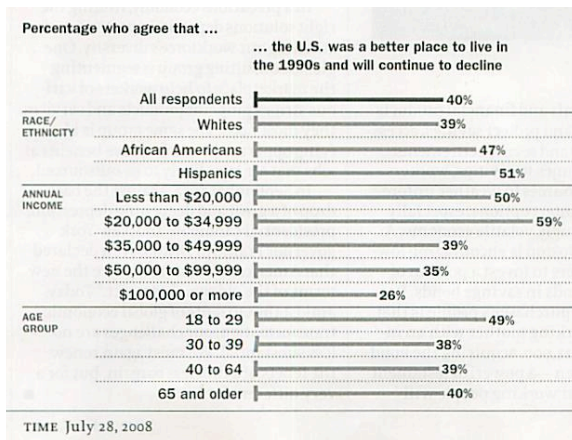


Prac 4.7

[f2008/f2008-5]

*Time Magazine* reported the results of a poll of people's opinions about the U.S. economy in July 2008. The results are summarized in the graph.



[Source: *Time*, July 28, 2008, p. 41]

The variables depicted in the graph are:

- Pessimism, as indicated by agreeing with the statement that the U.S. was a better place to live in the 1990s and will continue to decline.
- Ethnicity, with three levels: White, African American, Hispanic.
- Income, with five levels.
- Age, with four levels.

Judging from the information in the graph, which of these statements best describes the model pessimism  $\sim$  income?

- A Pessimism declines as incomes get higher.
- B Pessimism increases as incomes get higher.
- C Pessimism is unrelated to income.

Prac 4.7-1

Again, judging from the information in the graph, which of these statements best describes the model pessimism  $\sim$  age?

- A Pessimism is highest in the 18-29 age group.
- B Pessimism is highest in the 64 and older group.
- C Pessimism is lowest among whites.
- D Pessimism is unrelated to age.

Prac 4.7-2

Poll results such as this are almost always reported using just one explanatory variable at a time, as in this graphic. However, it can be more informative to know the effect of one variable while *adjusting for* other variables. For example, in looking at the connection between pessimism and age, it would be useful to be able to untangle the influence of income.