
SECTION 5.

INTERGROUP RELATIONS

As our society becomes increasingly diverse, it is important that we study how different racial/ethnic groups tolerate, accept, and respect each other. While one may agree that the growing diversity in America should be accompanied by increased intergroup relations, there is still notable evidence of overt expressions of racial intolerance and negative views of people of different racial/ethnic backgrounds. In this section we examine:

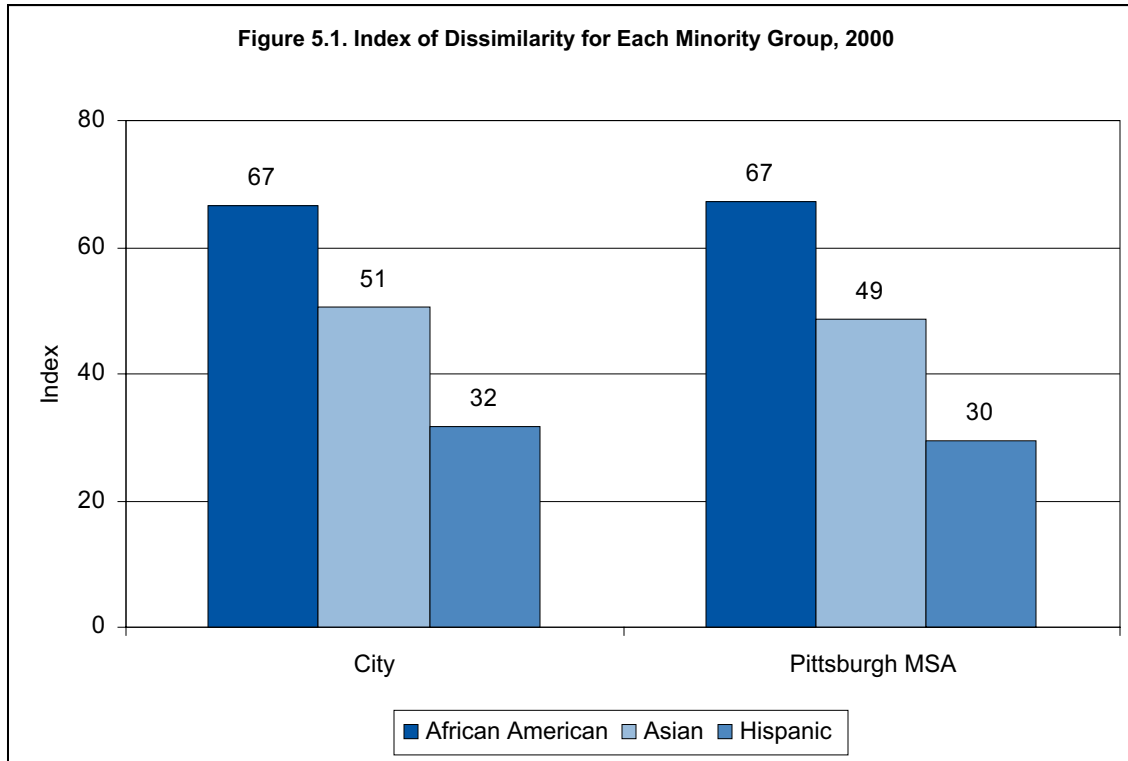
- Residential segregation
- Racial attitudes

RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION

One of the most commonly examined indicators of intergroup relations is the extent to which people of different racial/ethnic groups do or do not live in close geographic proximity to one another. Census tracts are the geographic units most often examined for a community's level of residential integration, or alternatively, segregation. Census tracts are relatively small areas that typically comprise between 1,000 and 8,000 people. In the year 2000, there were 140 census tracts in the city of Pittsburgh, 416 in Allegheny County, and 695 in the Pittsburgh MSA. In this section we examine the most widely used measure of residential segregation—the index of dissimilarity.

The index of dissimilarity measures the evenness with which two groups are distributed within a particular geographic area. Specifically, the dissimilarity index means the percent of each minority group that would have to move for all census tracts to have that minority group distributed the same as Whites.

RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION continued



Source: Appendix 5.1

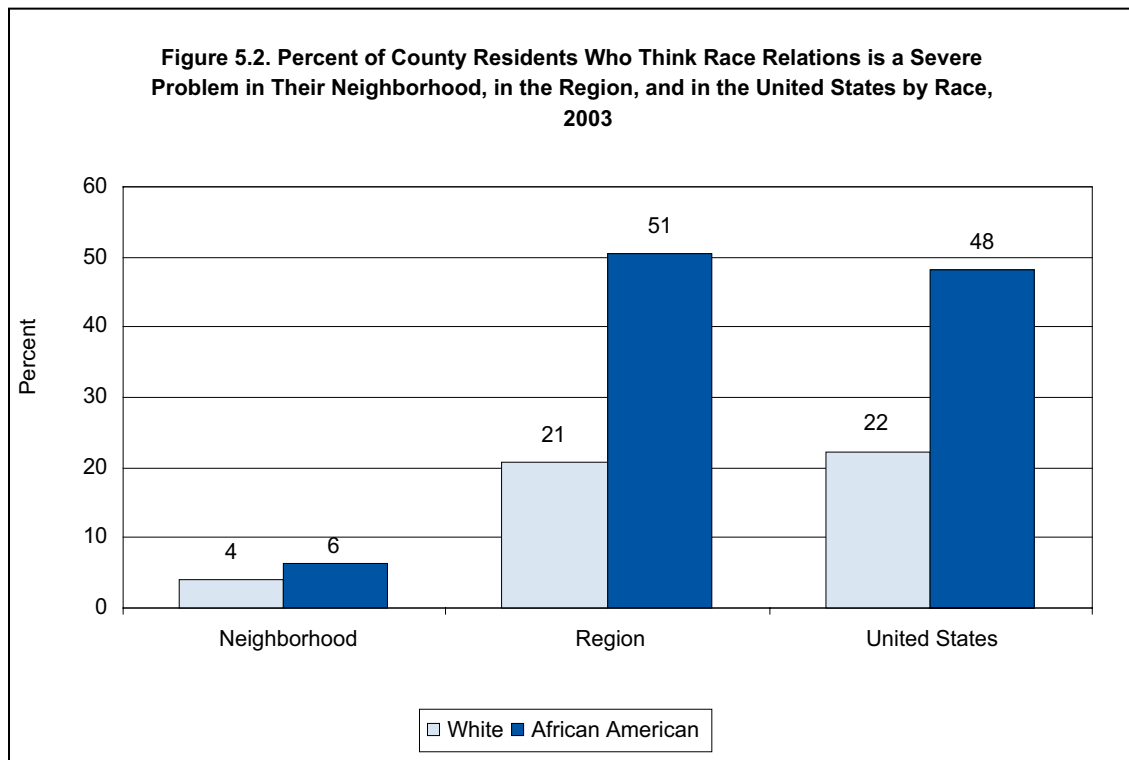
Note: The dissimilarity index means the percent of each minority group that would have to move for all census tracts to have that minority group distributed the same as Whites.

- African Americans are the most segregated minority group in the city and the Pittsburgh MSA. Hispanics are the least segregated.
- Two-thirds (67%) of African Americans would have to relocate for African Americans and Whites to be equally distributed in the city or region. A dissimilarity index of 60 or above is considered very high segregation.
- One-half of Asians and one-third of Hispanics in the city and the Pittsburgh MSA would have to relocate for each group to be evenly distributed in relation to Whites.

RACIAL ATTITUDES

Examining racial attitudes can expose the extent and nature of prejudice. It also helps to determine the level of popular support for policies or efforts to assist disadvantaged minority groups.

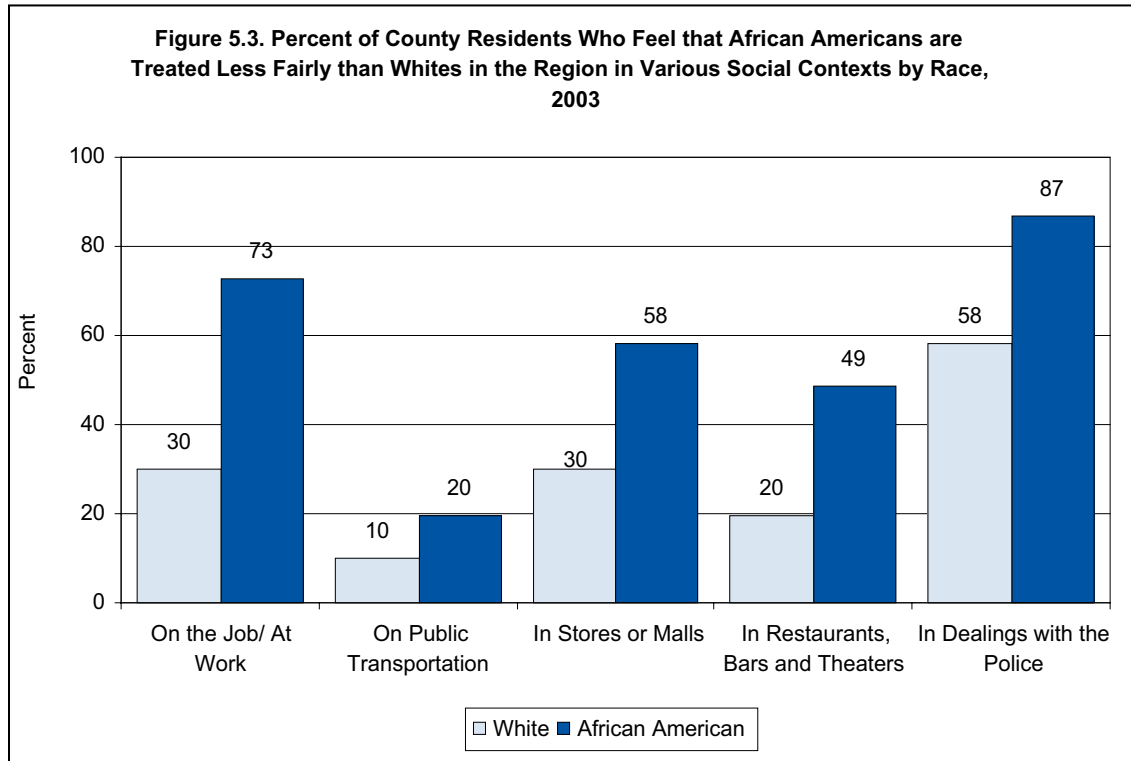
The figures below present data from a quality of life study of Allegheny County conducted by the University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR) at the University of Pittsburgh. The data were collected via a telephone survey of county residents between February and April of 2003. A total of 330 Whites and 81 African Americans responded to the survey.



Source: Appendix 5.2

- Small proportions of Allegheny County residents (6% of African Americans and 4% of Whites) see race relations as a serious problem in their neighborhood.
- African Americans are much more likely than Whites in Allegheny County to perceive severe race-related problems in the region and nation. About half of the county's African American residents and one-fifth of its White residents believe that race relations is a severe problem in the region and nation.

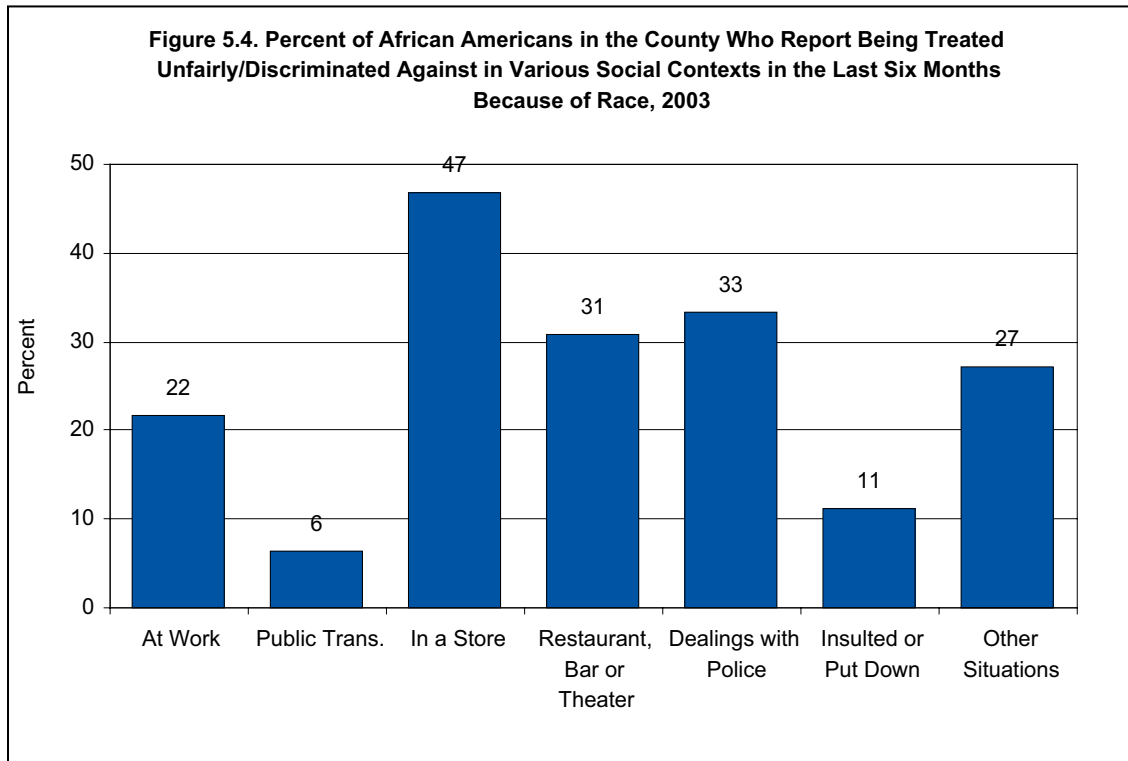
RACIAL ATTITUDES continued



Source: Appendix 5.2

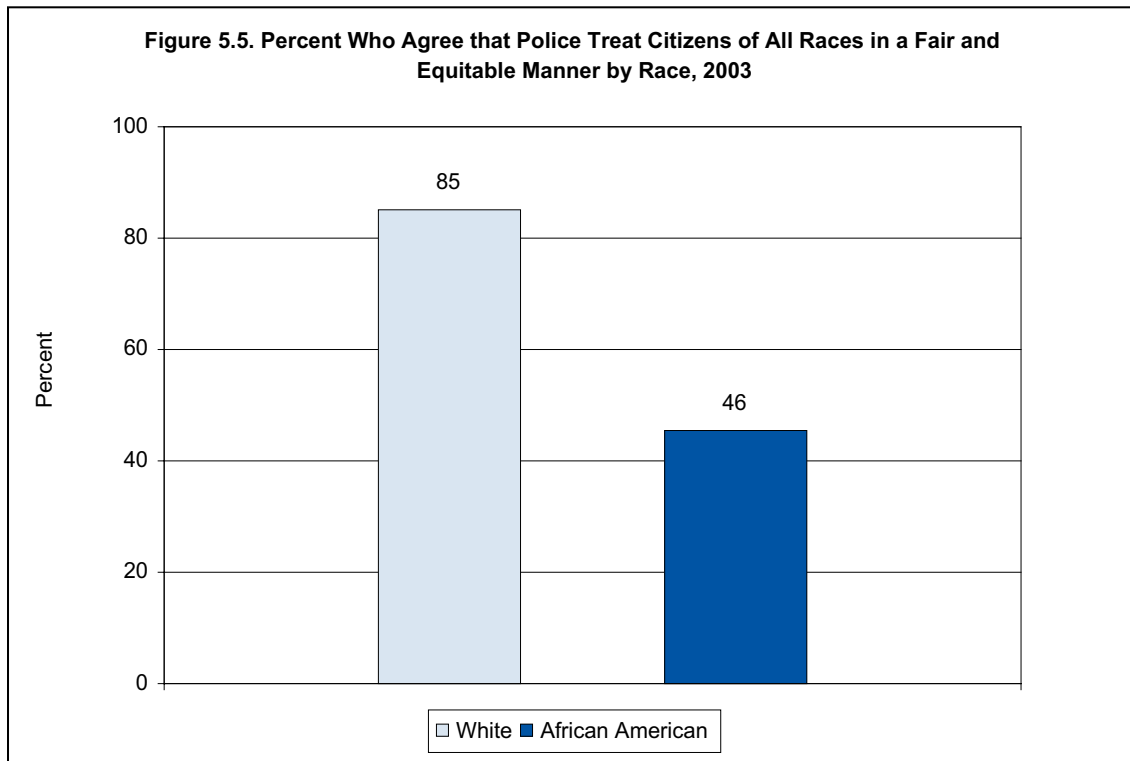
- There are large racial disparities in the county in perceptions about the extent to which African Americans are treated less fairly than Whites. African Americans much more than Whites feel that African Americans are treated less fairly at work, on public transportation, by police, and in stores/malls, restaurants, bars, and theaters.
- The majority of African Americans and Whites in the county believe that African Americans are mistreated most by police (87% of African American and 58% of White residents). The majority of African Americans, but not Whites, also believe that African Americans are treated less fairly at work and in stores/malls.
- Both African Americans and Whites believe that African Americans are least likely to be treated less fairly than Whites on public transportation (20% of African American and 10% of White residents in the county).

RACIAL ATTITUDES continued



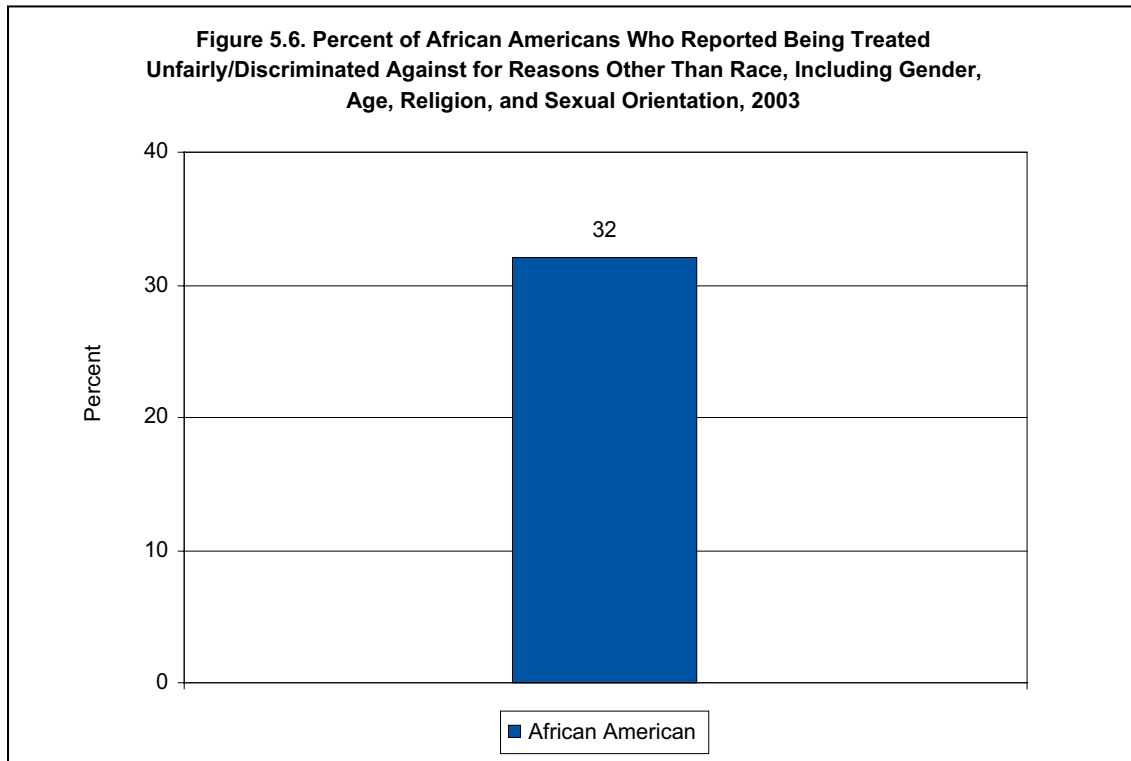
Source: Appendix 5.2

- About half of the county’s African American population reports being victims of unfair treatment or discrimination in a store within the last six months.
- About one-third of the county’s African American population reports being victims of unfair treatment or discrimination by the police and being victims of unfair treatment or discrimination in a restaurant, bar, or theater within the last six months.
- One-fifth of the county’s African American population reports being victims of unfair treatment or discrimination at work within the last six months.
- A small proportion of African Americans (6%) report being victims of unfair treatment or discrimination on public transportation.

RACIAL ATTITUDES continued

Source: Appendix 5.2

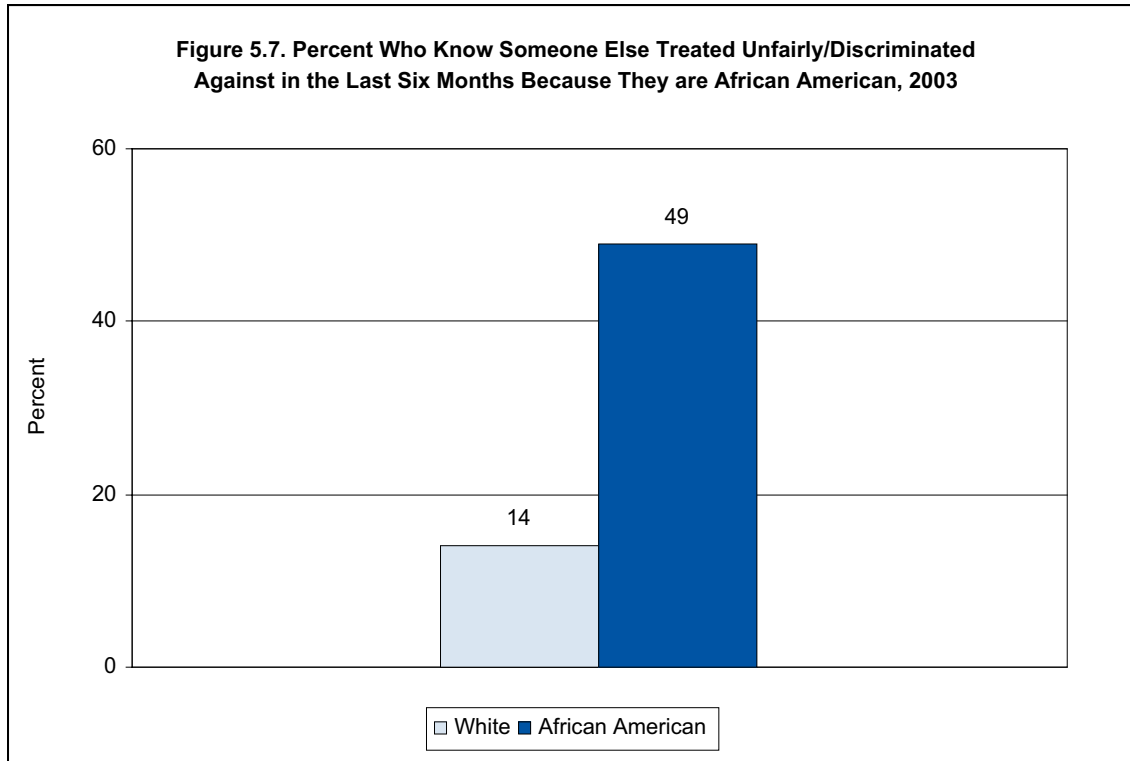
- There are large race differences in perceptions of the ways in which police treat people. The vast majority (85%) of Whites agrees that the police in their community treat citizens of all races fairly and equitably. Less than half (46%) of African Americans believe that citizens of all races in their community are being treated fairly and equitably by police.

RACIAL ATTITUDES continued

Source: Appendix 5.2

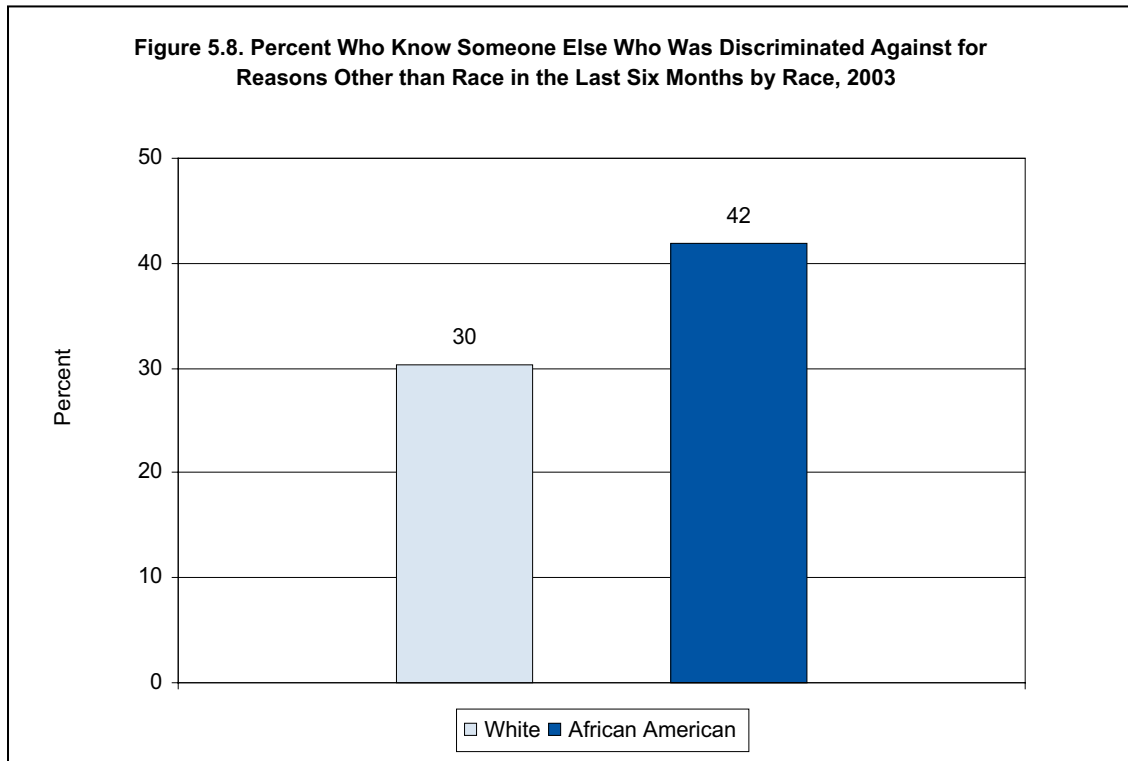
- One in three African Americans (32%) believes that he or she has been treated unfairly for reasons other than his or her race. Similar data for Whites are not available.

RACIAL ATTITUDES continued



Source: Appendix 5.2

- African Americans are 3.5 times more likely than Whites to know someone who was treated unfairly or discriminated against in the last six months because he or she is African American.

RACIAL ATTITUDES continued

Source: Appendix 5.2

- African Americans are more likely than White residents to know someone who was discriminated against for reasons other than race.
- A substantial number of the county's White residents (nearly one-third) report knowing someone who experienced discrimination for reasons other than race.