



A Trend Study of the Association between Political Party Affiliation and Views on Restricting Immigration to the United States

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Purpose of the Study

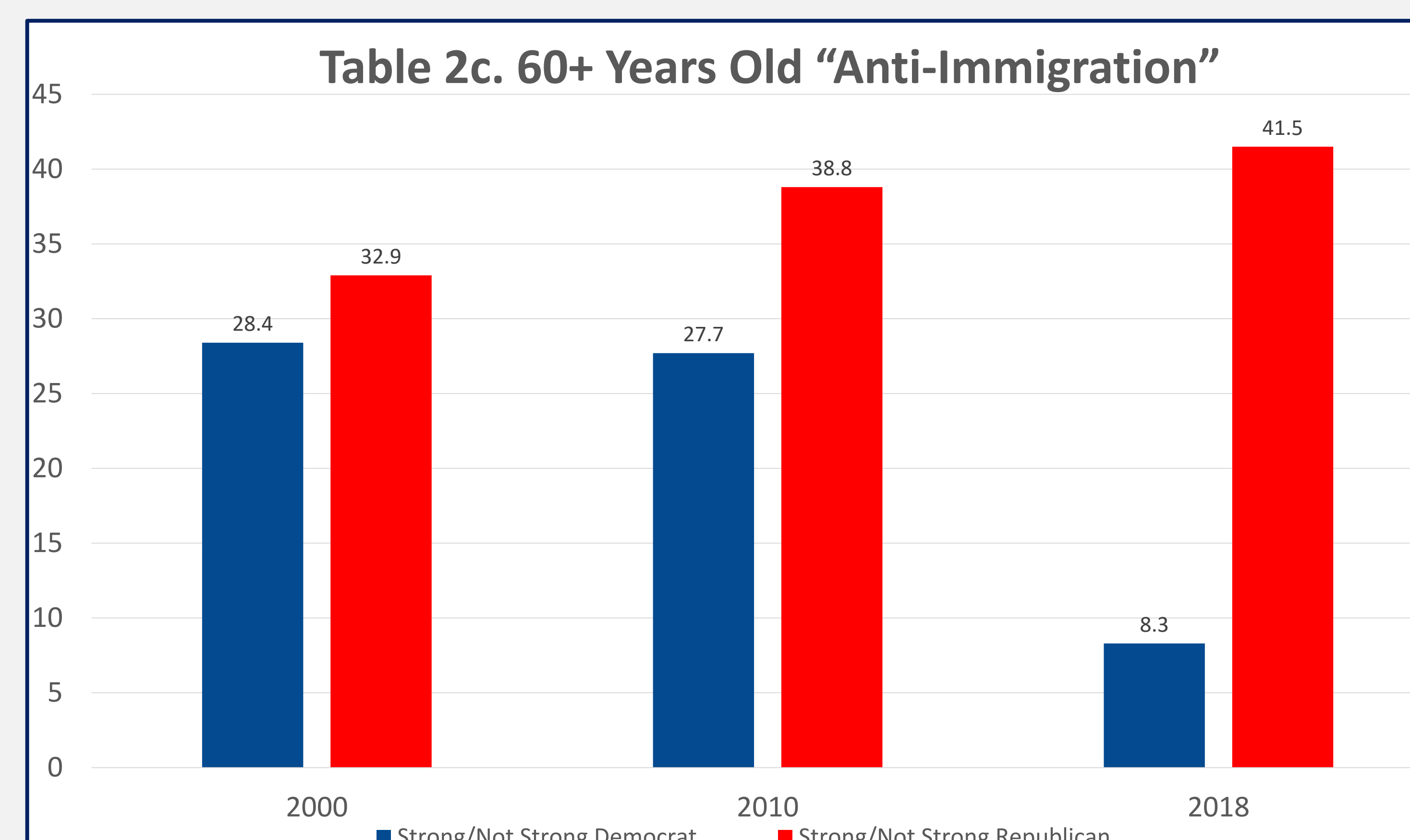
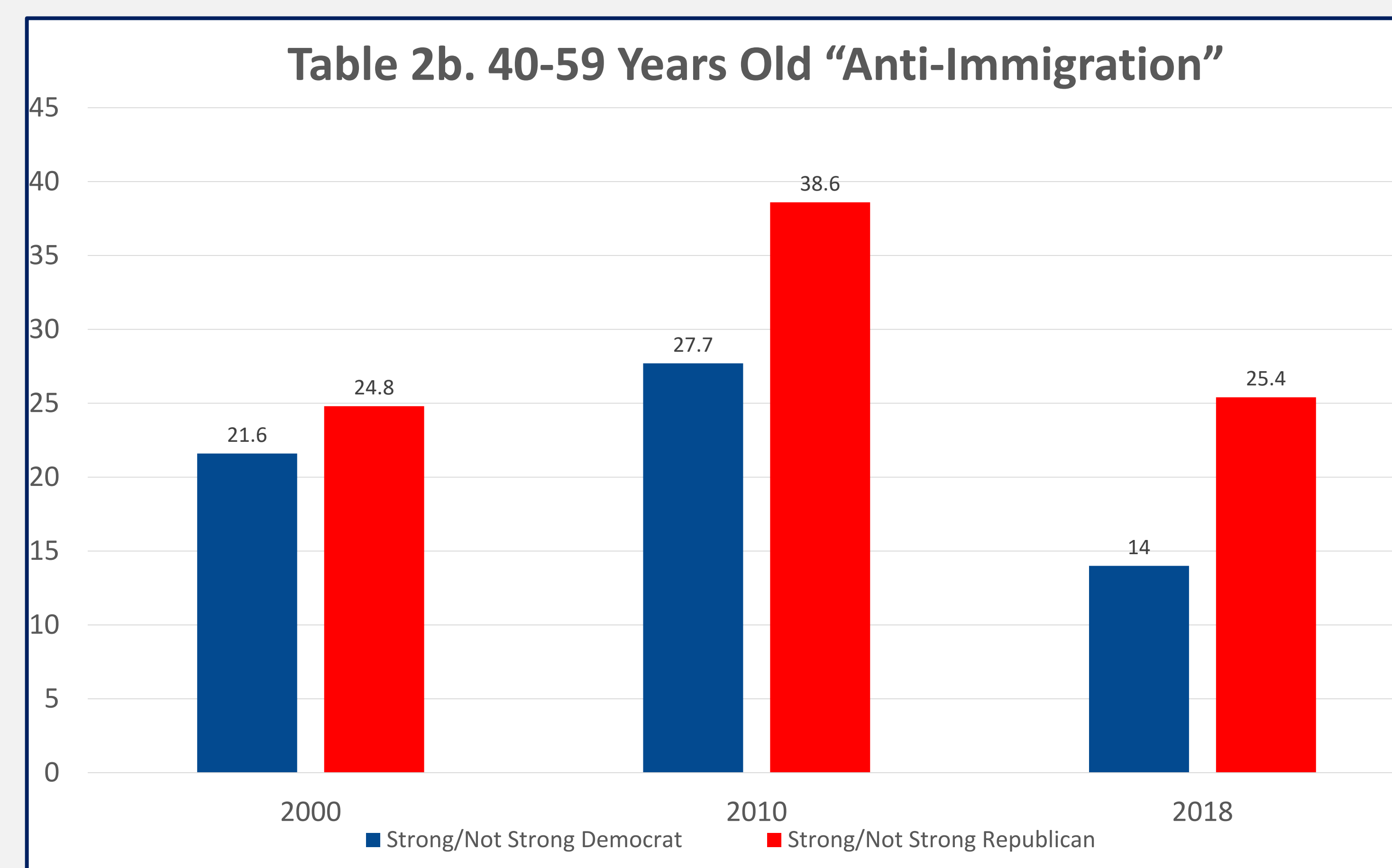
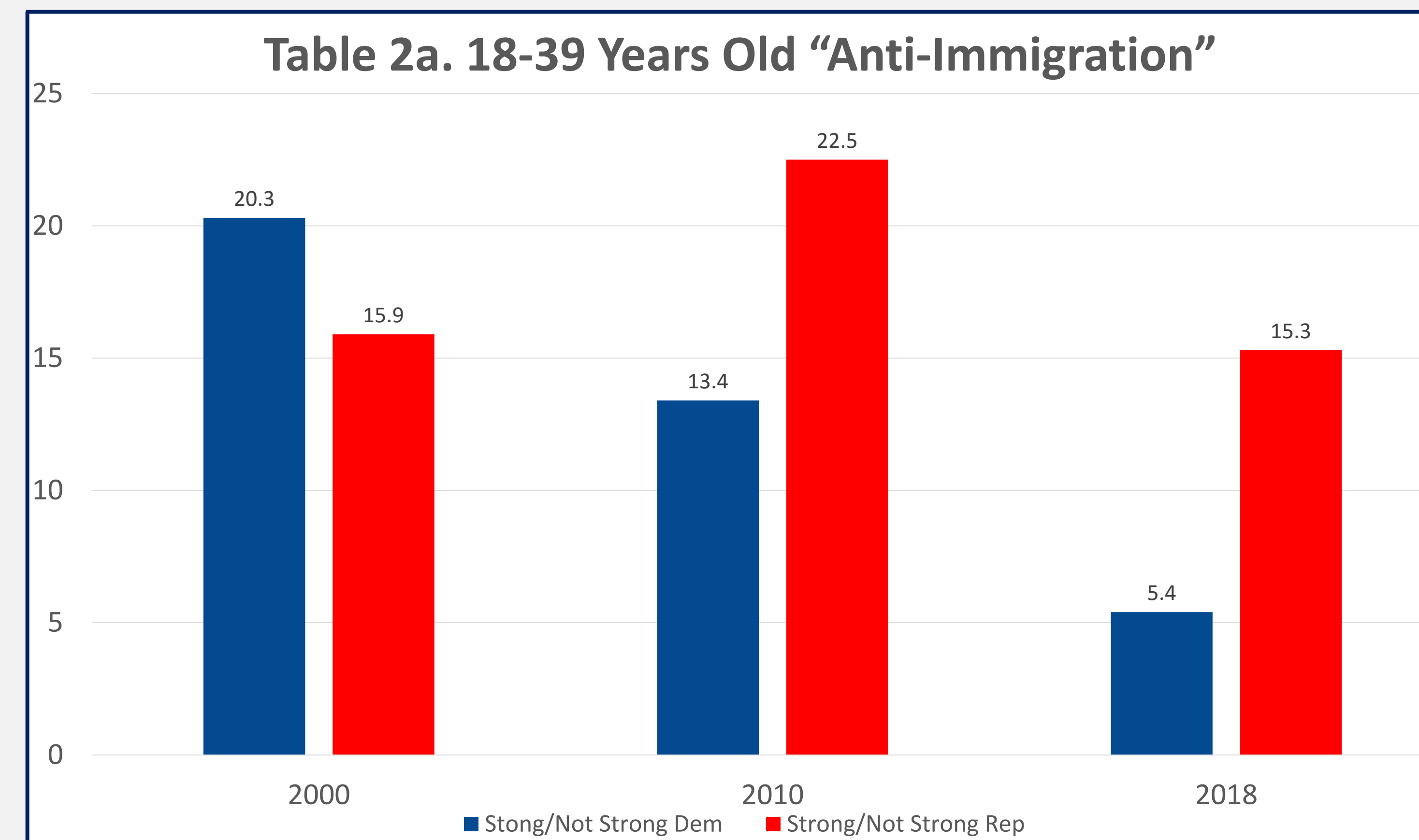
This research examines the relationship between political party affiliation and opinion on immigration to the U.S. using the General Social Survey (GSS) conducted in 2000, 2010, and 2018. This study focuses on respondents' view that "the number of immigrants should be decreased a lot." An effect on age is also found regarding opinion on immigration. With found information it is possible to determine which party and age group is more "anti-immigration." This led to the following hypotheses:

Hypothesis 1: Republicans believe that the number of immigrants should be decreased a lot, more than democrats.

Hypothesis 2: Republicans aged 60 and older tend to have more "anti-immigration" views.

Hypothesis 3: Democrats of all age groups tend to be more "pro-immigration" in 2000, 2010, and 2018.

Age-Specific Patterns



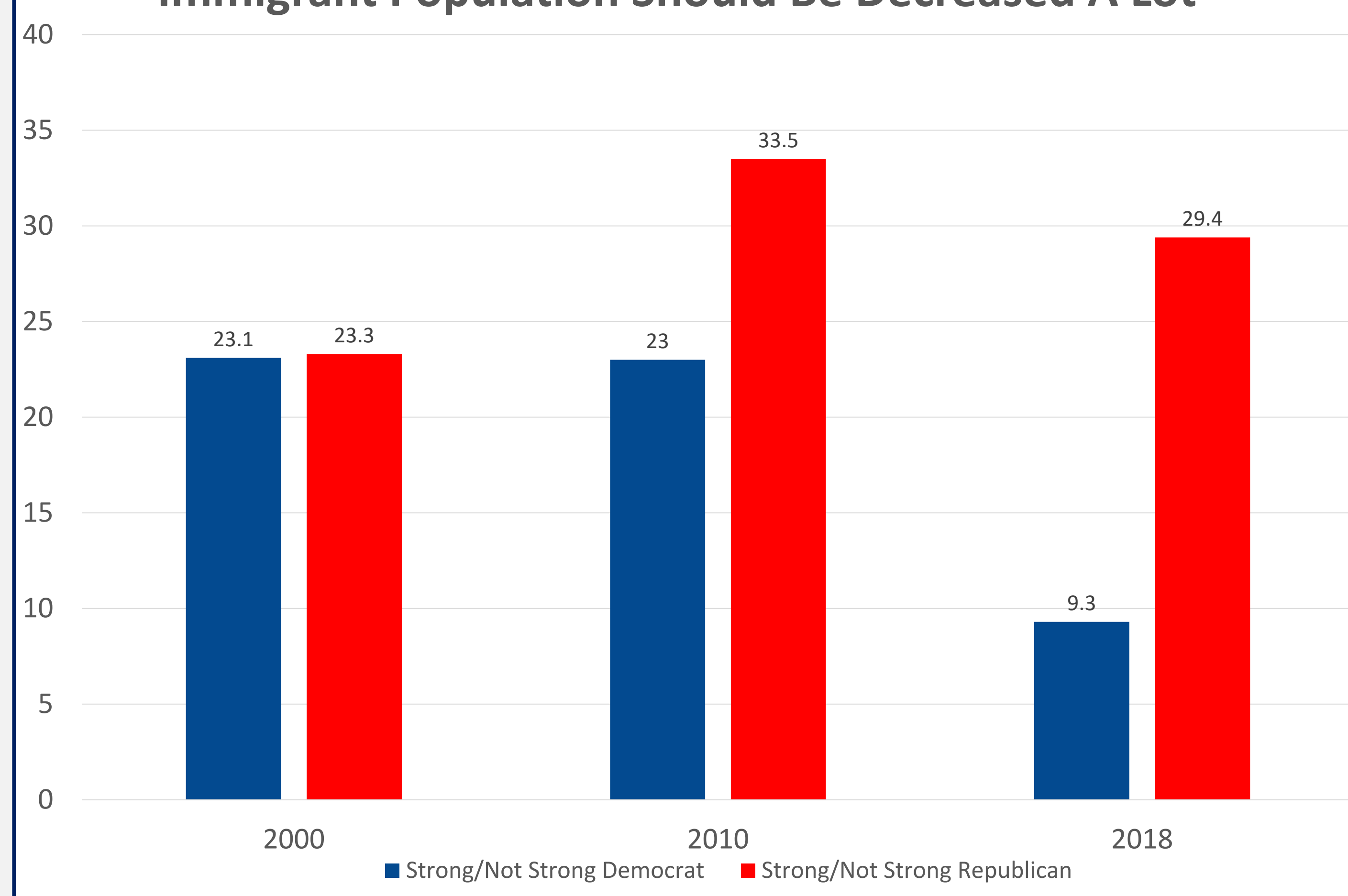
Results

Hypothesis 1: Is partly confirmed by Table 1. In 2000, Democrats and Republicans both believed that the number of immigrants should be decreased a lot at a similar rate. Since 2000, Democrats' support that the number of immigrants should be decreased a lot has declined sharply while at the same time support among Republicans increased only modestly except in 2010.

Hypothesis 2: Is confirmed by Table 2c. Since 2000 Republicans aged 60 and older believed that the number of immigrants in the U.S. should be decreased a lot as Democrats opinion decreased, making Republicans have more "anti-immigration" views.

Hypothesis 3: Not confirmed by Tables 2a. Democrats are only more "pro-immigration" than Republicans in the age groups shown in Tables 2b and 2c, while in Table 2a in 2000 young Democrats were more "anti-immigration" than their Republican counterpart.

Table 1. All Adult Age Groups Believing That Immigrant Population Should Be Decreased A Lot



Conclusion

Overall, the research found that since 2000 Republicans are more likely to have "anti-immigration" views but based on age-specific groups, there is steady decline in support with Democrats aged 18-39 and a steady increase in support among Republicans aged 60 years and older. These trends help predict what age groups and identifying political party's opinion may be on immigration in years to come.