

Authoritarianism and Polarization in American Politics, Still?

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Worldview Evolution

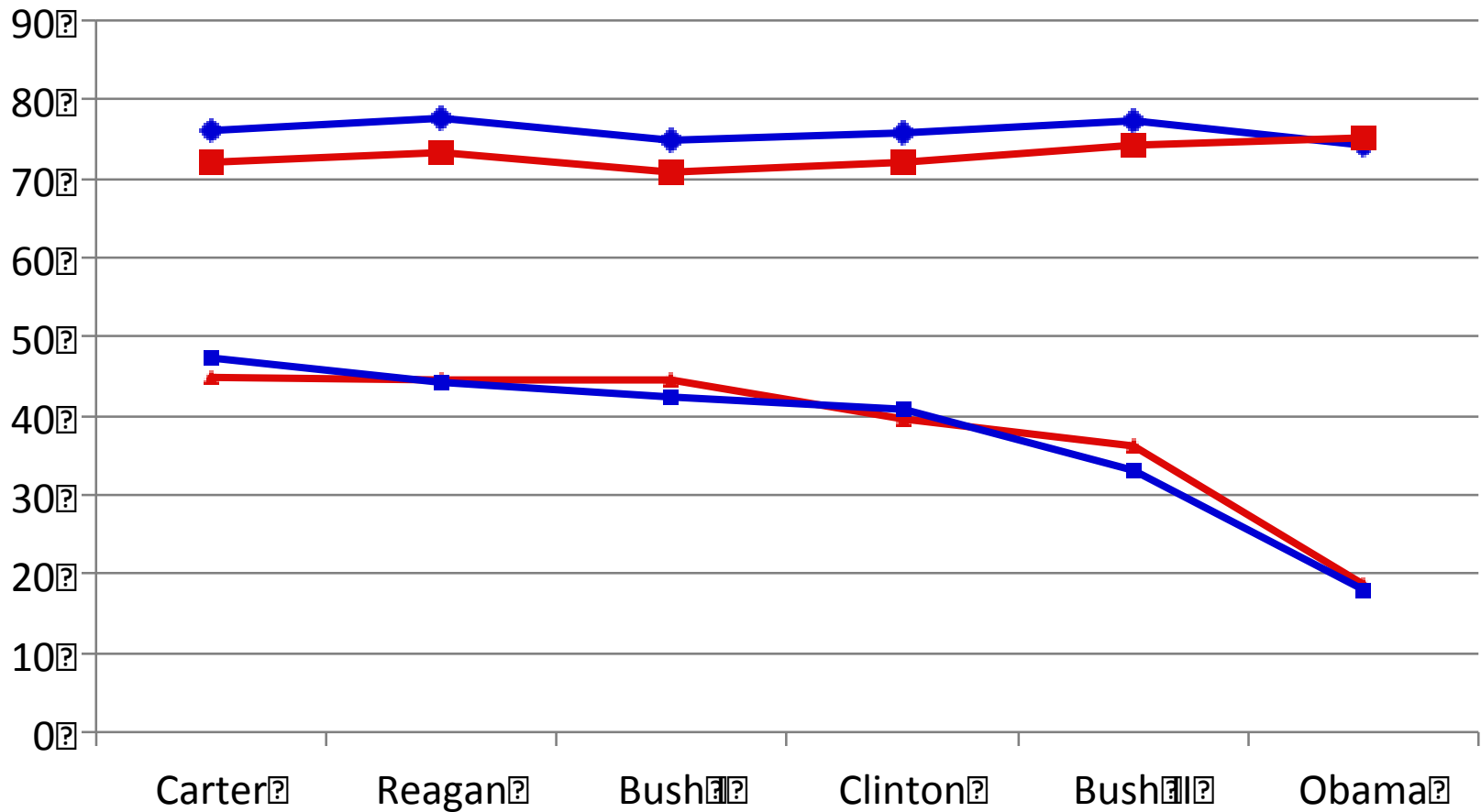
- Worldview Evolution – When new issues arrive on the scene that reinforce an issue cleavage, producing an even deeper divide.
 - Race and Ethnicity – 1960s
 - Law and Order – 1960s and 1970s
 - Feminism – 1970s and 1980s
 - Gay Rights – 1990s and 2000s
 - War on Terrorism – 2000s

PREFERENCES ON ALL THESE ISSUES ARE ORGANIZED BY THE SAME WORLDVIEW – AUTHORITARIANISM

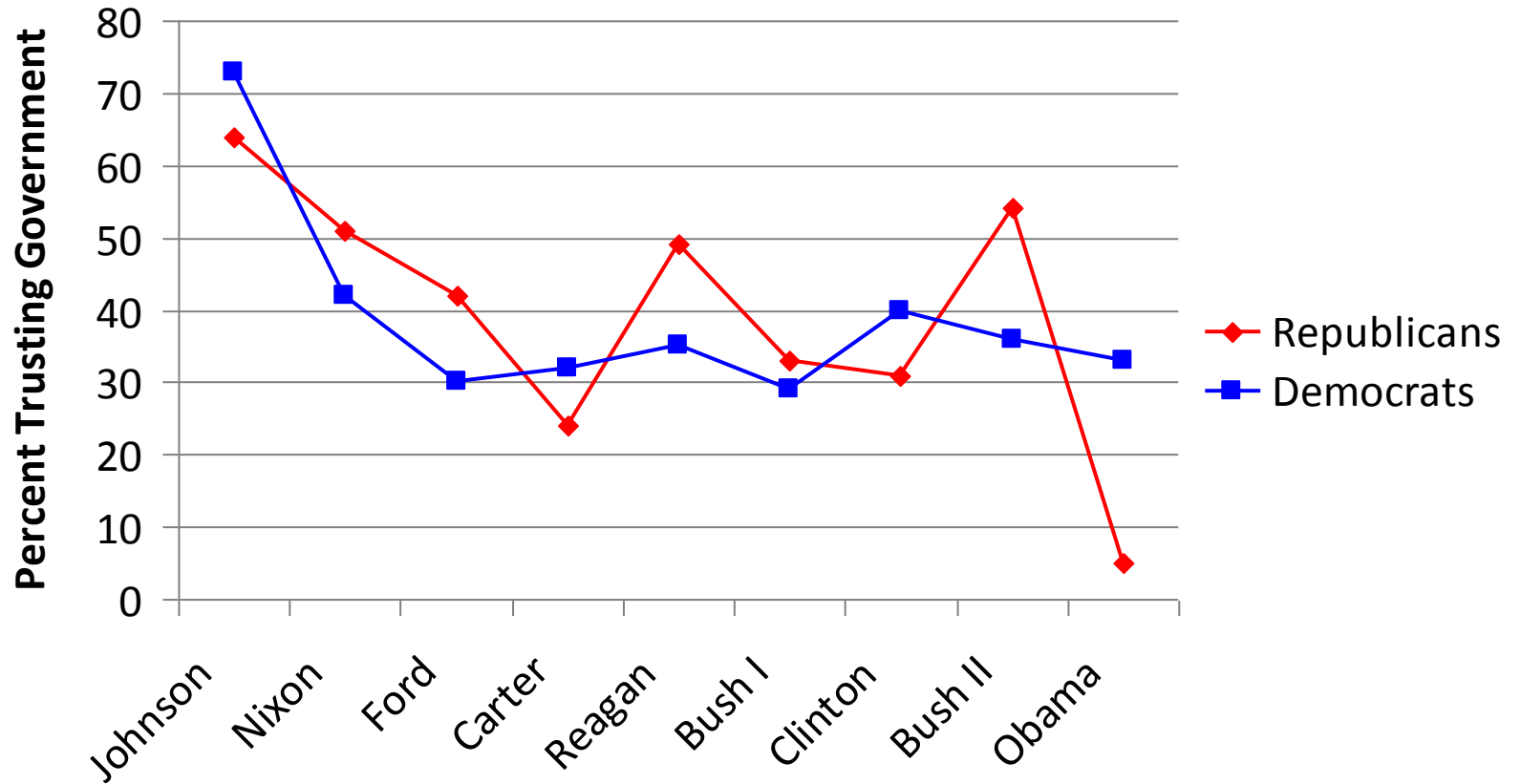
This has Produced a Different Politics

- Republicans and Democrats choose to live in different types of places
- They prefer different foods
- They watch different sports
- They have different physiological responses to threats, in particular
- We suspect this would have been less true of Rs and Ds 30, 40, or 50 years ago.

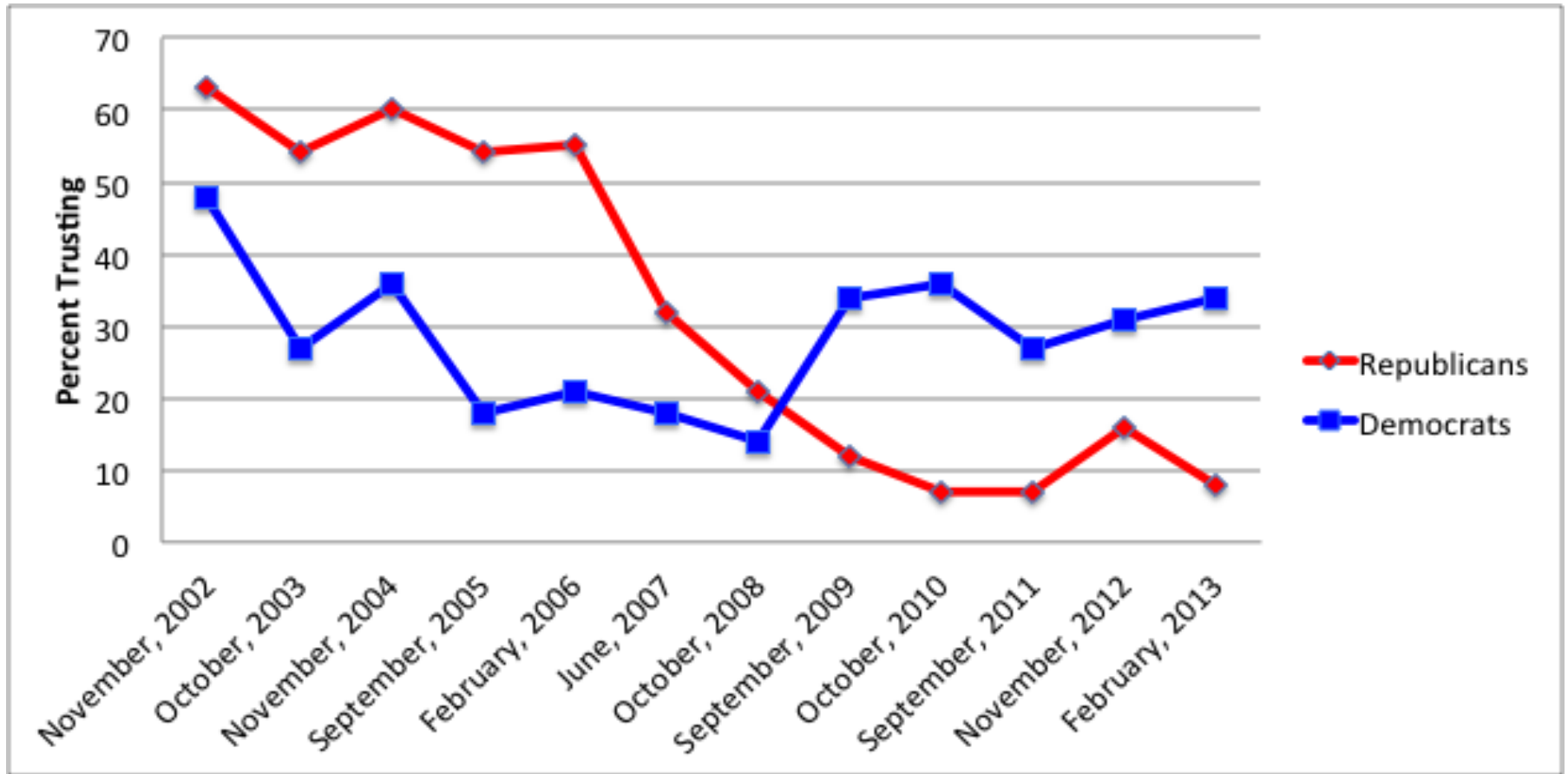
Partisans' Feelings about Their Party and the Other Party



Partisan Differences in Trust in Government by Presidential Administration



Political Trust by Partisanship, 2002-13



Is the Worldview Divide Still There?

- Issues that activate it are tough to resolve
 - Security from foreign threats
 - Immigration
 - Race

 - Thinking about old issues in new ways
 - Climate Change
 - Health Care Reform

Measuring Authoritarianism

Although there are a number of qualities that people feel that children should have, every person thinks that some are more important than others. I am going to read you pairs of desirable qualities. Please tell me which one you think is more important for a child to have.

Independence or Respect for Elders

_____ Independence

_____ Respect for Elders

Obedience or Self-Reliance

_____ Obedience

_____ Self-Reliance

Curiosity or Good Manners

_____ Curiosity

_____ Good Manners

Being Considerate or Well-Behaved

_____ Being Considerate

_____ Being Well-Behaved

Figure 1
Percent Republican Vote by Authoritarianism, 2010

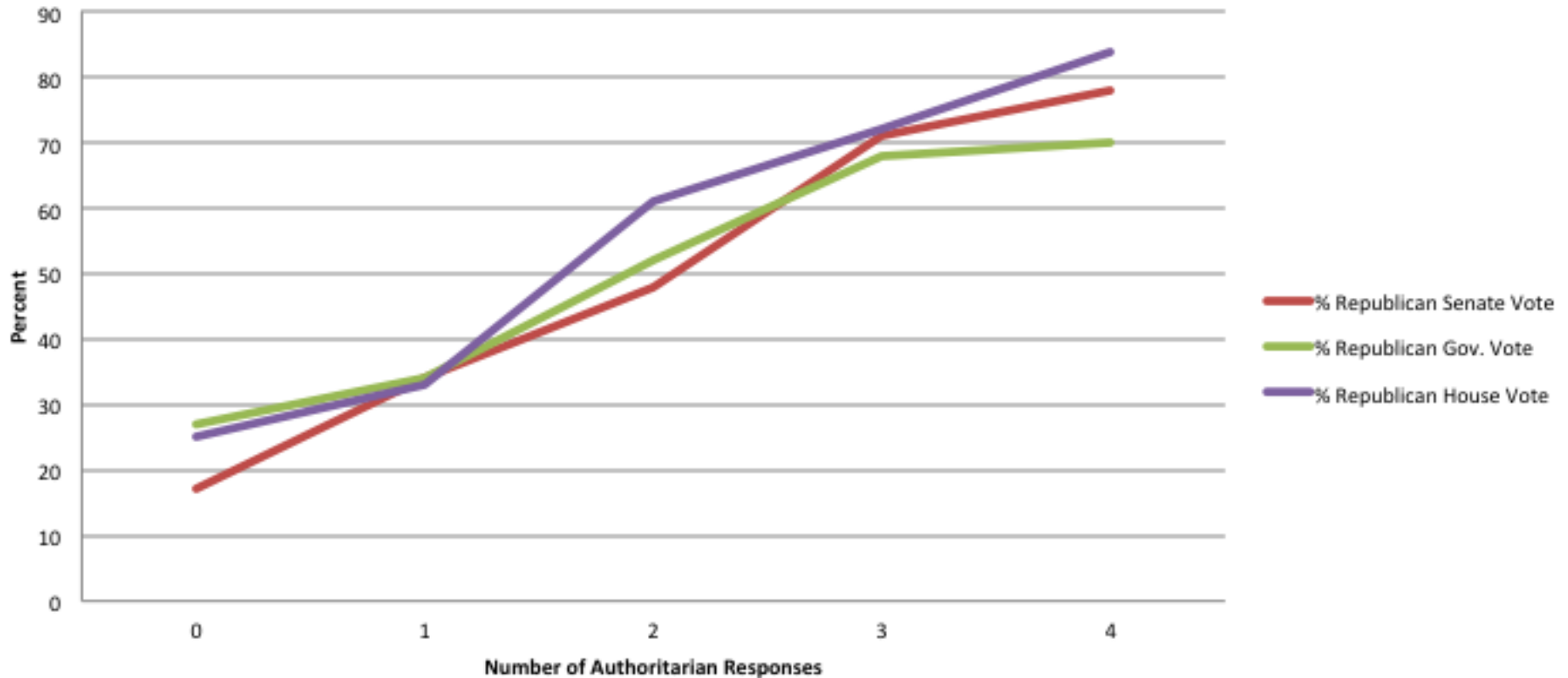


Figure 2
Percent Republican Vote by Authoritarianism, 2012

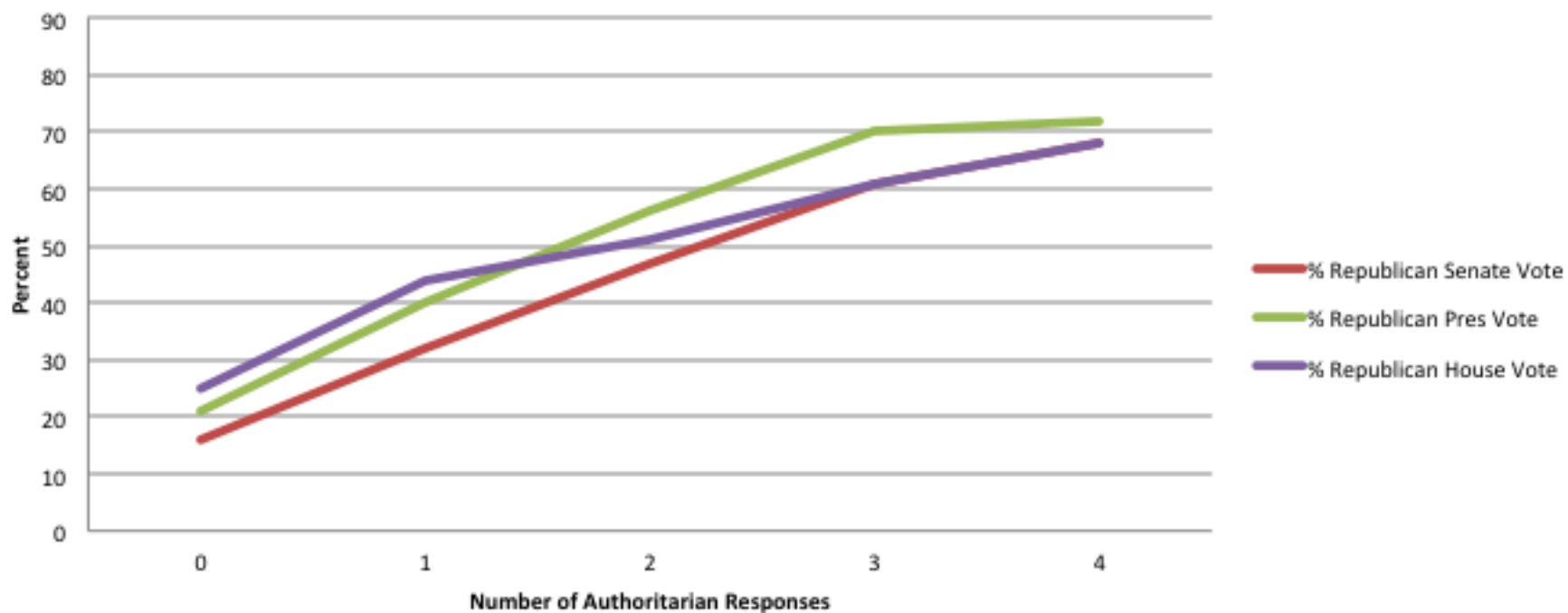


Figure 3
Partisanship by Authoritarianism, 1992-2012

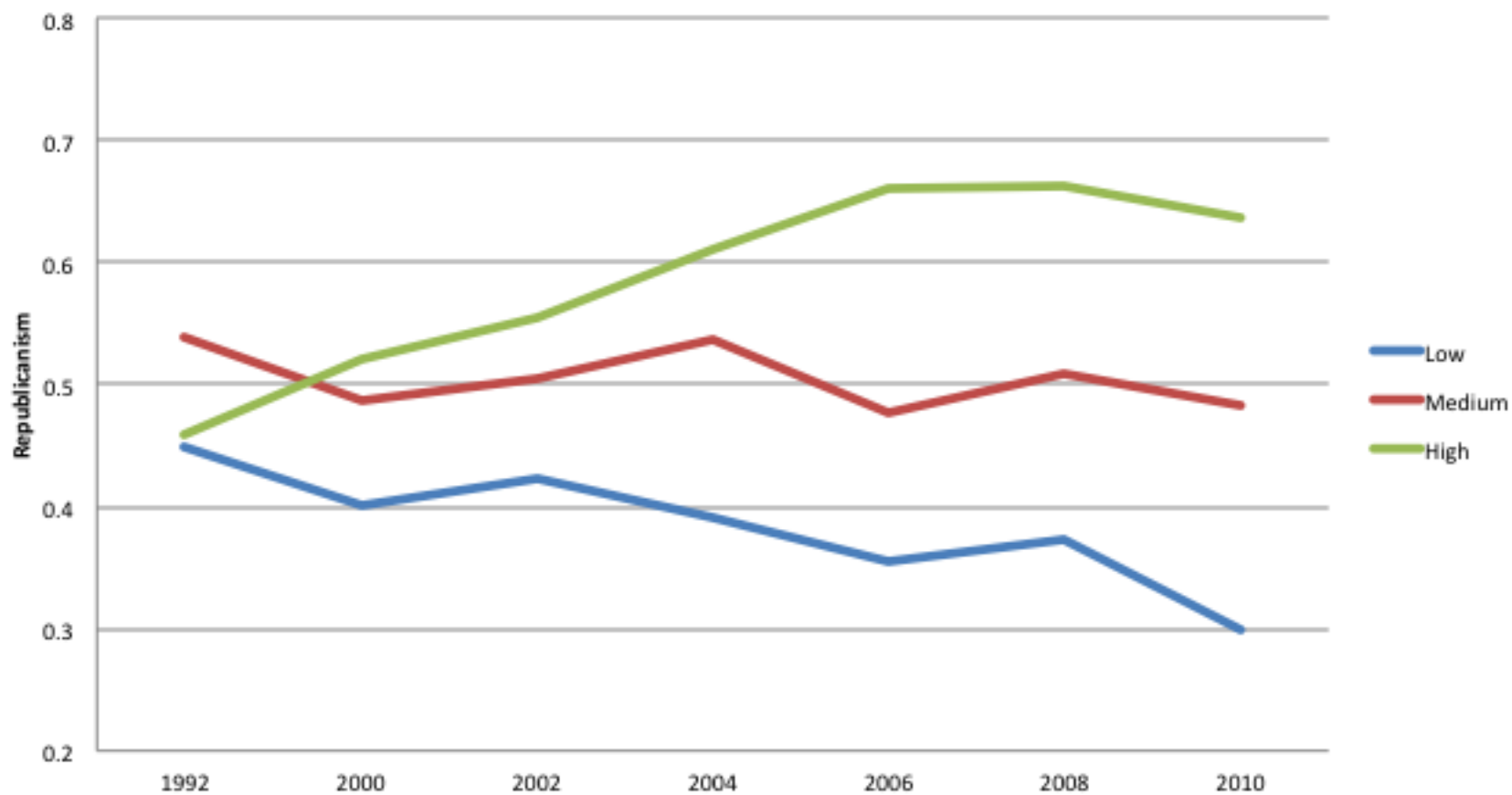


Figure 4
Obama Approval Rating by Authoritarianism, 2010, 2012

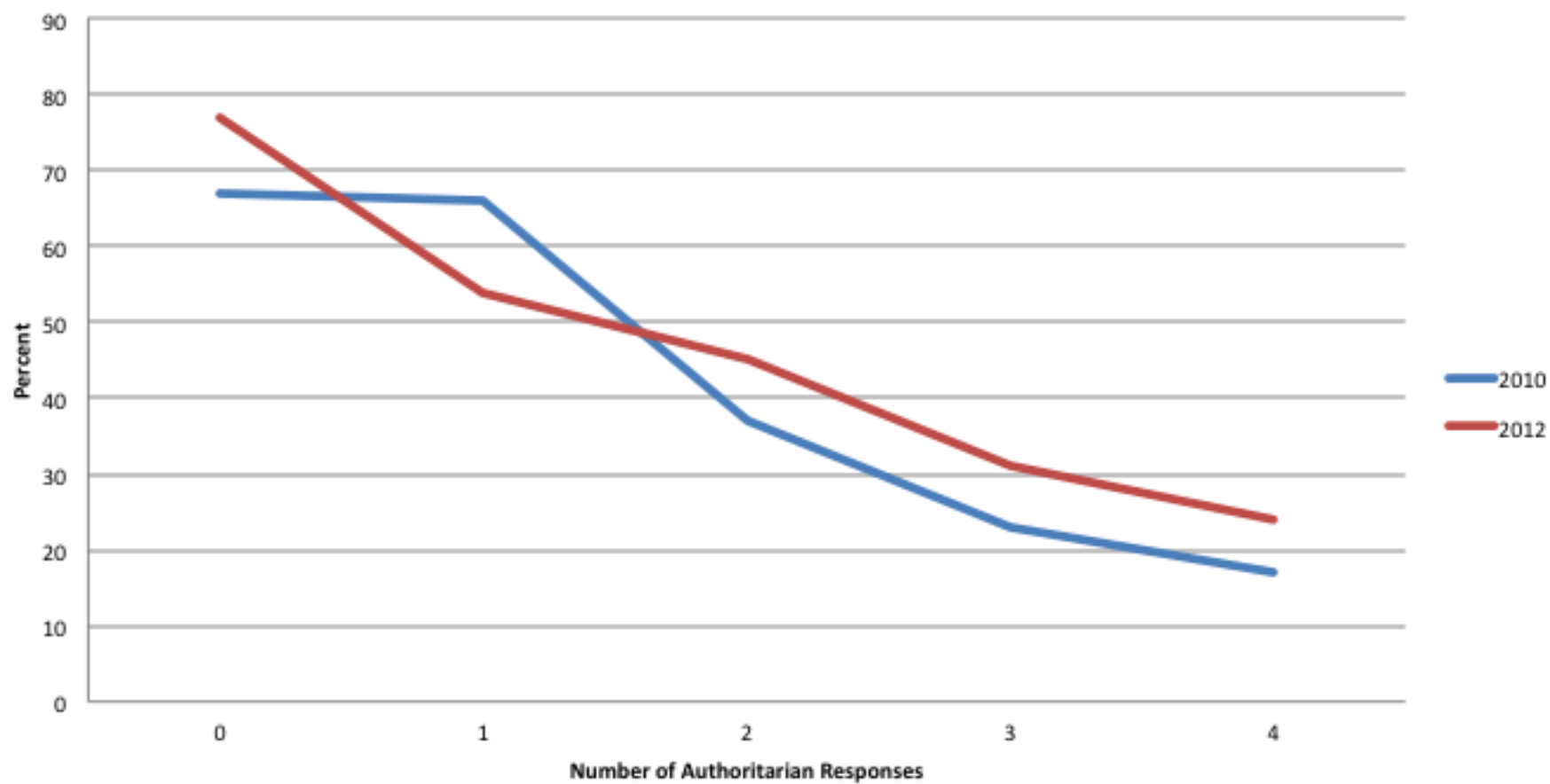


Figure 5
Support for Various Policies Considered By Congress, By
Authoritarianism, 2010

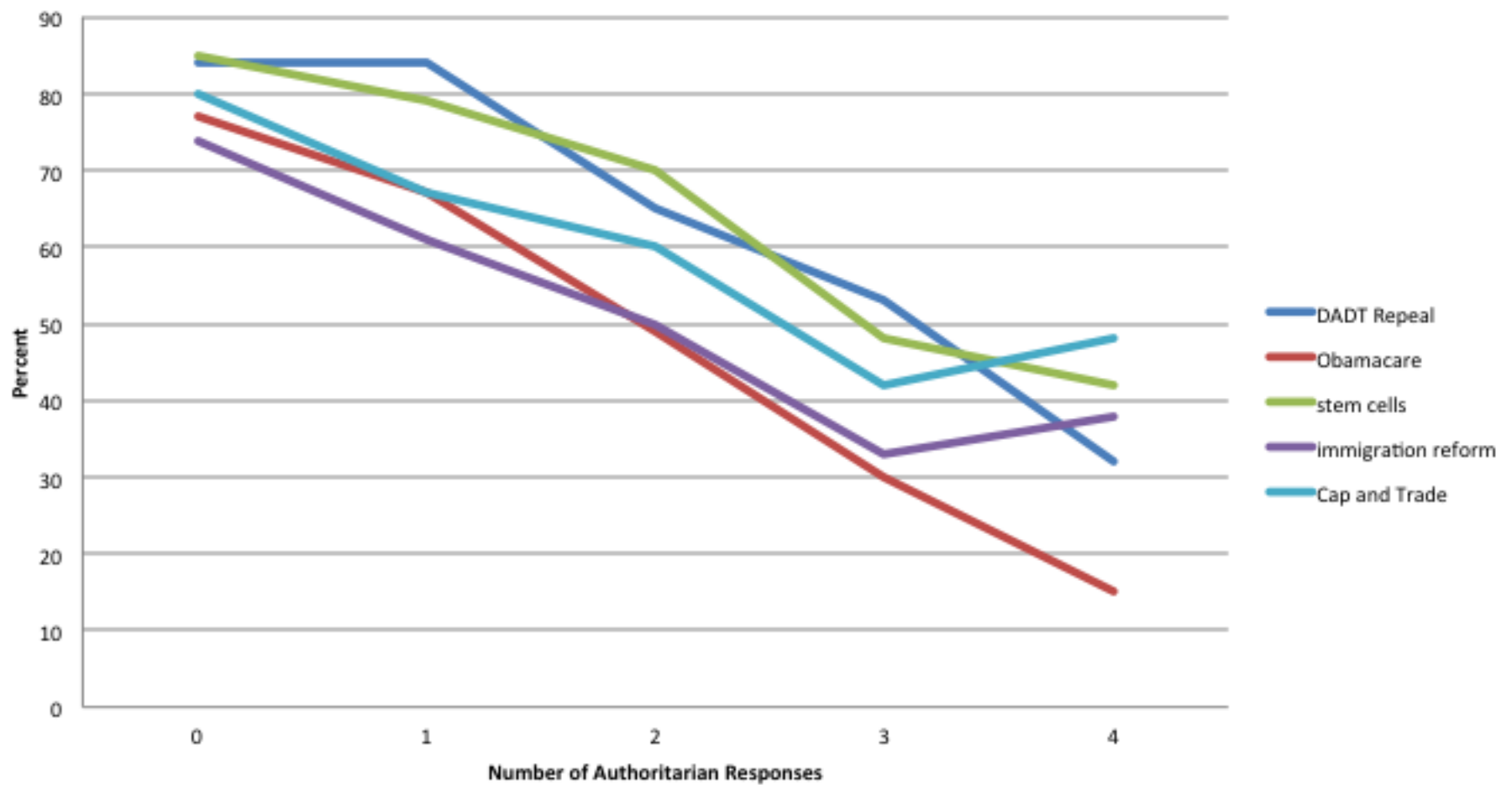


Figure 6
Tea Party Favorability by Authoritarianism, 2010, 2012

