

**Office of Assessment**

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# 1985-2005 CIRP Trends

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## **General Information**

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Towson University uses the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) Freshman Survey to identify various characteristics of its first year students. The CIRP Freshman Survey collects broad information about demographic characteristics, high school experiences, college finances, and students' expectations, opinions, attitudes, values and goals.

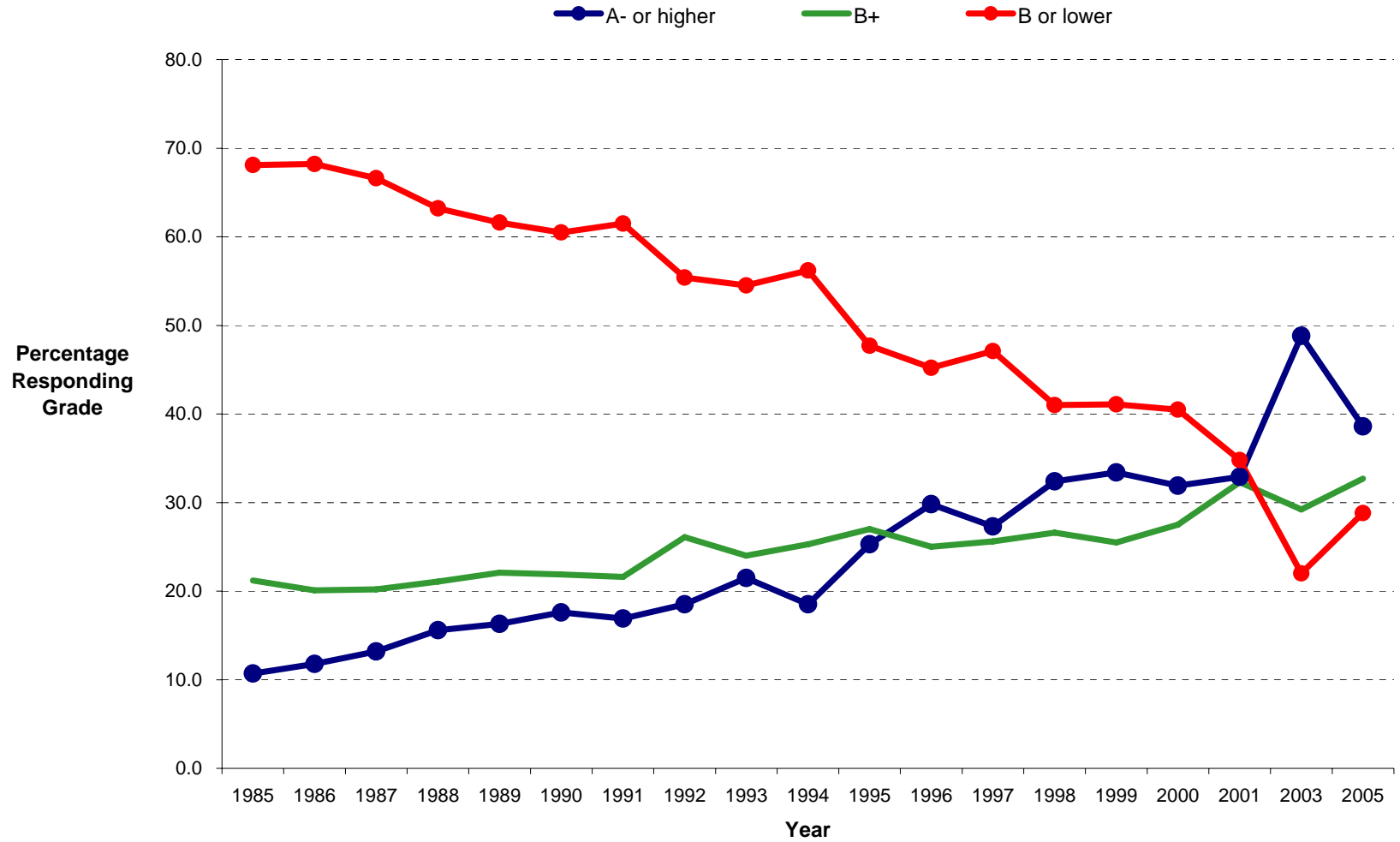
Even though the CIRP has changed with the years, most of the questions are the same. This report compares 2005 FTFT students' responses with responses of students from previous years since 1985. This report contains seven sections: academic background, socio-economic background, college expectations, leadership traits, activities associated with engagement, activities per week, and opinions.

## Contents

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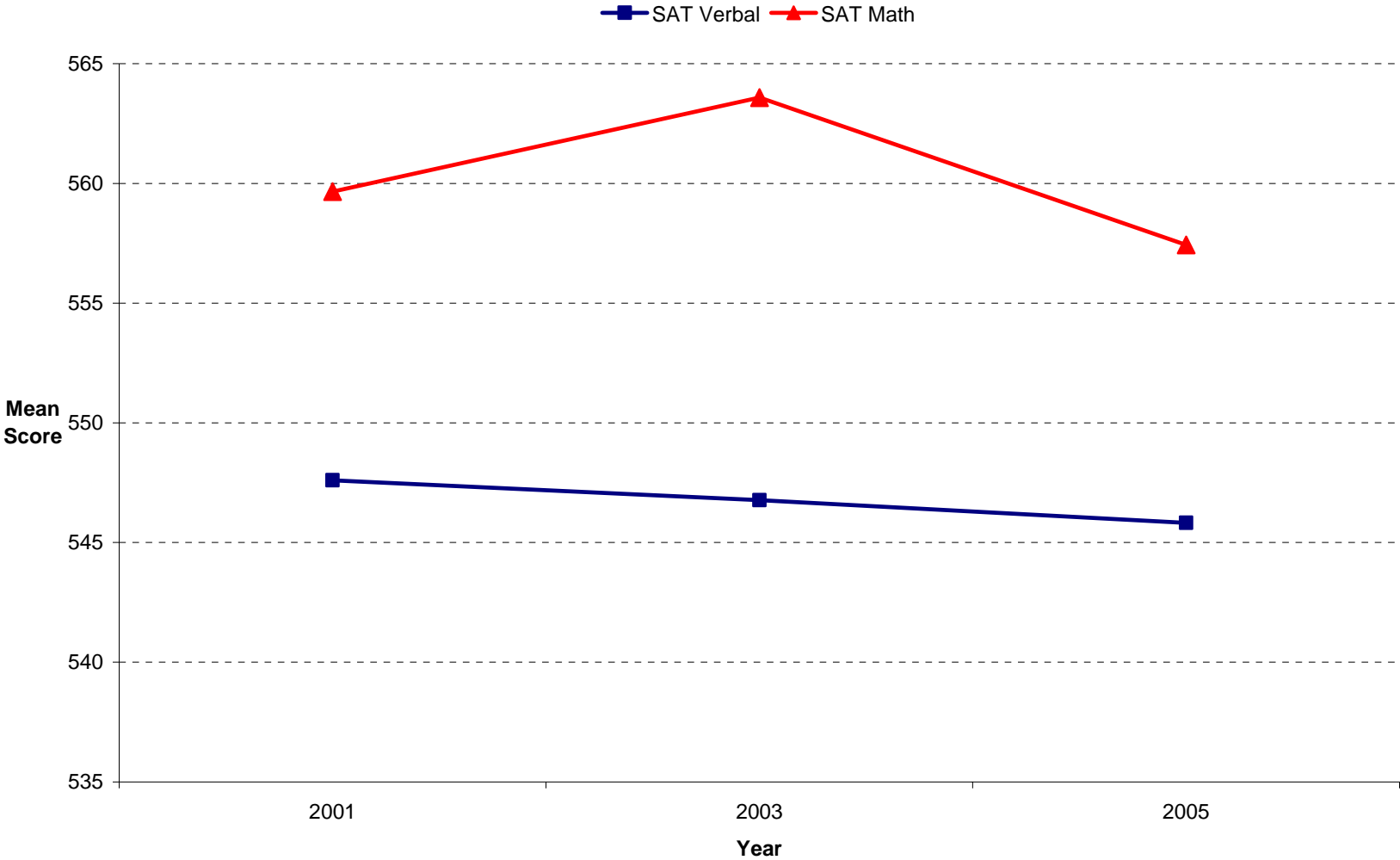
1. Academic Background
  - a. High School Grades
  - b. Sat Mean Scores 2001, 2003, and 2005
  - c. ACT Composite Mean Score 2003 and 2005
2. Socio-Economic Background
  - a. Parents Income
  - b. Miles away from Home
  - c. Father Education
  - d. Mother Education
3. First Choice and College Expectations
  - a. First, Second, and Third Choice
  - b. Highest Degree Planned at Towson University
  - c. Chances of Being Satisfied with Towson University
4. Leadership Traits
5. Activities Associated with Engagement
6. Activities per Week
  - a. Studying
  - b. Talking with Teachers
  - c. Partying
  - d. Working for Pay
  - e. Doing Volunteer Work
  - f. Reading for Pleasure
7. Opinions
  - a. There is too much concern in the courts for the rights of criminals
  - b. Abortion should be legalized
  - c. Marijuana should be legalized
  - d. It is important to have laws prohibiting homosexual relationships
  - e. Wealthy people should pay a larger share of taxes than they do now
  - f. Colleges should prohibit racist/sexist speech on campus
  - g. Affirmative actions in college admissions should be abolished
  - h. The activities of a married woman are best confined to the home and family
  - i. Federal military spending should be increased
  - j. If two people really like each other, it is all right for them to have sex even if they've known each other for only a very short time
  - k. Grading in the high schools has become too easy
  - l. The federal government should do more to control the sale of handguns
  - m. A national health care plan is needed to cover everybody's medical costs
  - n. Grading in the high schools has become too easy

### FTFT Students Report Rising High School Grades





### FTFT Students Report Decreasing SAT Mean Scores

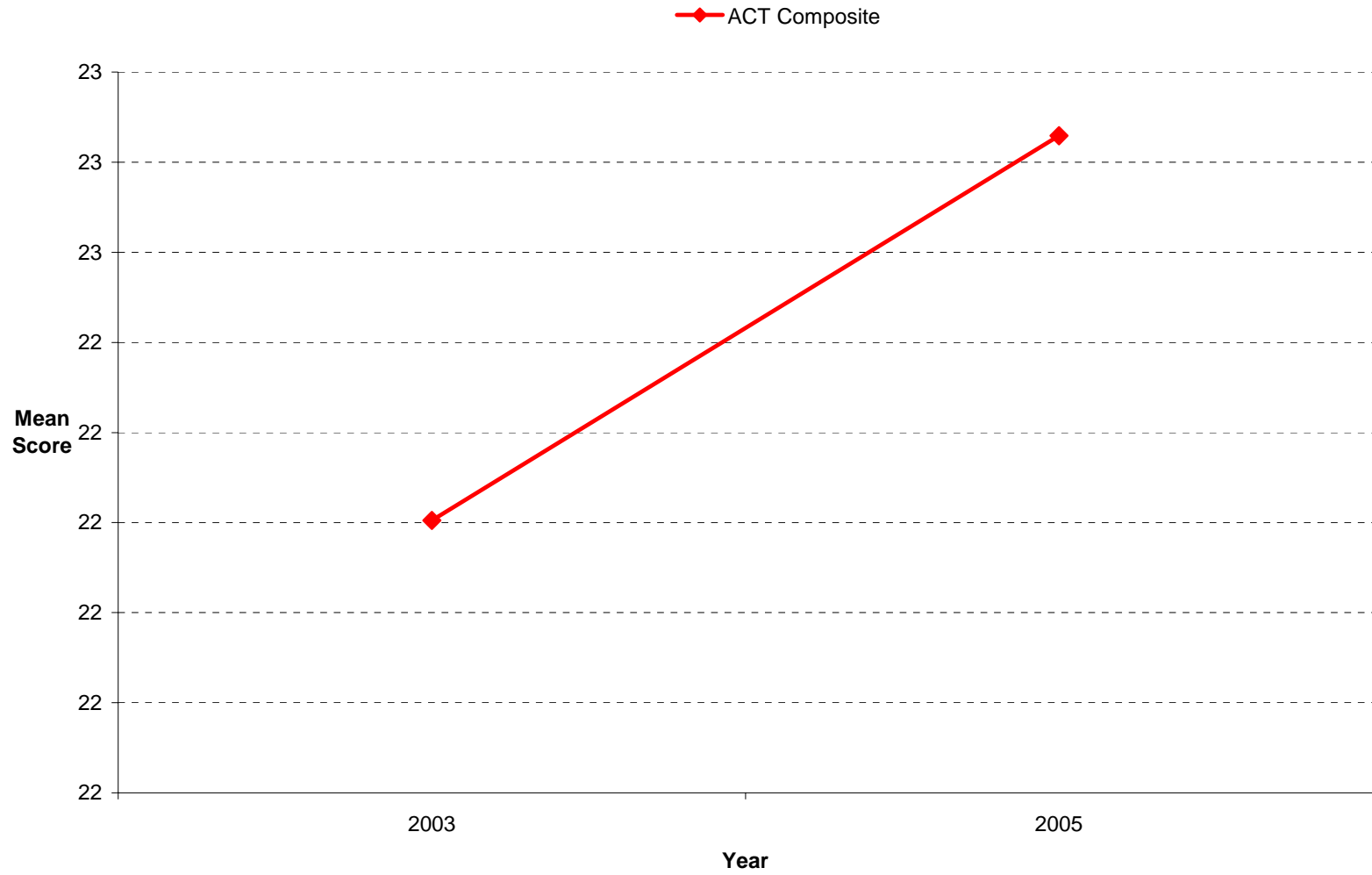


### More FTFT Students Are Scoring Above the Average in SAT Math and Less in Verbal SAT



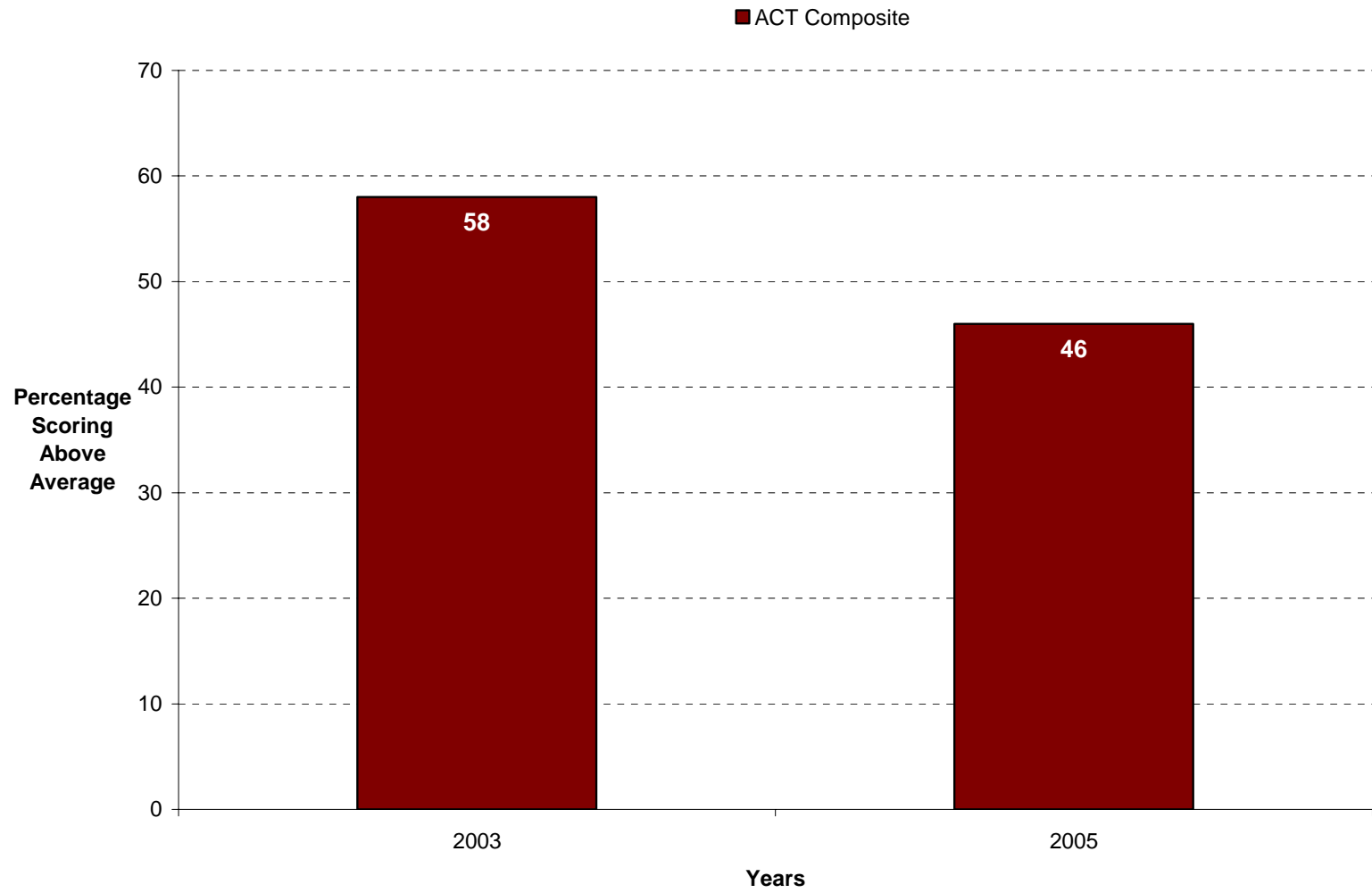


### FTFT Students Report Rising ACT Composite





### Less FTFT Students Are Scoring Above the Average in ACT Composite

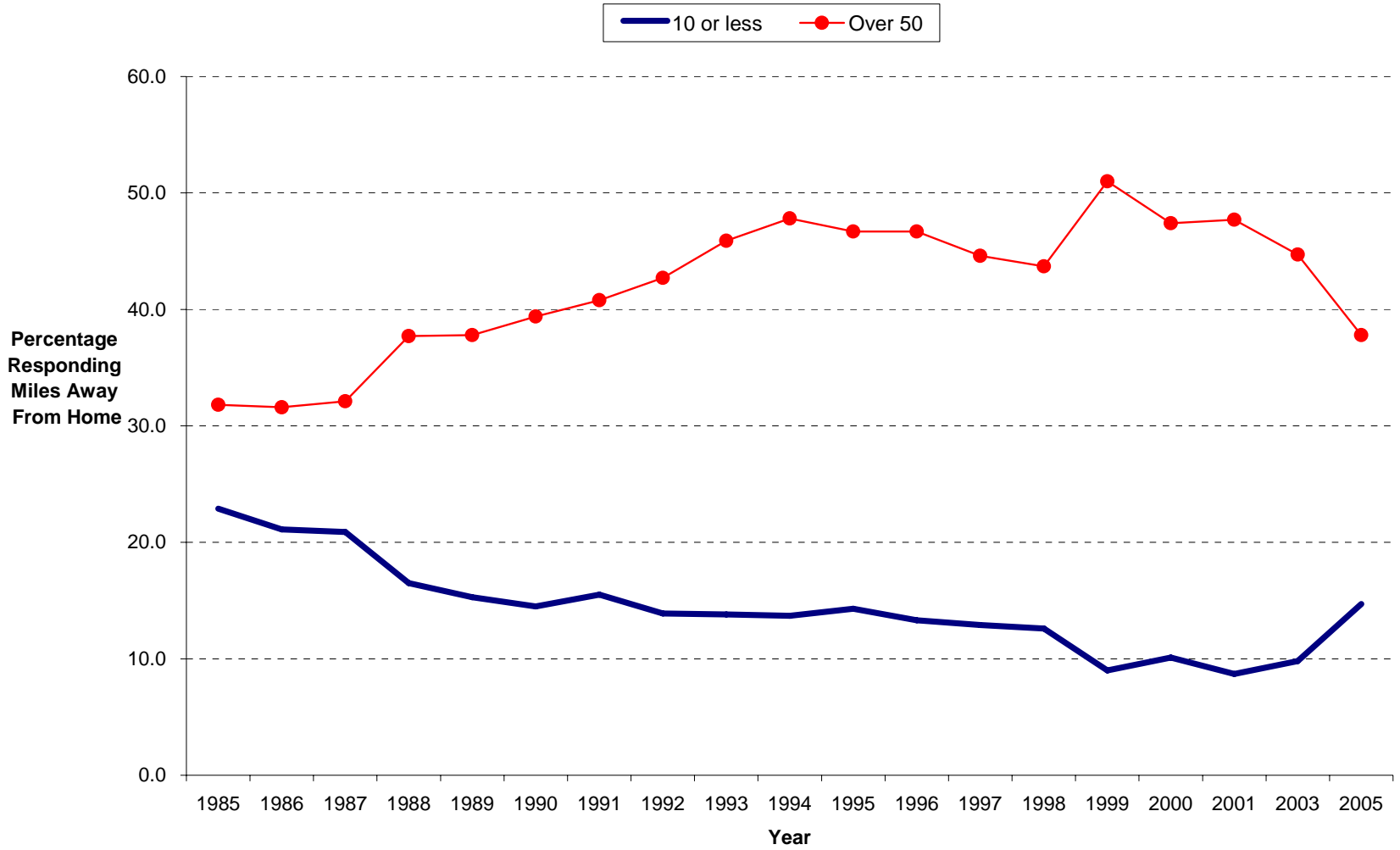




### FTFT Students Are Coming From Upper Middle Class

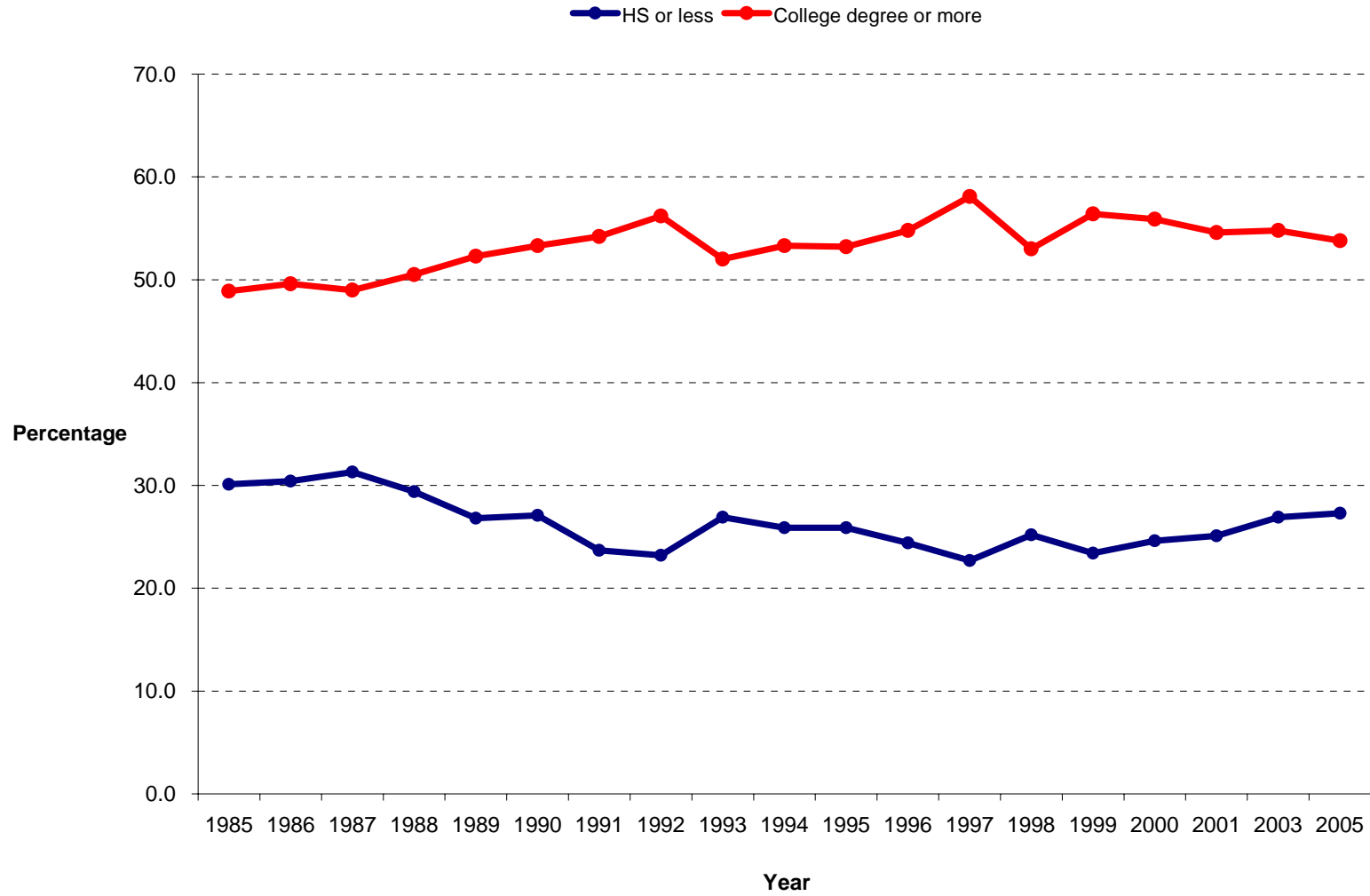


### More FTFT Students Are Coming From Far Away



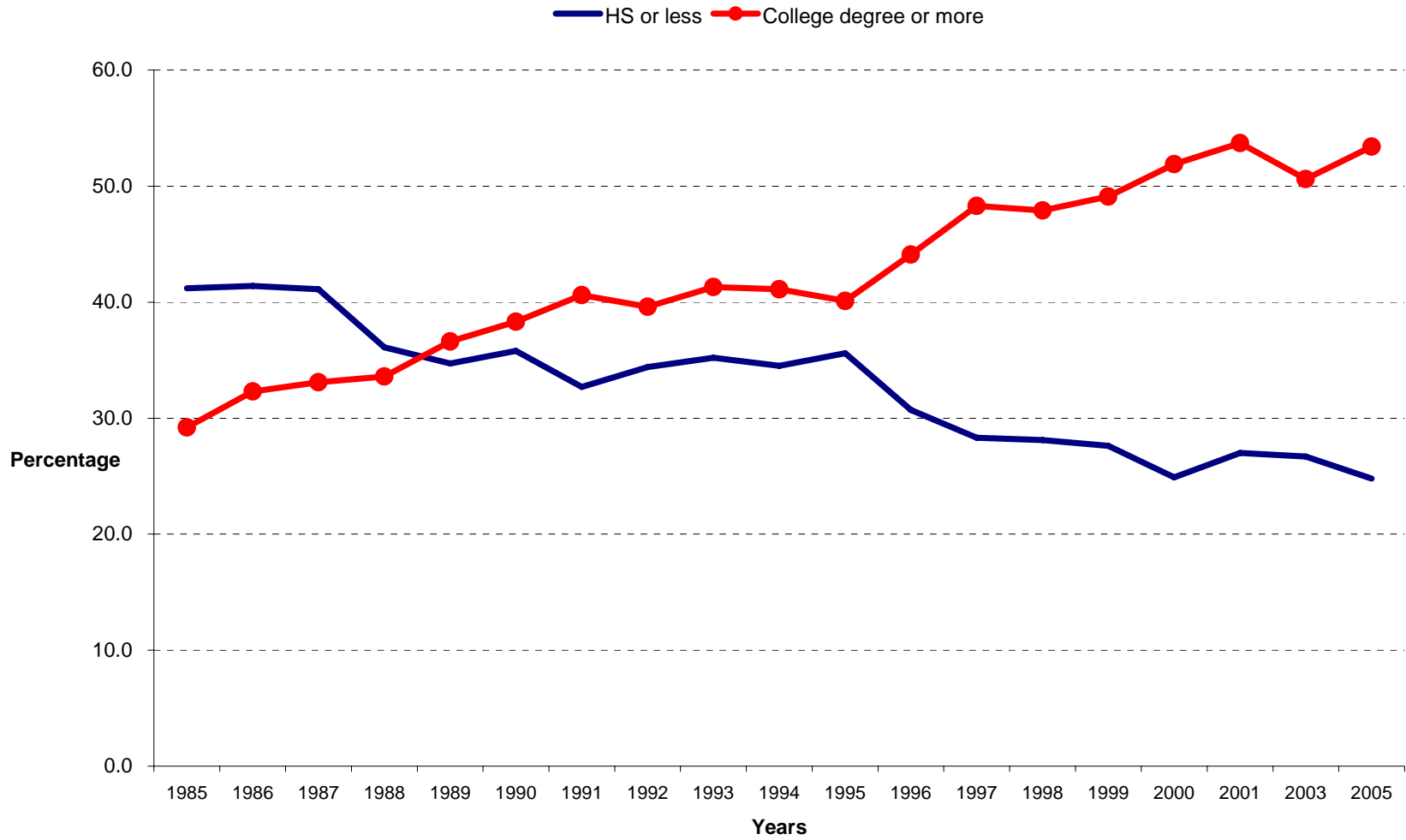


### More FTFT Student Fathers Tend to Have College Education

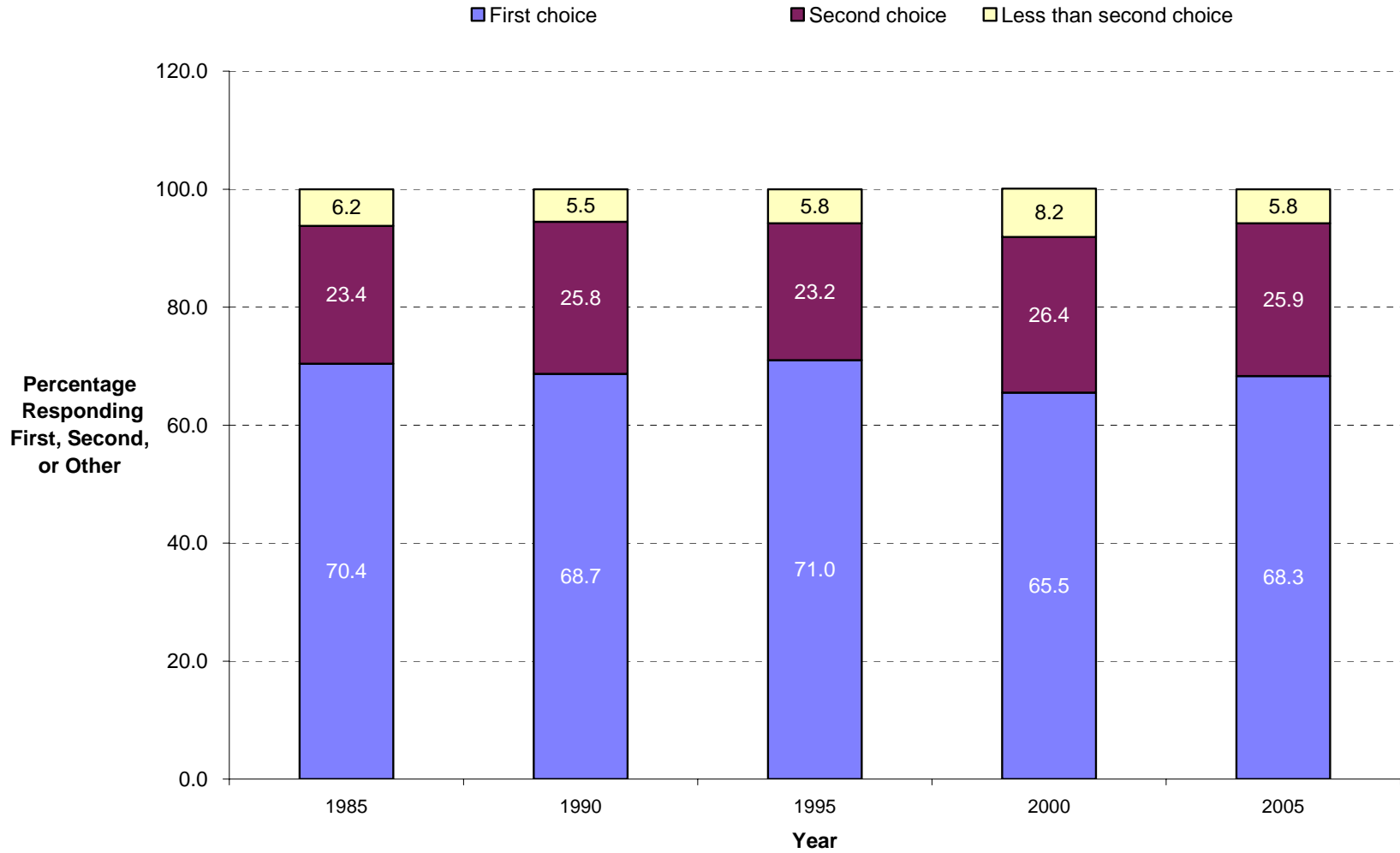




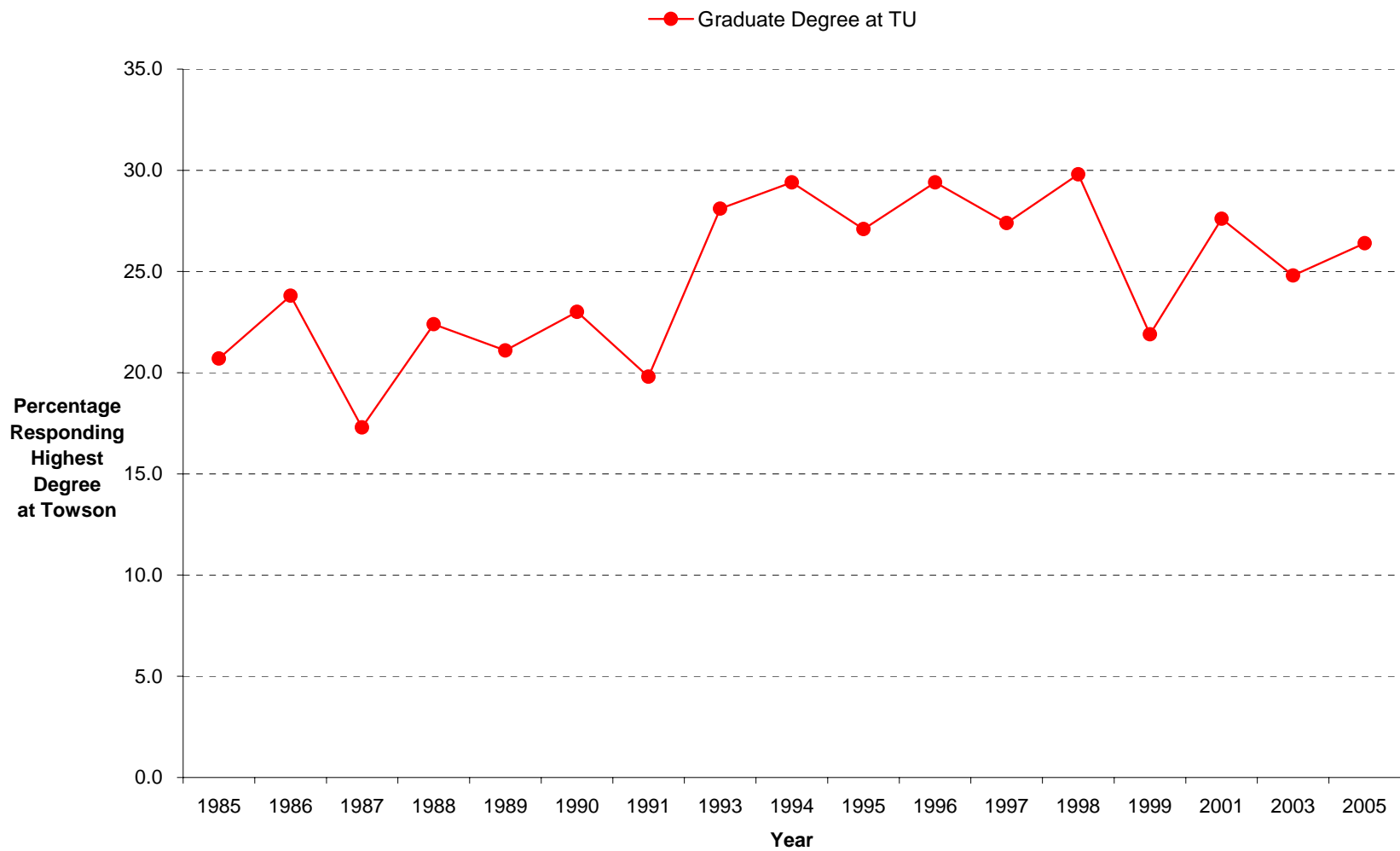
### More FTFT Student Mothers Tend to Have College Education



### Towson University Is the First or Second Choice for 94% of FTFT Students

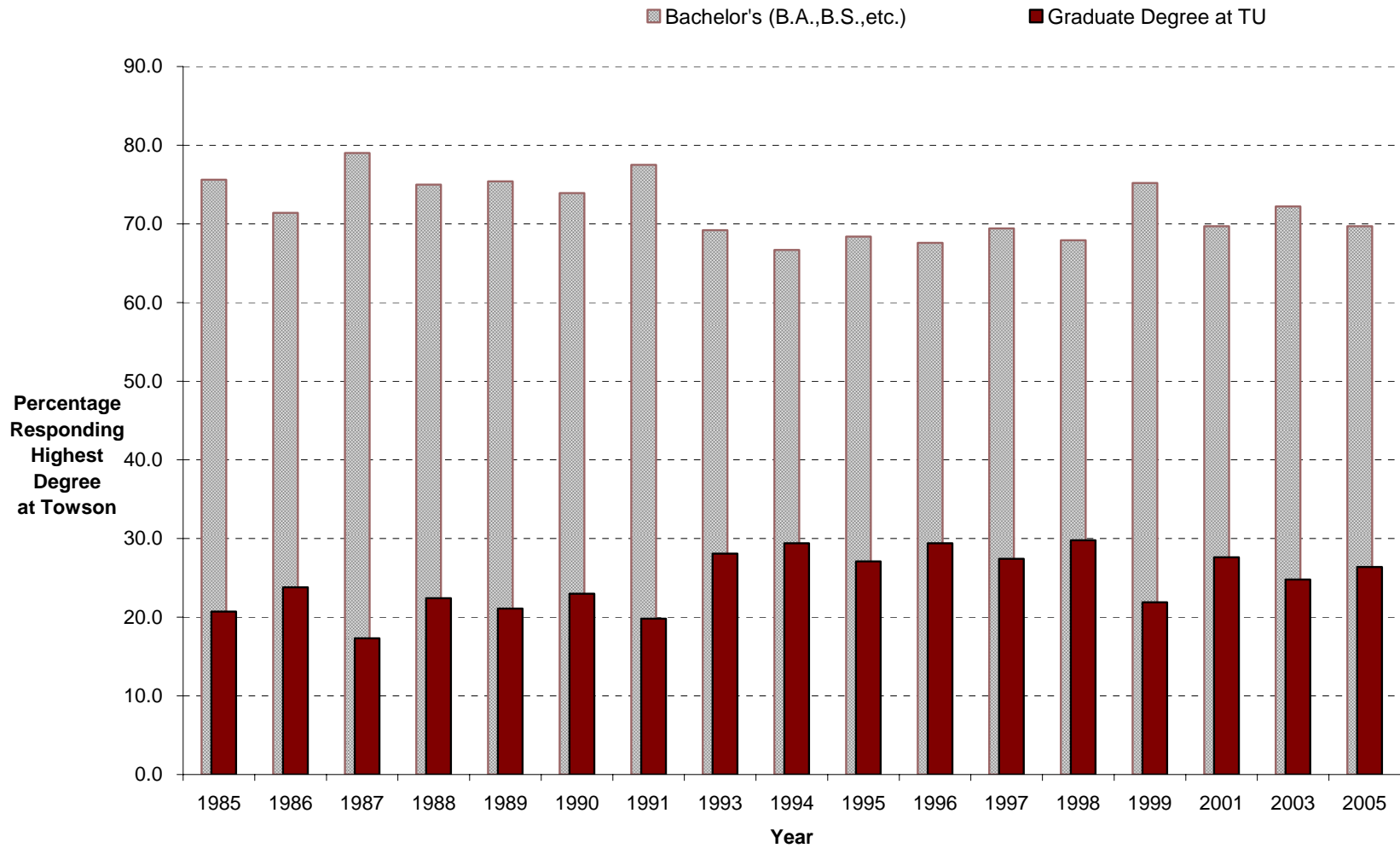


### FTFT Students Are Increasingly Planning to Get a Graduate Degree at Towson University



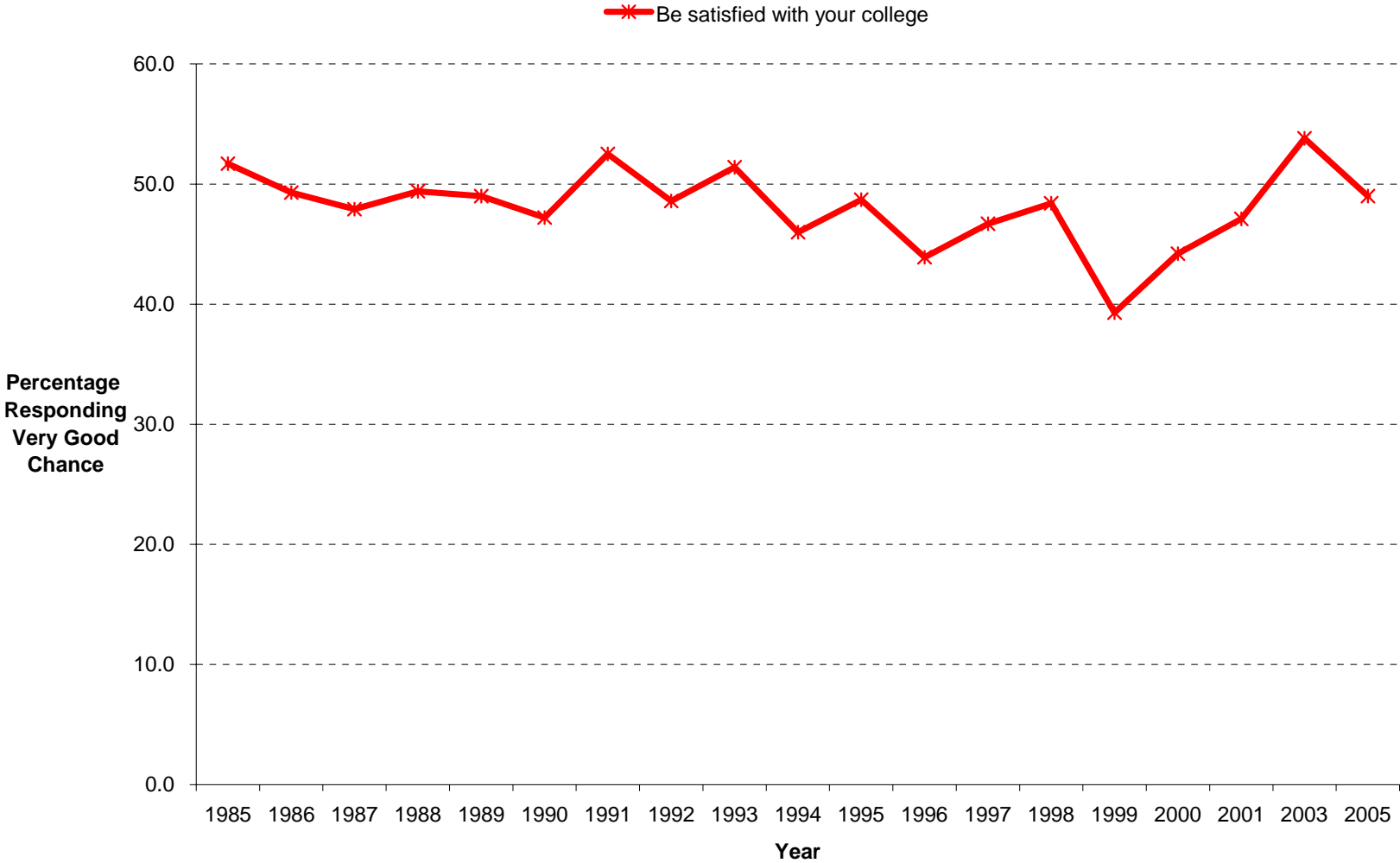


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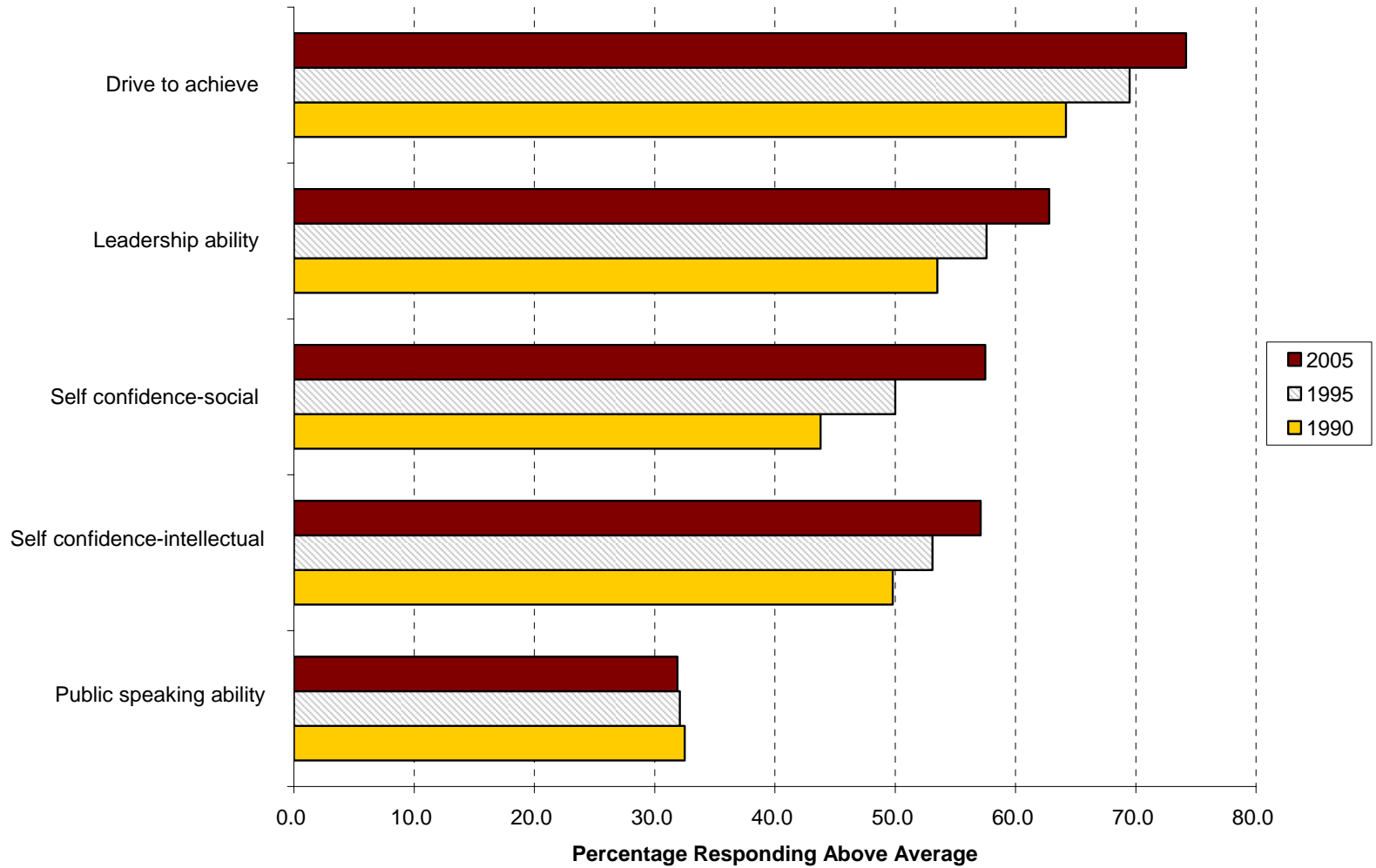


### FTFT Students Report Their Chances of Being Satisfied with Towson University

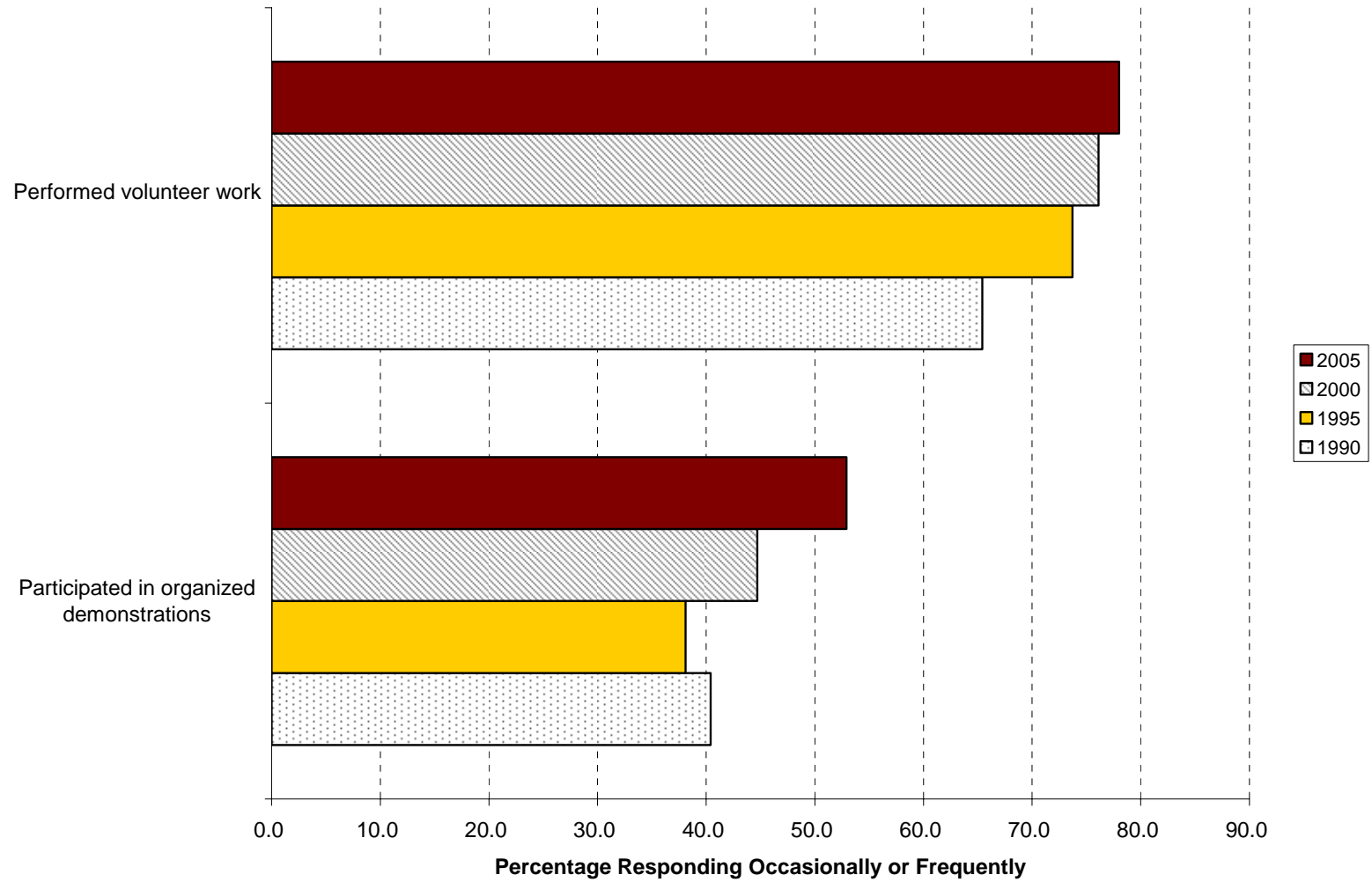




### FTFT Students Report Growth in Leadership Traits

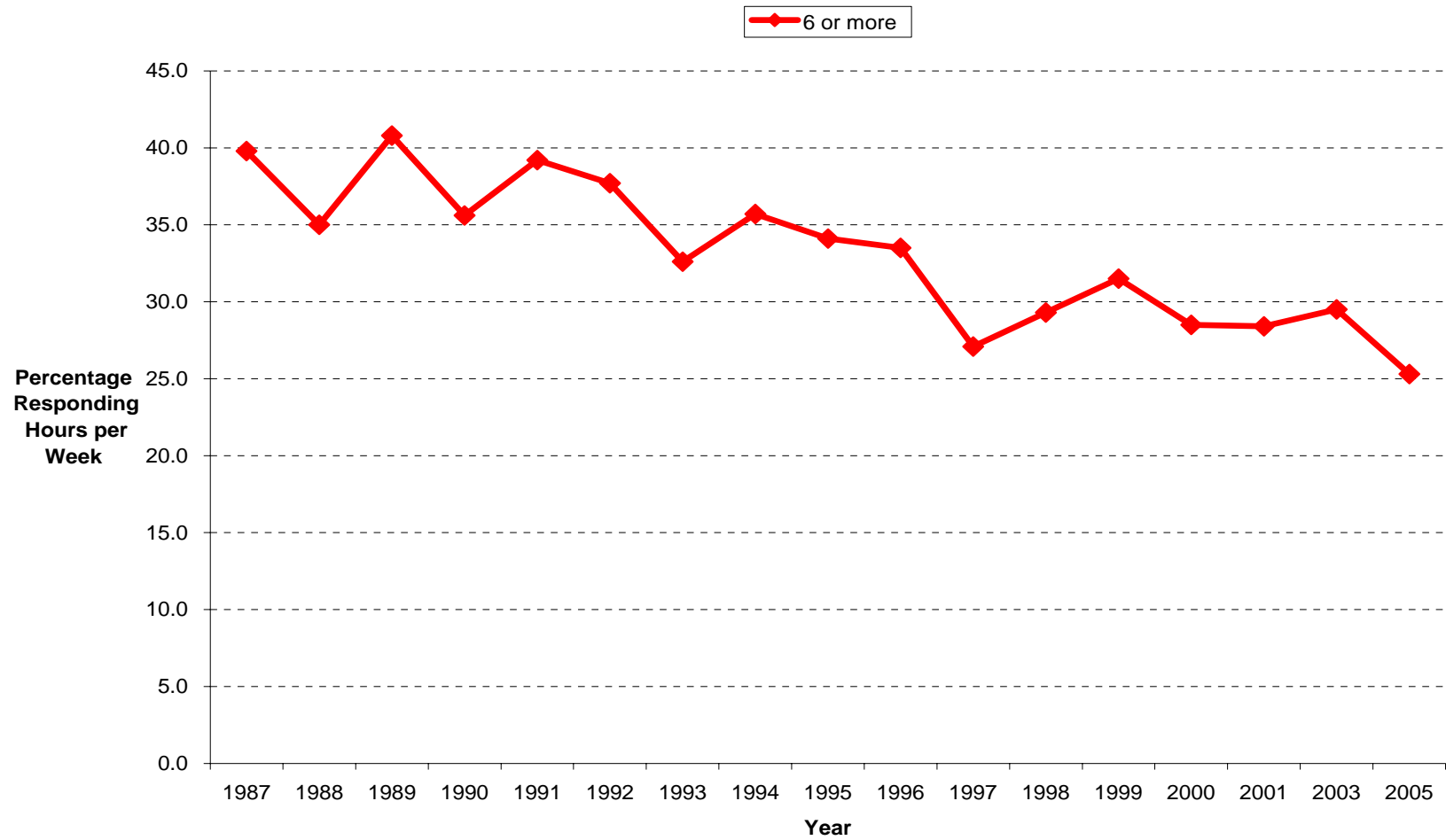


### FTFT Students Are More Engaged with the Community



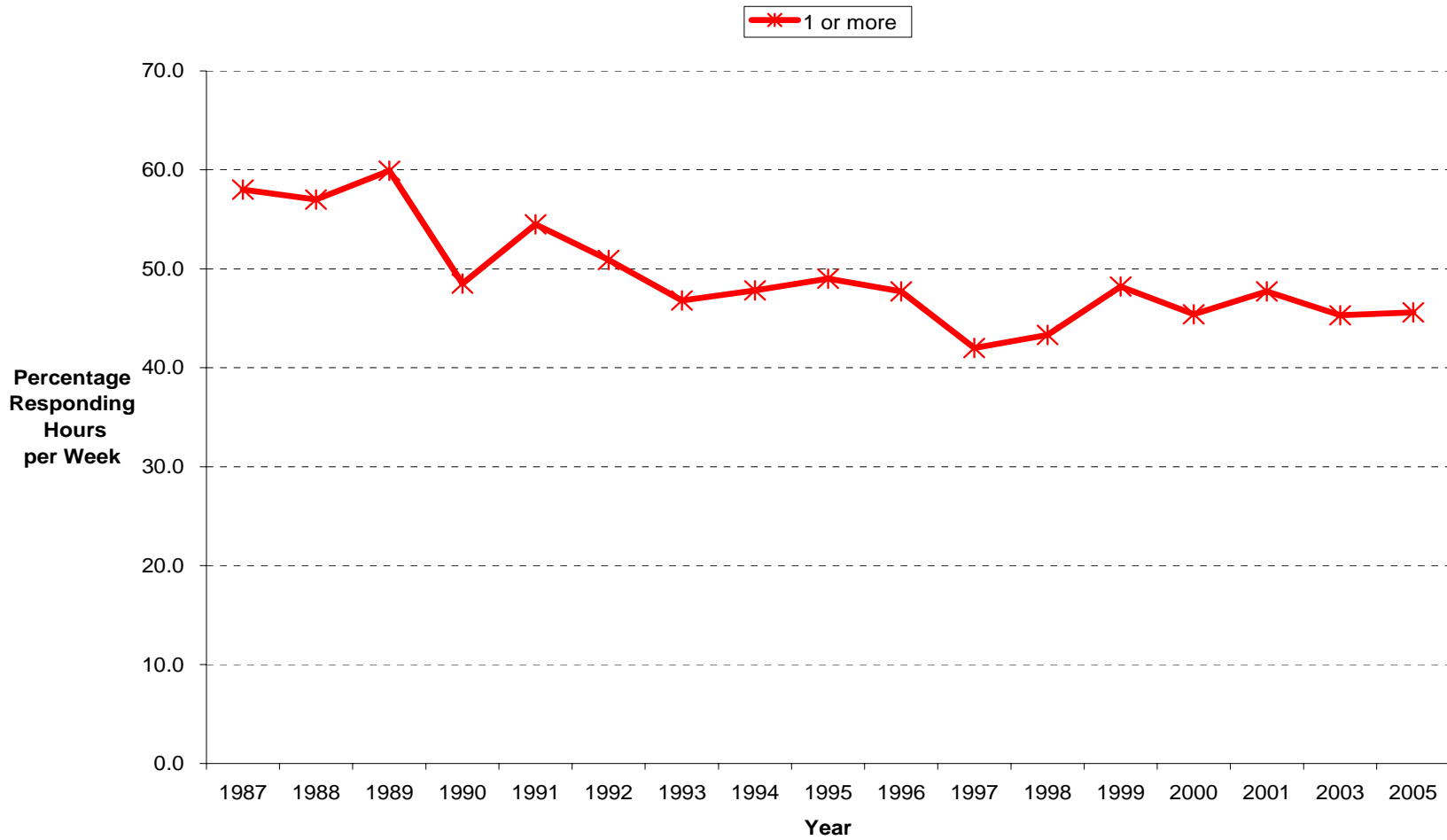


### FTFT Students Spend Less Time Studying



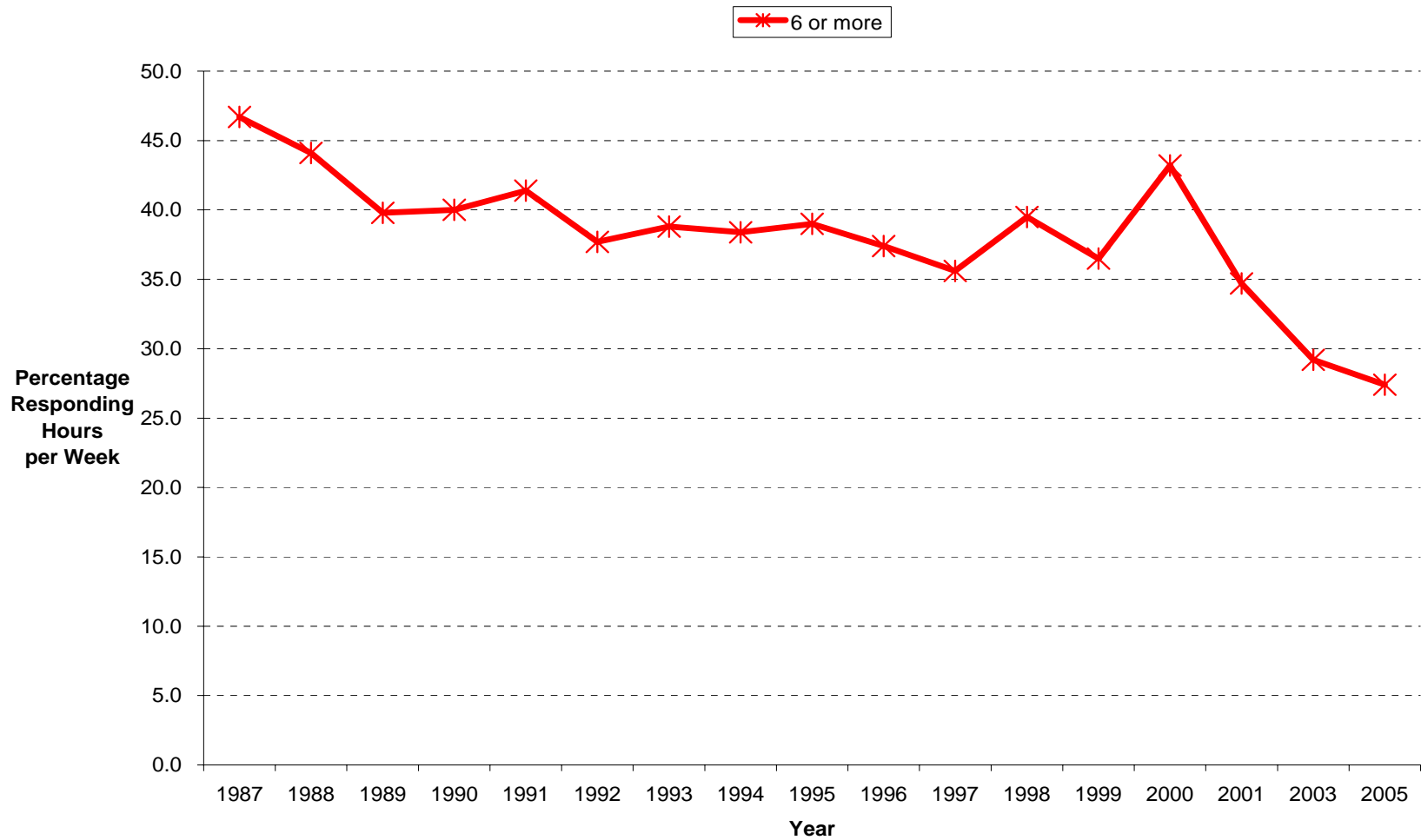
Note: This question was not asked before 1987

### FTFT Students Report Less Time Talking With Teachers



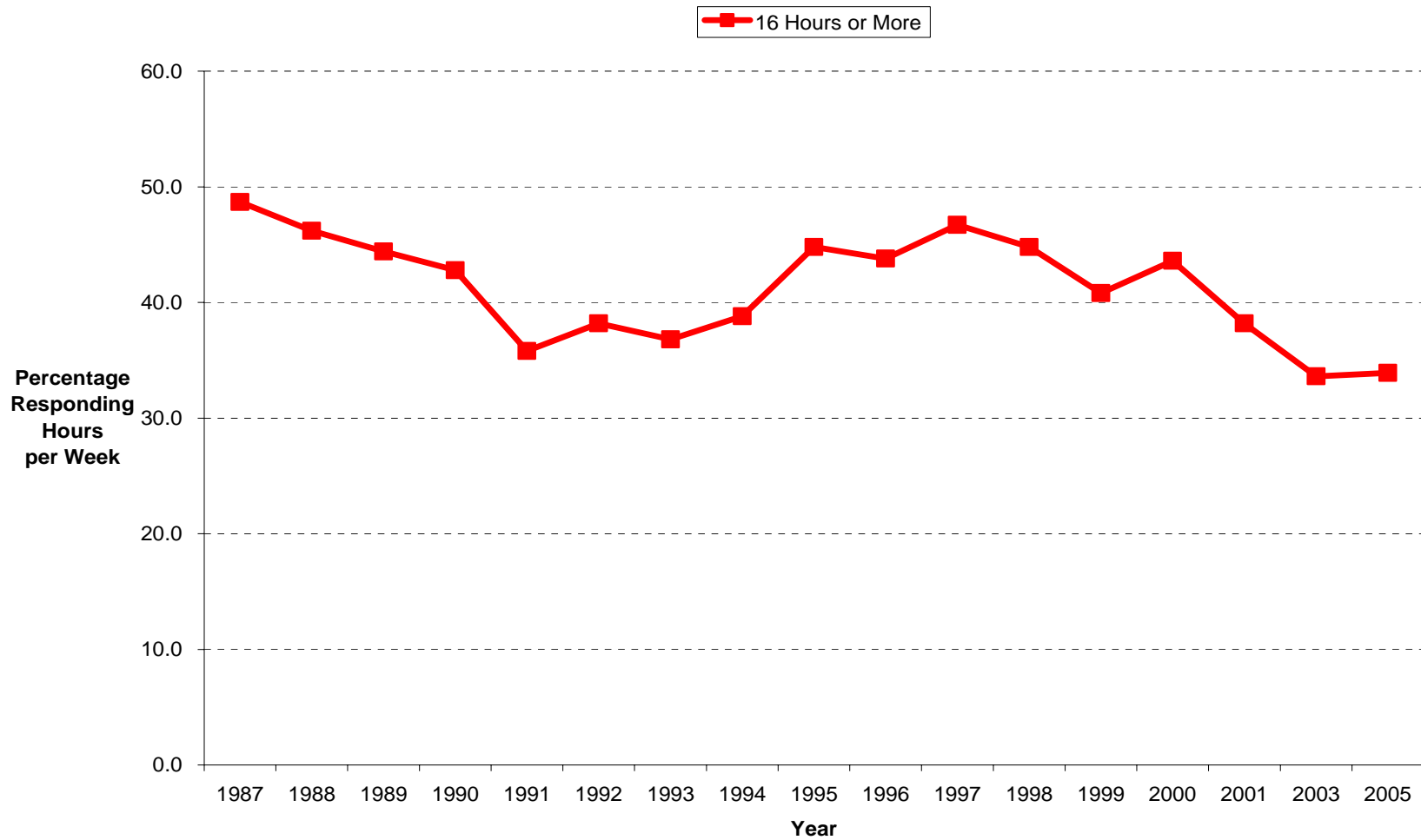
Note: This question was not asked before 1987

### FTFT Students Spend Less Time per Week Partying



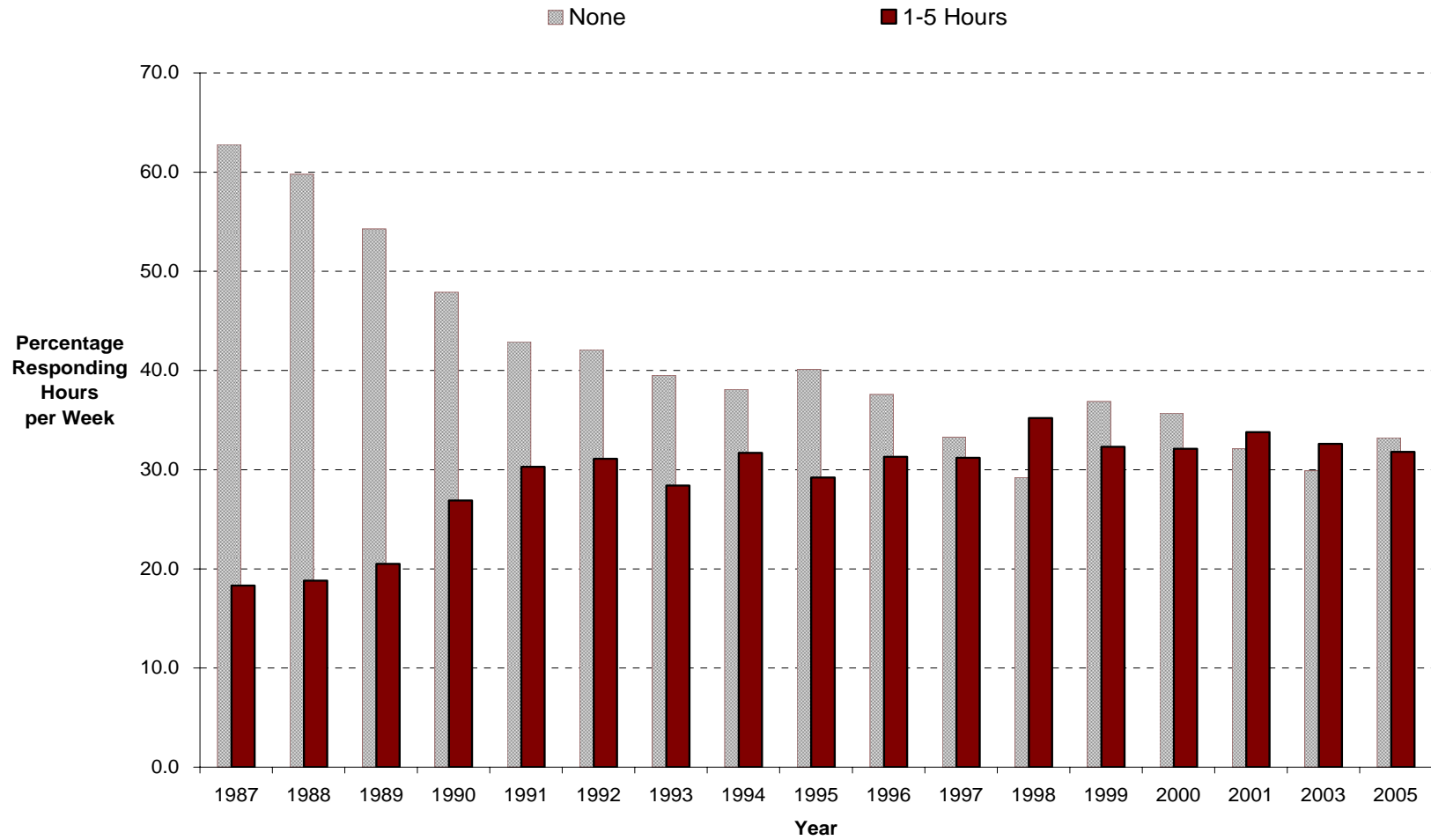
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### FTFT Students Are Dededicating Less Time to Work for Pay



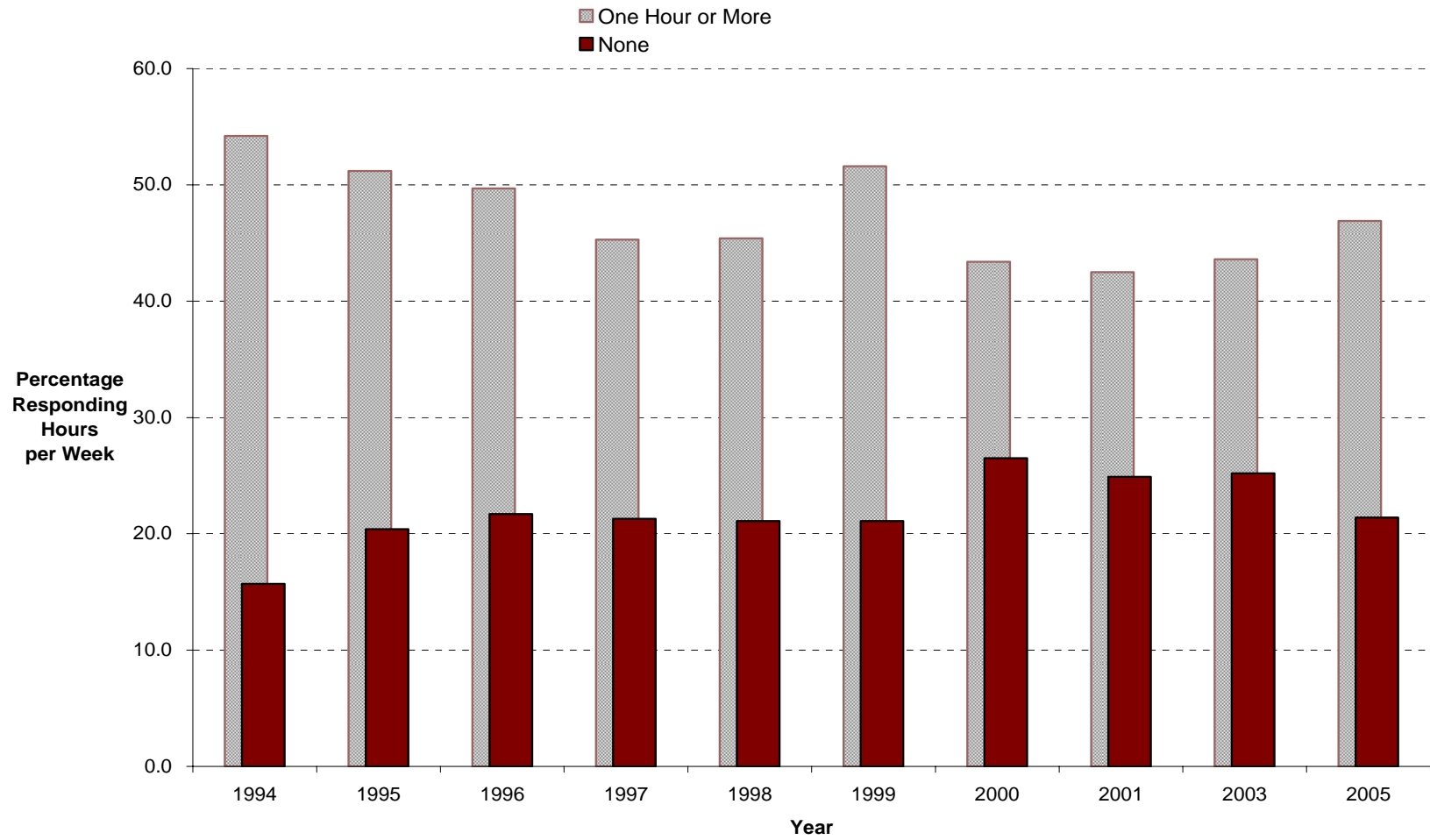
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### FTFT Students Are Dededicating More Time to Do Volunteer Work



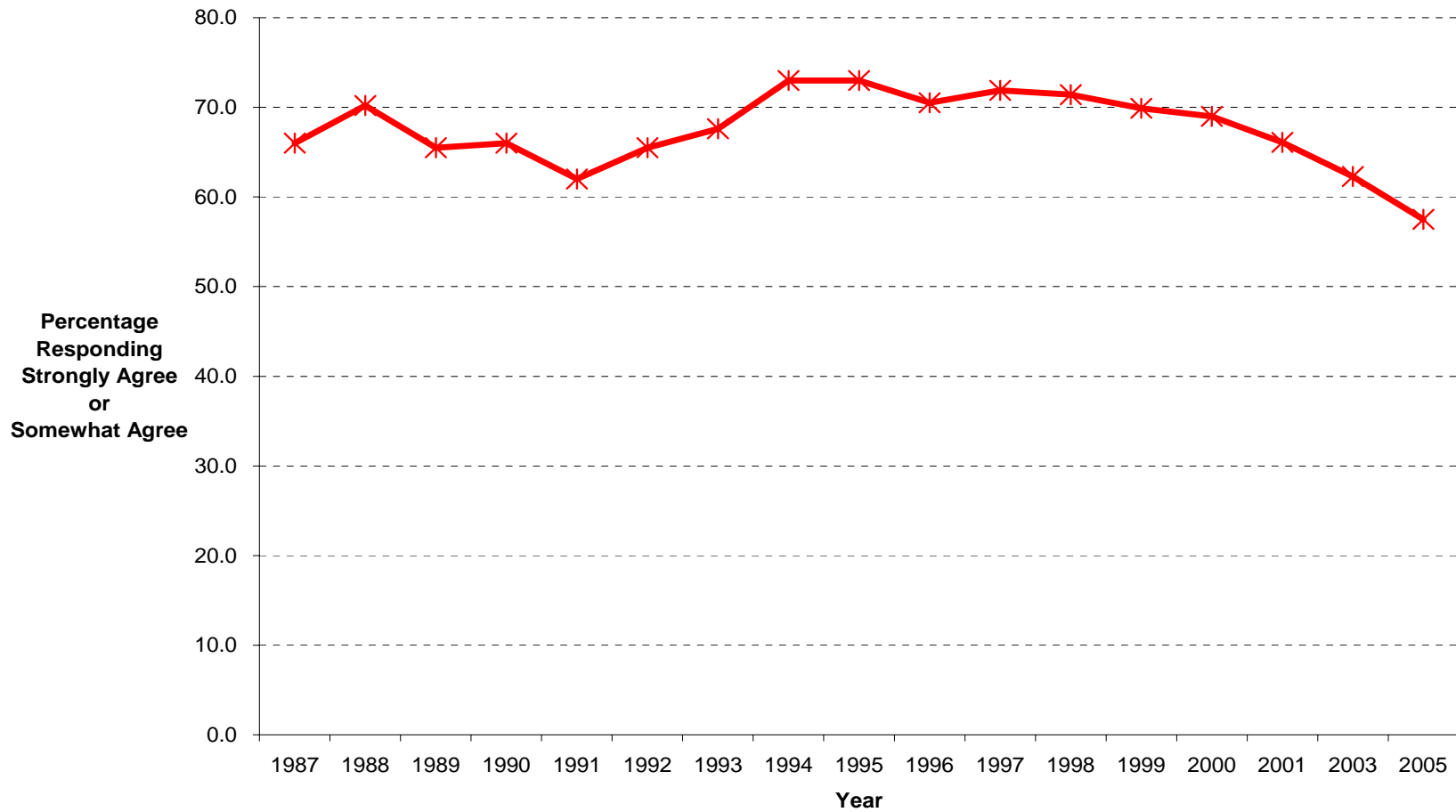
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### FTFT Students Are Dedicating Less Time to Read For Pleasure



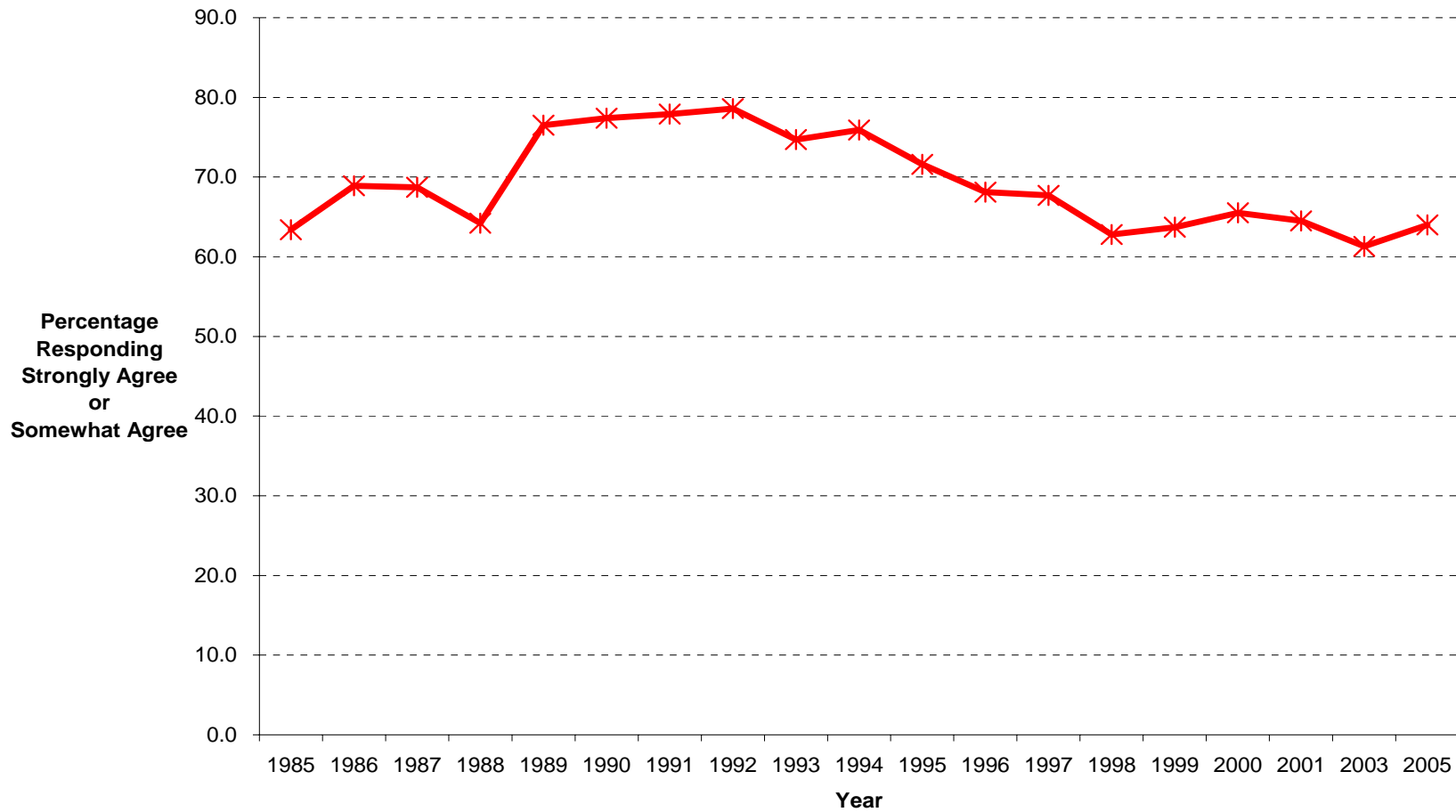
Note: This question was not asked before 1994.

**Changing FTFT Student Opinion:  
"There is too much concern in the courts for the rights of criminals"**

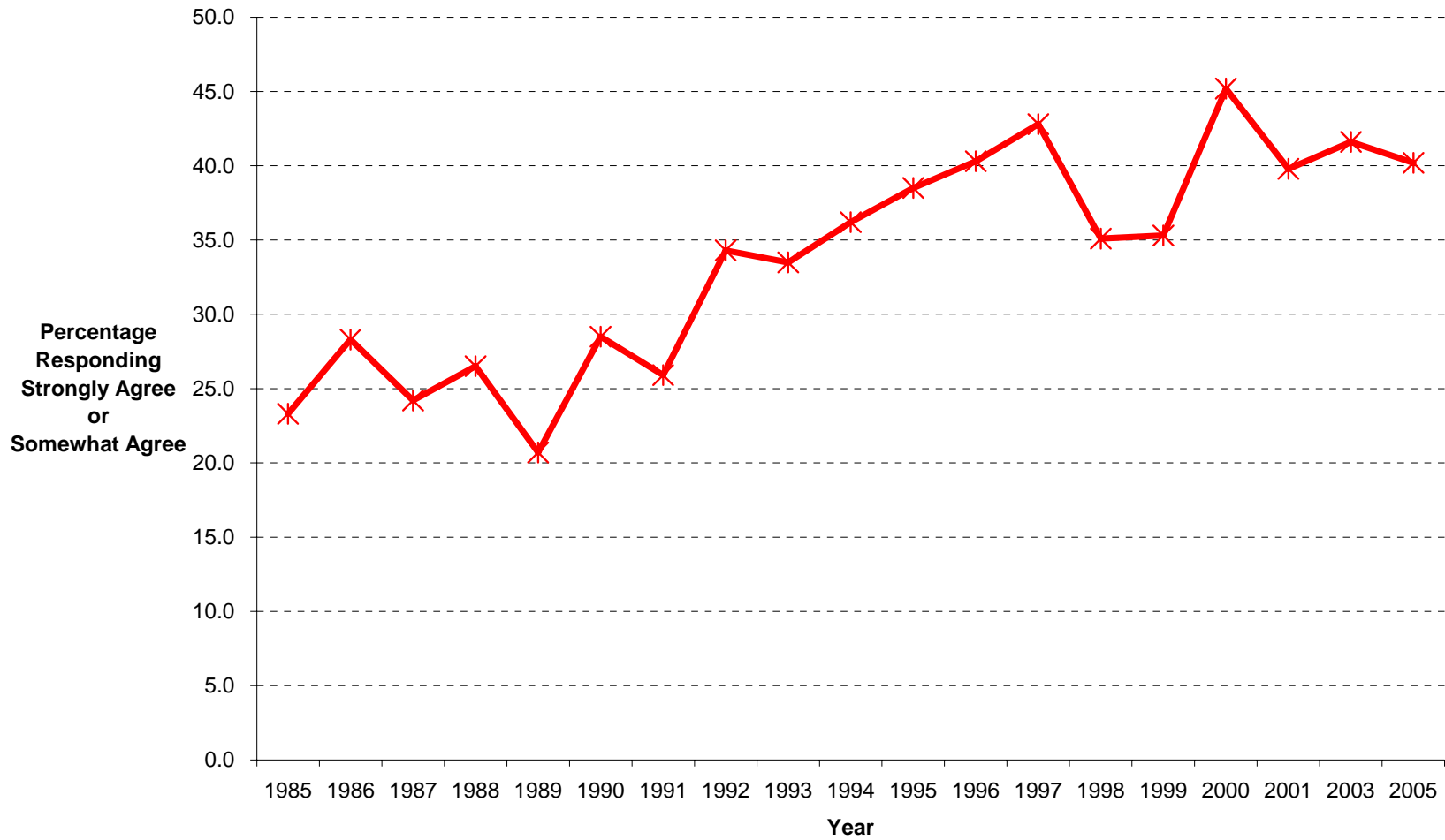


Note: this question was not asked before 1987

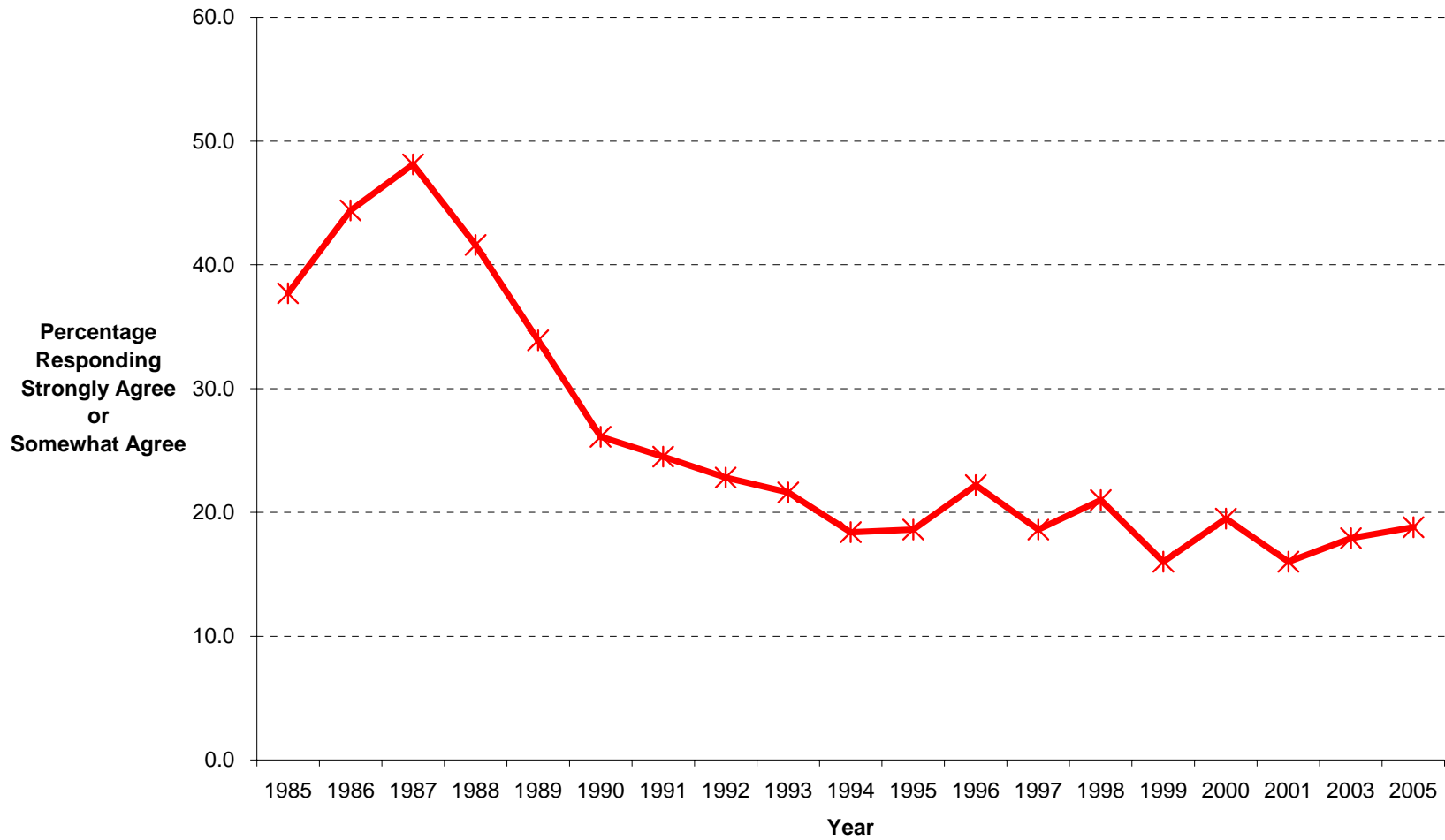
**Changing FTFT Student Opinion:  
"Abortion should be legalized"**



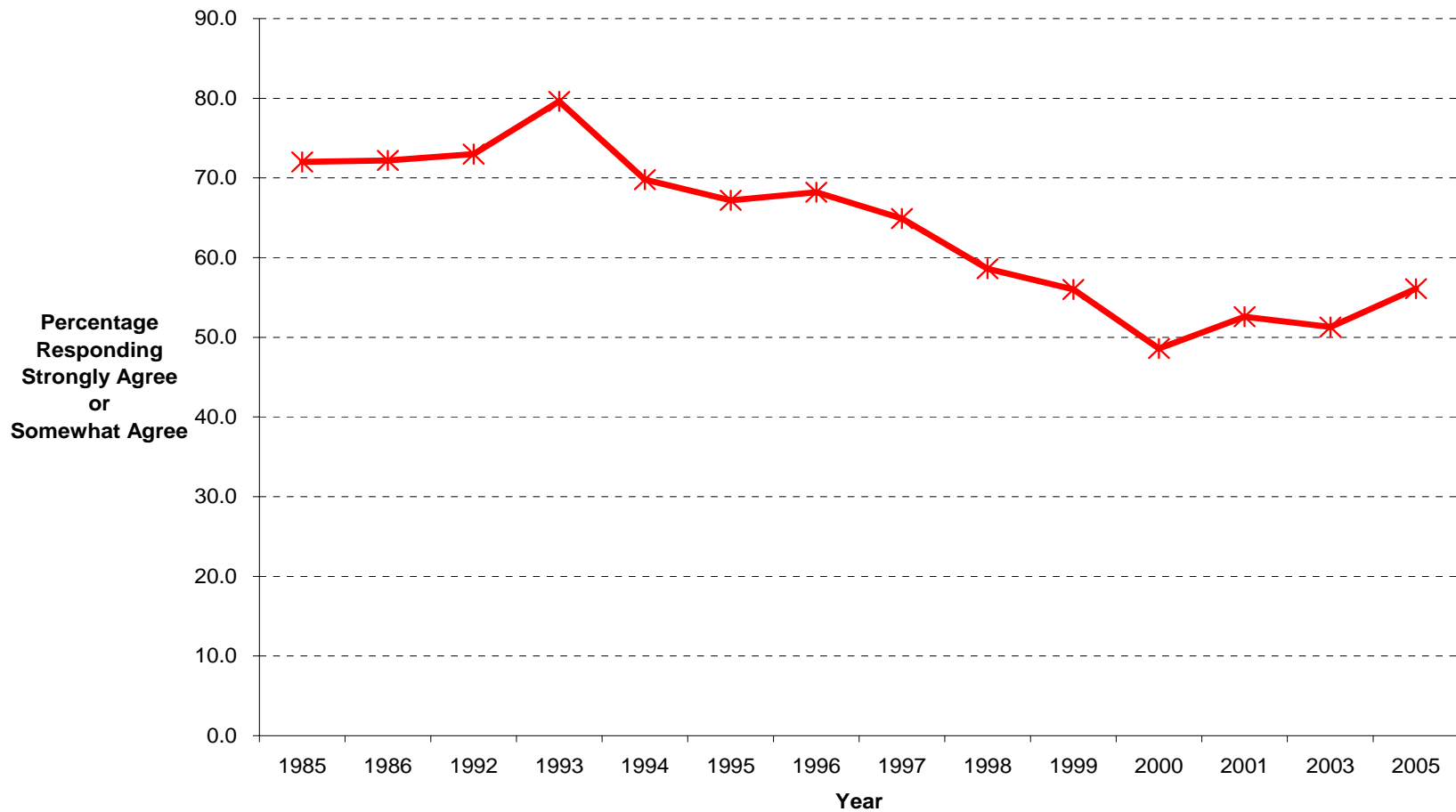
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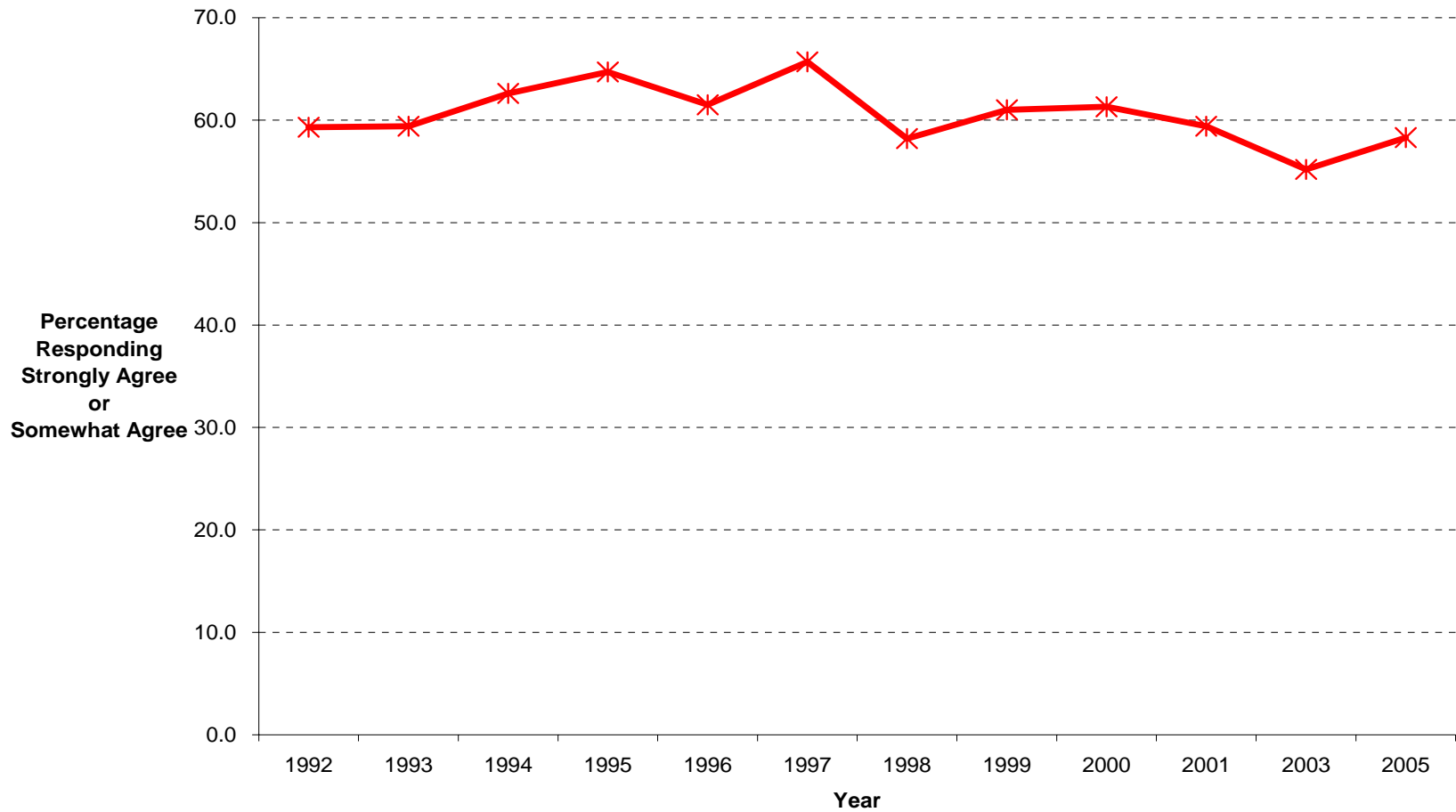


**Changing FTFT Student Opinion:  
"Wealthy people should pay a larger share of taxes than they do now"**



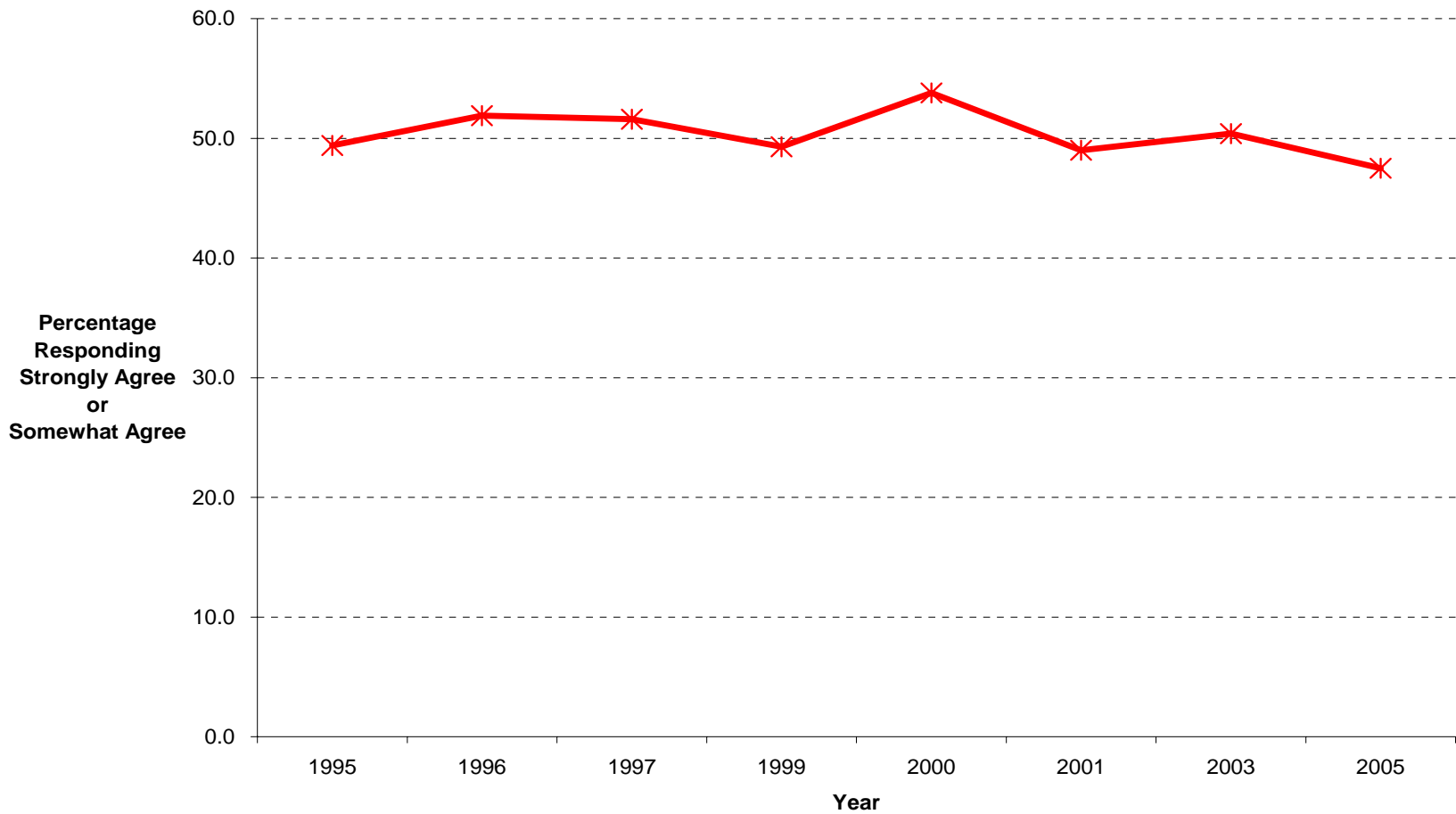
Note: This question was not asked between 1987 and 1991

**Changing FTFT Student Opinion:  
"Colleges should prohibit racist/sexist speech on campus"**



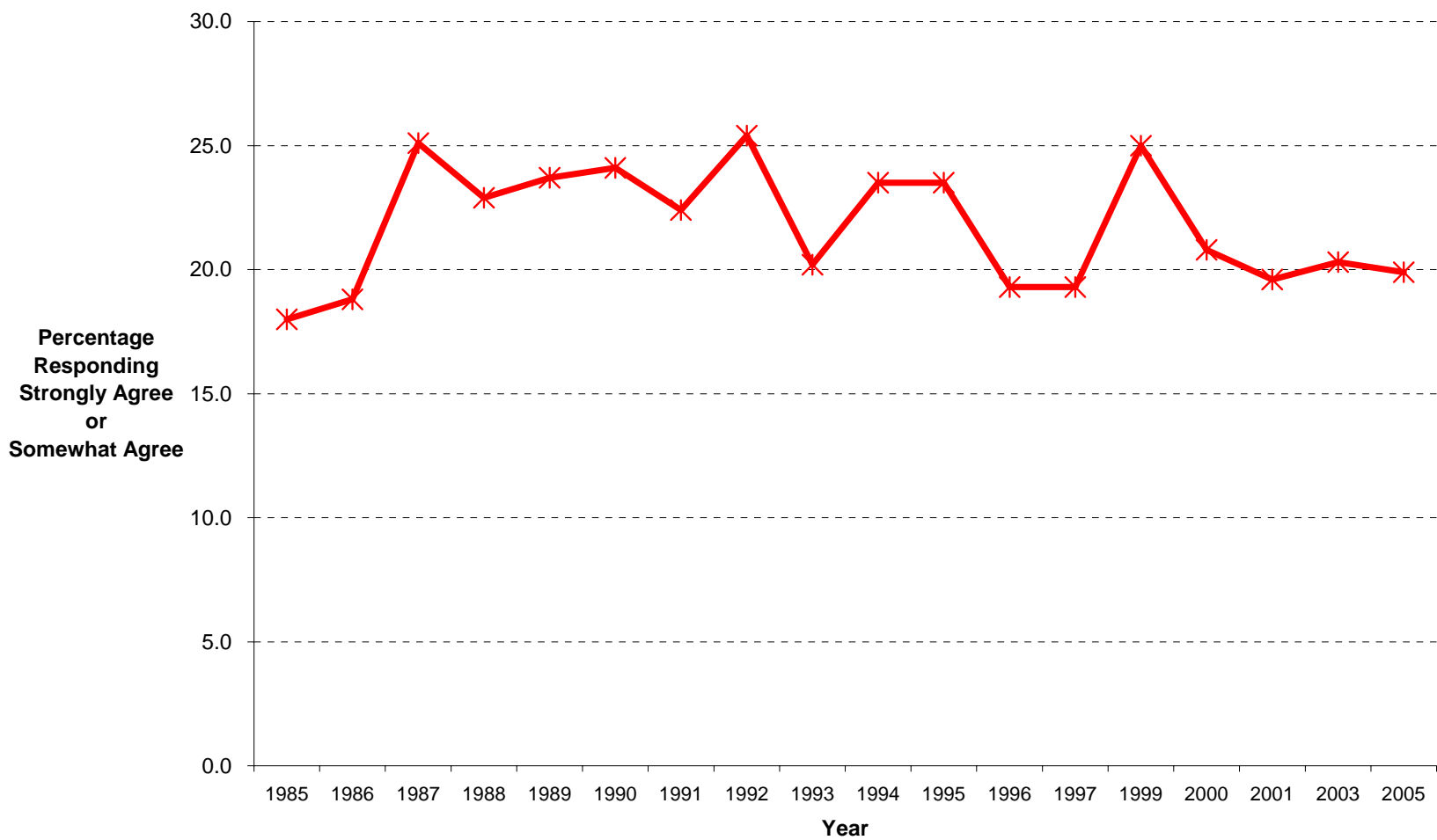
Note: This question was not asked before 1992

**Changing FTFT Student Opinion:  
"Affirmative action in college admissions should be abolished"**

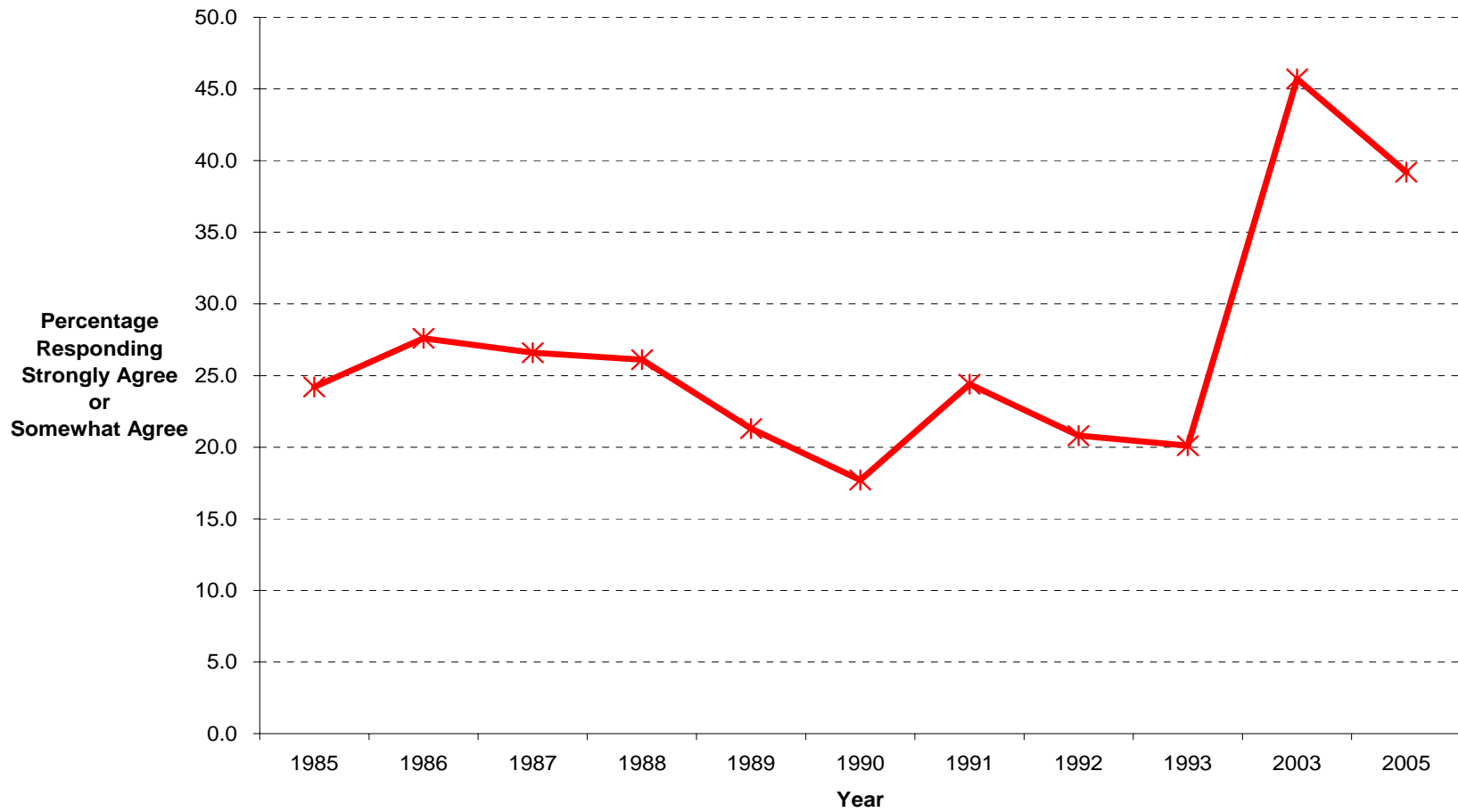


Note: This question was not asked before 1995

**Changing FTFT Student Opinion:  
"The activities of married women are best confined to the home and family"**

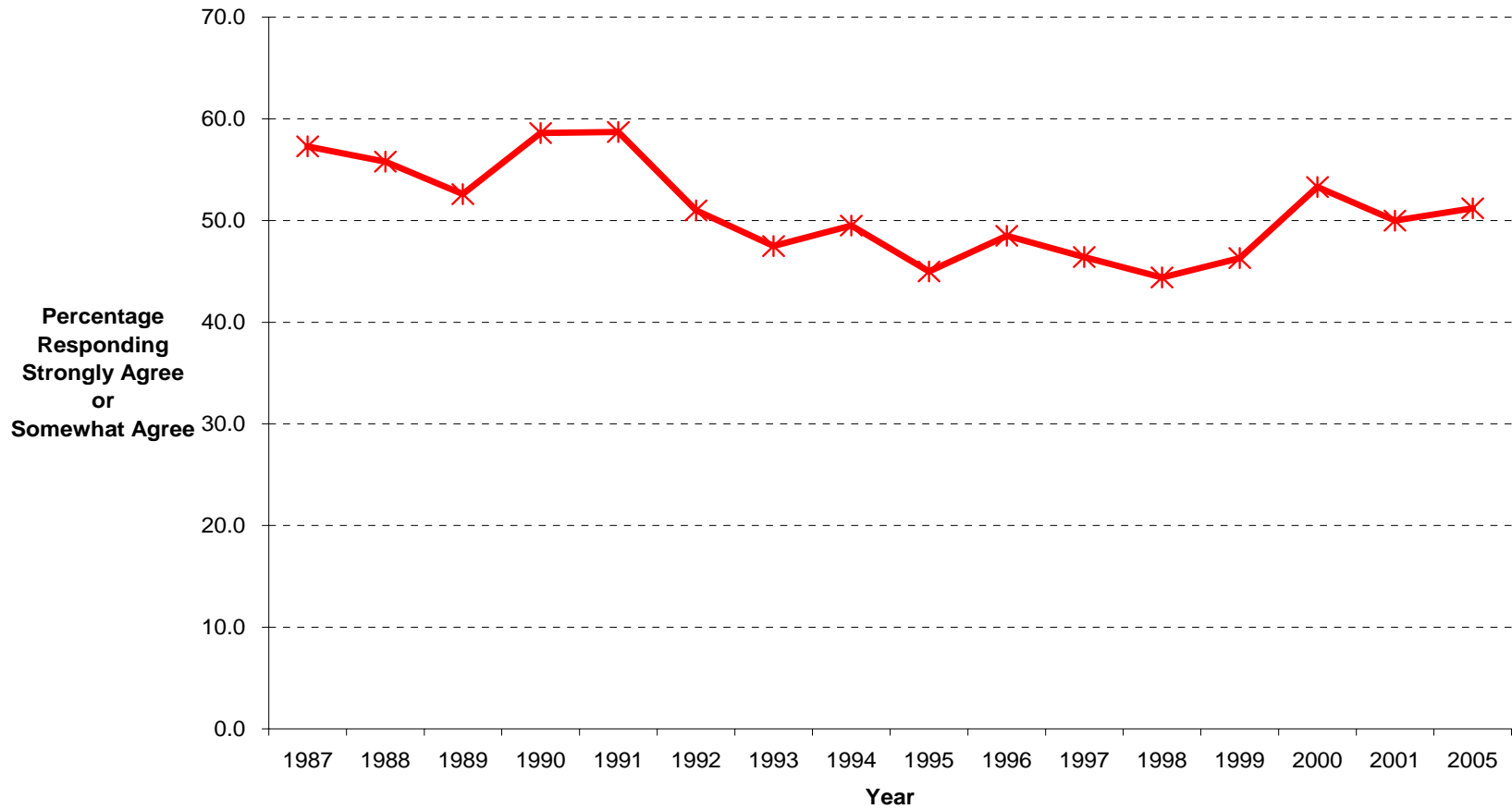


**Changing FTFT Student Opinion:  
"Federal military spending should be increased"**



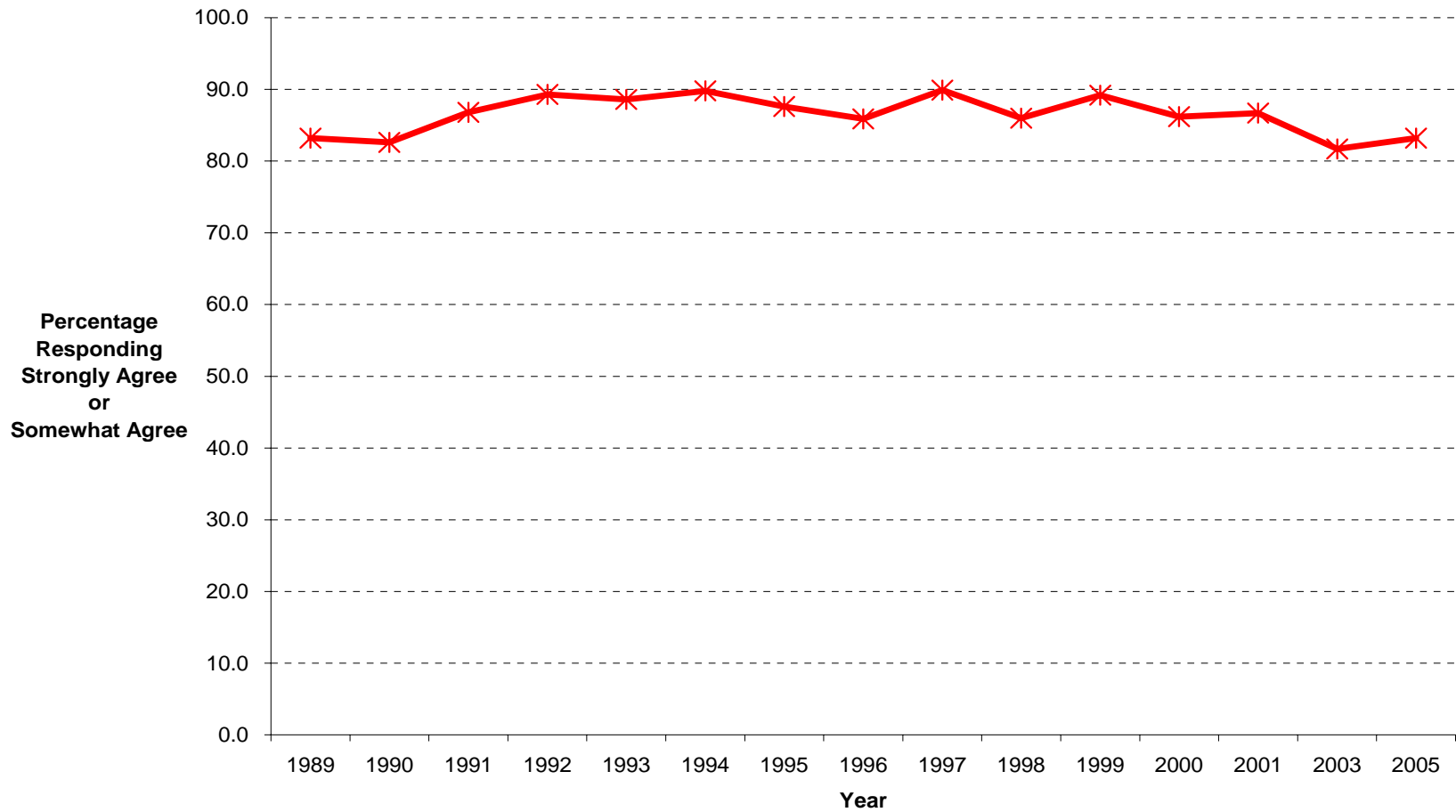
Note: This question was not asked between 1994-2001

**Changing FTFT Student Opinion:  
"If two people really like each other, it's all right for them to have sex even if they've known  
each other for only a very short time"**



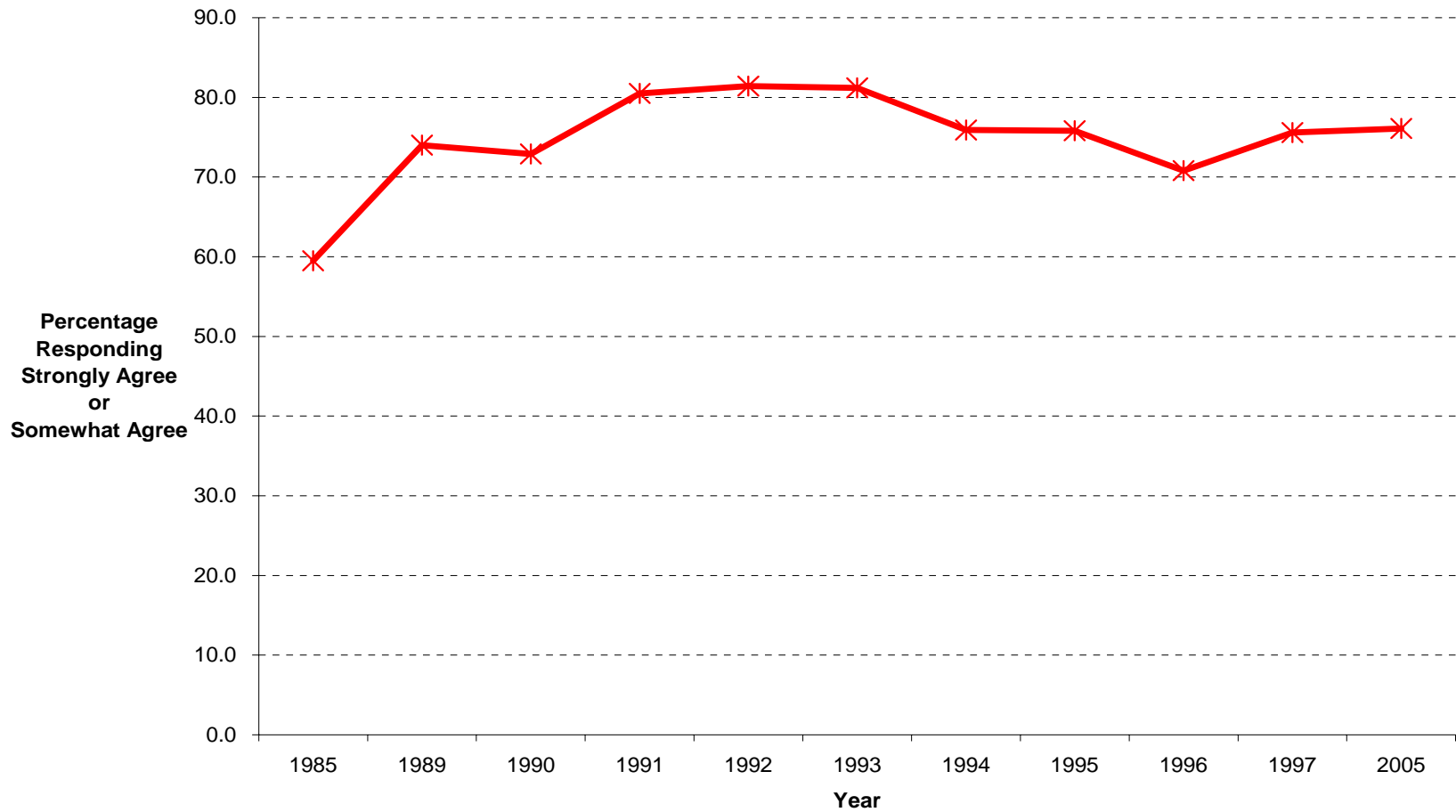
Note: This question was not asked in 1985 and 1986

**Changing FTFT Student Opinion:  
"The federal government should do more to control the sale of handguns"**



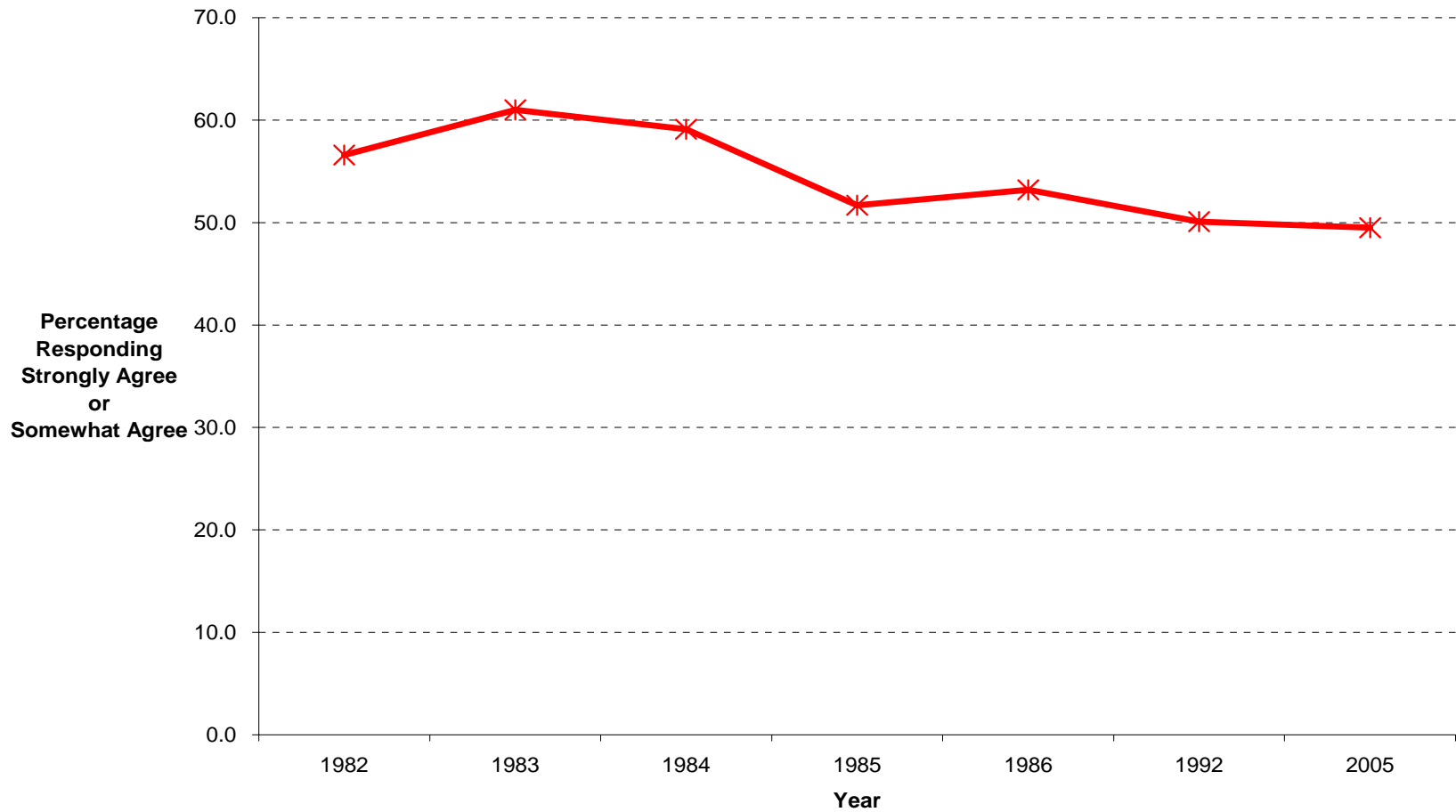
Note: this question was not asked before 1989

**Changing FTFT Student Opinion:  
"A national health care plan is needed to cover everybody's medical costs"**



Note this question was not asked between 1986 and 1988, and between 1998 and 2003

**Changing FTFT Student Opinion:  
"Grading in the high schools has become too easy"**



Note: This question was not asked between 1987 and 1991, and between 1993 and 2003