



14TH ANNUAL RACIAL ATTITUDES IN PULASKI COUNTY CONFERENCE

RACE, ETHNICITY & RELIGION

2017 SURVEY REPORT



JOEL E. ANDERSON INSTITUTE
ON RACE AND ETHNICITY

In partnership with
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS RESEARCH CENTER



Racial Attitudes in Pulaski County

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14th Annual Survey Report
RACE, ETHNICITY & RELIGION

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Study Methodology

This study is based on a dual frame (landline and cell phone) survey conducted by the UA-Little Rock Survey Research Center between August 22 and November 23, 2016. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish.

A total of 1,894 interviews were conducted with adults living in households located in Pulaski County, Arkansas. A hybrid sample design was used which included: 1) a combination of a countywide stratified RDD (Random Digit Dialing) sample of landline telephone numbers in Pulaski County, 2) a countywide sample of cell phone numbers, and, 3) a listed landline sample of people with Hispanic first names or surnames. Oversamples were drawn for black respondents living outside Little Rock city limits and Hispanics to ensure that enough members of these two groups were included in the survey to be statistically significant. Of all completed interviews, 11 percent were interviews with a randomly selected adult within a landline household and 89 percent were interviews with the adult respondent on a cell phone.


Since the study focuses on black, white and Hispanic attitudes towards race relations, the data used in this analysis were limited to these three racial groups and divided into five geo-racial groups with a total of 1,832 respondents.

The black and white geo-racial groups contain between 399 and 425 respondents, providing a margin of sampling error between ± 4.7 and ± 4.9 percent at the conventional 95 percent confidence level. The Hispanic group contains 184 respondents. A margin of sampling error for this group is not applicable due to non-probability based sampling methods.

The combined landline/cell phone response rate for the Year 14 survey is 38 percent with a cooperation rate of 75 percent for landline and 80 percent for cell phone based on standards established by the Council of American Survey Research Organizations.

Research shows that responses to racial issue questions can be influenced by whether interviewers and respondents perceive themselves to be of the same or of a different race. For the Year 14 study, the Survey Research Center used the same methodology as in previous years whereby black, white and Hispanic respondents and telephone interviewers were matched. This matching process allows for more consistent comparisons among groups and across years.

Several of the questions used in the survey are based upon questions developed, tested, and used by the Pew Research Center. This entity bears no responsibility for the interpretations presented or conclusions reached based on analysis of the data. We gratefully acknowledge their contributions to this study.



Descriptive data analysis includes frequency distributions and cross-tabulations. Because of the size of the data set, the level of statistical significance is designated to be 0.05. When tests indicate a less than 5 percent probability that a difference occurred by chance, the difference is considered to be statistically significant. This is referred to as a “significant difference” in the report. The term “significant” is not used unless the difference meets these criteria. The reader should be aware that a finding may be “statistically significant” but the term does not imply the difference is of practical significance. In addition, if differences are not found to be statistically significant it does not mean that the results are unimportant.

This research is conducted in accordance with protocols and procedures approved by the Institutional Review Board for Human Subjects research at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Executive Summary

Part One: Race, Ethnicity and Religion

Three general conclusions emerged regarding the questions on race, ethnicity and religion:

1. All groups agree that religion is losing rather than increasing its influence in American life. They also all agree that the decreasing influence of religion is a bad thing.
2. Blacks are more religious than Whites or Hispanics on every survey indicator.
3. Hispanics are the only group in the majority to identify as being Catholic rather than Protestant. They also have the greatest access to church services in Spanish at their place of worship.

A more detailed summary of these results reveals that:

- Blacks and Hispanics view religion as being more important in their lives than do Whites.
- Blacks are most likely to identify as Protestant, followed by Whites. Hispanics are most likely to identify as Catholic.
- Blacks are more likely to attend religious services more than once a week than are Whites and Hispanics.
- As might be expected, Hispanics have the greatest access to church services in Spanish, followed by Whites and then Blacks.
- Blacks are far more likely to pray several times a day than Whites or Hispanics.
- Blacks talk to their immediate family more often about religion than Whites or Hispanics.
- Blacks consult a Bible/Holy Book for guidance on difficult moral questions to a greater degree than Whites or Hispanics.
- Blacks make major life decisions relying on prayer and personal reflection to a greater degree than Whites or Hispanics.
- Blacks make major life decisions relying on advice from religious leaders to a greater degree than Whites or Hispanics.

Part Two: Racial and Ethnic Relations

Seven general conclusions emerged regarding the questions on racial and ethnic relations:

1. More Blacks agree that the U.S. needs to continue making changes to give Blacks equal rights with Whites than do Whites or Hispanics.
2. More Little Rock residents, Black and White, have heard about the Black Lives Matter Movement than outside Little Rock residents and Hispanics.
3. There is a very large gap in support between Blacks and Whites for the Black Lives Matters movement.
4. The majority of Blacks and Latinos think that the Black Lives Matter movement is effective, whereas the majority of Whites do not think it is effective.
5. Less than half of Little Rock Blacks and Whites think that black children have as good a chance as white children to get a good education in their community.
6. More Hispanics think that Hispanic children have as good a chance as white children to get a good education in their community than any other group aside from outside Little Rock Whites.
7. Far more Blacks think that racial discrimination plays a role in the disproportionate amount of blacks in U.S. prisons than do Whites.

A more detailed summary of the results reveals that:

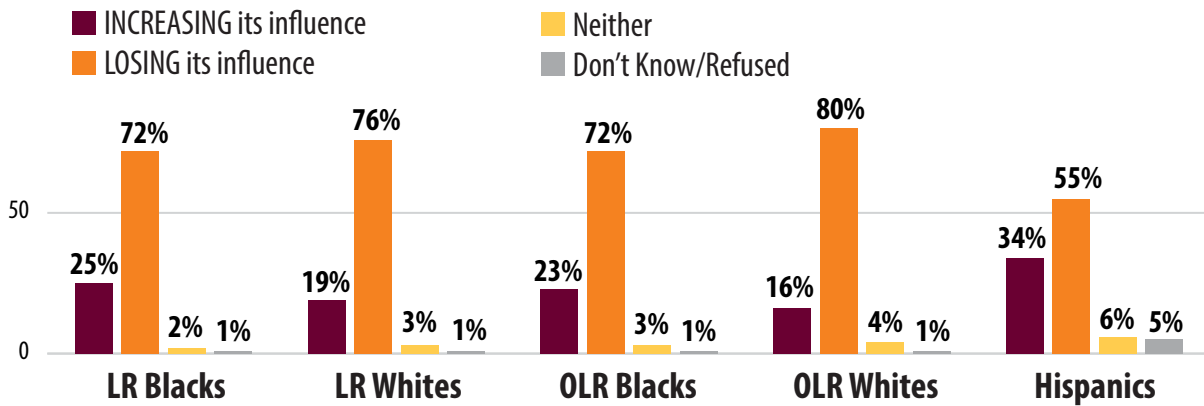
- Blacks overwhelmingly agree that our country needs to continue making changes to give Blacks equal rights with Whites. White and Hispanics generally agree, but to a far lesser extent.
- More Little Rock Blacks and Whites have heard about the Black Lives Matter movement a lot than have outside Little Rock Blacks and Whites, and Hispanics.
- Blacks most strongly support the Black Lives Matter movement, followed by Hispanics and then Whites. There is a marked gap between Black and White support for the Black Lives Matter movement.
- The majority of Blacks and Latinos think that the Black Lives Matter movement will be effective or somewhat effective in achieving equality in this country in the long run, whereas the majority of Whites think that the Black Lives Matter movement will be not too effective or not at all effective in achieving equality in this country in the long run.
- Outside Little Rock Whites are most likely to think that black children have as good a chance as white children in their community to get a good education, followed by Hispanics and outside Little Rock Blacks. Less than half of both Little Rock Whites and Little Rock Blacks think that black children have as good a chance as white children in their community to get a good education.
- Other than outside Little Rock Whites, more Hispanics think that Hispanic children have as good a chance as white children in their community to get a good education than do outside Little Rock Blacks, Little Rock Blacks and Little Rock Whites.
- Blacks by far think that racial discrimination is a major factor for there being a greater percentage of blacks in U.S. prisons than do Whites.

Detailed Racial Attitudes Report

KEY: HISP - Hispanics | LRW - Little Rock Whites | LRB - Little Rock Blacks
 OLRW - Outside of Little Rock Whites | OLRB - Outside of Little Rock Blacks

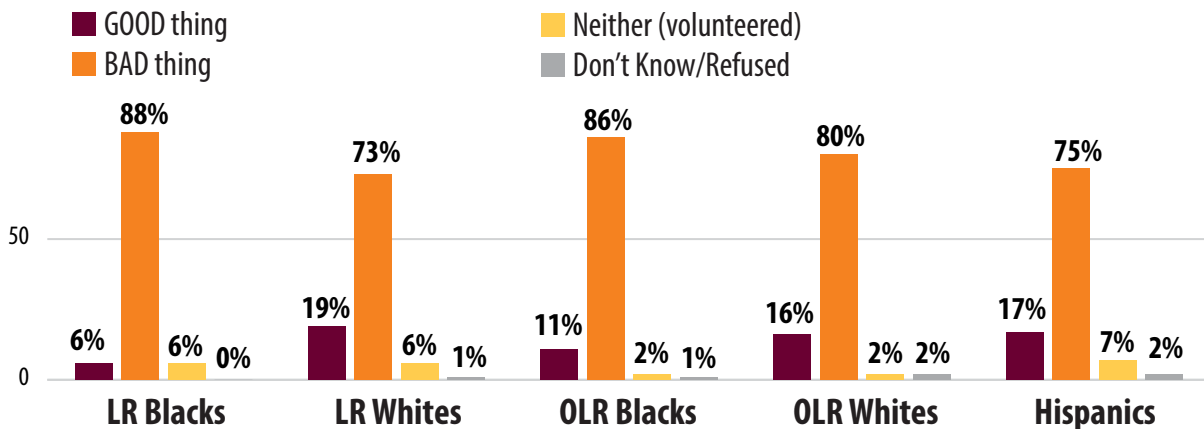
Part One: Race, Ethnicity and Religion

EXHIBIT 1: At the present time, do you think religion as a whole is INCREASING its influence on American life or LOSING its influence?



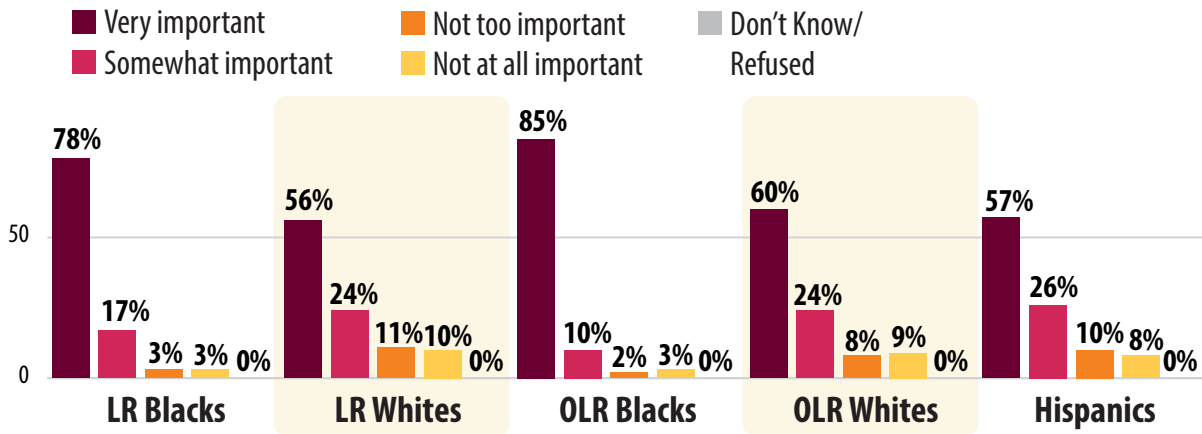
OLRW (80%) is the largest group that thinks religion is losing its influence on American life, followed by LRW (76%), LRB and OLRB (72%) and HISP (55%).

EXHIBIT 2: All in all, do you think this losing influence is a good thing or a bad thing?



LRB (88%) is the largest group that thinks that it is a bad thing that religion is losing influence on American life, followed by OLRB (86%), OLRW (80%), HISP (75%) and LRW (73%).

EXHIBIT 3: How important is religion in your life? Would you say it is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?



OLRB (85%) is the largest group that says religion is important in their life, followed by LRB (78%), HISP (57%), OLRW (60%) and LRW (56%).

EXHIBIT 4: What is your present religion, if any?

	LRB	LRW	OLRB	OLRW	HISP
Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, etc)	80%	60%	77%	66%	25%
Catholic	2%	15%	0%	10%	54%
Agnostic/Atheist	2%	11%	2%	6%	7%
Christian	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Spiritual	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%
Non-denominational	6%	4%	8%	5%	1%
Nothing in particular	7%	7%	9%	9%	9%
Other	2%	1%	3%	3%	3%
Don't know	1%	0%	0%	0%	2%

LRB (80%) is the largest group that identifies as Protestant, followed by OLRB (77%), OLRW (66%), LRW (60%) and HISP (25%).

Detailed Racial Attitudes Report

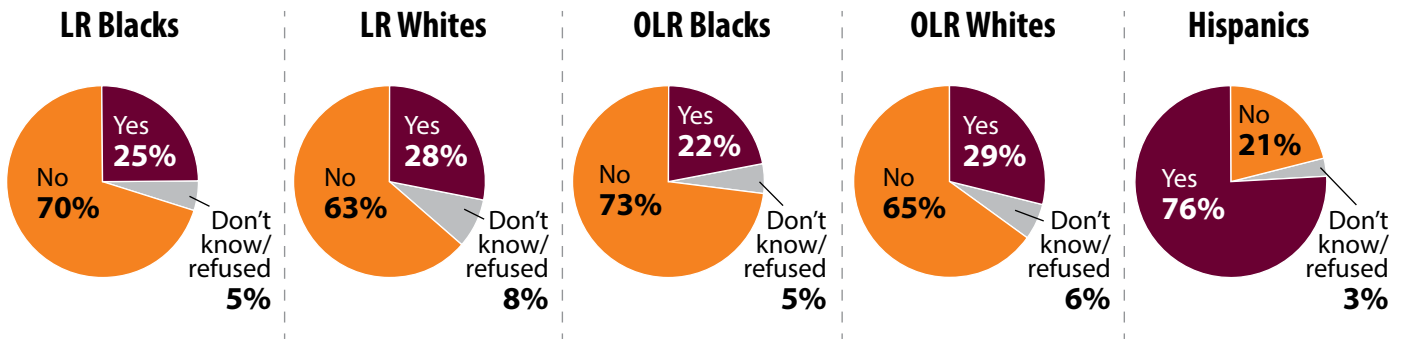
KEY: HISP - Hispanics | LRW - Little Rock Whites | LRB - Little Rock Blacks
 OLRW - Outside of Little Rock Whites | OLRB - Outside of Little Rock Blacks

EXHIBIT 5: Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services? Would you say more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

	LRB	LRW	OLRB	OLRW	HISP
More than once a week	25%	11%	31%	19%	13%
Once a week	27%	29%	26%	21%	27%
Once or twice a month	19%	20%	19%	16%	20%
A few times a year	17%	15%	13%	16%	20%
Seldom	10%	15%	6%	18%	11%
Never	3%	10%	4%	10%	10%
Don't know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Refused	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

OLRB (31%) is the largest group to attend religious services more than once a week, followed by LRB (25%), OLRW (19%), HISP (13%) and LRW (11%).

EXHIBIT 6: If you wanted to attend a church service in Spanish, is one available at your place of worship?



HISP (76%) is the largest group with access to a church service in Spanish at their place of worship, followed by OLRW (29%), LRW (28%), LRB (25%) and OLRB (22%).

EXHIBIT 7: People practice their religion in different ways. Outside of attending religious services, how often do you pray?

	LRB	LRW	OLRB	OLRW	HISP
Several times a day	67%	40%	67%	47%	35%
Once a day	18%	26%	24%	23%	24%
A few times a week	6%	9%	4%	9%	13%
Once a week	2%	4%	2%	3%	7%
A few times a month	3%	2%	0%	2%	3%
Seldom (once a month or less)	4%	6%	1%	5%	6%
Never	2%	11%	3%	10%	10%
Don't know	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Refused	0%	2%	0%	0%	2%

LRB and OLRB (67%) are the largest groups to pray several times a day, followed by OLRW (47%), LRW (40%) and HISP (35%).

EXHIBIT 8: How often do you talk about religion with your immediate family?

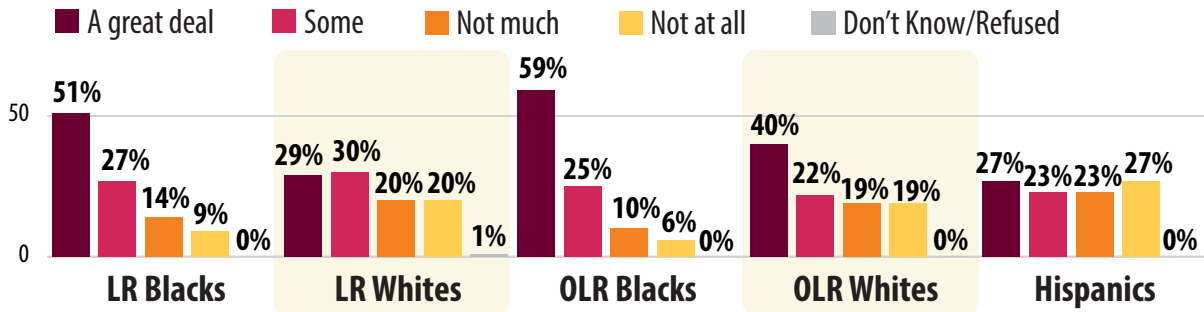
	LRB	LRW	OLRB	OLRW	HISP
At least once a week	72%	52%	75%	60%	57%
Once or twice a month	10%	15%	11%	11%	19%
Several times a year	6%	13%	5%	8%	11%
Seldom	9%	16%	7%	14%	10%
Never	2%	4%	1%	7%	3%
Don't know	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Refused	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

OLRB (75%) is the largest group to talk about religion with their immediate family at least once a week, followed by LRB (72%), OLRW (60%), HISP (57%) and LRW (52%).

Detailed Racial Attitudes Report

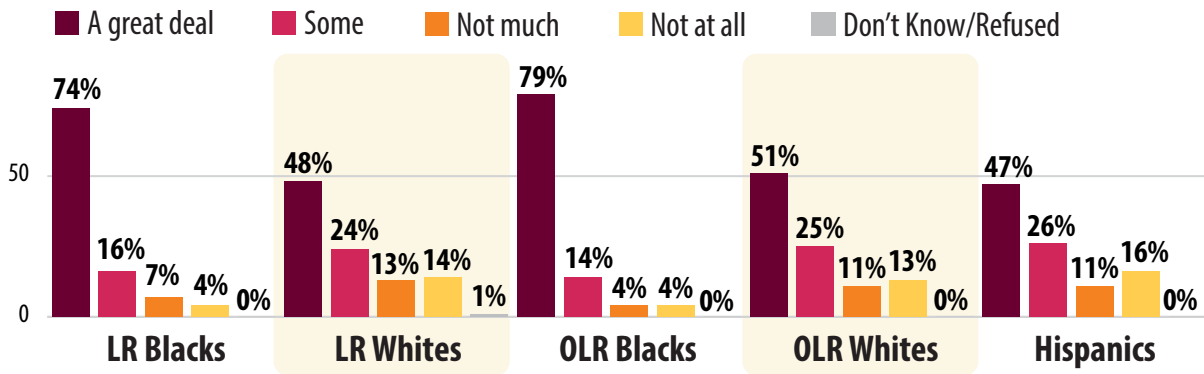
KEY: HISP - Hispanics | LRW - Little Rock Whites | LRB - Little Rock Blacks
 OLRW - Outside of Little Rock Whites | OLRB - Outside of Little Rock Blacks

EXHIBIT 9: How much do you, personally, look to the Bible/Holy Book for guidance on difficult moral questions?



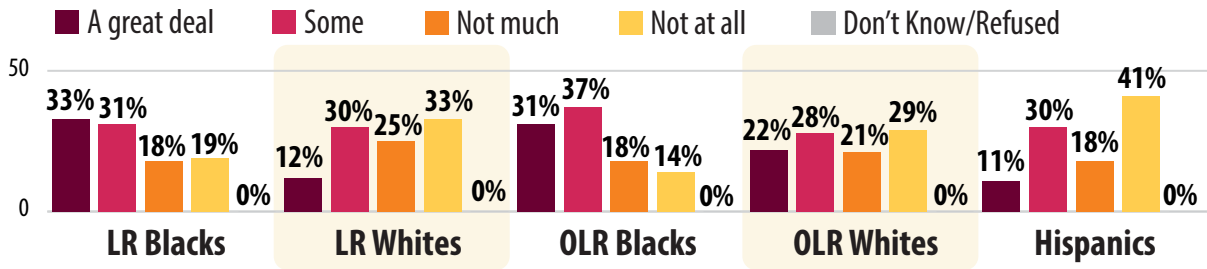
OLRB (59%) is the largest group to personally look to the Bible/Holy Book for guidance on difficult moral questions a great deal, followed by LRB (51%), OLRW (40%), LRW (29%) and HISP (27%).

EXHIBIT 10: When you make major life decisions, how much do you rely on prayer and personal religious reflection?



OLRB (79%) is the largest group when making major life decisions to rely on prayer and personal religious reflection a great deal, followed by LRB (74%), OLRW (51%), LRW (48%) and HISP (47%).

EXHIBIT 11: When you make major life decisions, how much do you rely on advice from religious leaders?



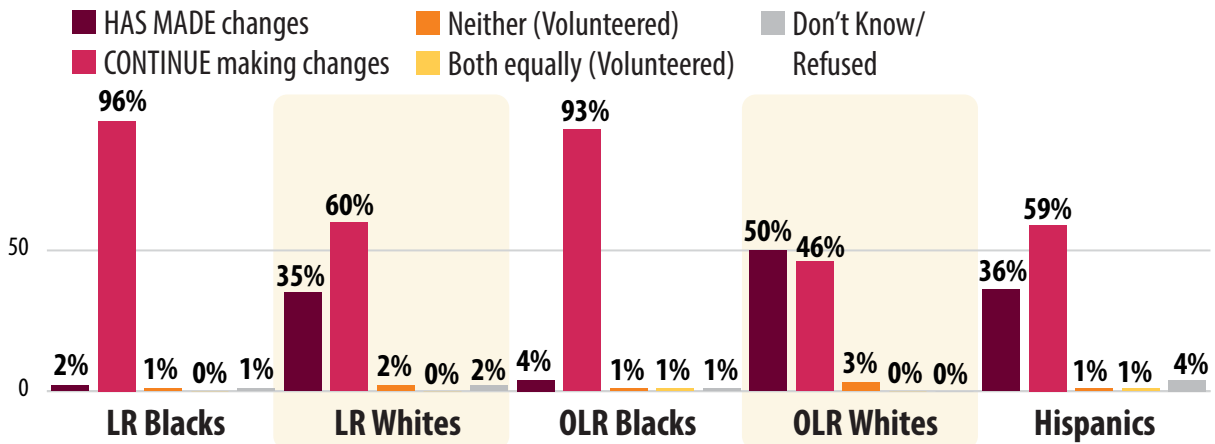
LRB (33%) is the largest group when making major life decisions to rely on advice from religious leaders a great deal, followed by OLRB (31%), OLRW (22%), LRW (12%) and HISP (11%).

Detailed Racial Attitudes Report

KEY: HISP - Hispanics | LRW - Little Rock Whites | LRB - Little Rock Blacks | OLRW - Outside of Little Rock Whites | OLRB - Outside of Little Rock Blacks

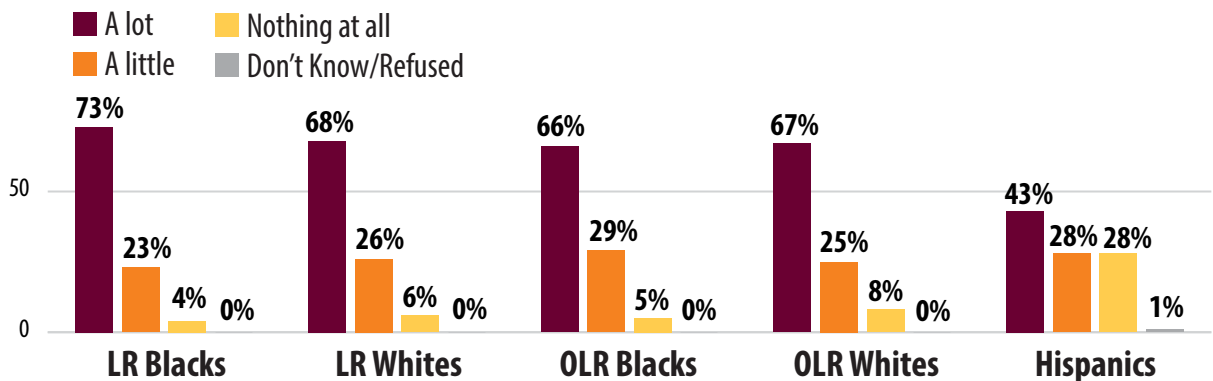
Part Two: Racial and Ethnic Relations

EXHIBIT 12: Which of these two statements comes closer to your own views—even if neither is exactly right... Our country HAS MADE the changes needed to give blacks equal rights with whites OR Our country needs to CONTINUE making changes to give blacks equal rights with whites.



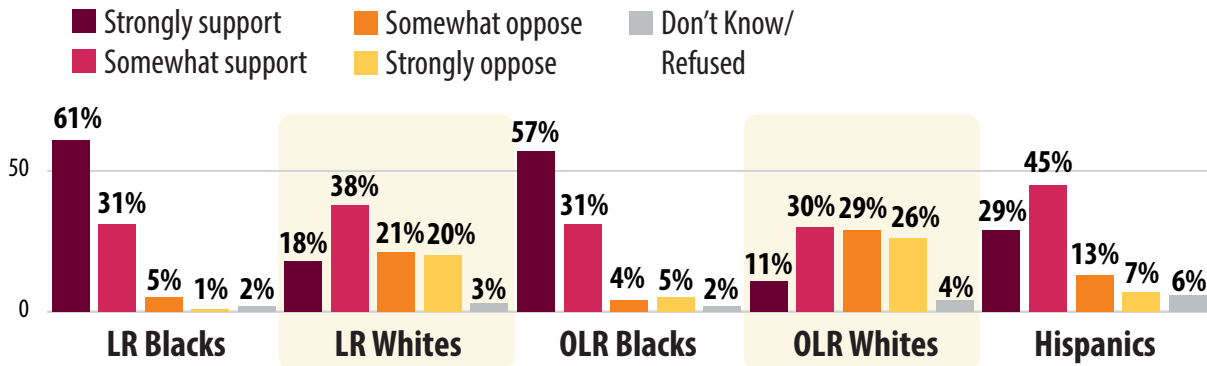
LRB (96%) is the largest group to agree that our country needs to CONTINUE making changes to give blacks equal rights with whites, followed by OLRB (93%), LRW (60%), HISP (59%) and OLRW (46%).

EXHIBIT 13: How much, if anything, have you heard about the BLACK LIVES MATTER movement? Would you say a lot, a little, or nothing at all?



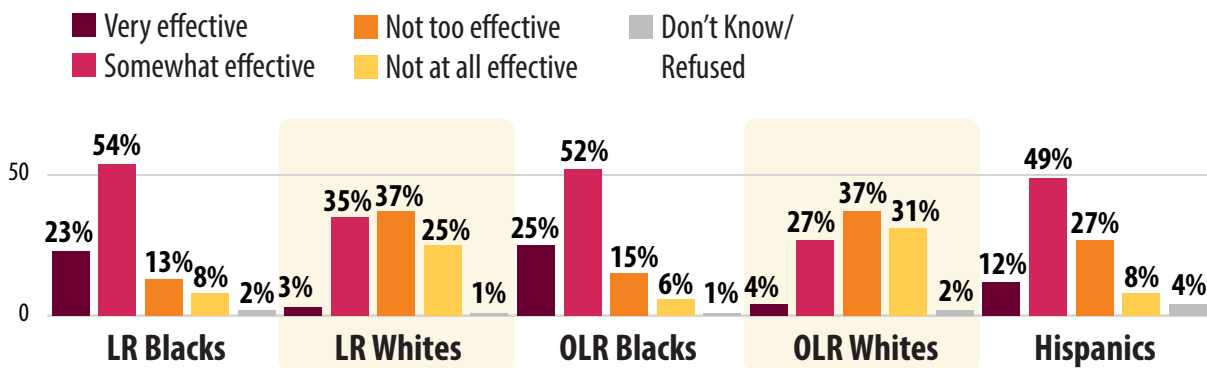
LRB (73%) is the largest group to have heard about the BLACK LIVES MATTER movement a lot, followed by LRW (68%), OLRW (67%), OLRB (66%) and HISP (43%).

EXHIBIT 14: From what you've heard, do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the Black Lives Matter movement?



LRB (61%) is the largest group that most strongly supports the Black Lives Matter movement, followed by OLRB (57%), HISP (29%), LRW (18%) and OLRW (11%).

EXHIBIT 15: Regardless of how you feel about the Black Lives Matter movement... In the long run, how effective do you think it will be in helping blacks achieve equality in this country?

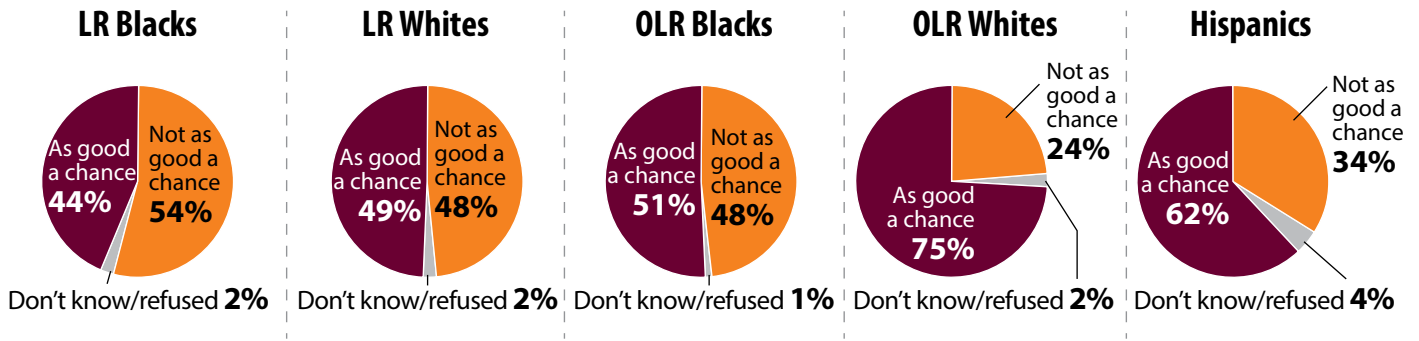


OLRB (25%) is the largest group to think that the Black Lives Matter movement will be effective in helping blacks achieve equality in this country in the long run, followed by LRB (23%), HISP (12%), OLRW (4%) and LRW (3%).

Detailed Racial Attitudes Report

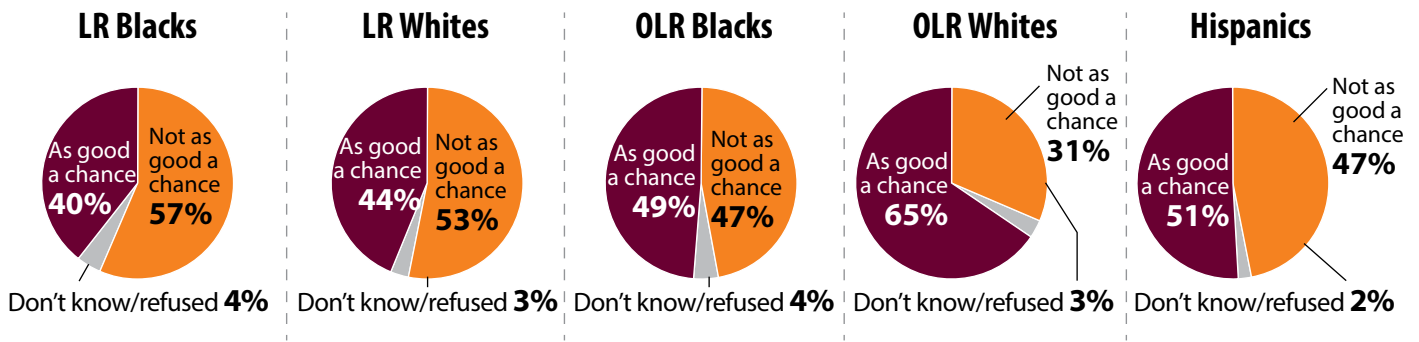
KEY: HISP - Hispanics | LRW - Little Rock Whites | LRB - Little Rock Blacks
 OLRW - Outside of Little Rock Whites | OLRB - Outside of Little Rock Blacks

EXHIBIT 16: In general, do you think that black children have AS GOOD A CHANCE as white children in your community to get a good education, or DO YOU NOT think they have as good a chance?



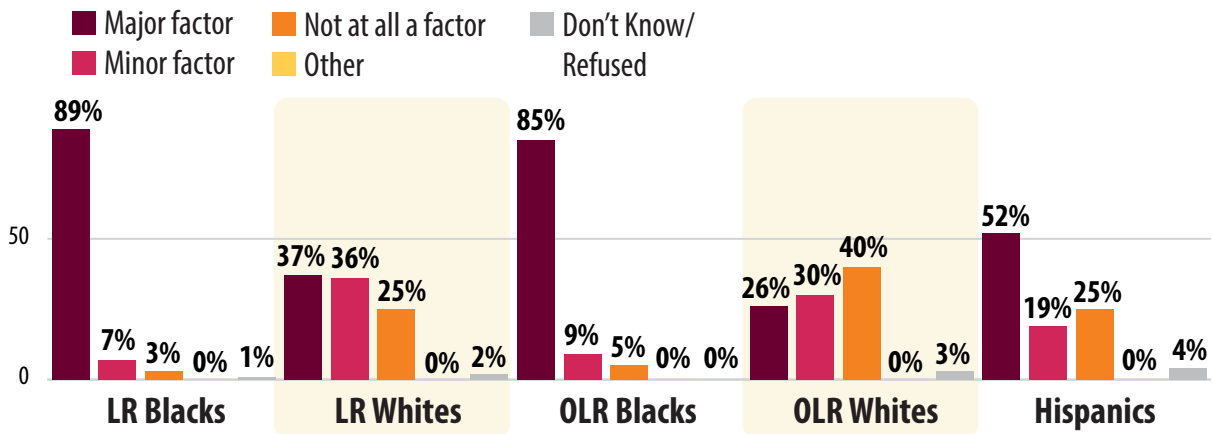
OLRW (75%) is the largest group that thinks black children have AS GOOD A CHANCE as white children in their community to get a good education, followed by HISP (62%), OLRB (51%), LRW (49%) and LRB (44%).

EXHIBIT 17: And, do you think that Hispanic children have AS GOOD A CHANCE as white children in your community to get a good education, or DO YOU NOT think they have as good a chance?



OLRW (65%) is the largest group that thinks Hispanic children have AS GOOD A CHANCE as white children in their community to get a good education, followed by HISP (51%), OLRB (49%), LRW (44%) and LRB (40%).

EXHIBIT 18: Do you think RACIAL DISCRIMINATION is a MAJOR factor OR a MINOR factor for there being a greater percentage of blacks in U.S. prisons... OR is racial discrimination NOT AT ALL a factor?



LRB (89%) is the largest group that thinks RACIAL DISCRIMINATION is a MAJOR factor for there being a greater percentage of blacks in U.S. prisons, followed by OLRB (85%), HISP (52%), LRW (37%) and OLRW (26%).

Notes







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