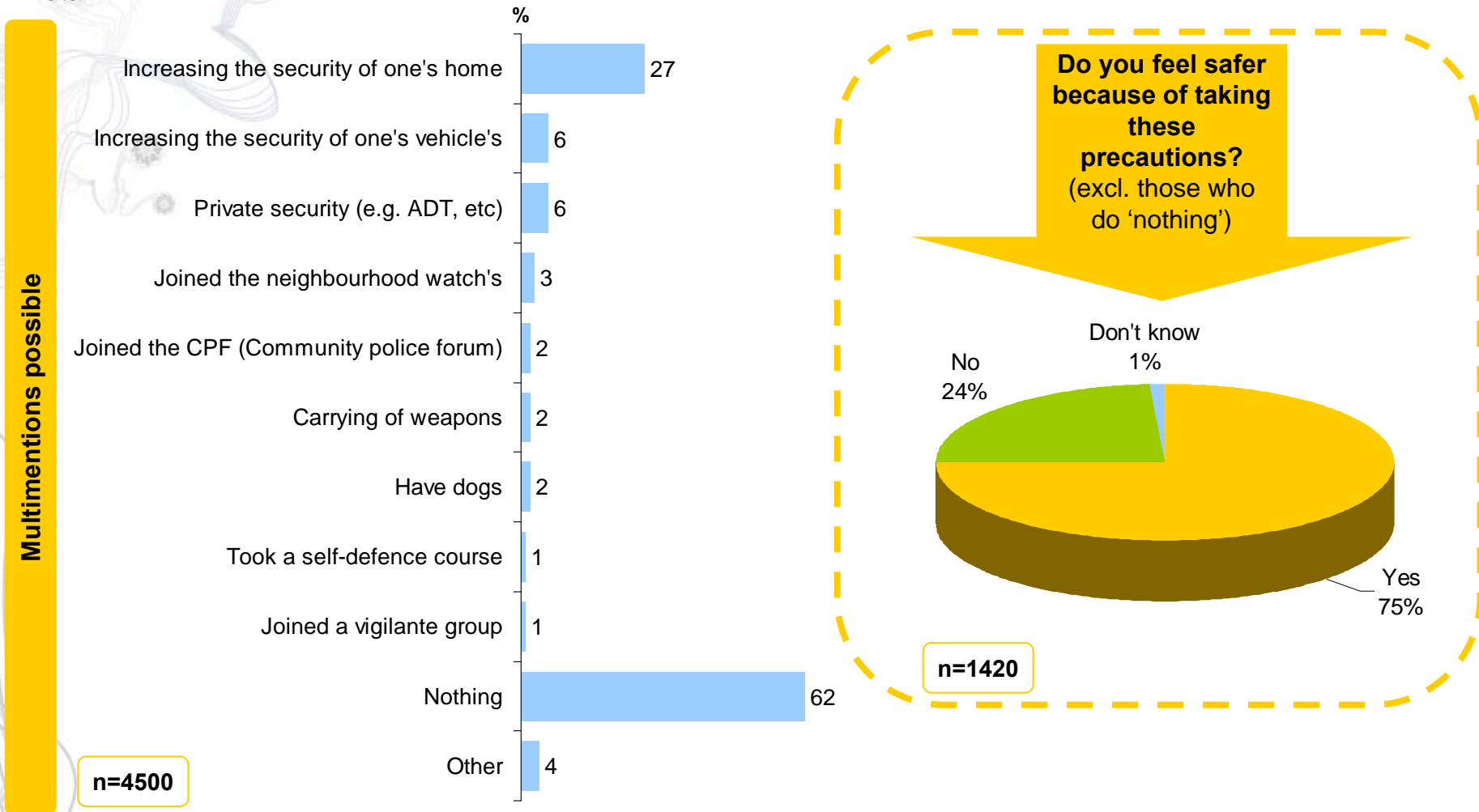


## Individual and community response to crime

## Individual and community response to crime

What measures have you or your household taken to protect yourself or your household against crime and violence?

-Total-



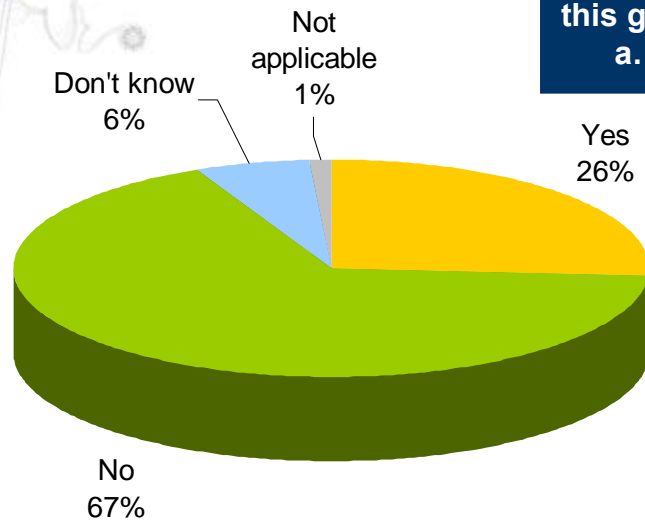
A majority of 62% South Africans have not undertaken any measures to protect themselves against crime and only 2% carry weapons. However, of those who did undertake some precautions, there is an improved sense of safety.



## Individual and community response to crime

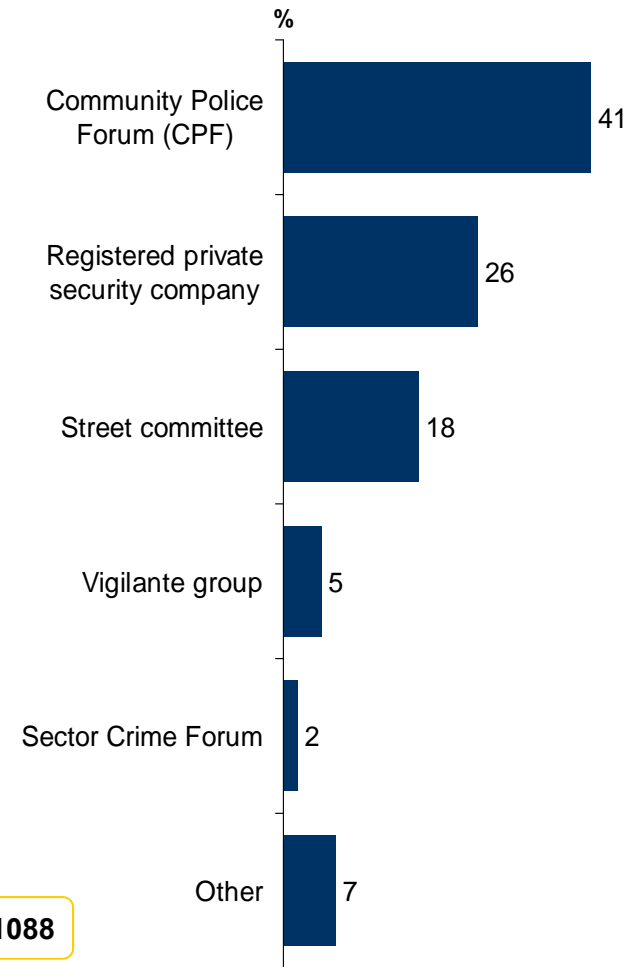
Is there an organisation or group, other than the police, that provides protection against crime in your community?

-Total-



n=4500

If yes, is this group a...



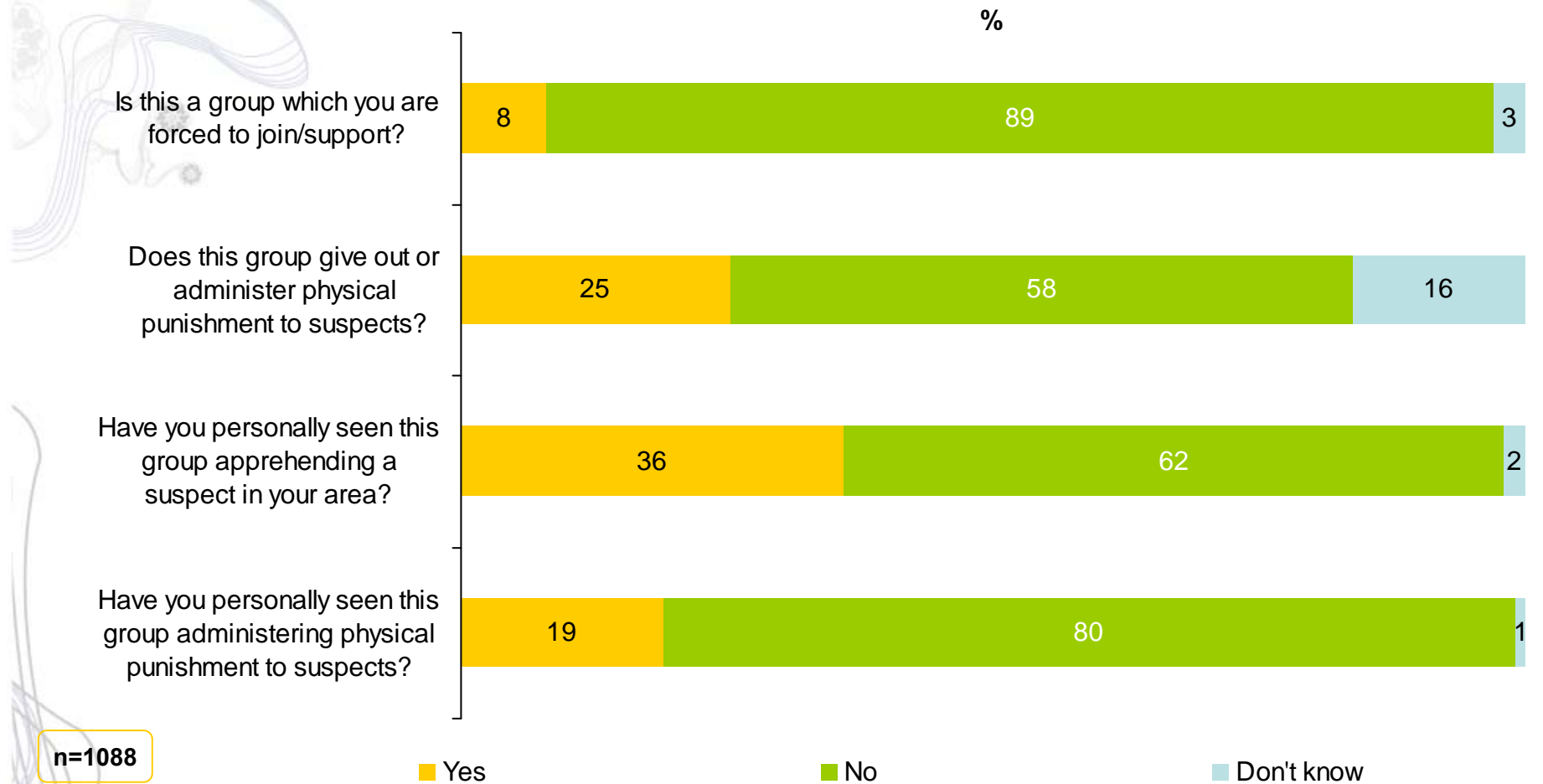
n=1088

The CPF is the most well-known organisation in the community involved in fighting crime, particularly among blacks, while 80% of whites mentioned a private security company.

## Individual and community response to crime

Is there an organisation or group, other than the police, that provides protection against crime in your community

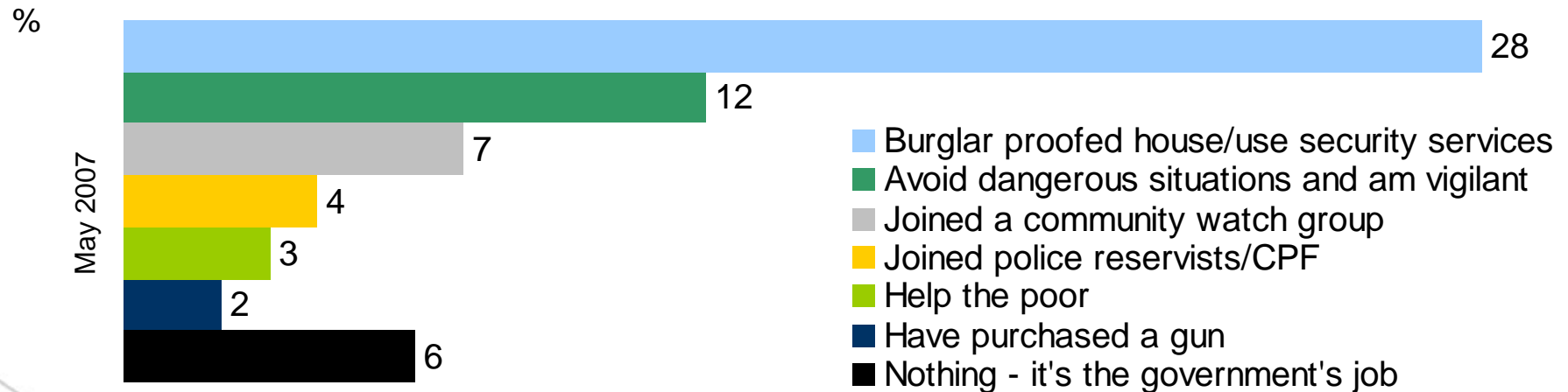
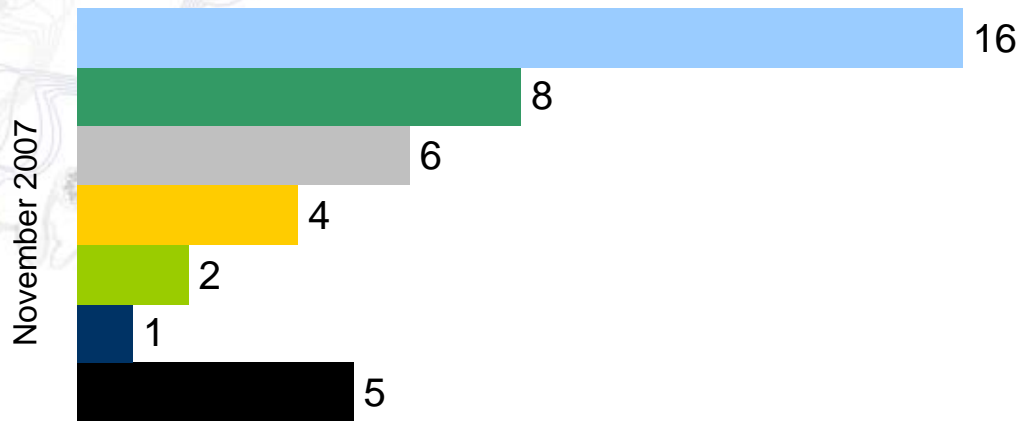
-Total-



One of five people have witnessed members of one of these organisations meting out punishment to suspected criminals.

## Individual and community response to crime: Cross-checking results with Project Crime

What are you as an individual doing to address crime in your community?



Source: Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime  
November 2007

Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime showed similar results, although revealed a few additional responses such as avoiding dangerous situations and being vigilant, helping the poor and nothing 'because it's the government's job'.





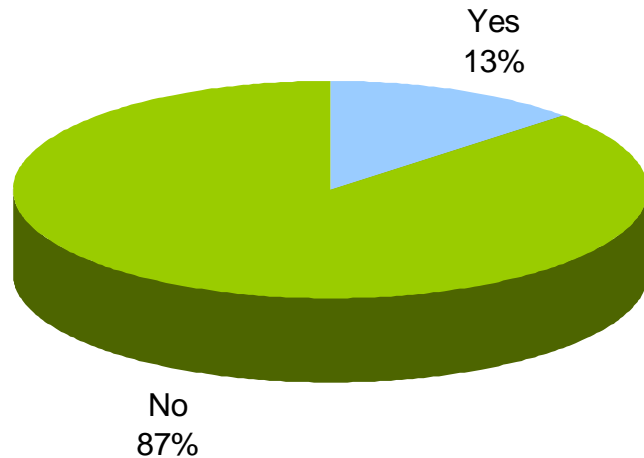
**Experience as a witness of killings**



## Experience as a witness of killings

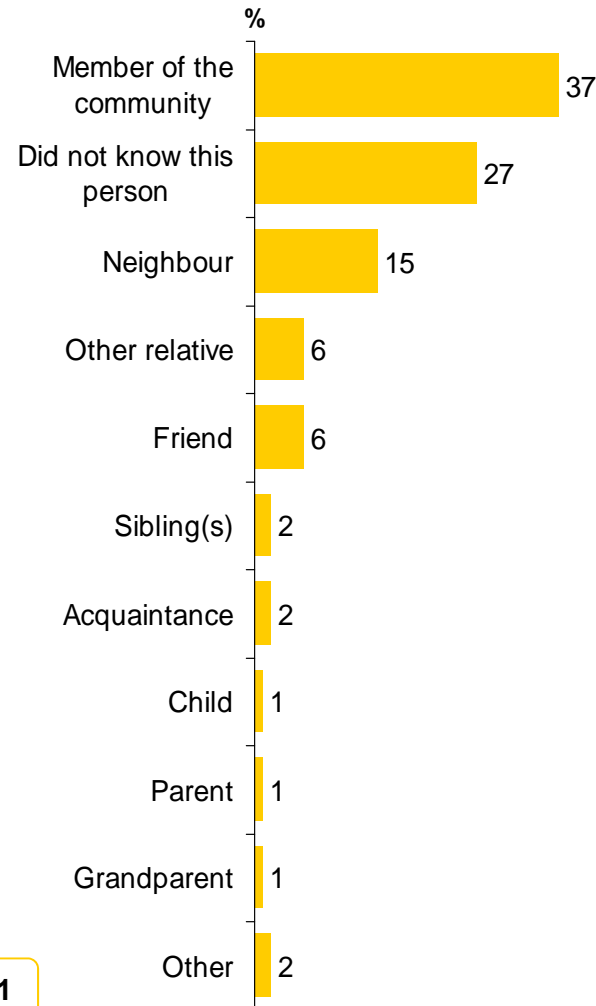
Have you personally ever seen anyone being killed by another person?

-Total-



n=4500

If yes, how do you know this person that was killed?



n=551

Of those who have witnessed a homicide, in only 27% of cases was the victim a total stranger to the witness.

## Experience as a witness of killings: examining the effects of experiences on attitudes

Have you personally ever seen anyone being killed by another person?

	Do you think SA's gun laws should be stricter?		Do you think all guns should be banned in SA?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	84	12	52	43
No	85	9	48	42

n=4500

There does not appear to be a significant difference in opinions between those who have or have not witnessed someone being killed, but considering the base size of only 585 witnesses it is an issue that needs to be more extensively studied.



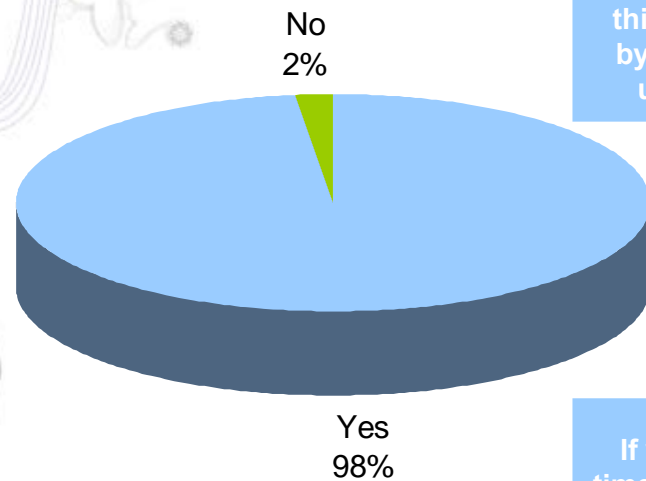
**Police**



## Police

Do you know where the nearest police station is?

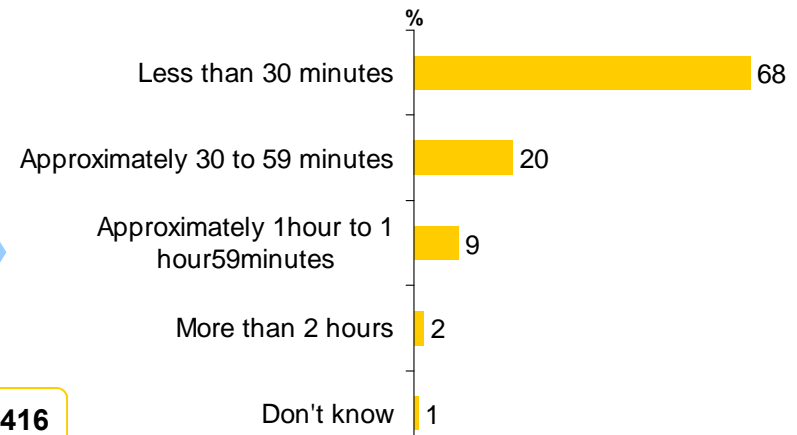
-Total-



n=4500

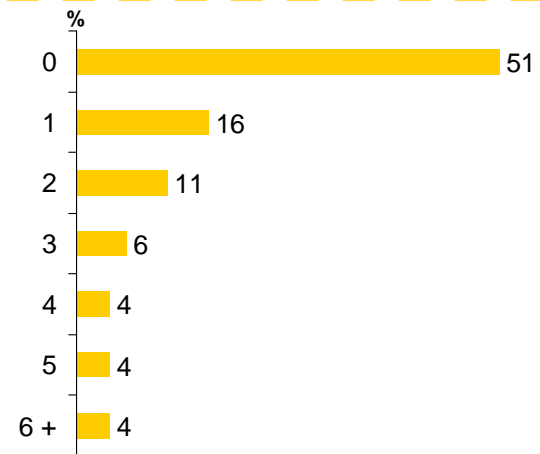
If yes, how long does it take on average to get to this police station by means of your usual mode of transport?

n=4416



If yes, how many times have you been to the police station in the last 4 years?

n=4416

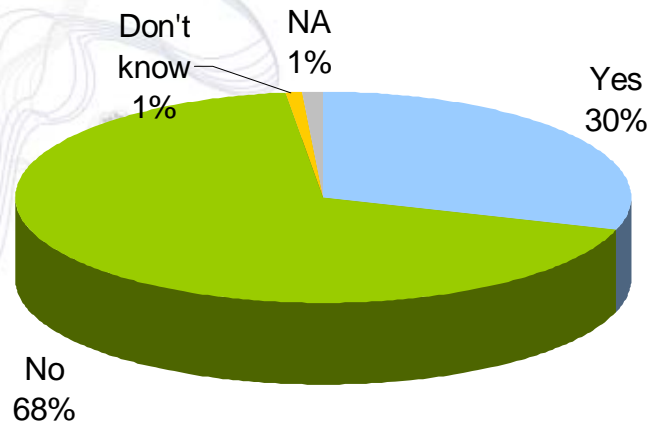


Almost everyone is aware of where their nearest police station is located, and for two-thirds of people it would take within 30 minutes to reach.

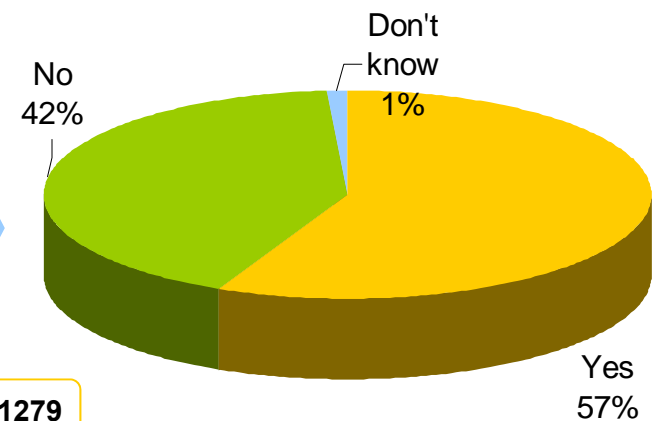
## Police

Have you ever been in official contact with the police other than visiting them at this police station such as their patrols or per telephone?

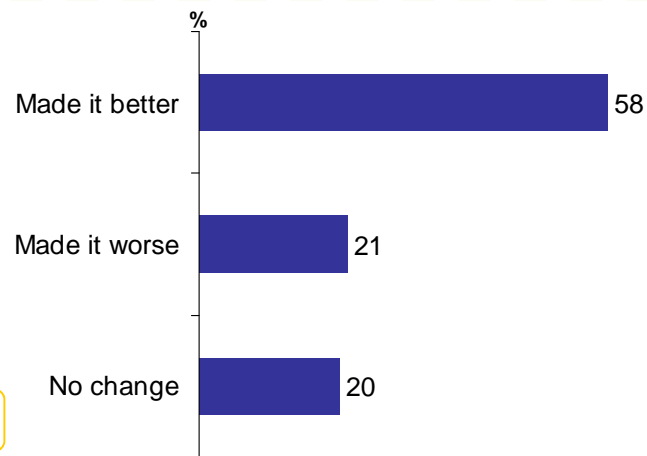
-Total-



If yes, did this contact with the police, or your visit to the police station, affect your opinion of the police?



n=1279



If yes, how did your opinion change?

n=4416

n=744

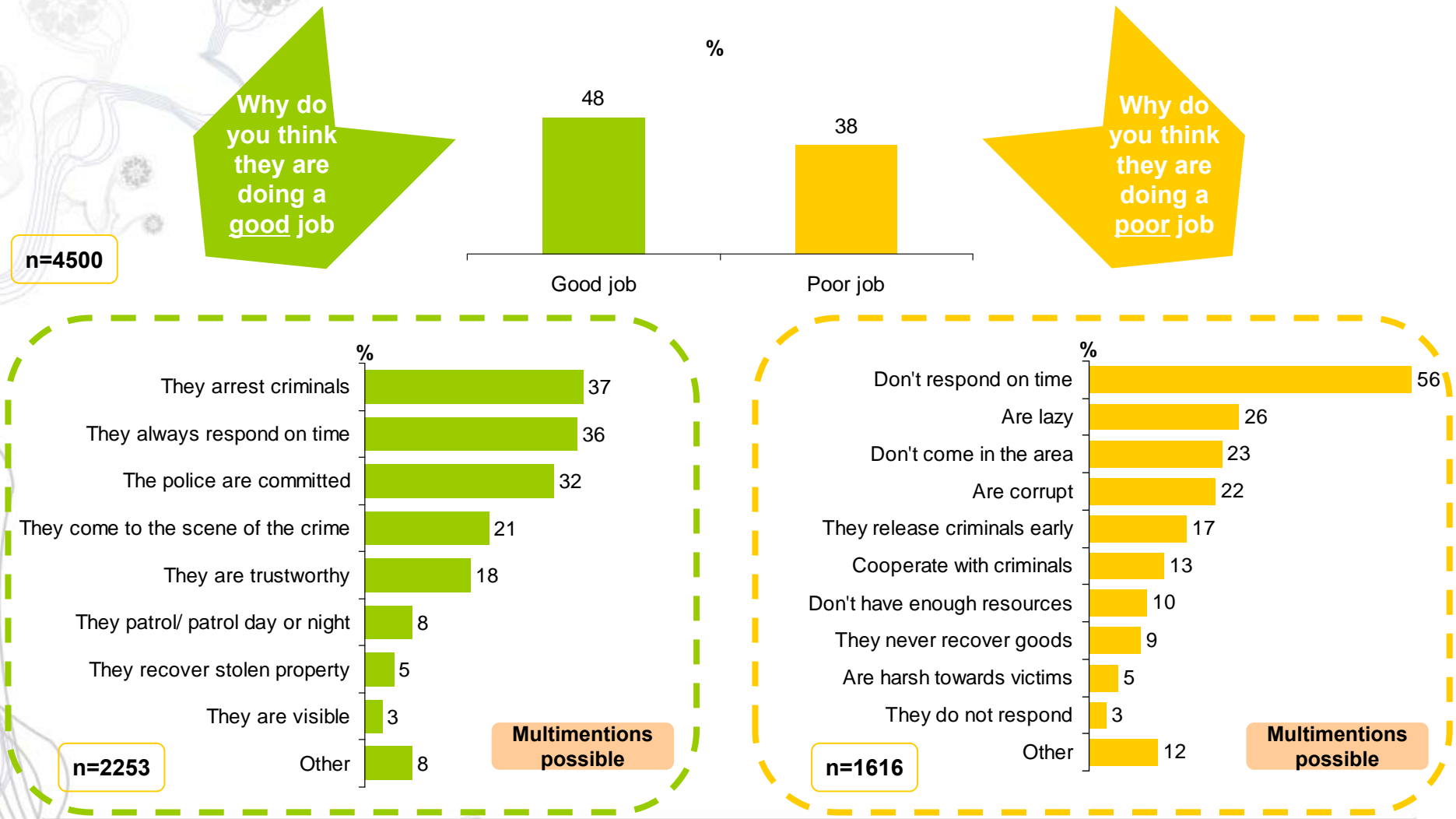
Official contact with the police is most likely to create a more favourable impression of the police than previously existed.



# Police

How do you think the police are doing in your area?

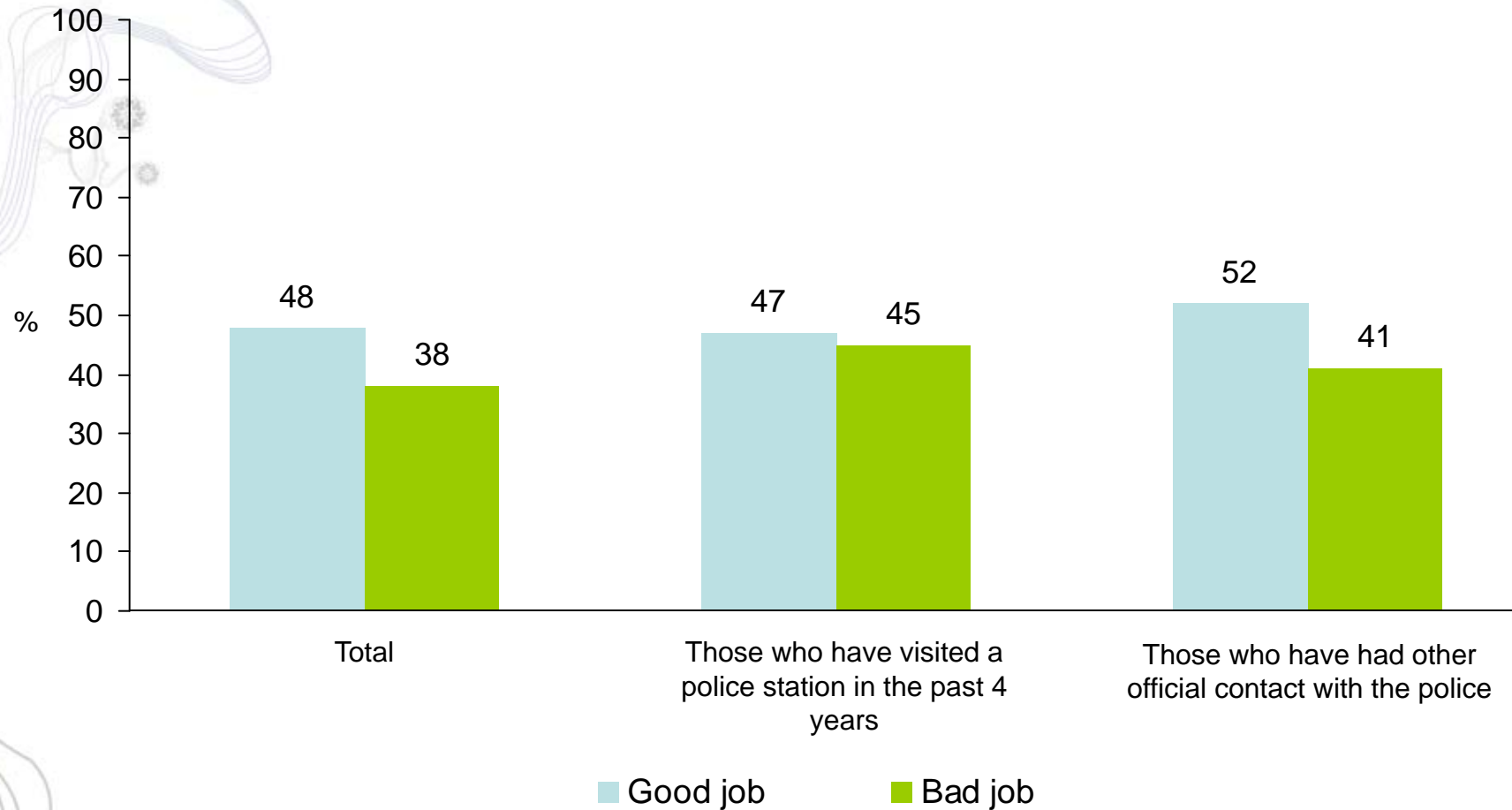
-Total-



Poor response time is the main reason why the police are poorly regarded by some.

## Police

Perceptions of how the police are doing cross-tabulated by actual interactions with the police

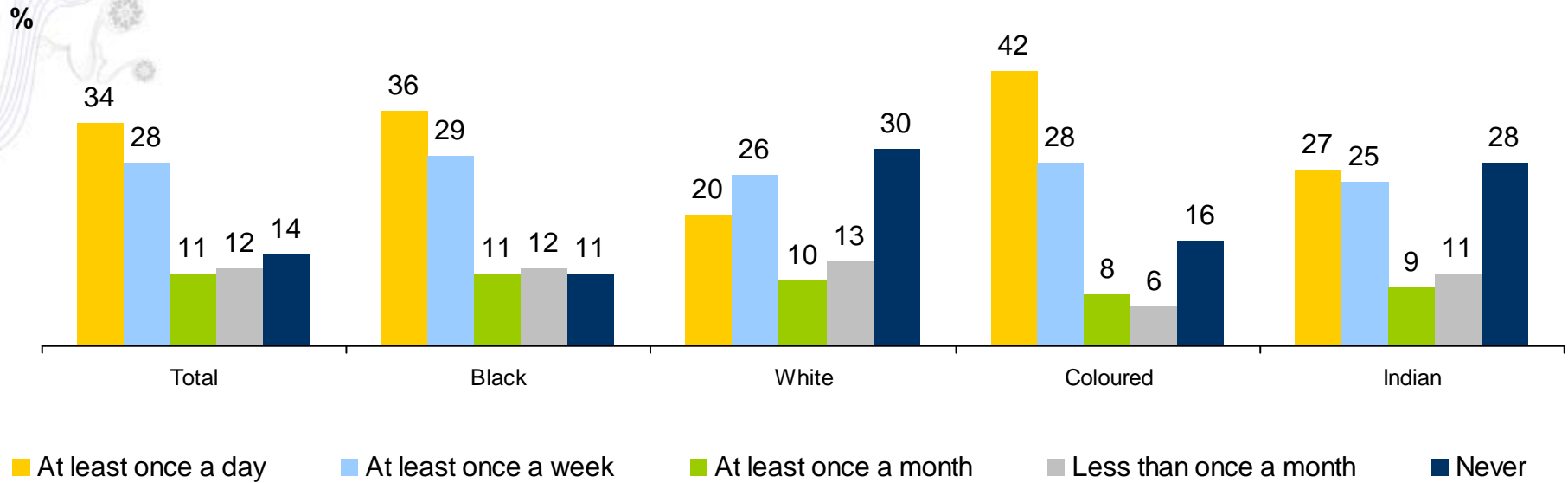


Of all those who rated the police as doing a good job 47% had visited a police station in the past 4 years and 32% had some sort of other official contact (e.g. telephone call etc.) in the past 4 years. Generally those with official contact besides an actual visit to a police station were the one's who rated police performance as highest.



## Police

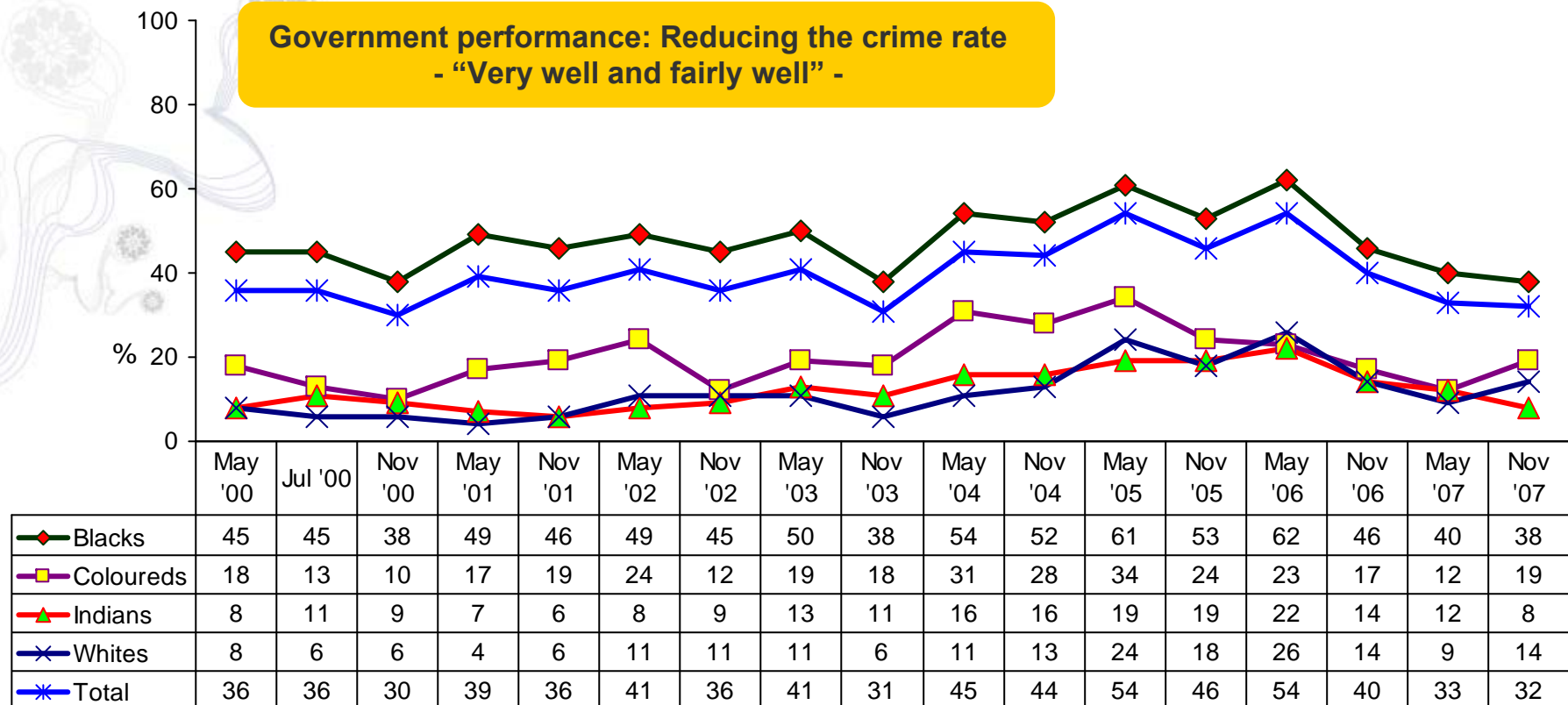
How often do you see a police officer in uniform / on duty in your area?



n=4500

The police appear to be maintaining a relatively high profile, with 62% of people having sighted a police officer either once a week or more frequently. Police presence is highest among coloureds and lowest among whites.

## Addressing the crime problem: Cross-checking with Government Performance Barometer



South Africans living in the Western Cape are least satisfied with the governments performance in this regard:\*

Eastern Cape\*\*:  
37%

Free State\*\*:  
40%

Gauteng\*\*:  
25%

Kwa-Zulu Natal\*\*:  
30%

Limpopo\*\*:  
52%

Mpumalanga\*\*:  
27%

North West\*\*:  
41%

Northern Cape\*\*:  
38%

Western Cape\*\*:  
14%

Perceptions consistent with those recorded 6 months again were measured, and interestingly there was only 1% difference between the opinions of men and women in response to this question. Traditionally woman rate the government's performance in terms of crime lower than men do.

Ipsos Markinor's bi-annual Government Performance Barometer

Source:

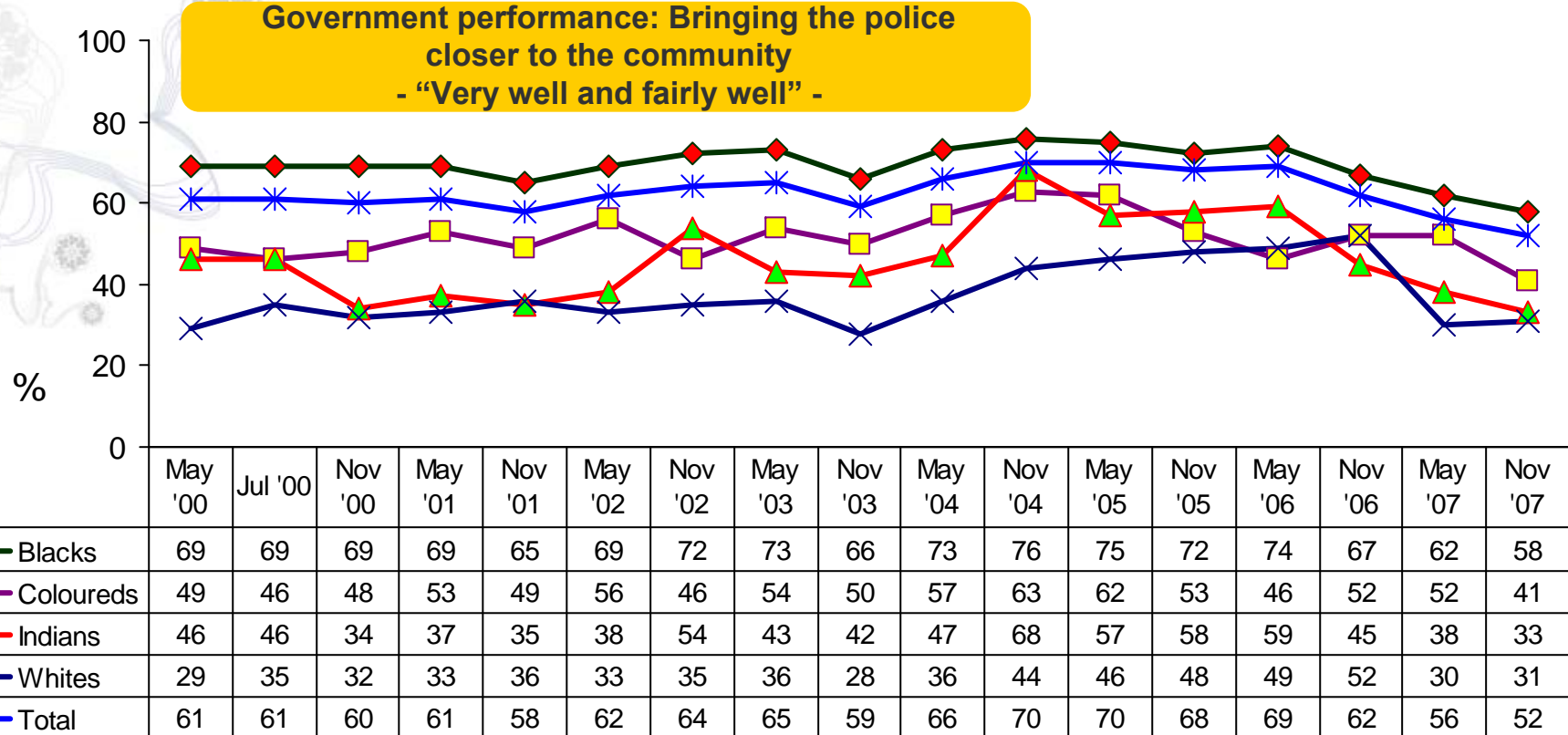


\* "Very/ Fairly well"

\*\* November 2007

thinking

## Addressing the crime problem: Cross-checking with Government Performance Barometer



Large differences in the views of varying political party supporters were garnered in response to this question\*:

ANC\*\*:  
60%

DA\*\*:  
26%

IFP\*\*:  
41%

ANC supporters illustrated the largest decrease performance ratings, down 10% from 70% in May 2007.

Source: Ipsos Markinor's bi-annual Government Performance Barometer

\* "Very/ Fairly well"

\*\* November 2007







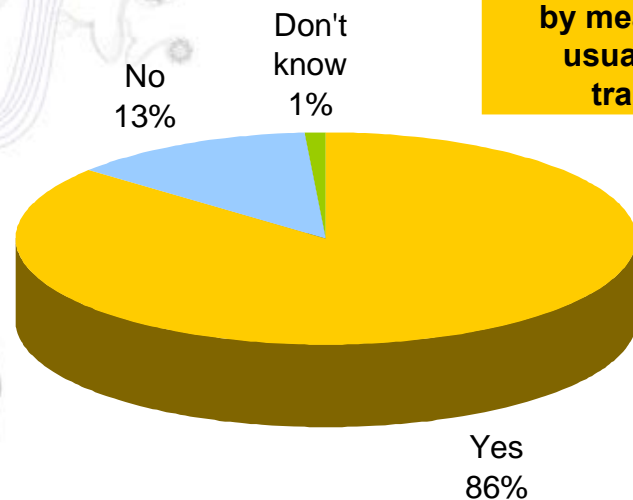
**Courts**



## Courts

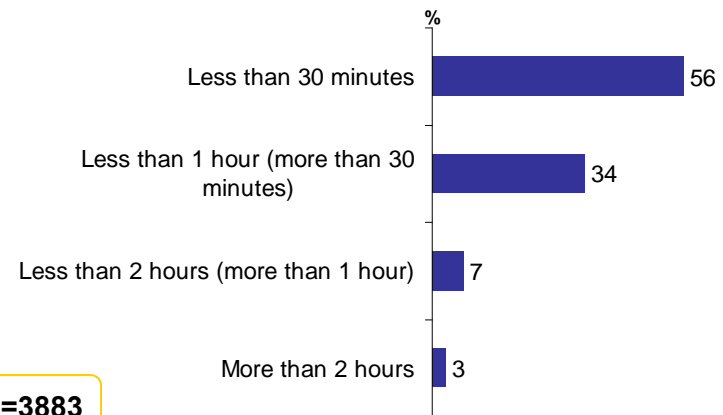
Do you know where the nearest magistrate's court is?

-Total-



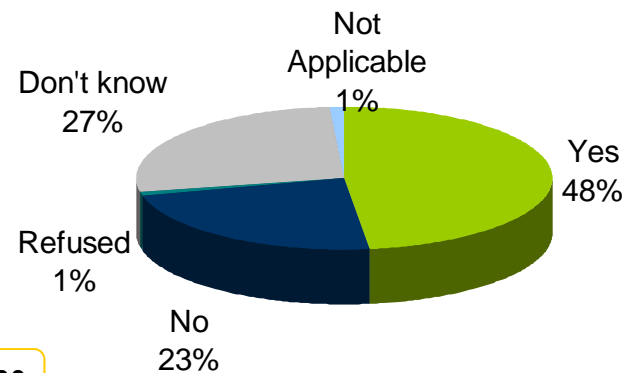
n=4500

How long does it take on average to get to the magistrate's court by means of your usual mode of transport?



n=3883

Do you think the courts generally are performing their duties adequately?



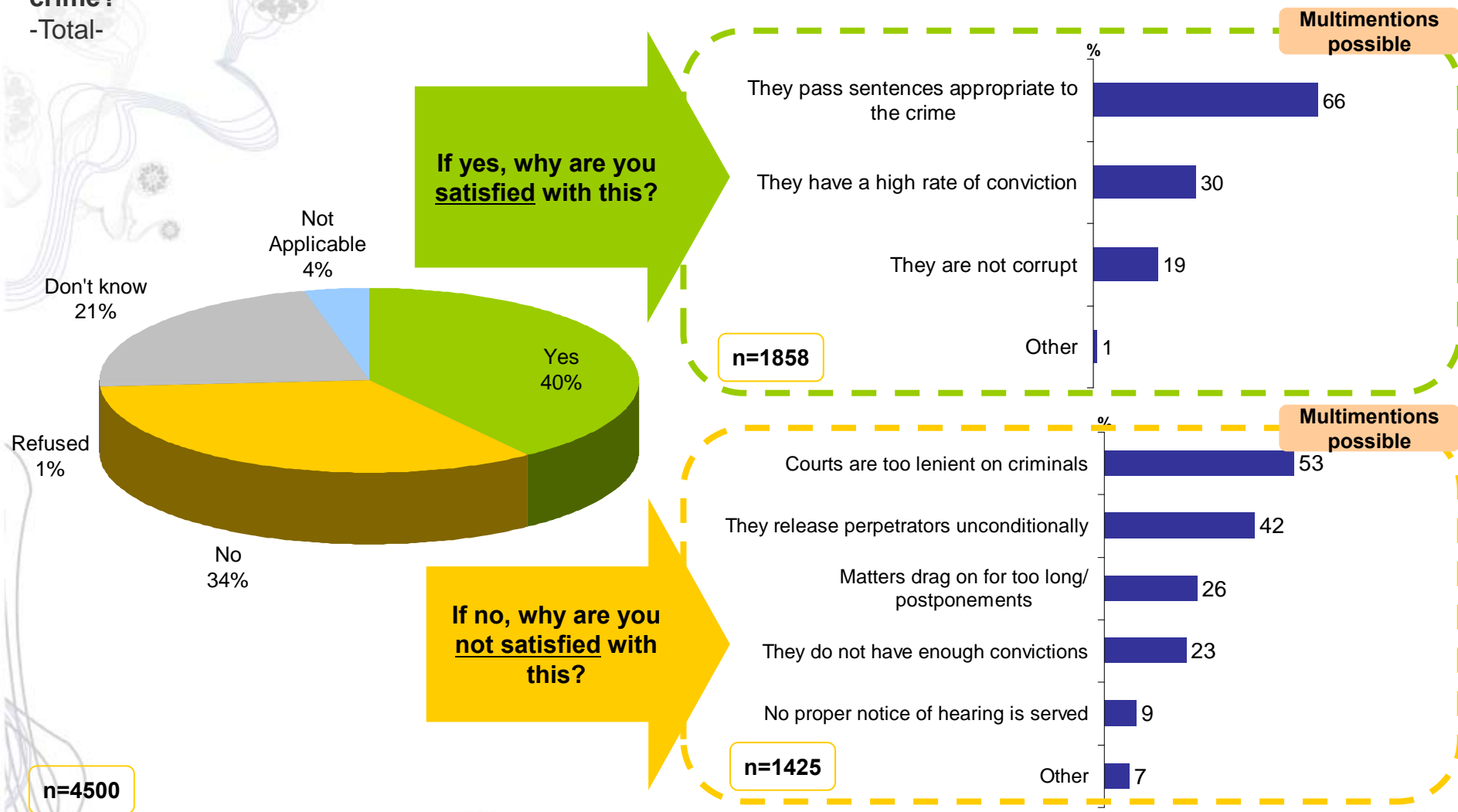
n=4500

Awareness of the location of the nearest magistrate's court is high and for most people courts are relatively closely situated. However, just under half of South Africans feel that the courts are doing a good job.

# Courts

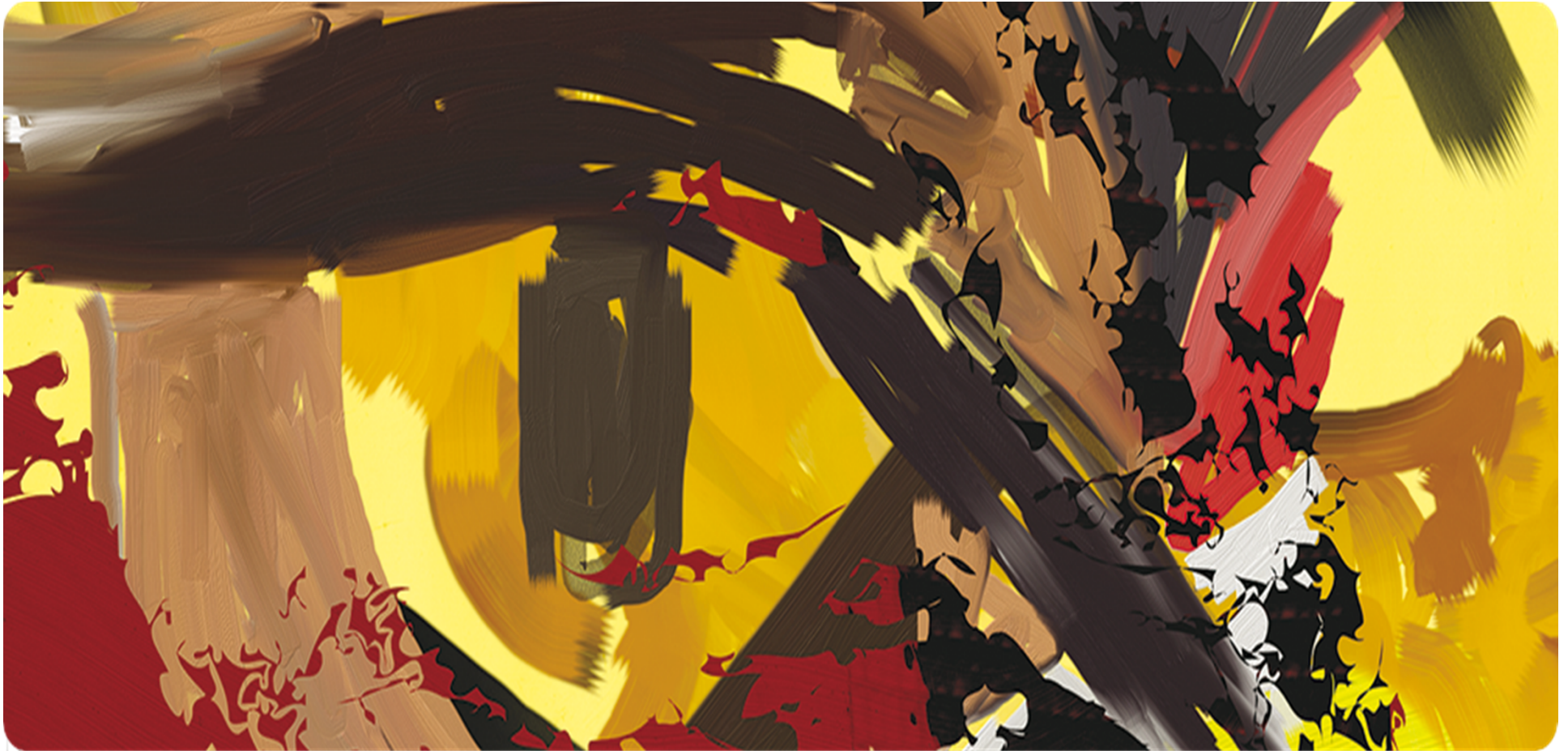
Are you satisfied with the way courts generally deal with perpetrators of crime?

-Total-



More people appear to be satisfied with the way in which courts deal with criminals than dissatisfied.





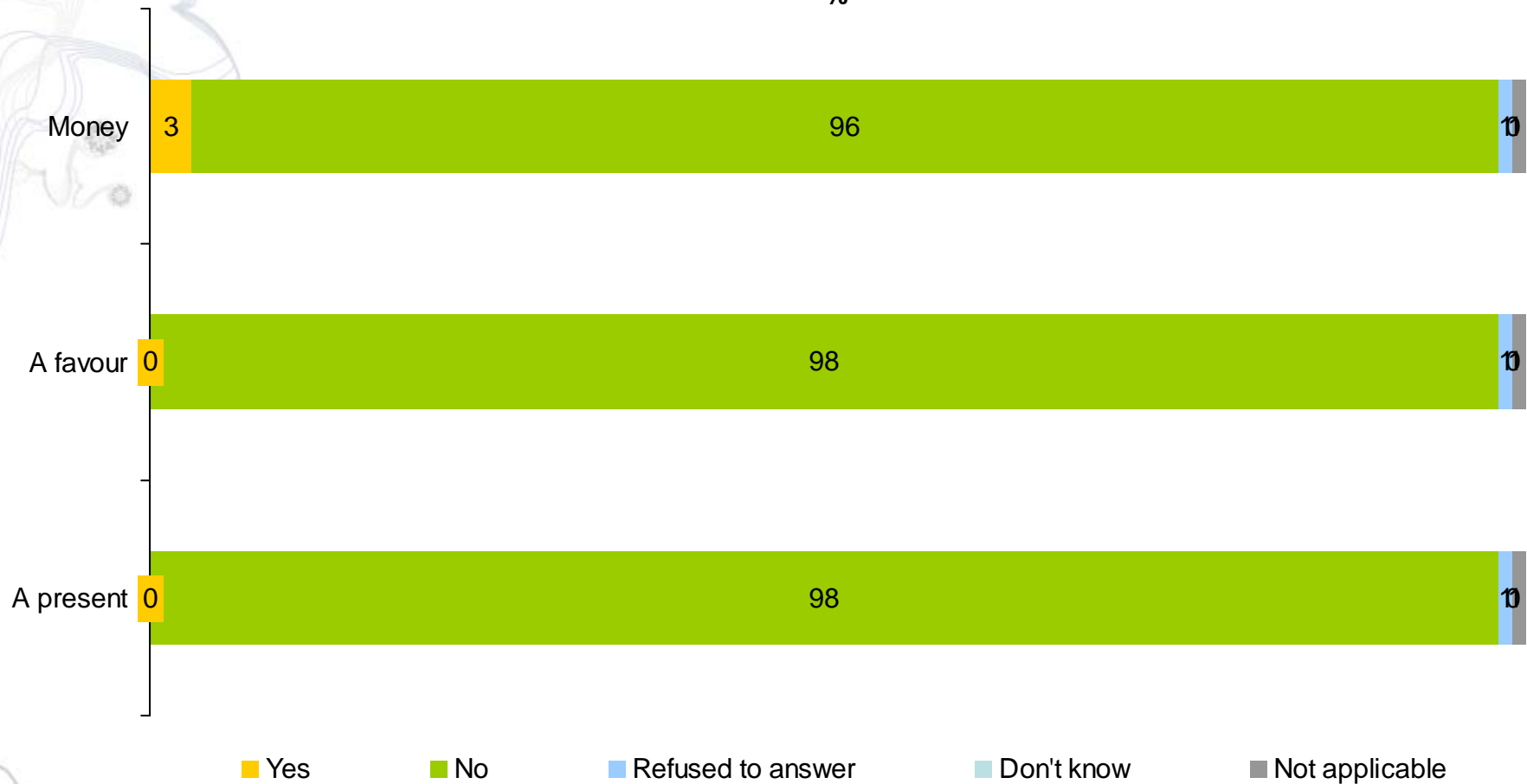
**Corruption**

## Corruption

During the past year (October 2006 to October 2007) has any government official asked you or indicated to you that they'd be receptive to the following:

-Total-

%



n=4500

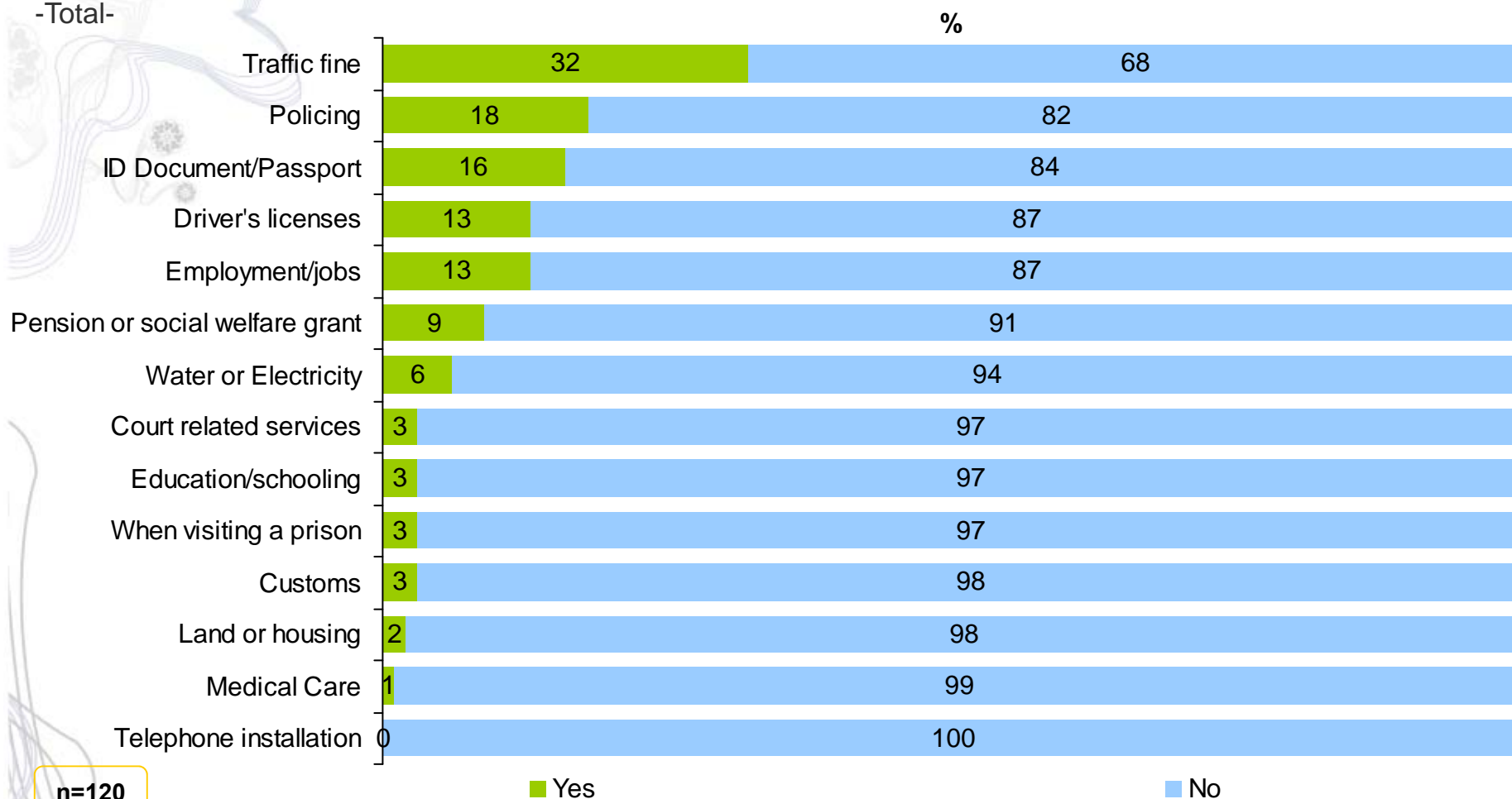
Very few people claim to have personally experienced a bribe. Monetary bribes appear to be the most common form of corruption.



## Corruption

During the past year (Oct '06 – Oct '07), has any government or public official asked you or indicated to you that they are receptive to receiving money, a favour or a present in return for a service the official is legally required to perform:

-Total-



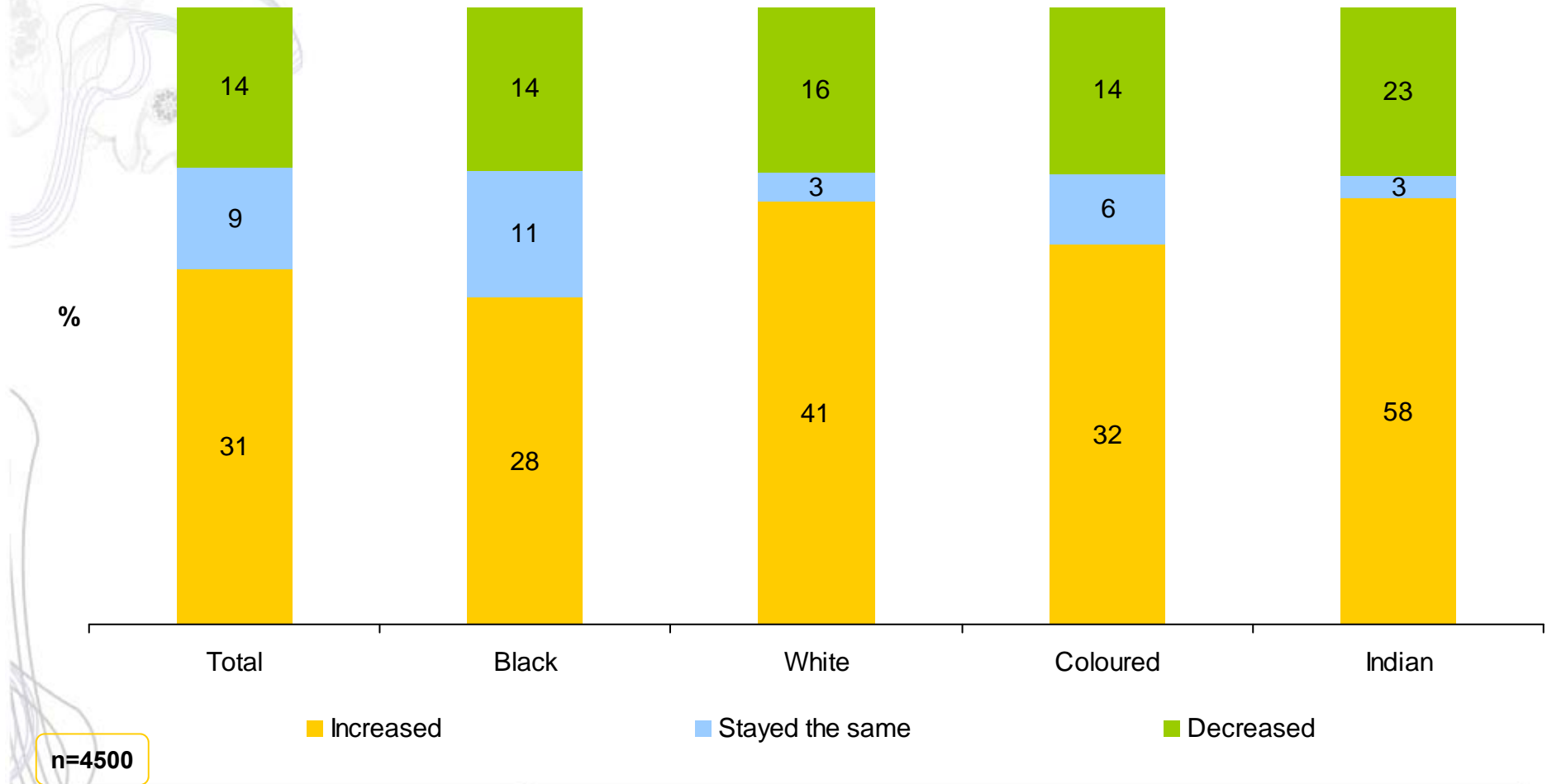
These results reinforce the perception that exists regarding the corruption among traffic officials, with the police force and Home Affairs also being exposed to higher levels of bribery than other government sectors.



**Note:** "Other" is repercentaged to only include those who mentioned an "other" and not the full sample.

## Corruption

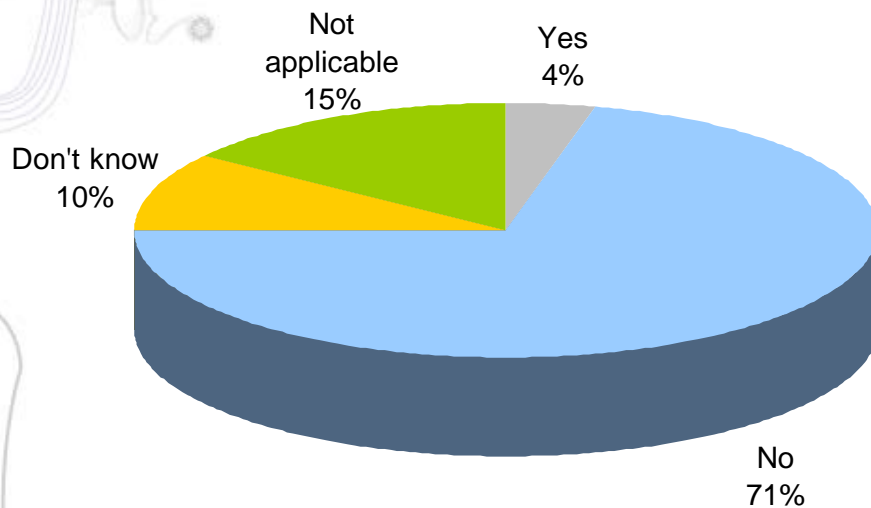
Comparing the situation now with that of four years ago (Oct '03 – Oct '07), do you think that the level of requests by public officials for you to pay brides/provide favours or presents has increased, decreased or stayed the same?



Although personal experience of requests for bribes appears to be low, the perception is that these requests have increased in occurrence.

## Corruption

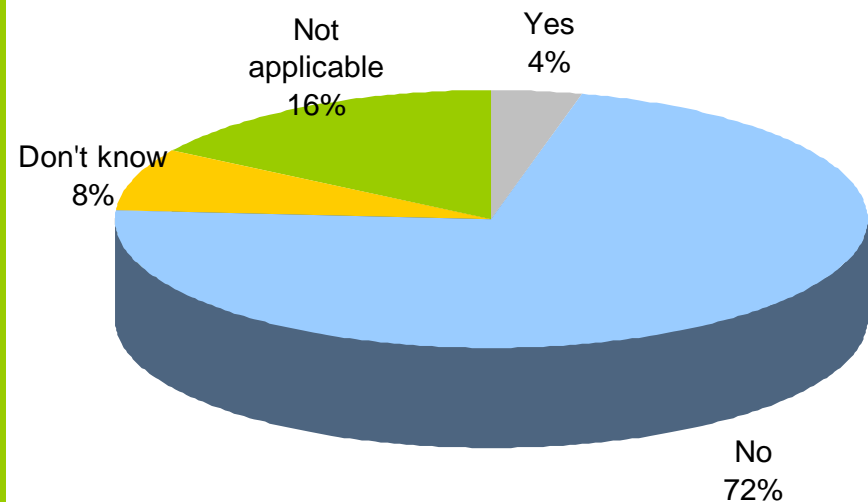
When applying for a job in the private sector, has anyone ever asked you or a family member to pay a bribe in order to speed up the job application?



5% black South Africans have been exposed to this, as opposed to 3% of whites, 2% of Indians and 1% of Coloureds.

n=4500

When applying for a job in the private sector, has anyone ever asked you or a family member to pay a bribe in order to get the job?



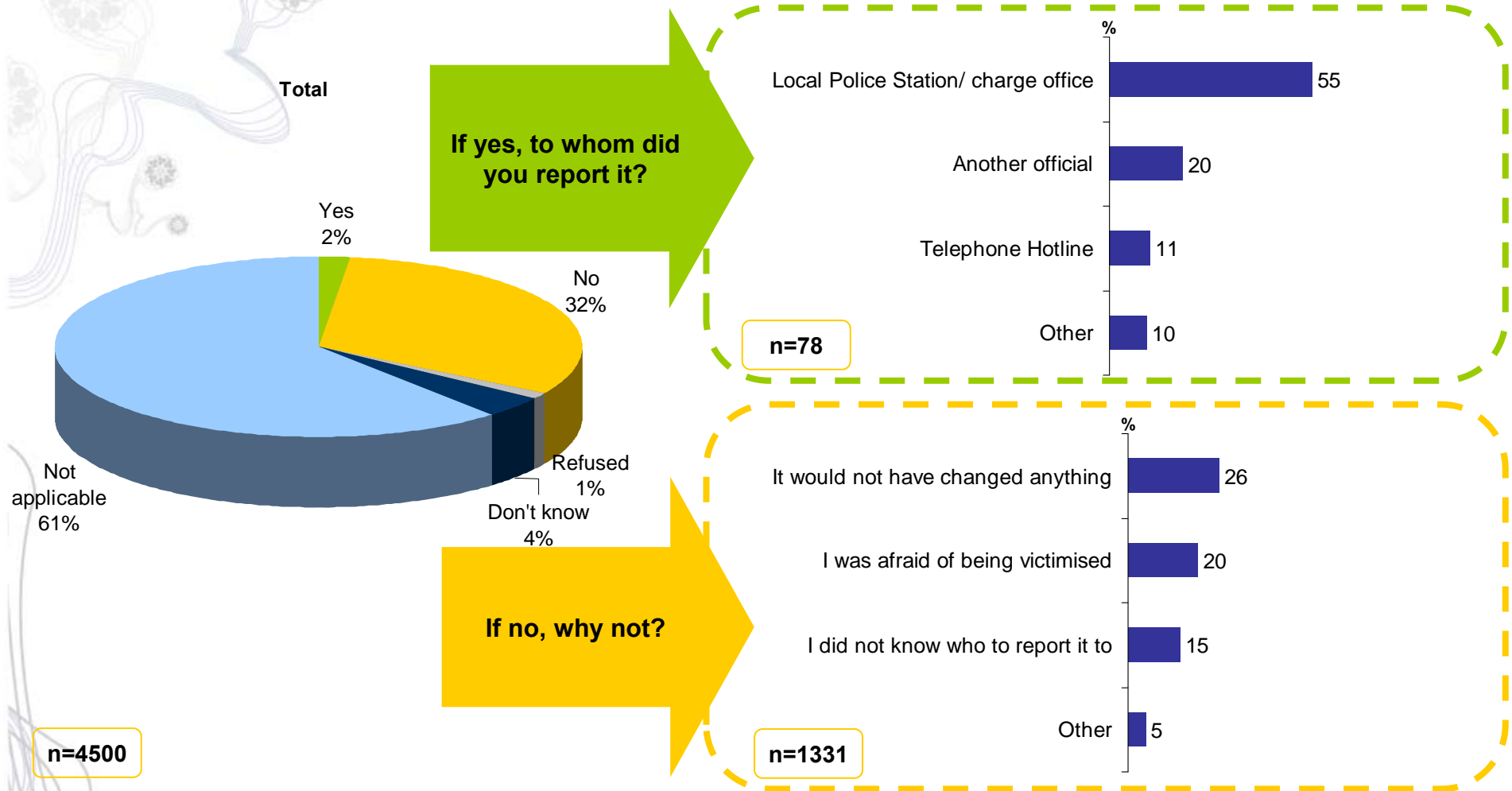
5% of black South Africans have experienced this, as opposed to 2% of whites and Indians and 1% of Coloureds

4% of people have experienced a bribe in the private sector in terms of job applications.

# Corruption

Have you ever tried to report a corrupt official?

-Total-



South Africans are unlikely to report corrupt officials, mainly due to fear of victimisation and the perception that it would not make a difference to do so.



**Experience of crime**

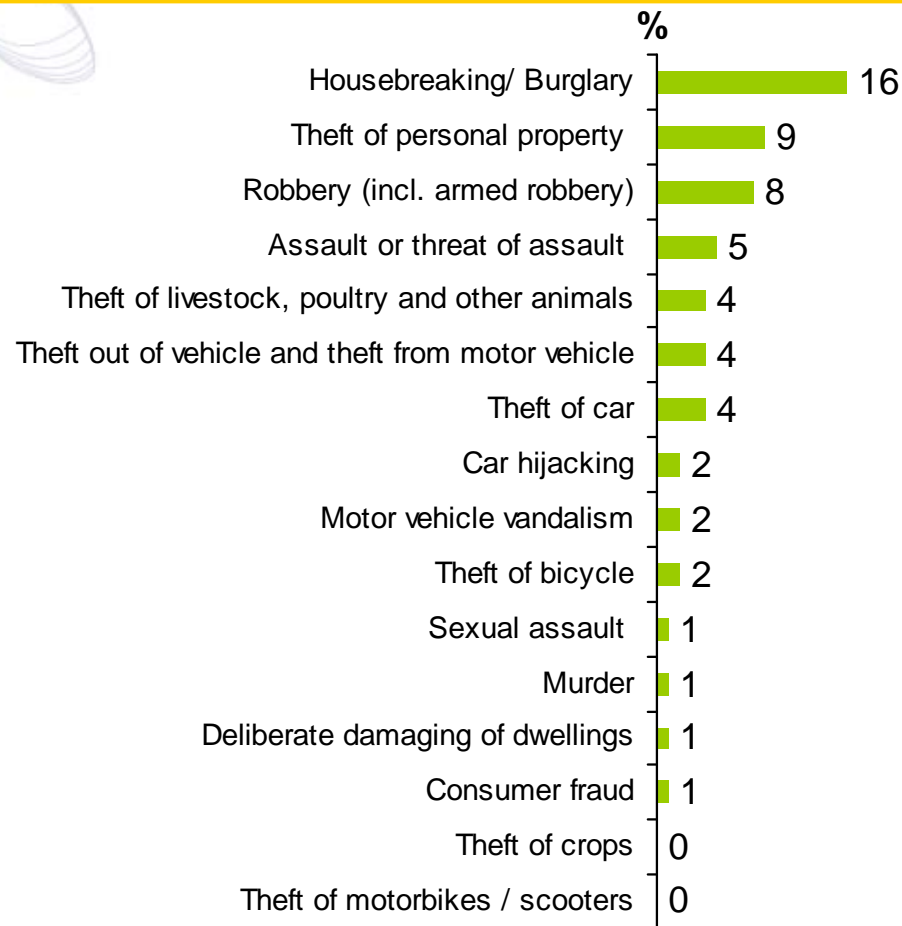




## Experience of crime

In the last 5 years (between October 2002 – October 2007) have you, or a member of the household experienced one of the following crimes:

-Total-



n=4500

Housebreaking heads the list as the most common crime experienced in the past 5 years, followed by theft of personal property and robbery. Housebreaking is also the crime South Africans fear most.

## Experience of crime

In the last 5 years (between October 2002 – October 2007) have you experienced one of the following crimes:

-By gender-

	Male	Female
Theft of car	5	3
Car Hijacking	2	2
Housebreaking/burglary	16	16
Theft of personal property	10	8
Robbery	9	6
Theft of livestock	4	4
Theft of crops	0.4	0.2
Theft of bicycle	2	1
Assault or threat of assault	5	4
Sexual assault	1	2
Murder	1	1
Theft out of vehicle and theft from vehicle	4	4
Deliberate damage/burning	1	1
Motor vehicle vandalism	2	2
Theft of motorbikes/scooters	0.3	0
Consumer fraud	1	1

## Experience of crime

In the last 5 years (between October 2002 – October 2007) you or a member of your household experienced one of the following crimes:

-Province-

%

	KwaZulu Natal	Mpumala nga	Free State	W.Cape	Gauteng	Limpopo	N.Cape	N.West	E.Cape
Housebreaking/ Burglary	21	19	8	18	18	12	7	14	12
Theft of personal property (incl. pickpocketing/ bag snatching)	9	9	4	12	14	3	5	3	9
Robbery (incl. armed robbery)	7	4	6	9	11	4	4	5	7
Assault or threat of assault (incl. domestic violence)	3	3	3	8	5	2	13	1	6
Theft of livestock, poultry and other animals	9	3	1	0	1	3	1	2	10
Theft out of vehicle and theft from motor vehicle	4	2	2	7	6	1	0	1	3
Theft of car	4	4	2	6	5	0	1	1	2
Car hijacking	2	4	1	2	4	0	0	1	0
Motor vehicle vandalism/ deliberate damage of motor vehicle	2	0	1	4	3	0	1	0	1
Theft of bicycle	1	2	2	4	3	0	0	0	0
Sexual assault (incl. rape)	2	1	1	1	2	3	0	1	2
Murder	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Deliberate damaging/ burning/ destruction of dwellings	0	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	1
Consumer fraud	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1

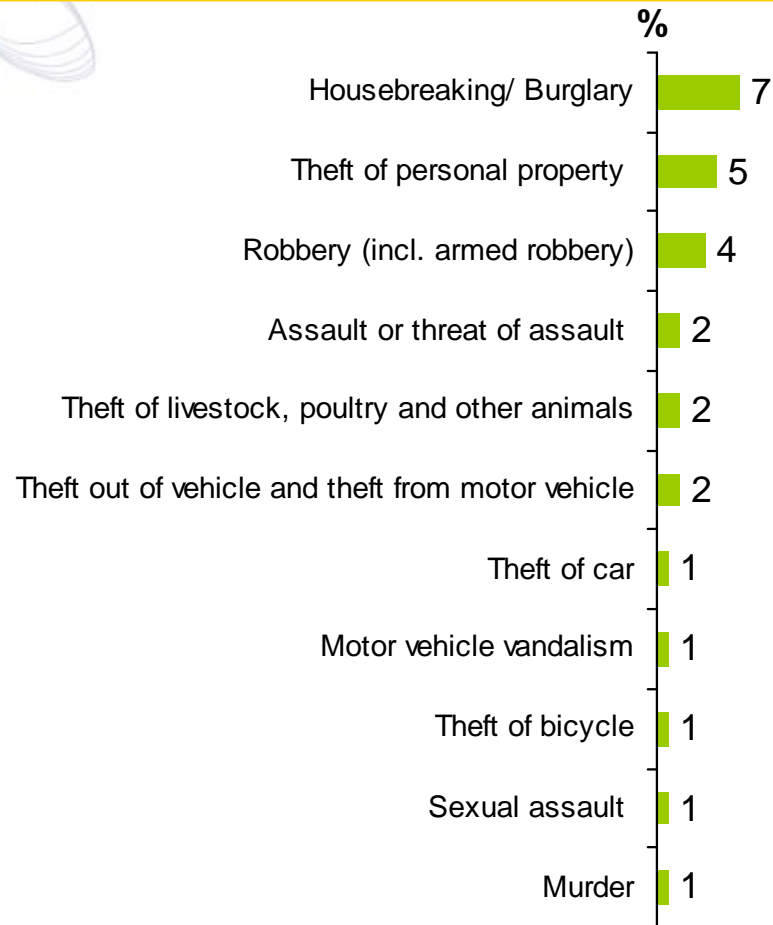
n=4500

In the Free State the risk of assault is higher than other regions, thus explaining why residents in this region are more fearful of this crime than any other.

## Experience of crime

In the last 12 months (between October 2006 – October 2007) have you, or a member of the household experienced one of the following crimes:

-Total-

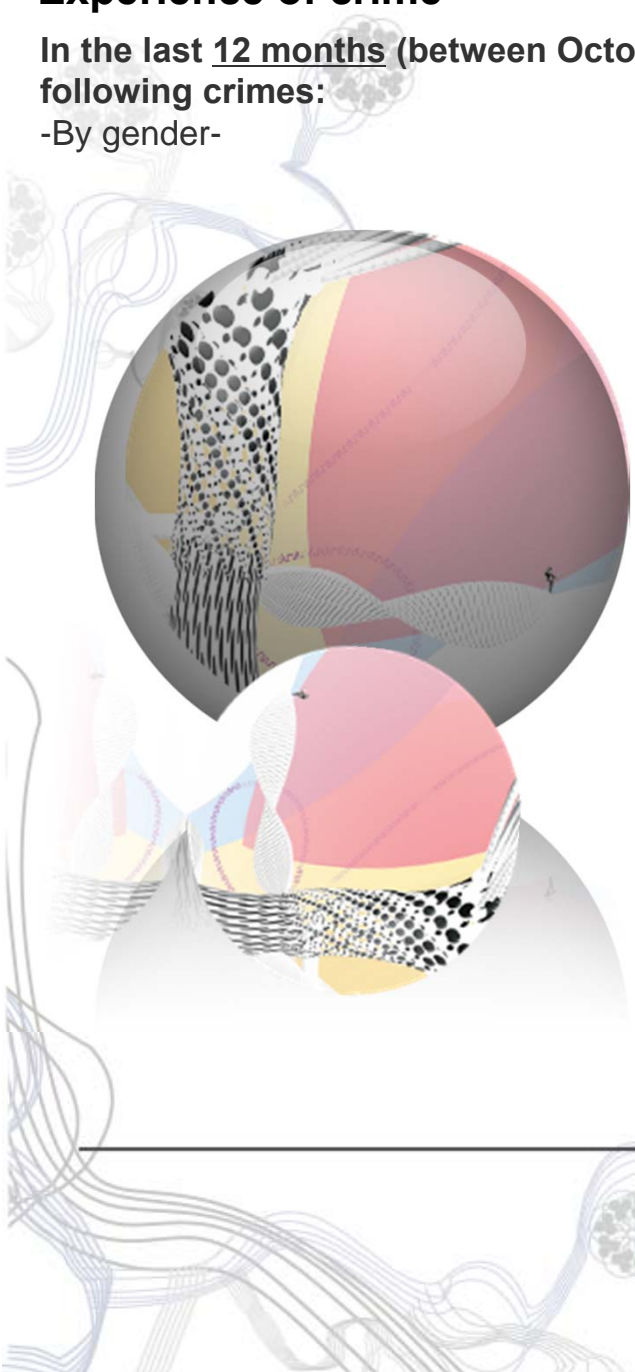


n=4500

## Experience of crime

In the last 12 months (between October 2006 – October 2007) have you experienced one of the following crimes:

-By gender-



	Male	Female
Theft of car	27	14
Car Hijacking	9	12
Housebreaking/burglary	10	10
Theft of personal property	38	27
Robbery	33	22
Theft of livestock	19	8
Theft of crops	9	8
Theft of bicycle	15	8
Assault or threat of assault	34	25
Sexual assault	11	22
Theft out of vehicle and theft from vehicle	20	10
Deliberate damage/burning	21	0
Motor vehicle vandalism	43	16
Theft of motorbikes/scooters	64	0
Consumer fraud	37	36



## Experience of crime

In the last 12 months (between October 2006 – October 2007) you experienced one of the following crimes:

-Province-

%	KwaZulu Natal	Mpumala nga	Free State	W.Cape	Gauteng	Limpopo	N.Cape	N.West	E.Cape
Theft of car	25	17	27	20	22	0	44	49	17
Car hijacking	11	7	0	0	15	0	0	0	0
Housebreaking/ Burglary	12	5	10	8	9	15	18	10	11
Theft of personal property (incl. pickpocketing/ bag snatching)	38	16	30	24	39	46	49	53	20
Robbery (incl. armed robbery)	13	8	25	45	26	57	41	28	35
Theft of livestock, poultry and other animals	12	19	57	100	27	0	70	7	10
Theft of crops	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	39
Theft of bicycle	0	0	11	27	7	0	0	0	42
Assault or threat of assault (incl. domestic violence)	39	64	24	12	29	76	23	80	20
Sexual assault (incl. rape)	0	36	54	33	21	10	0	20	29
Theft out of vehicle and theft from motor vehicle	21	22	0	8	17	0	0	0	13
Deliberate damaging/ burning/ destruction of dwellings	0	0	0	14	16	0	0	0	44
Motor vehicle vandalism/ deliberate damage of motor vehicle	24	0	0	16	44	100	0	0	40
Theft of motorbikes / scooters	82	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Consumer fraud	47	0	0	34	38	0	0	0	57
Other	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0

**Yes to experiencing the crime personally**

**\*Note: small base sizes**



## Experience of crime

In the last 12 months (between October 2006 – October 2007) a member of the household experienced one of the following crimes:

-Province-

%	KwaZulu Natal	Mpumala nga	Free State	W.Cape	Gauteng	Limpopo	N.Cape	N.West	E.Cape
Theft of car	18	26	0	9	12	0	0	51	9
Car hijacking	15	0	36	0	4	0	0	0	0
Housebreaking/ Burglary	36	35	17	27	30	48	29	29	35
Theft of personal property	25	13	26	18	17	22	9	16	25
Robbery (incl. armed robbery)	26	14	29	7	13	42	39	54	10
Theft of livestock, poultry and other animals	25	9	43	0	48	48	31	53	36
Theft of crops	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	39
Theft of bicycle	19	0	64	16	19	0	0	0	0
Assault or threat of assault (incl. domestic violence)	13	4	0	20	13	22	36	20	35
Sexual assault (incl. rape)	8	26	0	0	5	90	0	12	0
Murder	14	63	10	0	40	66	0	94	50
Theft out of vehicle and theft from motor vehicle	41	13	17	38	42	22	0	0	23
Deliberate damaging/ burning/ destruction of dwellings	0	37	27	22	30	100	0	0	15
Motor vehicle vandalism/ deliberate damage of motor vehicle	28	0	0	23	0	0	100	0	0
Theft of motorbikes / scooters	0	0	0	0	57	0	0	0	0
Consumer fraud	0	0	0	0	18	0	100	0	29
Other	100	0	0	0	100	0	0	100	0

**Yes to someone other than yourself in your household experiencing the crime**

**\*Note: small base sizes**



## Understanding the previous 2 slides

When a crime was experienced by the respondent personally, this was recorded as an Individual crime. If the respondent was not the victim of the crime but someone else in the household happened to be the victim of the crime, then the crime was captured as a Household crime.

Thus, due to this definition, Murder could only be experienced as a Household crime.

This does not affect Antoinette Louw's definition of individual and household crime used in the 2003 Victim Survey. In order to reclassify it as was done in 2003, combine the crime experienced by the respondent in 2007 (i.e. individual crime) and crime experienced by another member of the household but not the respondent (i.e. household crime) and classify it as the 2003 definition had it.



## Experience of crime and reporting levels

Examining individual experiences of crime by levels of reporting of crime to the police

- Total & Gender -

%	Total	Male	Female
Theft of car	97	100	91
Car Hijacking	76	76	77
Housebreaking/burglary	61	61	61
Theft of personal property	36	43	27
Robbery	49	47	52
Theft of livestock	39	60	24
Theft of crops	22	27	0
Theft of bicycle	28	56	0
Assault or threat of assault	76	66	86
Sexual assault	85	29	95
Murder	88	78	100
Theft out of vehicle and theft from vehicle	51	56	46
Deliberate damage/burning	64	52	80
Motor vehicle vandalism	59	47	79
Theft of motorbikes/scooters	100	100	0
Consumer fraud	5	9	0

## Experience of crime and reporting levels

Examining individual experiences of crime by levels of reporting of crime to the police

- Total & Distance from police station -

% who reported crime	Total	≤ 30 min	30 – 59 min	1 hr – 1:59	≥ 2 hours
Theft of car	97	99	77	-	100
Car Hijacking	76	75	100	-	-
Housebreaking/burglary	61	66	62	38	14
Theft of personal property	36	39	27	35	0
Robbery	49	50	57	17	0
Theft of livestock	39	44	47	34	40
Theft of crops	22	100	0	0	-
Theft of bicycle	28	29	0	-	-
Assault or threat of assault	76	77	73	53	100
Sexual assault	85	77	100	100	0
Murder	88	85	100	100	-
Theft out of vehicle & theft from vehicle	51	55	60	0	-
Deliberate damage/burning	64	57	65	91	-
Motor vehicle vandalism	59	57	-	100	-
Theft of motorbikes/scooters	100	100	-	-	-
Consumer fraud	5	9	0	-	-

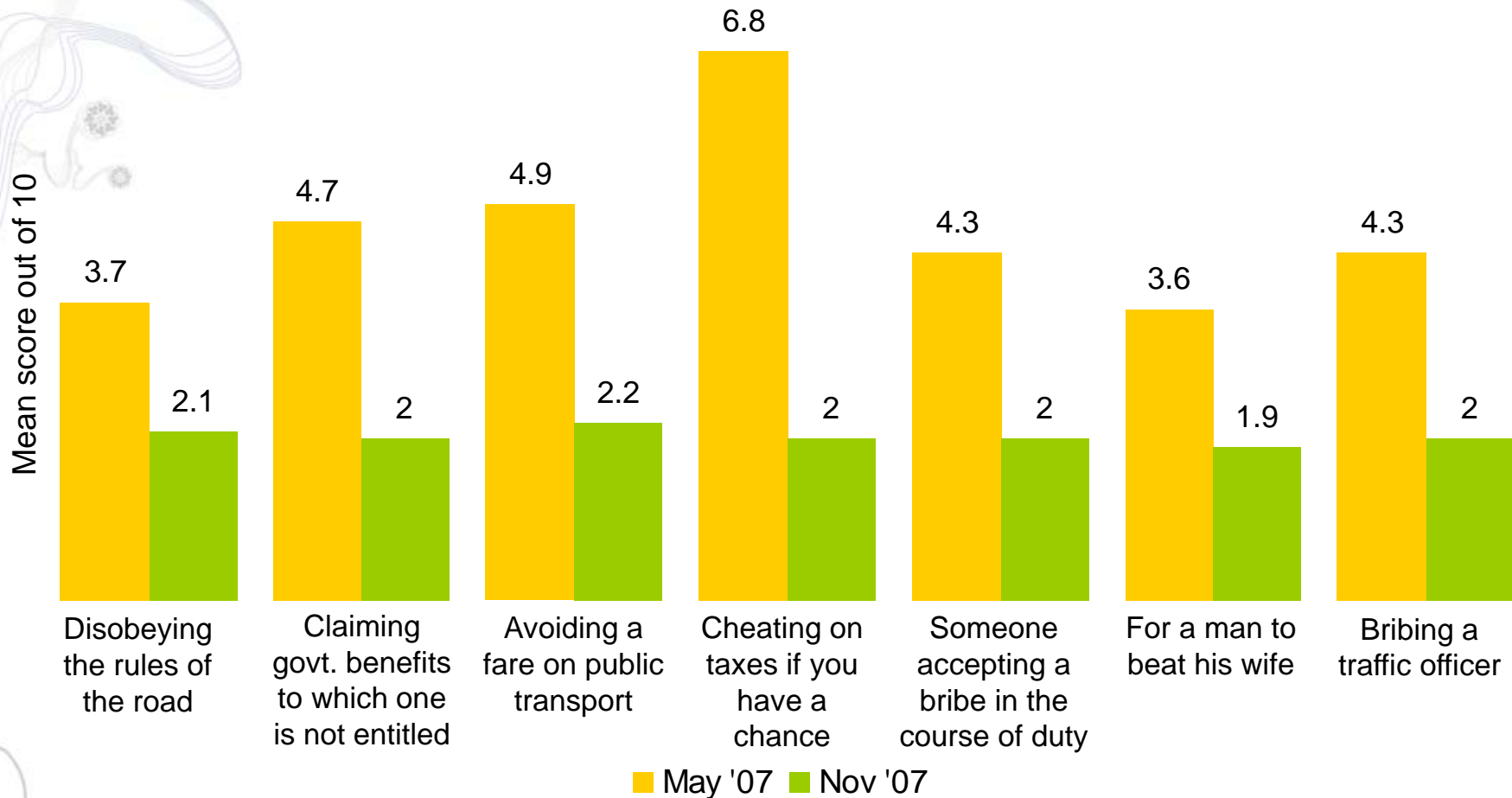




## Justification of crime

## Justification of crime

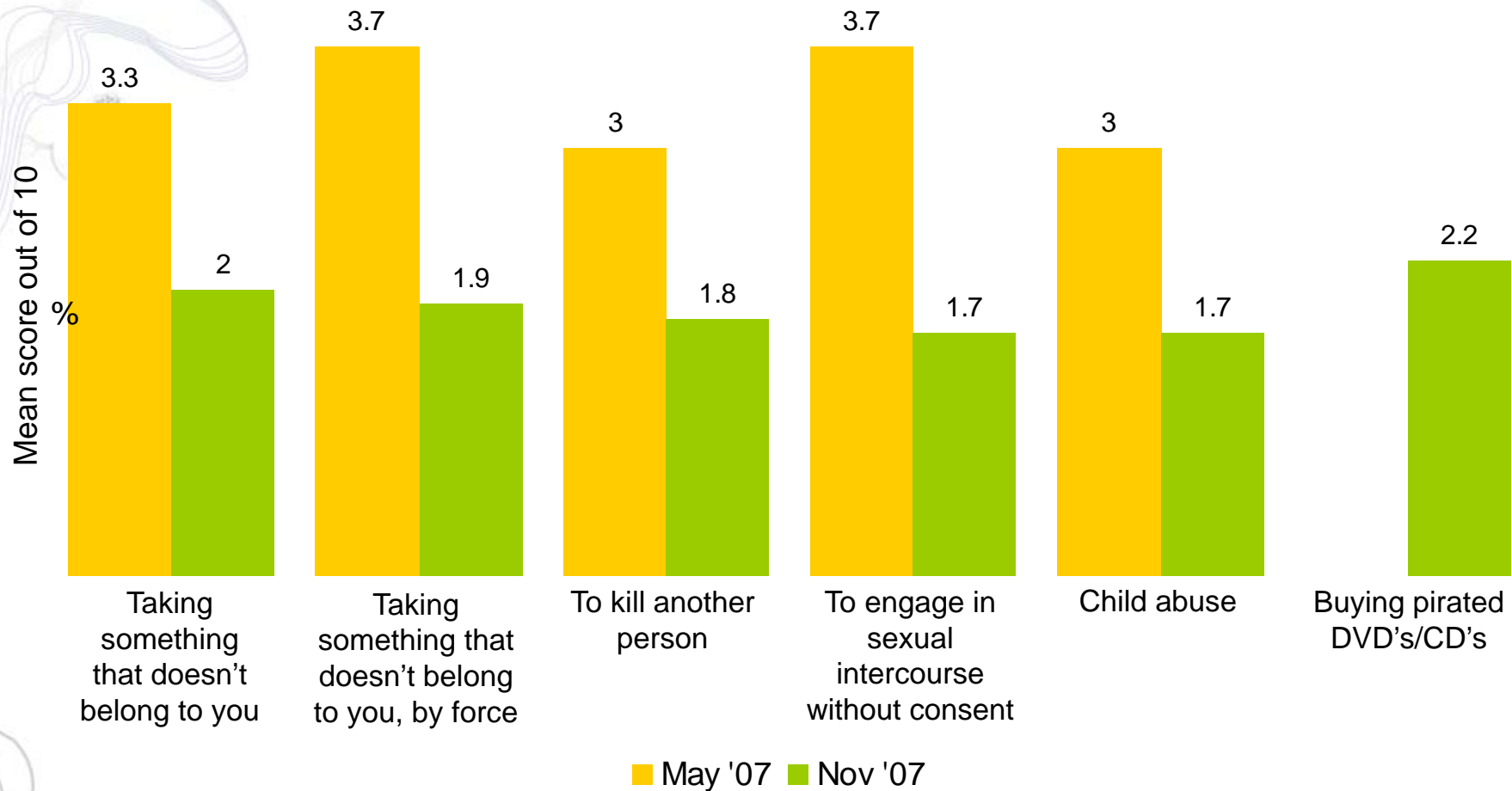
Using this card, where 1 means never justifiable and 10 means always justifiable, please tell me for each of the following whether you think it can always be justified, never be justified or something in between



Source: Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime

## Justification of crime

Using this card, where 1 means never justifiable and 10 means always justifiable, please tell me for each of the following whether you think it can always be justified, never be justified or something in between

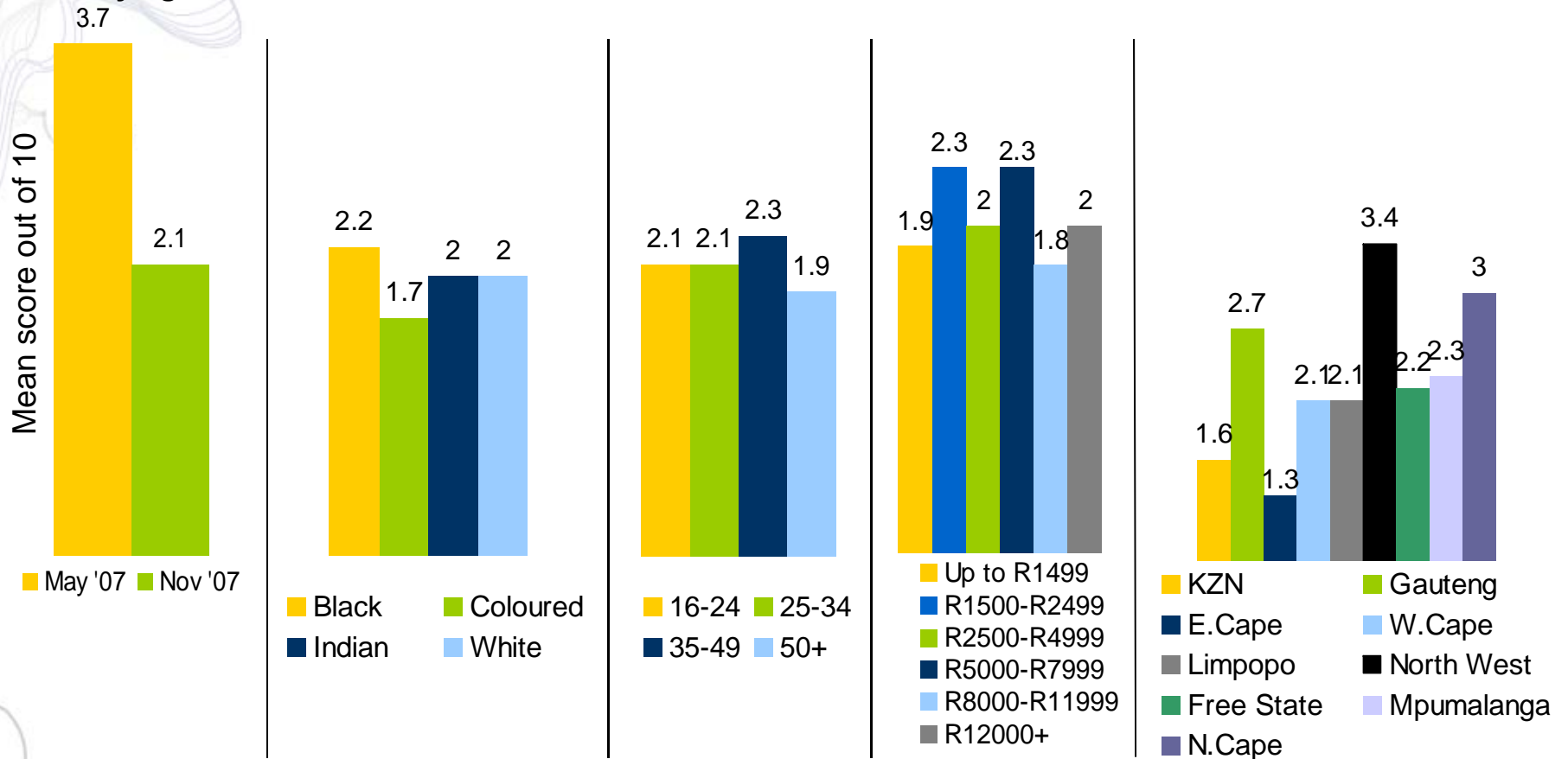


Source: Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime

## Justification of crime

Using this card, where 1 means never justifiable and 10 means always justifiable, please tell me for each of the following whether you think it can always be justified, never be justified or something in between

### Disobeying the rules of the road



Source: Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime

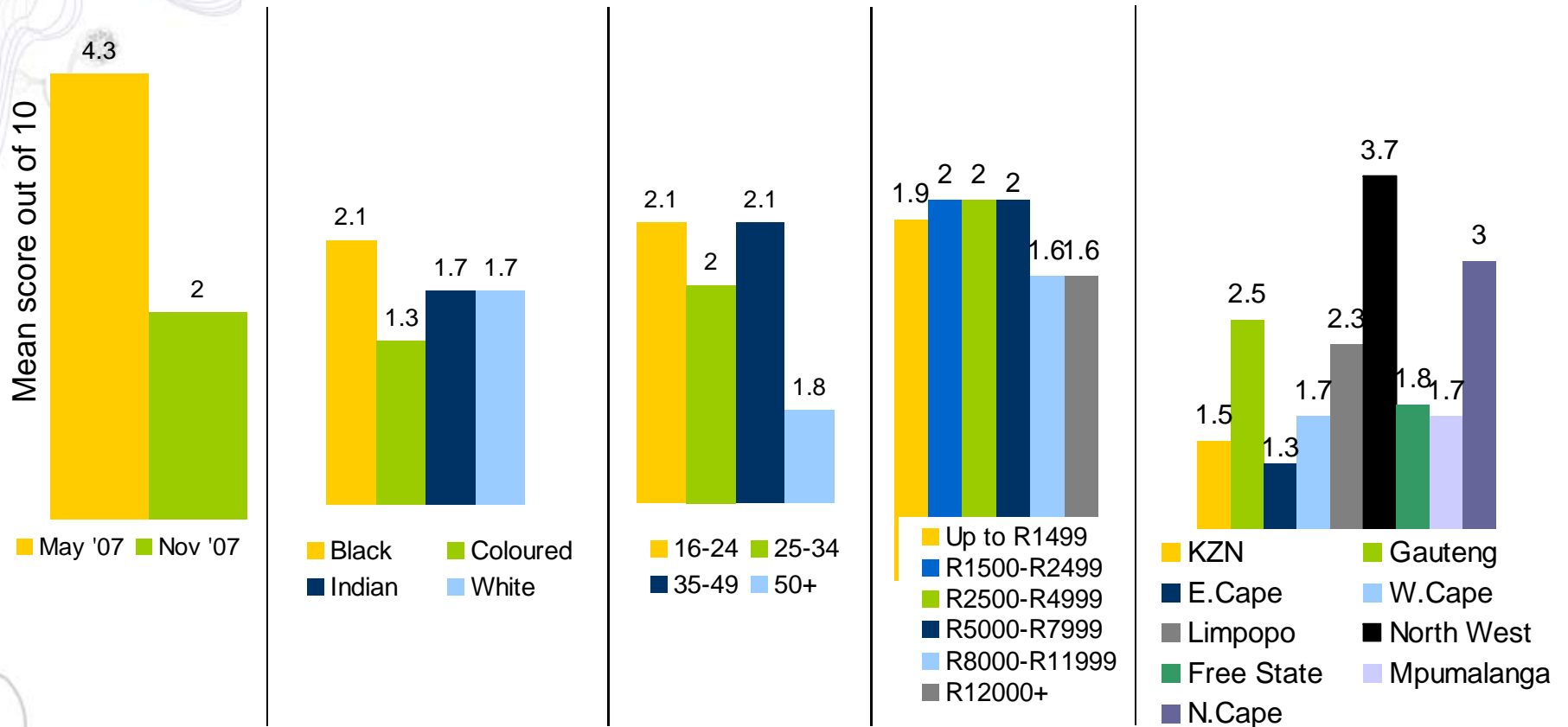
November 2007



## Justification of crime

Using this card, where 1 means never justifiable and 10 means always justifiable, please tell me for each of the following whether you think it can always be justified, never be justified or something in between

### Bribing a traffic officer not to give a fine



Source: Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime

November 2007

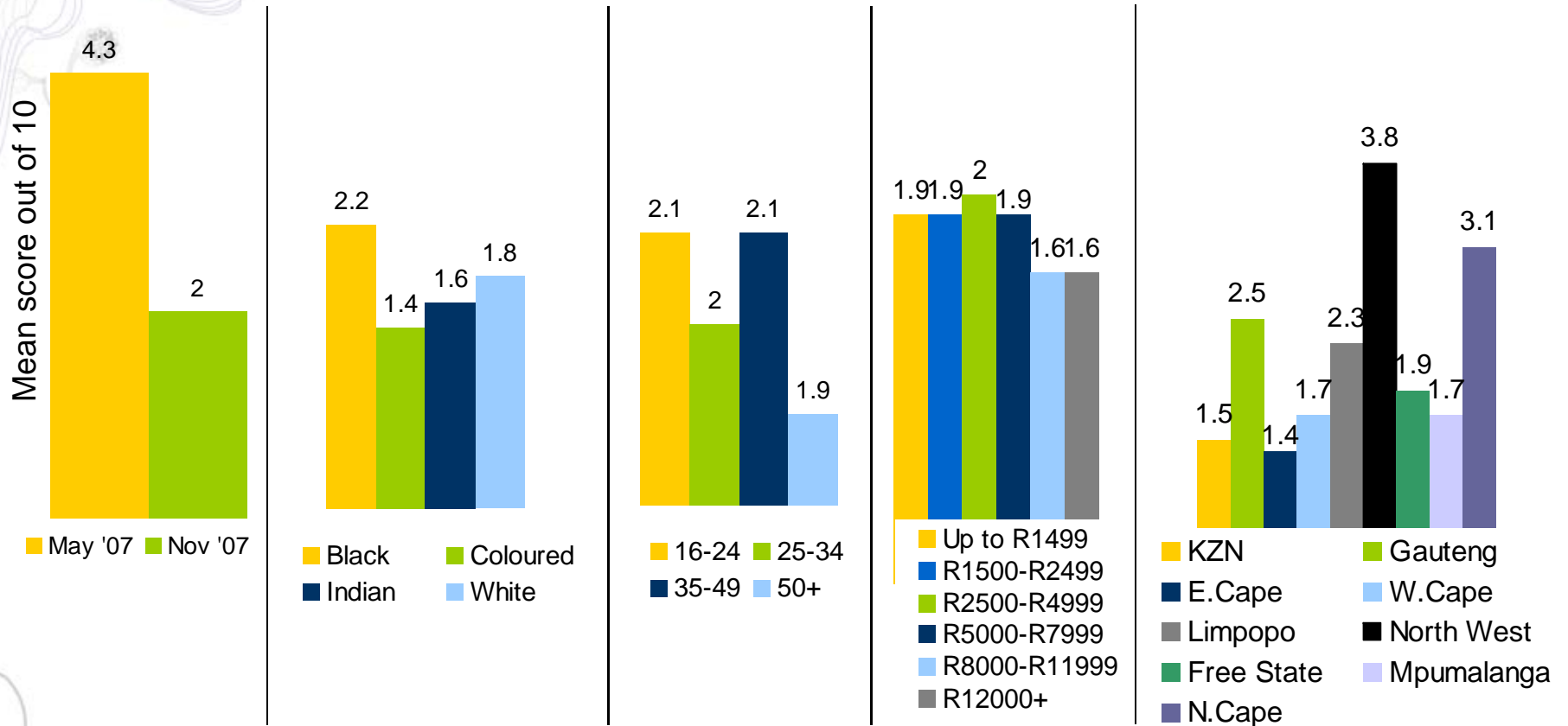




## Justification of crime

Using this card, where 1 means never justifiable and 10 means always justifiable, please tell me for each of the following whether you think it can always be justified, never be justified or something in between

### Someone accepting a bribe in the course of their duties



Source: Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime

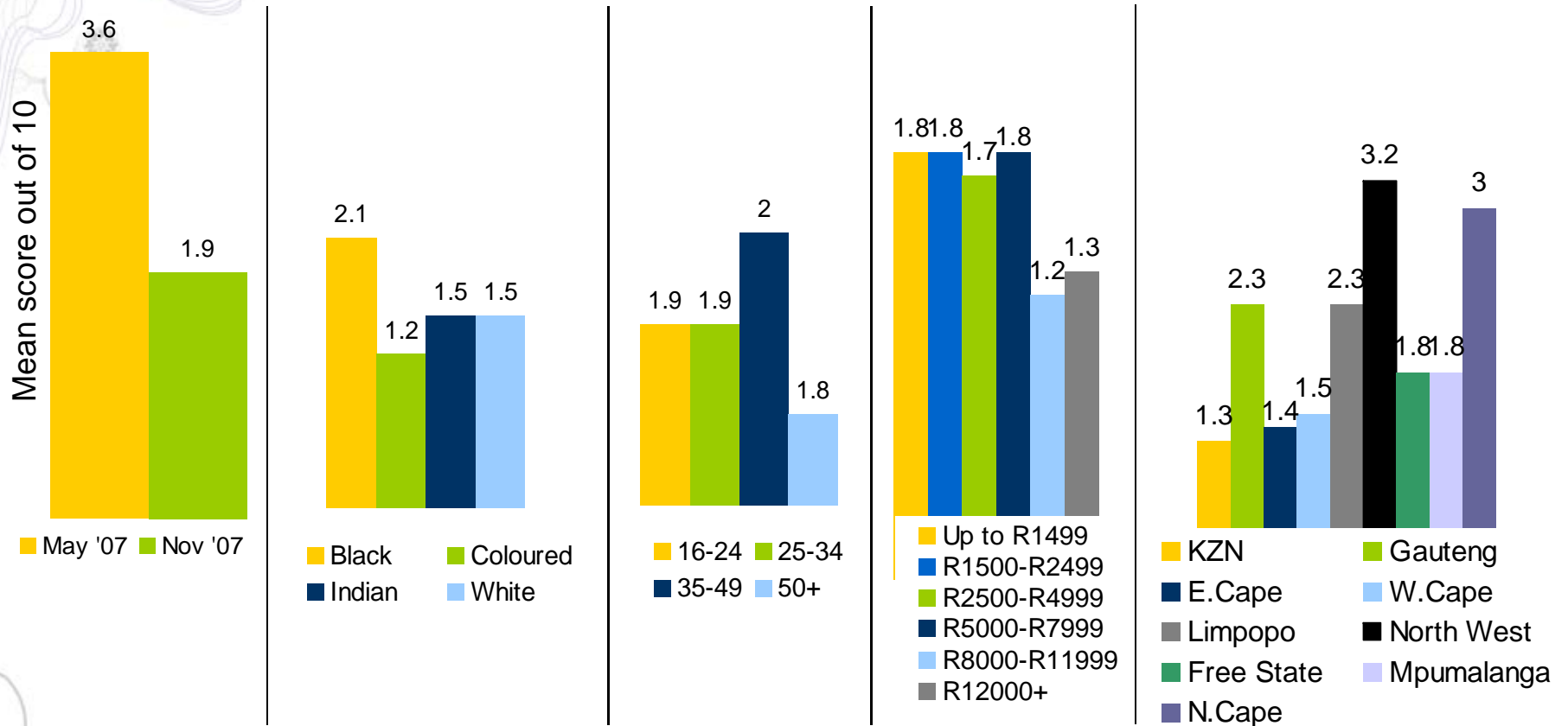
November 2007



## Justification of crime

Using this card, where 1 means never justifiable and 10 means always justifiable, please tell me for each of the following whether you think it can always be justified, never be justified or something in between

### For a man to beat his wife



Source: Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime

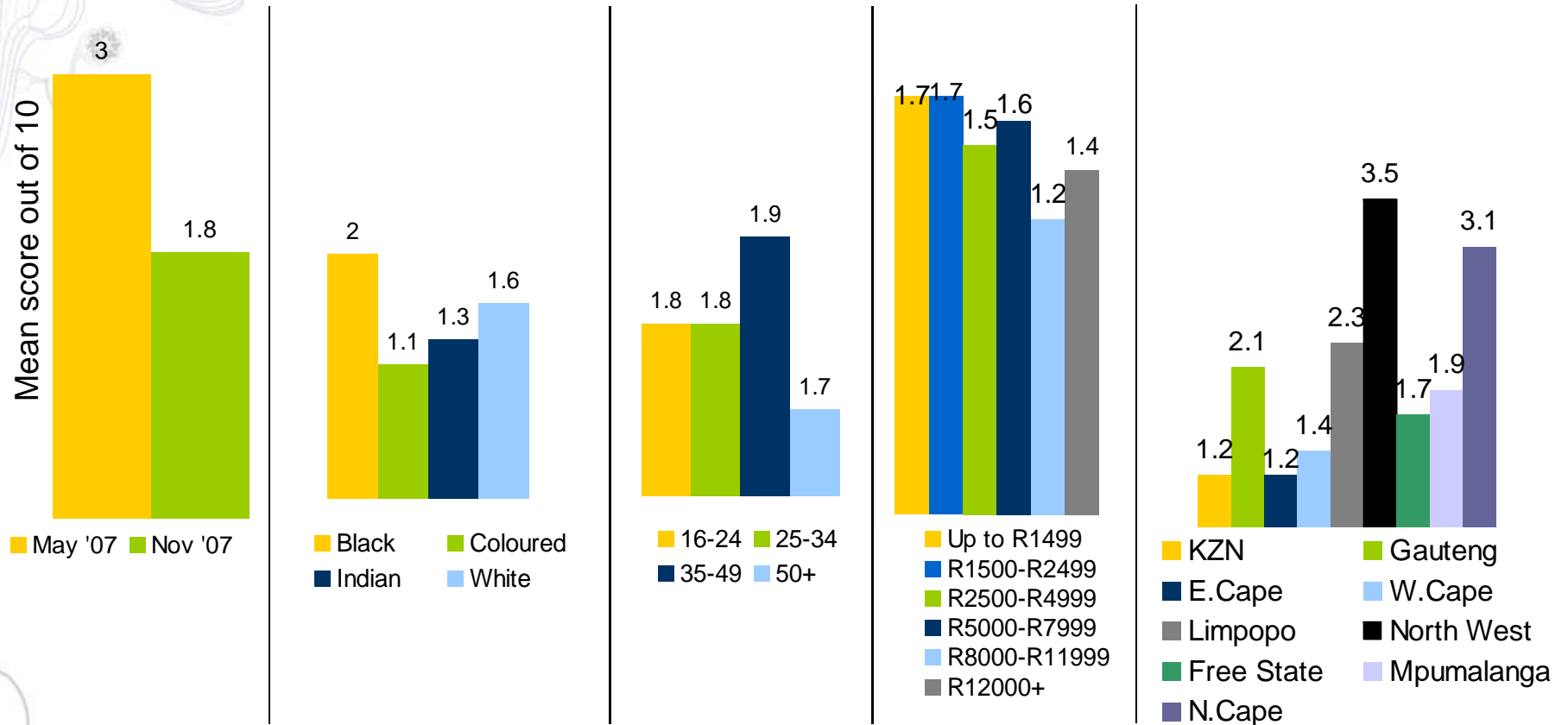
November 2007



## Justification of crime

Using this card, where 1 means never justifiable and 10 means always justifiable, please tell me for each of the following whether you think it can always be justified, never be justified or something in between

### To kill another person



Source: Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime

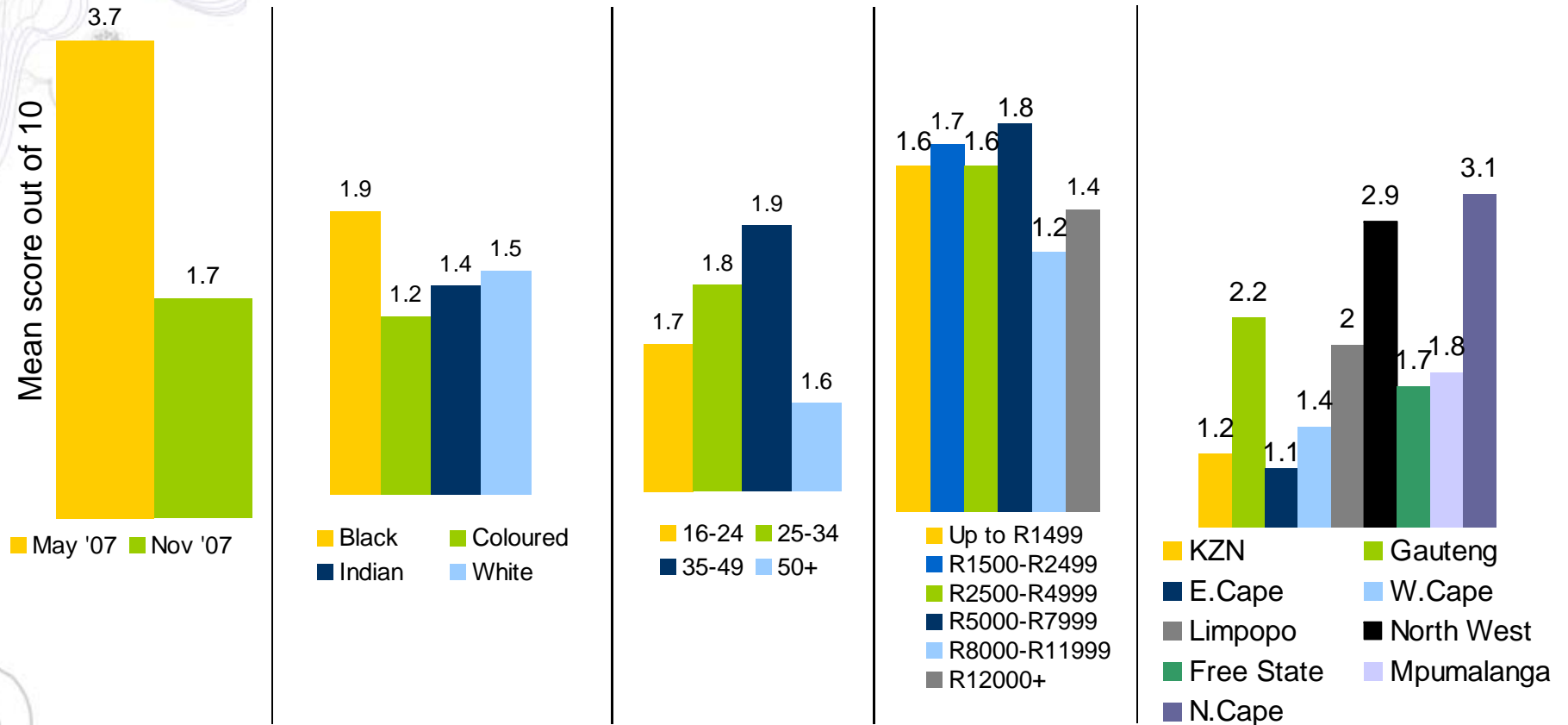
November 2007



## Justification of crime

Using this card, where 1 means never justifiable and 10 means always justifiable, please tell me for each of the following whether you think it can always be justified, never be justified or something in between

**To engage in sexual intercourse without the partner's consent**

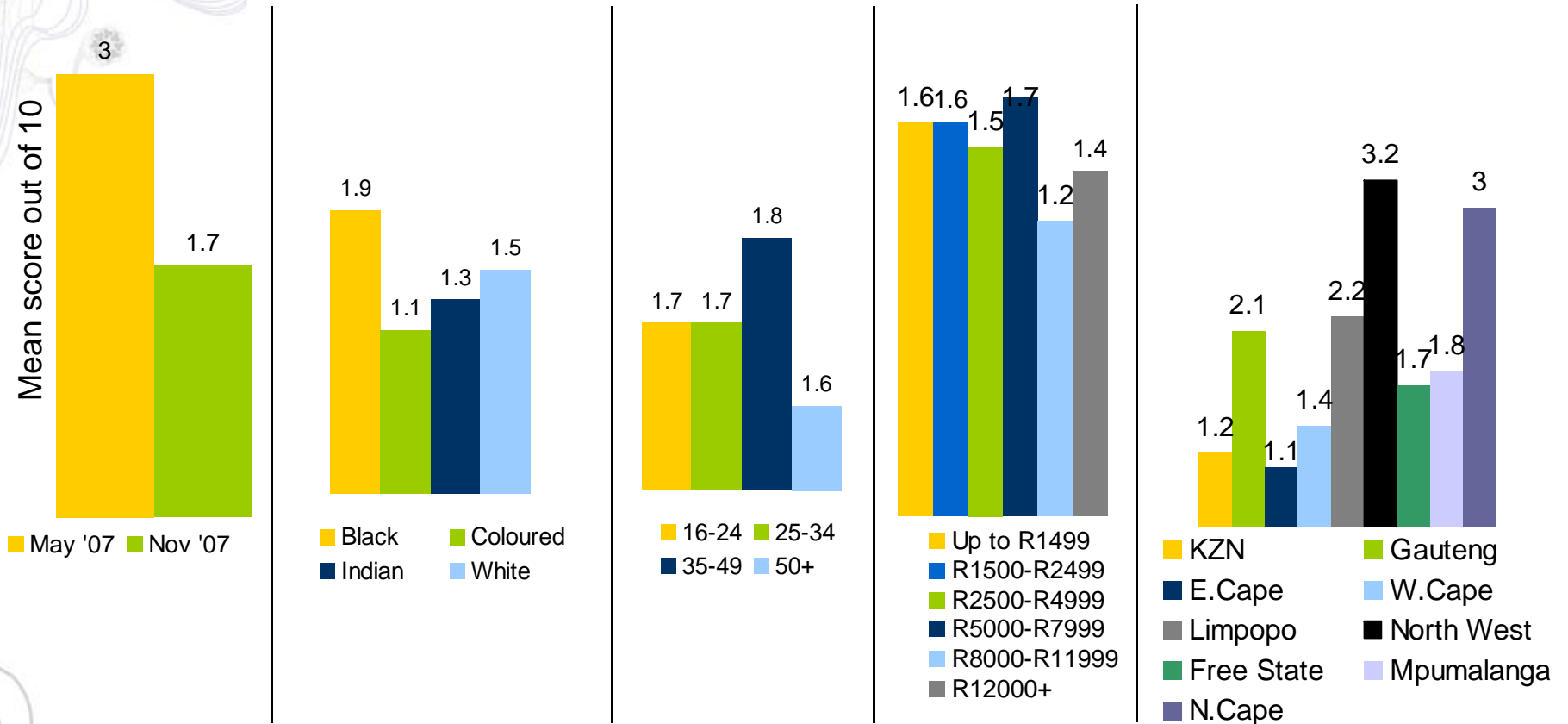


Source: Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime

## Justification of crime

Using this card, where 1 means never justifiable and 10 means always justifiable, please tell me for each of the following whether you think it can always be justified, never be justified or something in between

### Child abuse



Source: Ipsos Markinor's Project Crime

November 2007








**Executive summary and a few thoughts...**

## The criminal exploitation of women

Results show a particular victimisation of women in South Africa – mainly in terms of sexual crimes and security. In addition the women vulnerable to particular crimes are the same women who do not feel secure enough nor trust the police enough to report these. For example theft of livestock – women without an adult male in the household are most vulnerable to this crime, and only 25% are likely to report this.

The recent International Police Executive Symposium, with the theme ‘Criminal Exploitation of Women and Children’, extensively examined this issue and main conclusions included:

- 
- The scope and nature of the problems not only **differ widely from country to country** BUT **also within different regions of a country** – especially where there is **unequal distribution of income**. Issues thus need to be **individually examined** for the identification of **root causes**.
  - To adequately address these issues all **organisations involved** need to ensure they have their own houses in order in this regard, by **inculcating an environment where the exploitation of women is unacceptable**.
  - Issues to be considered in any assessment include: cultural traditions, economic conditions, the past (apartheid), government tolerance, corruption, lack of resources, acceptance of victimisation, views on the future, government and police administrative policies, communication and co-operation practices of stakeholders, weak legislation, co-operation levels of victims

---

Kratcoski *et al.* 2005. ‘The Criminal Exploitation of Women and Children’ in The Canadian Review of Policing Research (Vol. 1: 2005)

Baladi & Tuffin. 2006. Flexible working in the Police Service



## Managing crime in formerly divided societies...

The transformation of crime management in general and the police service in particular in Northern Ireland has faced many of the same issues as those faced in South Africa. Their approach, successes and failures can as such provide guidance. In general:

- Upon overcoming any conflict or struggle, the prevailing management and control style of a country, has to focus on more collaborative and accountable leadership practices requiring conceptual ability, critical thinking, business administrative skills and community awareness. If not the often lawless norms of the past, focused on surviving in adverse circumstance, remain to become the current reality.
- A transition of thinking in community dealings is required, across all levels of the police service. Strategy needs to focus on relationship building to enhance trust in a community seldom interacted with in the past. Most importantly all must be seen to be equally served, and where necessary marketing campaigns of such efforts introduced to reverse negative perceptions.
- Traditional models of leadership and management are often ineffective for solving crime issues, because a partnership approach, involving all stakeholders (general public, police, legislature, NGO's, media, religious organisations, business), is required.



---

Drennan, J. 2005. 'The Challenges of Leadership in a divided society: Policing in Northern Ireland' in The Canadian Review of Policing Research (Vol. 1: 2005)

## Executive Summary

### General thinking on crime

- 6 out of 10 South Africans think crime has increased, in both the short and long term
- More than 8 out of 10 Indians are of the above opinion, while 5 out of 10 blacks agree
- South Africans believe that the most common crime is housebreaking and burglary
- Corresponding with previous surveys housebreaking and burglary are also the crimes most feared

### Personal safety

- The majority of South Africans feel safe walking around during the day, except for Indians, of whom only half of this number, 4 out of 10, feel the same
- Approximately half of South Africans have experienced a decrease in feelings of personal safety, except for Indians. 30% of Indians say the same – most probably because of the low level of personal safety levels in the first place
- Personal safety has decreased the most in the Eastern Cape and Free State, and the least in KwaZulu-Natal, according to residents of the provinces

## Executive Summary

### Personal safety (cont.)

- The majority of South Africans think gun laws should be tightened – 85%
- 50% of South Africans believe guns should be banned

### Individual & community responses to crime

- A quarter of South Africans have reacted to the perceived crime problem by increasing the security of their home
- 6 out of 10 South Africans have not reacted in any way
- Of those who have reacted 75% feel safer as a result
- A quarter of South Africans are aware of organisations, other than the police, that protect the community against crime
- A quarter of these groups administer physical punishment to suspects





## Executive Summary

### Witness to killings

- Just more than 1 out of 10 South Africans have witnessed another being killed
- Three quarters of these people knew the victim

### Police

- All but 2 out of every 100 South Africans know where their nearest police station is
- Most are able to get to this station within 30 minutes
- Only 1 in 10 needs to travel for an hour or more
- Half of South Africans have not visited a police station in the past 4 years
- 30% of South Africans have had official contact with the police, and 60% of these had an improved perception of the police after this interaction
- The most common complaint, and biggest contributor to negative perceptions, is what South Africans believe is the insufficient response time of the police

## Executive Summary

### Courts

- 86% of South Africans know where their local magistrates court is, and over half of those live less than 30 minutes away from their local court.
- Just under half of South Africans believe the courts are performing their duties adequately.
- Opinions are divided on how the courts are dealing with criminals – 40% are satisfied, 34% are not satisfied. Those satisfied cite the appropriate sentences passed as the main reason for their satisfaction, while those who are dissatisfied believe sentences are too lenient and prisoners are released too readily.

### Corruption

- Fewer than 4% of South Africans have personally experienced a bribe solicitation from a government official in the past year
- The same number of South Africans reported an attempted bribe in the private sector in the past year
- Attempted bribes from traffic officials appear to be more common – a third of these people claimed to have been solicited for a bribe while receiving a traffic fine, for example.
- 3 out of 10 say that these incidents have increased over the past four years, 14% that they have decreased.



## Executive Summary

### Experience of crime

- Almost 2 in 10 South Africans have experienced house-breaking/burglary in the past 5 years
- One in 10 have experienced theft of personal property or robbery in the past 5 years
- House-breaking is recorded as being experienced most often by residents of KwaZulu Natal and least by residents of the Eastern Cape and Free State
- Theft of personal property and robbery are most common in Limpopo
- The Western Cape and Gauteng have the highest recorded levels of car-hijacking
- Theft of livestock is almost exclusively occurring in Kwa-Zulu Natal and the Northern Cape
- Women are twice as likely as men to be the victim of a sexual assault (including rape)
- Males are twice as likely to be the victim of car theft or having property stolen out of or from their car
- Consumer fraud followed by theft of crops are the crimes least likely to be reported
- Theft of vehicles (cars and motorbikes/scooters) are most likely to be reported – probably because of insurance requirements

## Contact information

**Account Manager:**

**Tracy Hammond**

**Email:** [tracyh@markinor.co.za](mailto:tracyh@markinor.co.za)

**Research Director:**

**Mari Harris**

**Email:** [marih@markinor.co.za](mailto:marih@markinor.co.za)

**T + 27 (11) 686 8400**

**F + 27 (11) 789 3764**

**Physical Address:**

Cnr Republic & Oak Rd  
Ferndale  
Randburg  
Johannesburg

**Postal Address:**

P O Box 213  
Pinetown  
2123  
South Africa





Thank you for sharing head space with us

