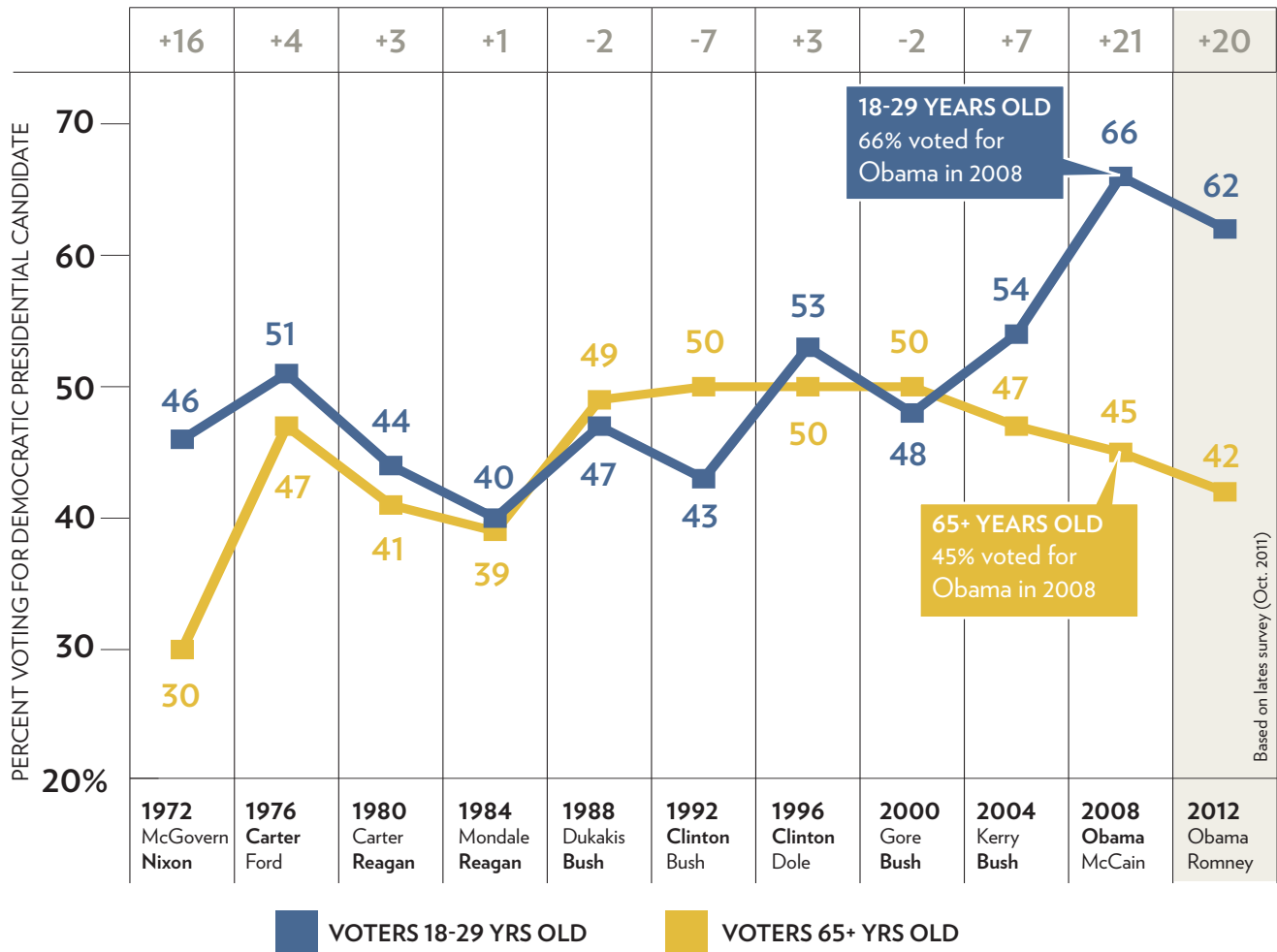


EXPANDING VOTING RIGHTS

Young-Old Voting Gap

Largest Since Nixon v. McGovern in 1972



PEW RESEARCH CENTER. Current figures based on registered voters, Sept. 22-Oct. 4, 2011. Previous data based on exit polls, 1972 and 1976; CBS, 1980-1988; CBS/New York Times, 1992; Voter Research & Surveys, 1996 and 2000; Voter News Service, 2004 and 2008; National Election Pool. NOTE: From 1972 through 1988 oldest age category is 60 and older.

1. What does the horizontal axis show?

2. What does the vertical axis show?

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3. What does each of the two lines show?

4. In what years has the gap between younger and older voters been the largest? Based on what you know about history and current events, why do you think the gap has been biggest at those times?

5. What two candidates does the graph assume will be running for president in 2012? How does the projected young-old voting gap for 2012 compare to 2008 gap?

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6. Write a few sentences that describe what the graph shows. Compare your description with another student's to see if you understand the data correctly.

7. If the projection for 2012 is accurate, what effect would the youth vote have on the 2012 election?
