



**The Crime Issue in
South Africa: Public
Views of Safety and
Government
Performance**

Mari Harris and Tracy Hammond

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Your time here today...

Nuts and Bolts

Overall perspective – where does crime fit in?

Trends in perceptions on crime

Trends in perceptions on safety

Where to from here?



Nuts and Bolts

On the home front...

Markinor has been conducting public opinion polling since 1976 – and thus are capable of insightful longitudinal analysis:

- Socio–Political Trends
- Government Performance Barometer
- AIDS risk assessment
- Public Opinion Studies

Our first public opinion poll in 1976 showed very high proportions of blacks who felt that their families were worse off compared with the past.

Yet, this poll also indicated that after the unrest of 1976 and 1977 both whites and blacks believed that more understanding was slowly developing between the two biggest population groups in the country.

Socio-Political Trends

Markinor has been conducting “Socio-Political Trends” surveys since 1976. It is a bi-annual survey conducted on a national basis, representative of the South African population.

The research is fully sponsored by Markinor and the conclusions reached in the reports are independent and autonomous.

A wide range of institutions, including governments, political parties and the corporate sector, subscribe to Socio-Political Trends.

SPT monitors the attitudes of South Africans towards key socio-political and economic issues and developments.

The research addresses and tracks the following issues:

- Confidence of South Africans about their future in South Africa, in terms of economic well-being and racial harmony
- Attitudes of people towards major political parties and their respective leaders
- Political parties people would vote for if there was an election tomorrow



Government Performance Barometer

The research is also fully sponsored by Markinor and as such the conclusions reached are independent and autonomous.

A wide range of institutions, including governments, political parties and the corporate sector, subscribe to the Government Performance Barometer.

GPB monitors the attitudes of South Africans towards:

- The President, Deputy President and Provincial Governments and measures the rating of performance of the central government in 23 key policy performance areas

Sample



To gather this information a total sample of $n=3\,500$ is utilised. The sample is an area-stratified, probability sample of adults living in residential homes in South Africa.

This sampling method ensures that the results are representative of the adult (16+) population of South Africa.

Data is gathered bi-annually (every 6 months)

All races as well as all geographical areas are included in the survey

Methodology

A face-to-face methodology ensures that the findings are representative of the universe and that they can also be projected to the universe, within a statistical margin of error at 95% confidence level.

All interviewers are personally briefed by their field manager or field supervisor and the executive in charge of this project.

A 20% back-check on each interviewer's work ensures that all interviews are conducted according to Markinor's instructions and quality standards (Markinor was the first ISO 9001 certified company in South Africa).

Results are analysed by age, gender, province, LSM, income level, education level, employment type, population group and any other relevant criteria.



Weighting and Substitution

Weighting:

Survey results are weighted back to represent the universe from which it was drawn.

Weighting is based on the adjusted universe from the AMPS 2006 data.

The variables that are used in the weighting matrix are race, metro, gender and age group.

Substitution procedure:

If the interviewer found at their first visit that the qualifying person is on holiday, in the army or sick or could not speak any of the South African official languages, they are allowed to substitute immediately.

Generally, three calls have to be made prior to substituting.

Interviewers are trained in following specific substitution procedures



Questionnaire

The questionnaire is made available to respondents in 7 languages (English, Zulu, Xhosa, Tswana, Afrikaans, Pedi and Sotho) to ensure understandability and the interviews are conducted in the respondent's language of choice.

Markinor's internal translations department ensure that the questionnaire is translated in such a manner that **no meaning of any word or phrase will get lost in translation**. This ensures reliable and high quality data. As with all of Markinor's services, the translations department is in-house, ensuring the best possible quality as well as streamlining processes.





Overall perspective – where does crime fit in?

Government Performance Barometer

- **Testing 23 policy and delivery areas:**

- Job creation
- Affirmative action
- Promoting gender equality
- Provision of houses
- Provision of basic health services
- Delivery of basic services
- Distribution of welfare payments
- Promoting access to land
- Encouraging international investment
- Managing the economy
- Controlling inflation
- Improving South Africa's Gini Co-efficient
- Stopping the brain-drain
- Appropriate appointments
- Maintaining transparency and accountability
- Combating corruption
- Reducing the crime rate
- Ending political violence
- Bringing the police force closer to the community
- Nation building
- Addressing educational needs

- **Some since 1994**

- **Traffic Light concept**

Government Performance Barometer – May 2006

50% or less

Create jobs/reduce unemployment
Stop the brain drain

**Between 51%
and 74%**

Reduce the crime rate

Right appointments

Control the cost of living

Transparency and accountability

Control inflation

Ending political violence

Fight corruption

Narrow the income gap

Build houses

Provide basic health services

Manage the economy

Basic service delivery

Affirmative action

Bring police force closer to
the community

Encourage international
investment

Access to land

Handling HIV and AIDS

75% or more

Unity

Educational needs

Gender equality

Welfare payments

Six months earlier, in May 2006, South Africans identified only two 'red lights': job creation to reduce unemployment and stopping the brain drain.



% Very well/fairly well

Government Performance Barometer – November 2006

50% or less

Create jobs/reduce unemployment
Stop the brain drain
Reduce the crime rate
Right appointments
Control the cost of living

**Between 51%
and 74%**

Transparency and accountability
Control inflation
Ending political violence
Unity
Educational needs
Fight corruption

Narrow the income gap
Build houses
Provide basic health
Manage the economy
Basic service delivery
Affirmative action

Bring police force closer
to the community
Encourage international
investment
Access to land
Handling HIV and AIDS

75% or more

Gender equality
Welfare payments

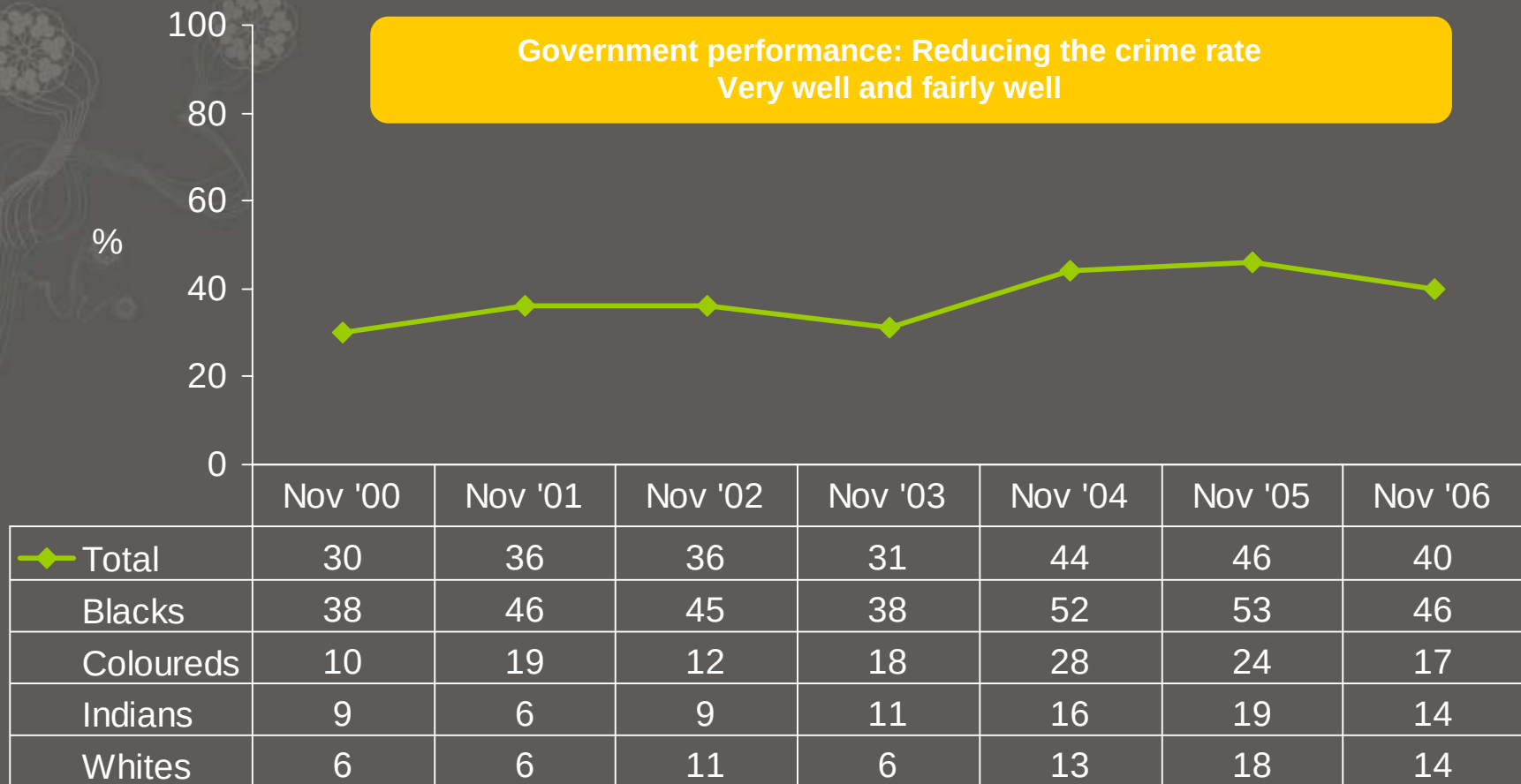
% Very well/fairly well





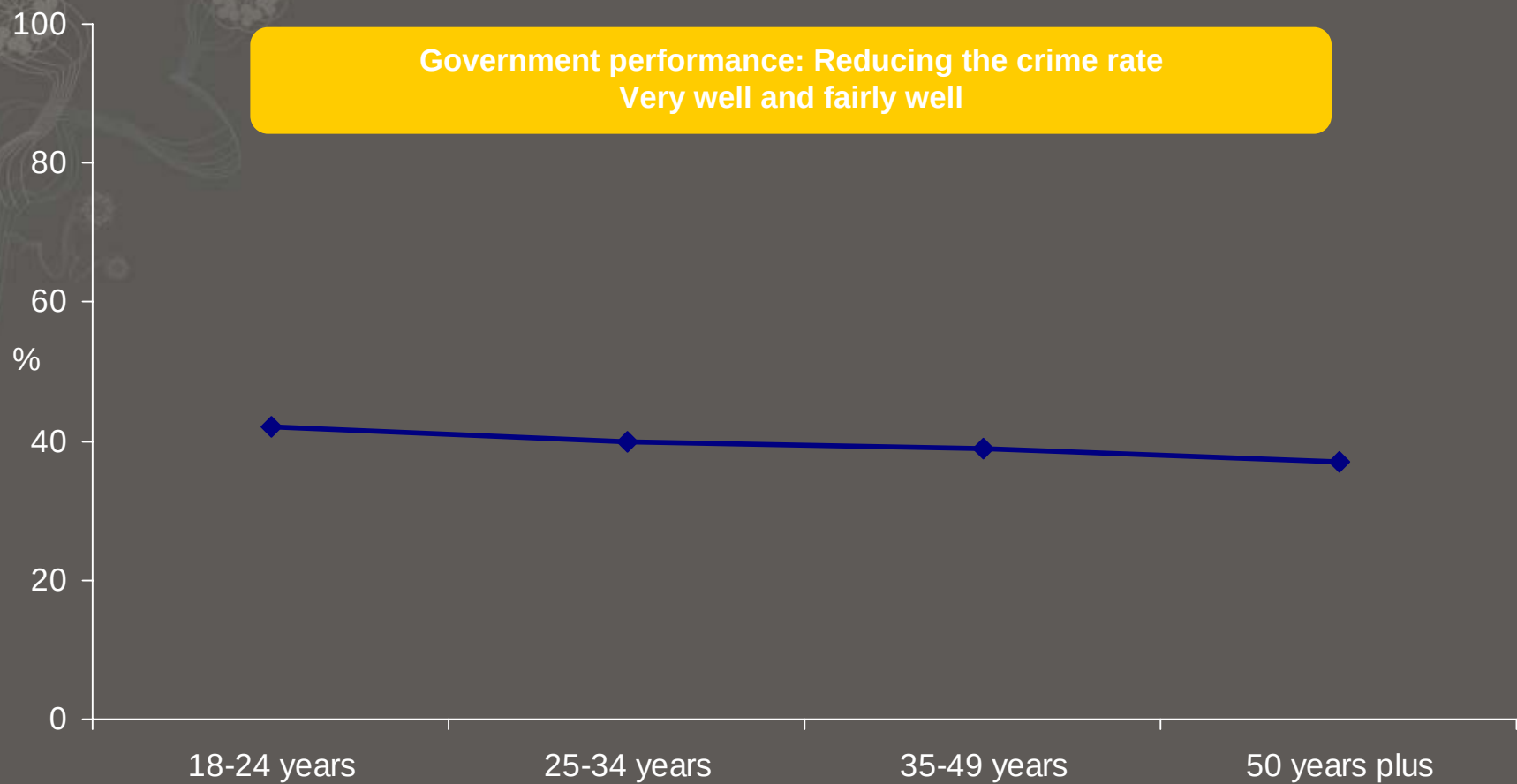
Trends in perceptions on crime

Crime – Analysed by Race (2000-2006)

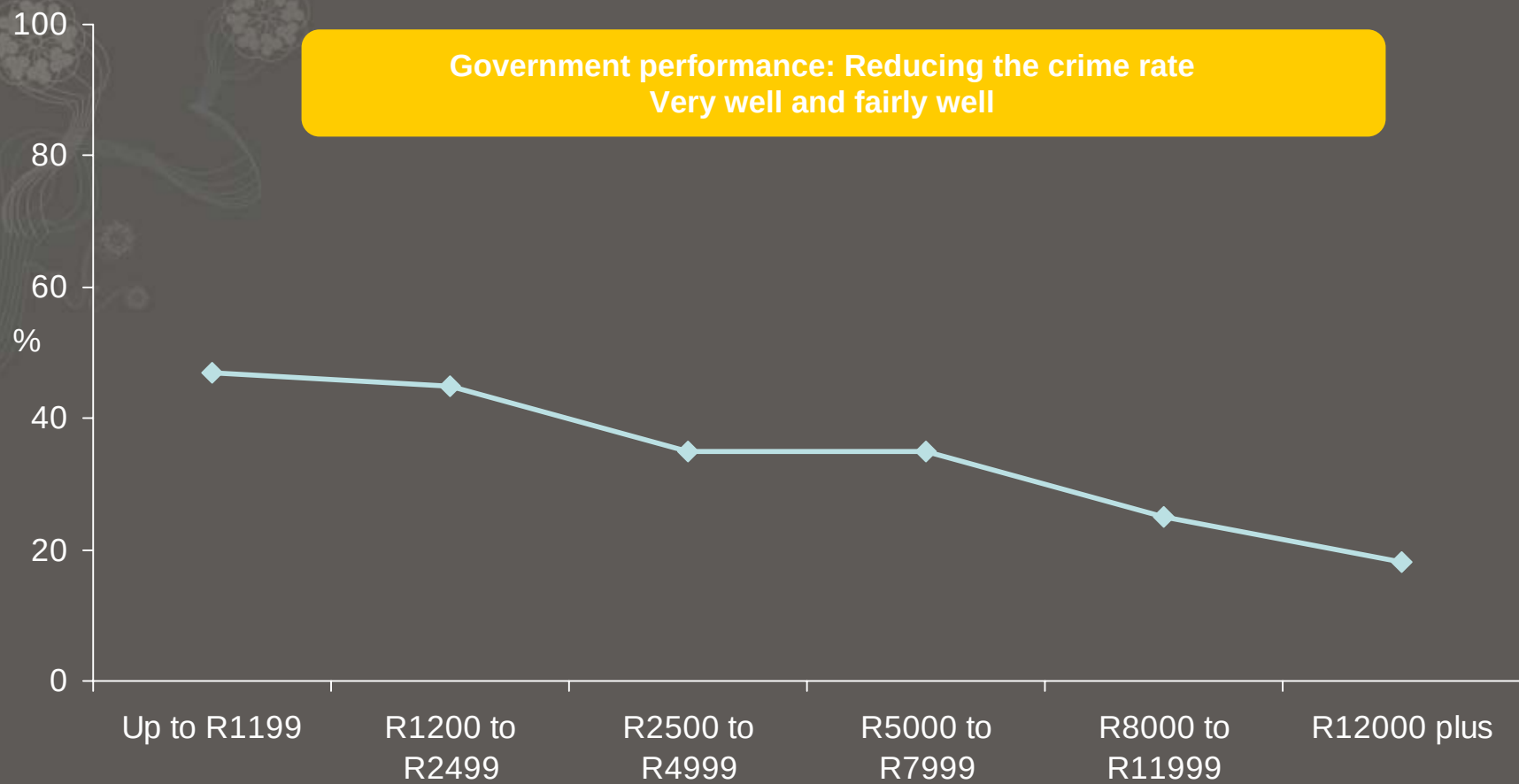


In fact, crime and unemployment are the only two – of the 23 critical delivery areas – in which government has constantly achieved less than a “pass mark” over the years.

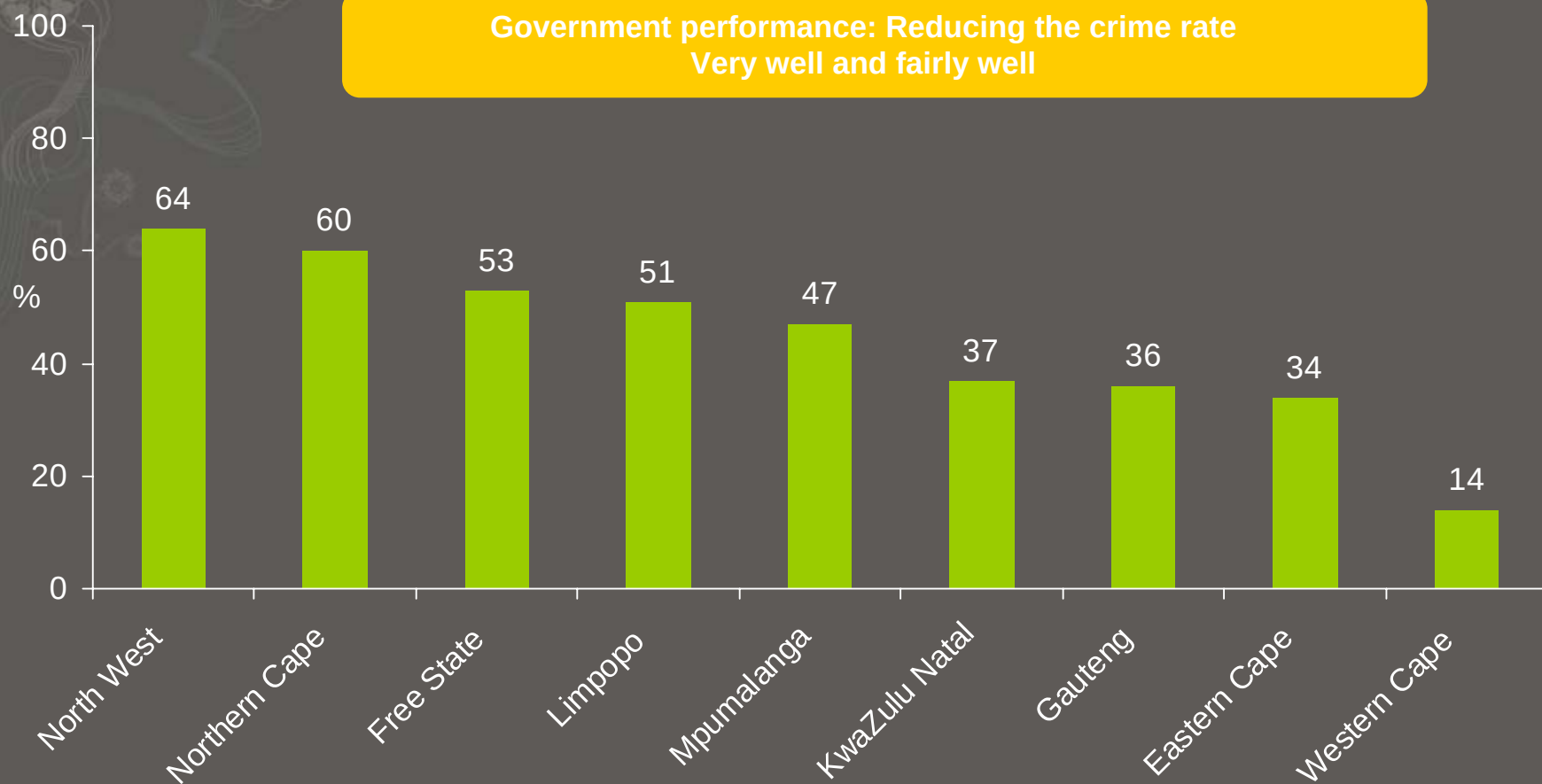
Crime – Analysed by Age (2006)



Crime – Analysed by Income (2006)



Crime – Analysed by Province (2006)



Crime – Total ANC & DA Supporters (2006)

Total %

ANC Supporters %



DA Supporters %



Very well

12

14

47%

3

Fairly well

28

33

7

Not very well

34

35

30

Not at all well

26

18

60



Trends in perceptions of safety

Safety – Total Trend (2000-2006)

How would you describe your own current feeling of personal safety?

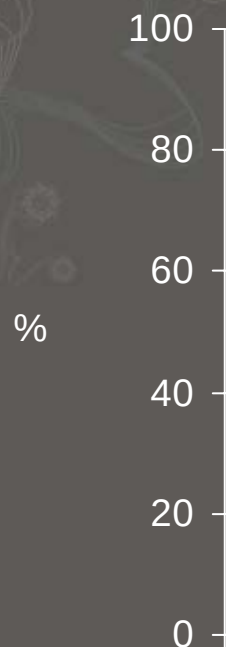
%

100
80
60
40
20
0

	Nov '00	Nov '01	Nov '02	Nov '03	Nov '04	Nov '05	Nov '06
▲ Improving	22	24	25	31	39	44	37
Remaining same	52	50	46	46	43	42	43
Deteriorating	26	26	30	24	17	15	20

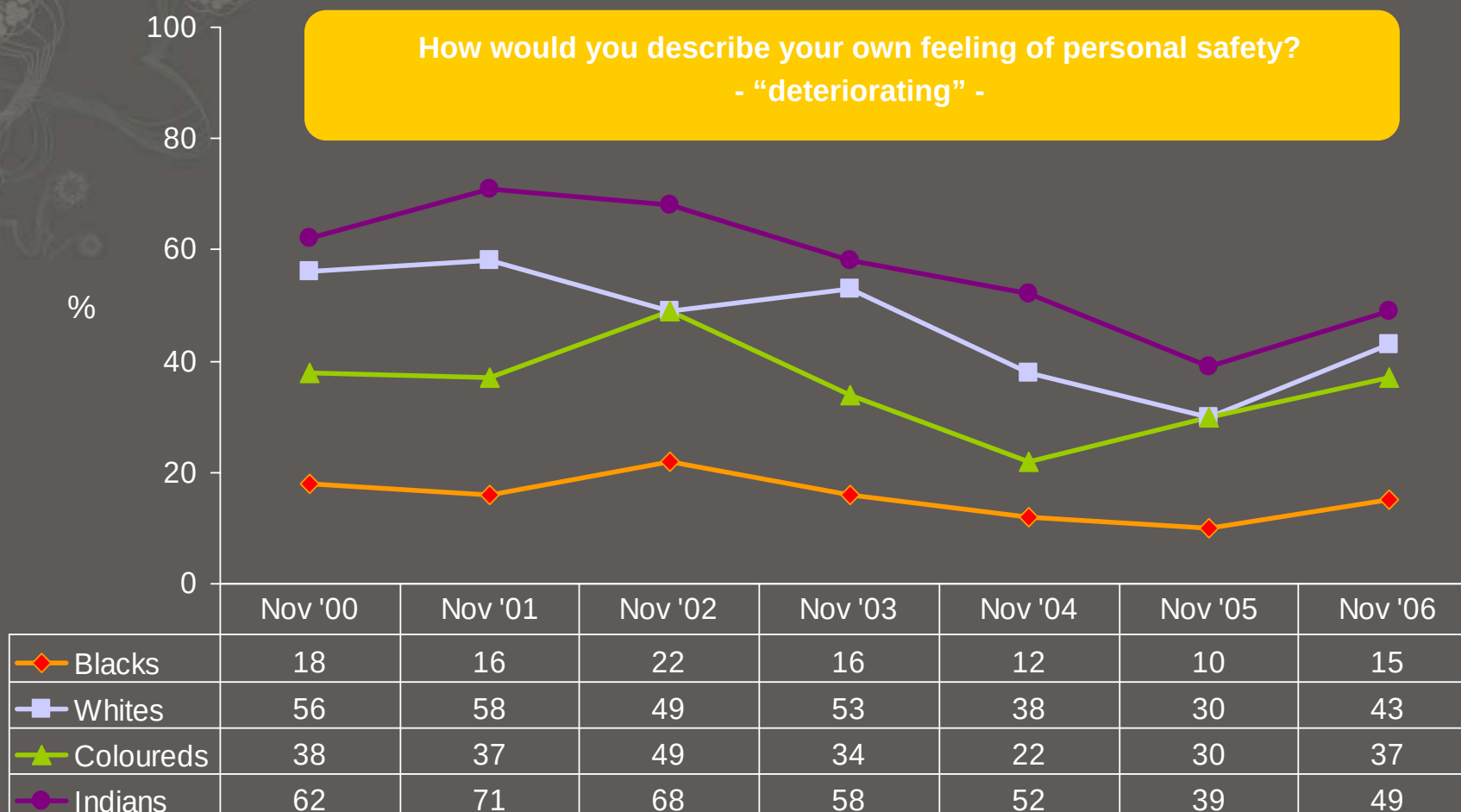
Safety – Total Trend (2000-2006)

How would you describe your own feeling of personal safety?
- “improved” -

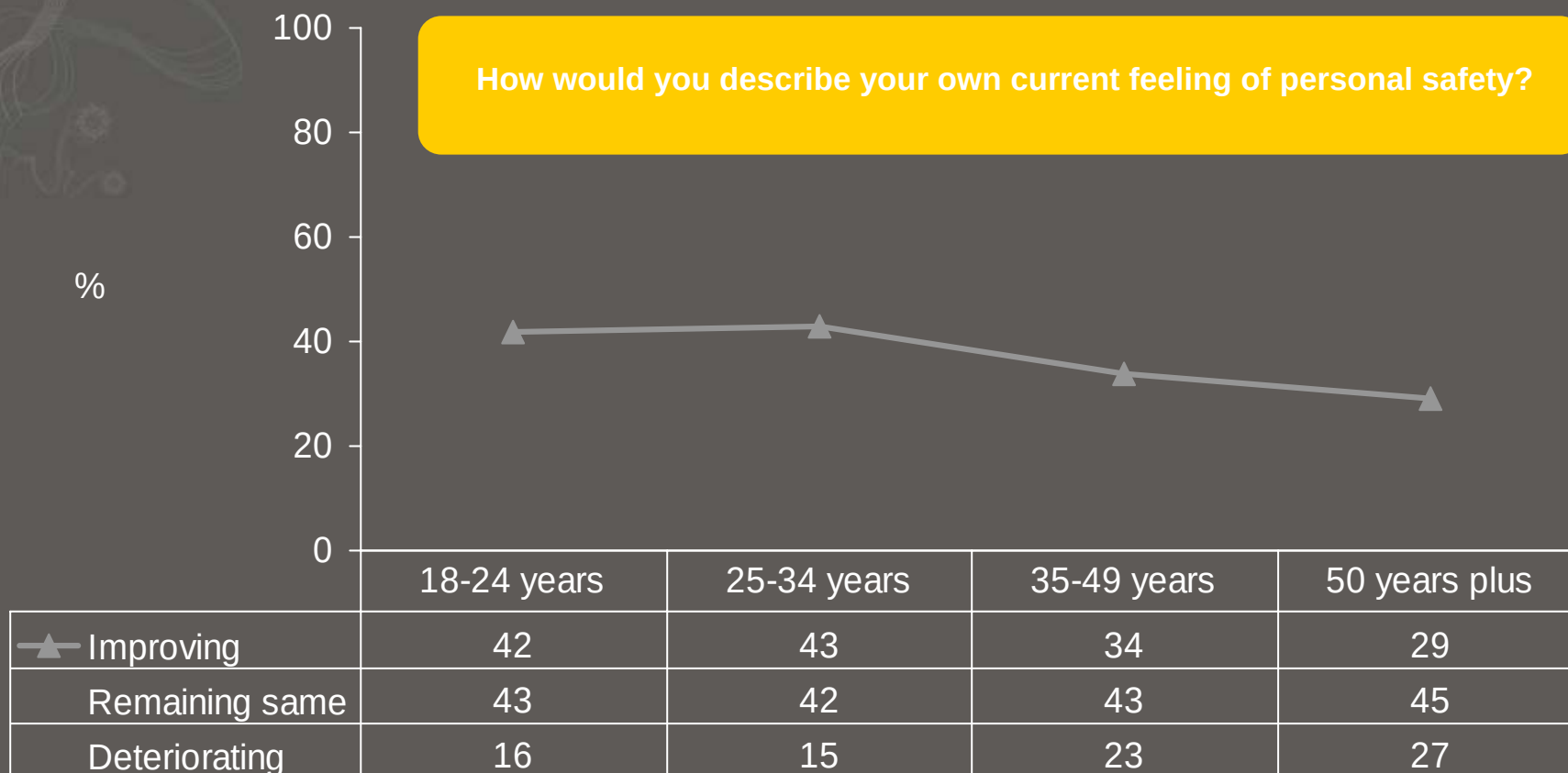


—◆— Blacks	27	28	30	36	45	49	42
—■— Whites	7	5	6	9	13	19	16
—▲— Coloureds	13	23	14	22	32	31	19
—◆— Indians	8	9	8	14	19	27	18

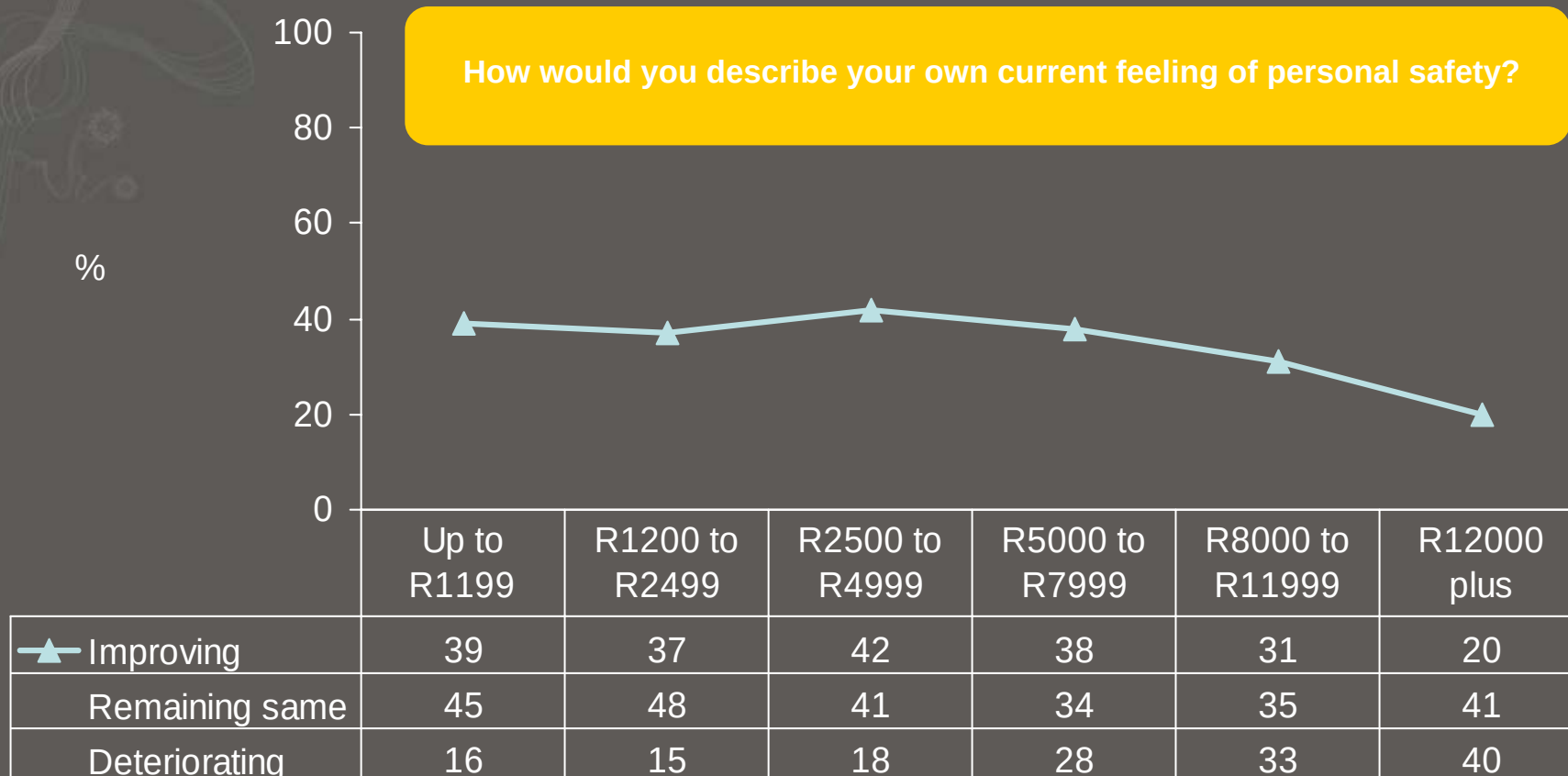
Safety – Total Trend (2000-2006)



Safety – Total Trend (2000-2006)

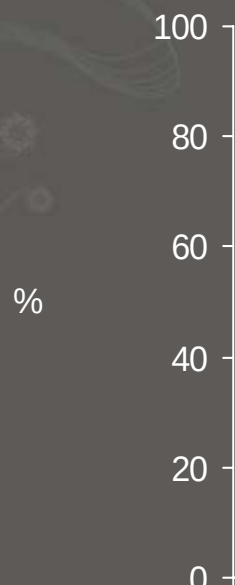


Safety – Total Trend (2000-2006)



Safety – Total Trend (2000-2006)

How would you describe your own current feeling of personal safety?



	Free State	North West	Northern Cape	Limpopo	Mpumalanga	Gauteng	KwaZulu Natal	Eastern Cape	Western Cape
Improving	60	54	41	40	37	37	34	31	17
Remaining same	29	37	53	55	45	40	44	46	43
Deteriorating	11	10	6	6	18	23	22	23	40

Safety – Total ANC & DA Supporters (2006)

Total %

ANC Supporters %



DA Supporters %



Improving

Remaining the same

Deteriorating

37	44	14
43	42	39
20	14	47

Voice of the People: Is the World a Safer Place?

The Gallup International “Voice of the People©” survey conducted a total of 55 000 interviews in 60 countries. The interviews were done in November and December 2006 and represent the views of 1.5 billion global citizens. This is the fourth year that the survey has been conducted.

In South Africa the study was carried out by Markinor, the Gallup International Associate in this country. In South Africa 3 500 randomly selected adults participated in the study; representing the views of the country’s adult population.

Questions about whether the next generation will live in a safer world, are met with increasing pessimism compared to previous years – only a quarter (26%) now think the world will either be a lot or a little safer. These opinions are outweighed by almost half of respondents (48%), who feel that the next generation will live in a little or a lot less safe world.



Voice of the People: Will the next generation live in a safer world?

Global Results (2006)

	%
A lot safer	9
A little safer	17
The same as now	20
A little less safe	29
A lot less safe	19
Don't know	6

48%

Voice of the People: Will the next generation live in a safer world?

Global Results (2003-2006)



Voice of the People: Some Africans believe the world will become safer in future

Global Results (2006)

	Africa %	Ghana %	Kenya %	Nigeria %	South Africa %
A lot safer than now	26	47	9	30	15
A little safer than now	30	30	23	32	27
The same as now	15	11	18	12	20
A little less safe than now	15	7	25	13	16
A lot less safe than now	10	2	12	9	15
Don't know	4	3	13	4	7



Where to from here?

For the Future

- SA very specific problem
- To get to grips with this issue
 - Credible stats
 - Consistent standards
 - Vigilance
 - Community buy-in
- Public perception a very important part of it

"Is it not horrendous to an African, even before Black Consciousness came on the scene, for whatever reason for an adult man to rape a nine-month-old baby?
What has come over us? Perhaps we did not realise just how apartheid has damaged us so that we seem to have lost our sense of right and wrong, so that when we go on strike as is our right to do, we are not appalled that some of us can chuck people out of moving trains because they did not join the strike, or why is it common practice now to trash, to go on the rampage? Even our students on strike will often destroy the very facilities they need for their studies."

Desmond Tutu, 2006

Contact information

Director: Mari Harris

Email: marih@markinor.co.za

Project Manager: Tracy Hammond

Email: tracyh@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
Pinegowrie
2123
South Africa



Thank you for sharing head space with us

