

# FOIA MARKER

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UCSD [University of California at San Diego] - Gallop Poll: USA Race Relations [2]

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# BLACK/WHITE RELATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES



## A Gallup Poll Social Audit

June 1997

The data contained within this document are embargoed until 9:00am on 10 June, 1997.



# OBJECTIVE

- Provide baseline for regular "audit" of Americans' perceptions of race relations in this country
- Provide reliable, objective data to be used as basis for discussion, policy, debate on race-related topics
- Systematically update long-term Gallup Poll trends on race relations
- Use rigorous methodology with sufficiently large sample sizes for in-depth sub-group analysis

# SPONSORSHIP

- This Gallup Poll Social Audit is funded solely by The Gallup Organization
- The Gallup Poll Social Audit is part of an on-going commitment by Gallup to provide objective data to be used by the country's political, policy-making, journalistic and scholarly communities

# SEVEN AREAS OF FOCUS

- Perceptions of race relations in the local community
- Perceptions of race relations nationally
- The role of government in addressing racial issues
- Contact between the races
- Personal prejudice
- Measures of satisfaction
- Experiencing discrimination

# To Begin With.....

- Remarkable improvement over time in black satisfaction with aspects of their personal lives
- Significant decrease over time in white expression of prejudicial attitudes
- Whites claim very low prejudice against blacks, claim to desire mixed race environments, and don't object to mixed race settings to live in and for childrens' school
- The majority of blacks do not live, work or send their children to school in segregated environments
- Whites and blacks claim to have close friends who are of the other race

# At the same time...

- Both blacks and whites see prejudice against blacks in community around them
- Significant gaps between blacks and whites remain in terms of perceived prejudice
- Both whites and blacks are pessimistic that race relations problems will ever be solved
- Whites and blacks see strongly different role for government in ameliorating race relations
- Blacks experience unfair treatment in everyday settings on regular basis

# Race Relations in the U.S.:

- There remain two different perceptual worlds in the U.S. today:
  - From the white perspective, there are fewer race problems, less discrimination, and only minimal personal prejudice. These attitudes represent significant changes over time.
  - From the black perspective, there are substantial race problems, extensive discrimination, and widespread prejudice against blacks. This is the case even though black satisfaction levels have risen steadily.

# Thus, to approach the problem of existing black and white tensions in the U.S. today:



- Change and downgrade the more optimistic, positive white perceptions of state of race relations today?
- Change whites' personal feelings of having little or no prejudice against blacks? Force a personal reassessment?
- Change white perceptions that government need not be involved?

Or....

- Change and upgrade the more pessimistic, negative black perceptions of the state of race relations today?
- Convince blacks that whites have little or no personal prejudice against blacks?
- Change black perceptions that government has to be involved?

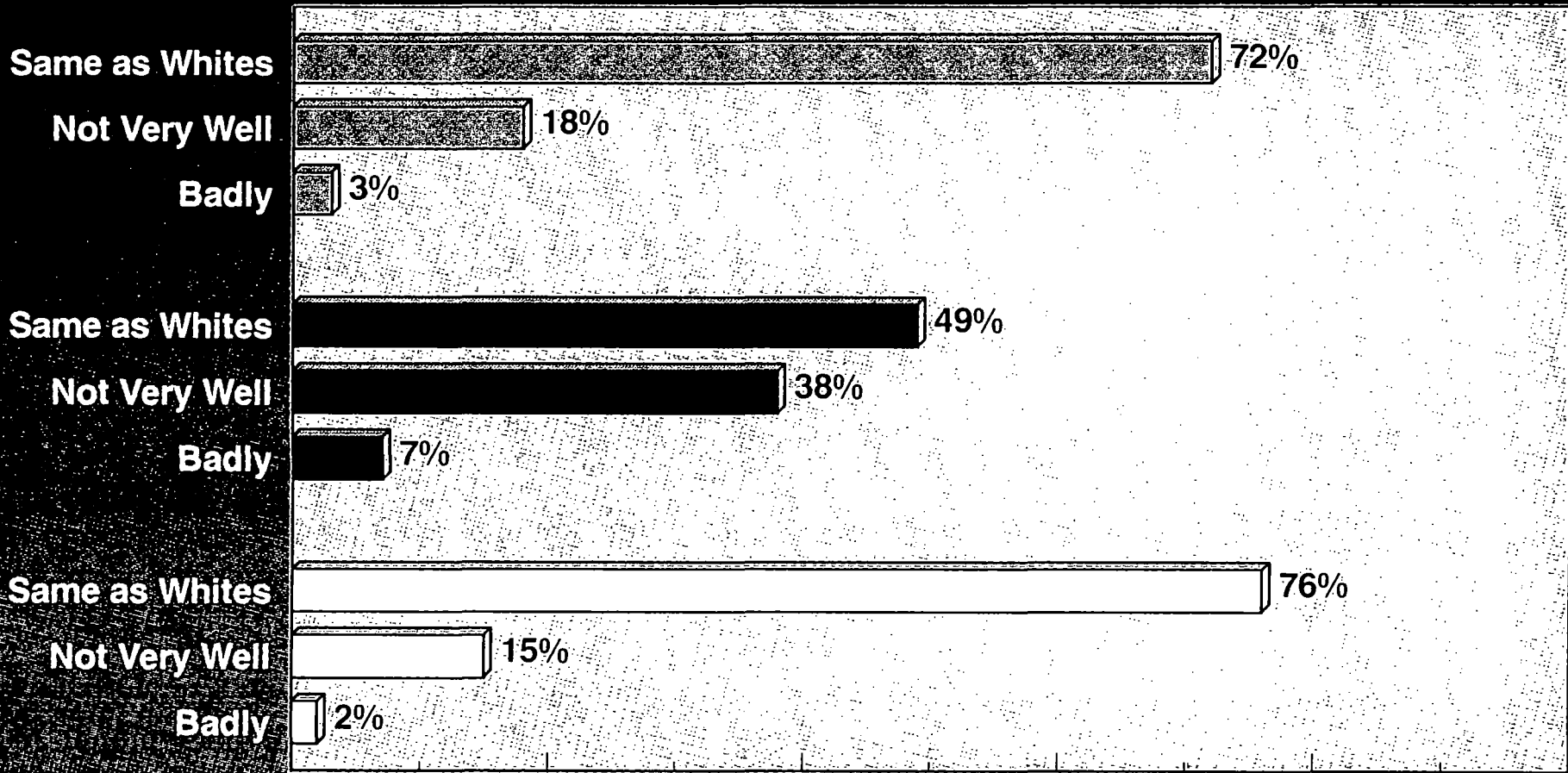


# Selected Findings

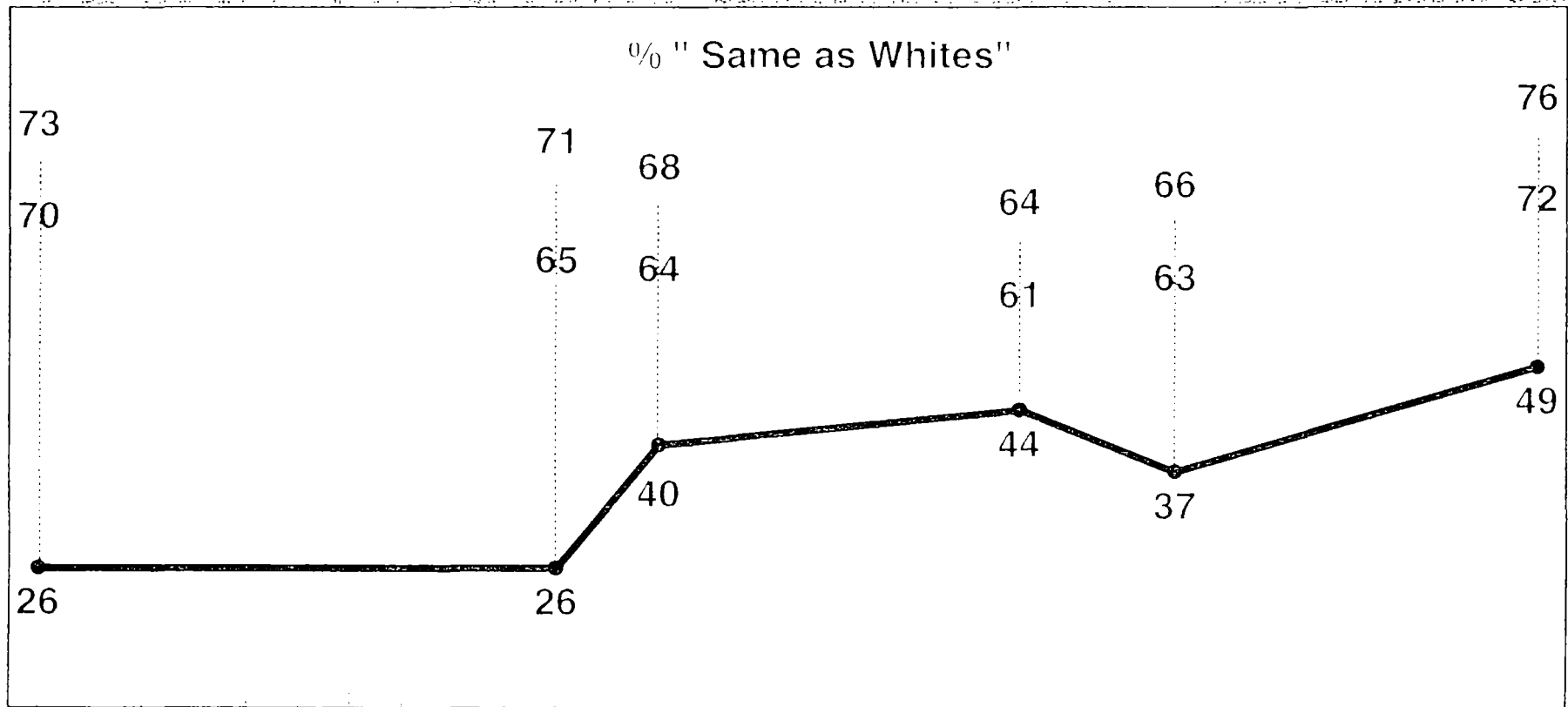


# Perceived Treatment of Blacks in Own Community

Now, let's talk about your community. In your opinion, how well do you think blacks are treated in your community - the same as whites are, not very well, or badly?



■ National ■ Blacks □ Whites

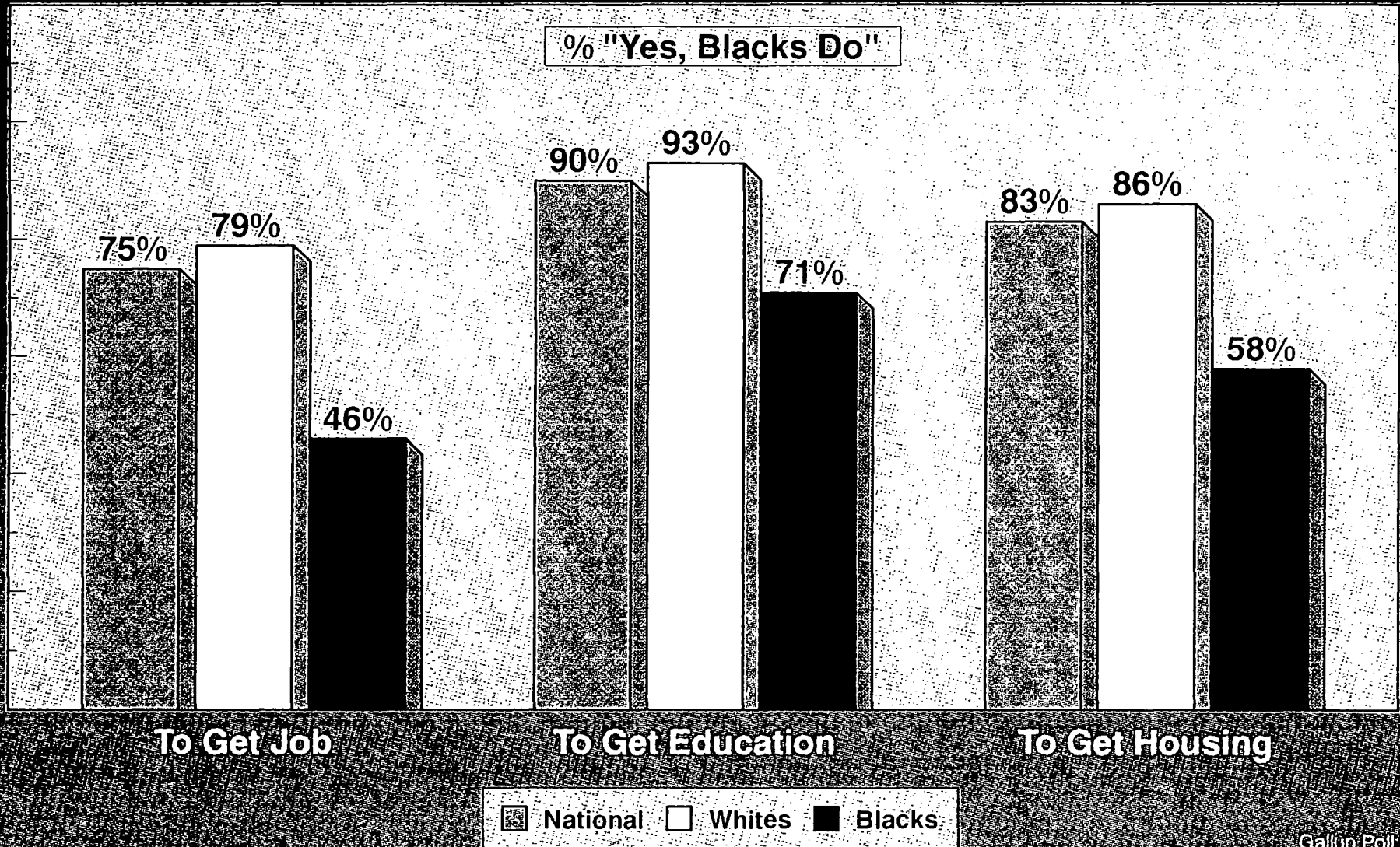


National Blacks Whites



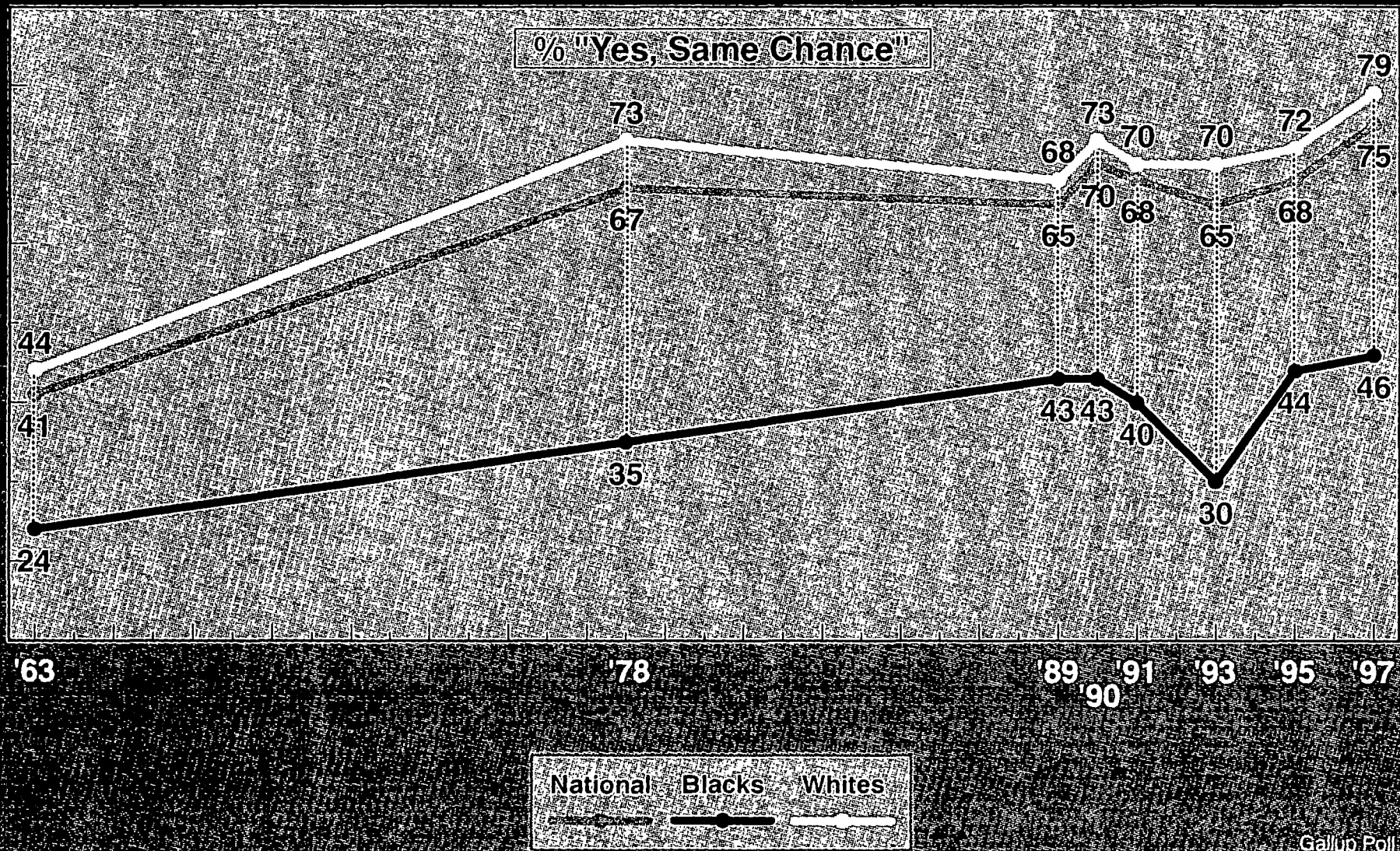
# Do Blacks Have Same Chance as Whites to Get Job, Education, Housing in Own Community

*In general, do you think that blacks have as good a chance as white people in your community to get any kind of job/education for which they are qualified . . . to get any housing they can afford . . . or don't you think they have as good a chance?*



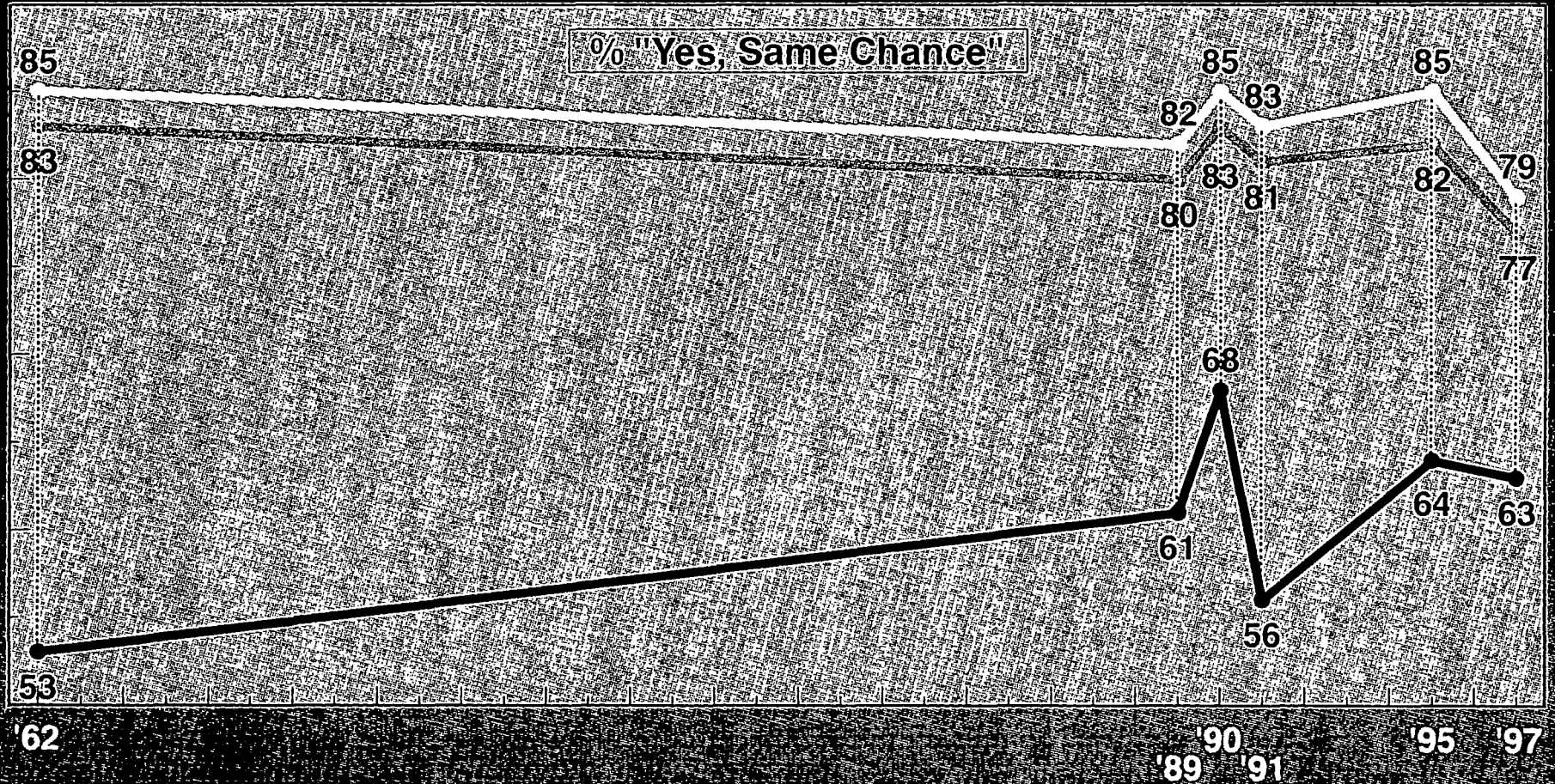
# Do Blacks Have Same Chance as Whites to Get Job, in Own Community

Trend: 1963 - 1997



# Do Blacks Have Same Chance as Whites to Get an Education in Own Community

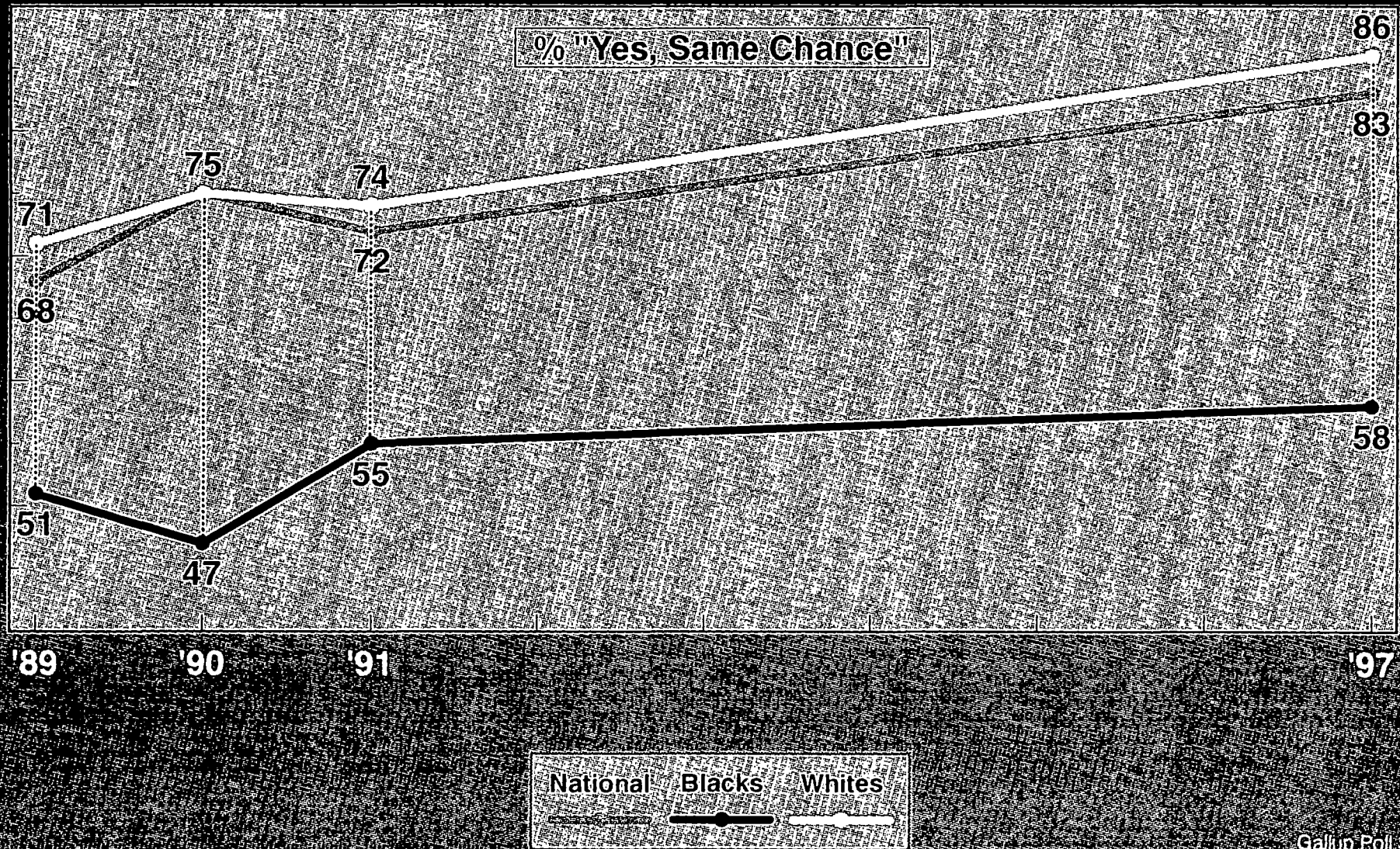
Trend: 1962 - 1997



National Blacks Whites

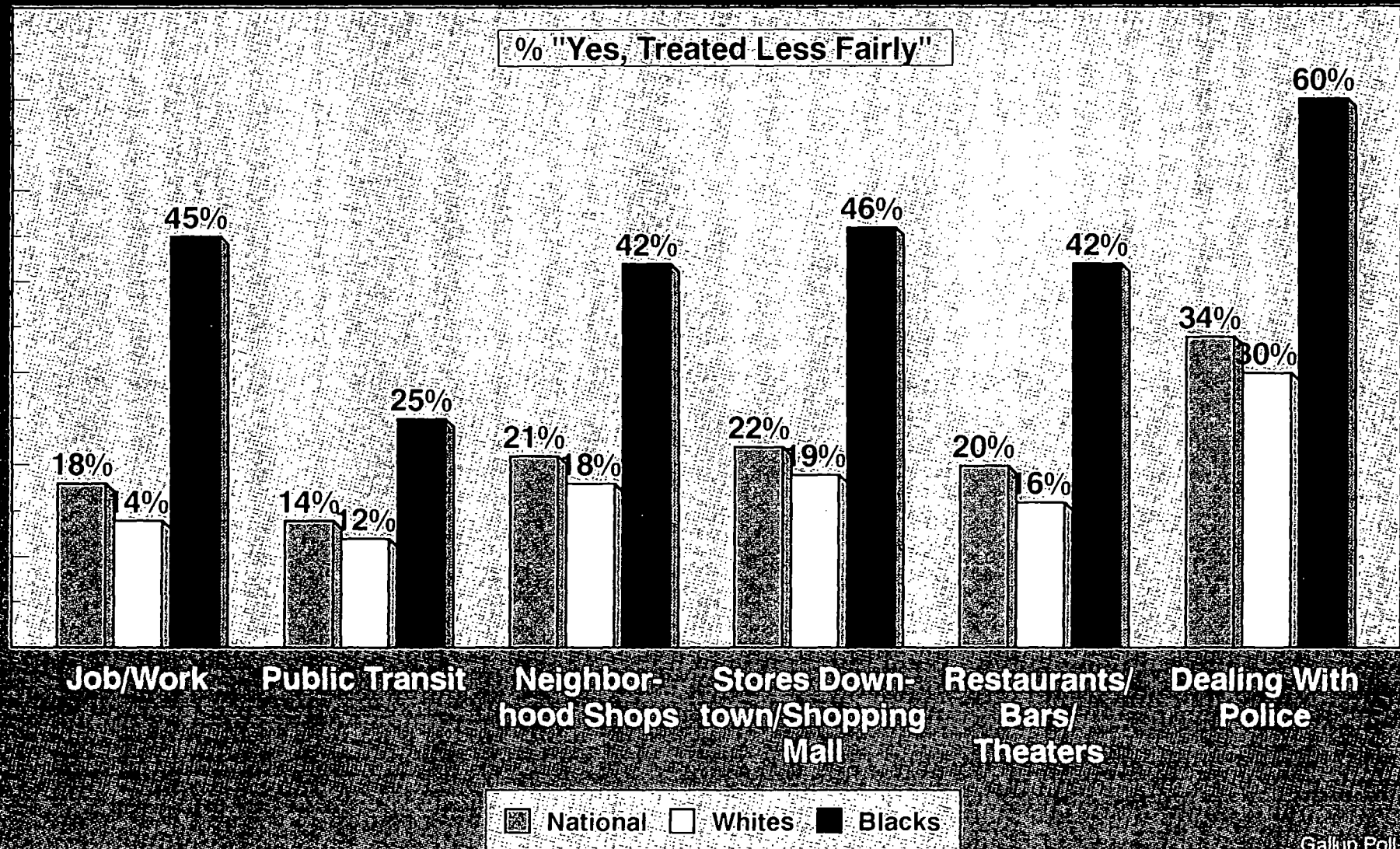
# Do Blacks Have Same Chance as Whites to Get Housing in Own Community

Trend: 1989 - 1997



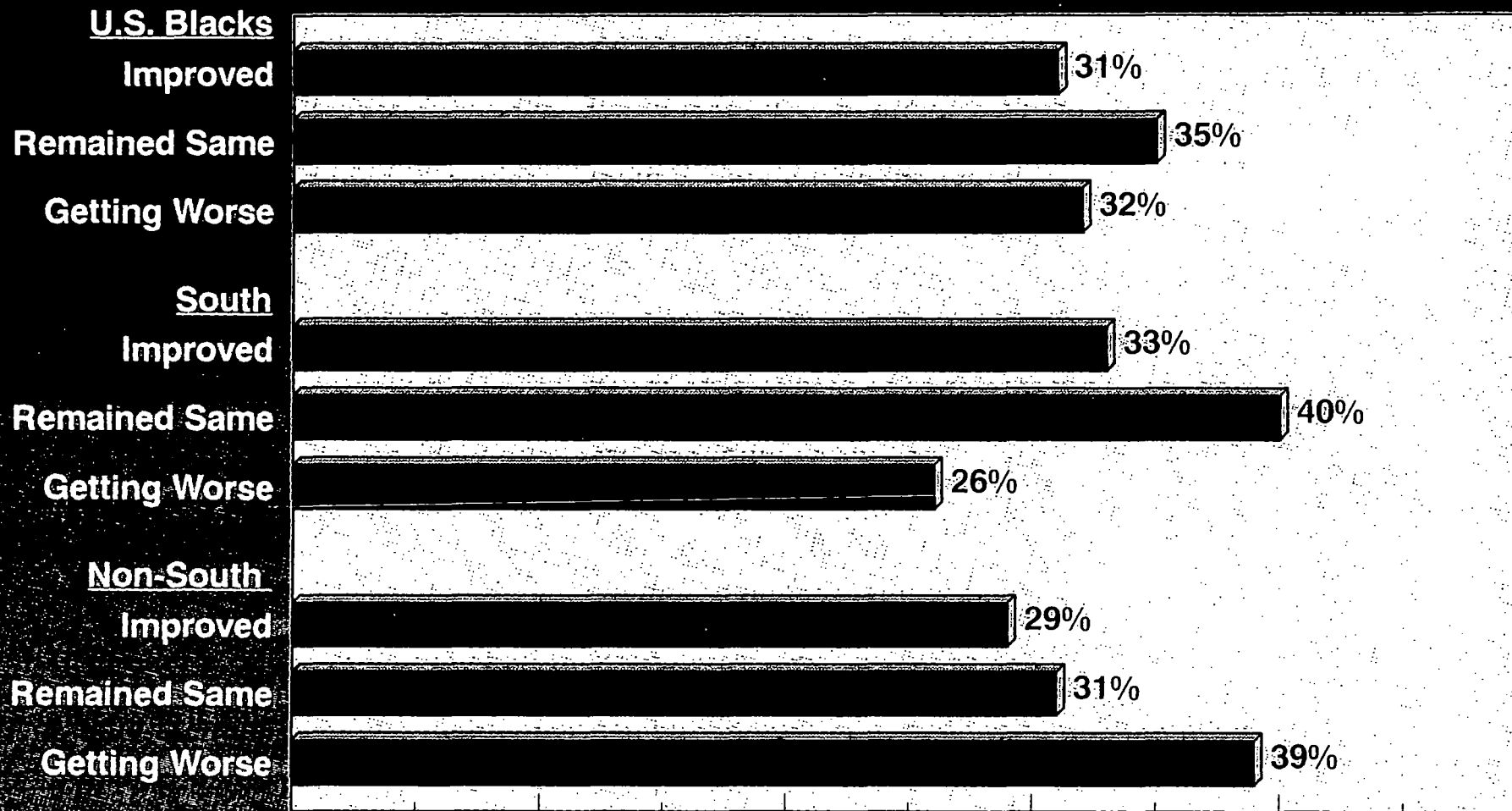
# Are Blacks in Community Treated Less Fairly Than Whites in Selected Situations

*Just your impression, are blacks in your community treated less fairly than whites in the following situations?*



# Black -- White Relations: Have They Improved or Gotten Worse Over Last Year

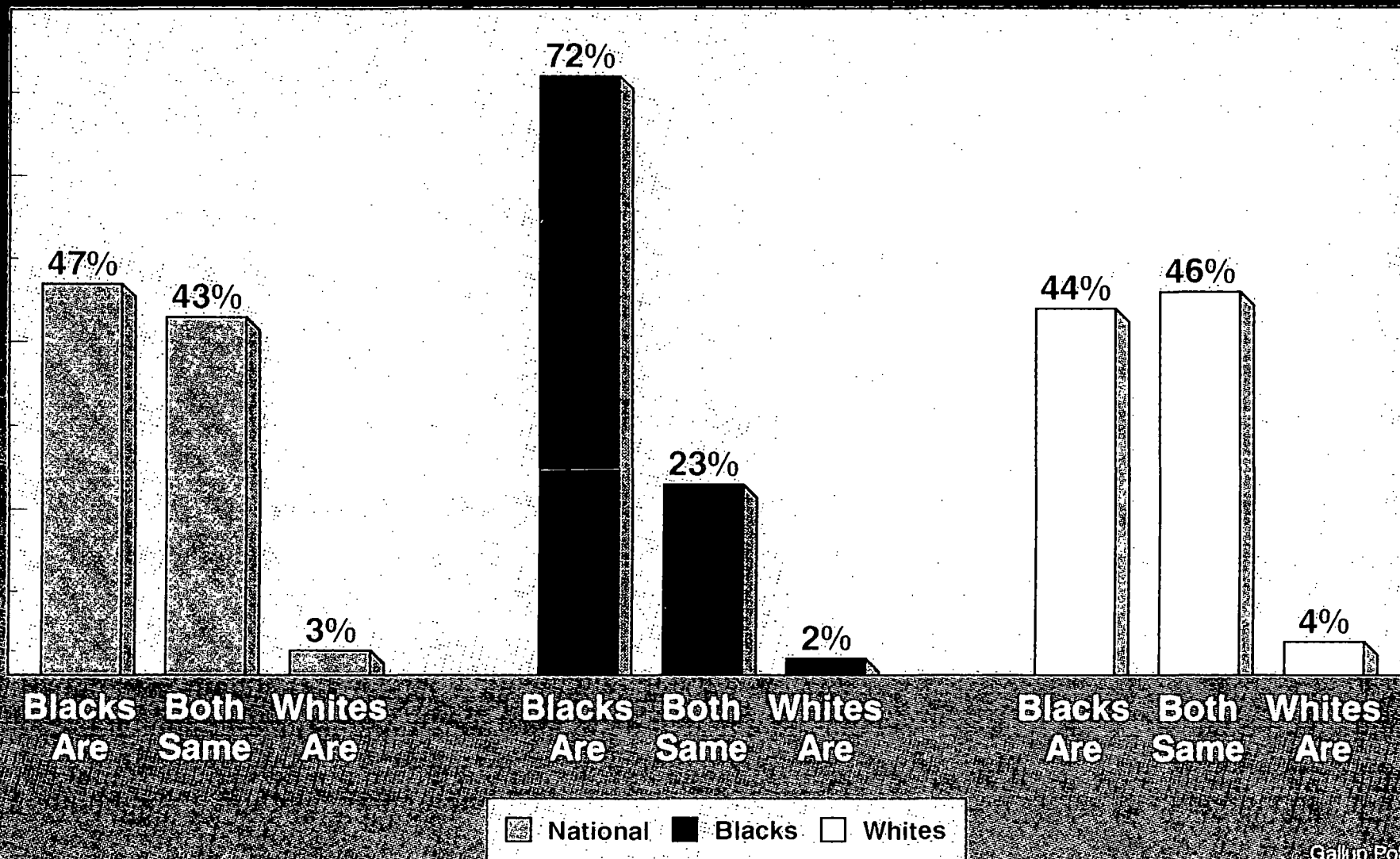
*Blacks: South vs. Non-South*



Blacks

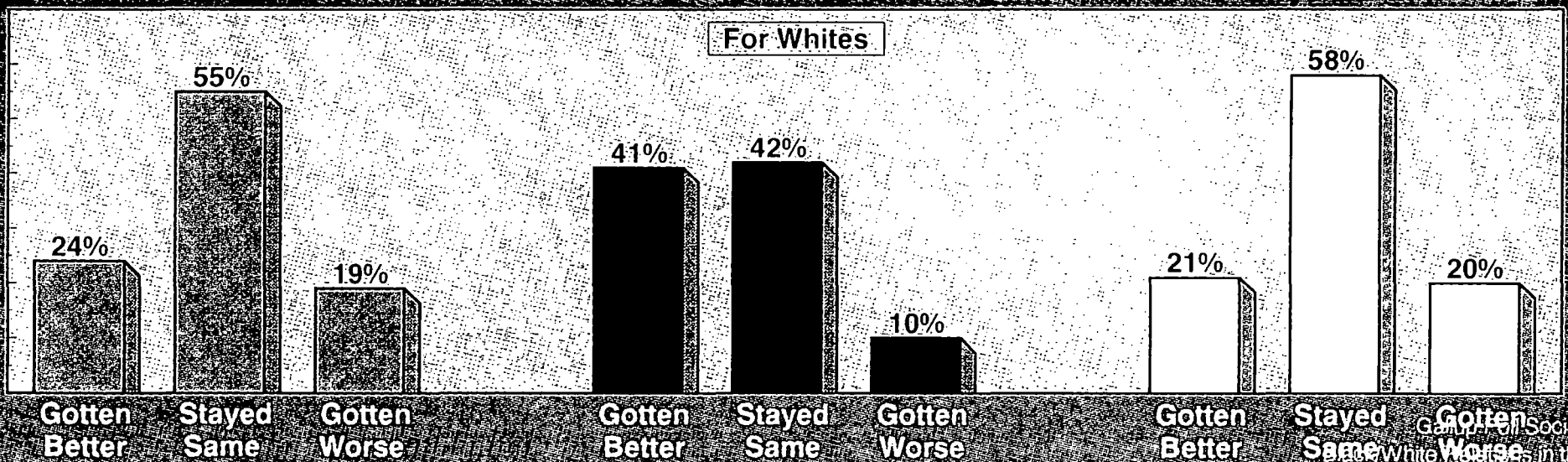
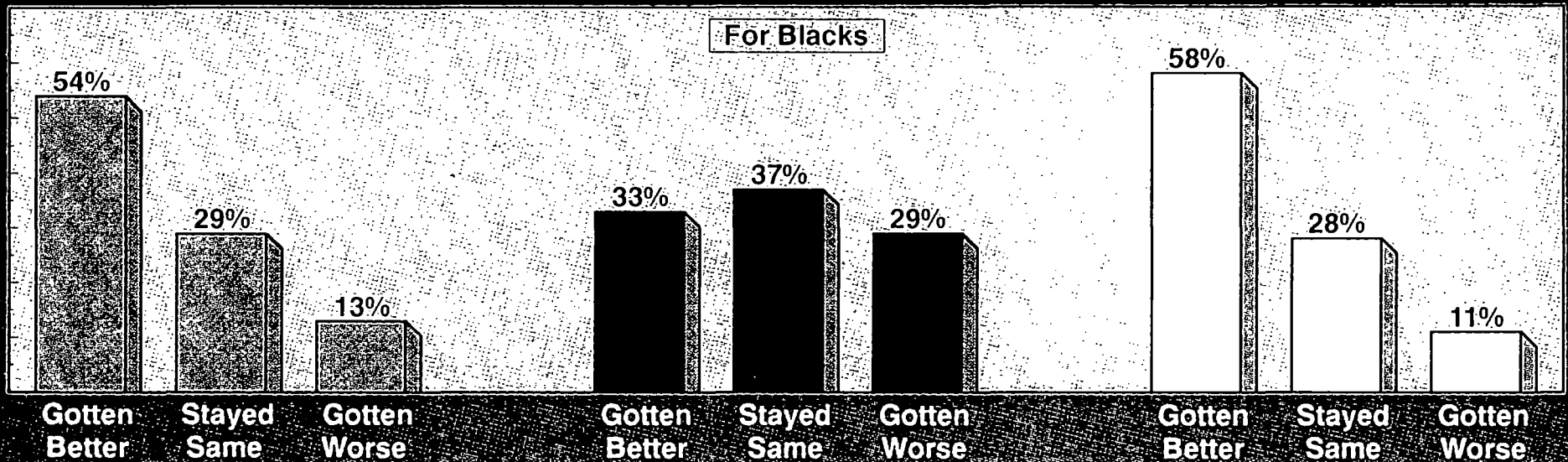
# Who Perceived as Treated More Harshly by Criminal Justice System -- Blacks or Whites

*Who do you think is treated more harshly in this country's criminal justice system -- blacks or whites -- or are they treated about the same?*



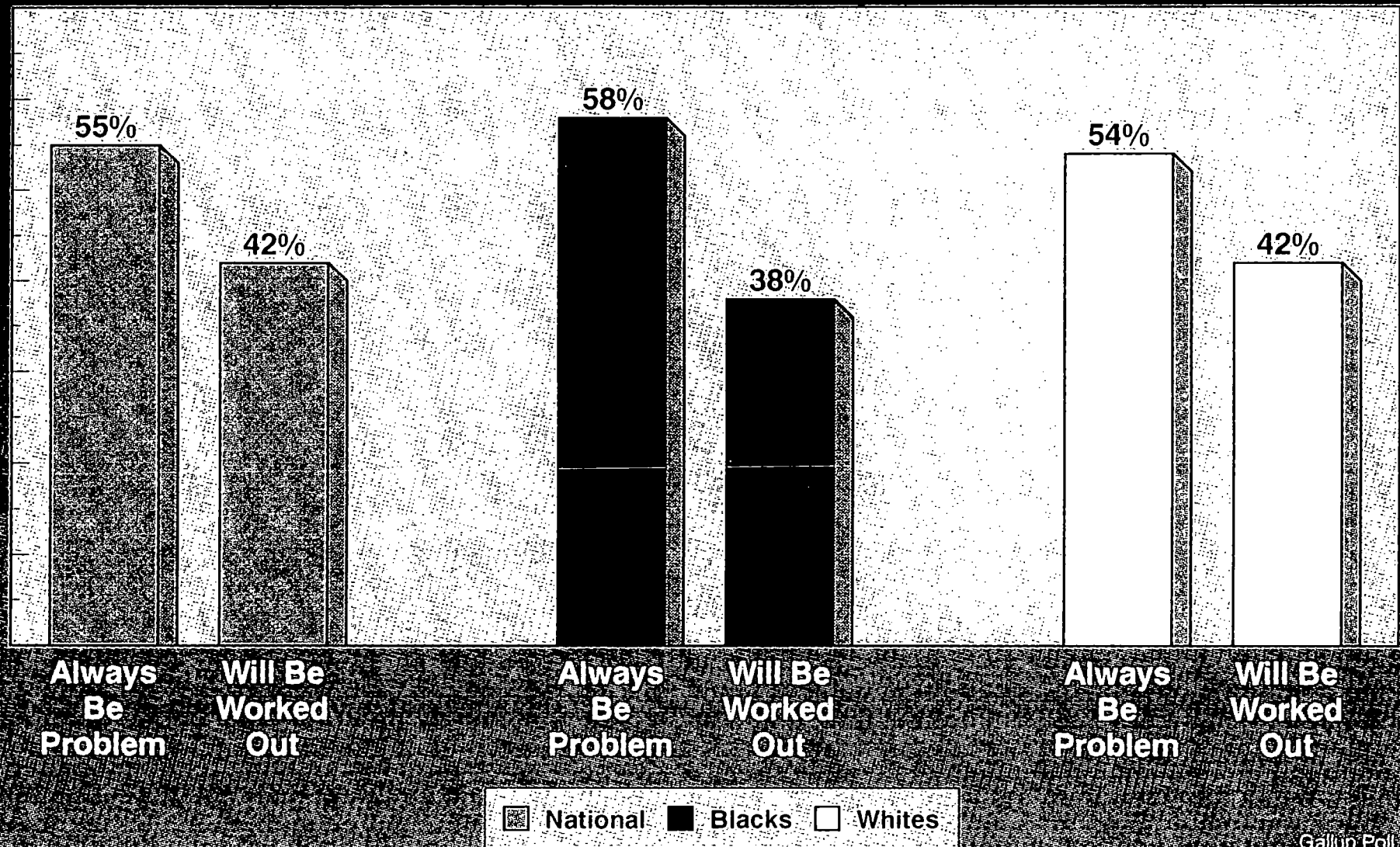
# Quality of Life: Gotten Better or Gotten Worse Over Last 10 Years for Blacks -- For Whites

*Looking back over the last ten years, do you think the quality of life for blacks (for whites) has gotten better, stayed the same, or gotten worse?*



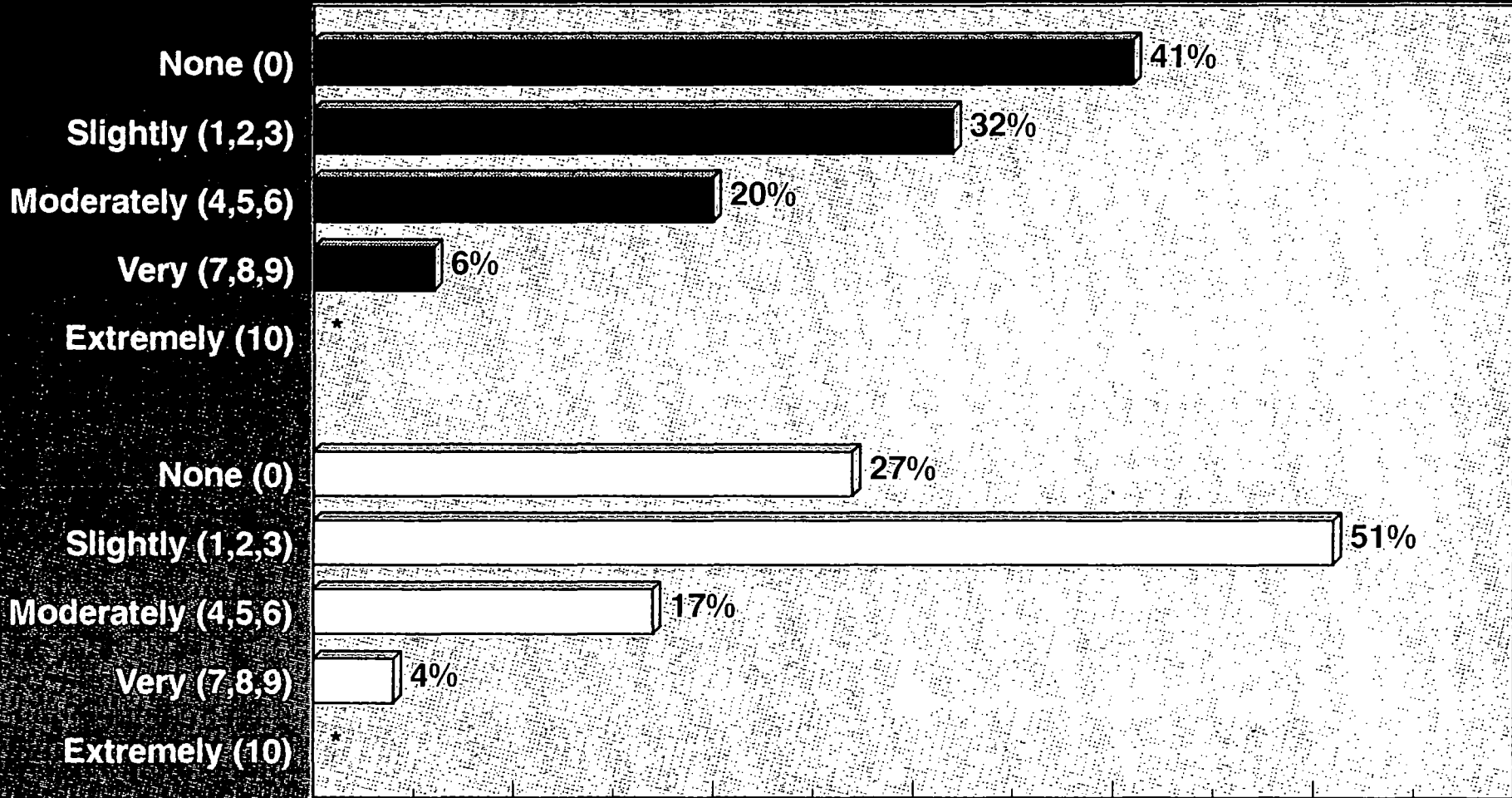
# Will Relations Between Blacks and Whites Always Be Problem

*Do you think that relations between blacks and whites will always be a problem for the United States, or that a solution will eventually be worked out?*



# Degree of Personal Prejudice Against Whites/Blacks

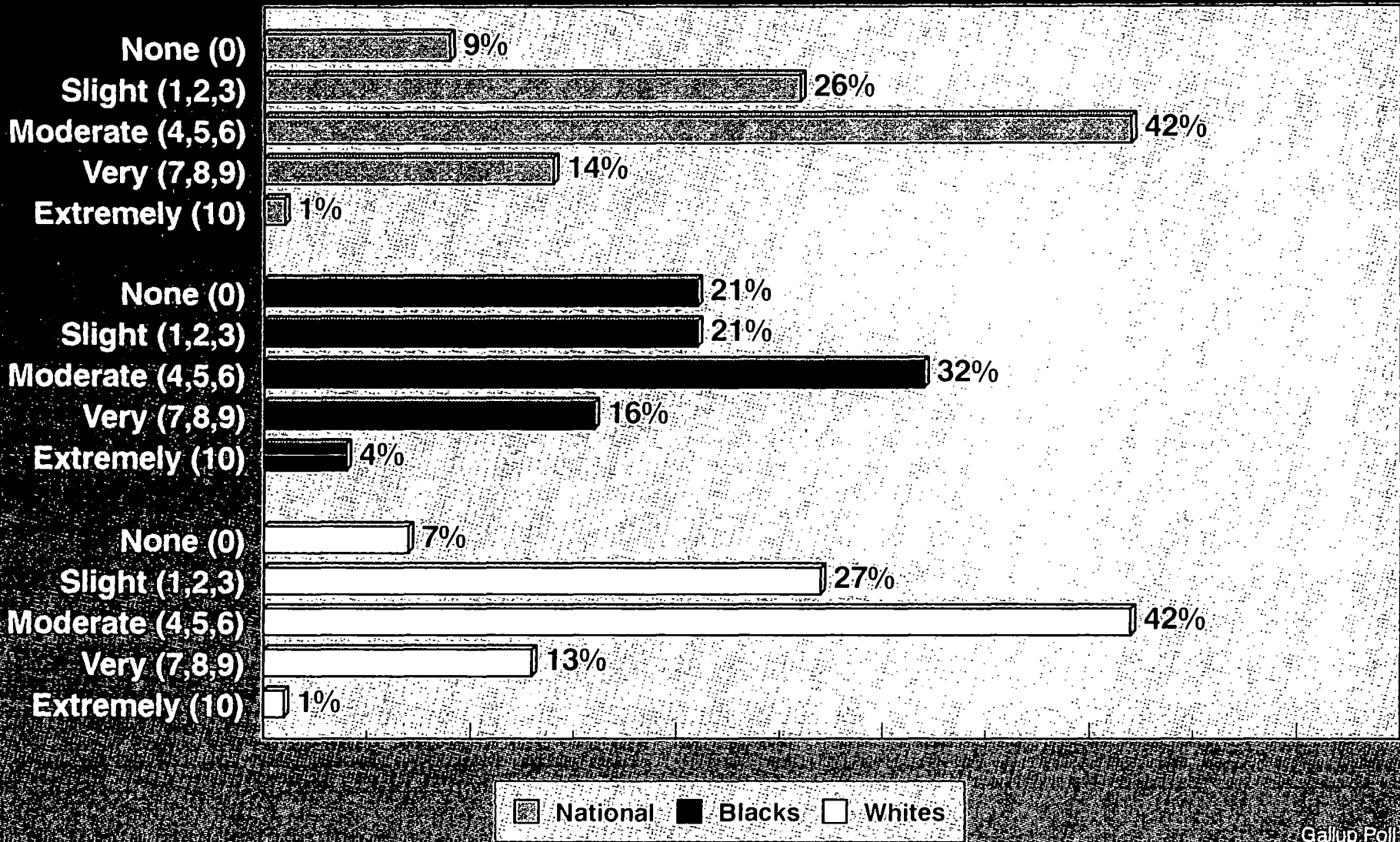
*I would like you to place yourself on a zero-to-ten scale, where "0" means that you are not prejudiced against blacks (whites) at all, and where "10" means that you are extremely prejudiced against blacks (whites). You can choose any number between zero and ten.*

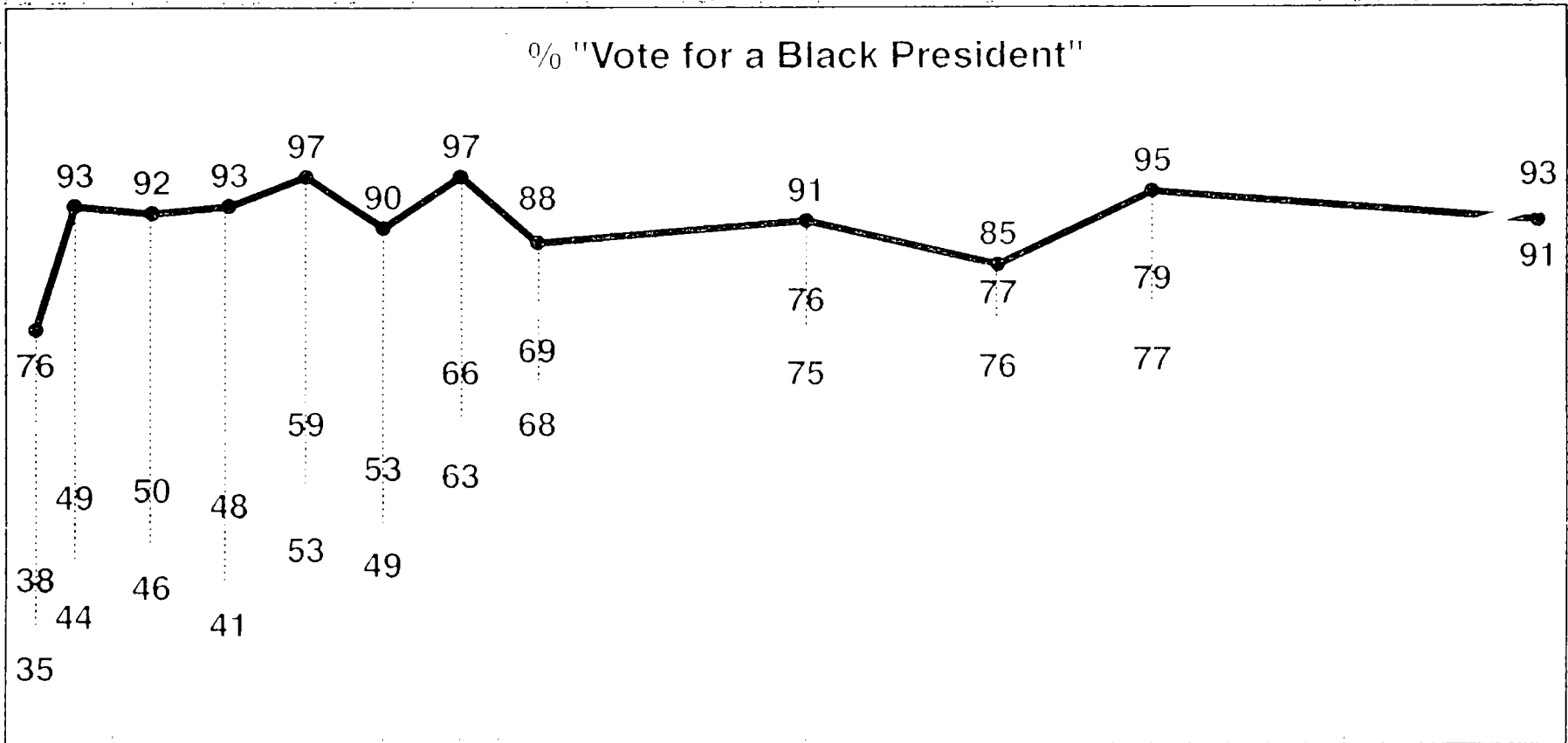


■ National ■ Blacks □ Whites

# Perceived Prejudice Toward Blacks by Whites in Own Community

Use the same zero-to-ten scale, where "0" means that they are not prejudiced against blacks at all, and where "10" means that they are extremely prejudiced against blacks. Which number would you choose to describe whites in the area where you live?



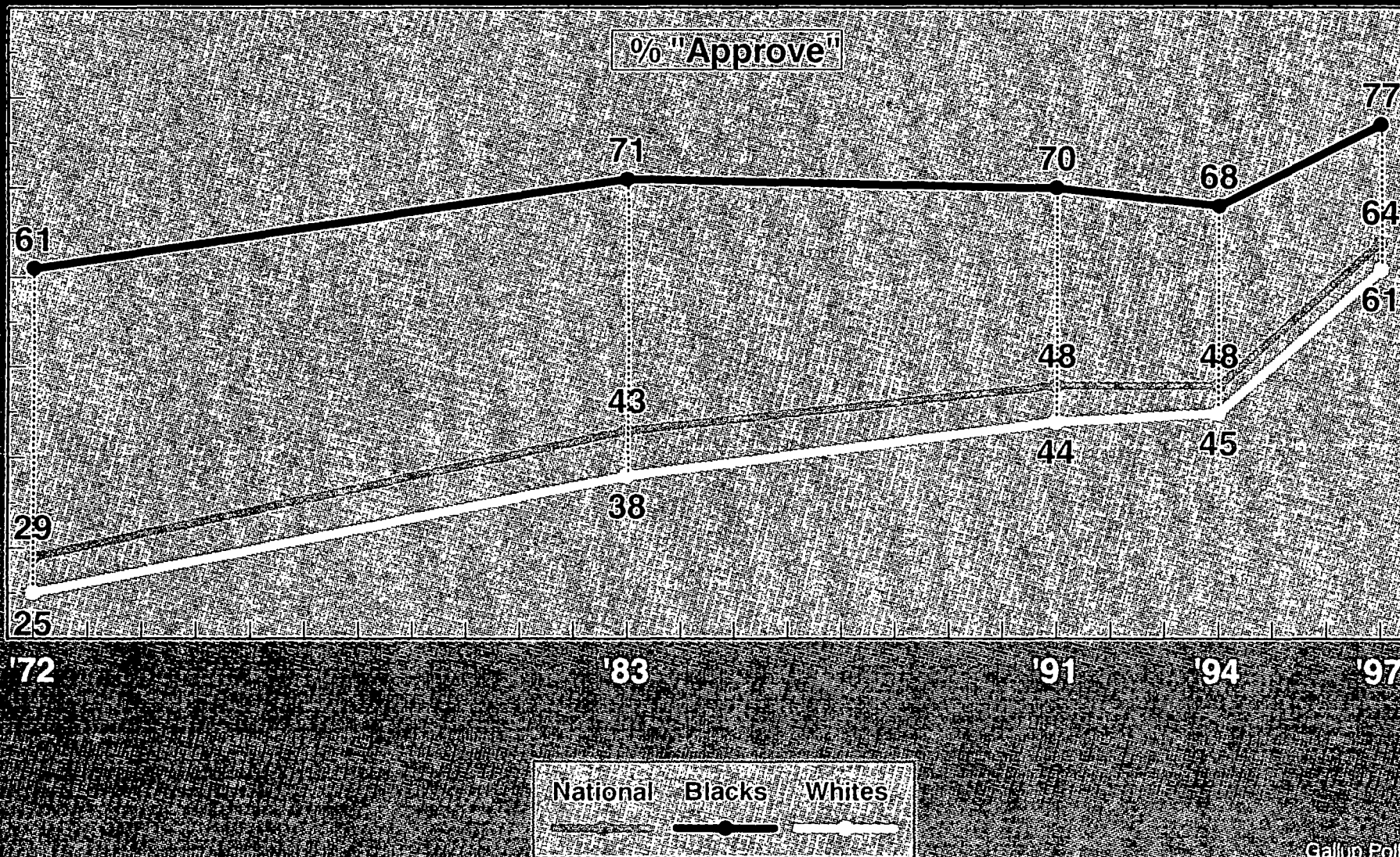


National    Blacks    Whites



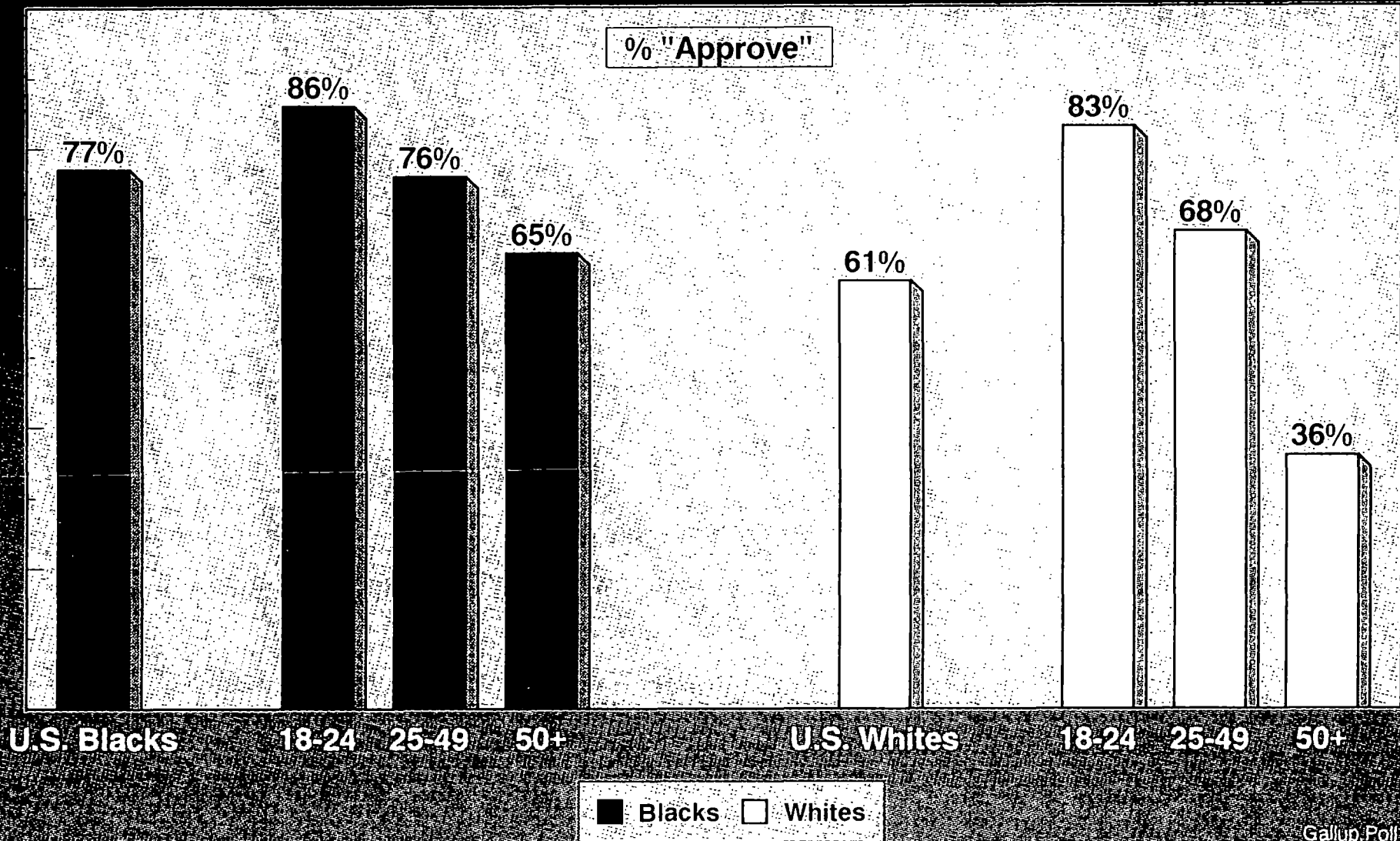
# Approval of Black - White Marriage

Trend: 1972 - 1997



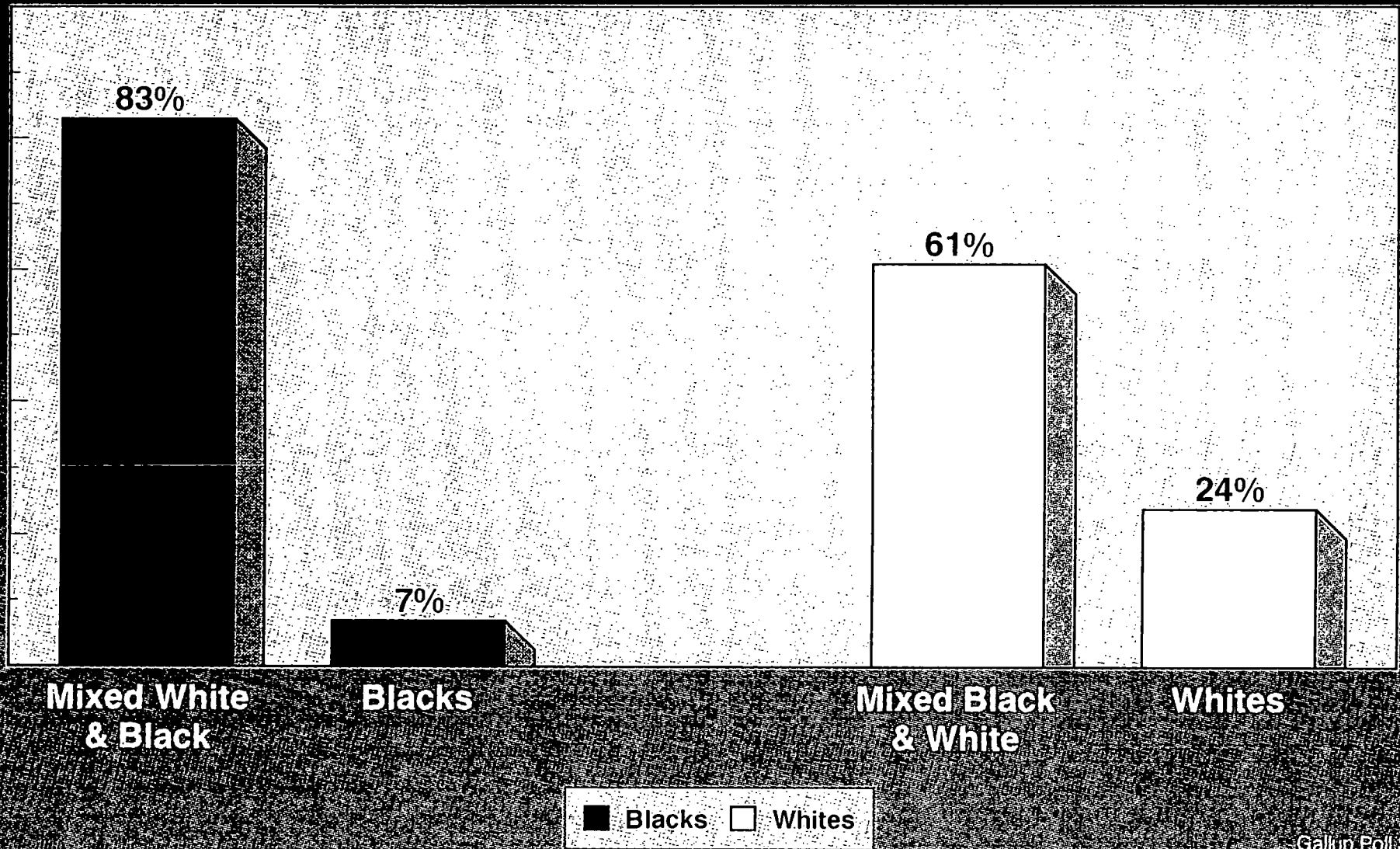
# Approval of Black - White Marriage

*Blacks and Whites by Age*



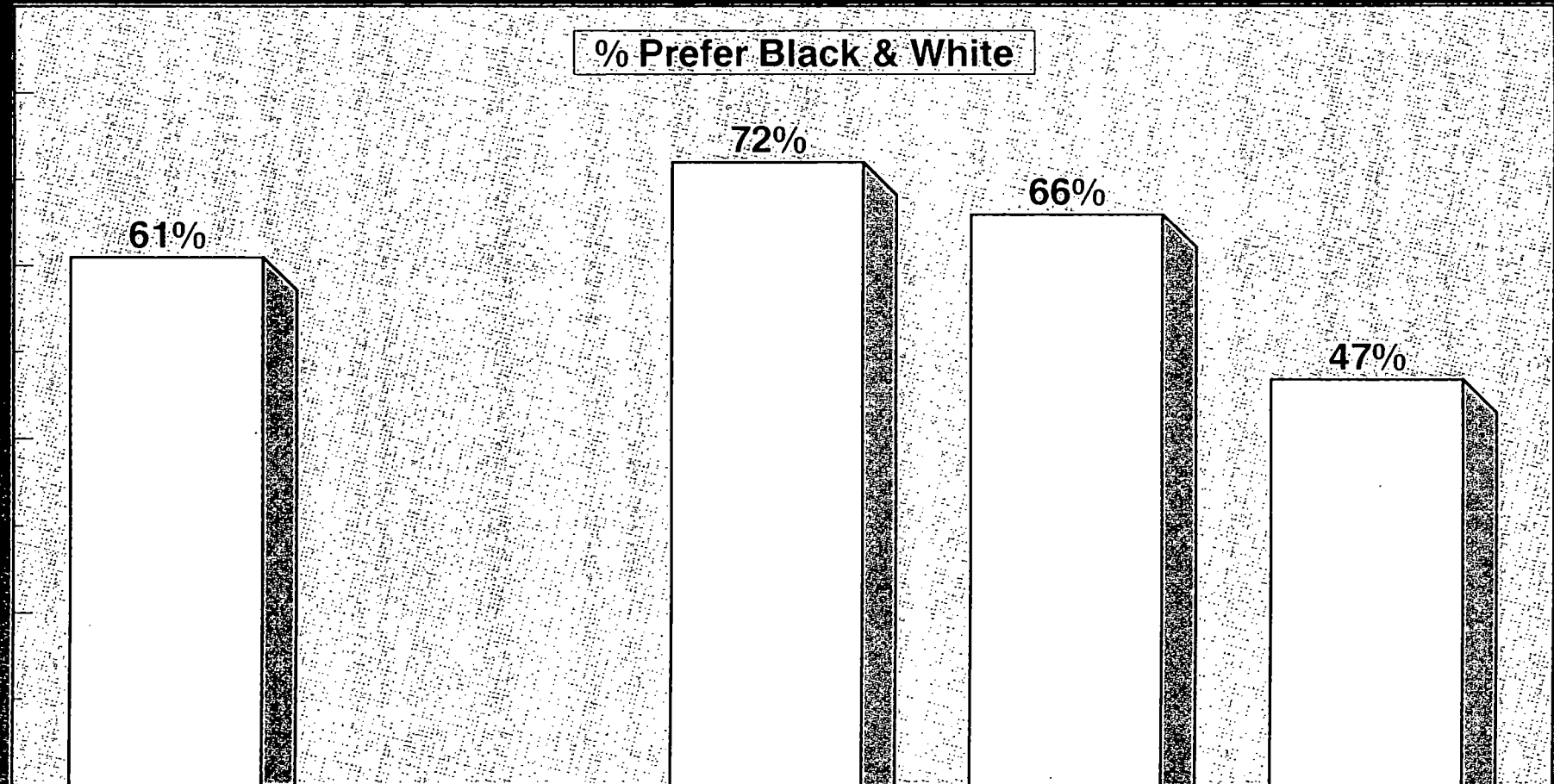
# Preference for Neighborhood of Own Race or Mixed Black and White

*In living in a neighborhood, if you could find housing you want and like, would you rather live in a neighborhood with black (white) families, or in a neighborhood that had both whites and blacks?*



# Preference for Neighborhood of Own Race or Mixed Black and White

*Whites by Age*



U.S. Whites

18-34

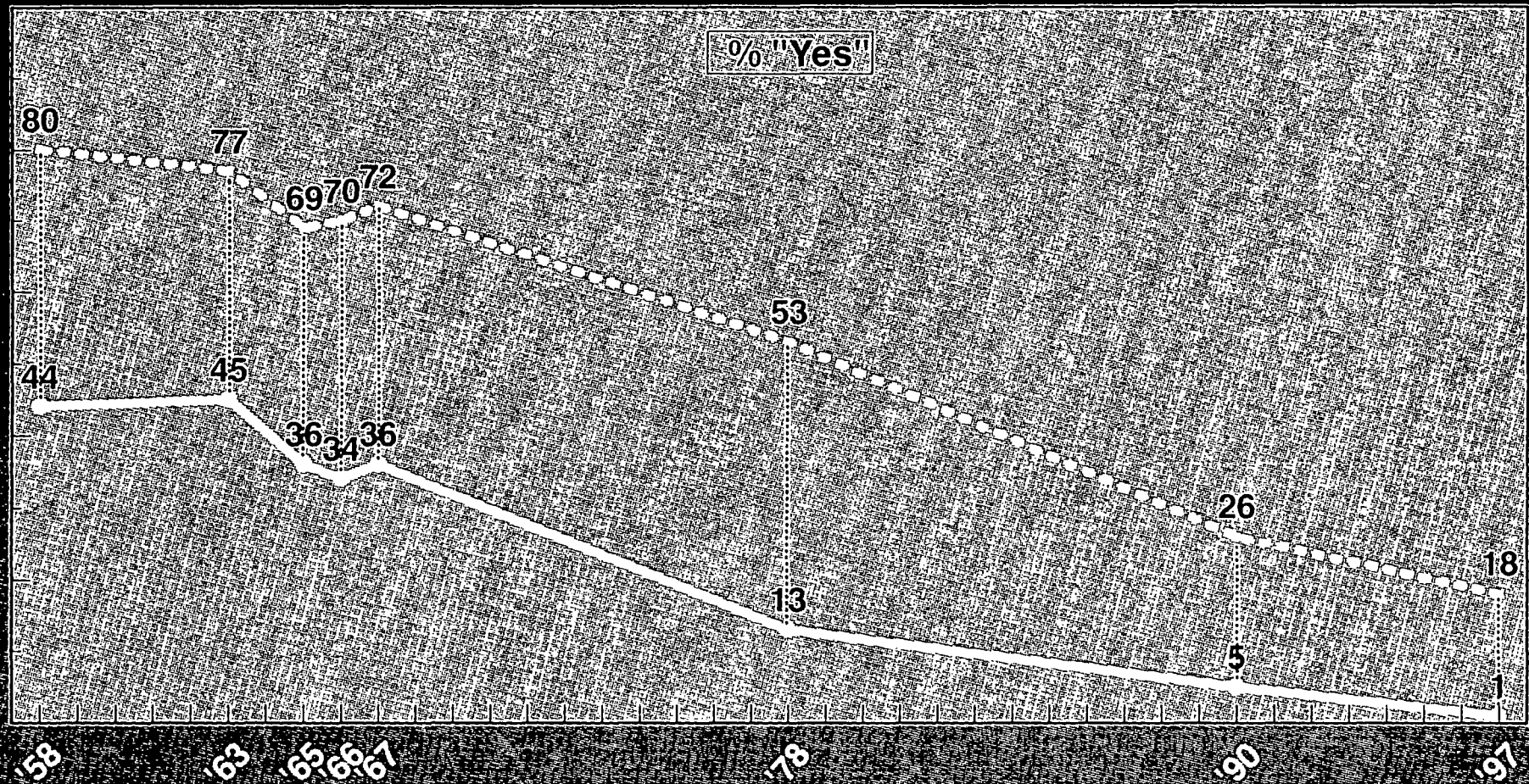
35-49

50+

Whites

# Whites: Percent Who Would Move If Blacks Came to Live Next Door -- Came in Great Numbers into Neighborhood

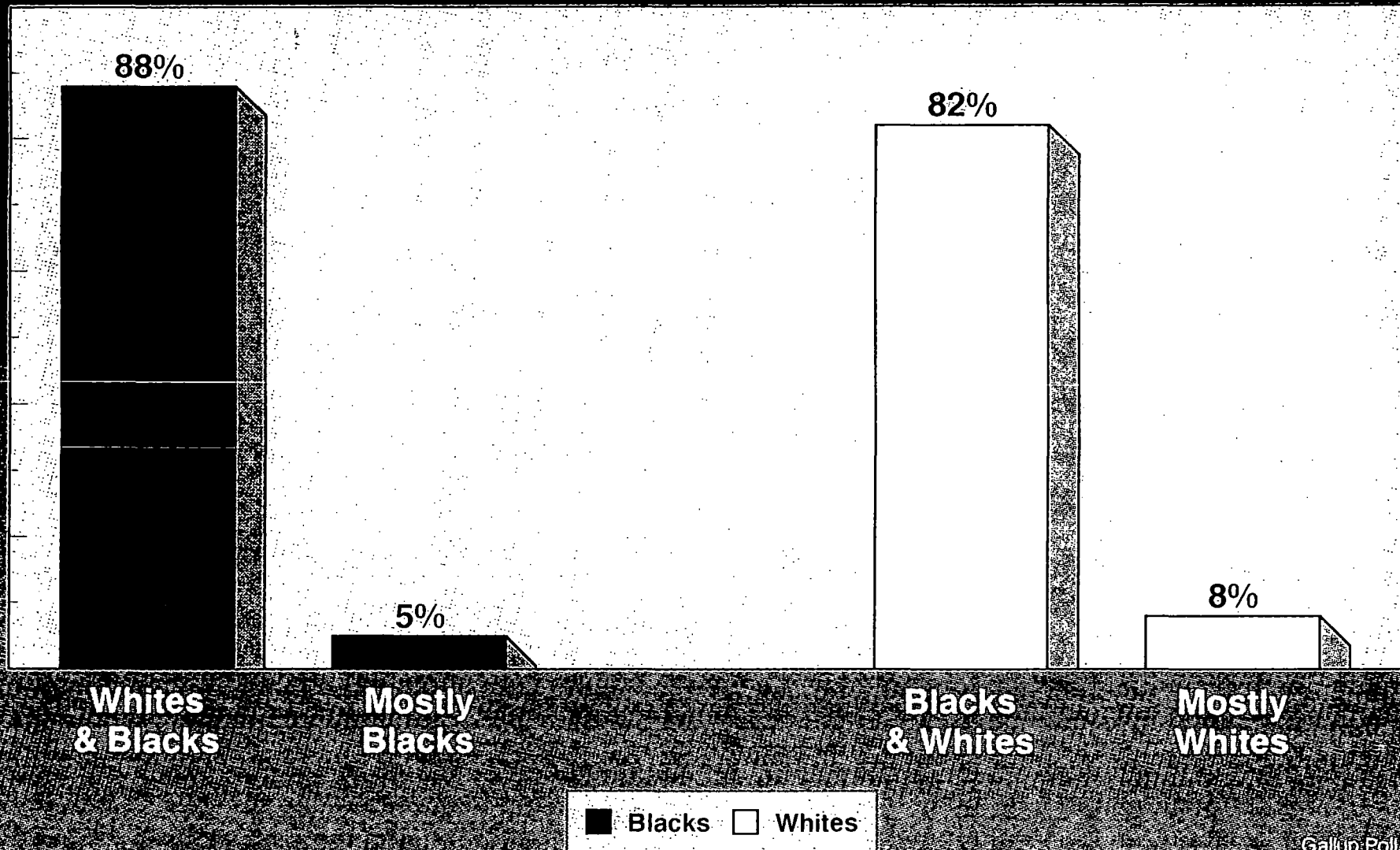
Trend: 1958 - 1997



Moved Next Door    Move in Great Numbers

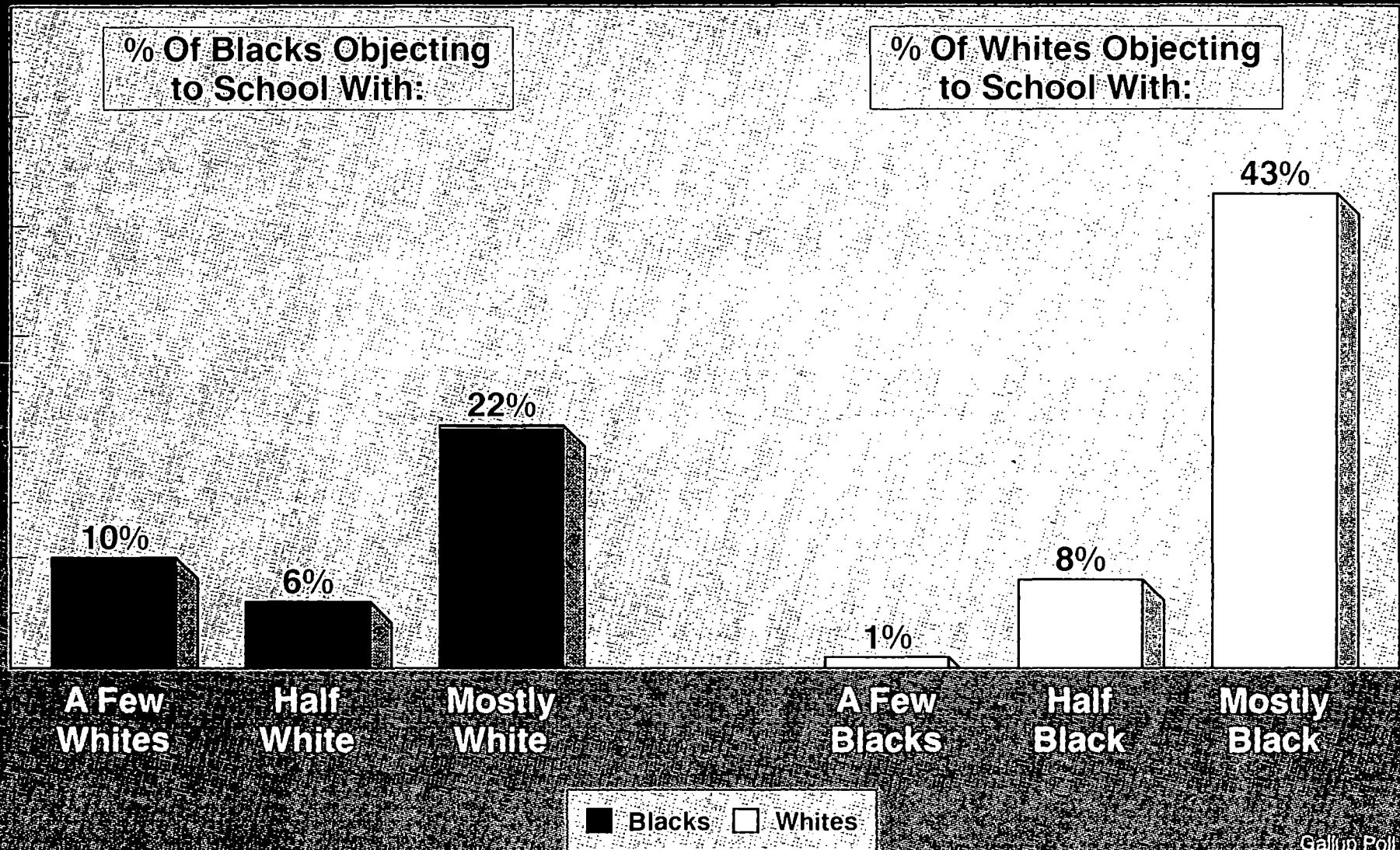
# Preference for Working with Mixed Group of Whites and Blacks or With Own Race

*At work, would you rather work alongside mostly other blacks (whites), or would you rather work with a mixed group of whites and blacks?*



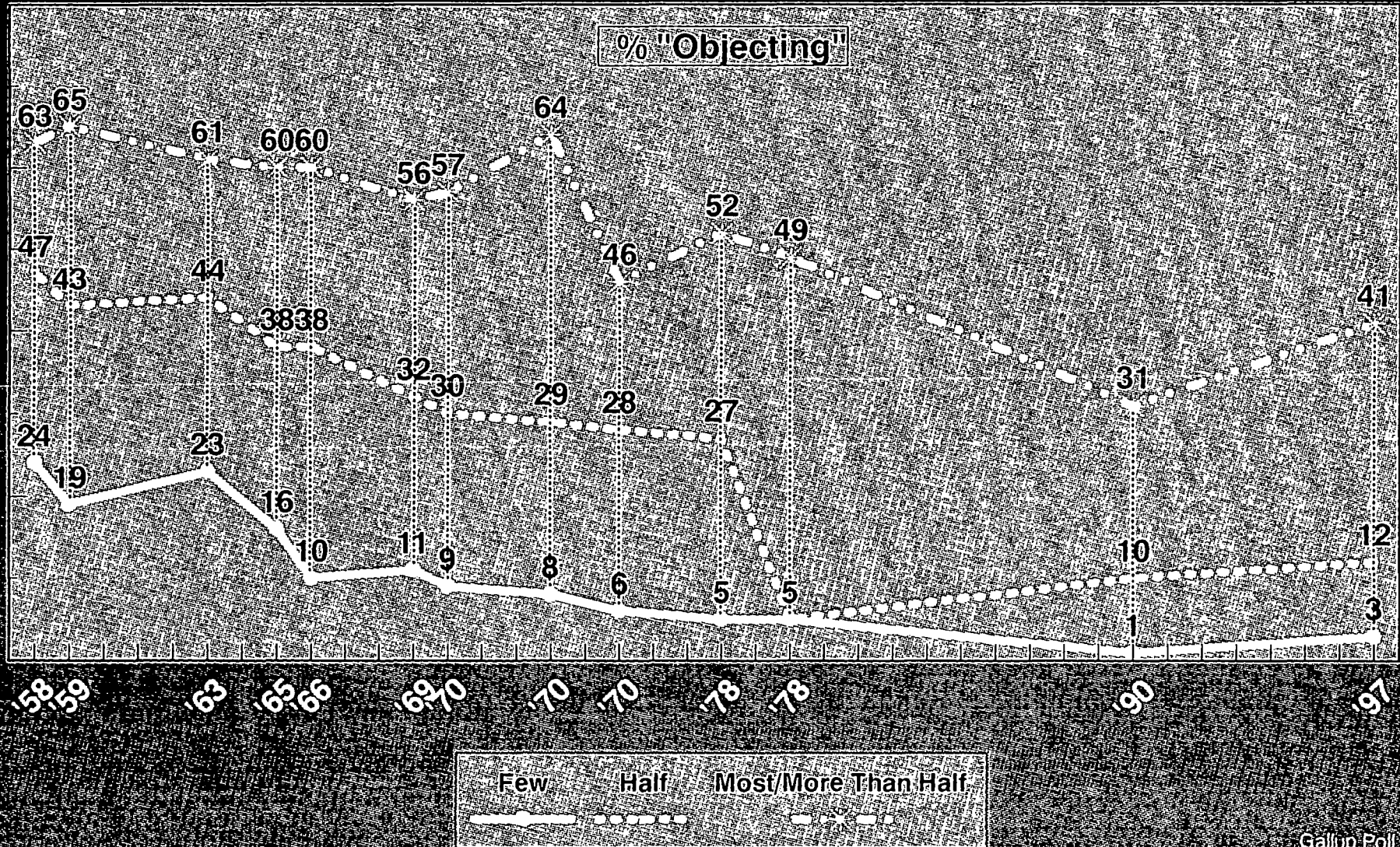
# Percent Objecting to Sending Children to School Where a Few -- Half -- Most of Children are White/Black

*Would you, yourself, have any objection to sending your children to a school where a few, half, or most of the children are black (white)?*



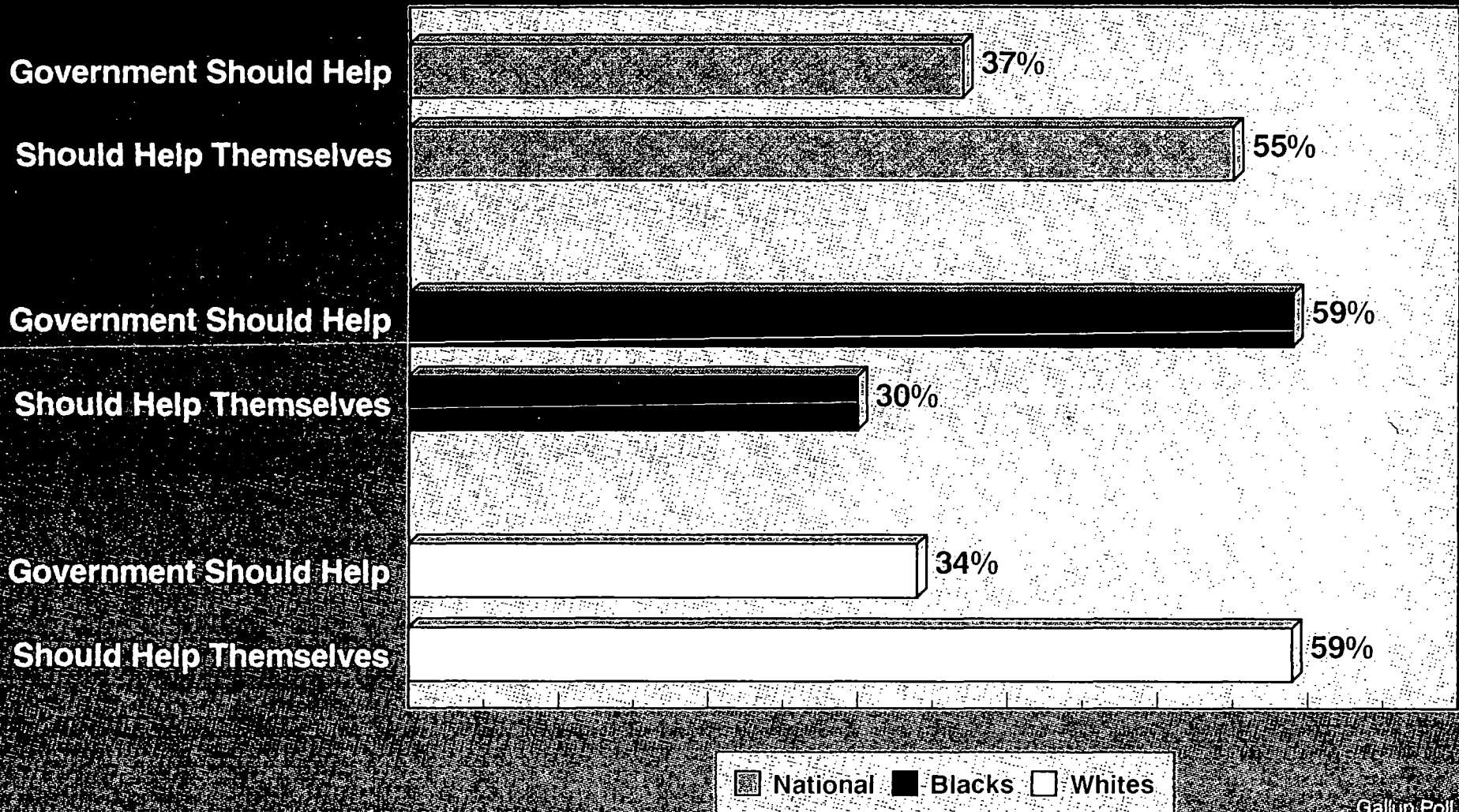
# Whites: Percent Objecting to Sending Children to School Where a Few -- Half -- More Than Half of the Children are Black

Trend: 1958 - 1997



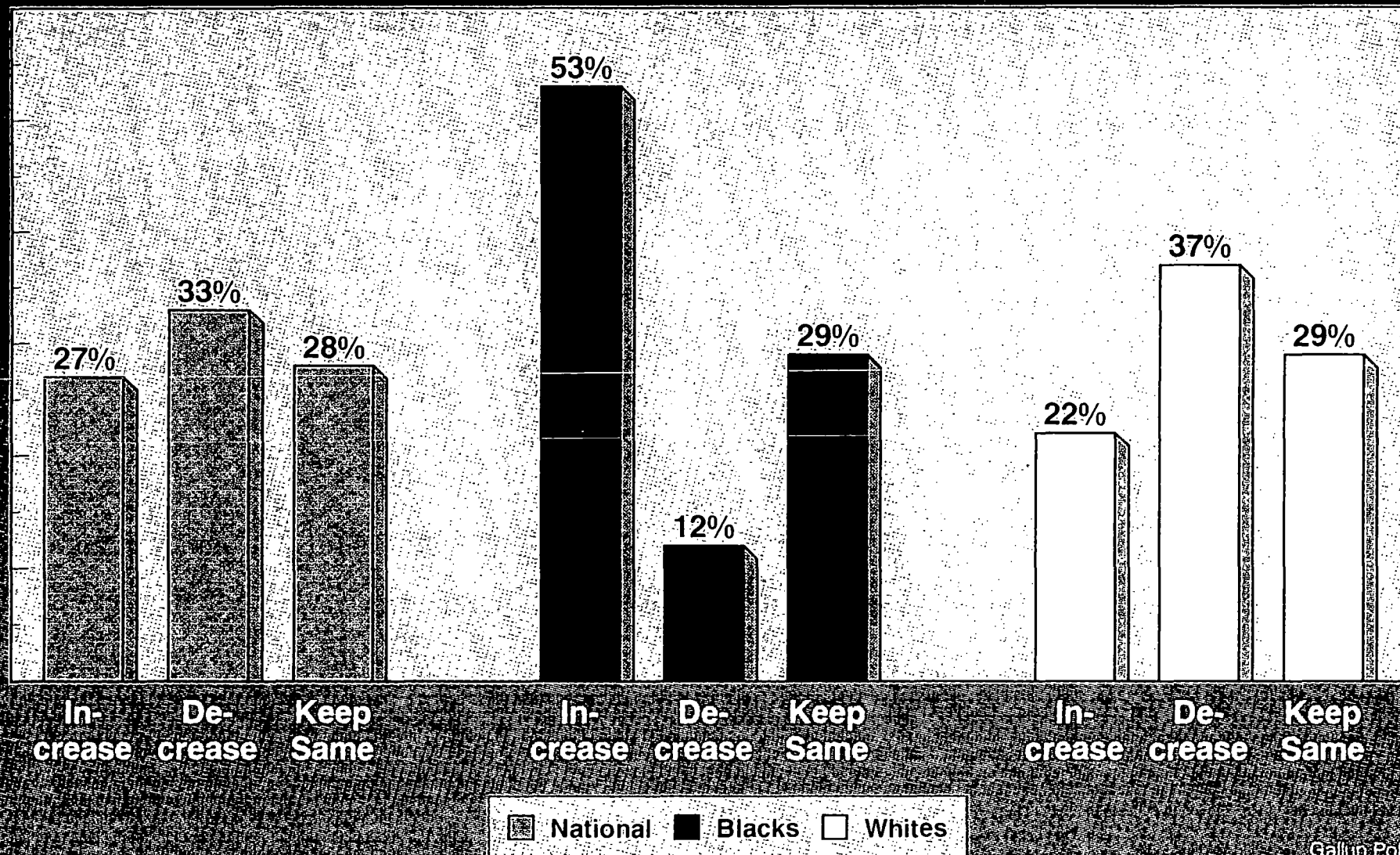
# Support for Government Efforts to Help Minorities

*Some people feel that the government in Washington, D.C. should make every possible effort to improve the social and economic position of blacks and other minority groups. Others feel that the government should not make any special effort to help minorities, because they should help themselves. How do you feel about this?*



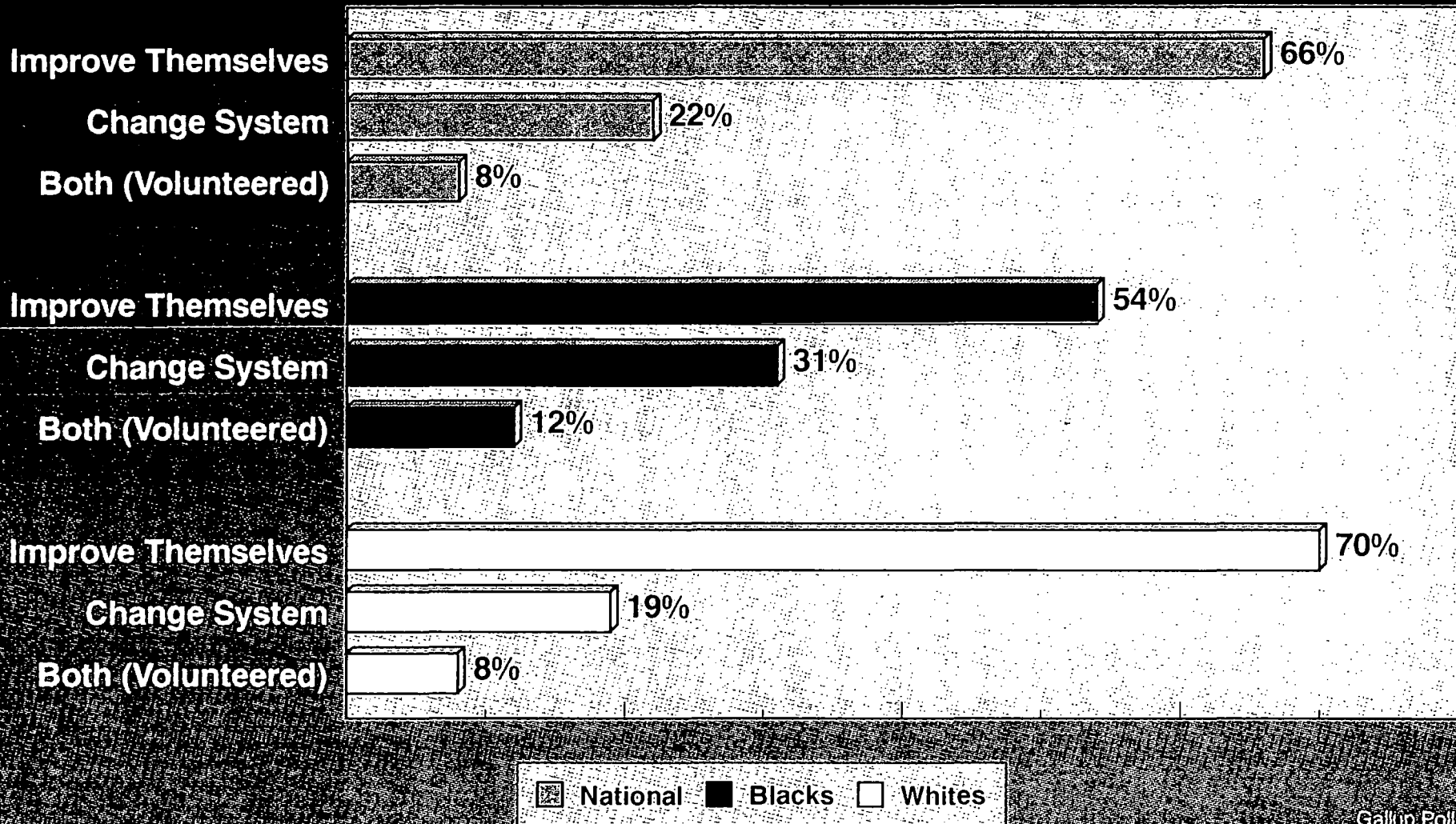
# Support for Increasing Affirmative Action Programs

*In general, do you think we need to increase, keep the same, or decrease affirmative action programs in this country?*



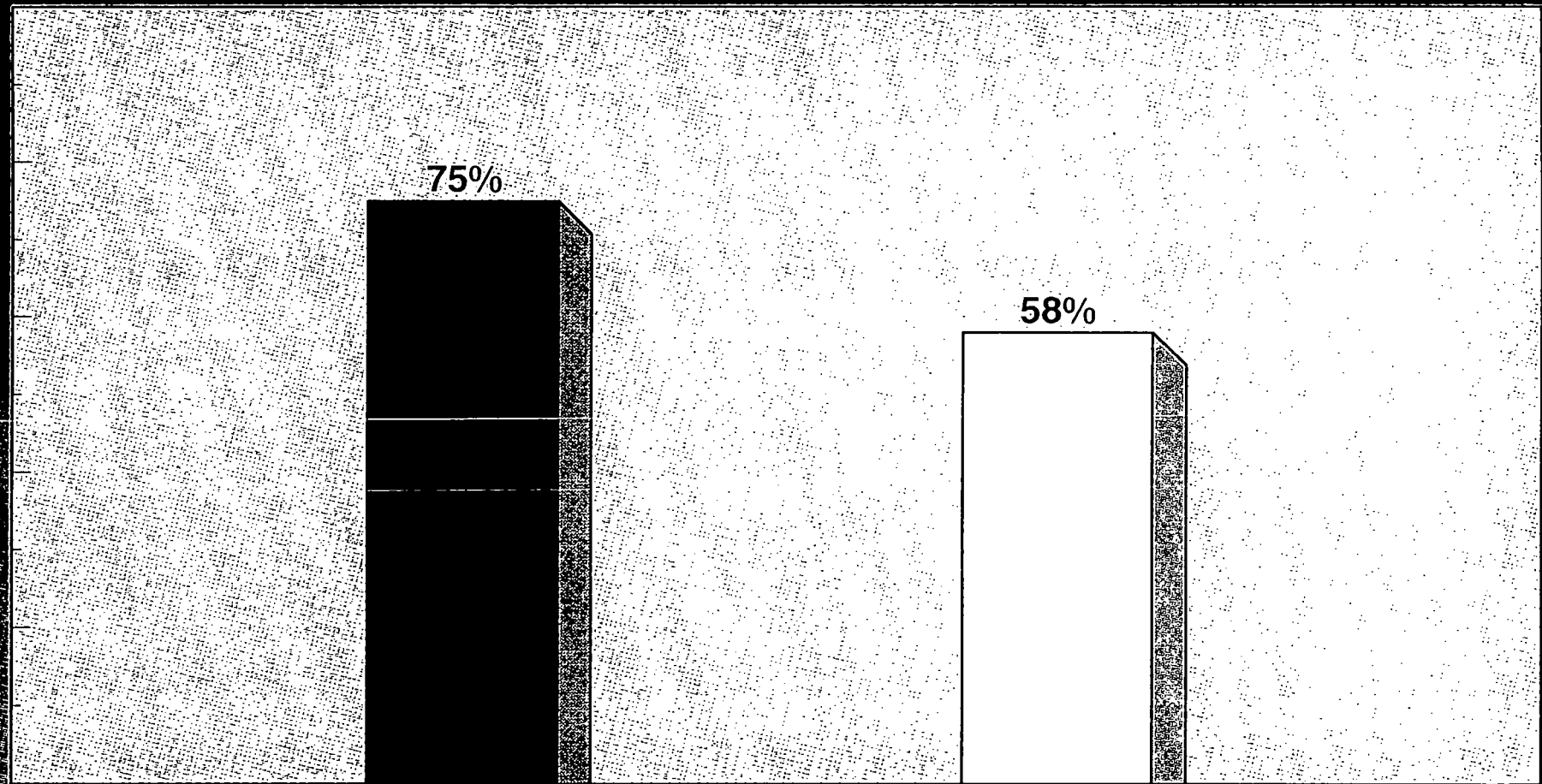
# Which Focus Considered Preferable: Blacks Should Improve Themselves or Should Change System

*Just your opinion, should blacks in America focus more on improving themselves and trying to get ahead, or focus more on changing the system in order to end discrimination and racism?*



# Percentage of Blacks/Whites with Close Friend(s) of Opposite Race

*Thinking about your close friends, are any of them white (black) or not?*



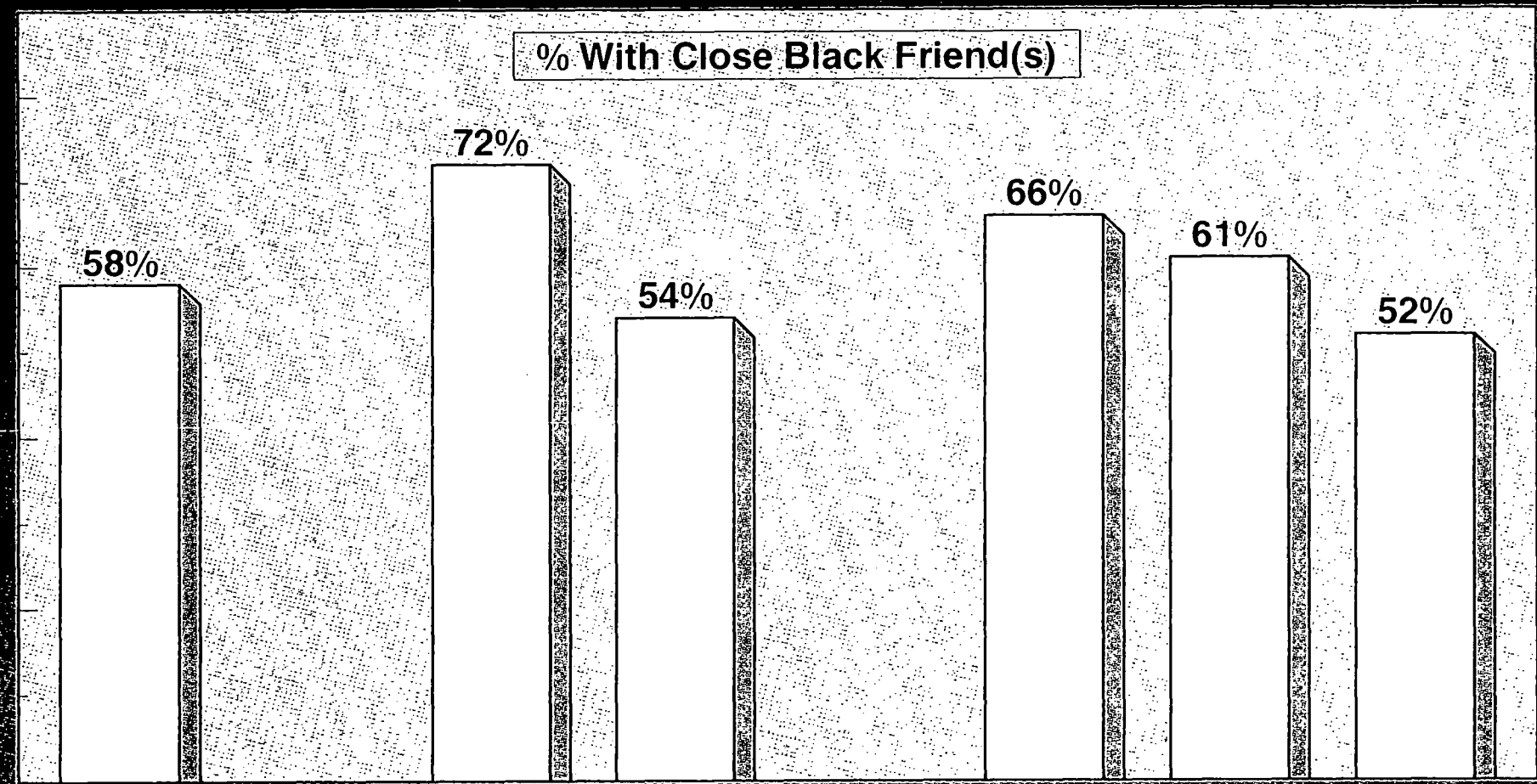
Have White Friend(s)

Have Black Friend(s)

Blacks Whites

# Percentage of Blacks/Whites with Close Friend(s) of Opposite Race

*Whites by Region and Age*



U.S. Whites

South Non-South

18-34

35-49

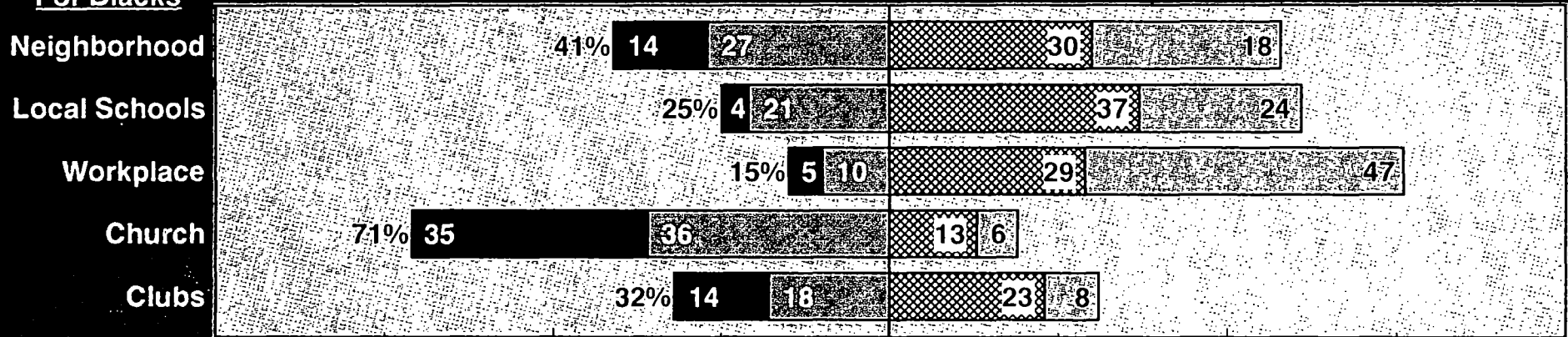
50+

☐ Whites

# Racial Composition of Own Neighborhoods and Institutions as Perceived by Blacks/Whites

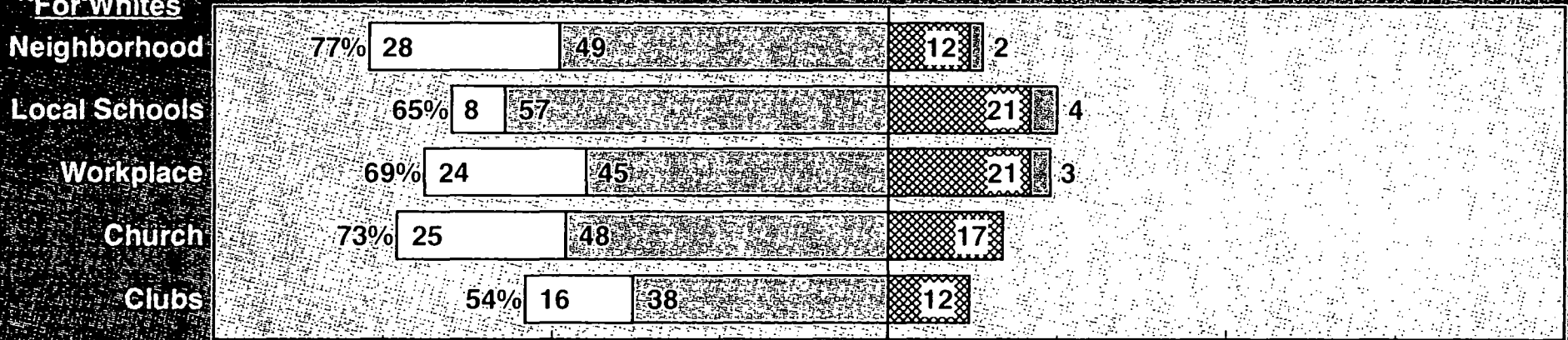
*Now, thinking about the neighborhood or area you live in/the church or place of worship you attend/the place where you work/the clubs or organizations you belong to/the school your oldest child attends are the people all black, mostly black, about half black and half white, mostly white or all white?*

## For Blacks



■ All Black ■ Mostly Black ■ Half & Half ■ Mostly White

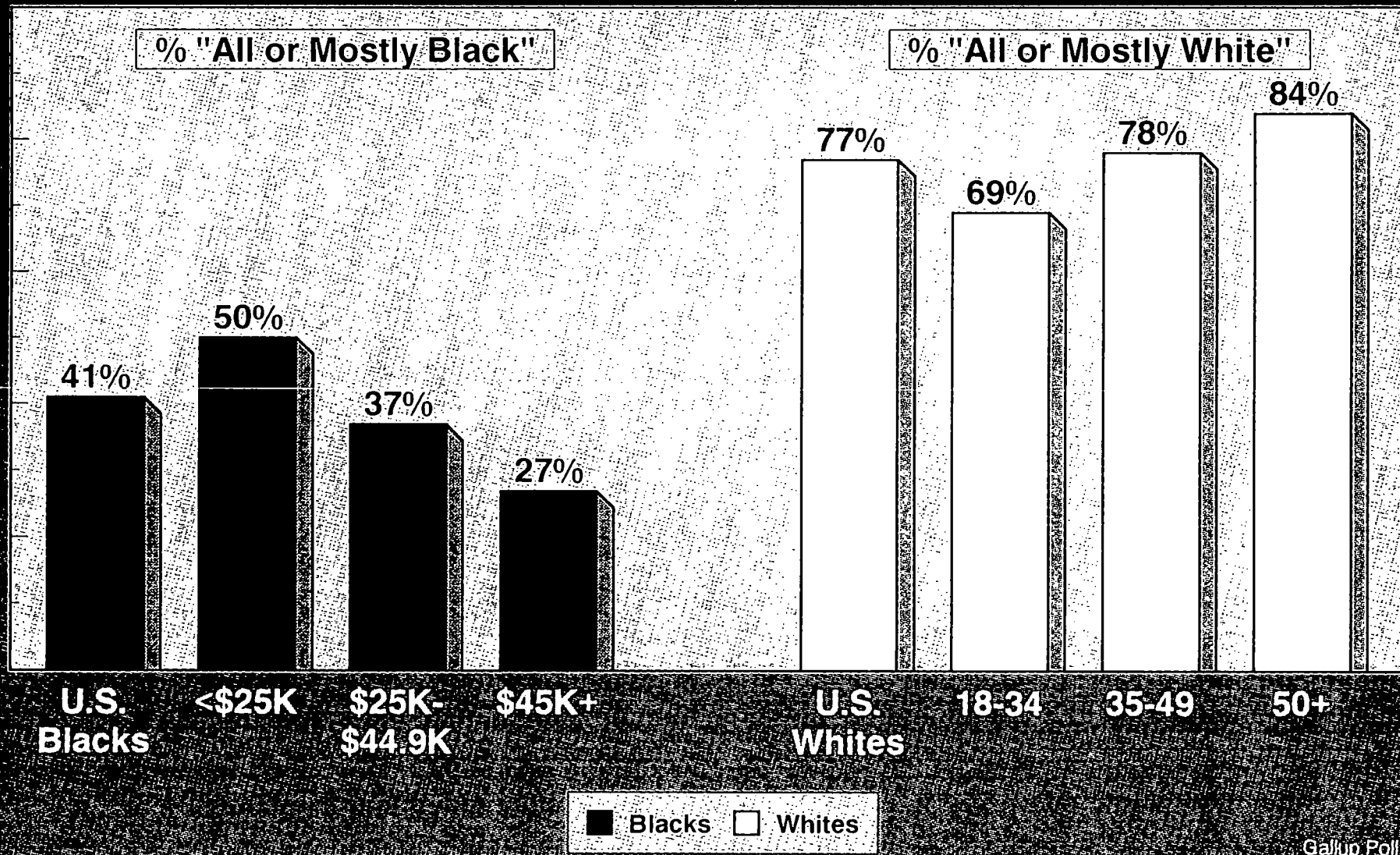
## For Whites



□ All White □ Mostly White ■ Half & Half ■ Mostly Black

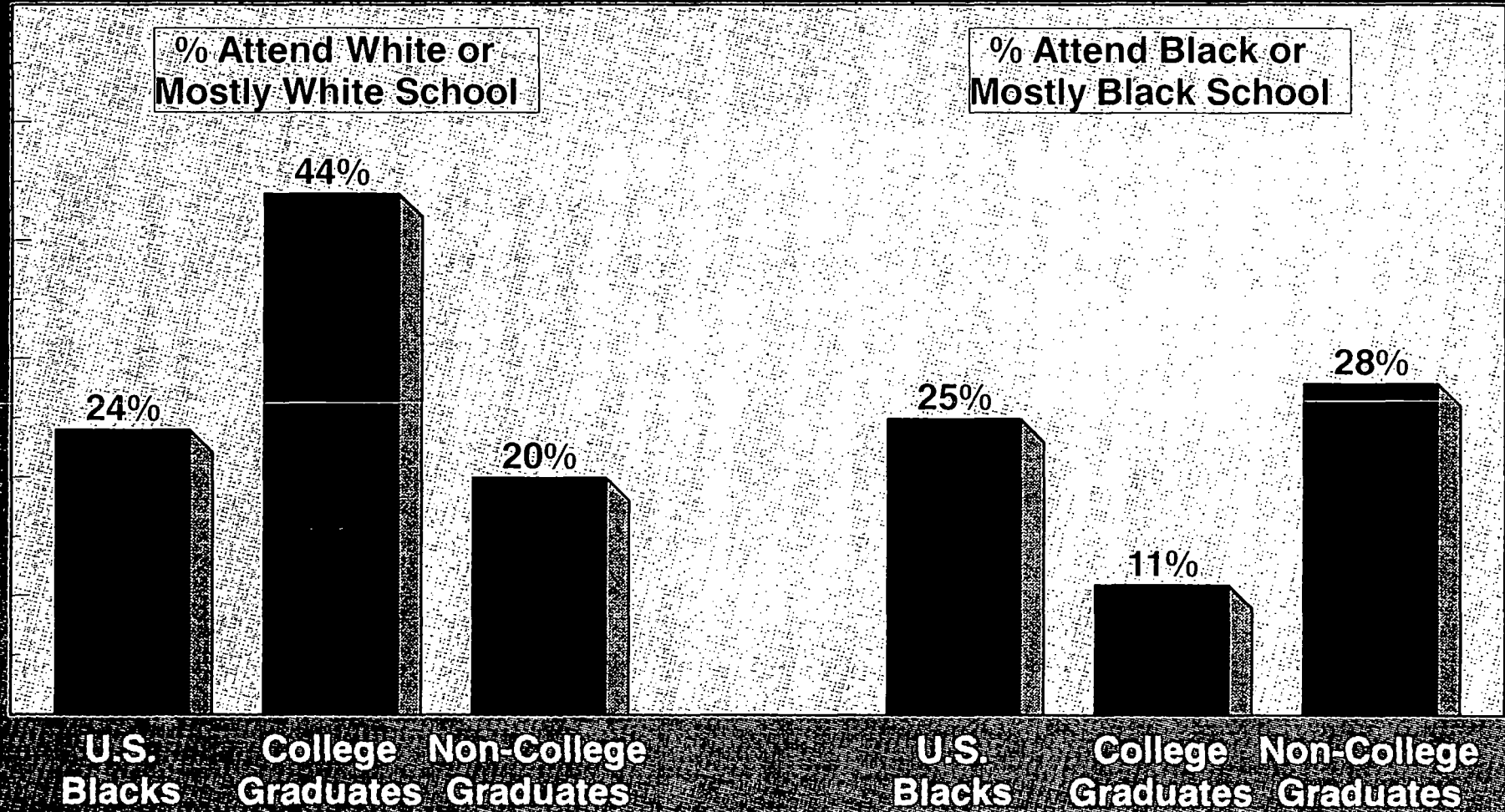
# Racial Composition of Neighborhood

*Blacks by Annual Household Income and Whites by Age*



# Racial Composition of School (Oldest) Child Attends

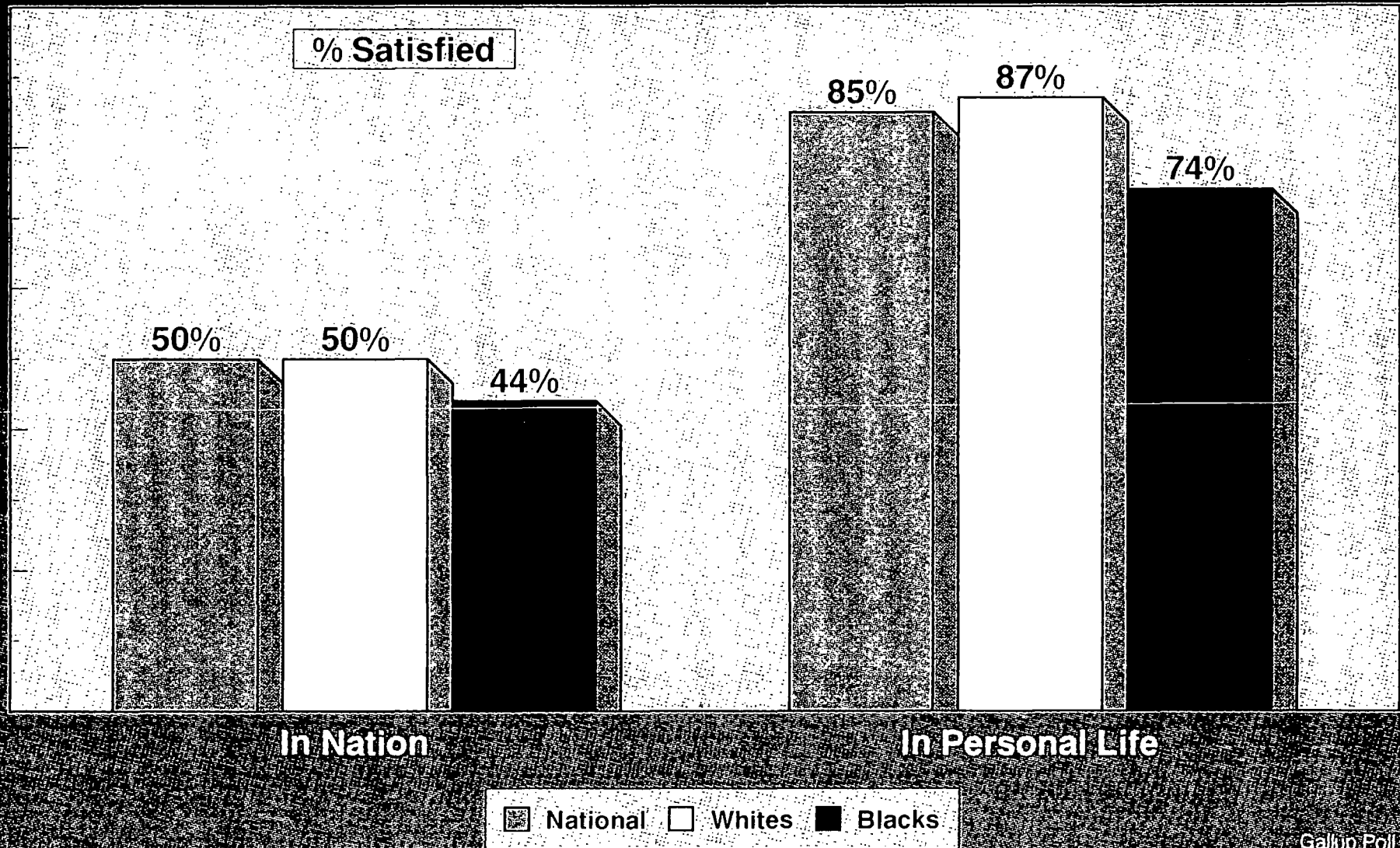
*Blacks and Whites by Education*

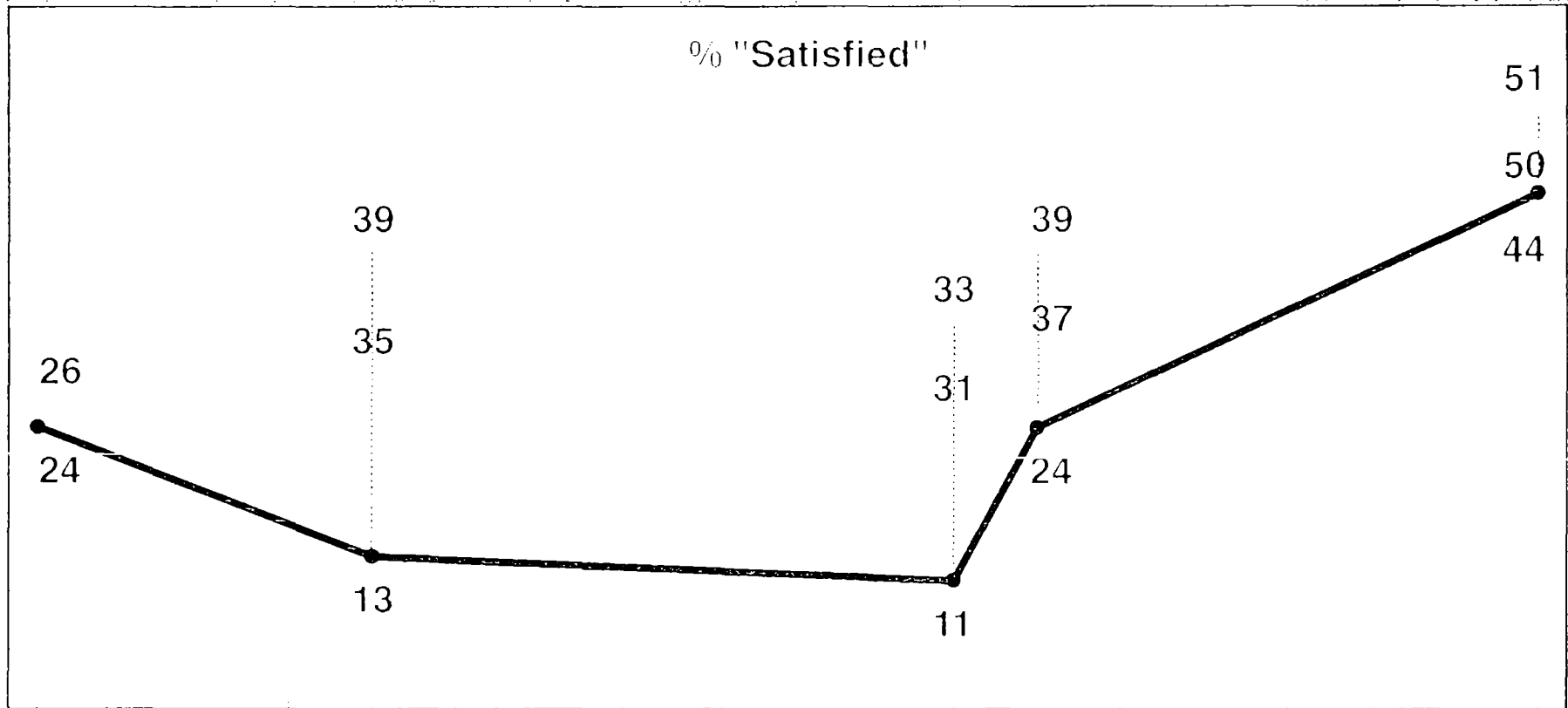


■ Blacks

# Satisfaction with "Way Things Going" in Nation -- in Own Personal Life

*In general, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in the United States at this time . . . the way things are going in your own personal life?*



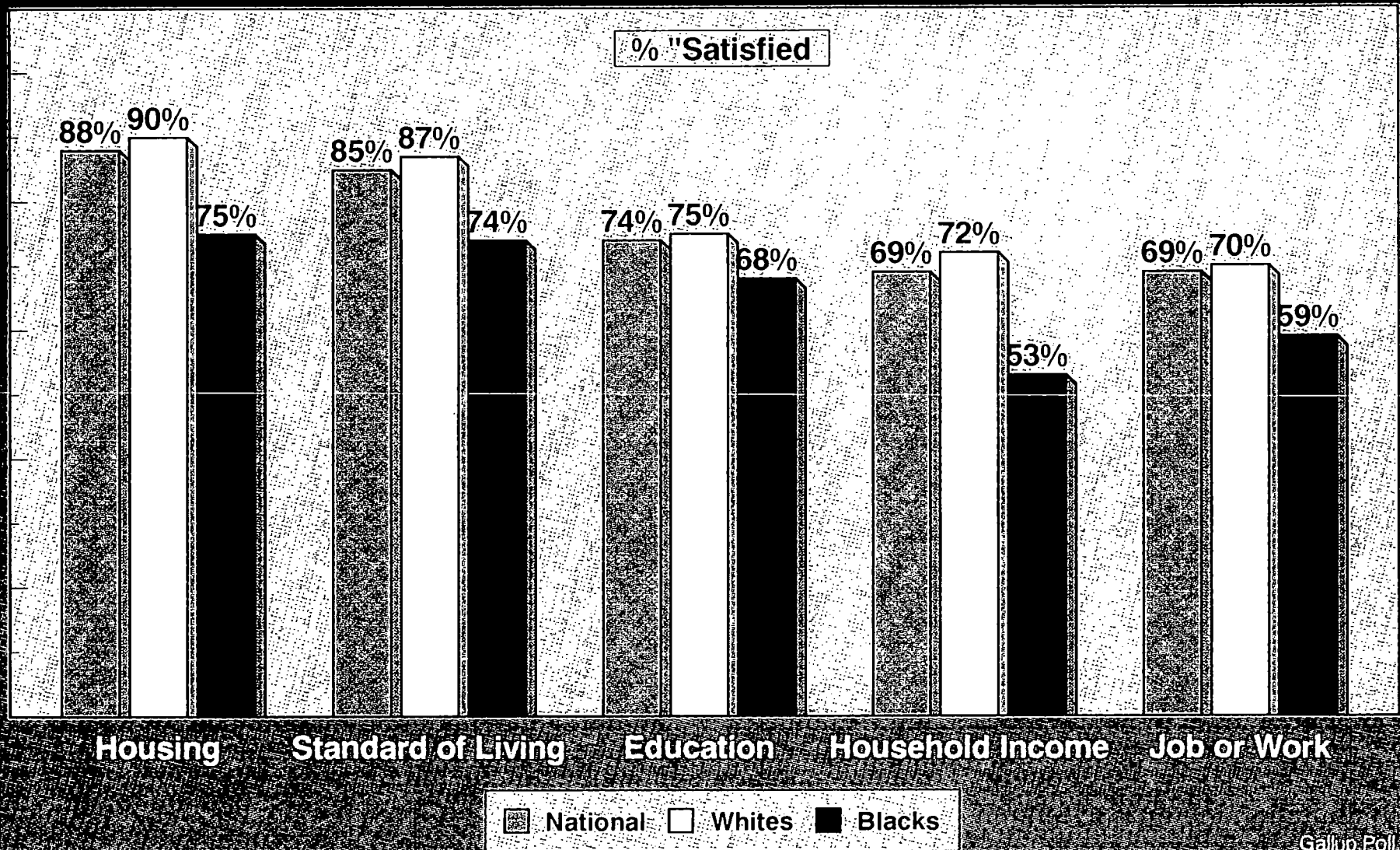


National    Blacks    Whites



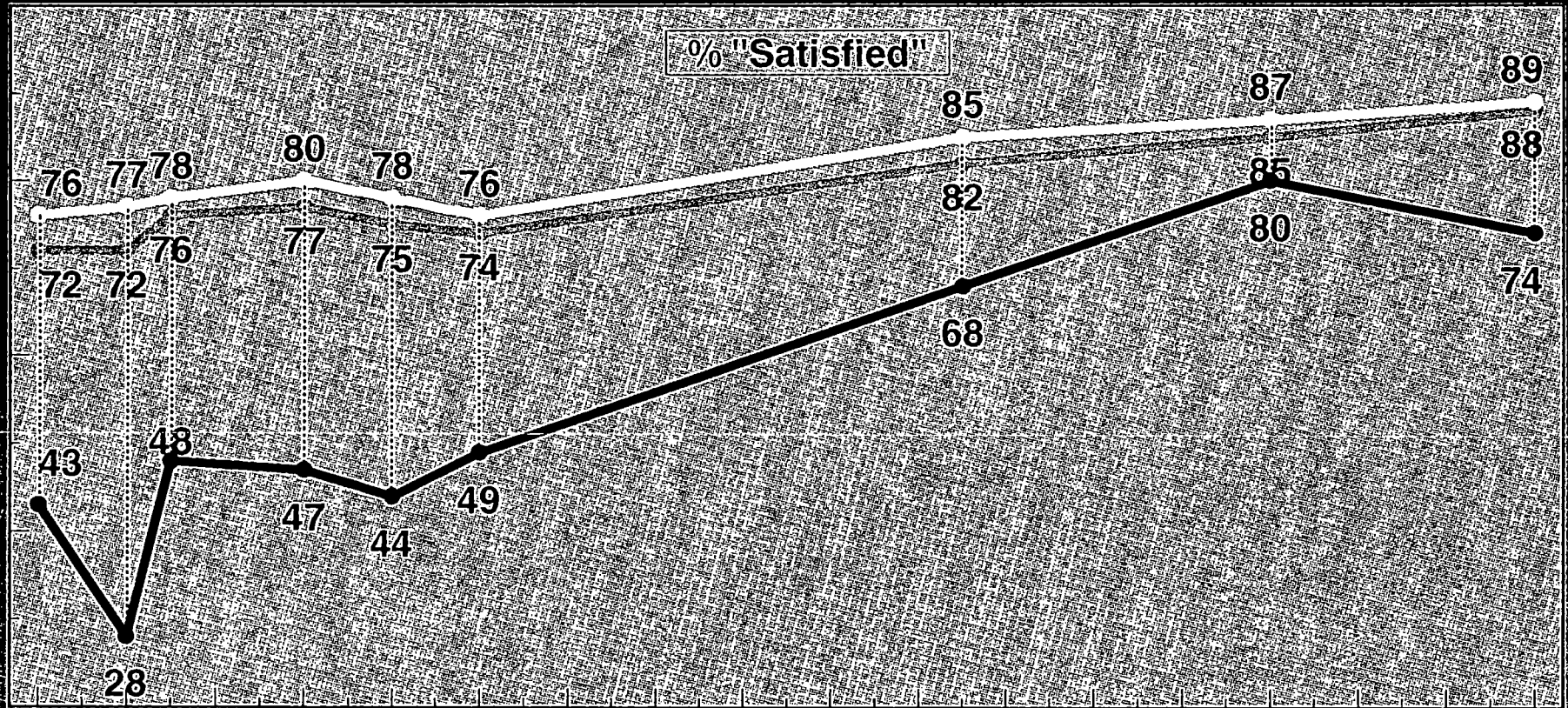
# Satisfaction with Various Aspects of Personal Life

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the following aspects of your life?



# Satisfaction with Housing

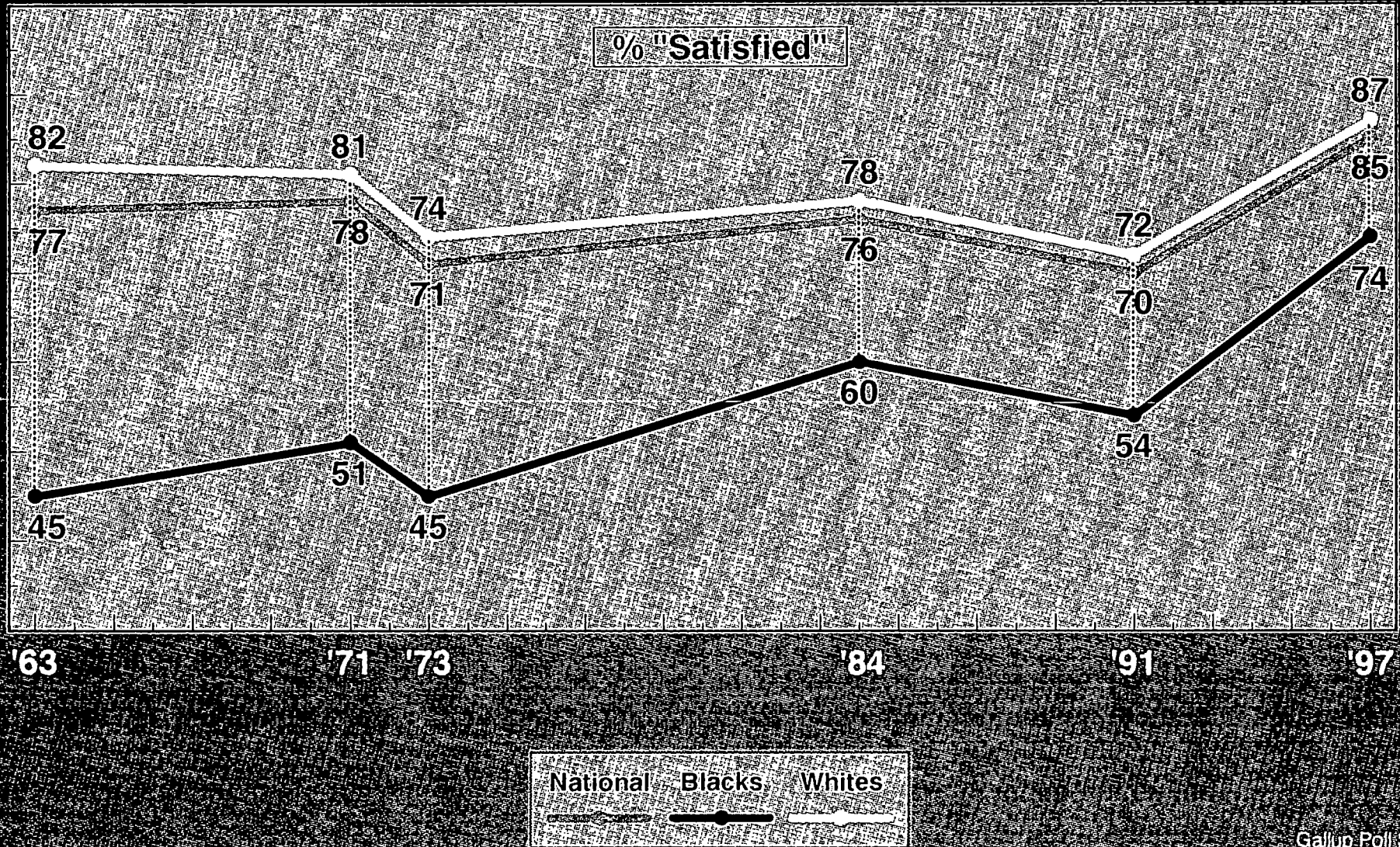
Trend: 1963 - 1997



National Blacks Whites

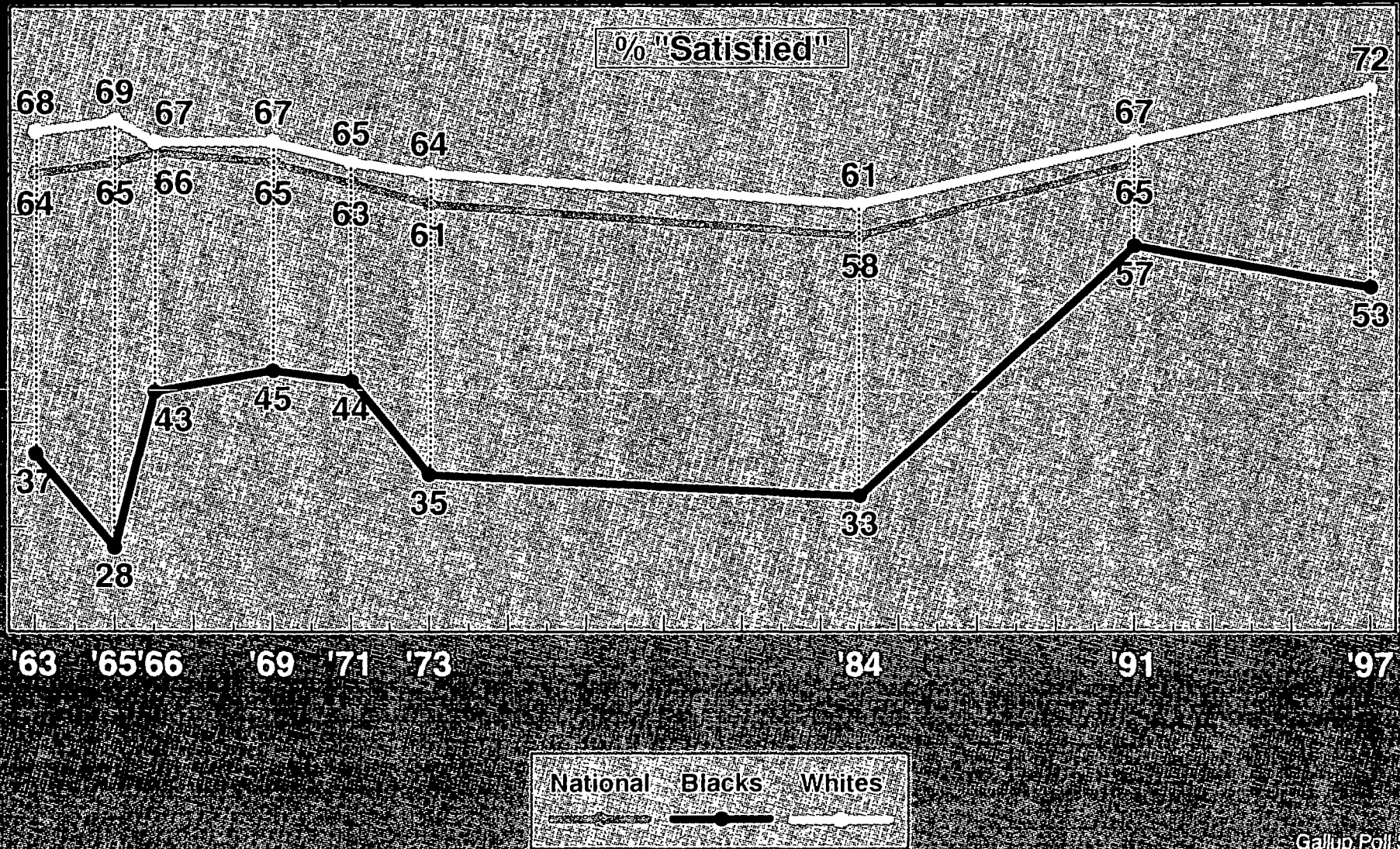
# Satisfaction with Standard of Living

Trend: 1963 - 1997

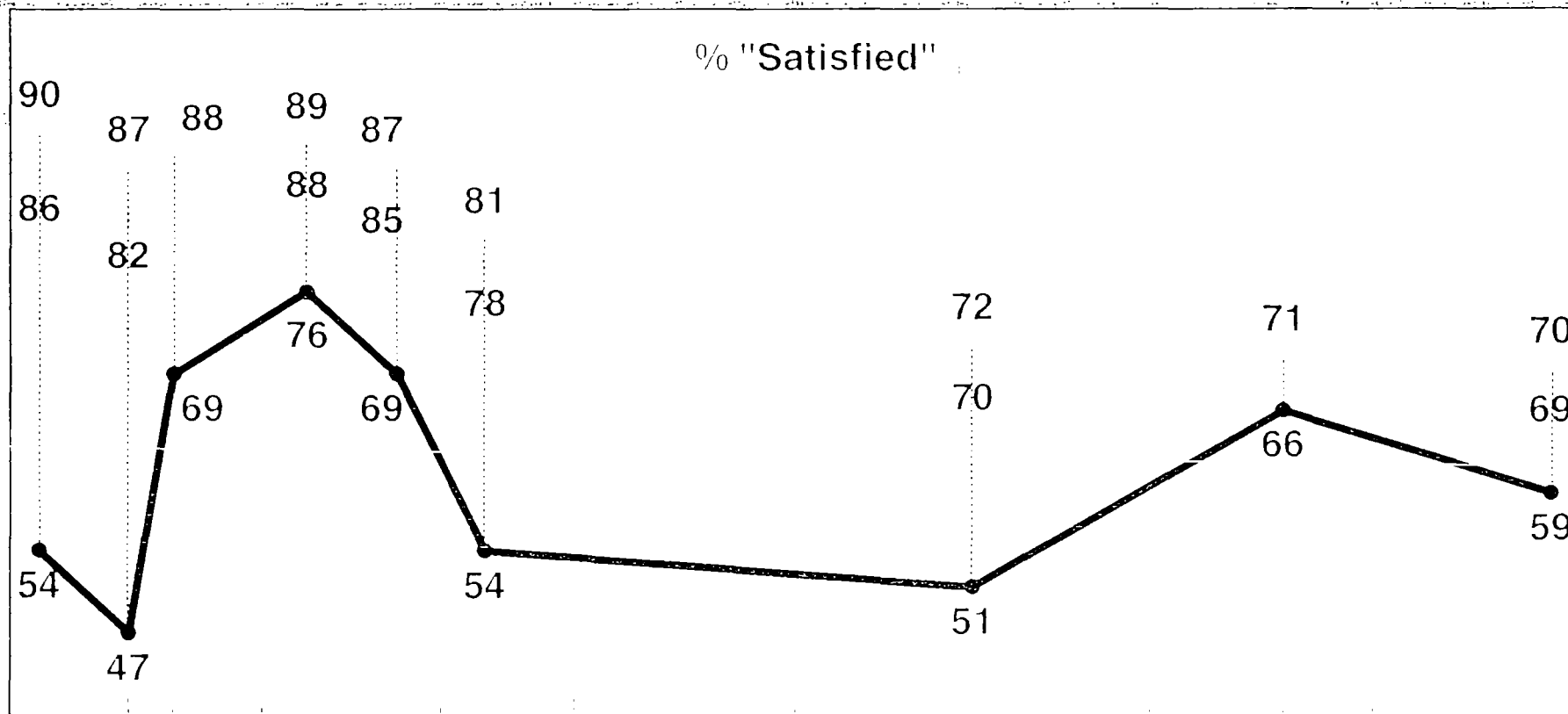


# Satisfaction with Household Income

Trend: 1963 - 1997



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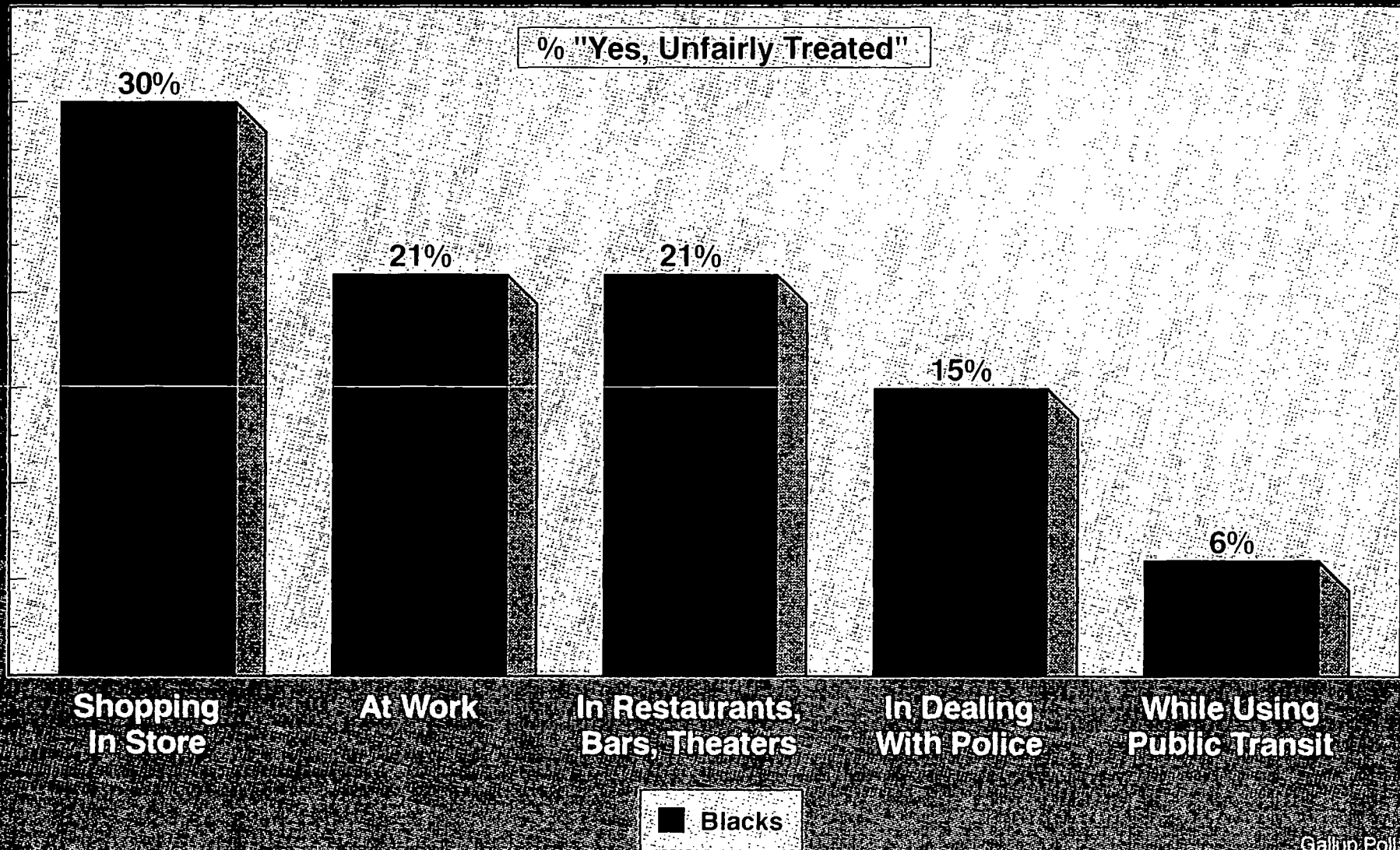


National    Blacks    Whites

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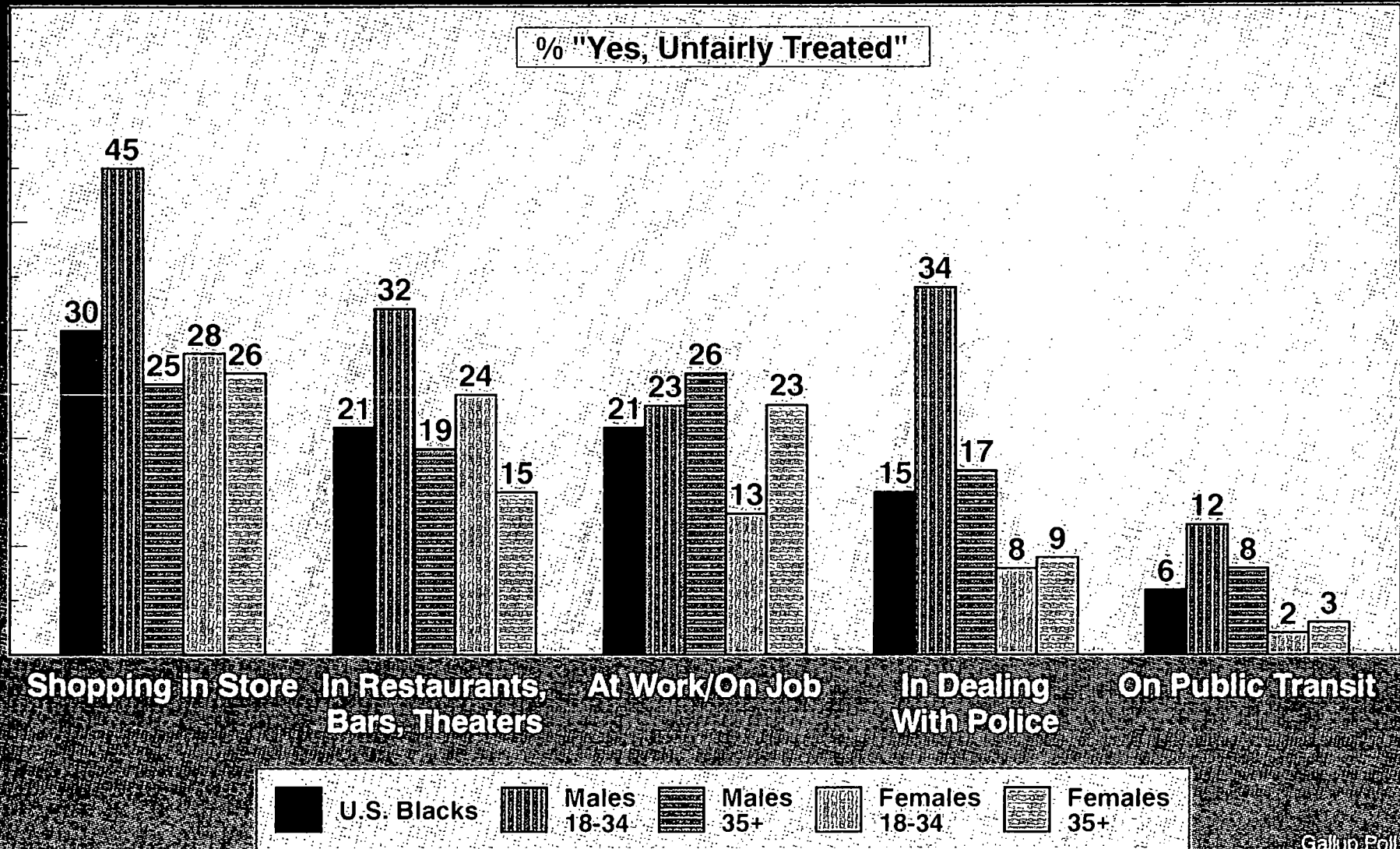
# Blacks: Incidence of Unfair Treatment in Selected Situations Within Last 30 Days

*Can you think of any occasion in the last thirty days when you felt you were treated unfairly in the following places because you were black?*



# Blacks: Incidence of Unfair Treatment in Selected Situations Within Last 30 Days

*Blacks by Gender by Age*



# Perceived Percentage of U.S. Population Which is Black

*Just your best guess, what percent of the United States population today would you say is black?*

