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Racial Prejudice in Northern Ireland

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- **Introduction**
- **Growth in racial prejudice**
- **Who is prejudiced?**
- **Decline in prejudice**
- **Interpreting the data**
- **Conclusion**

Introduction

- **Background to issue of racial prejudice**
- **Background to the survey**
- **Racial prejudice statistics in context**

Growth in prejudice

- What people perceive
- What people report

Is there more racial prejudice in Northern Ireland now than 5 years ago (%)?

	1994	2005
More now	12	68
Less now	19	6
About the same	64	19
Don't know	4	7
Total	100	100

How prejudiced are you against people of minority ethnic communities (other races - 1994) (%)?

	1994	2005
Very prejudiced	1	1
A little prejudiced	10	24
Not prejudiced at all	88	73
Don't know	<1	1
Total	100	100

Who is prejudiced?

- **Variables which were not significant**
 - Gender
 - Social class
 - Time spent outside Northern Ireland
- **Variables which were significant**

How prejudiced are you against people of minority ethnic communities by age group (%)

	18-24	25-44	45-64	65-74	75+
Very prejudiced	1	2	1	1	3
A little prejudiced	21	23	29	25	15
Not prejudiced at all	77	74	69	74	76
Don't know	1	1	1	0	5
Total	100	100	100	100	100

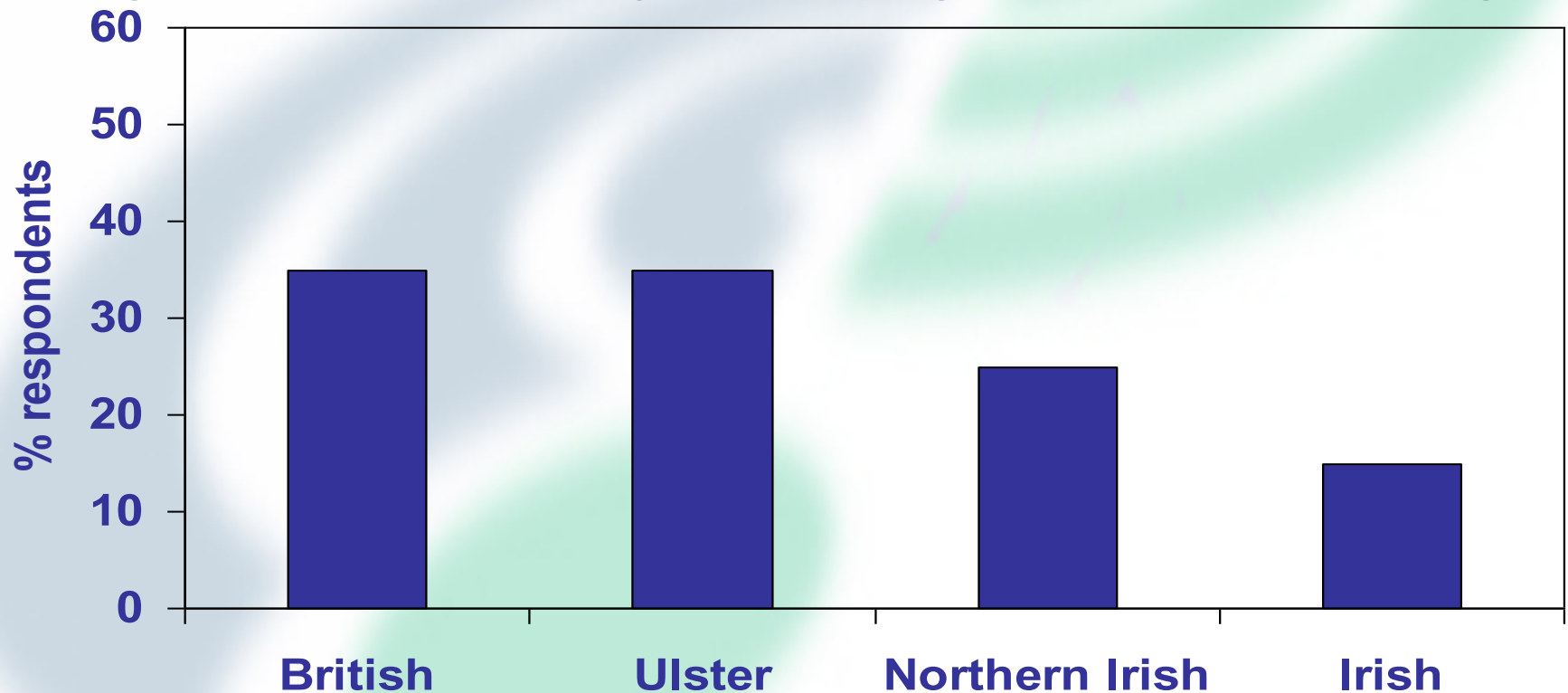
How prejudiced are you against people of minority ethnic communities by direct contact (%)

	Daily	Once/Twice week	Once/Twice month	Very Rarely	Not at all
Very prejudiced	0	1	1	2	2
A little prejudiced	13	27	26	29	28
Not prejudiced at all	87	72	73	68	66
Don't know	0	0	0	1	5
Total	100	100	100	100	100

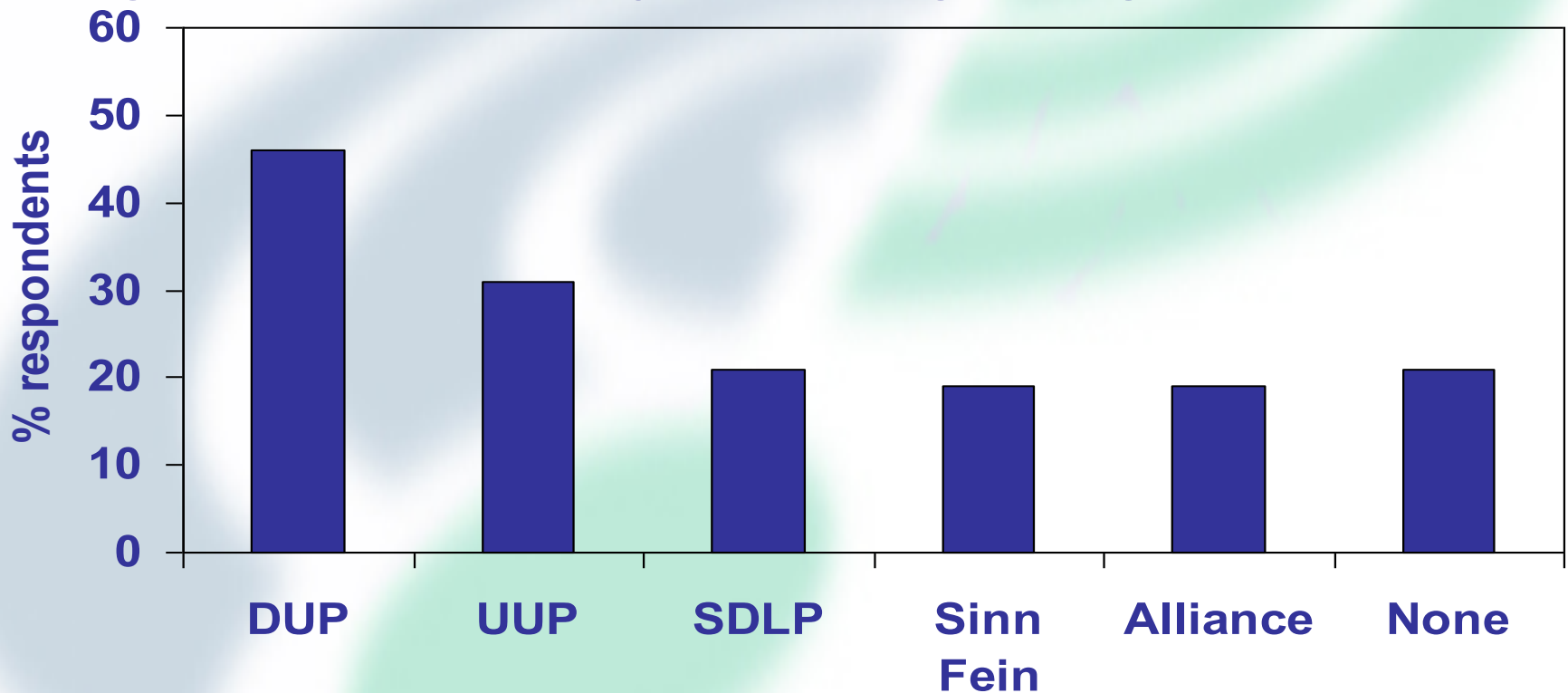
How prejudiced are you against people of minority ethnic communities by religion (%)

	Protestant	Catholic	No Religion
Very prejudiced	2	0	0
A little prejudiced	31	18	19
Not prejudiced at all	65	81	80
Don't know	2	1	1
Total	100	100	100

% of respondents describing themselves as 'very' or 'a little' prejudiced by National Identity



% of respondents describing themselves as 'very' or 'a little' prejudiced by Party support



Decline in prejudice?

- **Figures on growth in prejudice are based on two points in time separated by a decade**
- **Time series figures provide a more complex picture**
- **Example of attitudes towards Chinese marriage**

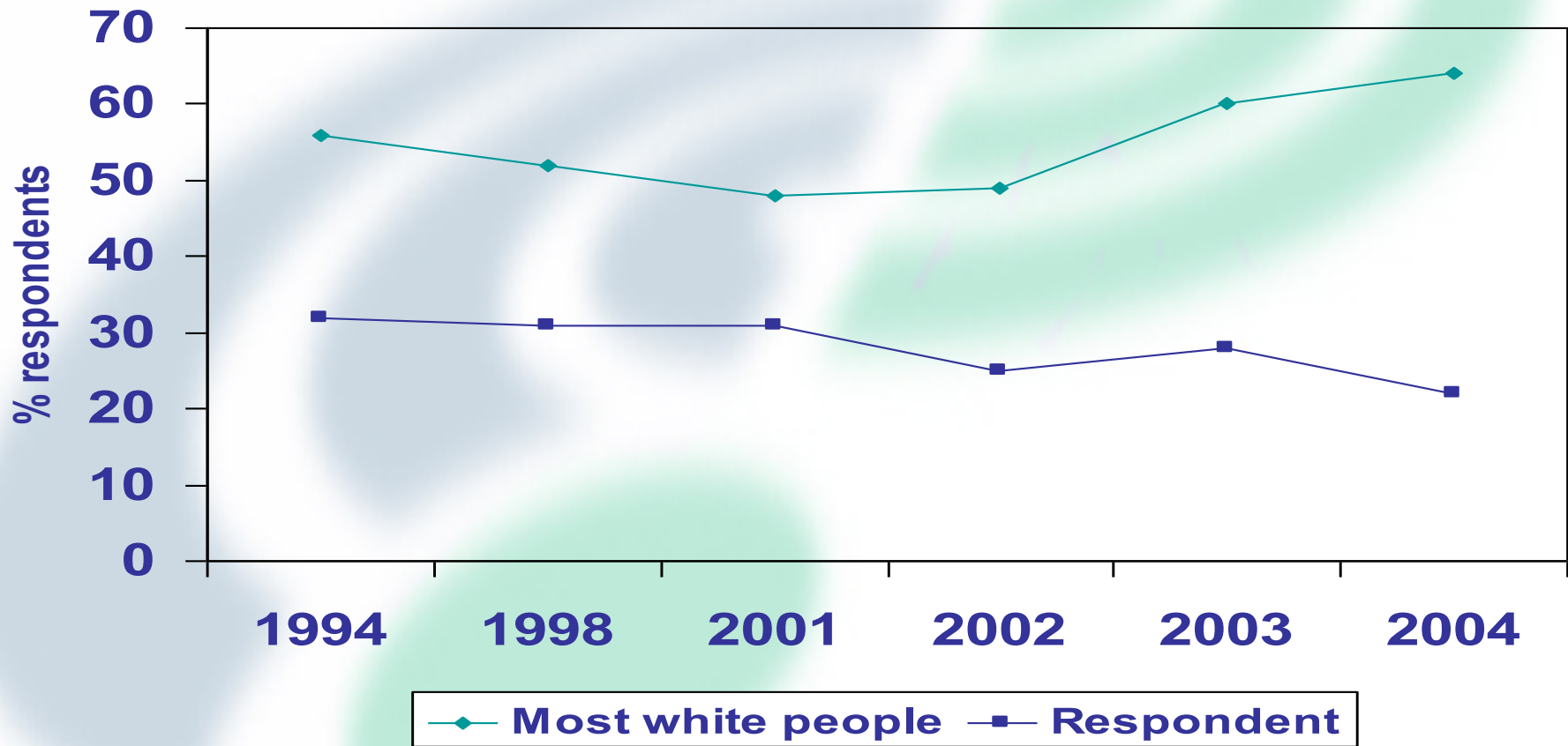
Would most white people in NI mind if a close relative were to marry a person of Chinese origin by survey year (%)

	1994	1998	2001	2002	2003	2004
Mind a lot	19	16	19	16	17	18
Mind a little	36	36	29	33	43	46
Would not mind	39	38	41	43	32	32
Don't know	5	10	11	8	8	4
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Would you personally mind if a close relative were to marry a person of Chinese origin by survey year (%)

	1994	1998	2001	2002	2003	2004
Mind a lot	10	10	12	8	7	4
Mind a little	22	21	19	17	21	18
Would not mind	66	64	64	71	69	76
Don't know	2	5	5	4	4	2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

% of respondents saying that most white people in NI, and they themselves, would mind a little or a lot if a close relative married a Chinese person, 1994-2004



How to interpret the data

- Increased prejudice?
- Increased willingness to report prejudice?
- Difference in survey construction?
- Divergence between *perception* of prejudice in the general population and own *reported* prejudice

Conclusion

- **Sensational, sensible or censorship?**
- **Need to understand changing nature of prejudice**
- **Need to understand relationship between prejudice and behaviour**