



Canolfan
Llywodraethiant Cymru

Wales Governance
Centre

Brexit, the Public and Politics

Prof Roger Awan-Scully





UK and Wales voted Leave on June 23rd 2016



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More than two years on...



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What do people think now?



Previous Research Findings...

- **Wales and UK evenly divided on Remain .v. Leave**



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- Wales and UK **evenly divided** on Remain .v. Leave
- Aggregate and individual-level **stability**: few changed minds



Previous Research Findings...

- Wales and UK **evenly divided** on Remain .v. Leave
- Aggregate and individual-level **stability**: few changed minds
- Also large Remain / Leave divisions, on...
 - **Type of Brexit** preferred
 - **Expectations** of what Brexit will deliver
 - How **Political Process** should proceed

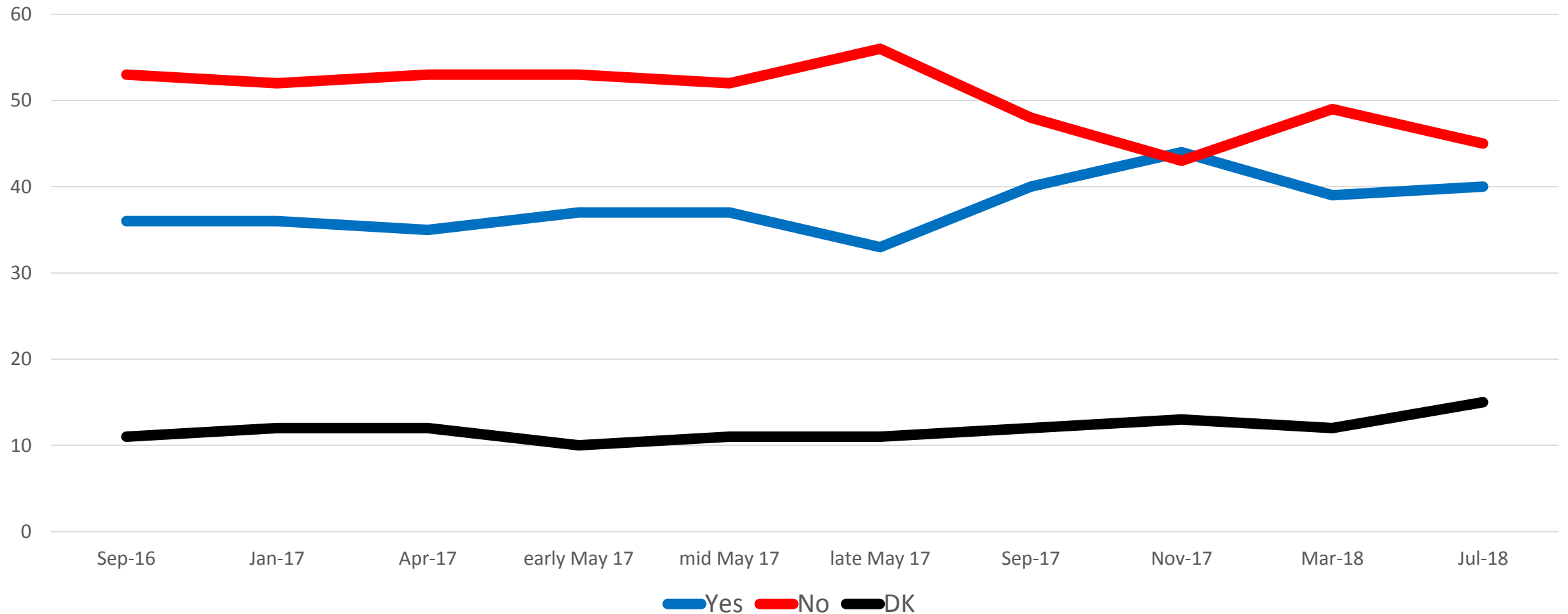


The Latest Welsh Evidence...

- **Views on a further referendum**
- **Remain .v. Leave**
- **Brexit and party support**



Another Referendum? (Sept 2016 – July 2018, Welsh Political Barometer)



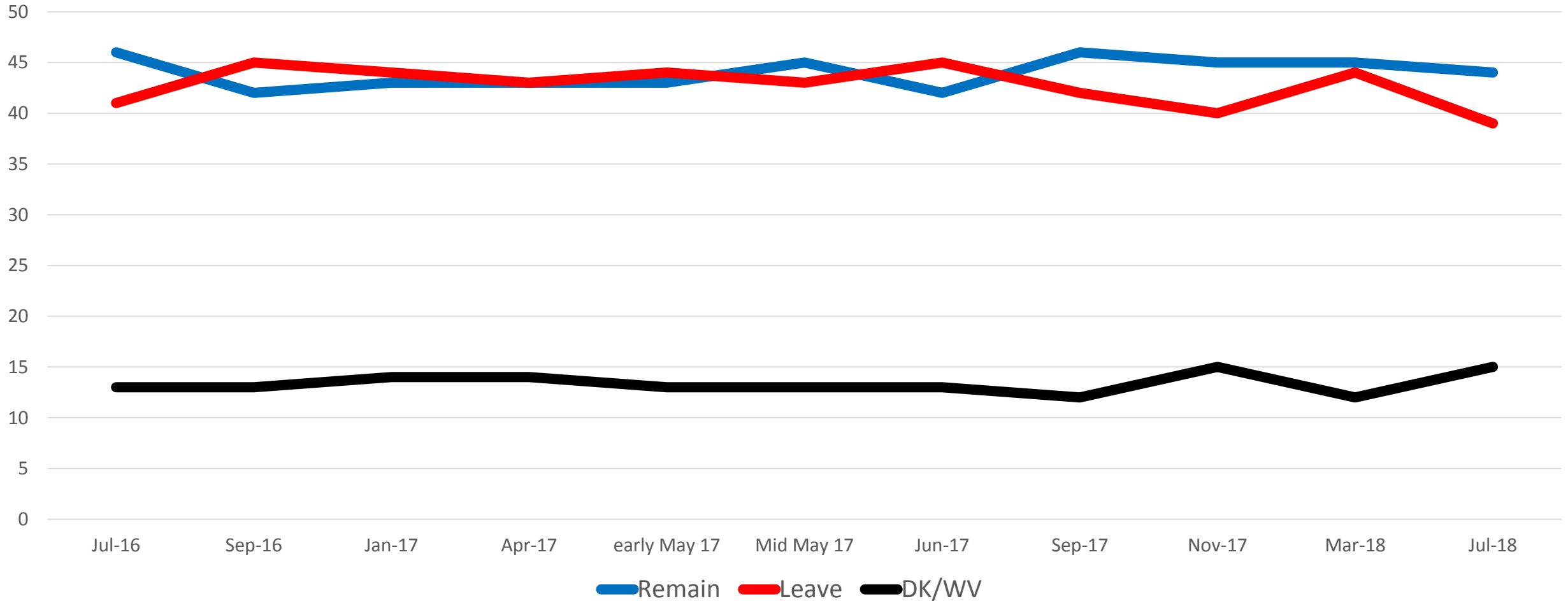


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EU Referendum Voting Intention (July 2016–July 2018, Welsh Political Barometer)



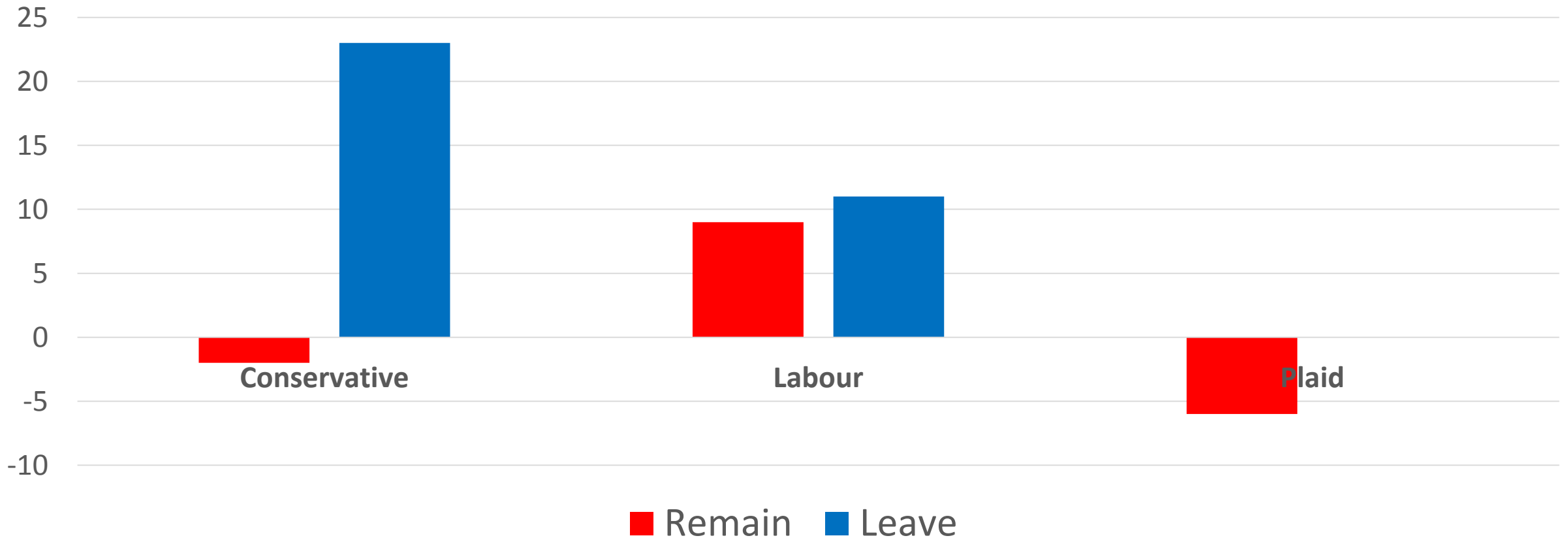


The Latest Welsh Evidence...

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Change in % Westminster Party Support by EU Referendum Vote (July 2016–July 2018, Welsh Political Barometer)



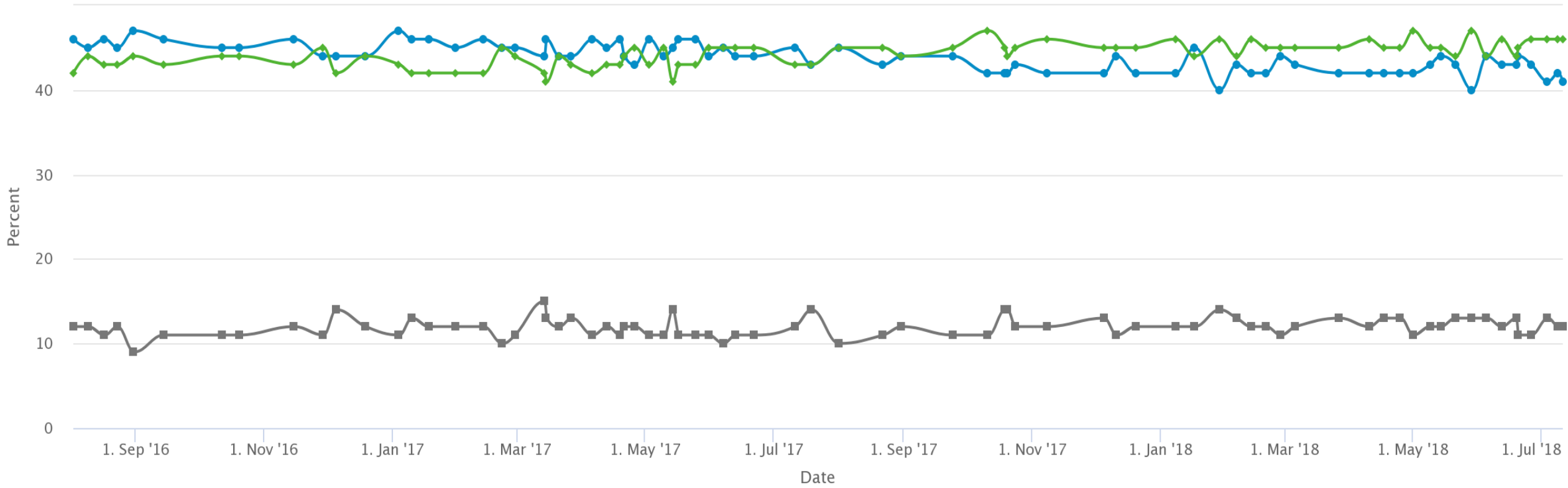


Latest GB-Wide evidence...

- **Views on Remain .v. Leave**
- **Handling of Brexit by UK Government**
- **British Social Attitudes Survey: Evidence on attitudes to immigration, Brexit, and relationship to party support**



In hindsight, do you think Britain was right or wrong to vote to leave the EU?



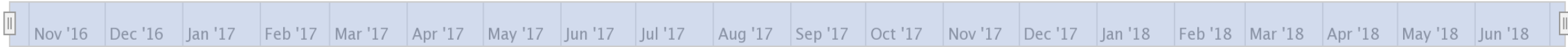
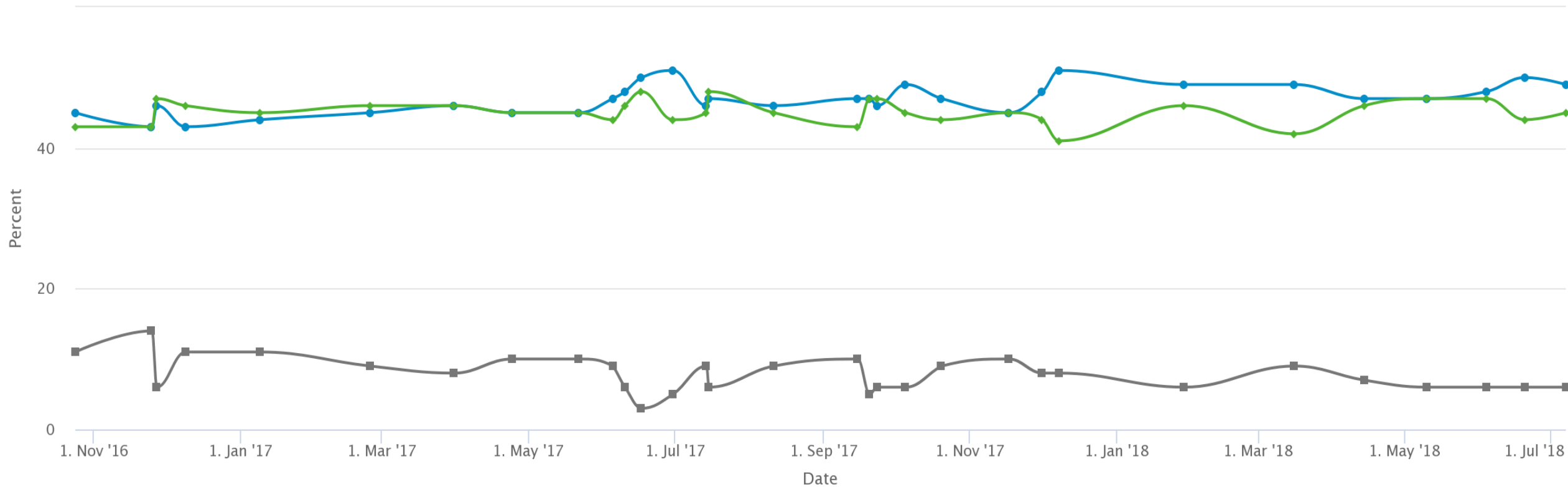
III	Sep '16	Oct '16	Nov '16	Dec '16	Jan '17	Feb '17	Mar '17	Apr '17	May '17	Jun '17	Jul '17	Aug '17	Sep '17	Oct '17	Nov '17	Dec '17	Jan '18	Feb '18	Mar '18	Apr '18	May '18	Jun '18	III
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—●— Right —◆— Wrong —■— Don't know

Source data at www.WhatUKThinks.org/EU run by NatCen Social Research



Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union, or leave the European Union? (Asked after the referendum)



—●— Remain a member of the EU
 —◆— Leave the EU
 —■— Don't Know

Source data at www.WhatUKThinks.org/EU run by NatCen Social Research

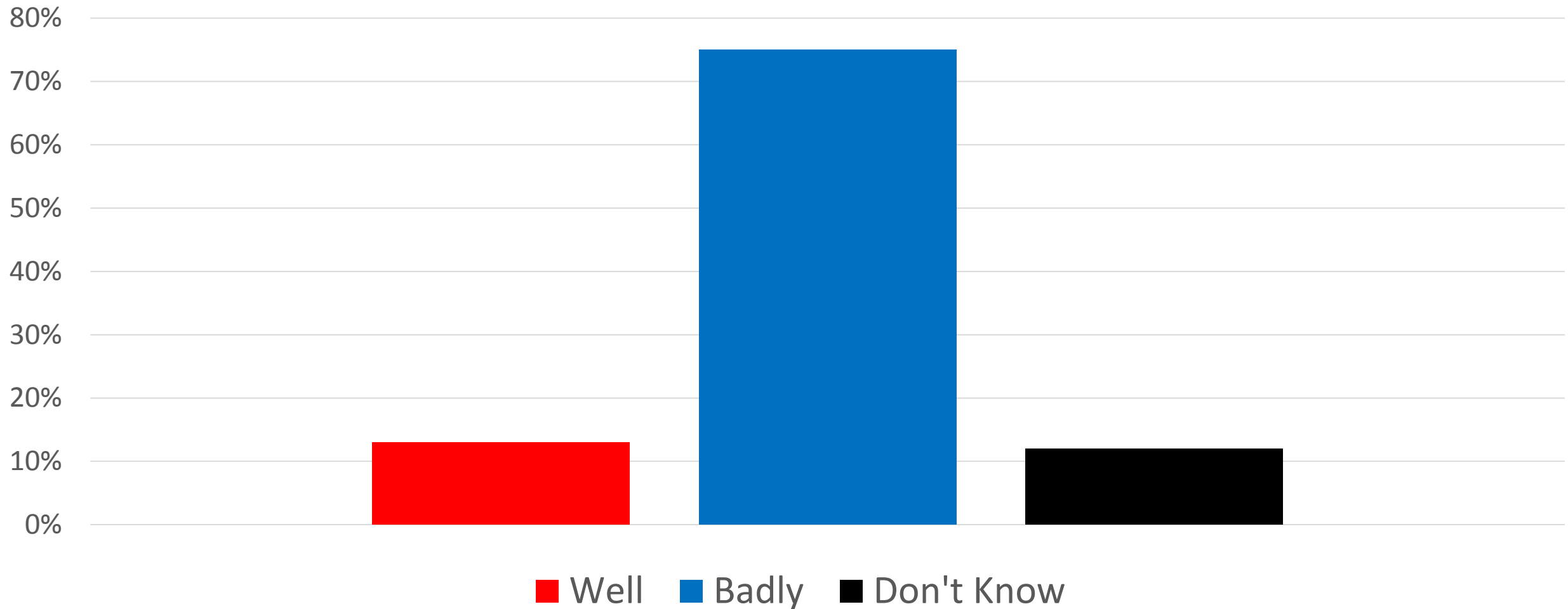


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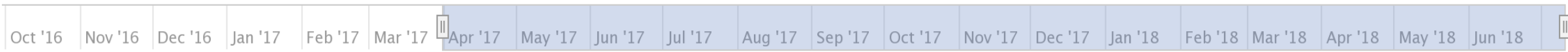
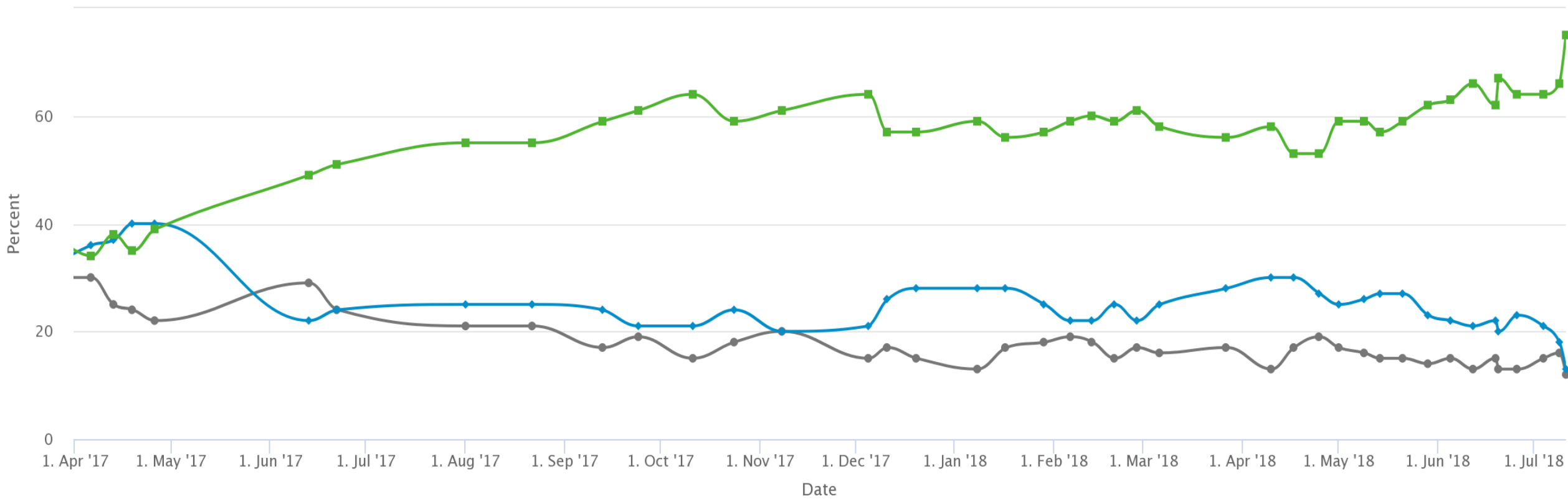


UK Government Handling Brexit Well or Badly? (YouGov, last week)





How well or badly do you think the government are doing at negotiating Britain's exit from the EU?



● Don't know ◆ Group: "Very well", "Fairly well" ■ Group: "Fairly badly", "Very badly"

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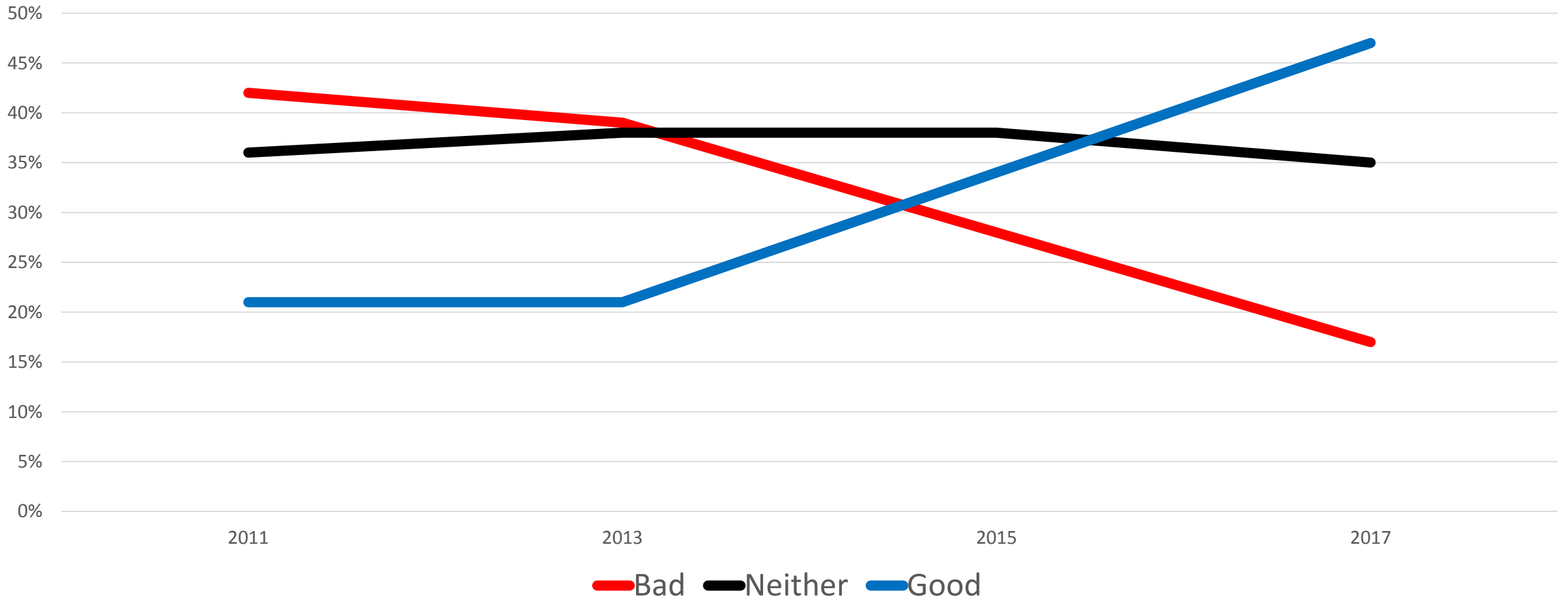


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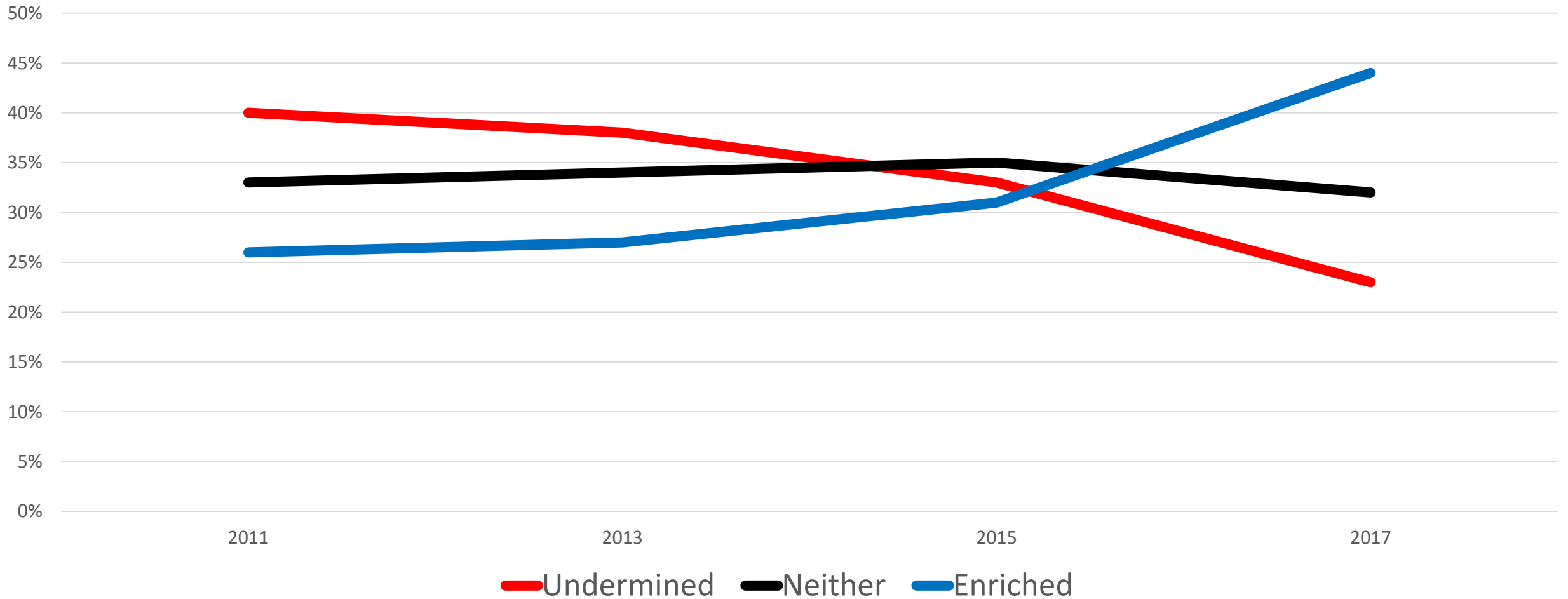


Impact of Immigration on: British Economy (2011-17, BSA)



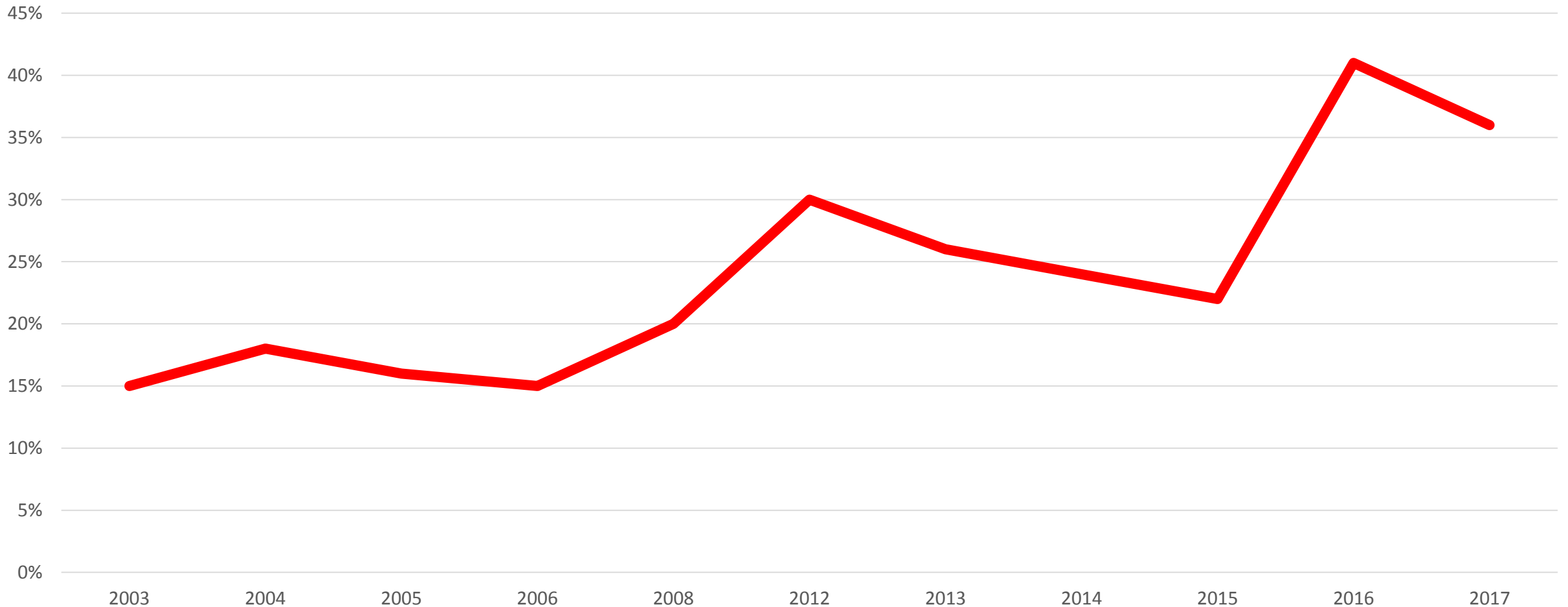


Impact of Immigration on: Britain's Cultural Life (2011-17, BSA)



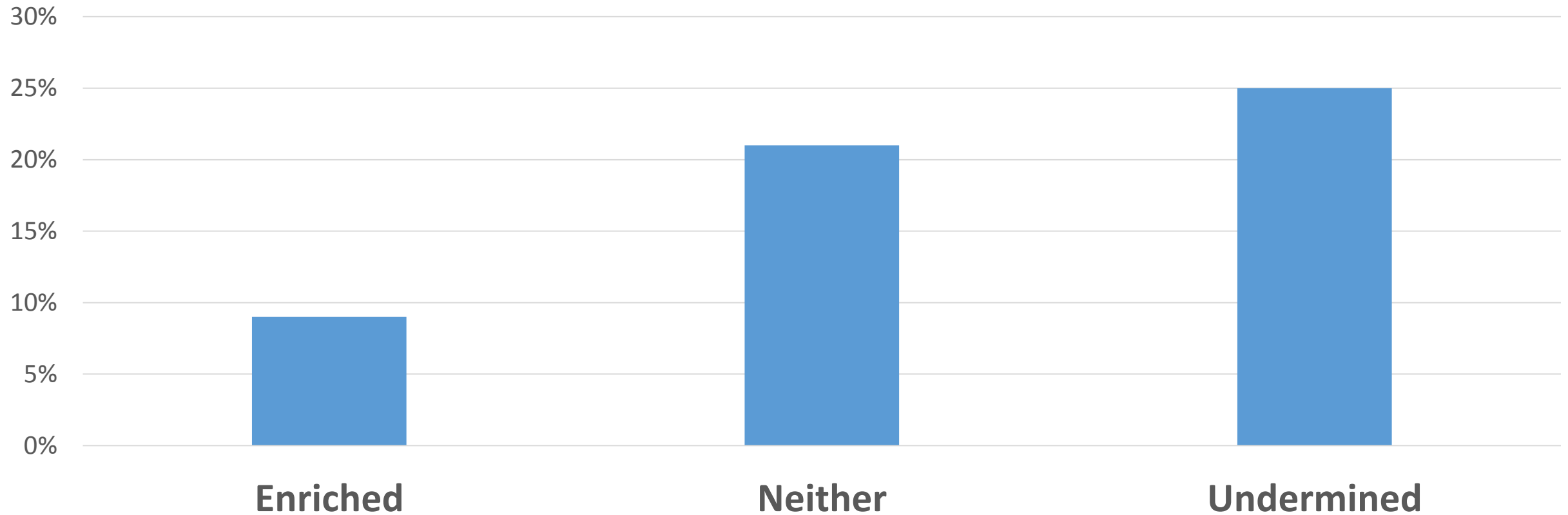


Long-term trend in % support for 'Leaving the EU' (2003-17, BSA)



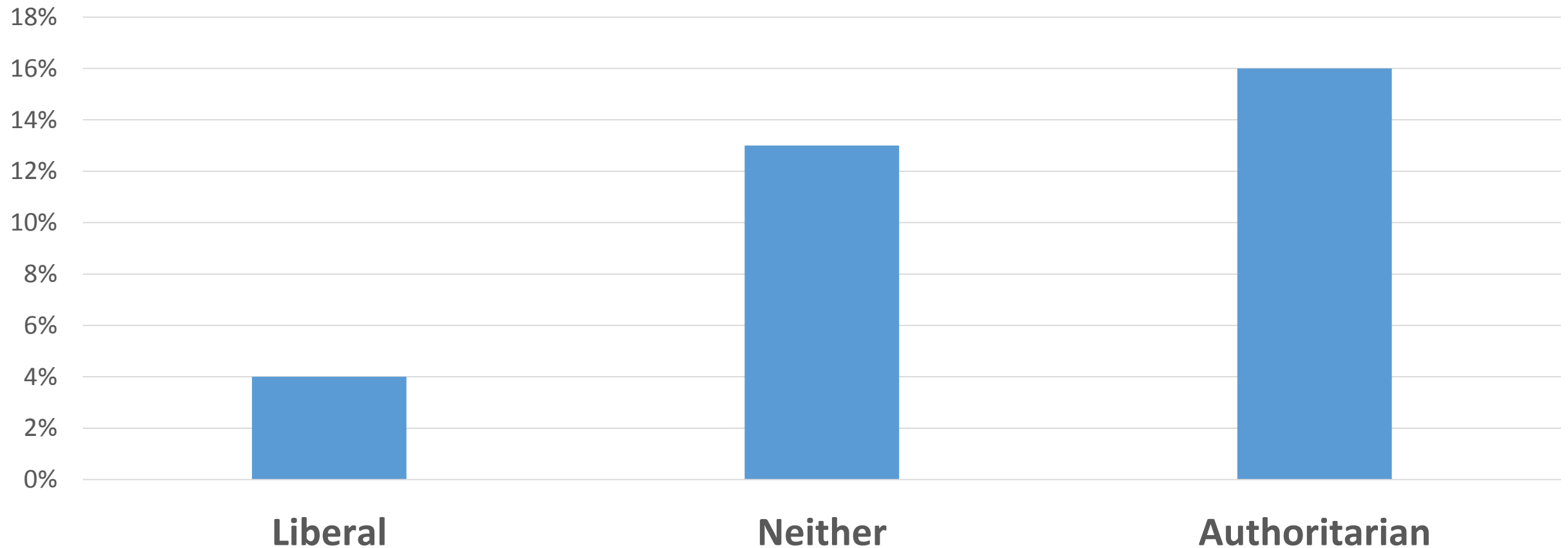


Change in % support for Leave by Immigration Attitudes, Cultural Impact (2015–17, BSA)



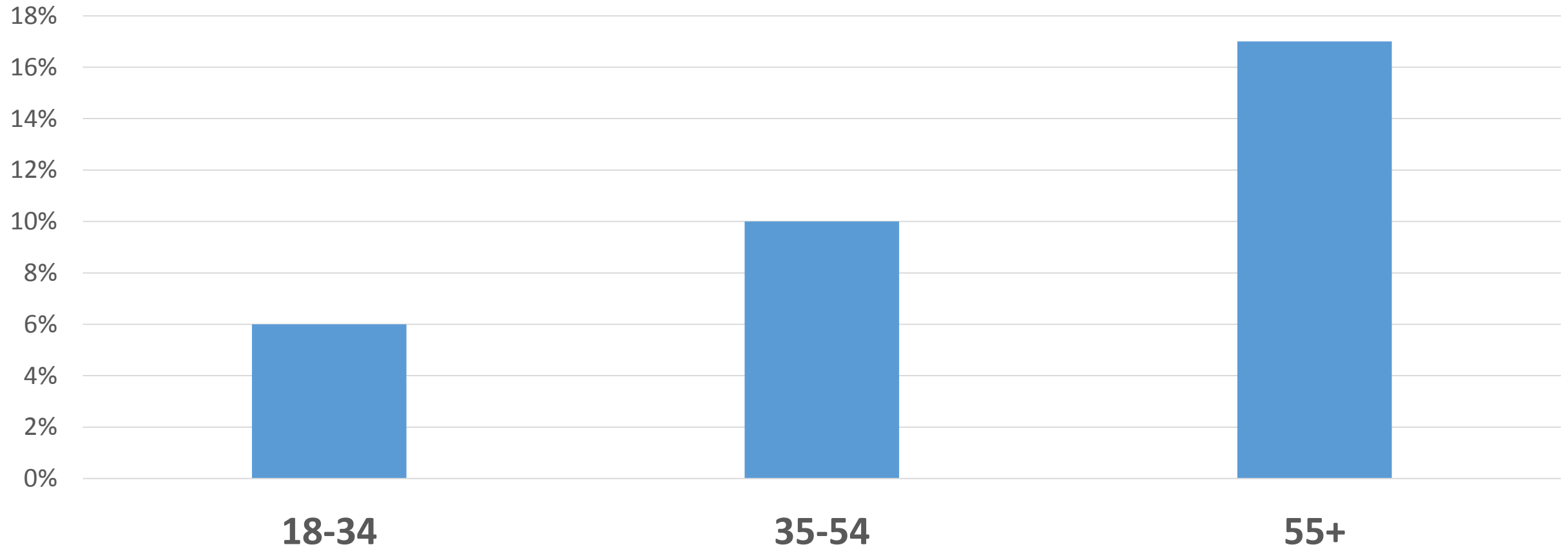


Change in % support for Leave by Social Attitudes (2014–17, BSA)



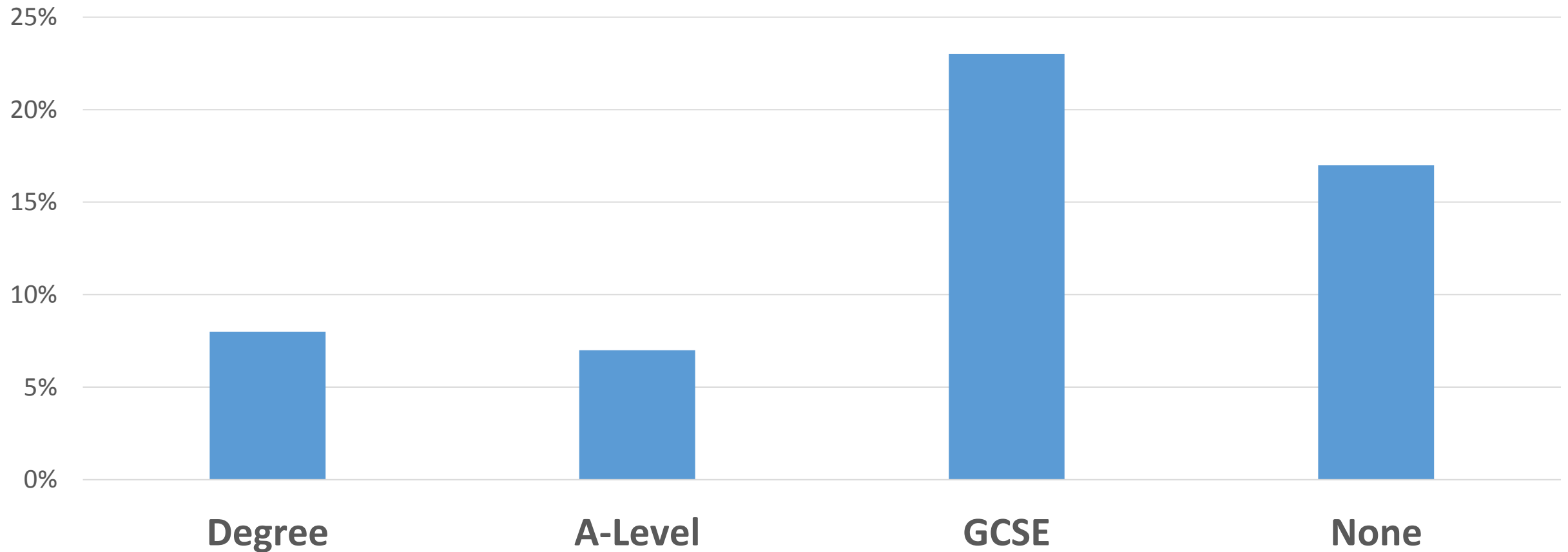


Change in % support for Leave by Age Group (2014-17, BSA)



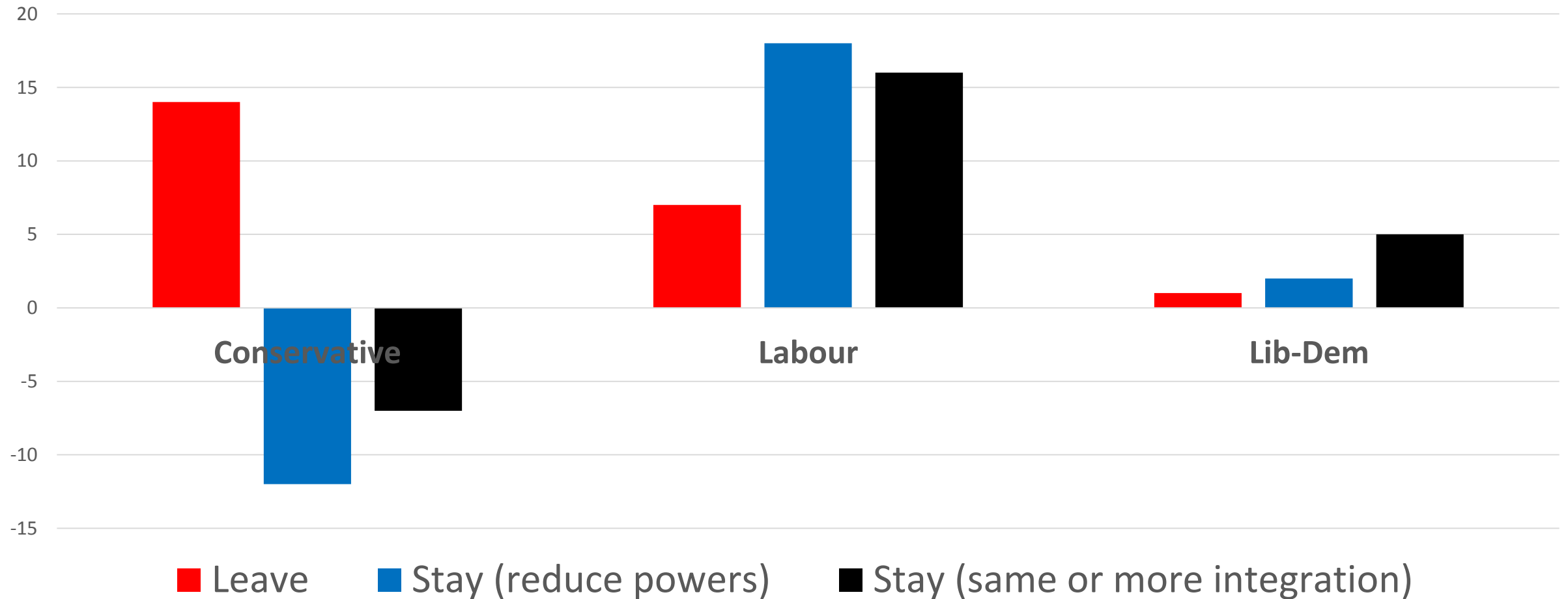


Change in % support for Leave by Education Level (2014–17, BSA)





2015-17 Party Support Change, by Attitudes to EU (BSA)





Key Points...

- Little change in Remain .v. Leave
- Declining faith in UK Government's handling of Brexit
- Brexit views increasingly linked to age, education and social attitudes
- Brexit contributing to changed party politics



“The country is coming together over Brexit”

(Theresa May, April 2017)

OR

“Two nations; between whom there is no intercourse and no sympathy; who are as ignorant of each other's habits, thoughts, and feelings, as if they were dwellers in different zones, or inhabitants of different planets; who are formed by a different breeding, are fed by a different food, are ordered by different manners, and are not governed by the same laws . . .”

(Benjamin Disraeli)



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Diolch / Thanks

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<http://blogs.cardiff.ac.uk/electionsinwales/>

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