

Voices of the People: A Decade in Review

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Date: 7 September 2010



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

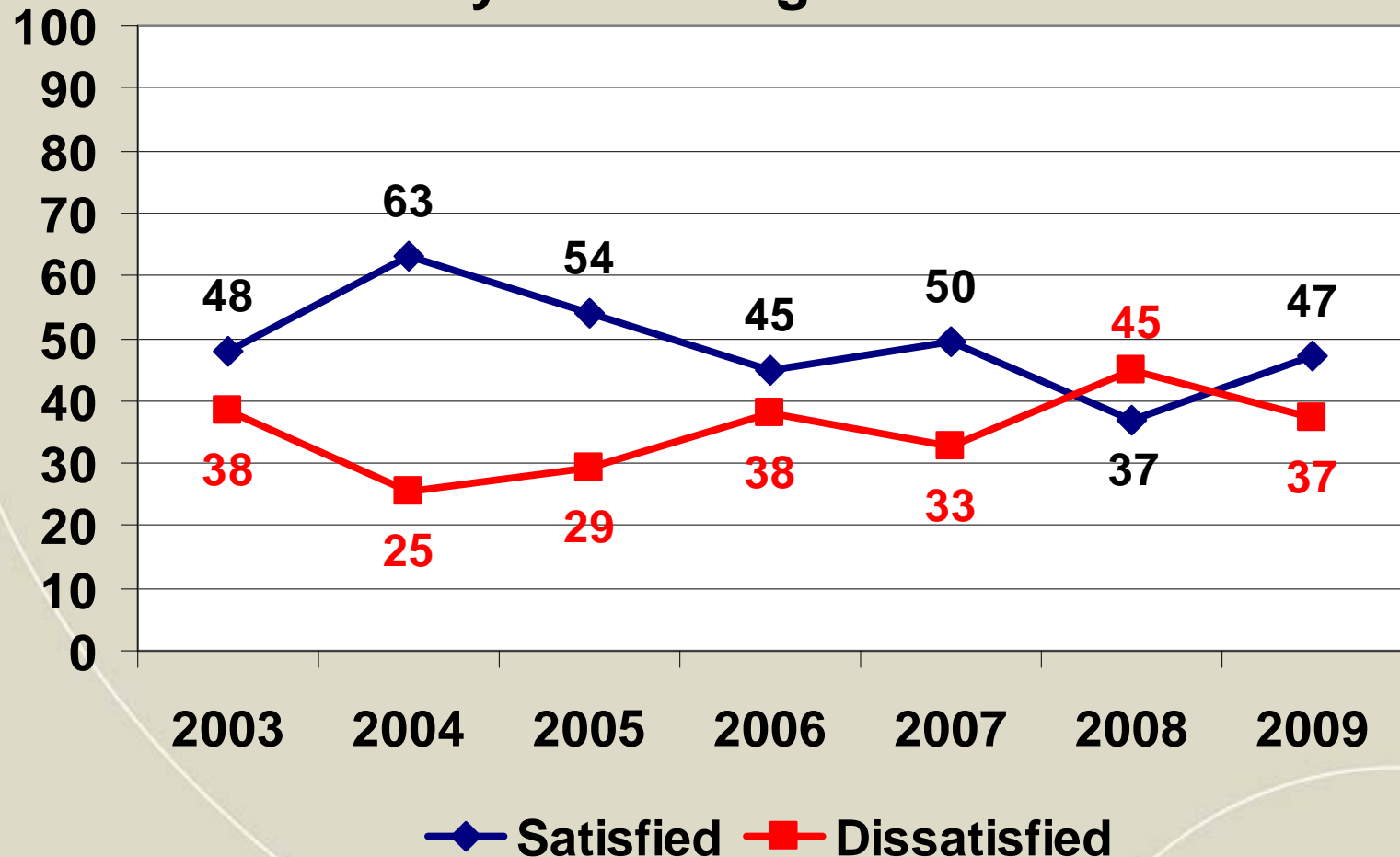


Context

- Defining feature of post-1994 period has been the increasing wealth of nationally representative data
- Increasing culture of evidence based policy making
 - Government's 12 outcomes for monitoring and evaluation
- Decade of significant social and political developments
 - Transition from the Mbeki to the Zuma administration
 - High profile corruption scandals
 - Xenophobic violence
 - Service delivery protests
 - Persistently high levels of poverty, inequality and unemployment
- Against this background, important to see the emerging influence of such events on South African values.
- Presentation: spotlight on a few political, socioeconomic and socio-cultural issues

Satisfaction with Democracy

“How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way democracy is working in South Africa?”

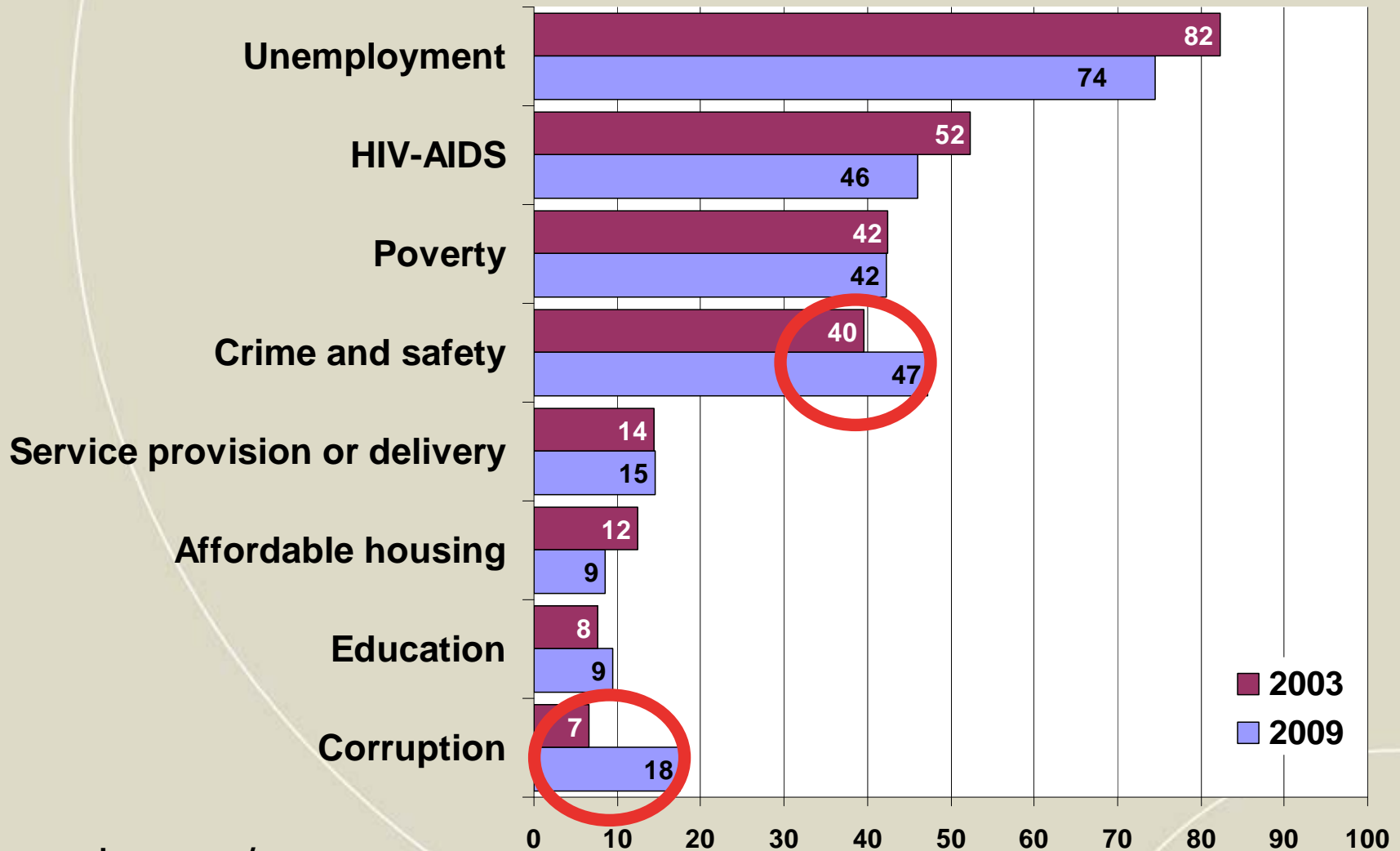


Institutional Trust

Percent that trust / strongly trust the following institutions

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Mean
Churches	82	81	74	81	84	81	81	82	82	83	84	81
SABC	...	...	...	...	75	73	71	72	...	73	73	73
Nat. government	47	60	43	52	57	69	64	59	52	52	61	56
Parliament	...	...	...	...	57	65	59	55	46	48	56	55
Defence force	48	..	45	49	62	56	59	49	...	56	64	54
Courts	42	45	37	45	50	58	56	52	49	50	57	49
Your local gov	37	48	32	38	45	55	48	44	34	38	40	42
The police	42	47	39	40	42	46	45	39	39	40	41	42
Political parties	30	39	29	27	...	...	42	37	27	29	34	33

National Priorities

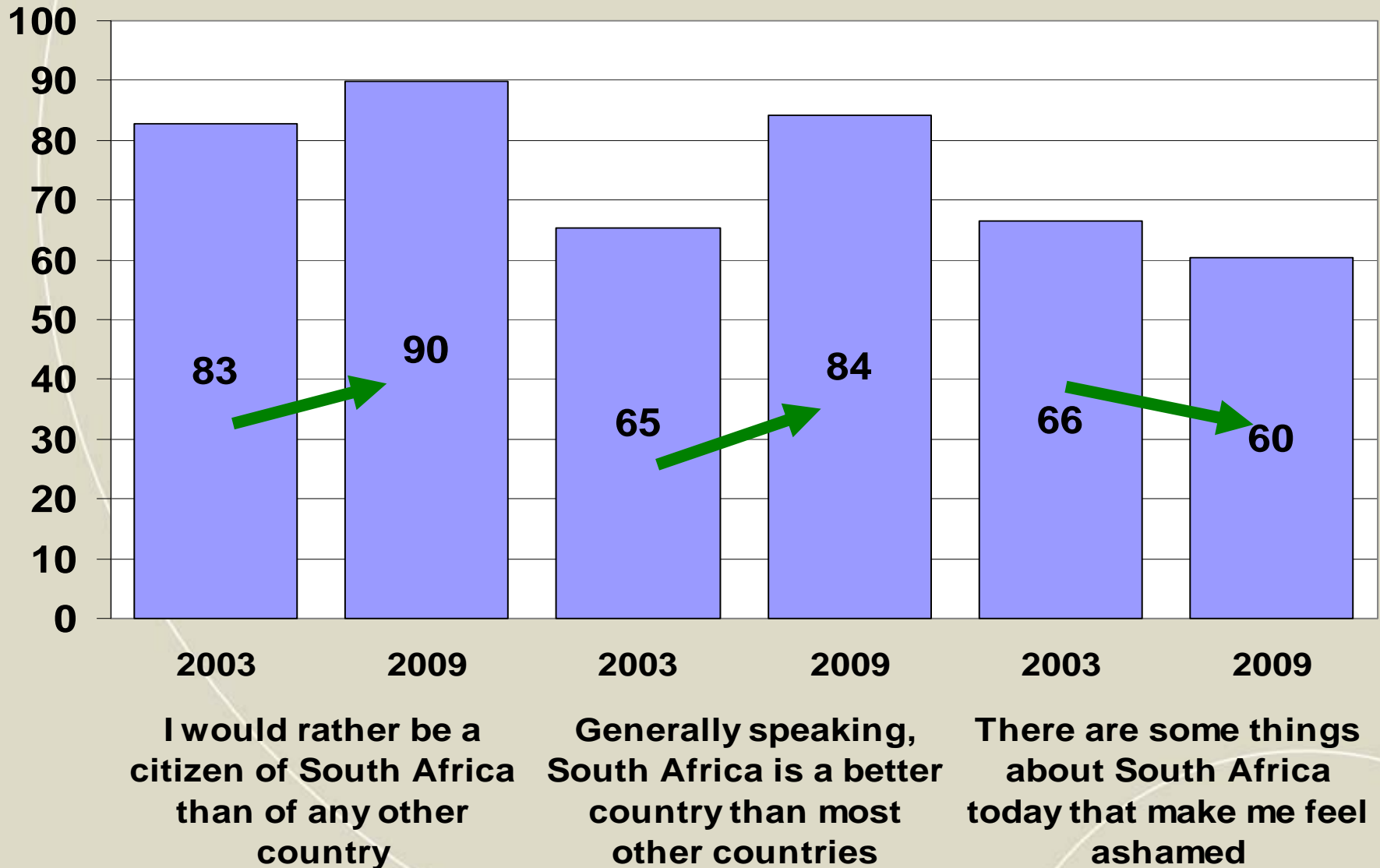


National Priorities by Race

		1	2	3	4	5
Black	2003	Unempl	HIV-AIDS	Poverty	Crime & safety (17%)	Service del.
	2009	Unempl	HIV-AIDS	Poverty	Crime & safety (40%)	Service del.
Coloured	2003	Unempl	Crime & safety	HIV-AIDS	Poverty	Corruption
	2009	Unempl	Crime & safety	Poverty	HIV-AIDS	Corruption
Indian	2003	Crime & safety	Unempl	HIV-AIDS	Poverty (22%)	Racism (14%)
	2009	Crime & safety	Unempl	HIV-AIDS	Poverty (35%)	Corruption (22%)
White	2003	Crime & safety	Unempl	HIV-AIDS	Corruption (26%)	Poverty
	2009	Crime & safety	Unempl	Corruption (37%)	HIV-AIDS	Poverty

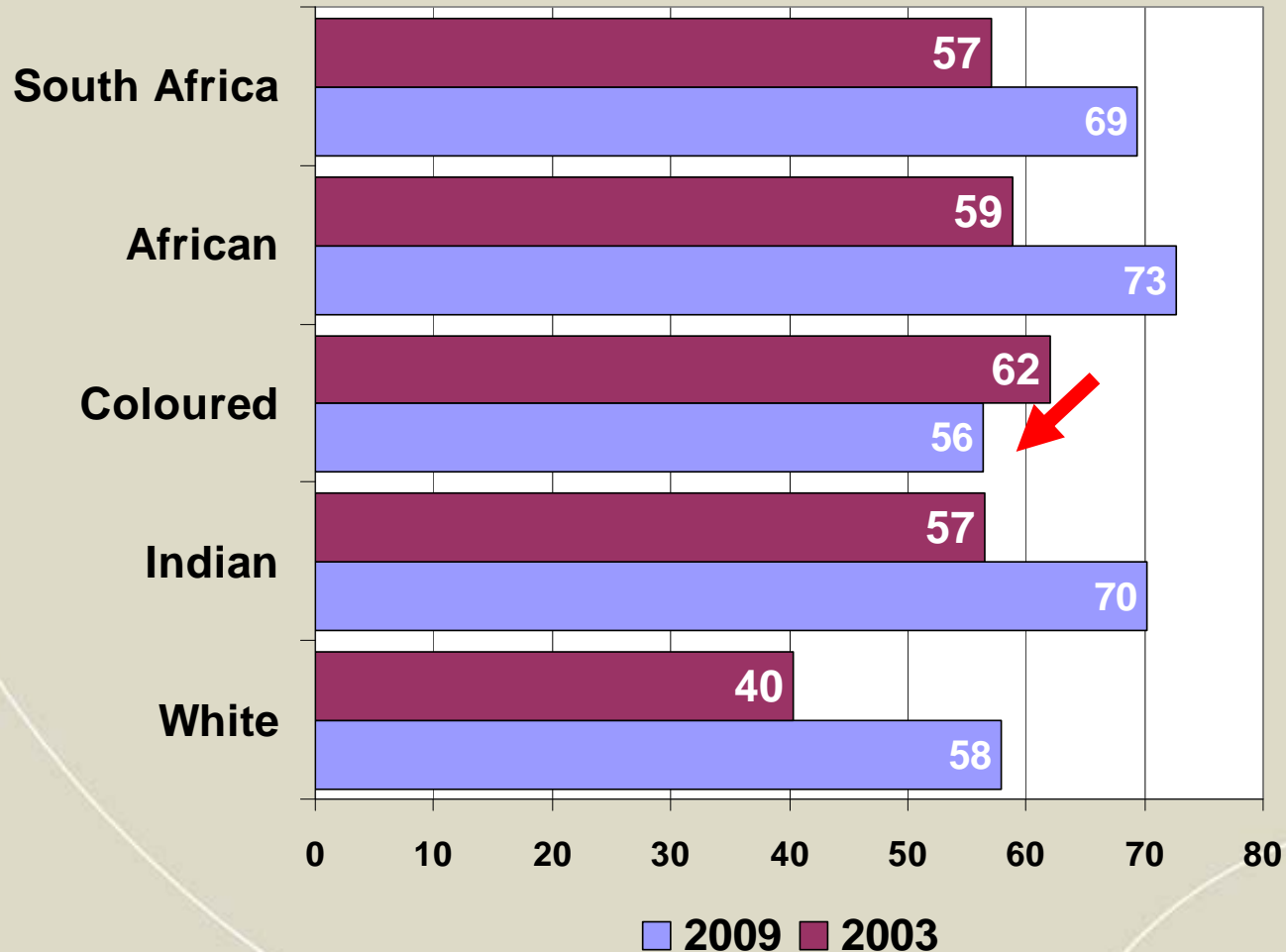
General National Pride

Percentage that agree / strongly agree



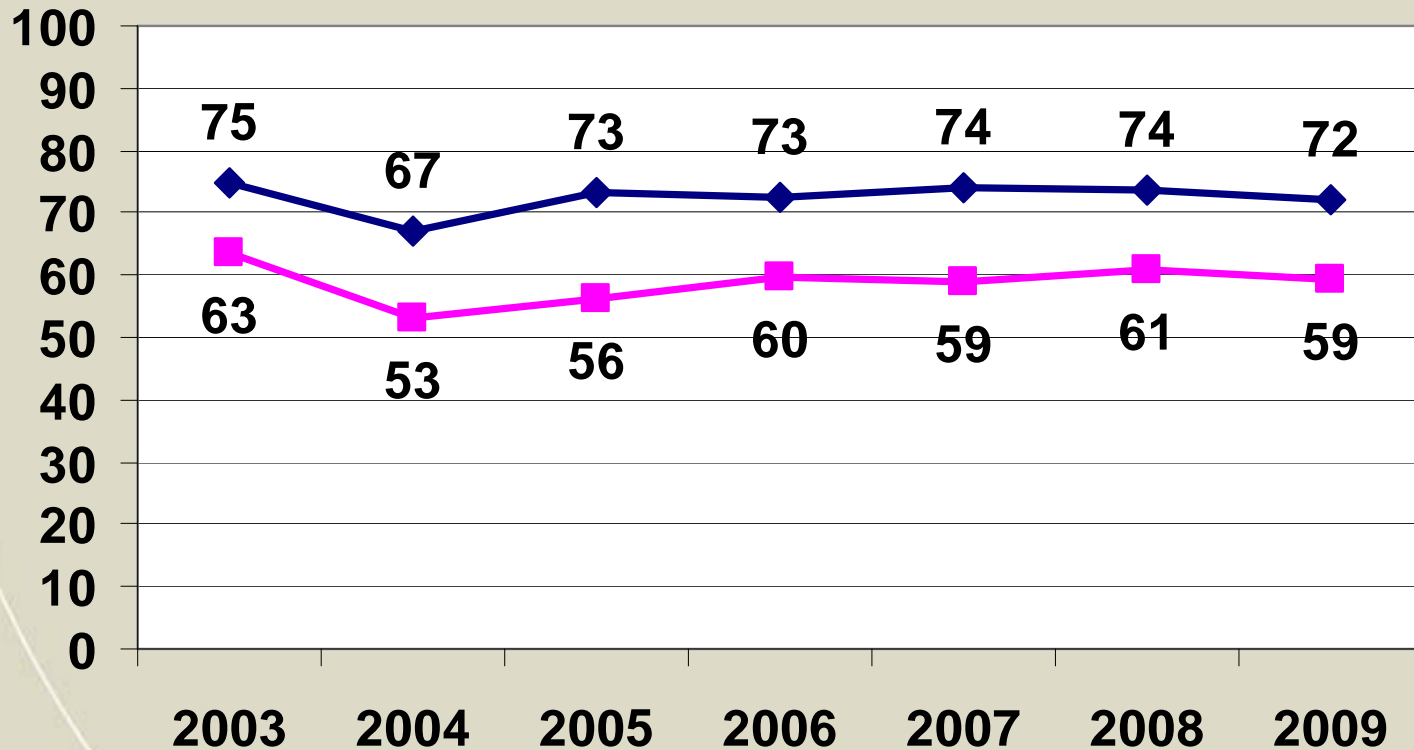
Race Relations

Percentage agreeing / strongly agreeing that race relations have improved since 1994



Race Relations

Percentage agreeing / strongly agreeing that...

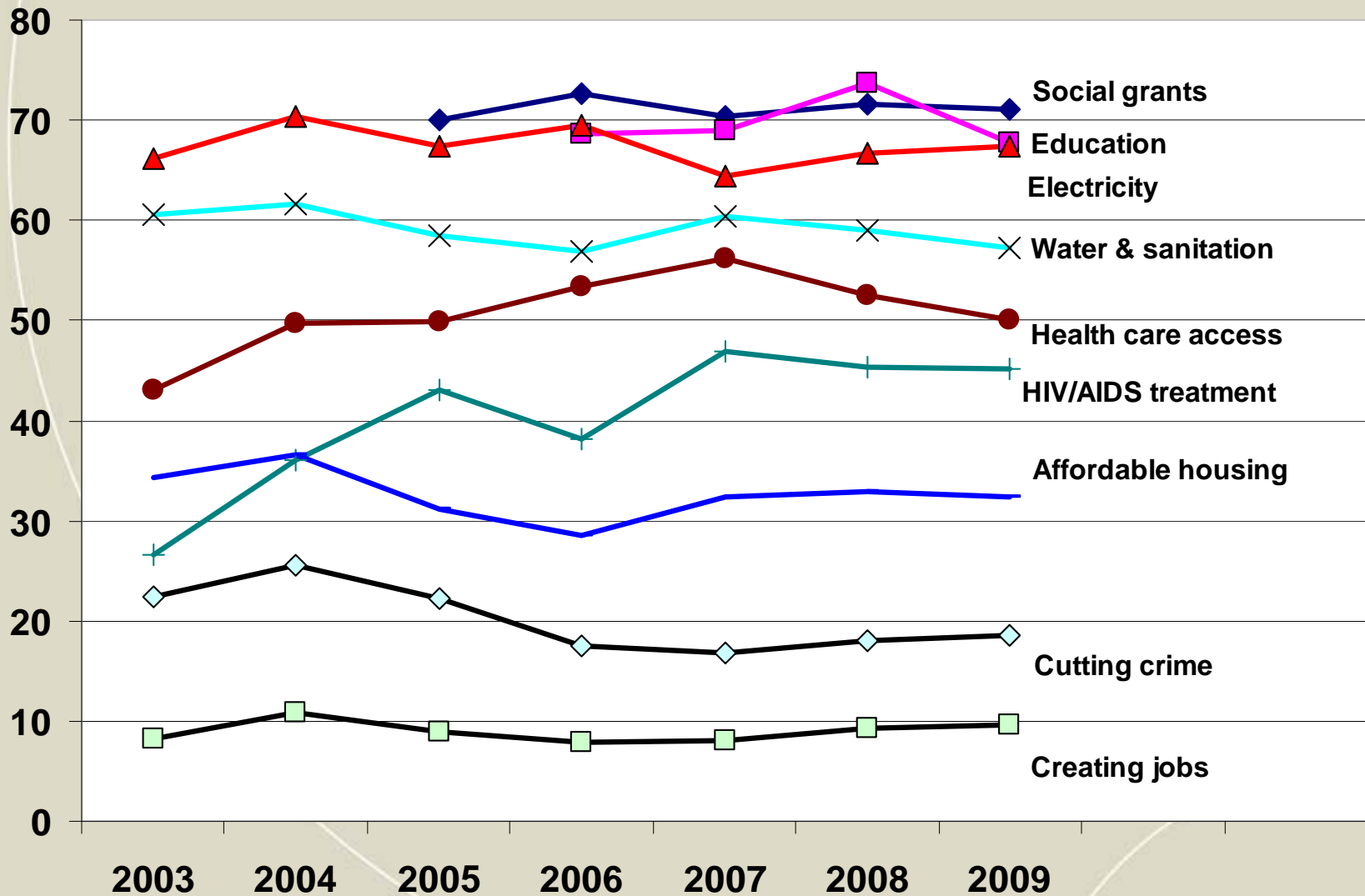


◆ People of different racial groups do not really trust or like each other

■ People of different racial groups will never really trust or like each other

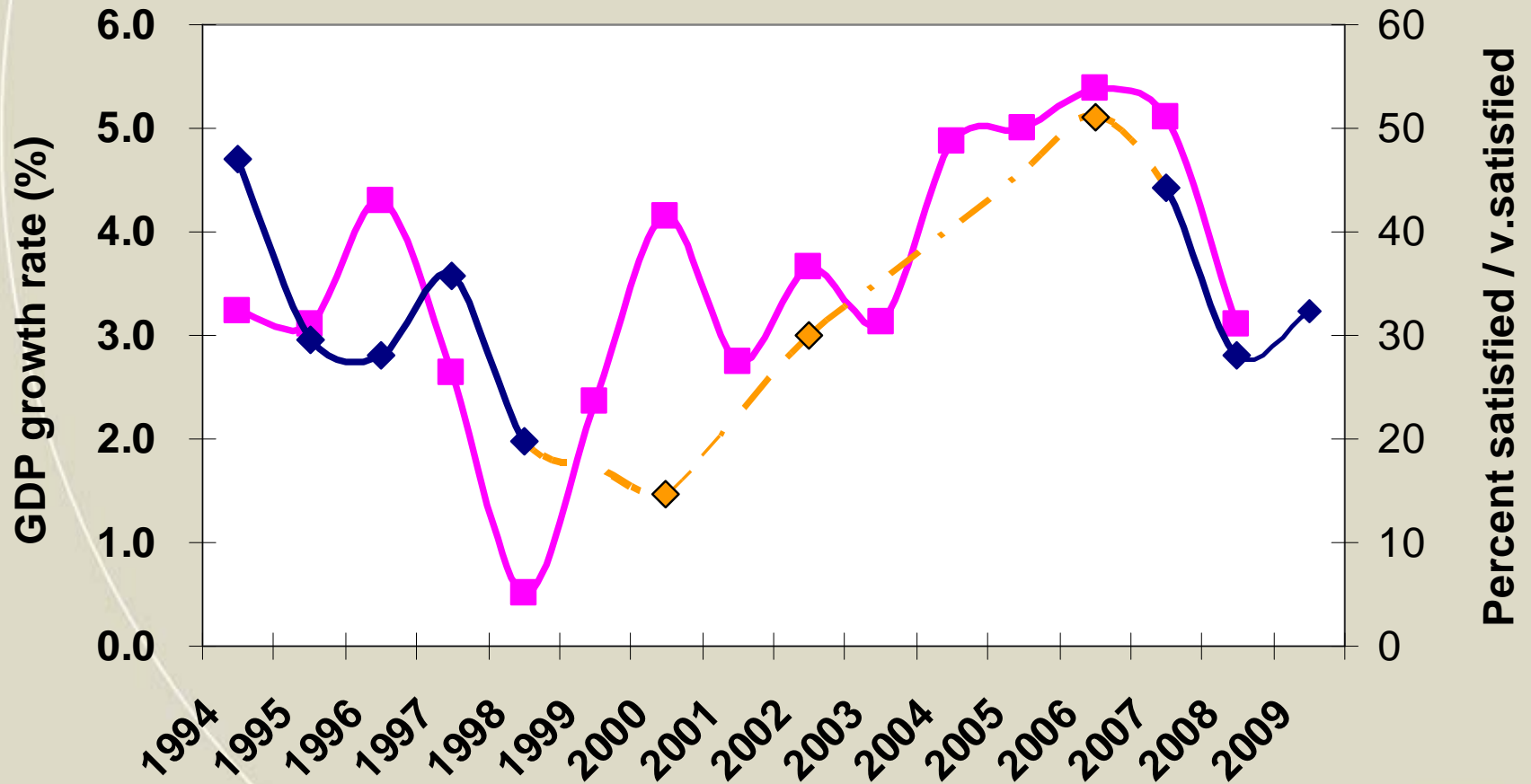
Service delivery

Percent satisfied with the way that the government is handling the following matters



Economic Satisfaction

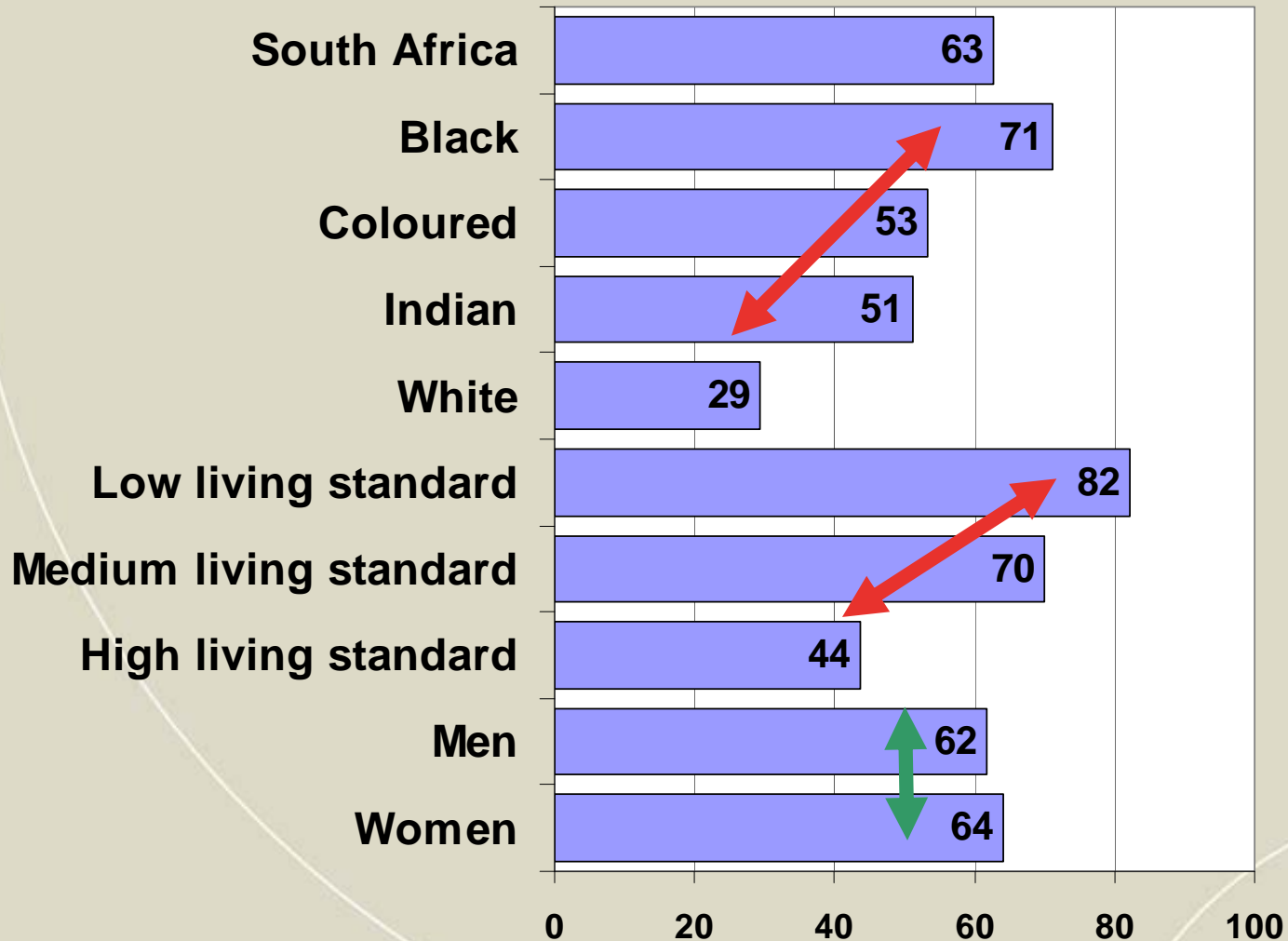
“How satisfied are you with the general economic situation in South Africa at present?”



- Annual growth in GDP at constant prices
- ◆ Satisfied with current general economic situation (%)

Views of Workers on Earnings

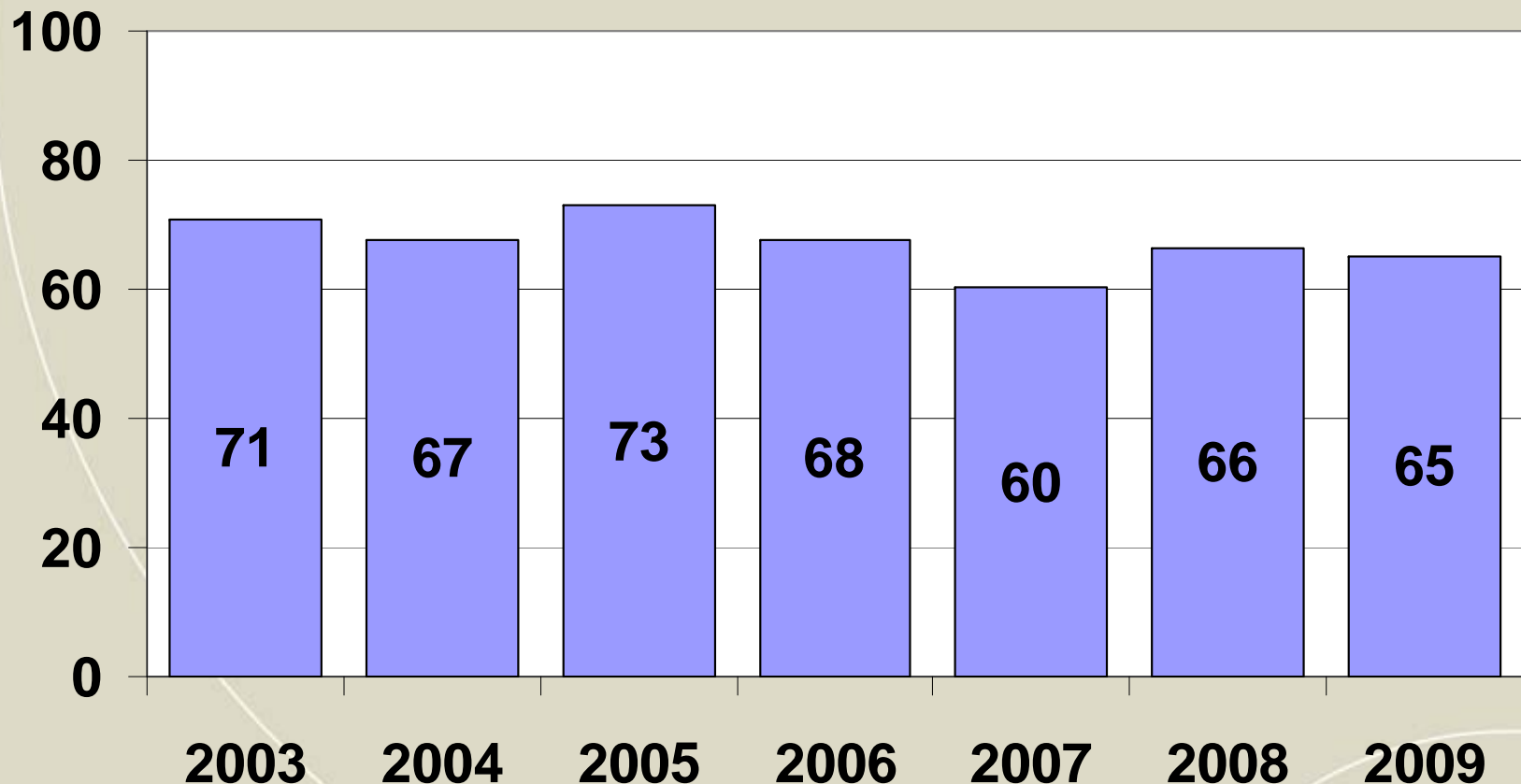
Percentage of employed South Africans that say they earn less or much less than they deserve (2009)



Constitutional Values :

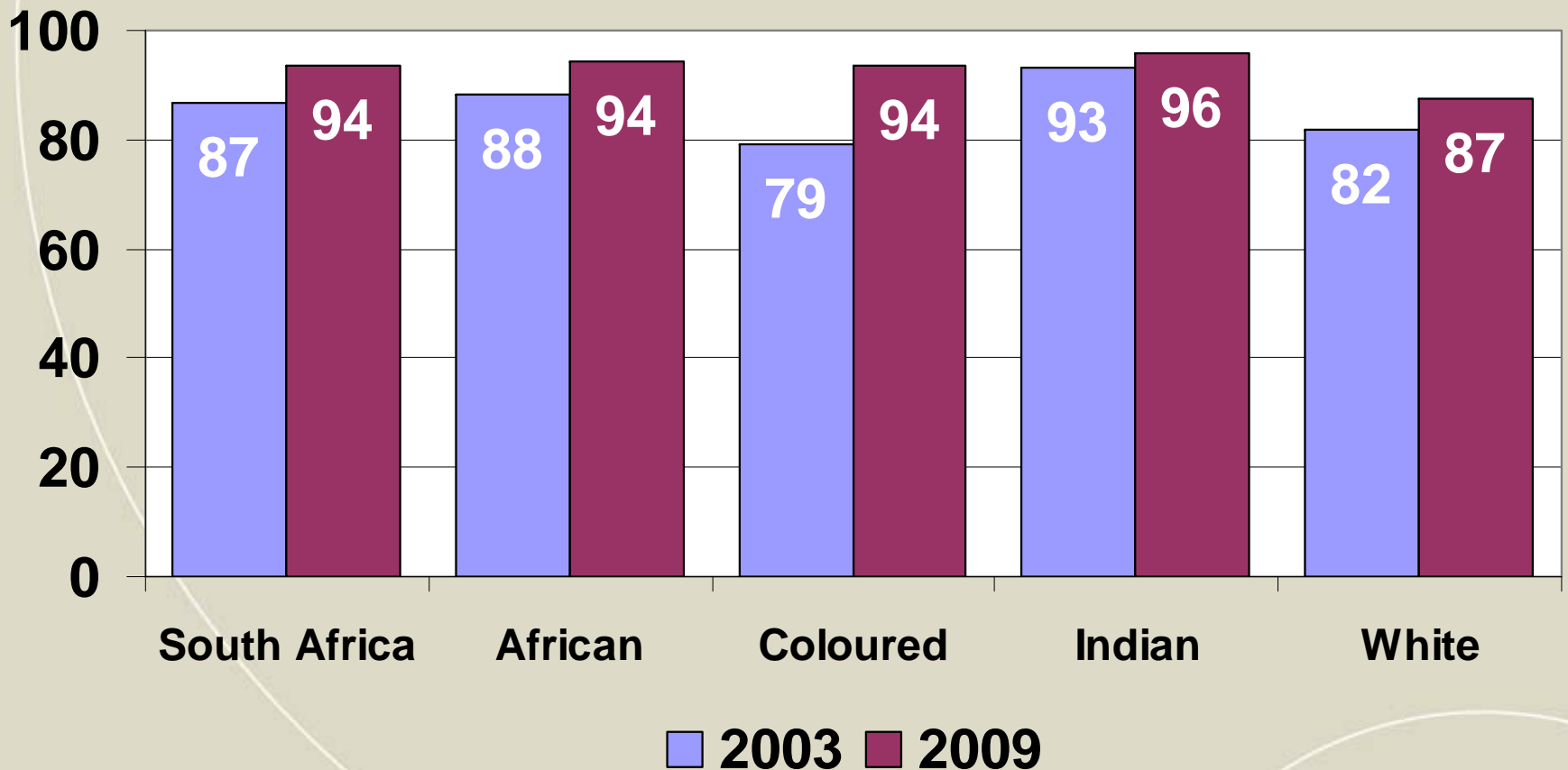
Assembly, demonstration picket and petition

“Mass action is an acceptable way for people to express their views in a democracy” – Percent that agree / strongly agree



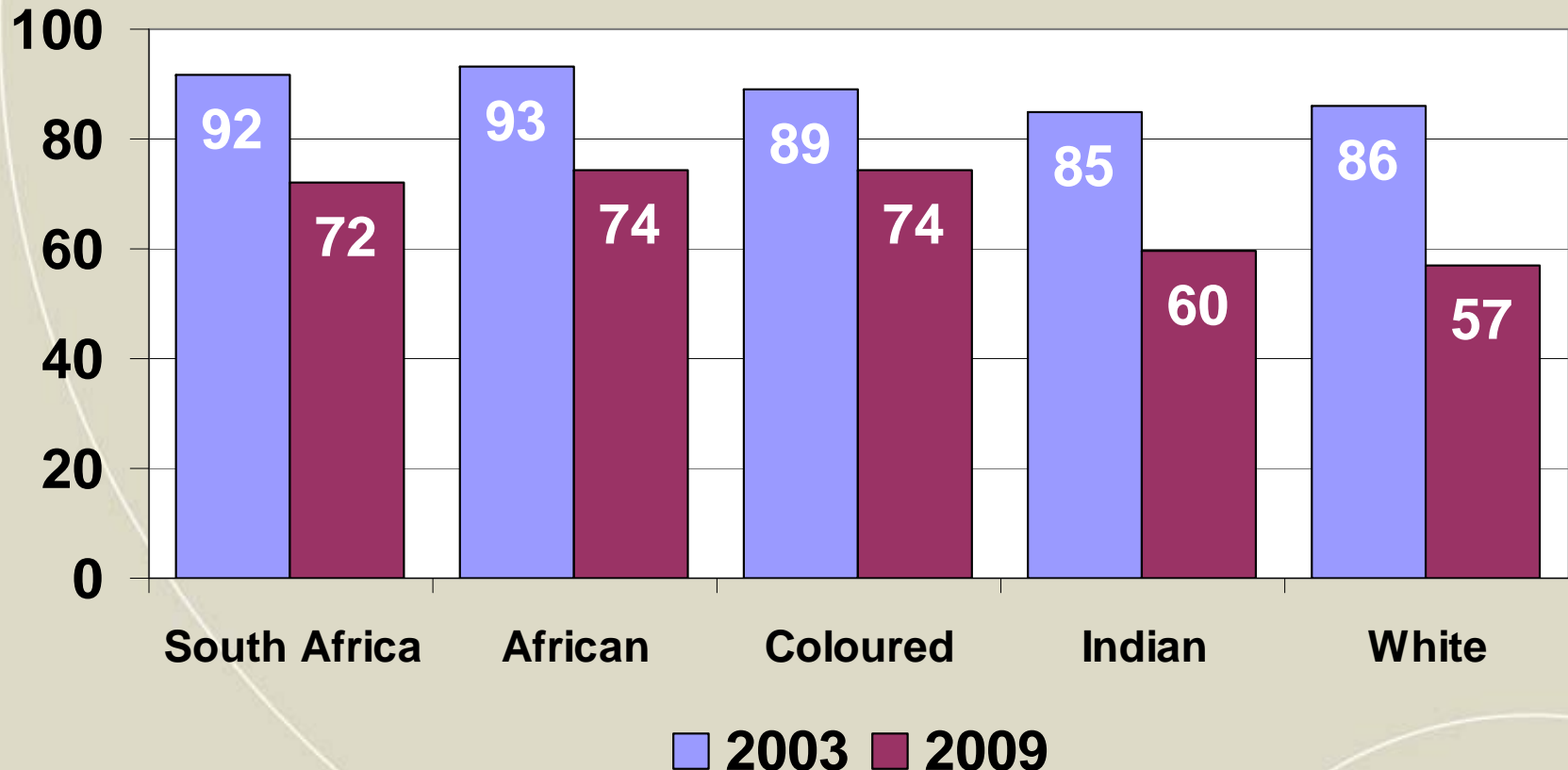
Inequality aversion

“Differences in income in South Africa are too large”:
% agree / strongly agree



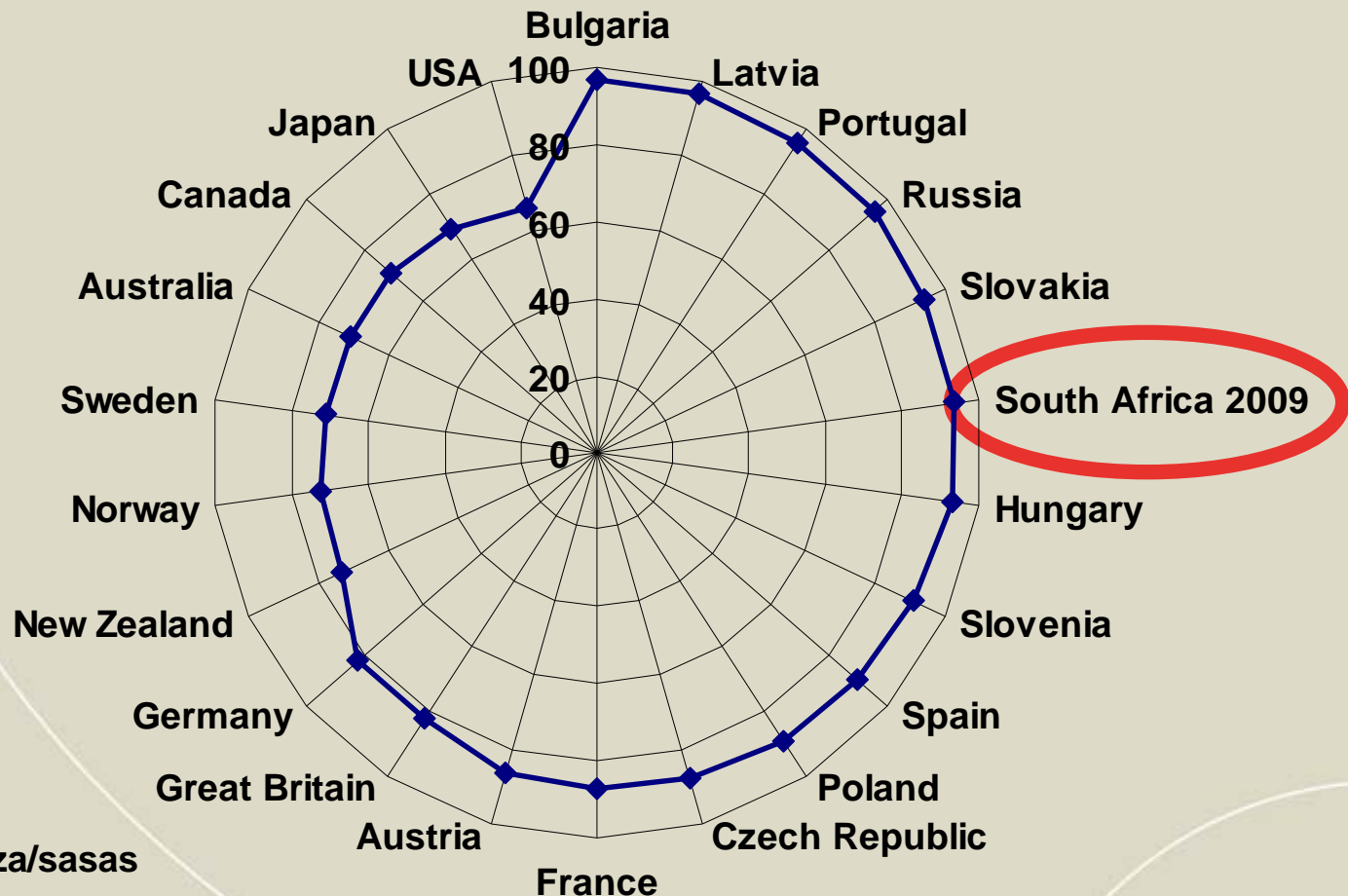
Gov Responsibility for Redress

“It is the responsibility of the government to reduce the differences in income between people with high incomes and those with low incomes”: % agree / strongly agree



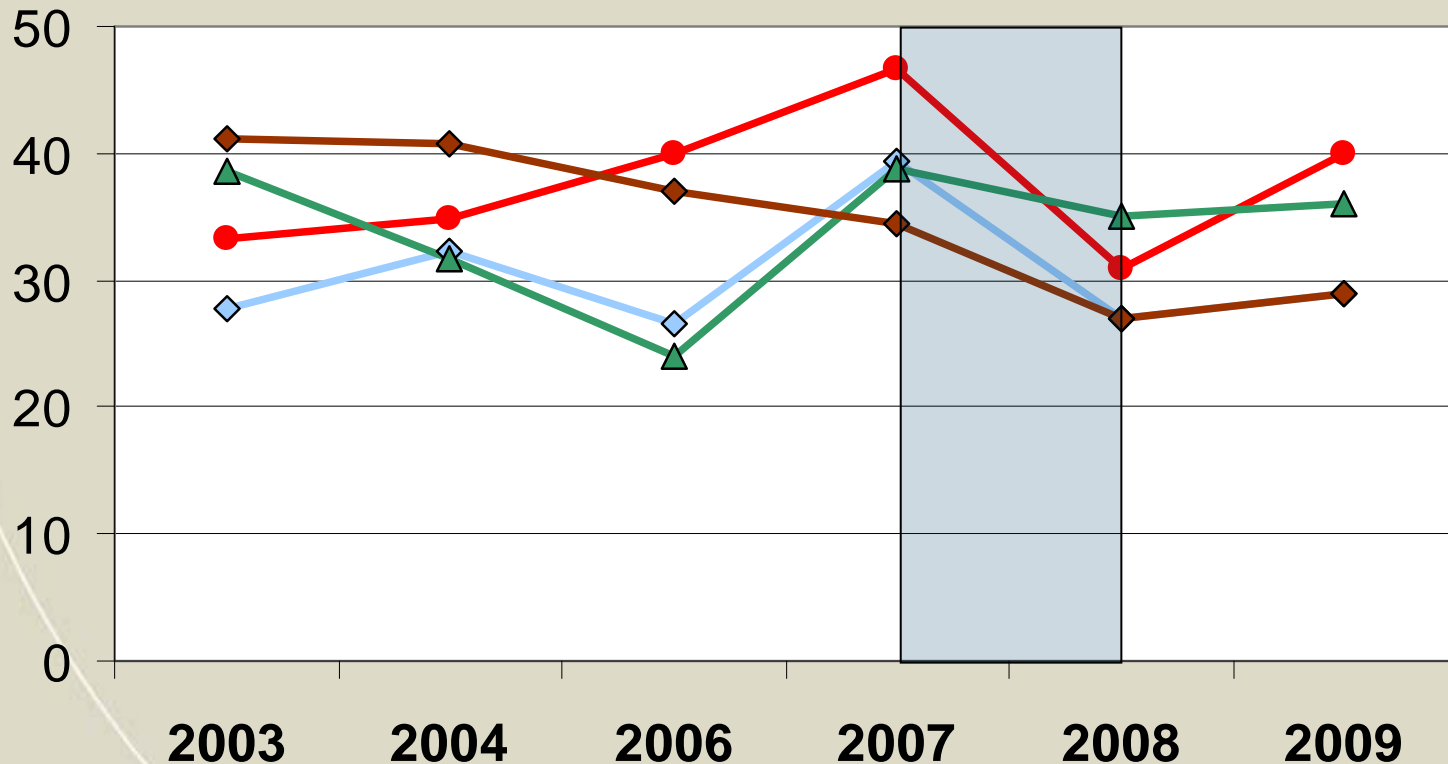
Inequality aversion

“Differences in income in South Africa are too large” (ISSP):
% agree / strongly agree



Social Tolerance: Xenophobia

“I generally welcome to South Africa...all immigrants, some immigrants or no immigrants”



◇ Urban formal

▲ Rural traditional authority areas

● Urban informal

◆ Rural formal

Fear of Crime

- Experimentation with **ESS fear of crime questions** (2008/09): ask about **frequency** and **impact** of fear for two types of crime, home robbery and violent crime.
- **50-55%** of South Africans had some level of (damaging) fear of crime.

SASAS 2009	Worry about burglary	Worry about violent crime
	<i>Frequency of worry</i>	
Never	32	33
Just occasionally	18	16
Some of the time	29	30
All / most of the time	21	22
Total	100	100
	<i>Effect of worry on QOL</i>	
(Never worry)	33	33
No real effect	12	12
Some effect	33	31
Serious effect	23	25
Total	100	100

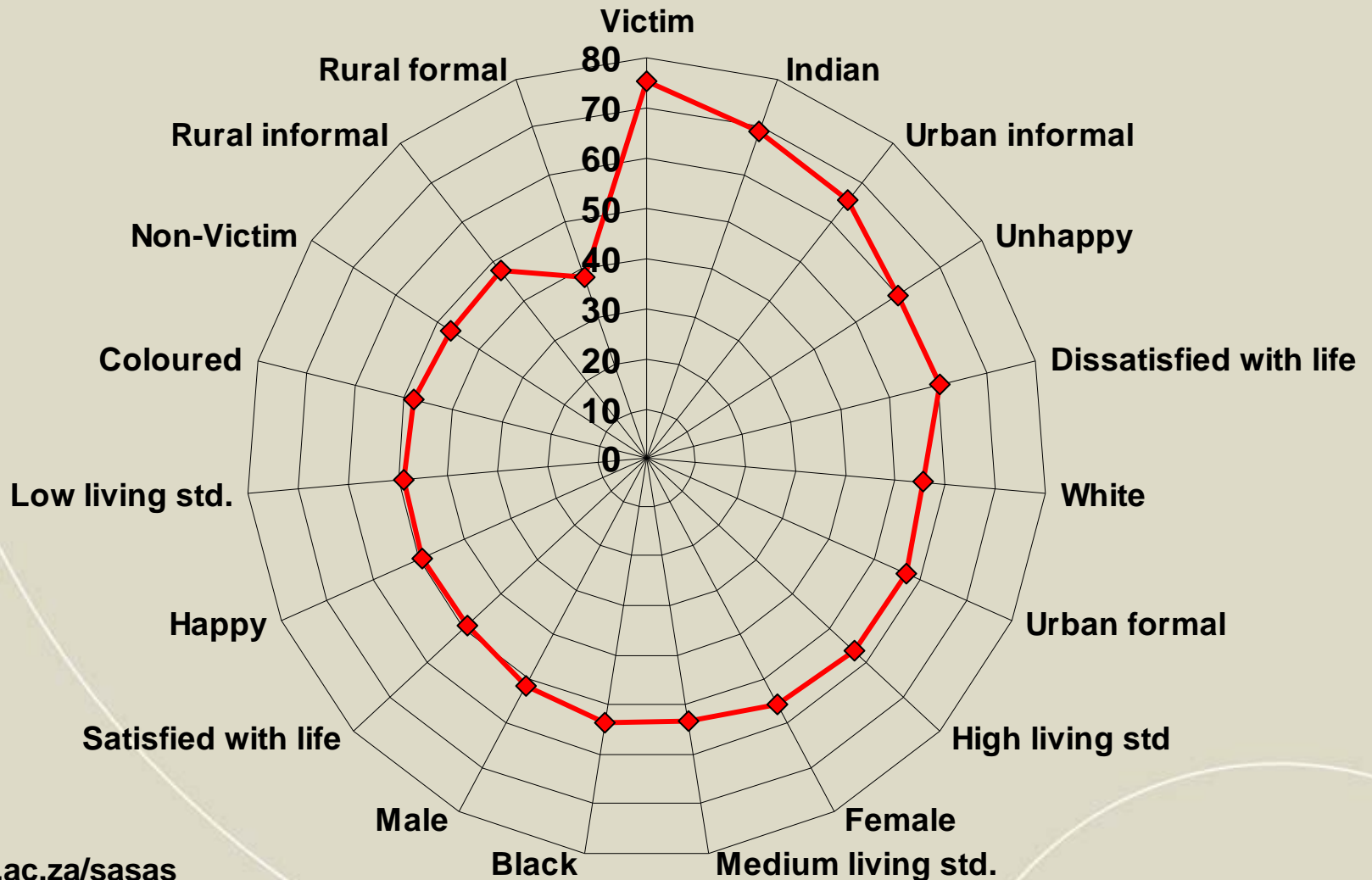
Fear of Crime

- Combing responses to the 4 questions in a single scale, we find that...
- A third are unworried (Class 1)
- 13% worry occasionally about one of the two types of crime (Classes 2-3)
- 54% experience moderate to very high worry about crime that is decreasing their quality of life (Classes 4-6)

Class	Level of Fear	%
1	(Unworried)	34
2	(Burglary only)	6
3	(Violent crime only)	7
4	(Mild worry)	23
5	(Fairly high worry)	4
6	(Most worried)	27
Total		100

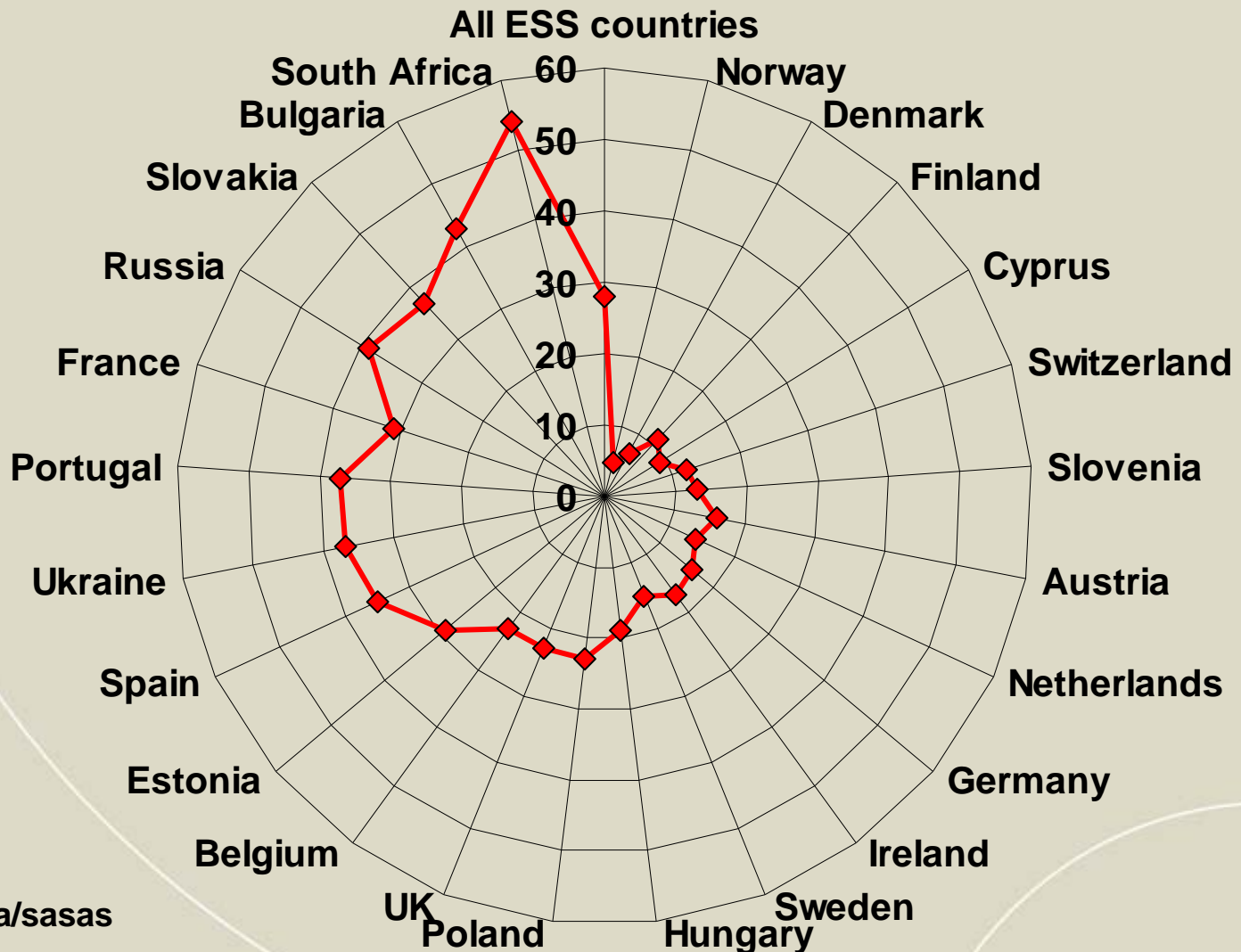
Characteristics of the fearful

Combined proportions of classes 4-6 (damaging fear) of the new fear of crime measure



Fear of Crime

Combined proportions of classes 4-6 (damaging fear) of the new fear of crime measure



Parting thoughts

- These basic spotlight results...
 - Highlight the importance of tracking social attitudes to understanding the extent and nature of changing values in our diverse society
 - Indicate the benefit of benchmarking ourselves in a global context
- Given the broad thematic content and increasing scope of the SASAS trend data, it is becoming increasingly important to build up a community of users to interrogate, question and debate
- In this spirit, we are placing the SASAS data and new book in the public domain

