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# Voting Behavior in US Presidential Elections

## A Graphical Story

The graphs in this presentation have been prepared by  
Kerstin Gidsäter at The SOM Institute, University of Gothenburg

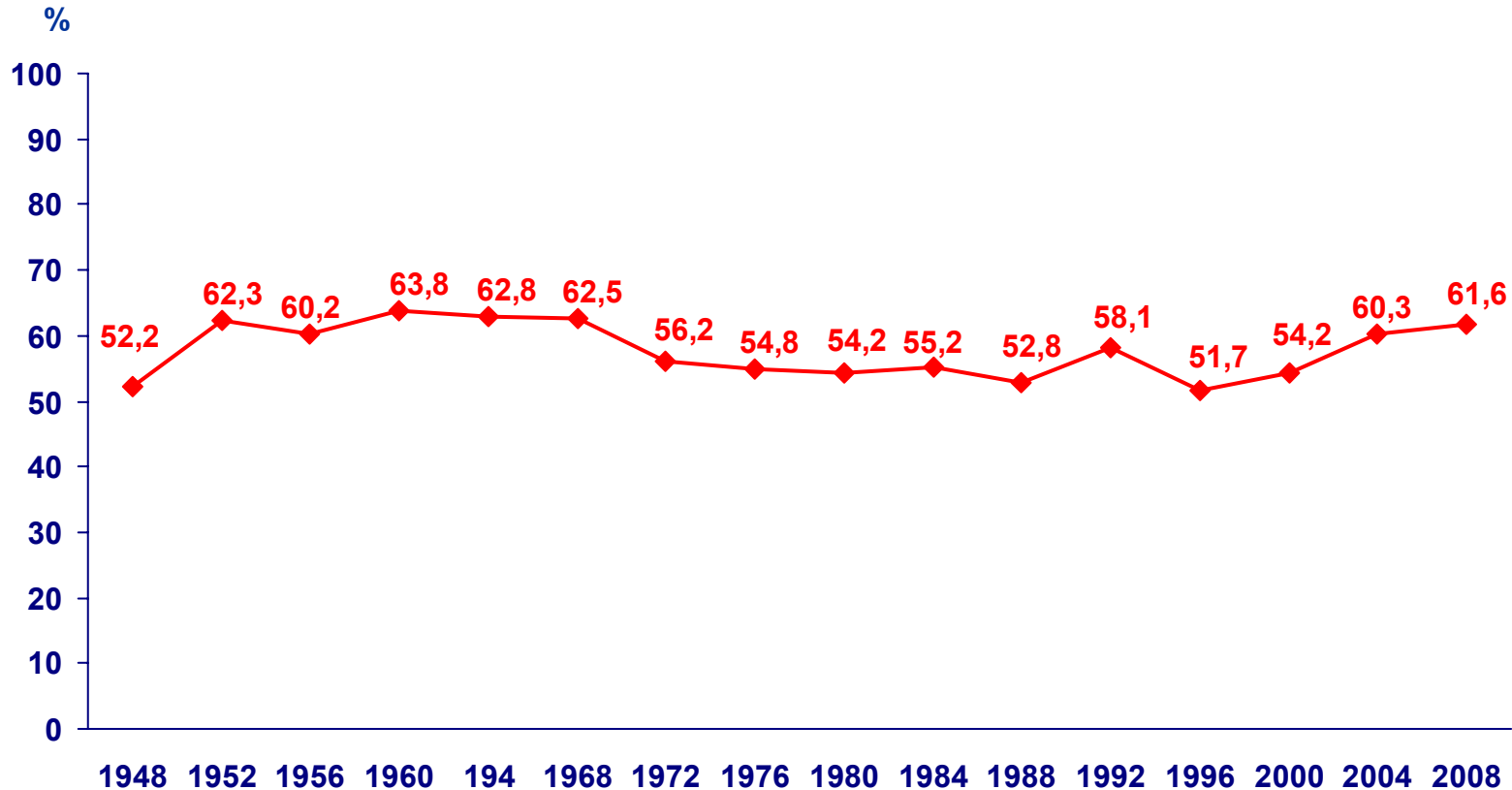
# US Presidential Election 2008

## *Preliminary Outcome*

<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 in the Presidential Election: 131,2 million voters; eligible voters 213,0 million;  
turn-out per cent 61.6%

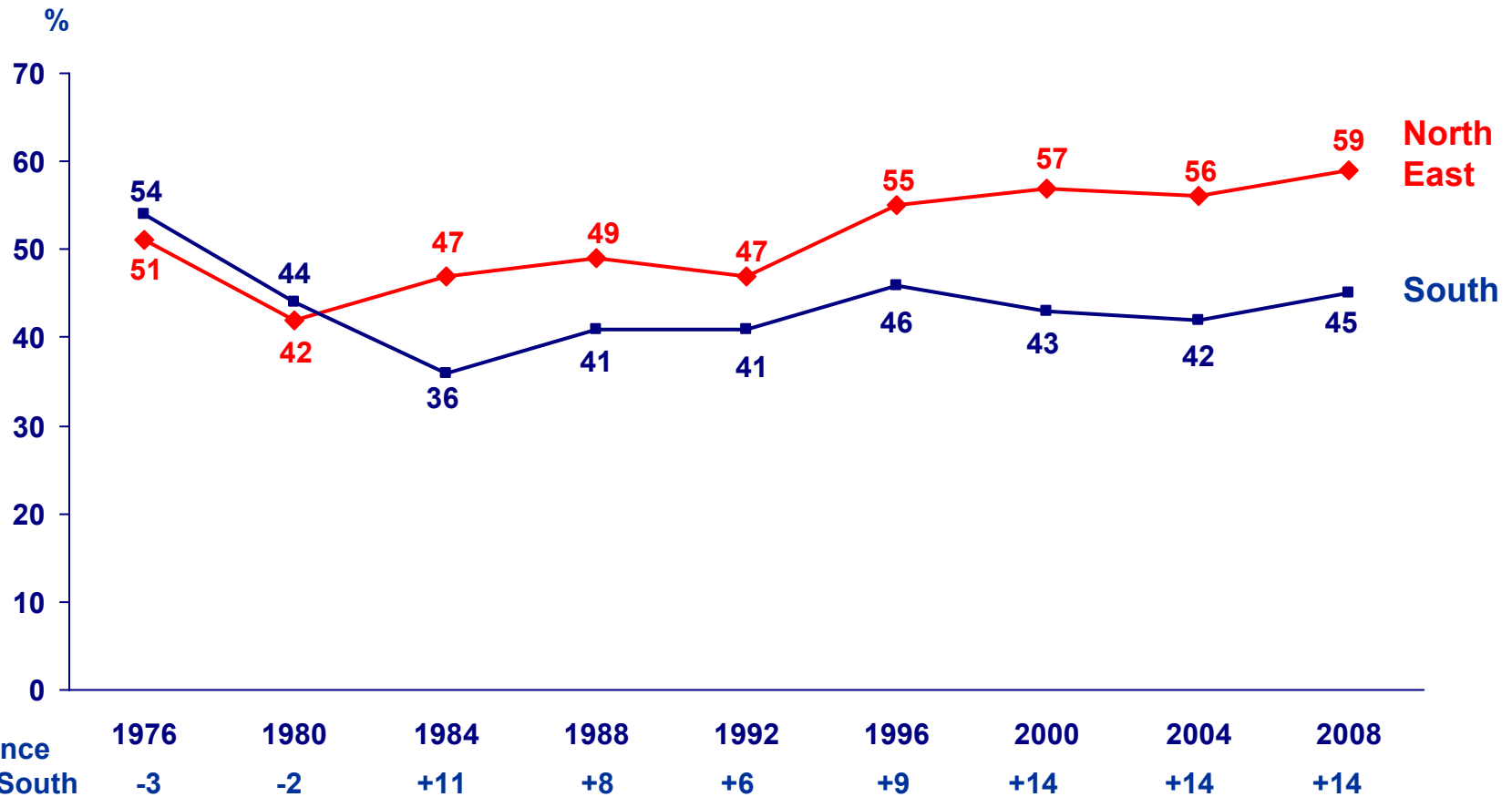
# Turn-Out in US Presidential Elections



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 213,0 million eligible voters.

# Regional Voting

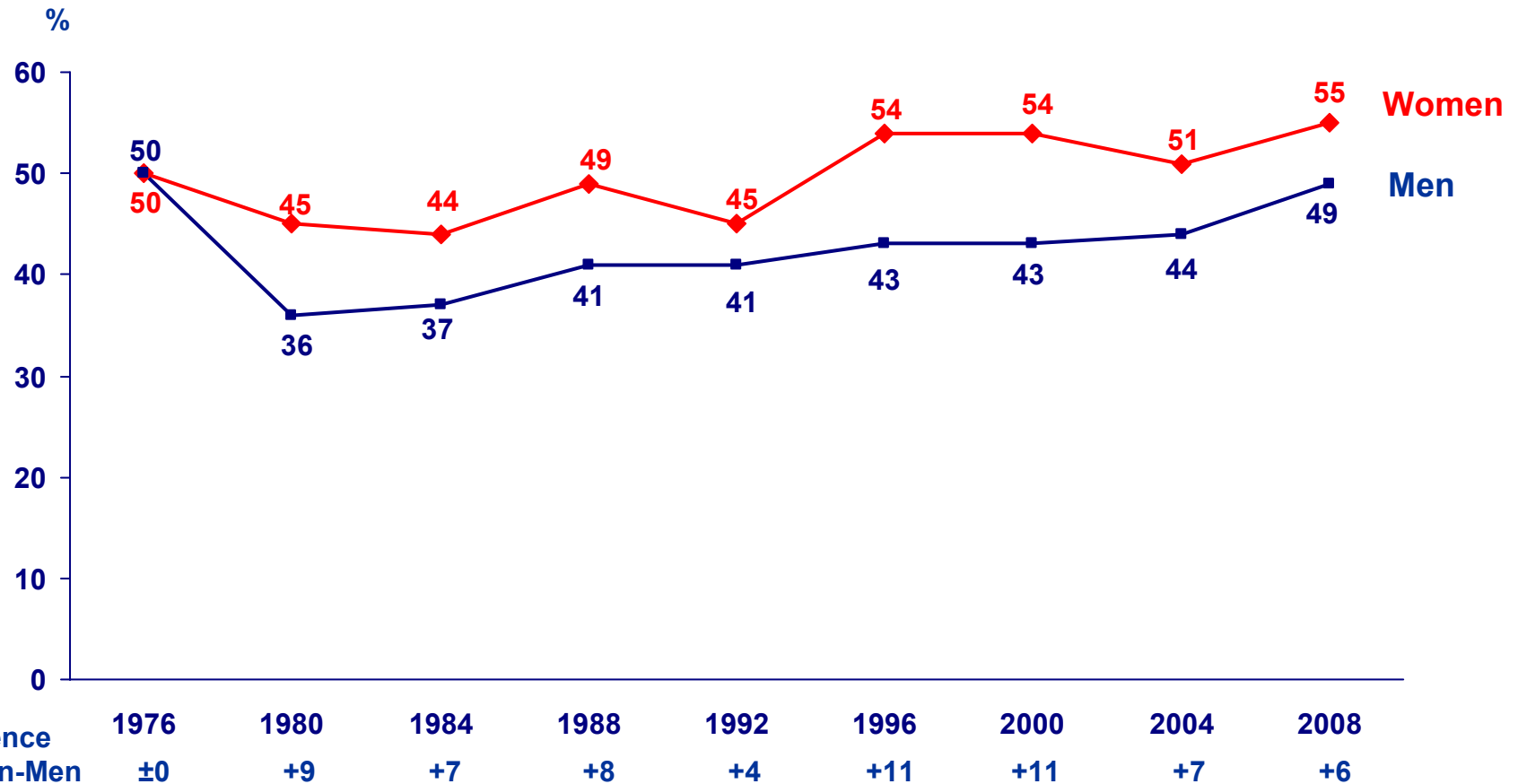
*per cent Democrats*



Source: VNS Exit Polls; NEP 2004; Edison 2008

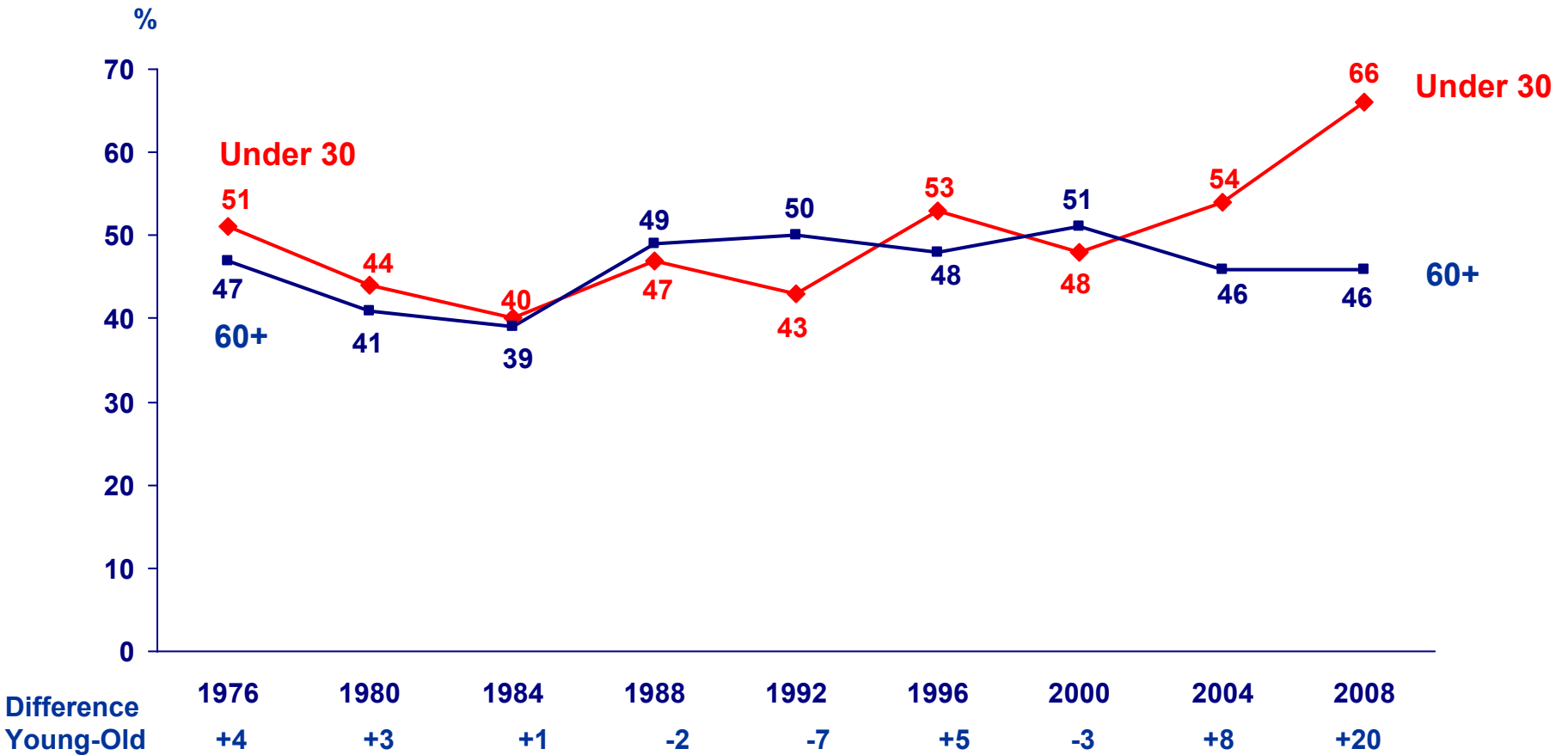
# Gender

*per cent Democrats*



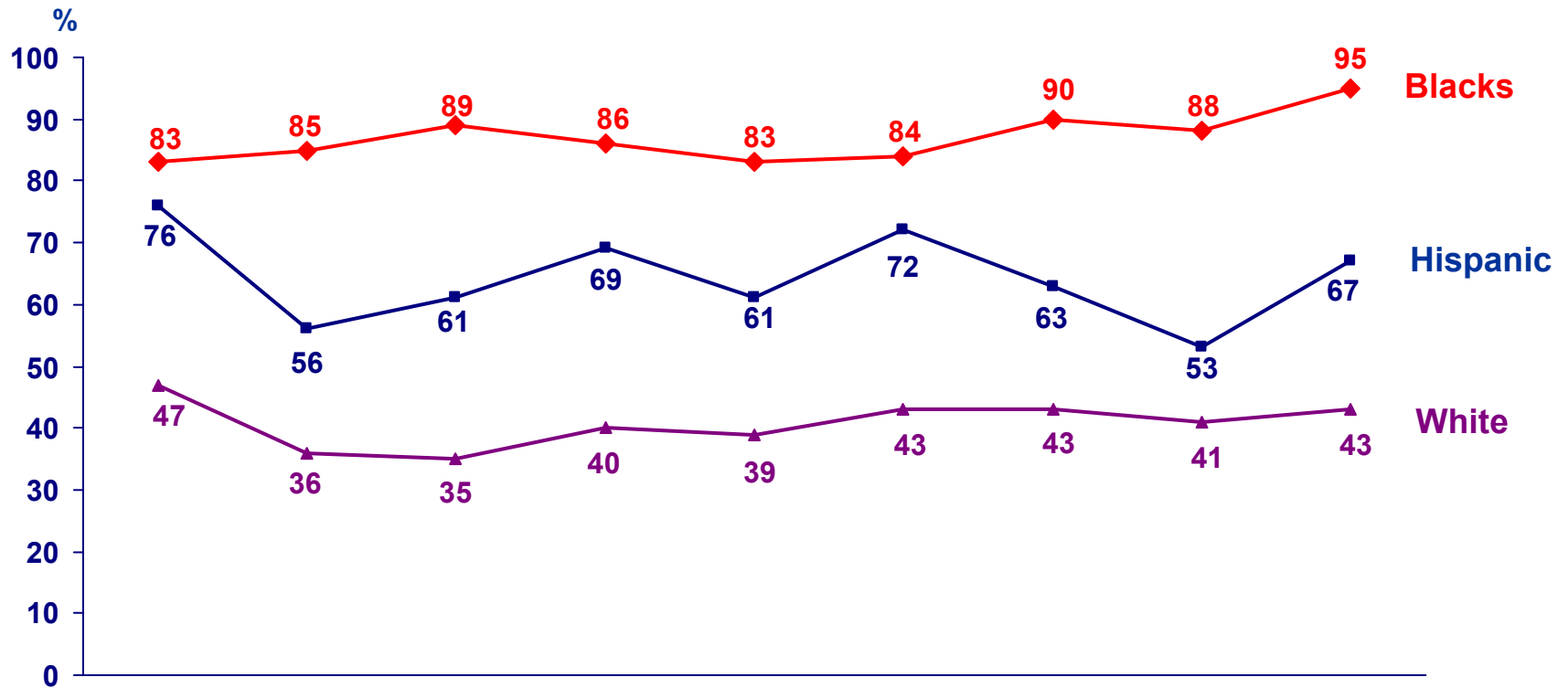
# Age

*per cent Democrats*



Source: VNS Exit Polls; NEP 2004; Edison 2008

# Ethnic Group *per cent Democrats*

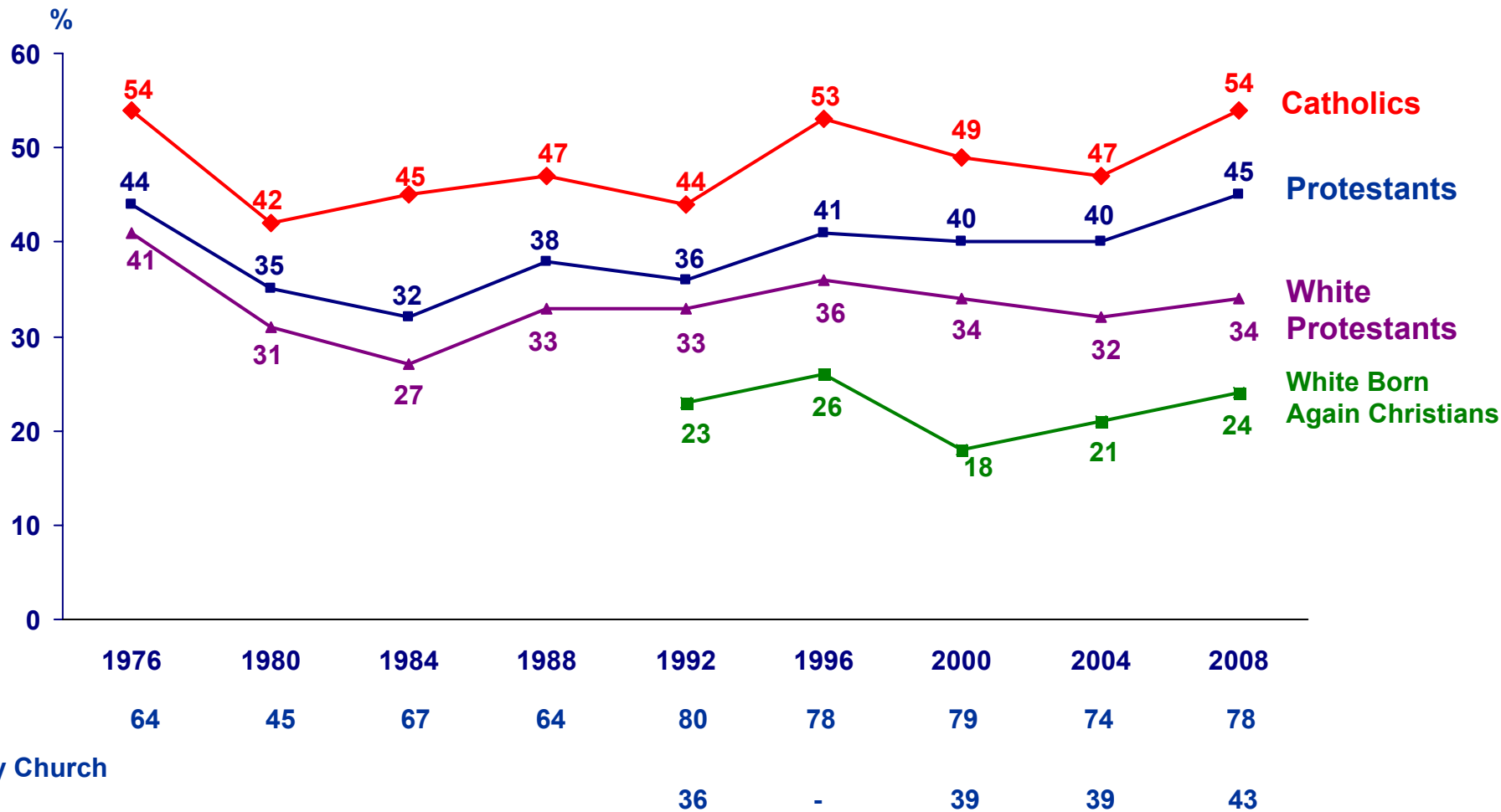


Difference	1976	1980	1984	1988	1992	1996	2000	2004	2008
Black-White	+36	+49	+54	+46	+44	+41	+47	+47	+52
Jews	64	45	67	64	80	78	79	74	78
Asians	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	62

Source: VNS Exit Polls; NEP 2004; Edison 2008

# Religion

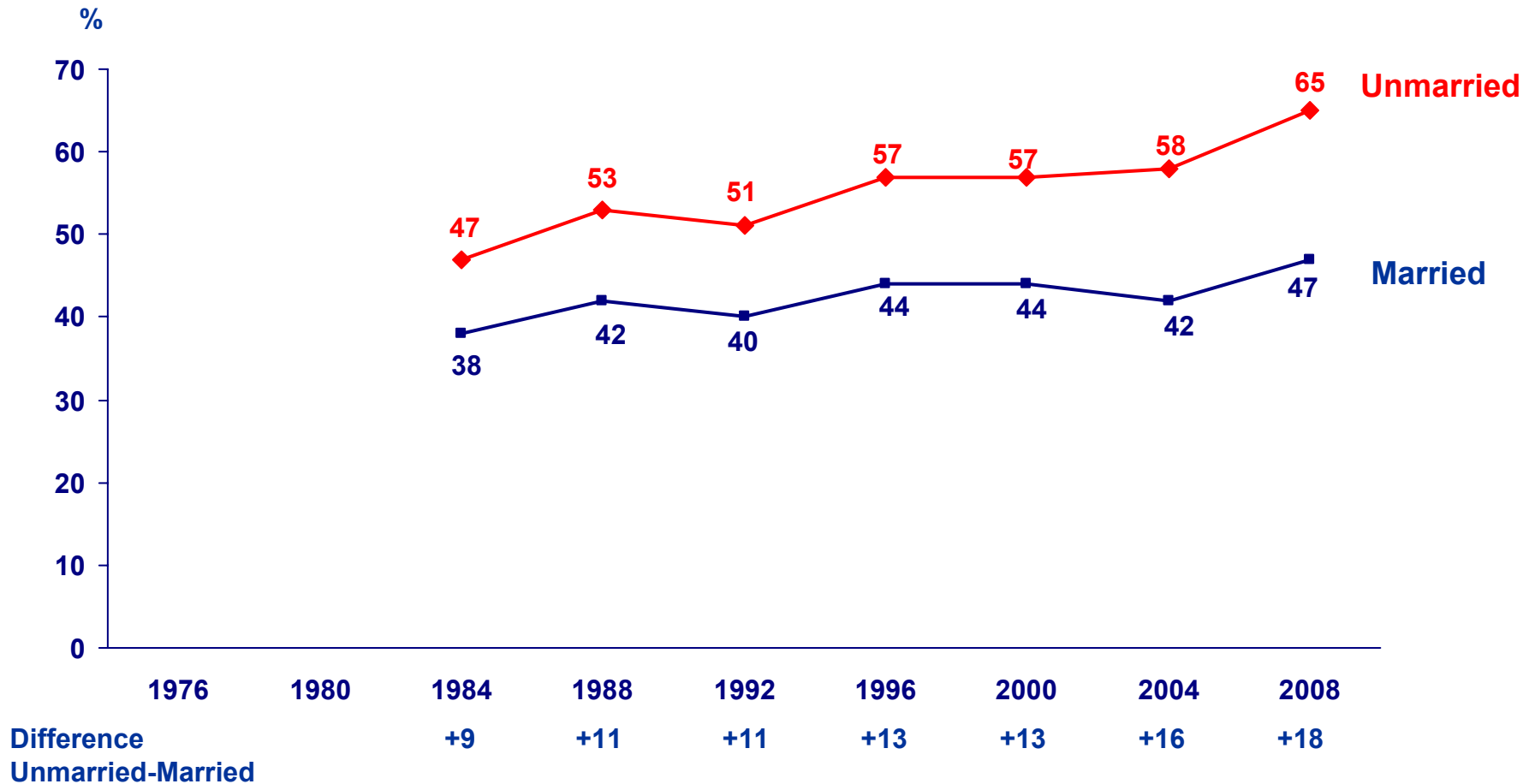
## *per cent Democrats*



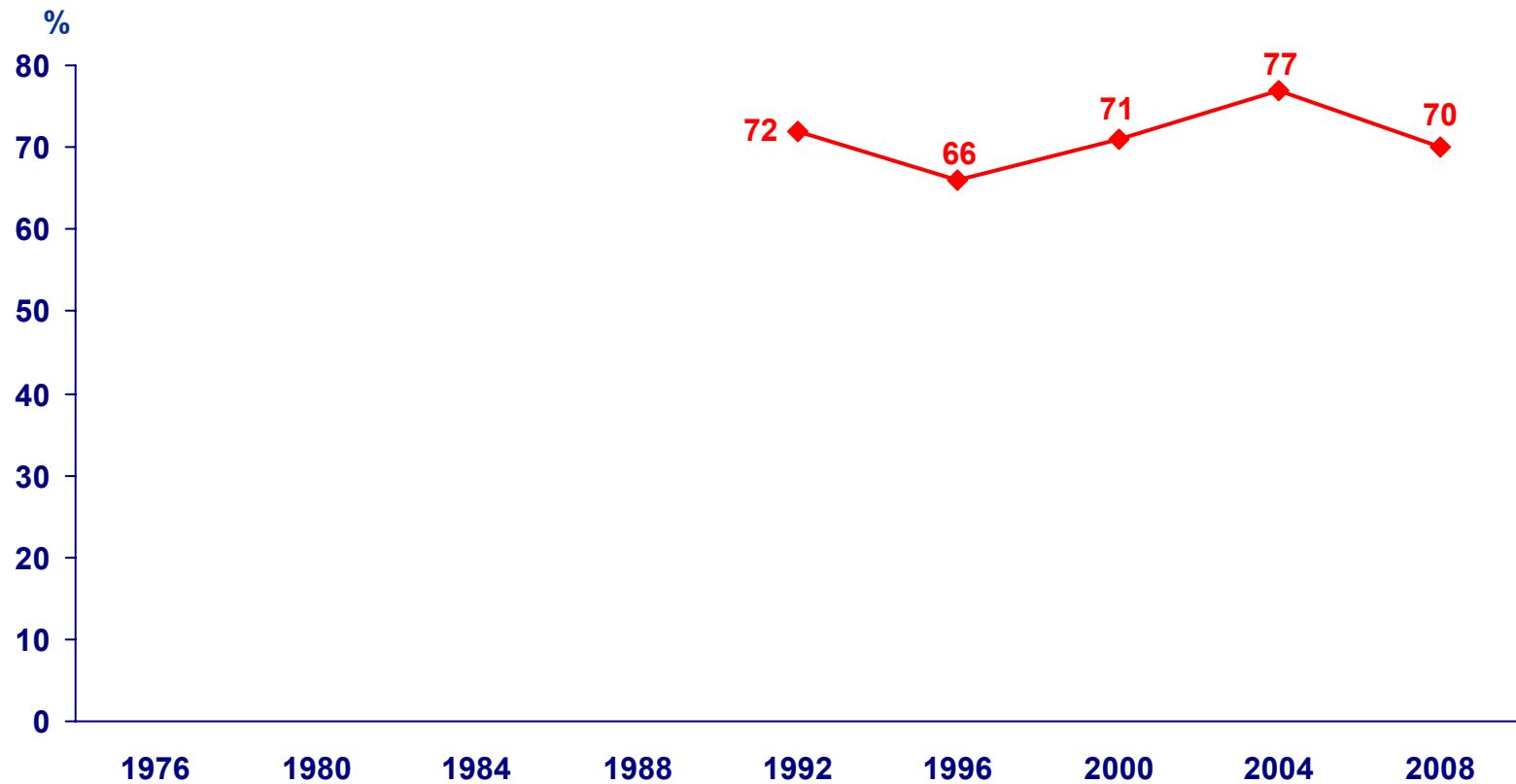
Source: VNS Exit Polls; NEP 2004; Edison 2008

# Marital Status

*per cent Democrats*

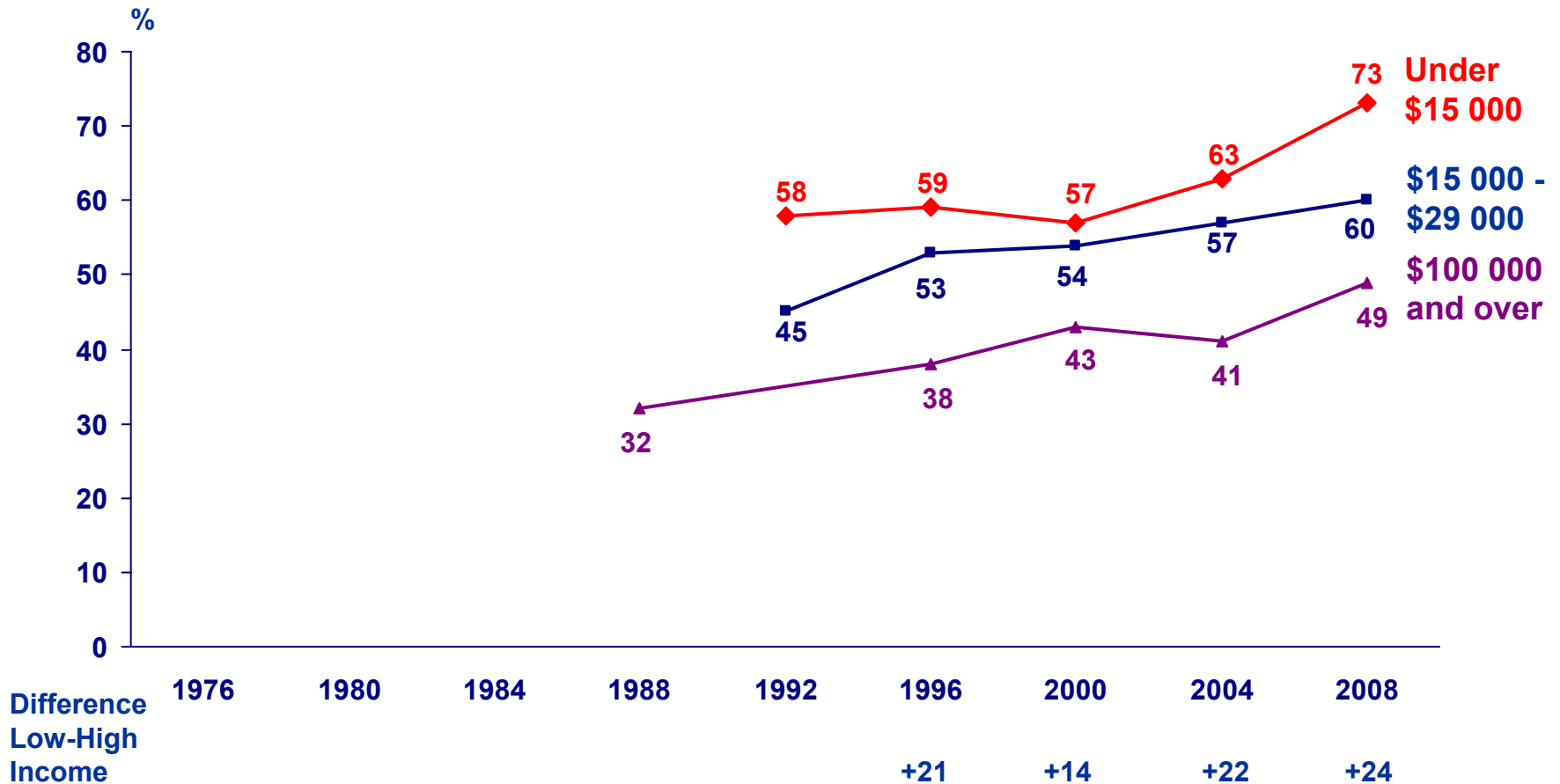


# Gays/Lesbians *per cent Democrats*



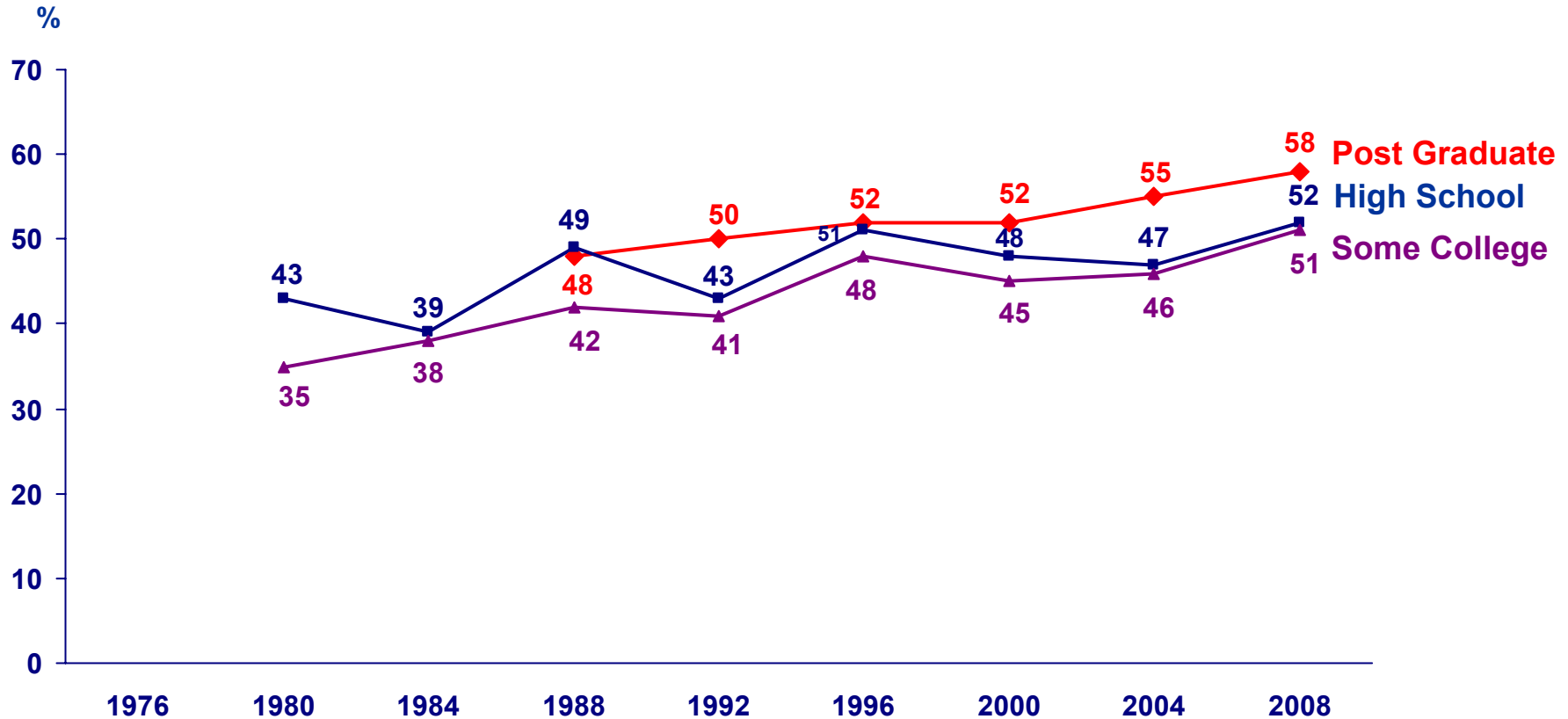
# Income

*per cent Democrats*

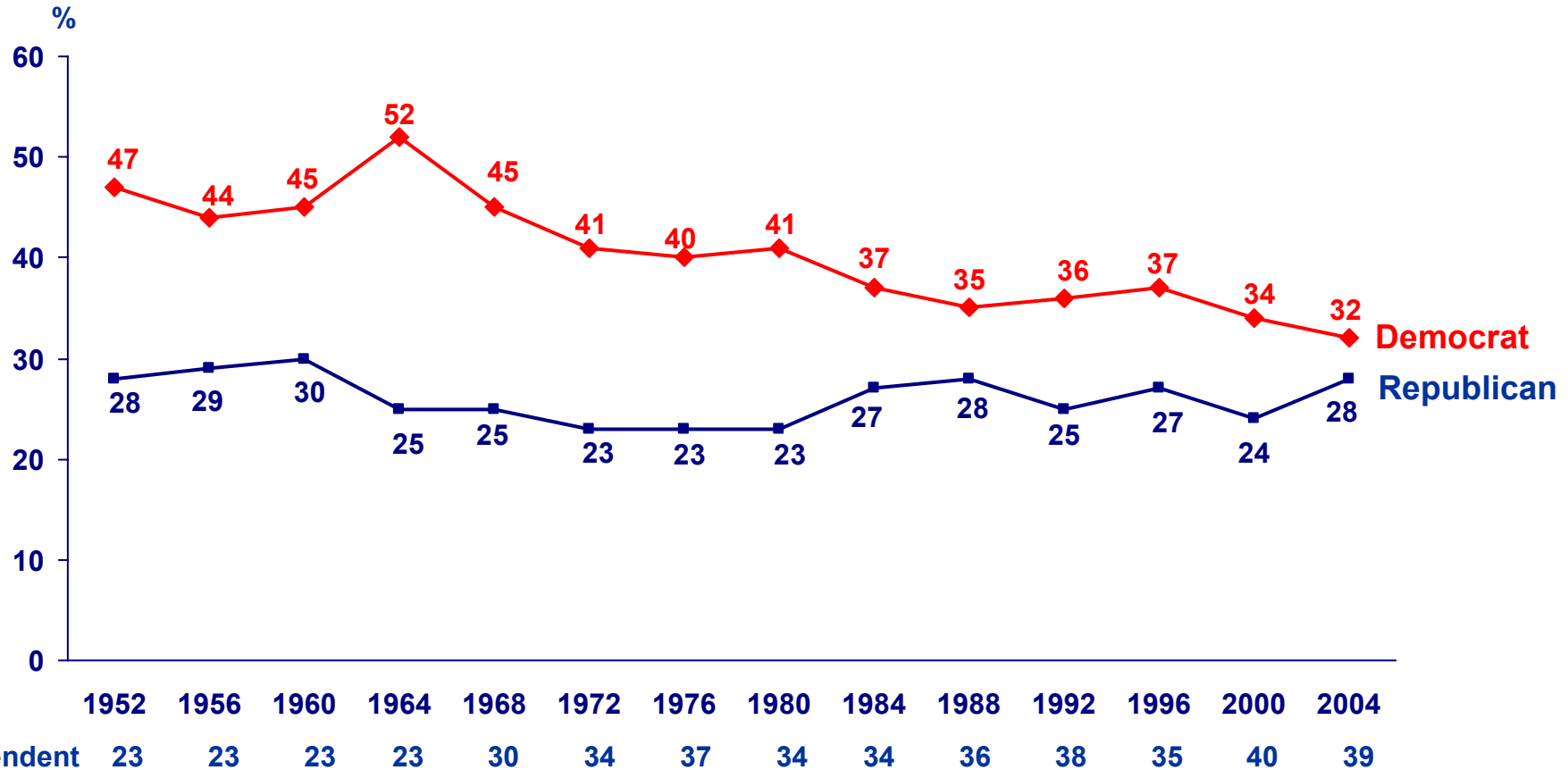


# Education

*per cent Democrats*

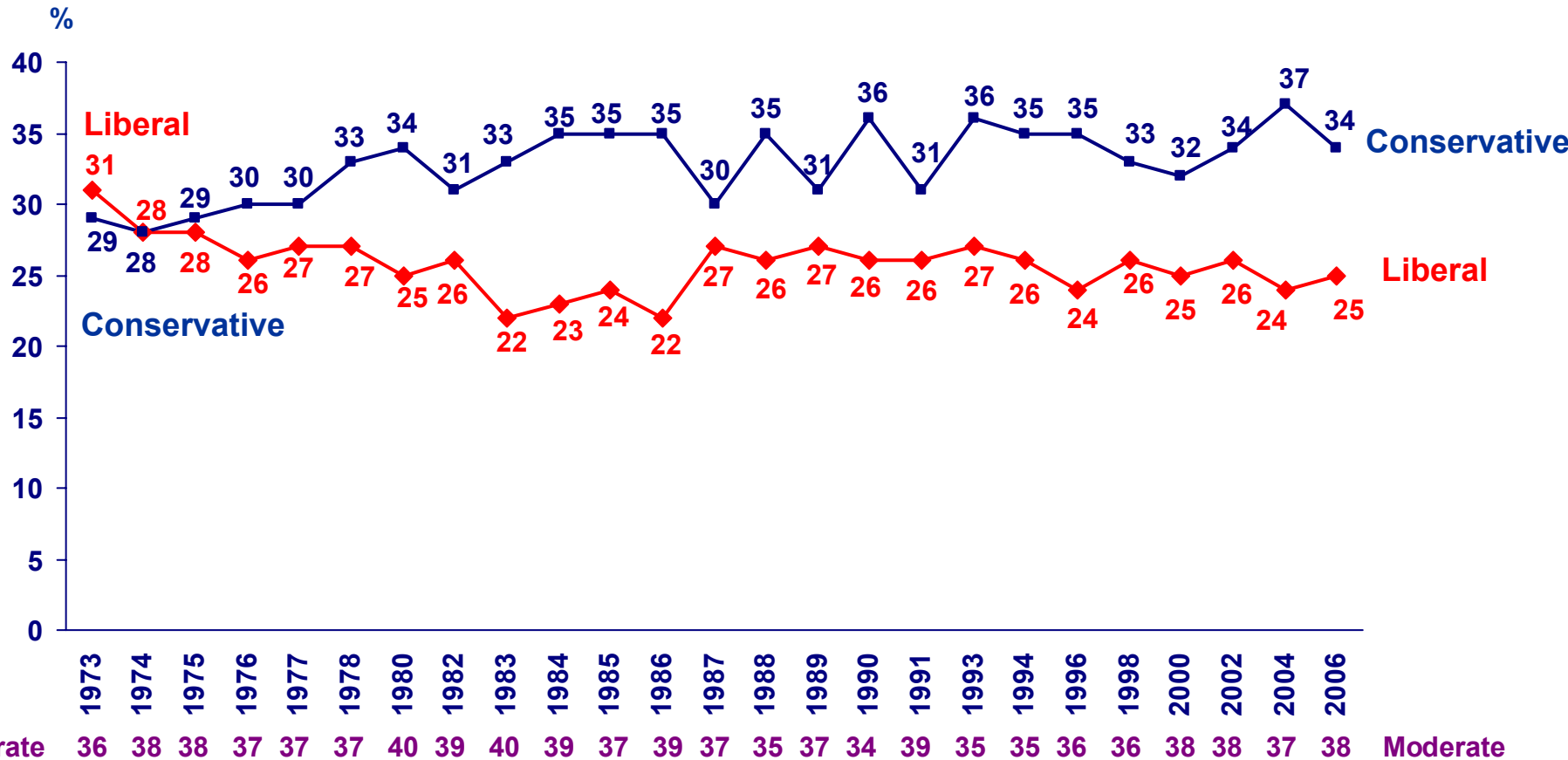


# US Party Identification



	<u>NEP 2004</u>	<u>Edison 2008</u>
Dem	37	Dem 39
Rep	37	Rep 32
Ind	26	Ind 29

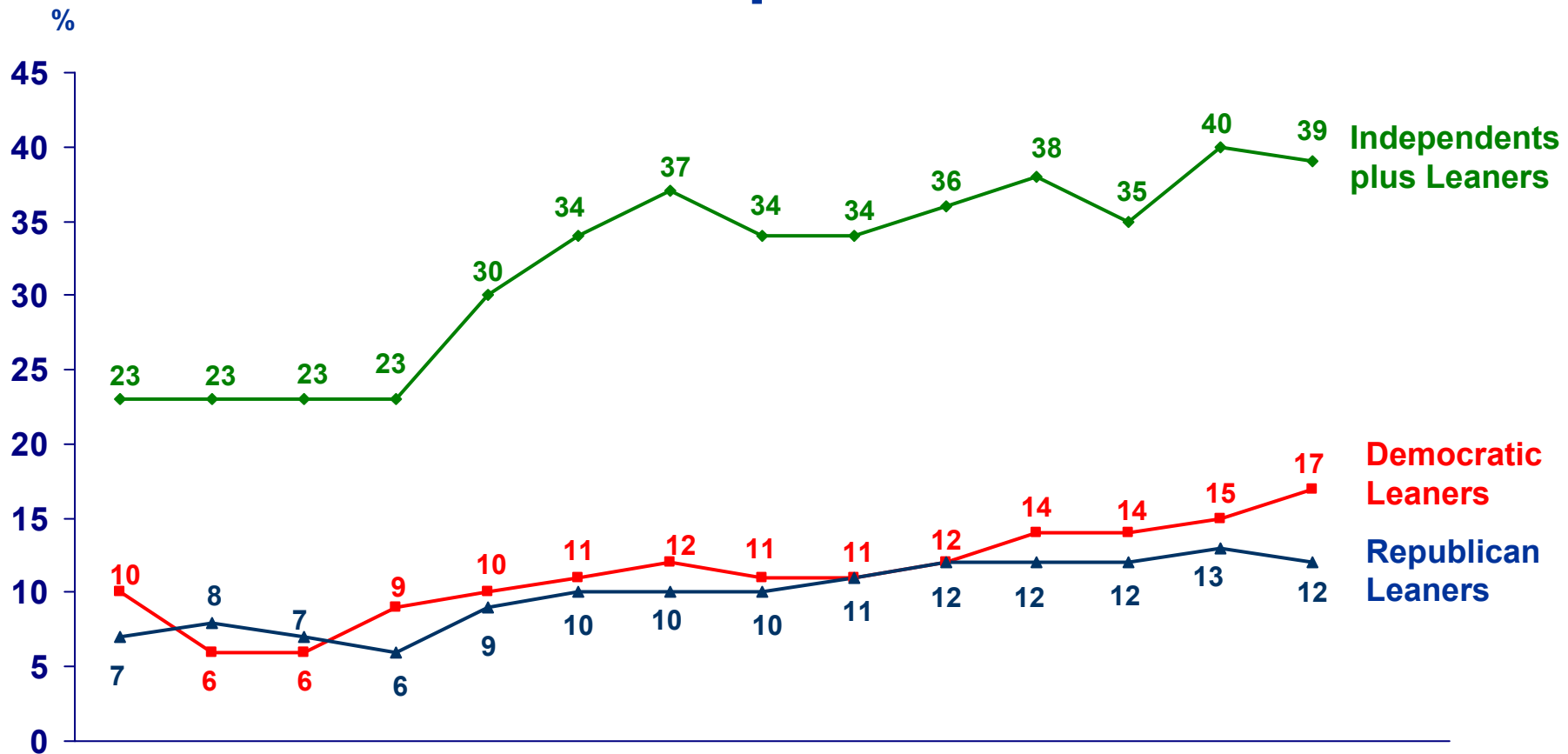
# US Ideological Self-Identification



<u>NEP 2004</u>		<u>Edison 2008</u>	
Cons	34	Cons	34
Mod	45	Mod	44
Lib	21	Lib	22

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

# US: Independents

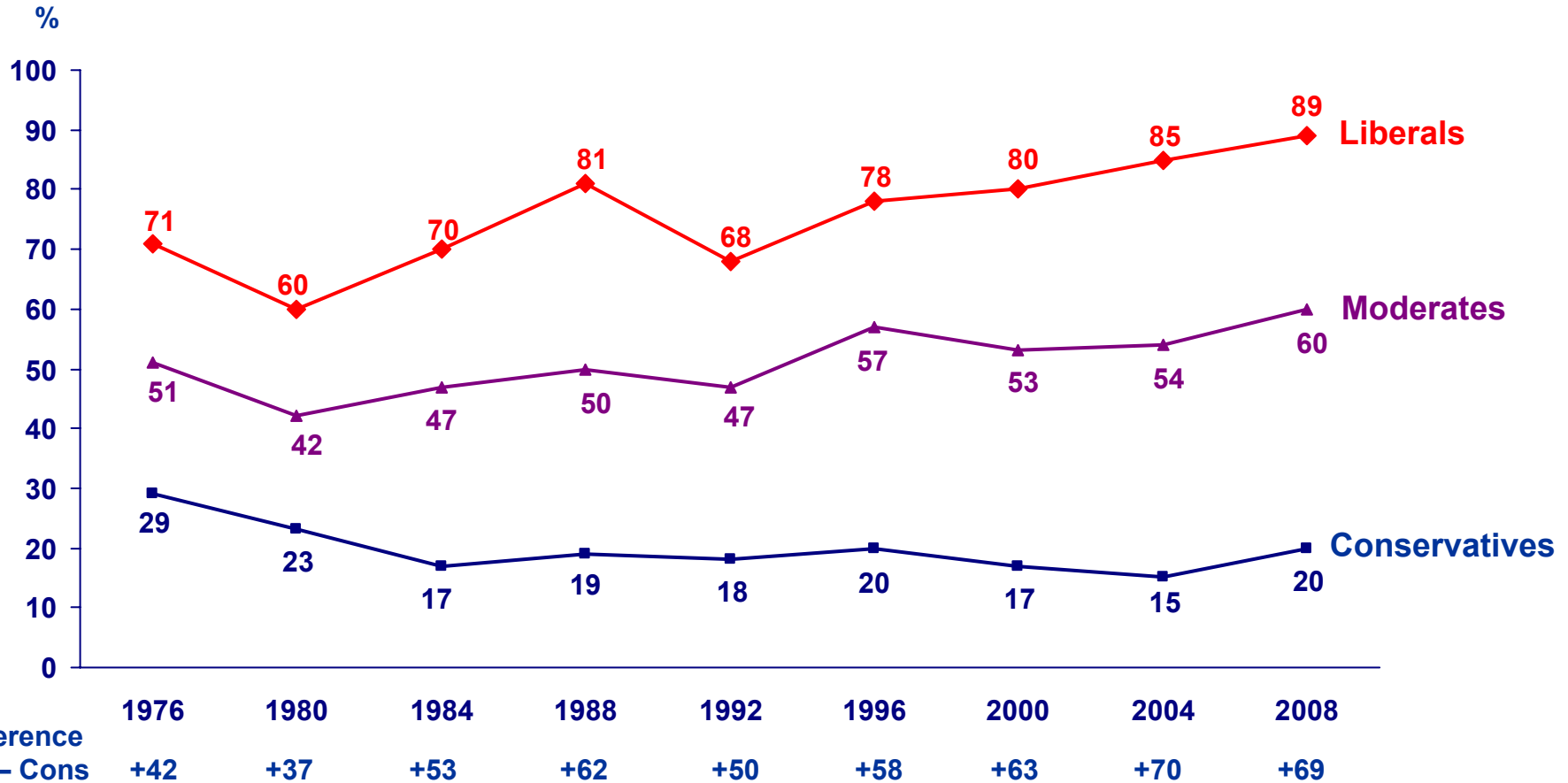


1952 1956 1960 1964 1968 1972 1976 1980 1984 1988 1992 1996 2000 2004 2008

Pure Independents	6	9	10	8	11	13	15	13	11	11	12	9	12	10
Independents plus Leainers	23	23	23	23	30	34	37	34	34	36	38	35	40	39

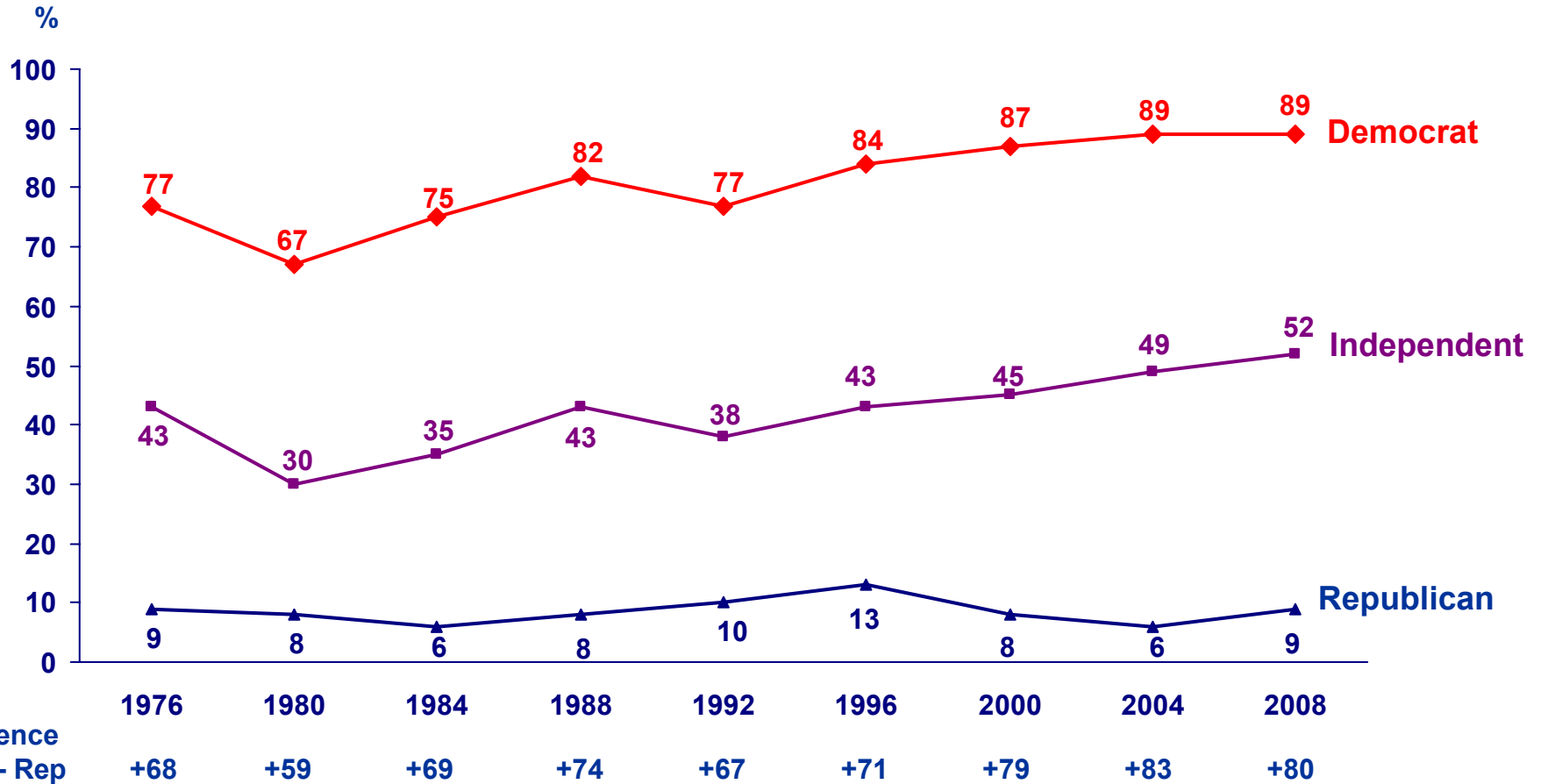
# Ideology

## *per cent Democrats*



# Party Preference

*per cent Democrats*



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