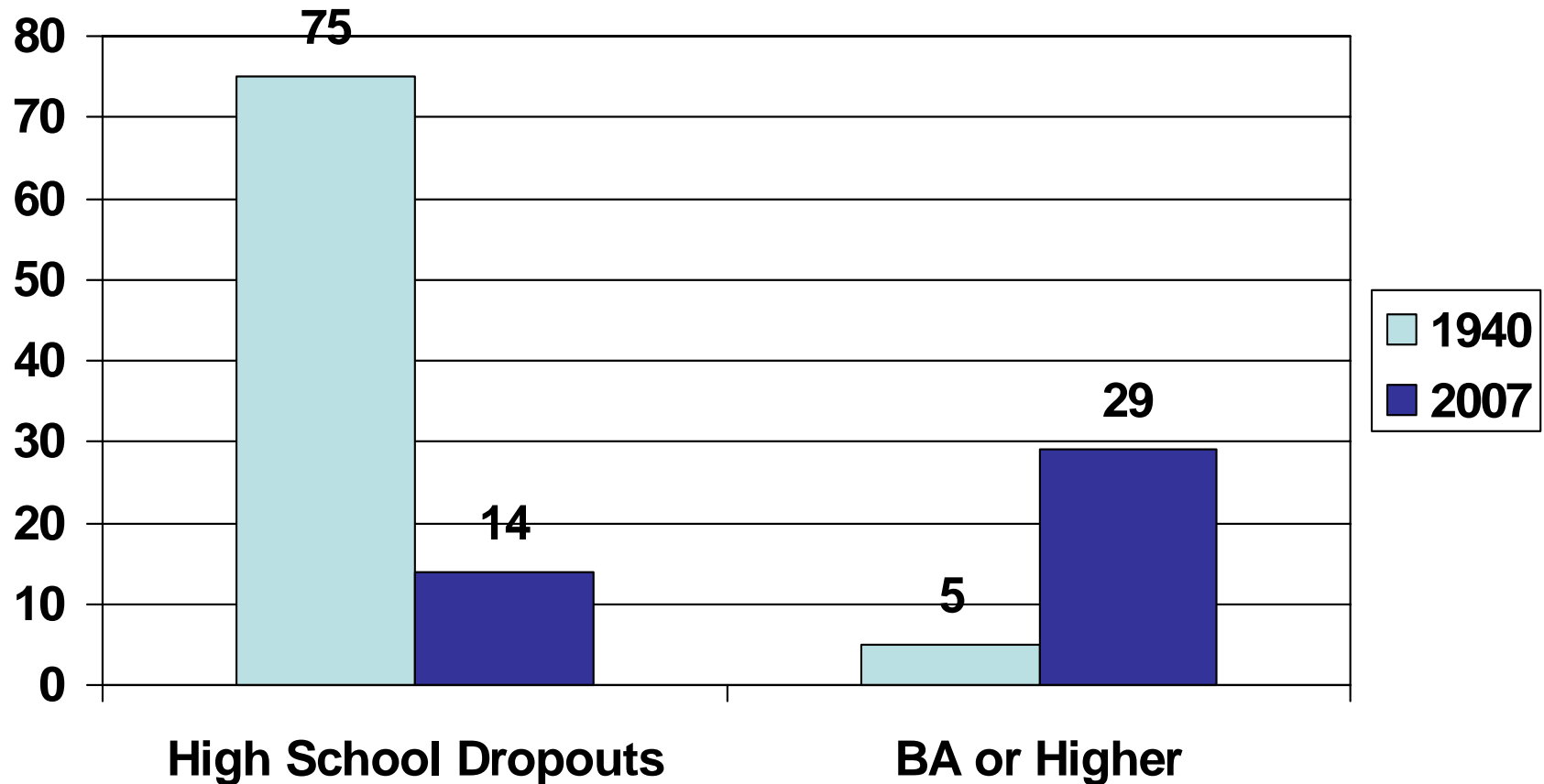


# The Decline of the White Working Class and Other Changes in the Class Structure

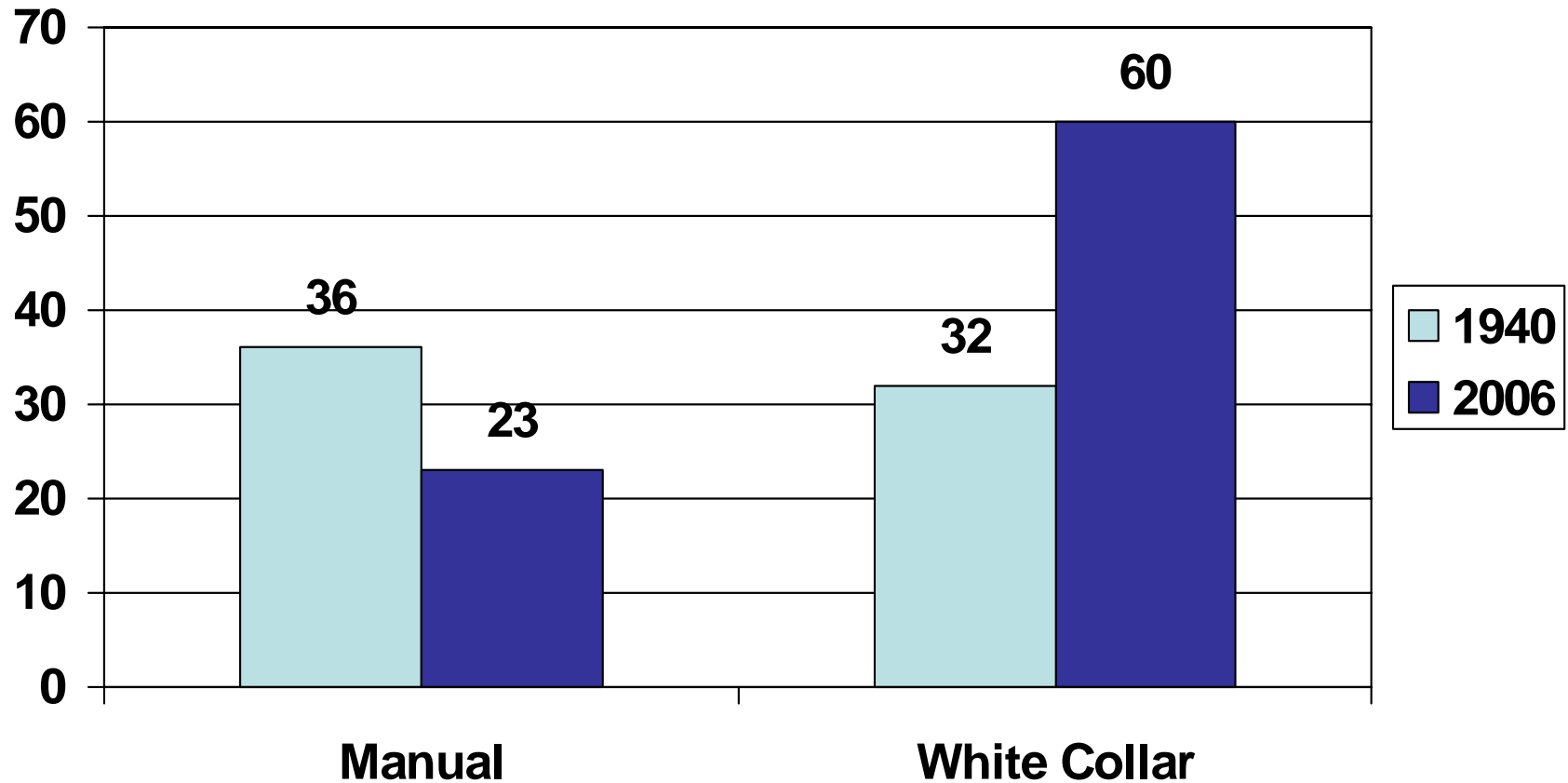
Alan Abramowitz and Ruy  
Teixeira

February 28, 2008

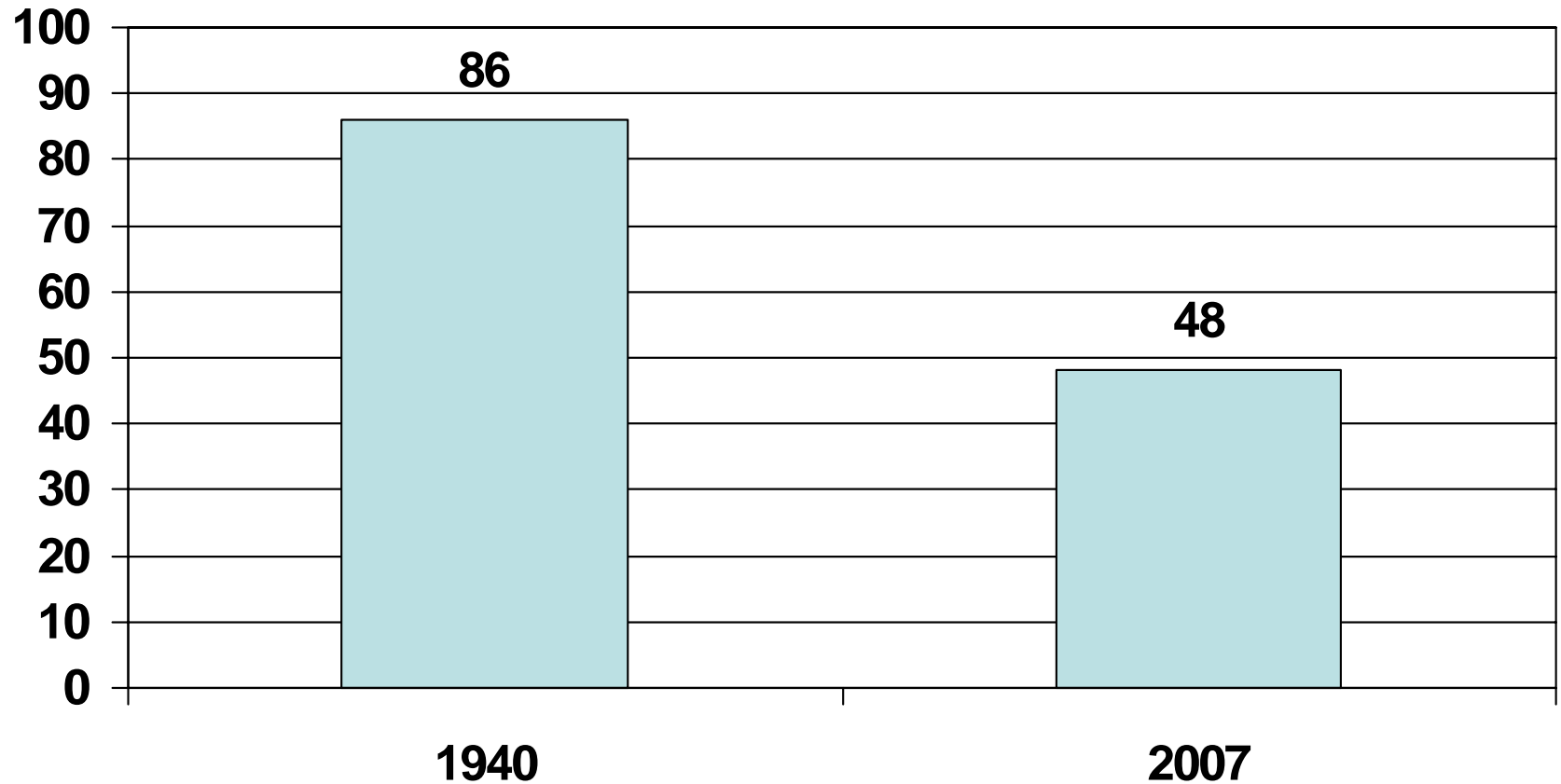
# Change in Education Groups, 1940-2007



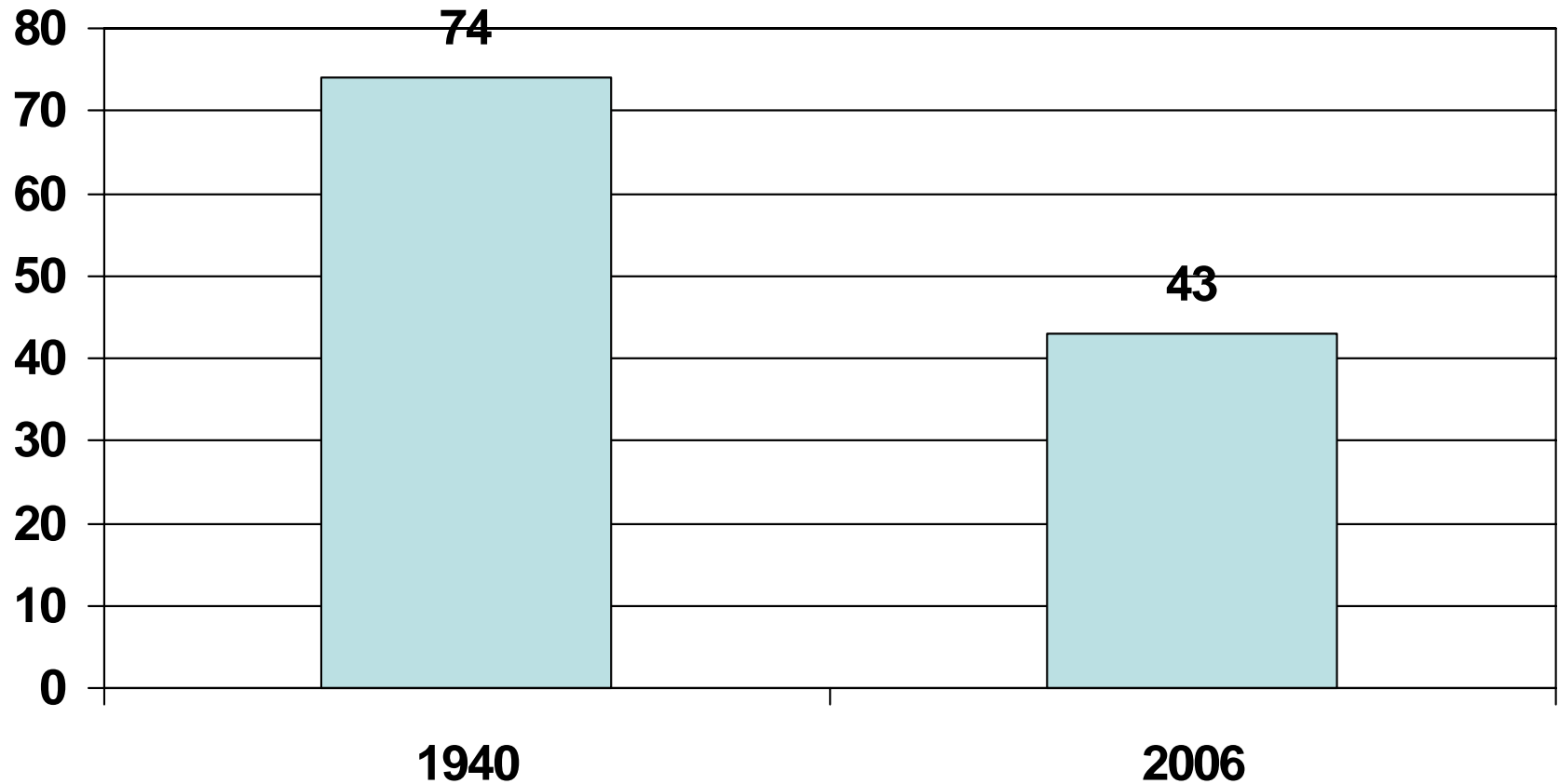
# Change in Occupation Groups, 1940-2006



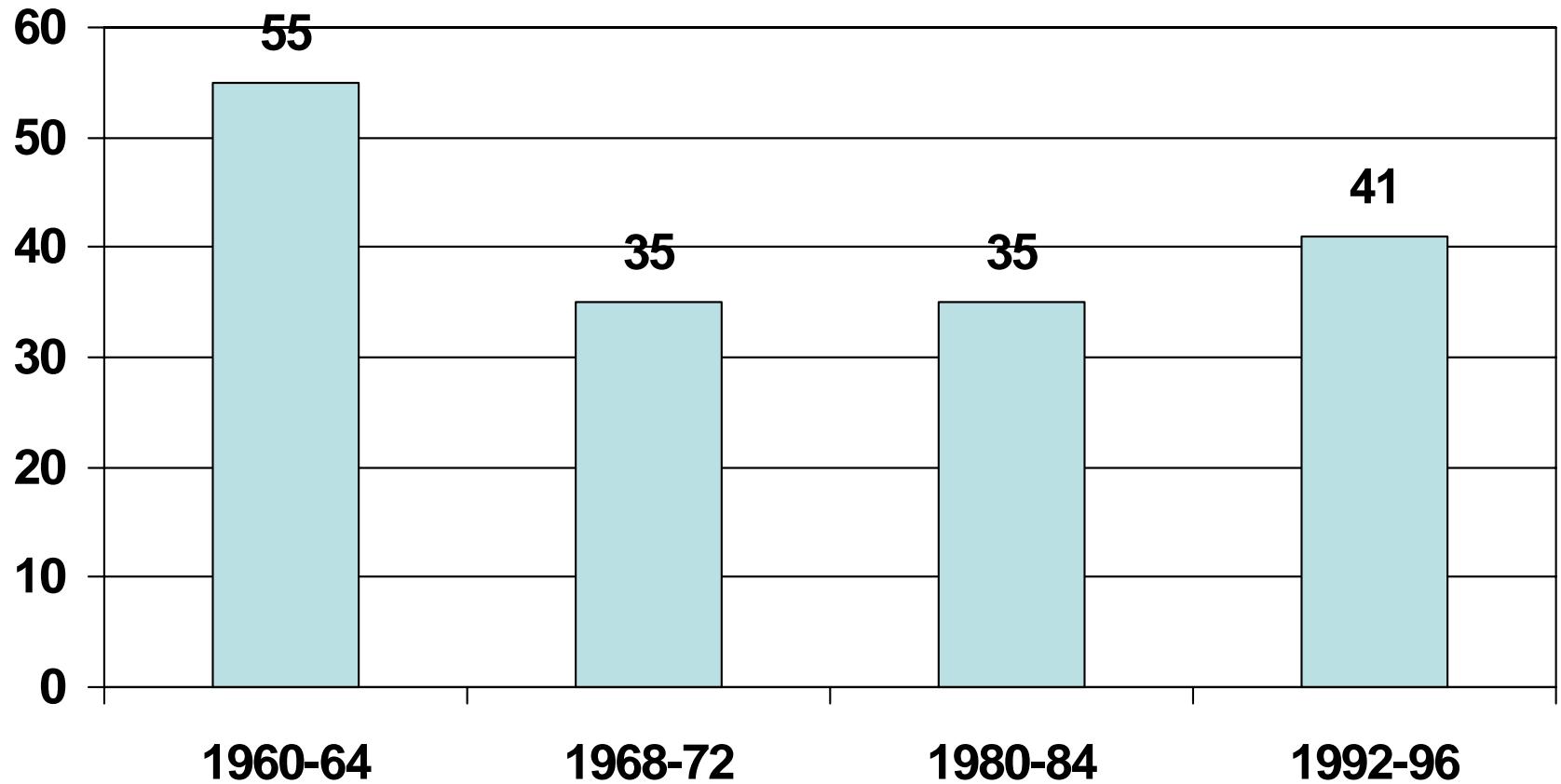
# Change in Size of White Working Class (Education), 1940-2007



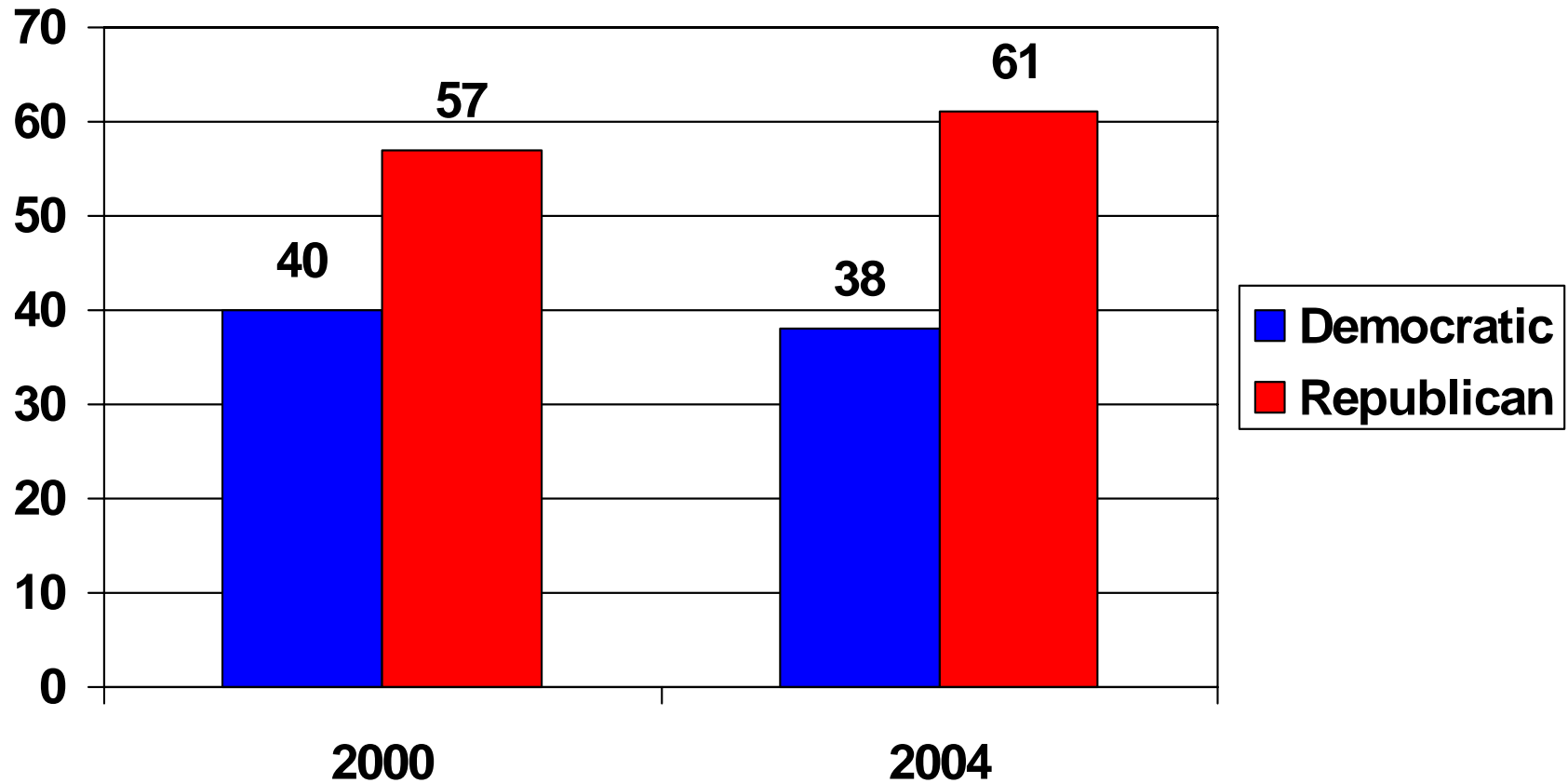
# Change in Size of White Working Class (Occupation), 1940-2006



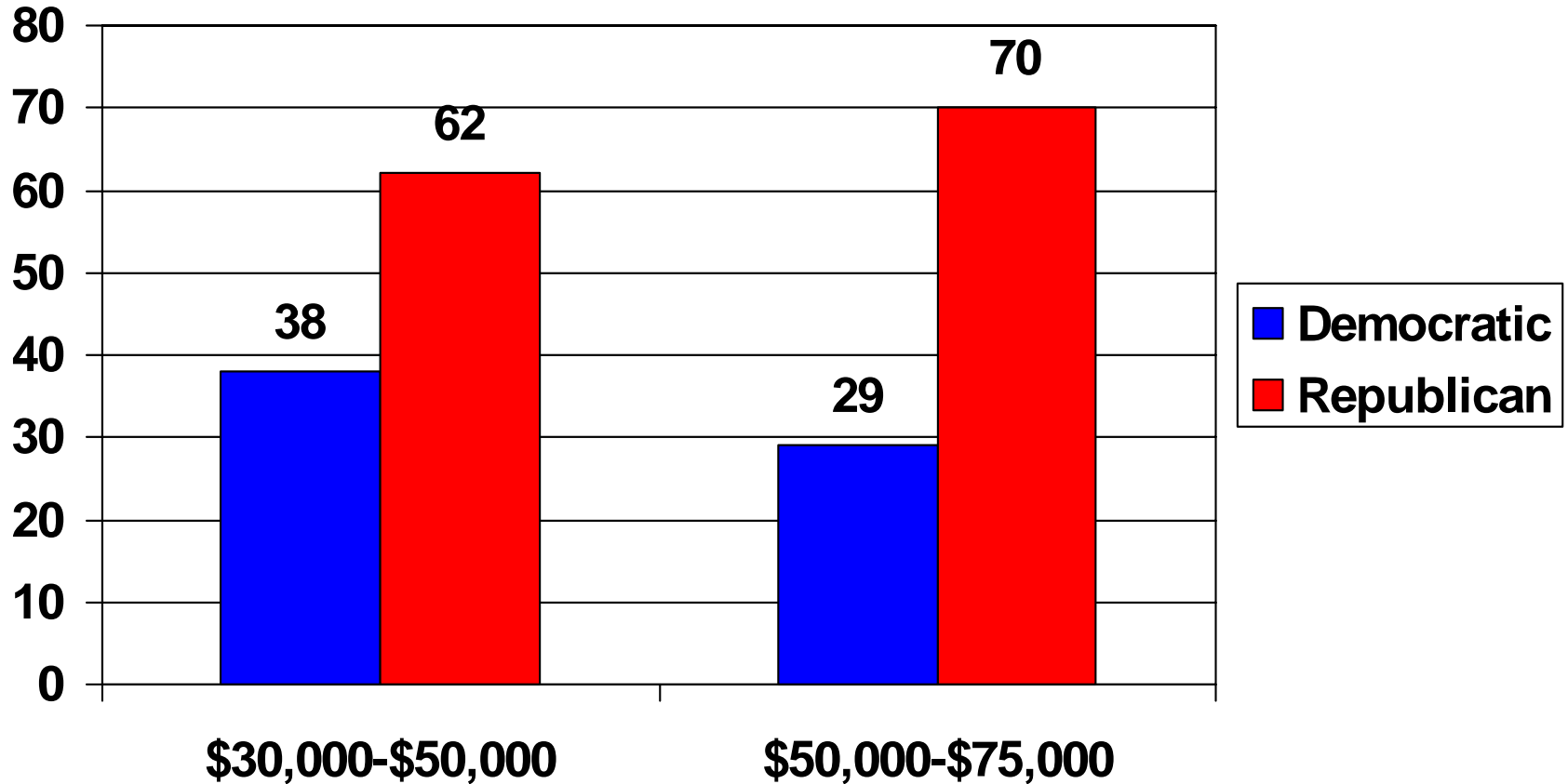
# Change in White Working Class Democratic Presidential Support, 1960-1996



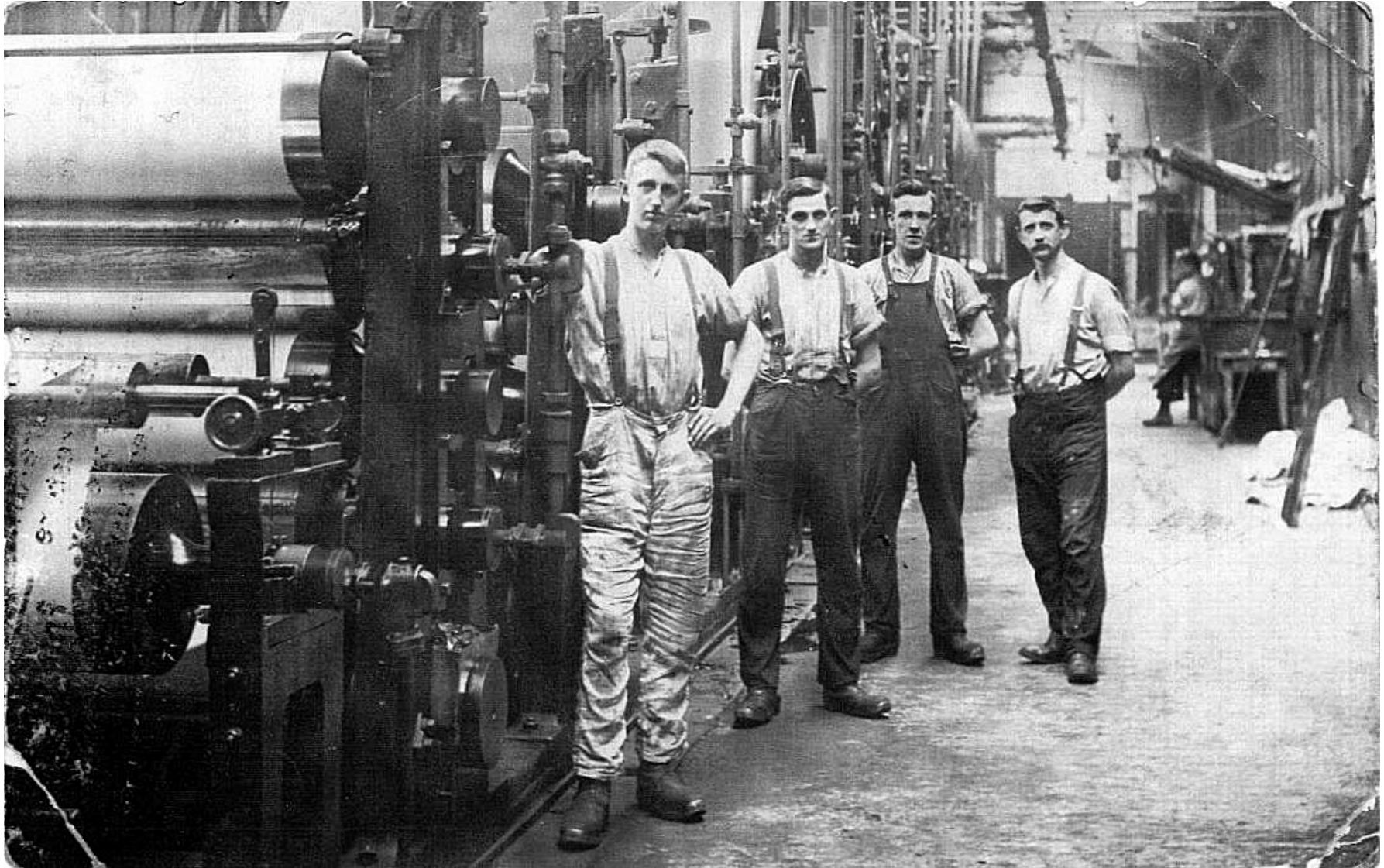
# White Working Class Vote in 2000 and 2004



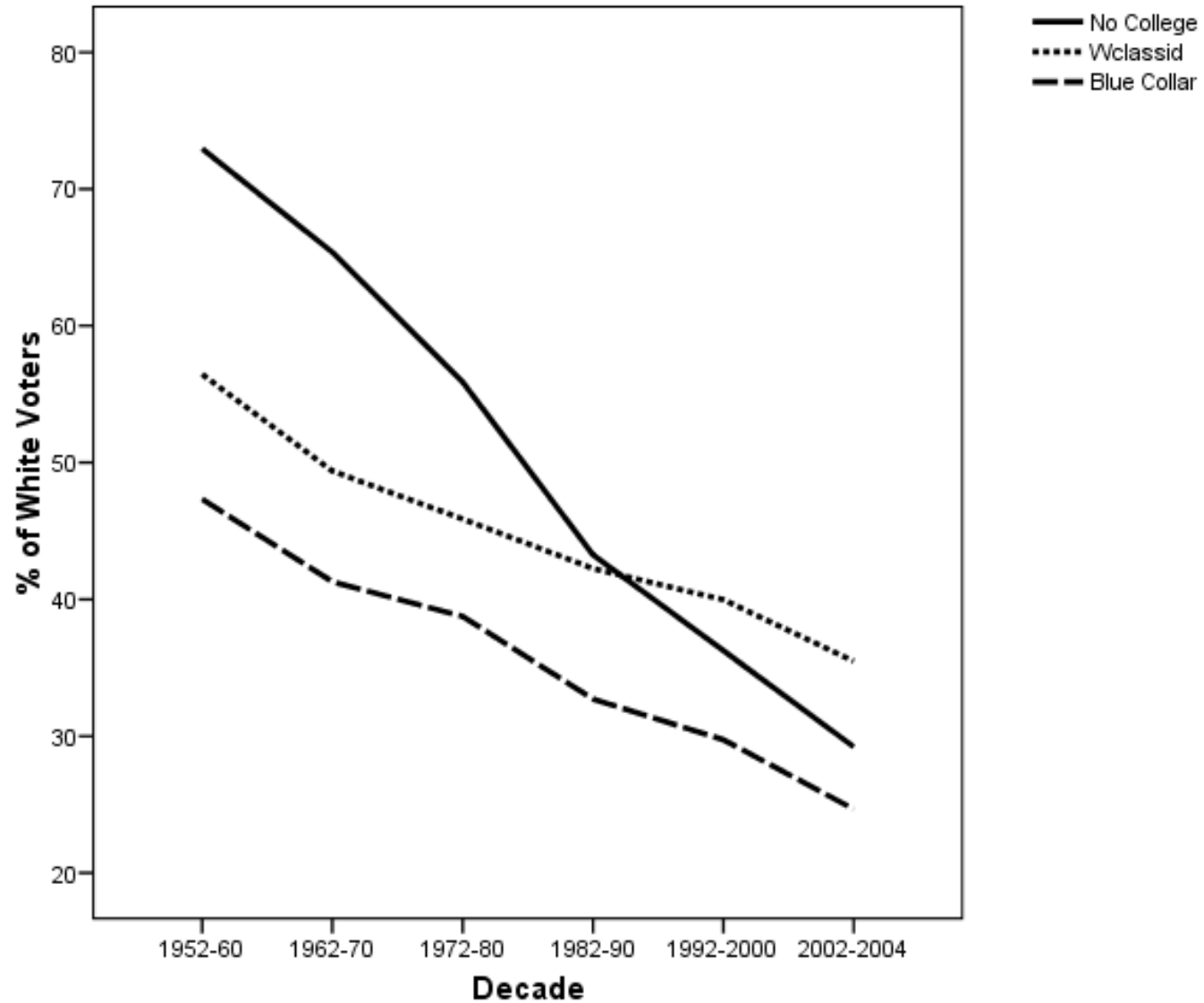
# White Working Class Vote, Middle Income Groups, 2004



# The White Working Class and the Democratic Party

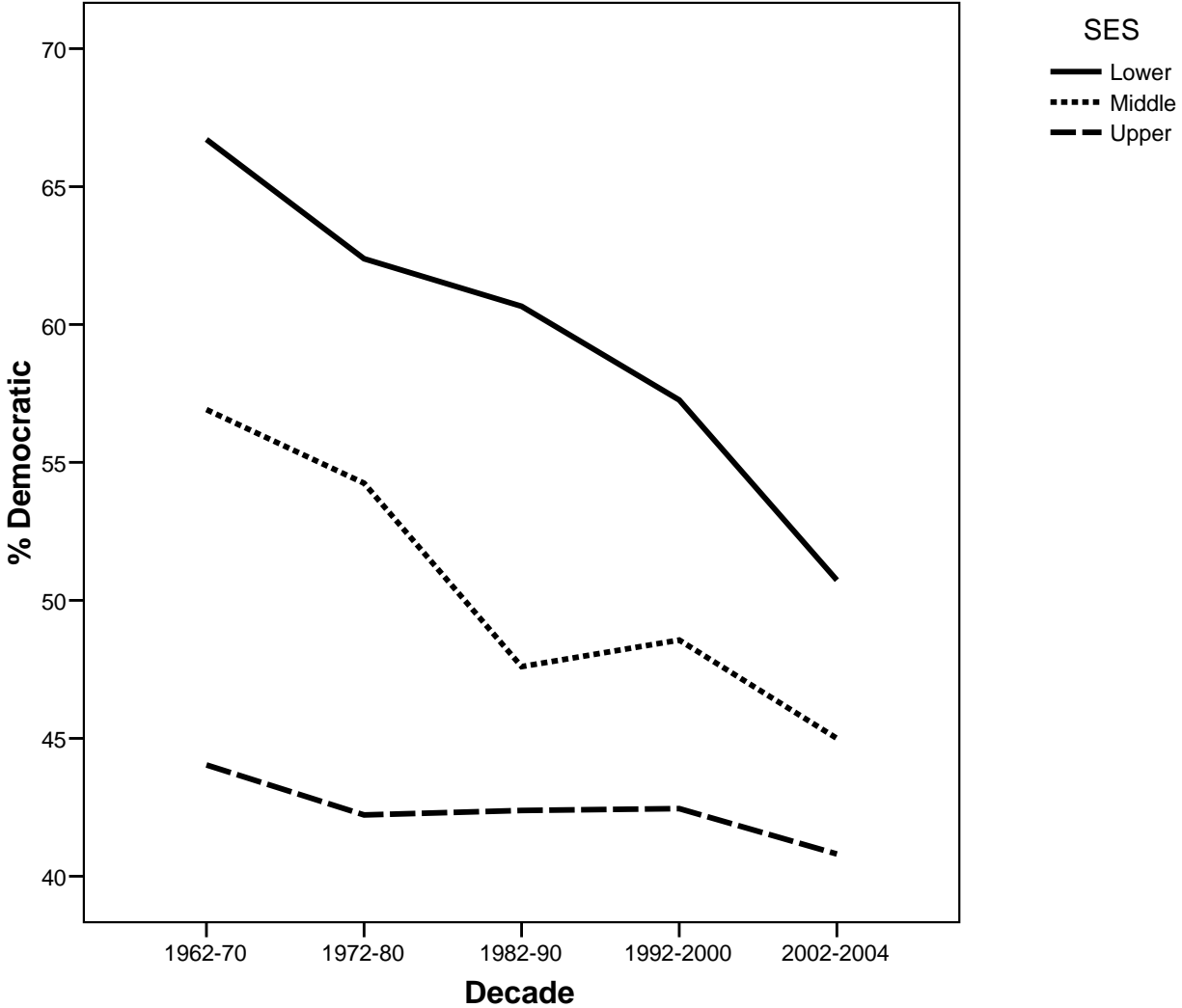


# The Decline of the White Working Class



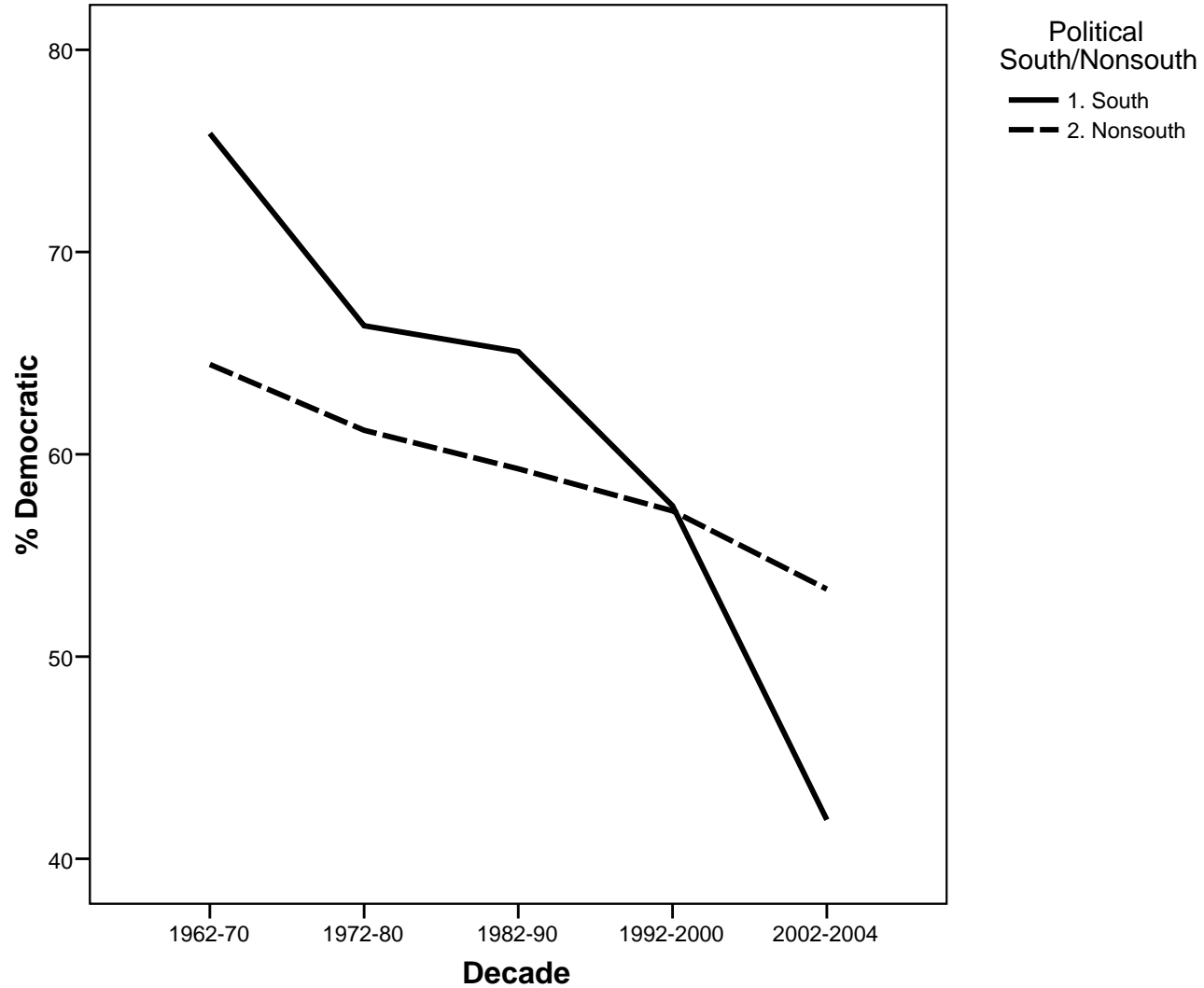
Source: NES Cumulative File

# Democratic Identification among Lower, Middle, and Upper SES White Voters by Decade



Source: NES Cumulative File

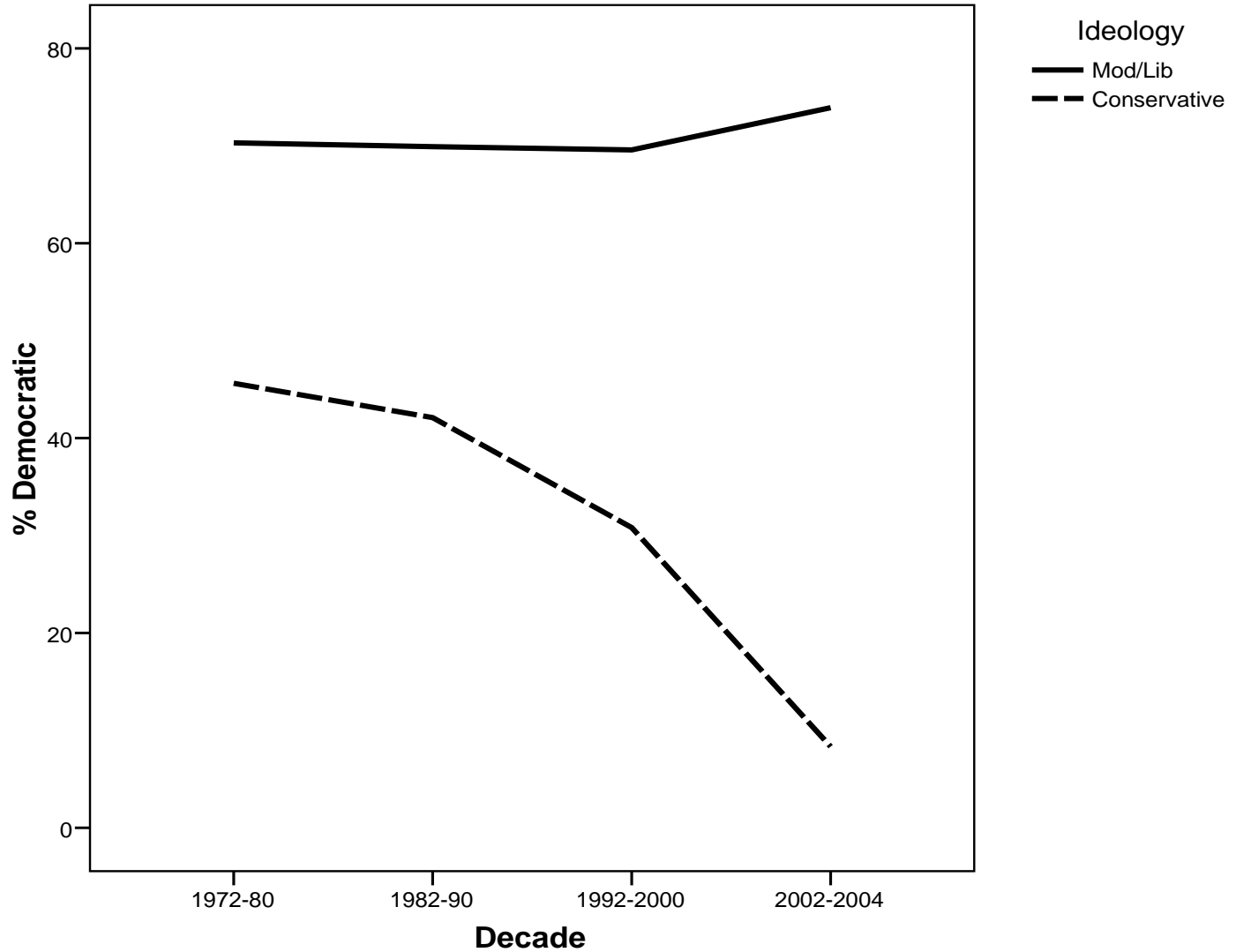
# Democratic Identification among Lower SES White Voters by Decade and Region



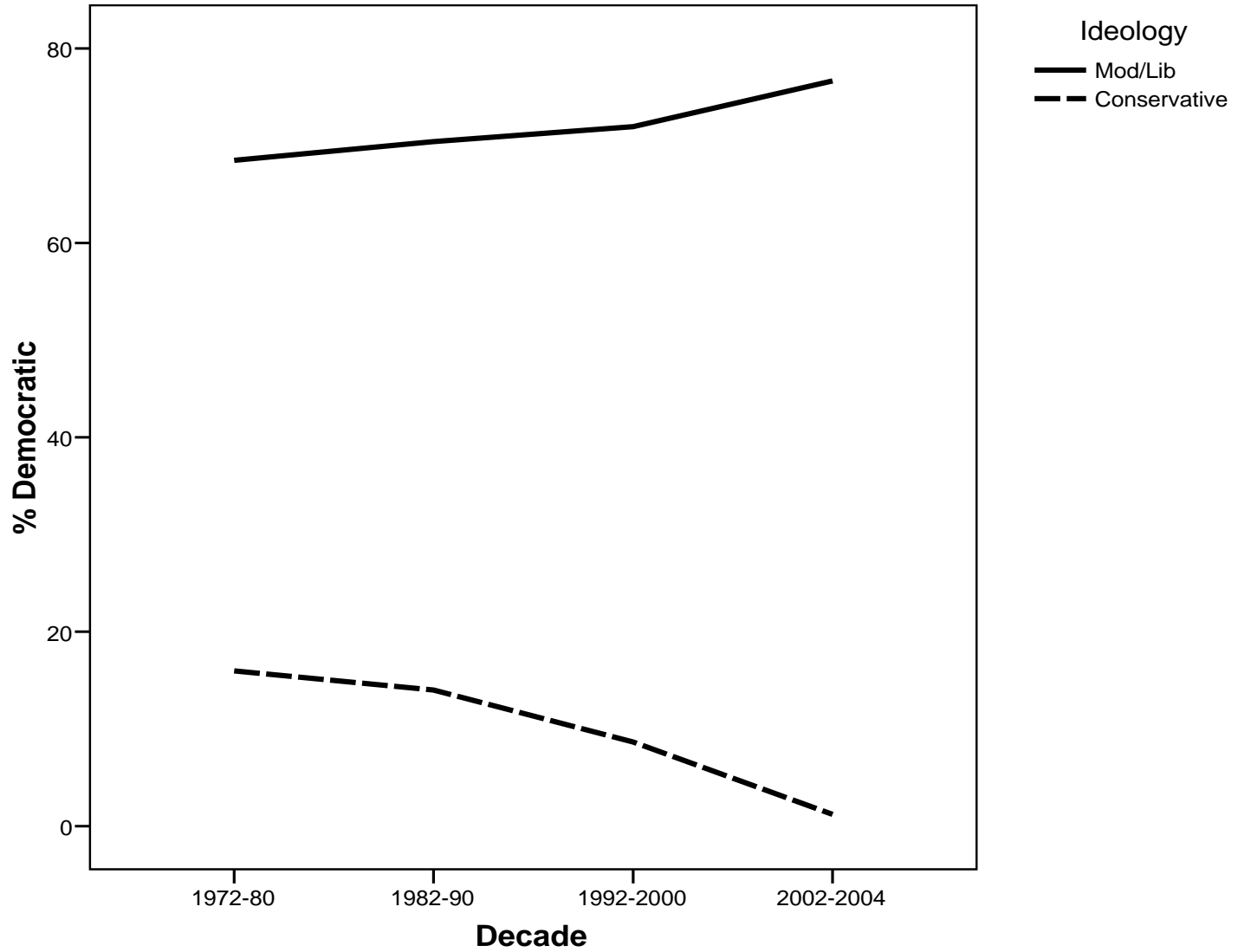
Source: NES Cumulative File

# Democratic Identification by Ideology among Lower and Upper SES White Voters by Decade

## Lower SES



# Upper SES



Source: NES Cumulative File

## Democratic Identification by Abortion Position among Lower, Middle, and Upper SES White Voters in 2004

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	Pro-Life	Pro-Choice	Kendall's tau-b	Significance
Lower SES	43%	57%	.14	.05
Middle SES	33%	55%	.22	.01
Upper SES	8%	60%	.50	.001

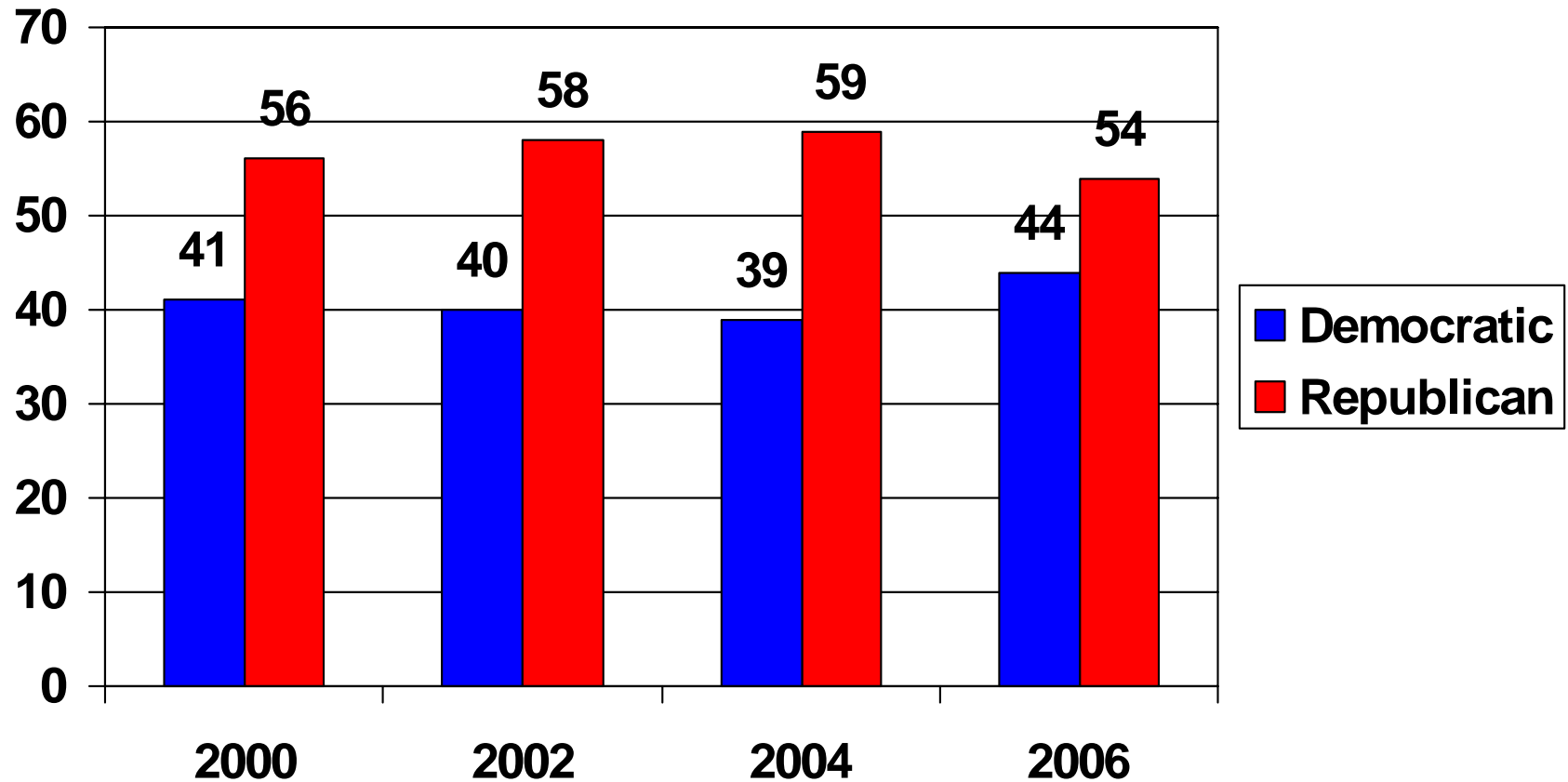
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Source: 2004 NES

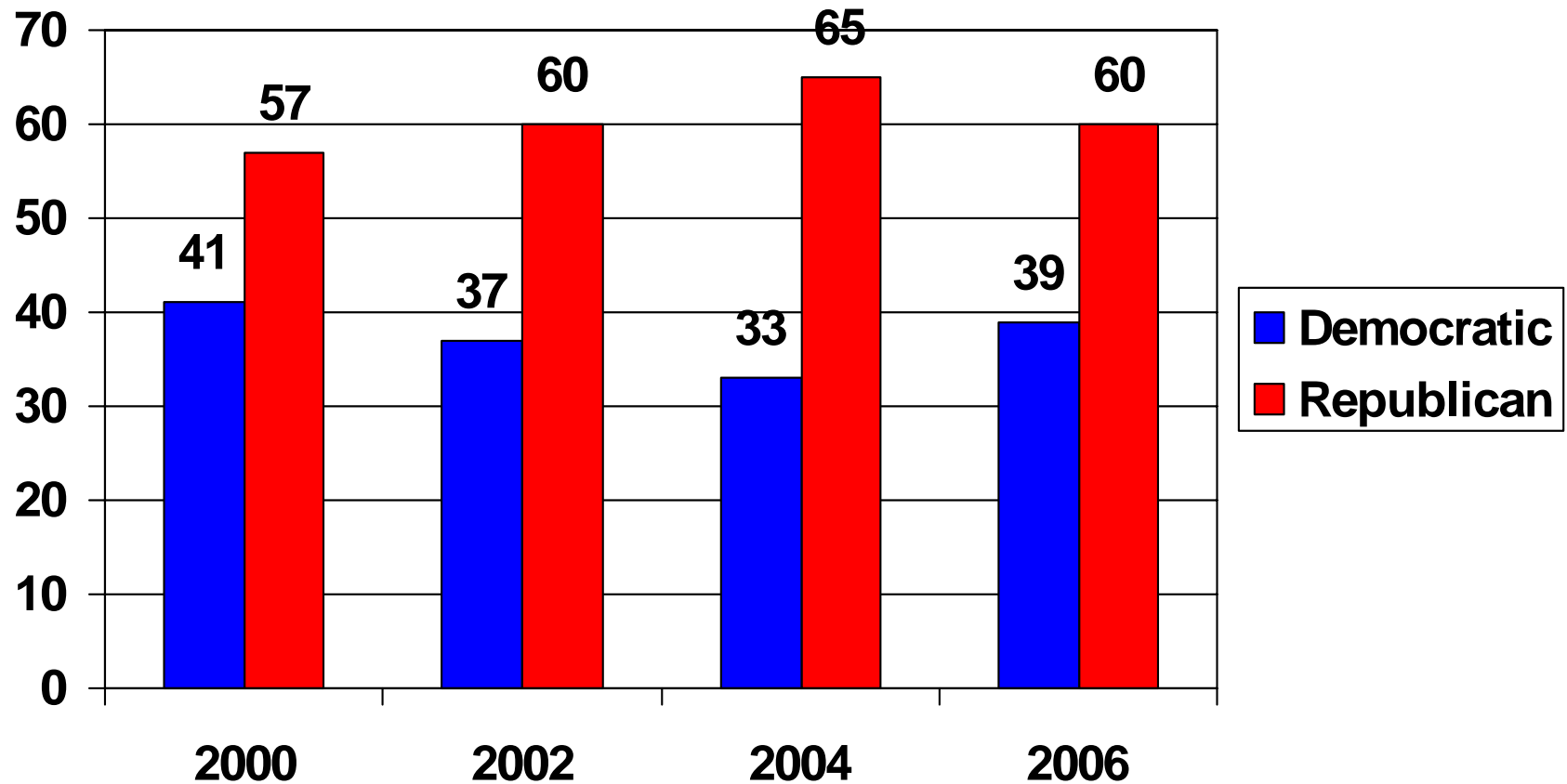
# Conclusions

- The white working class makes up a much smaller share of the white electorate than in the past
- Democratic identification among white working class voters has declined dramatically over time
- The party loyalties of white working class voters today are sharply divided along ideological lines
  - Conservative WWC voters have largely abandoned the Democrats
  - Moderate-to-liberal WWC voters, who comprise 60% of all WWC voters, are more Democratic than ever

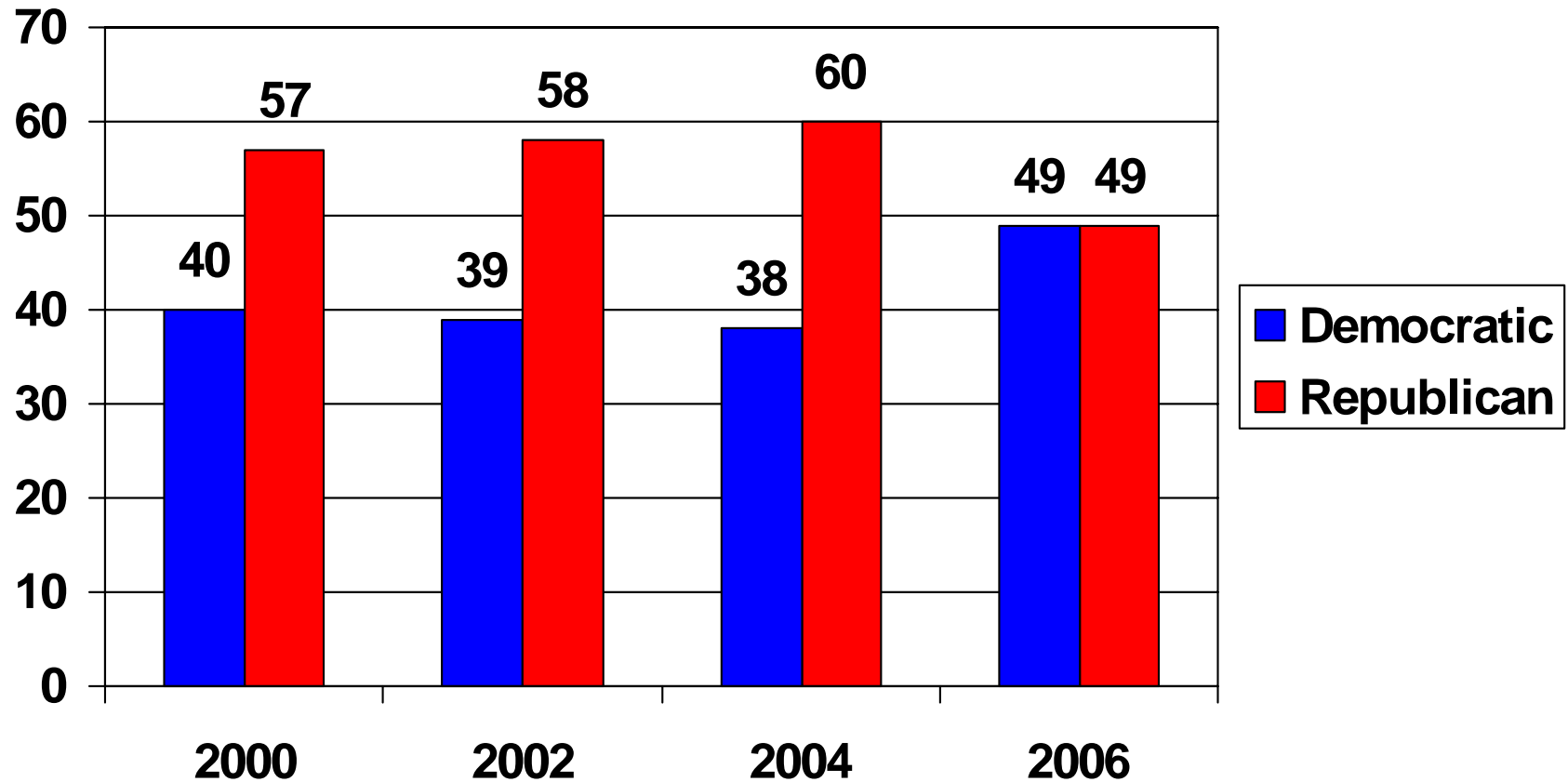
# White Working Class Congressional Vote, 2000-2006



# White Working Class 50-75K Congressional Vote, 2000-2006



# White Working Class 30-50K Congressional Vote, 2000-2006



# Projected Change in Proportion White Working Class Voters, 2004-2020

