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**Voting Behavior in US  
Presidential Elections**  
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Report 2012:1  
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# Voting Behavior in US Presidential Elections

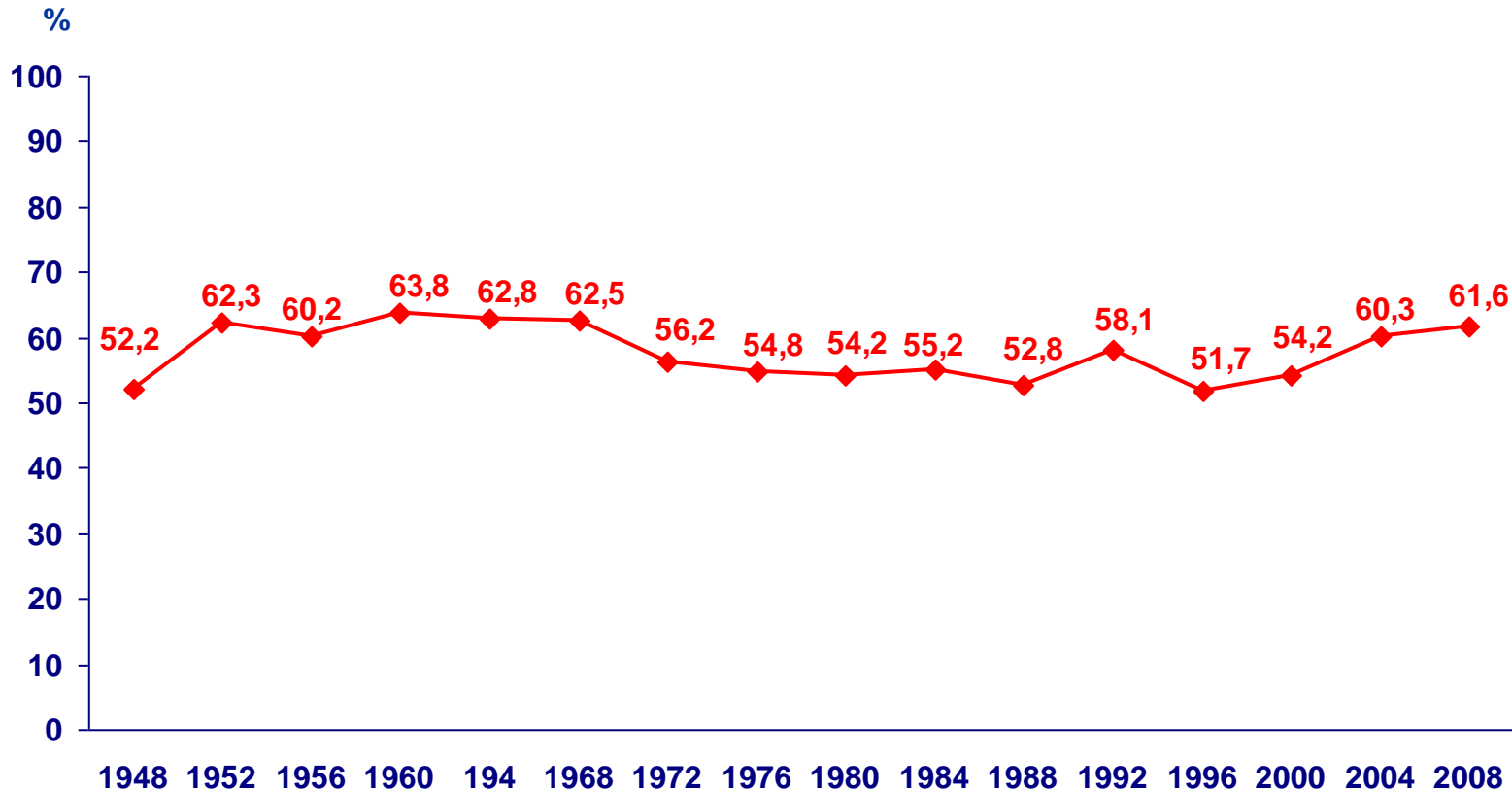
## A Graphical Story

# US Presidential Election 2008

<b>Barack Obama (Democrat)</b>	<b>52,8%</b>
<b>John McCain (Republican)</b>	<b>45,8%</b>
<b>Ralph Nader (Independent)</b>	<b>0,5%</b>
<b>Bob Barr (Libertarian)</b>	<b>0,4%</b>
<b>Others</b>	<b>0,5%</b>
	<b>100%</b>

**Estimated Turn-Out: 131,2 million voters; eligible voters 213 million; turn-out per cent 61.6%**

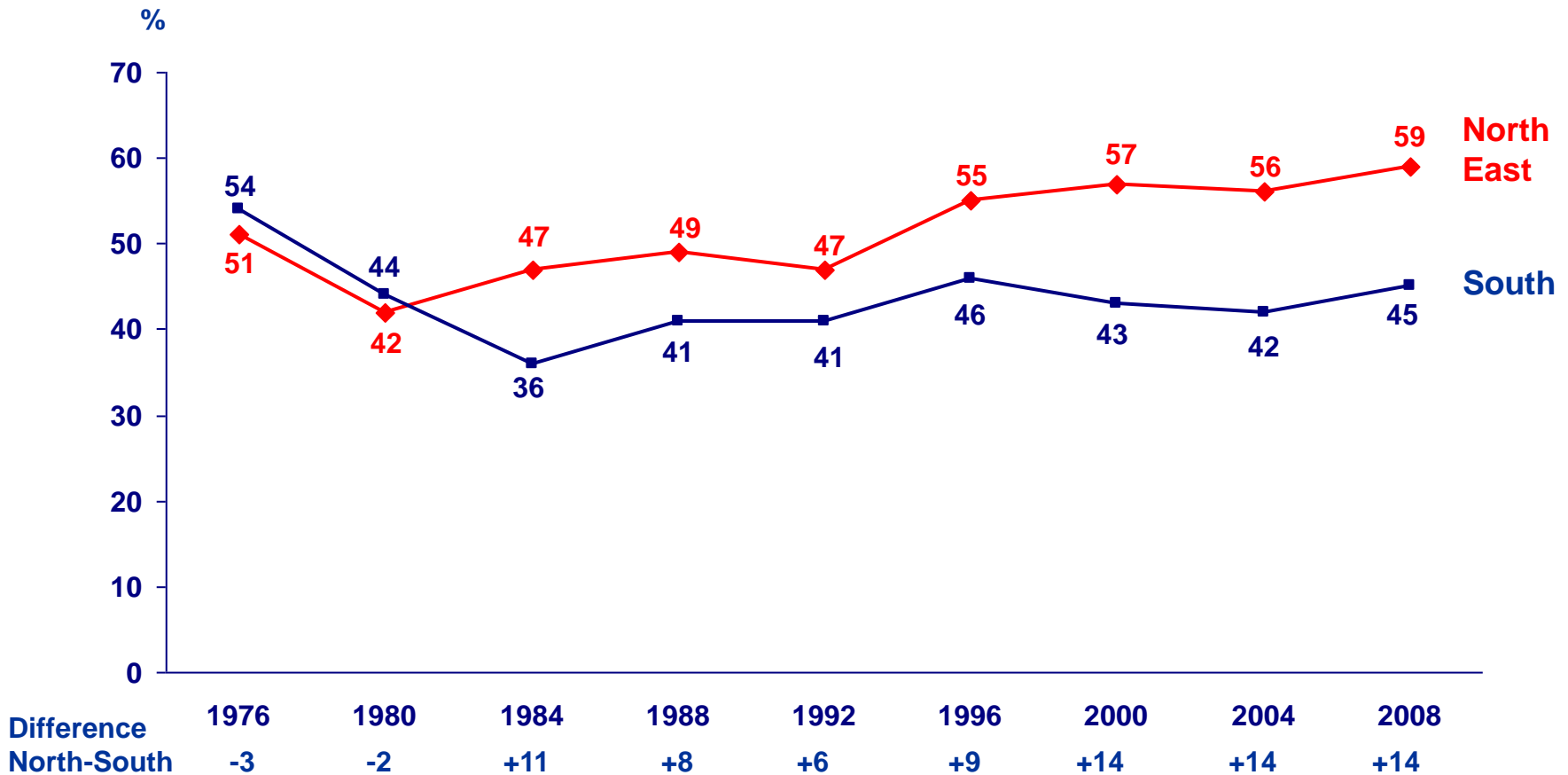
# Turn-Out in US Presidential Elections



Source: Stanley and Niemi: *Vital Statistics in American Politics*. The turn-out figures represent the percentage of the eligible electorate that cast votes in presidential elections. The preliminary result for 2008 is based on an estimate of 131,2 million casted votes among 213 million eligible voters.

# Regional Voting

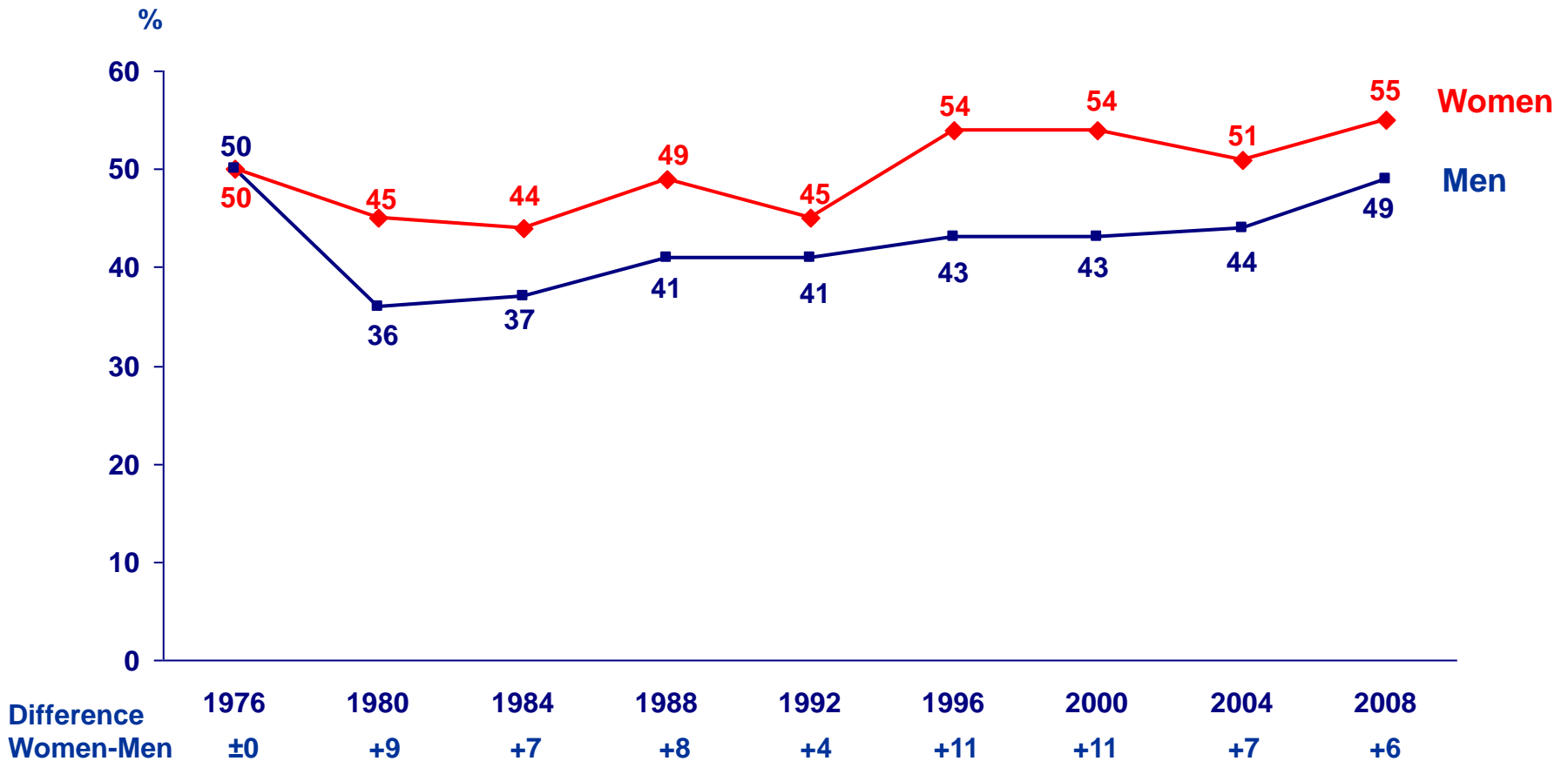
*per cent Democrats*



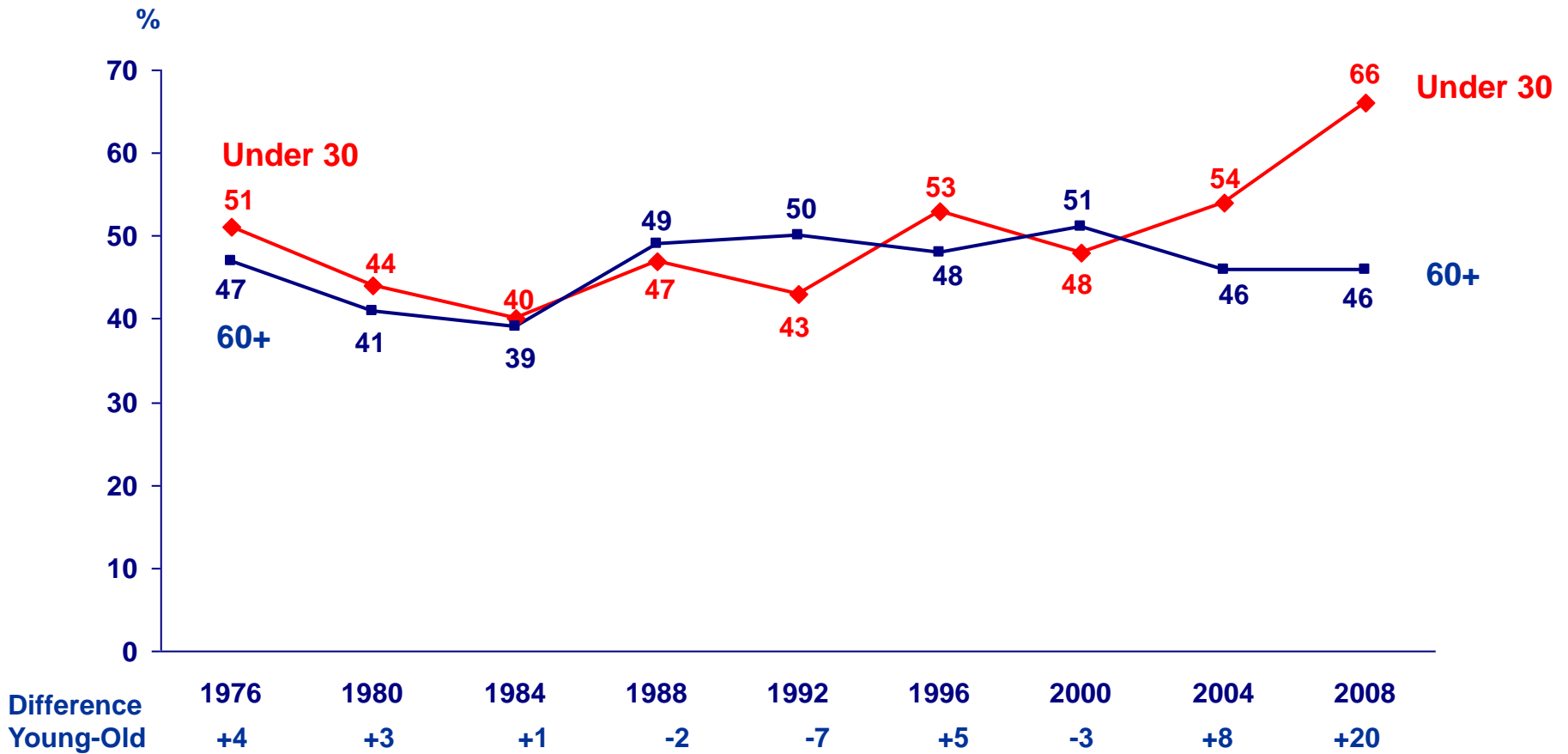
Source: VNS Exit Polls; NEP 2004; Edison 2008

# Gender

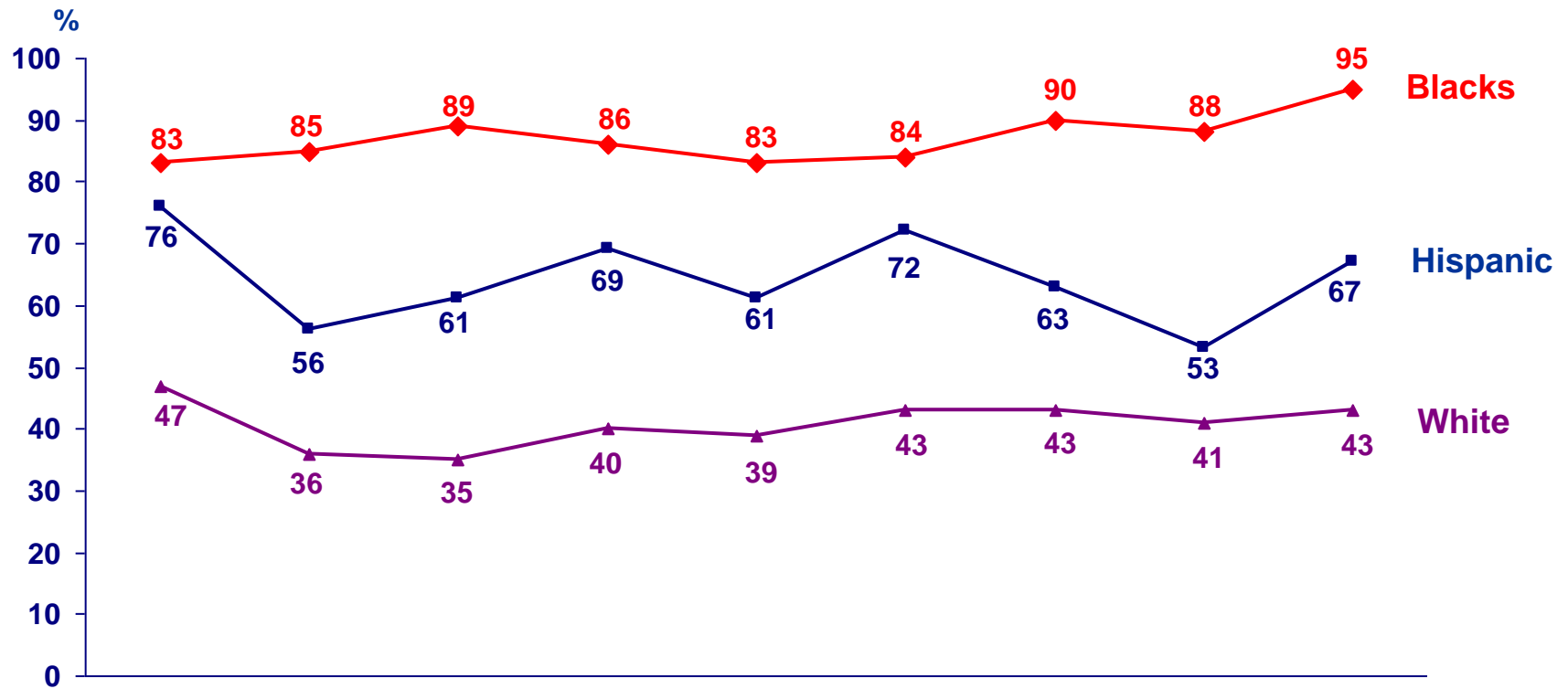
*per cent Democrats*



# Age *per cent Democrats*



# Ethnic Group *per cent Democrats*



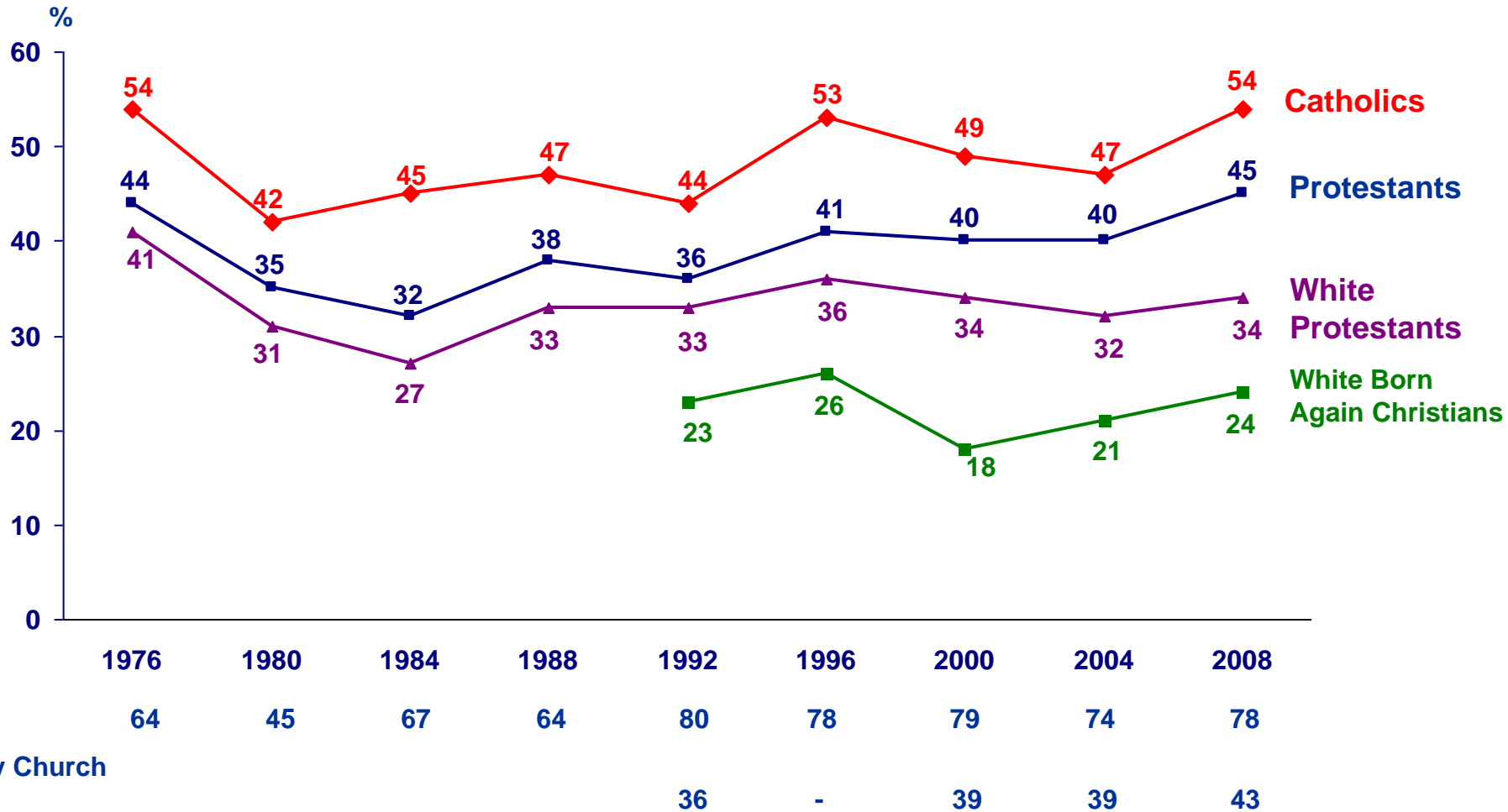
	1976	1980	1984	1988	1992	1996	2000	2004	2008
<b>Difference Black-White</b>	<b>+36</b>	<b>+49</b>	<b>+54</b>	<b>+46</b>	<b>+44</b>	<b>+41</b>	<b>+47</b>	<b>+47</b>	<b>+52</b>
<b>Jews</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>Asians</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>56</b>	<b>62</b>

Source: VNS Exit Polls; NEP 2004; Edison 2008



# Religion

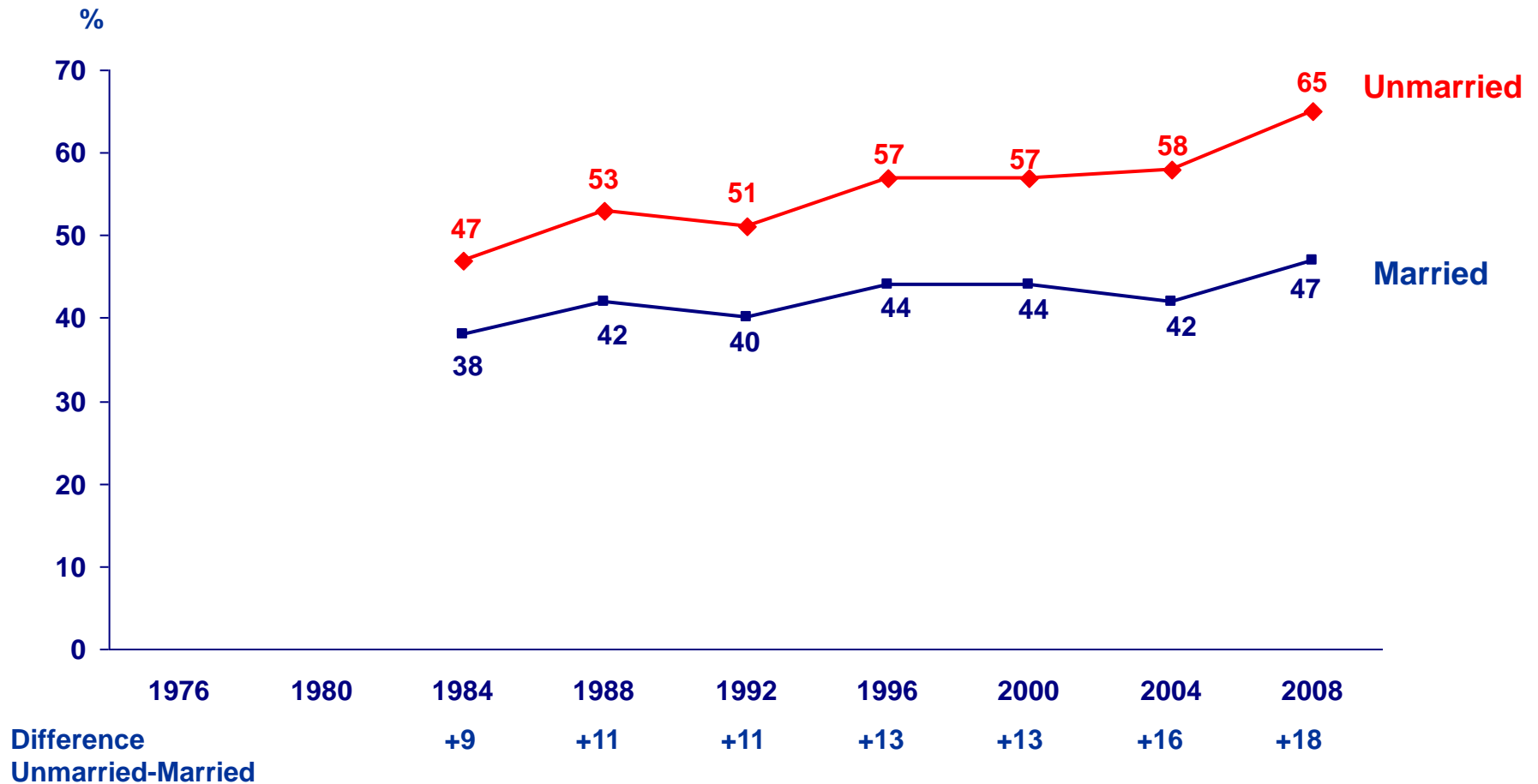
## *per cent Democrats*



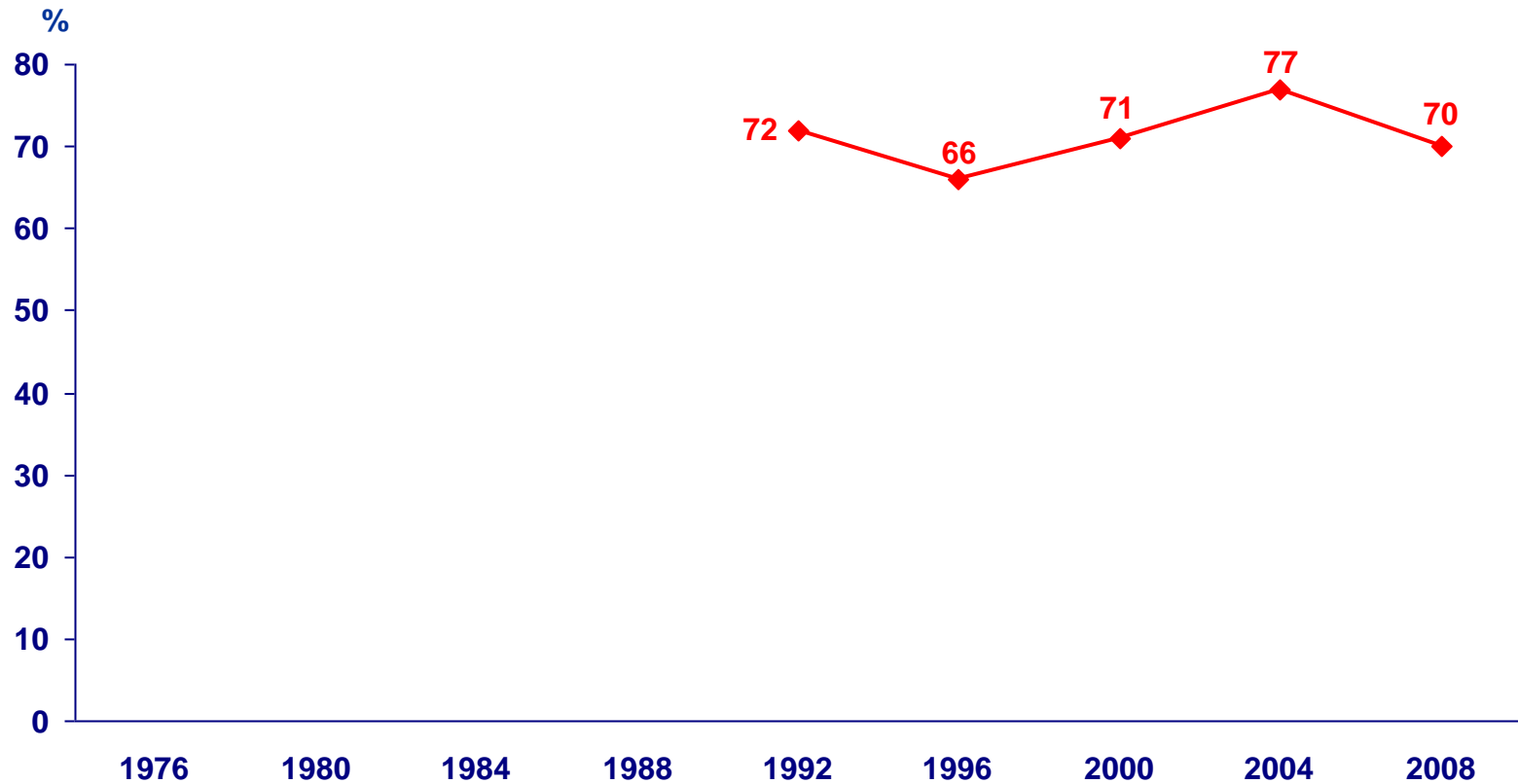
Source: VNS Exit Polls; NEP 2004; Edison 2008

# Marital Status

*per cent Democrats*

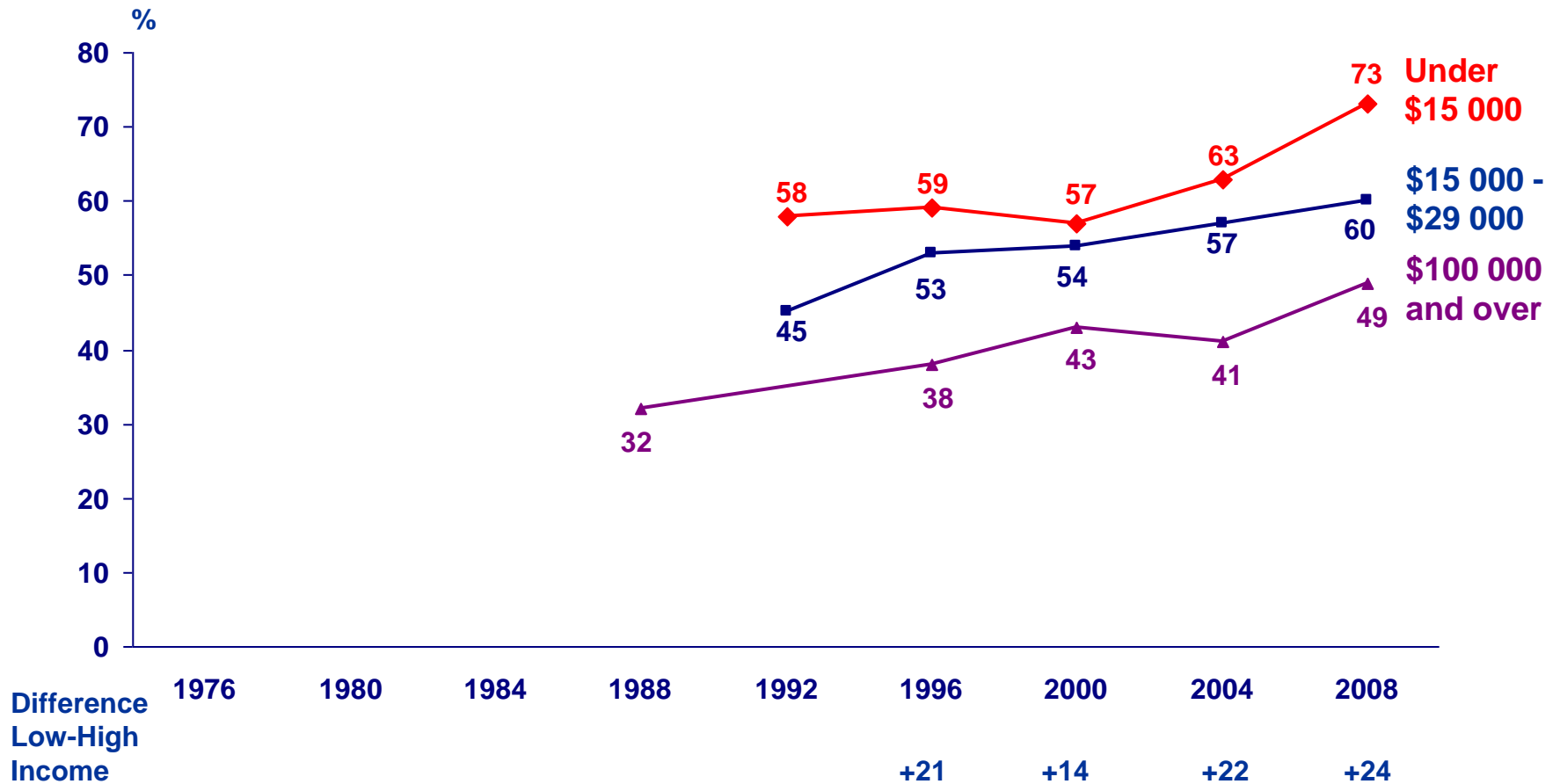


# Gays/Lesbians *per cent Democrats*



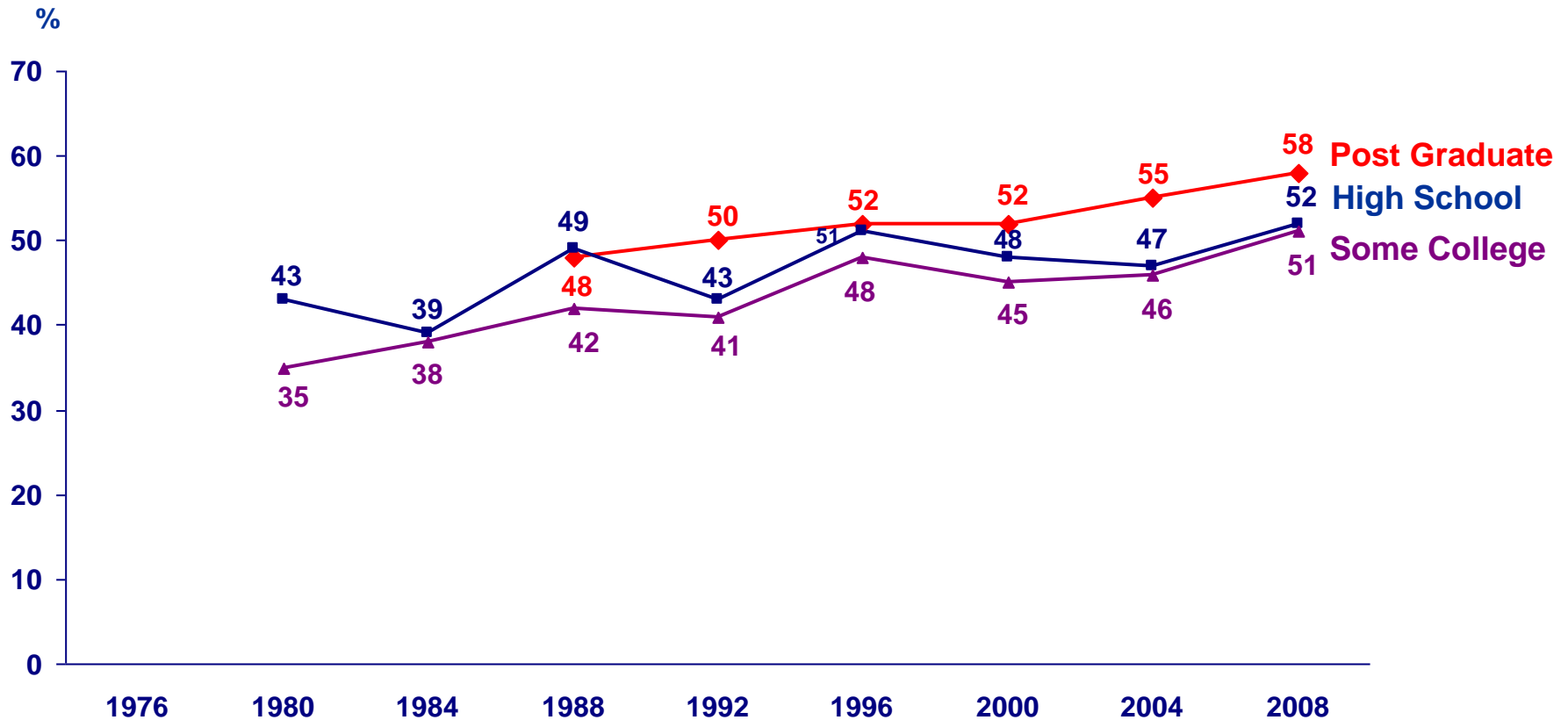
# Income

## *per cent Democrats*

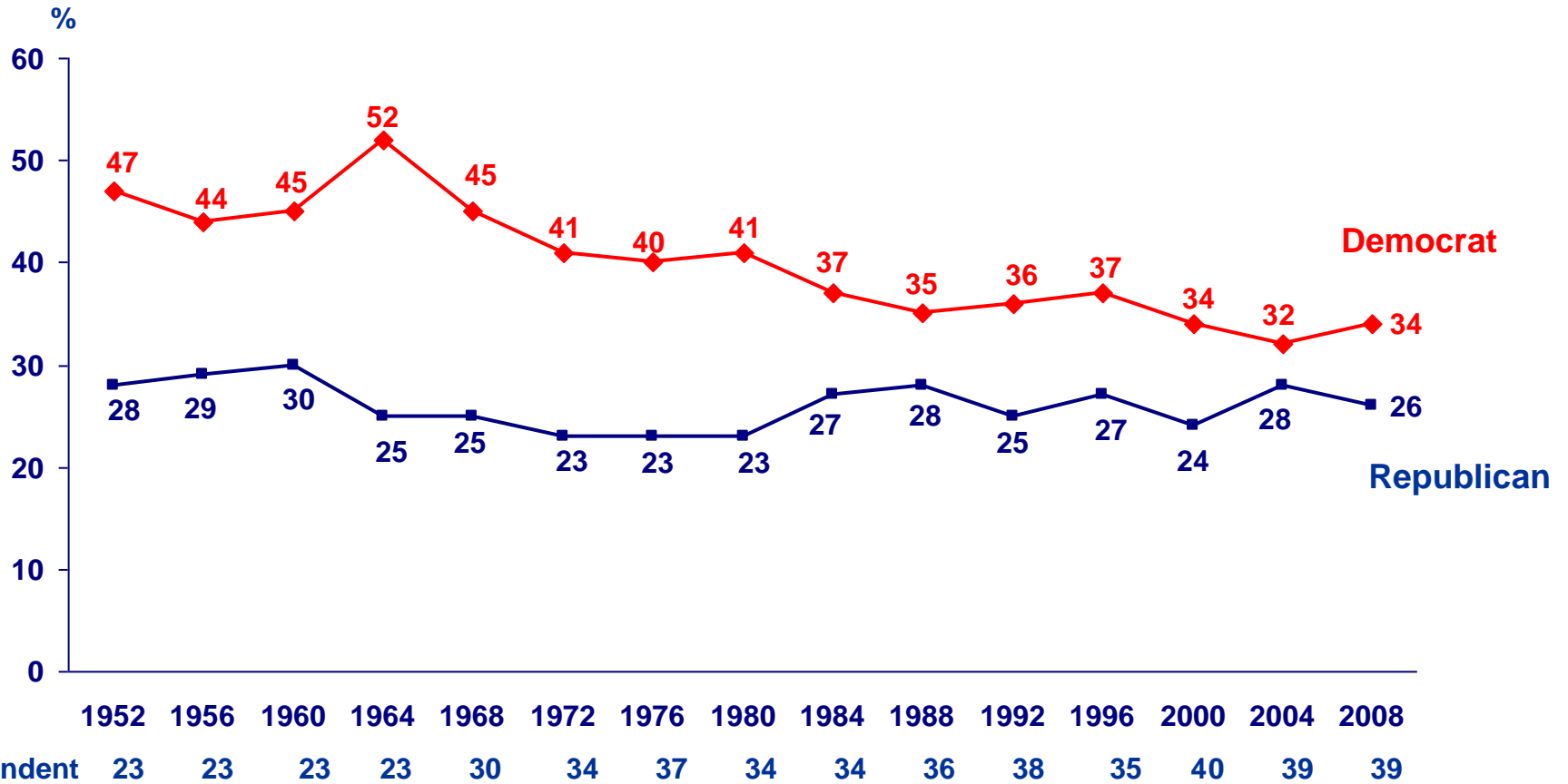


# Education

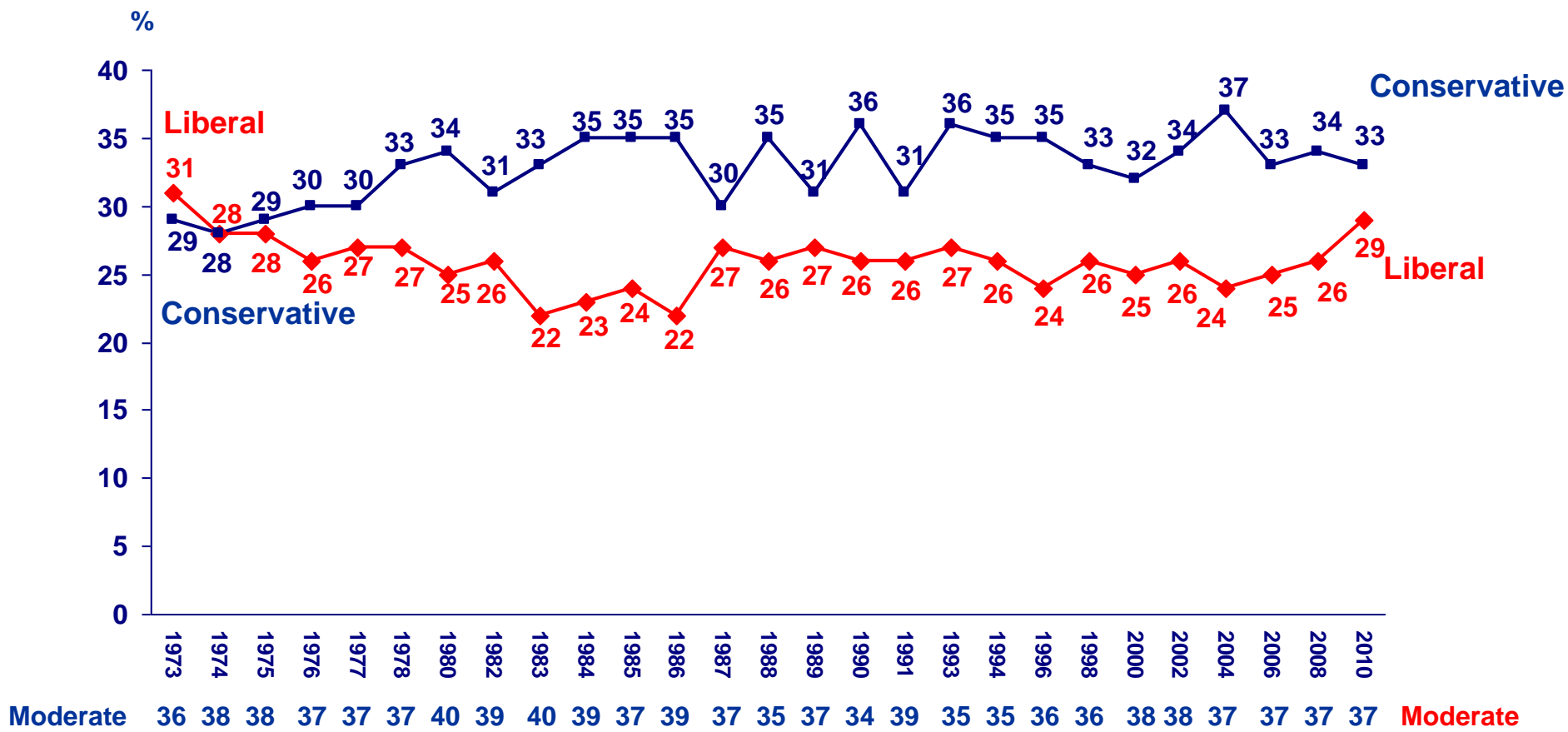
*per cent Democrats*



# US Party Identification

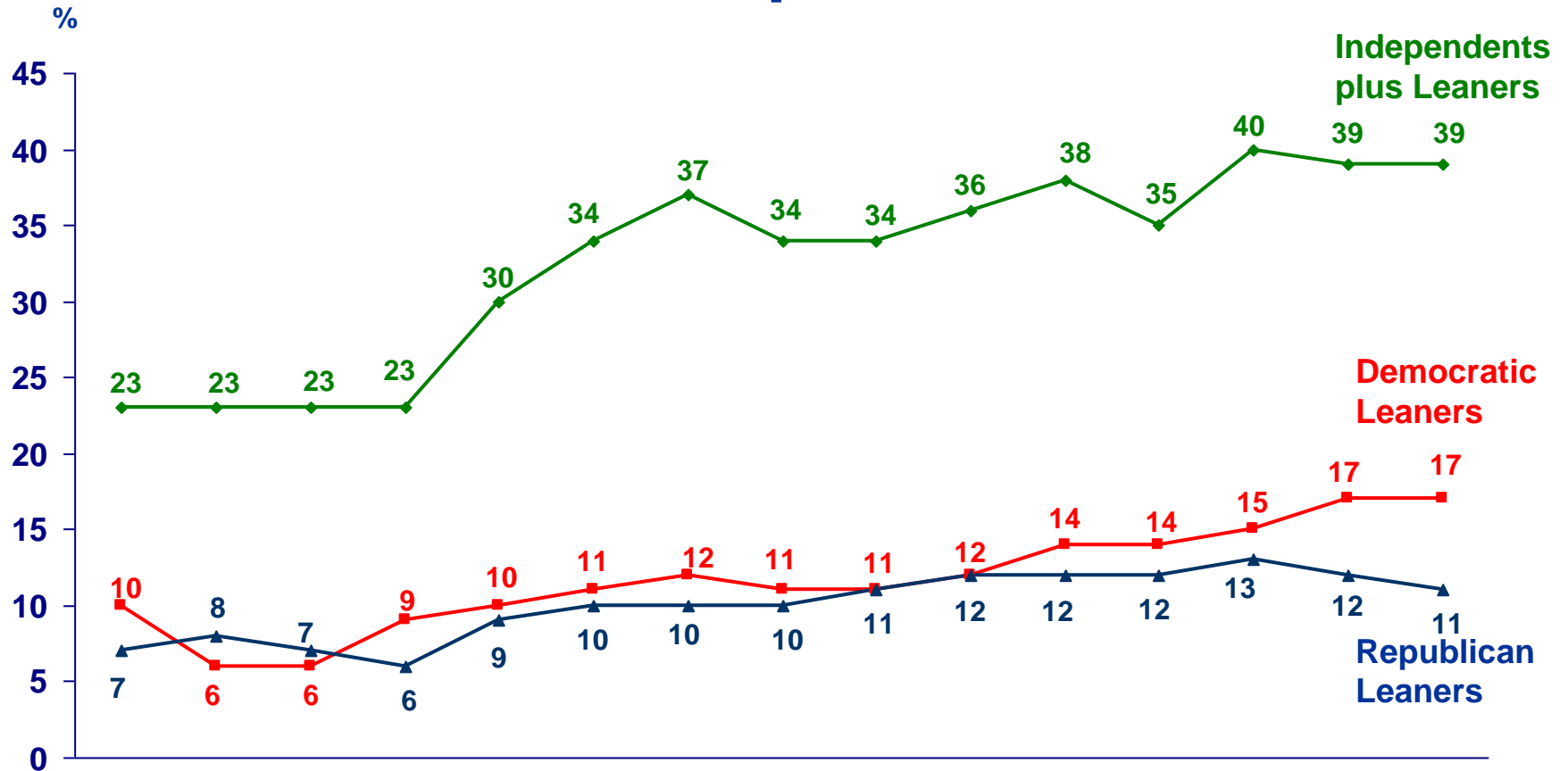


# US Ideological Self-Identification



Source: DKs 1 – 6%; General Social Survey, NORC;

# US: Independents



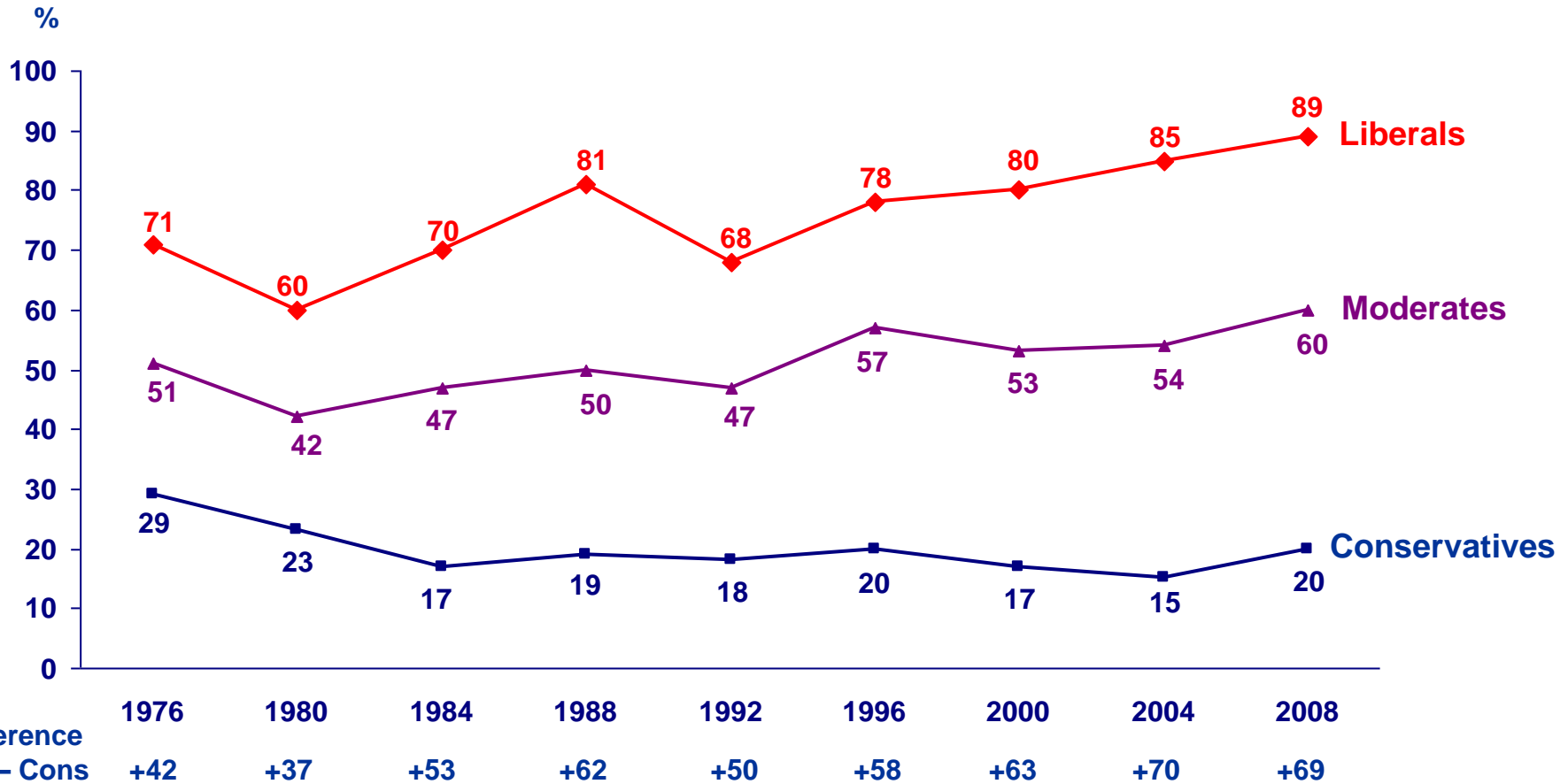
	1952	1956	1960	1964	1968	1972	1976	1980	1984	1988	1992	1996	2000	2004	2008
Pure Independents	6	9	10	8	11	13	15	13	11	11	12	9	12	10	11
Independents plus Leaners	23	23	23	23	30	34	37	34	34	36	38	35	40	39	39

Source: ANES



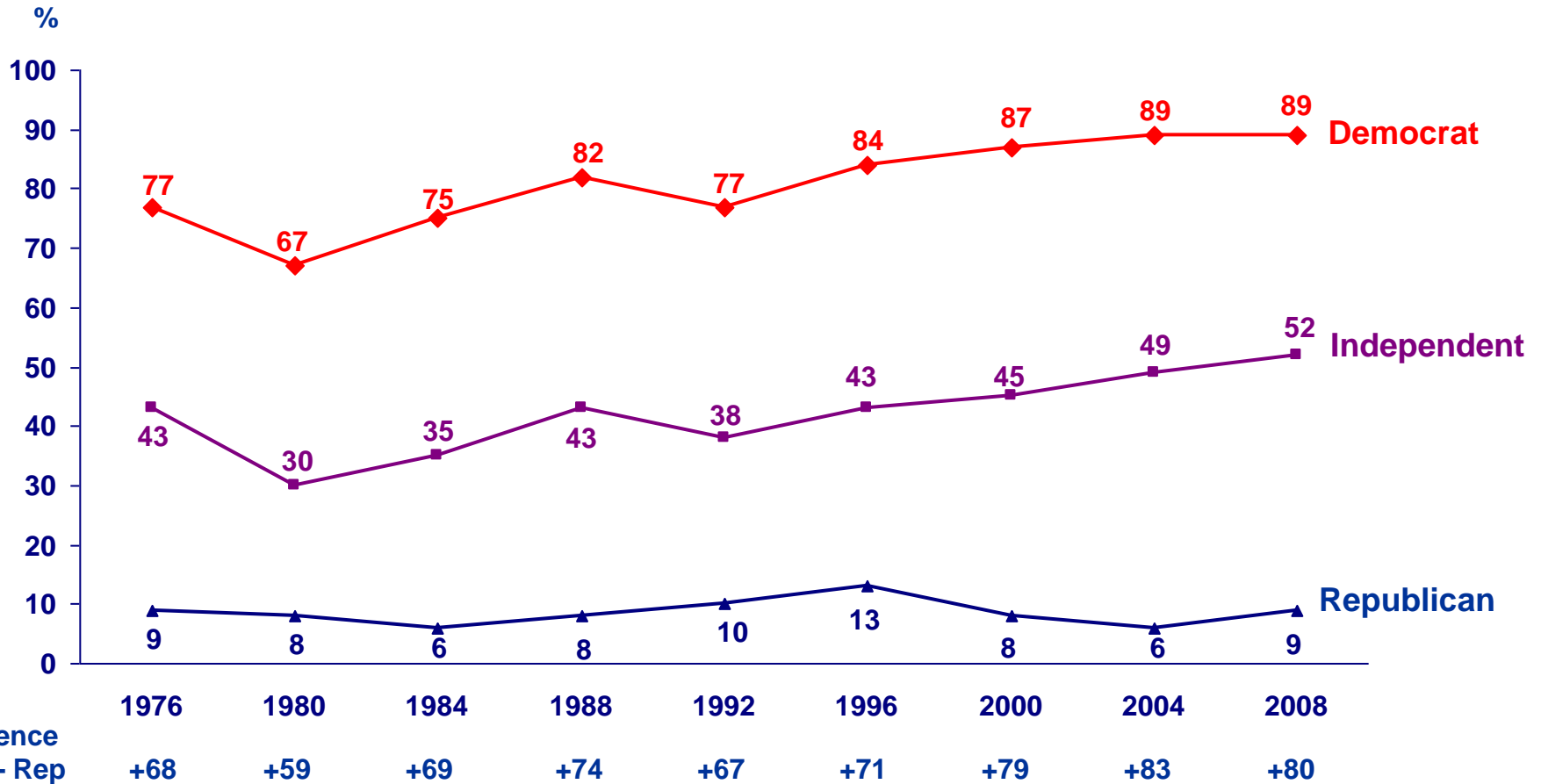
# Ideology

## *per cent Democrats*



# Party Preference

## *per cent Democrats*



**[www.valforskning.pol.gu.se](http://www.valforskning.pol.gu.se)**