

Trends in the Maine Labor Market

Historical trends and projections to the year 2018



Maine Department of Labor
Center for Workforce Research & Information



**Worker
Availability and
Skills**



**Foreign
Competition**

Regional Economies

**Technology -Driven
Innovation**

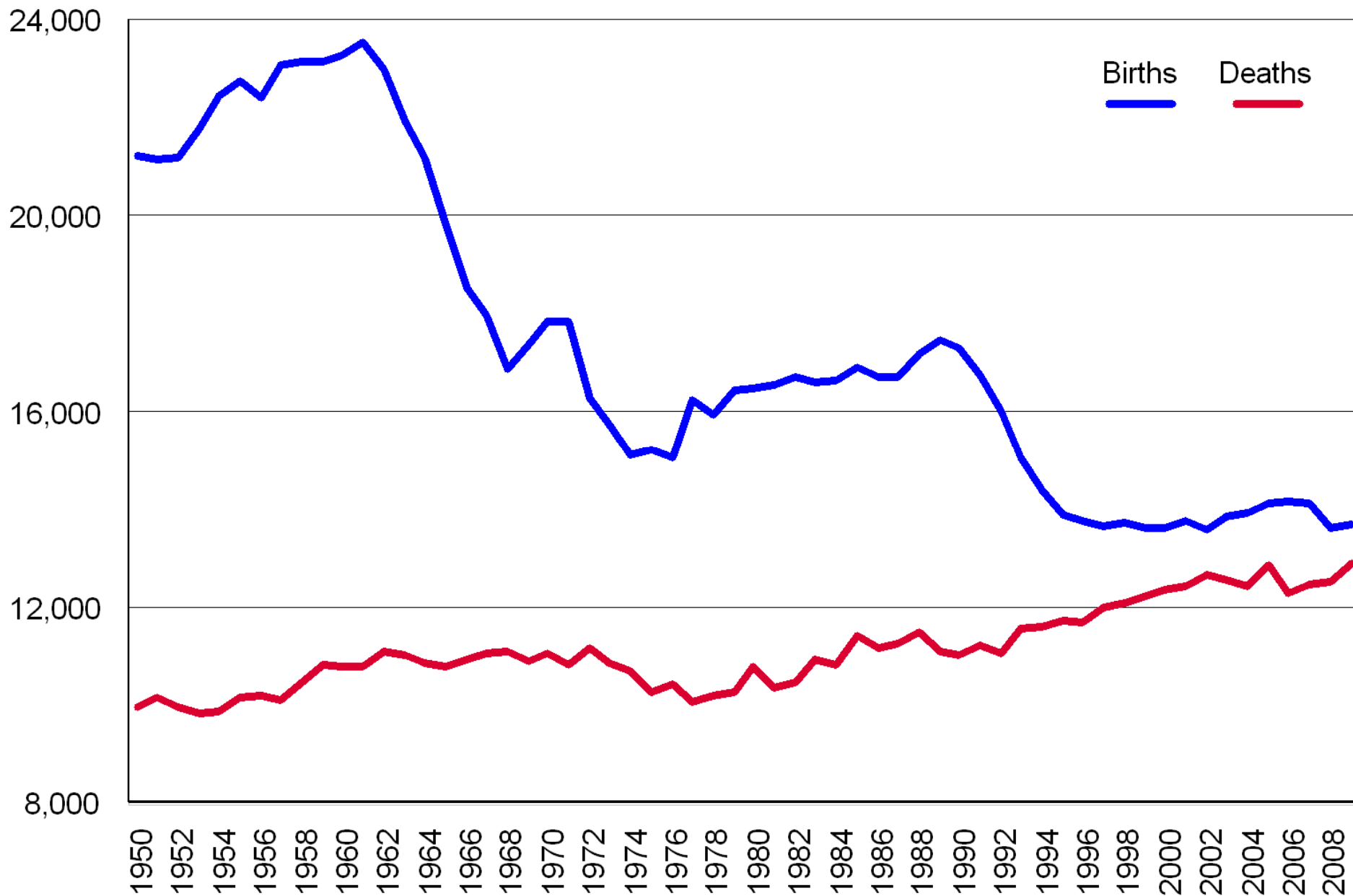


**Regional
Competitiveness**

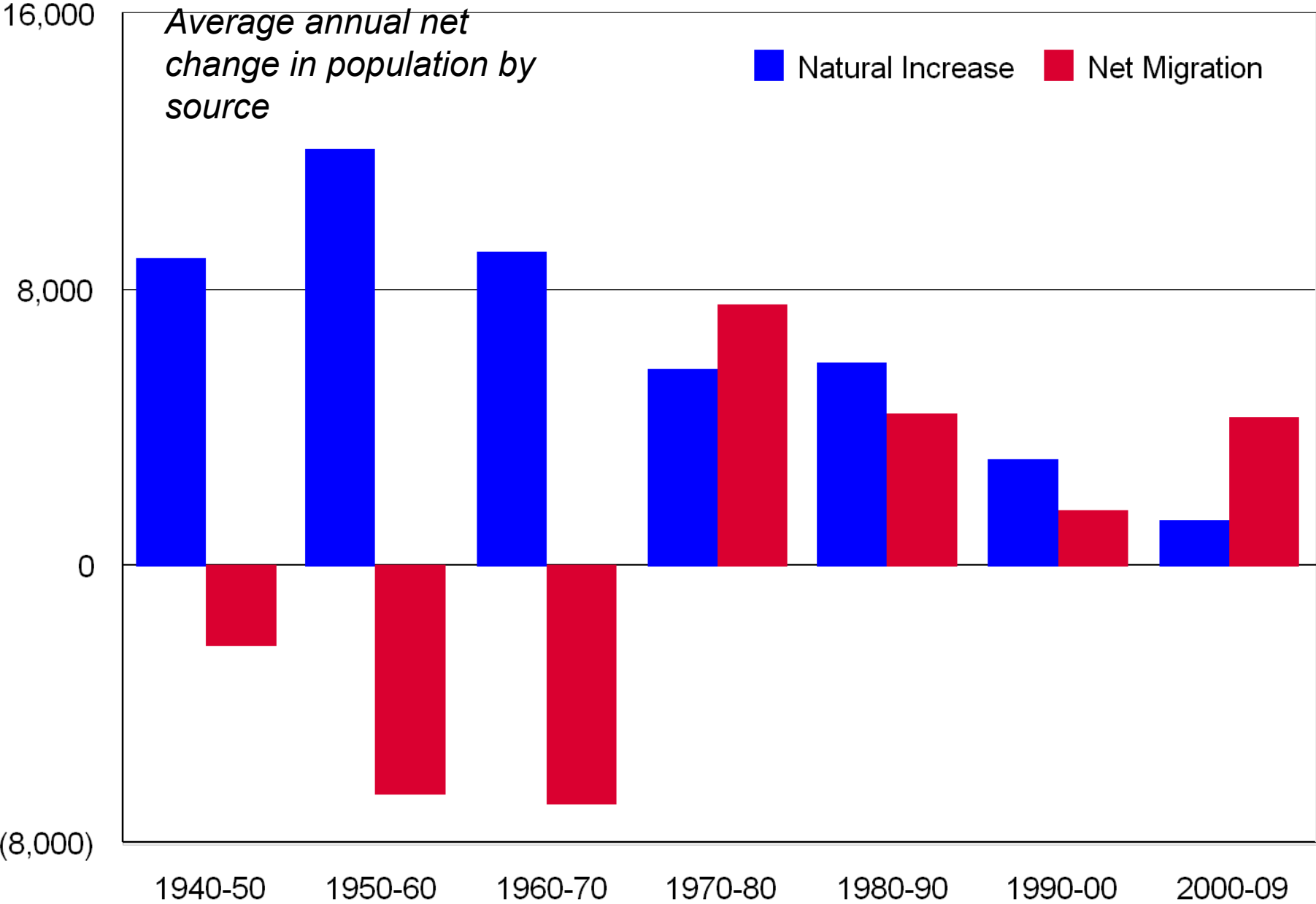


Demographic trends and labor force growth

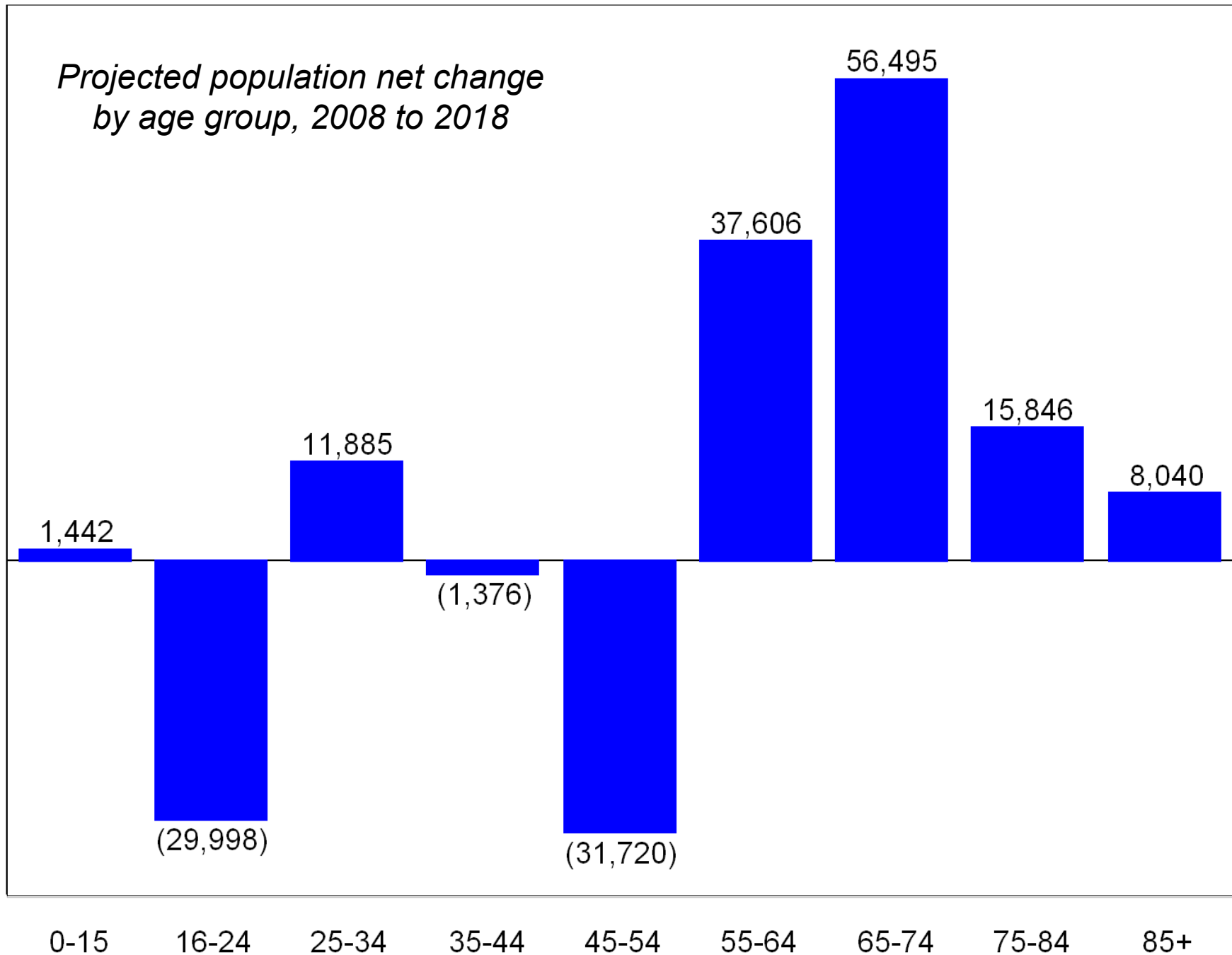
Births have declined 40 percent since the height of the baby boom



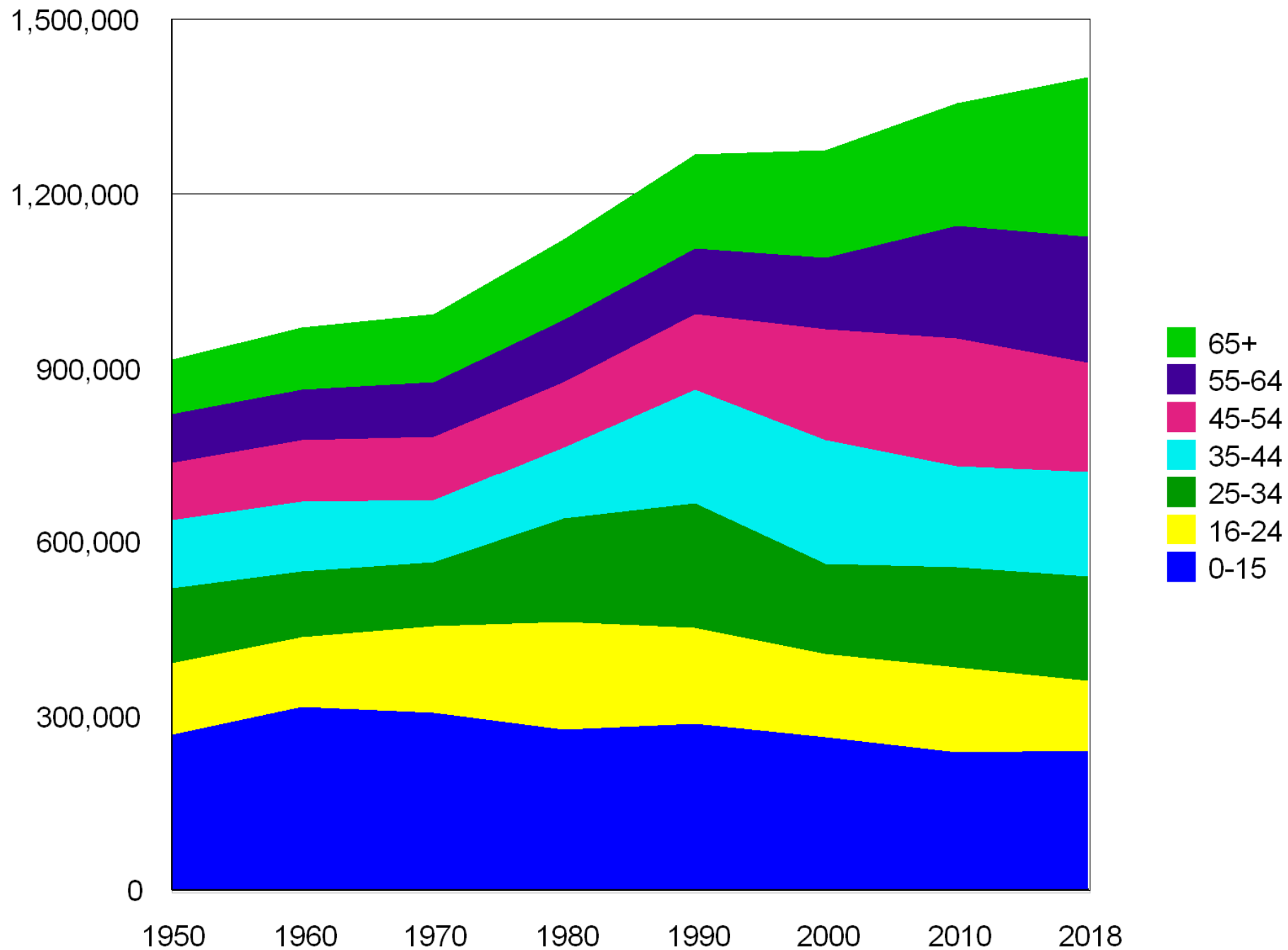
Net in-migration has become the primary source of population growth



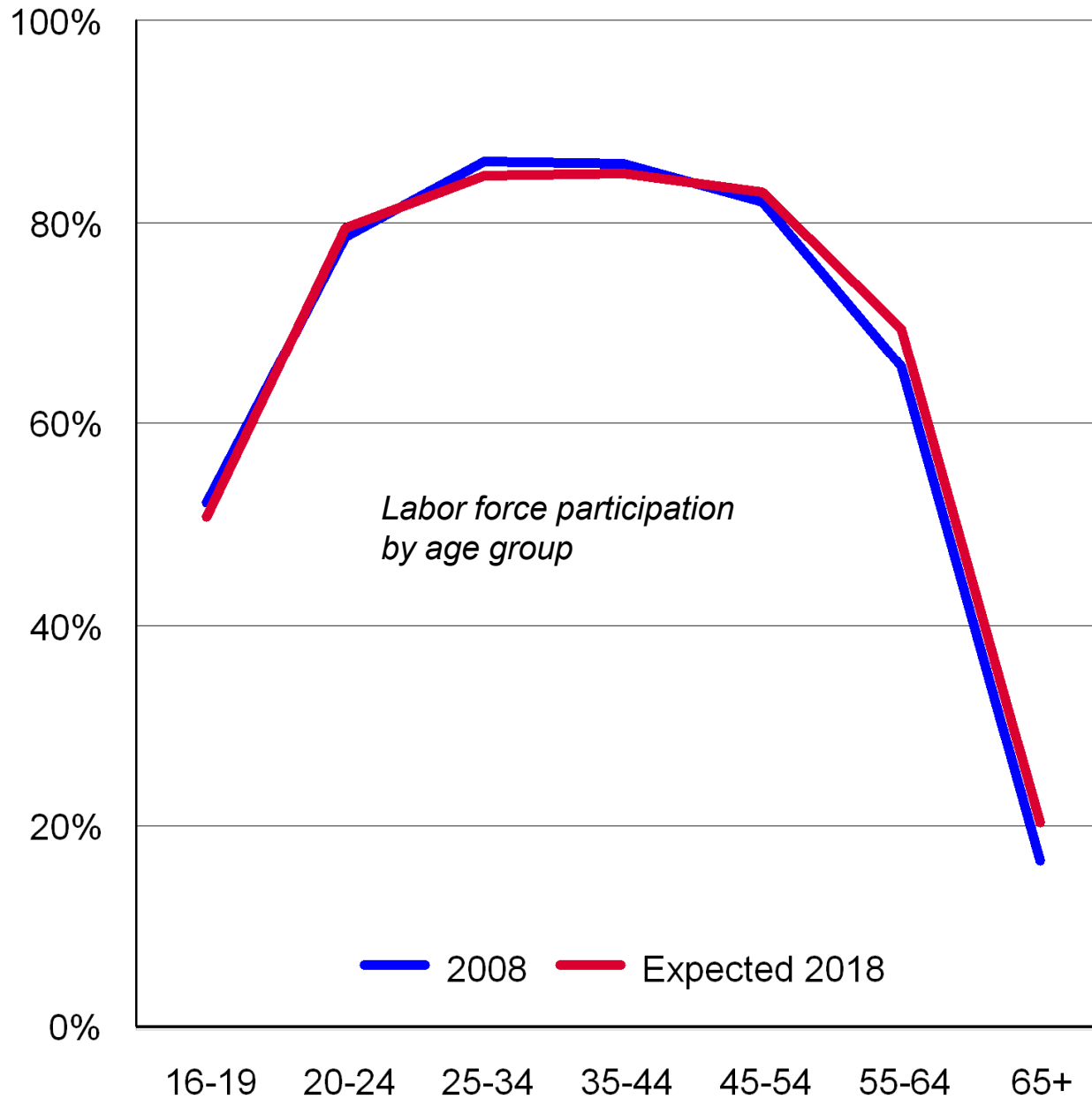
The population is aging rapidly



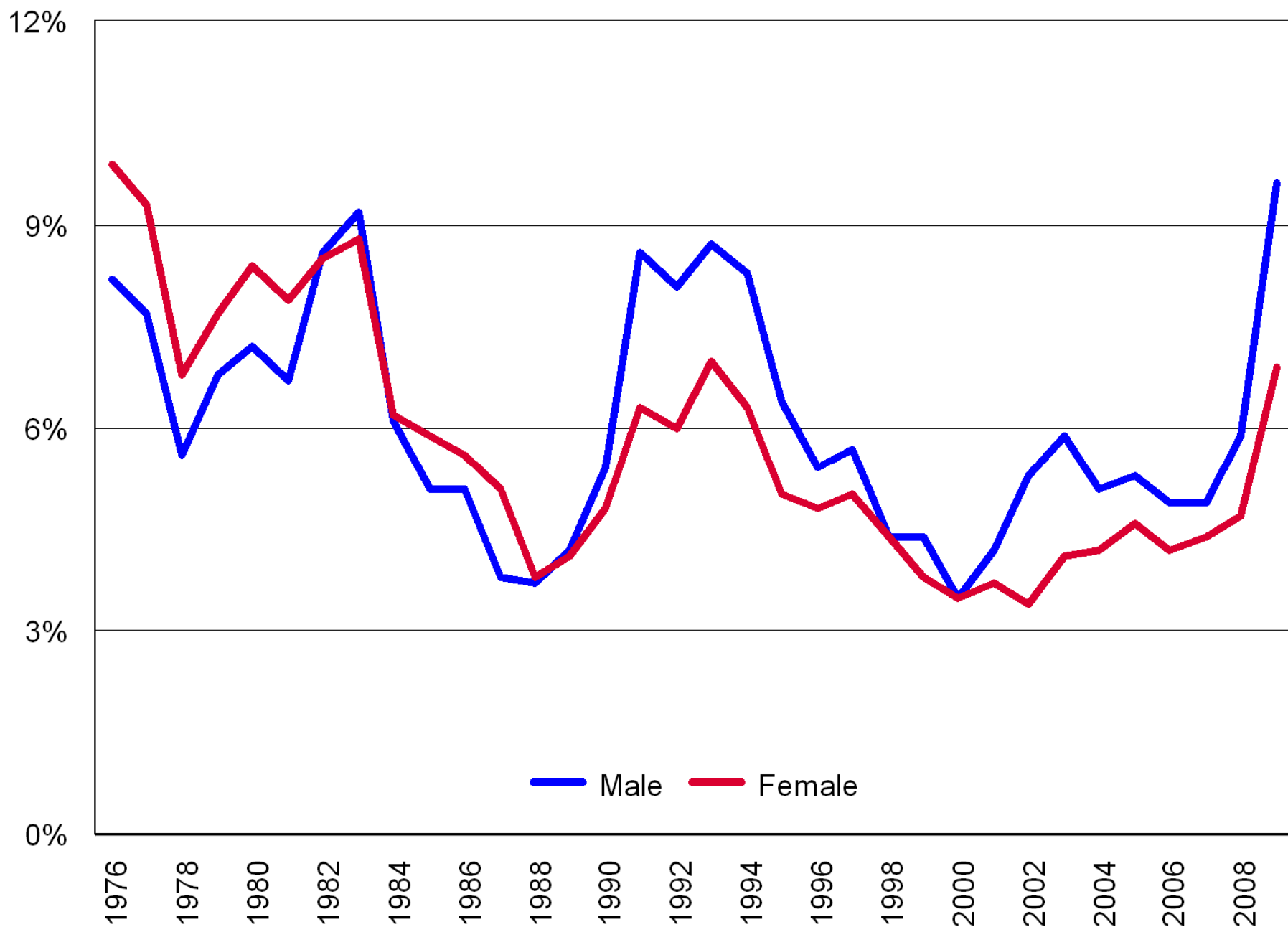
Half the population will be age 44+ in 2018



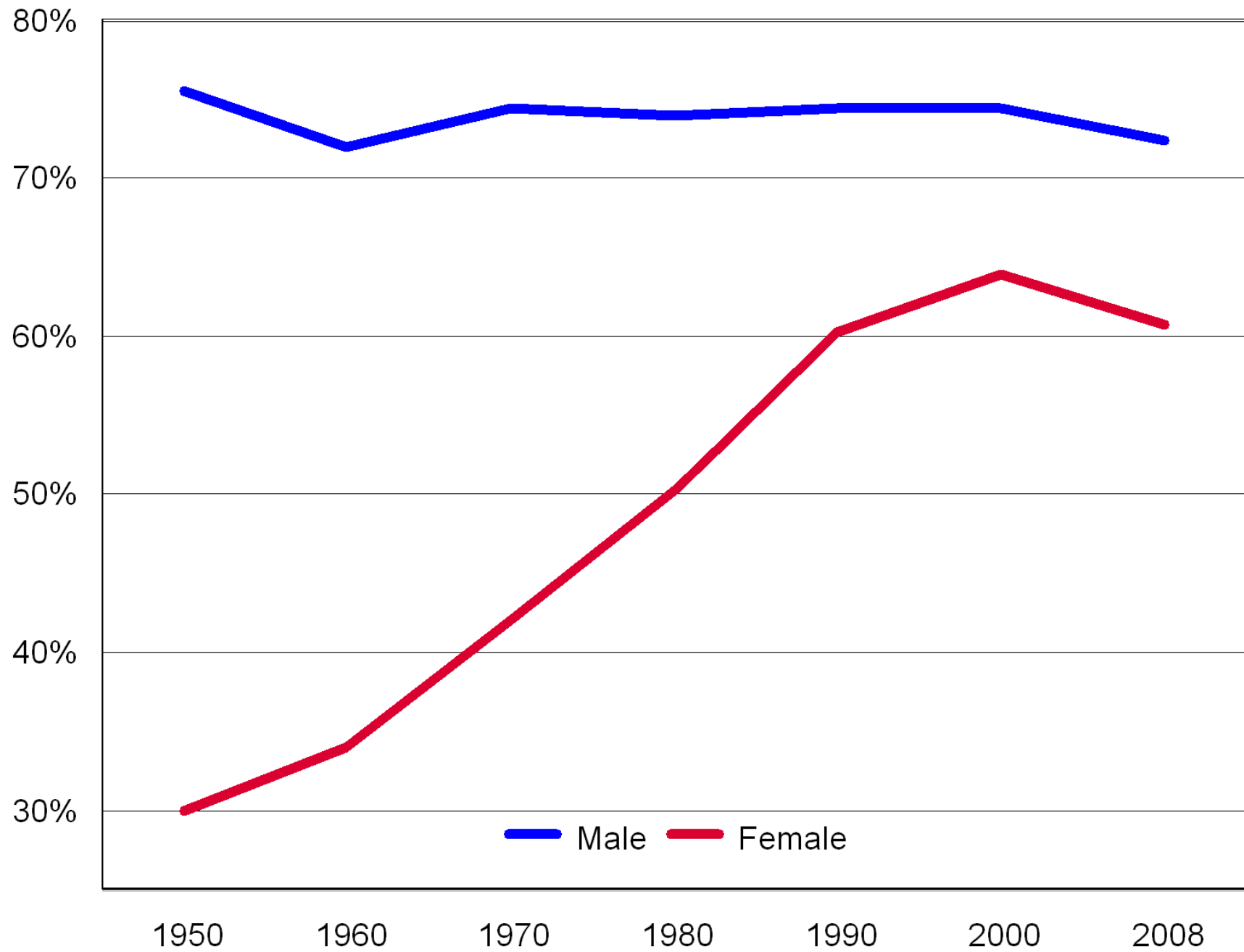
Labor force participation peaks around age 50 and declines at an accelerating rate with age



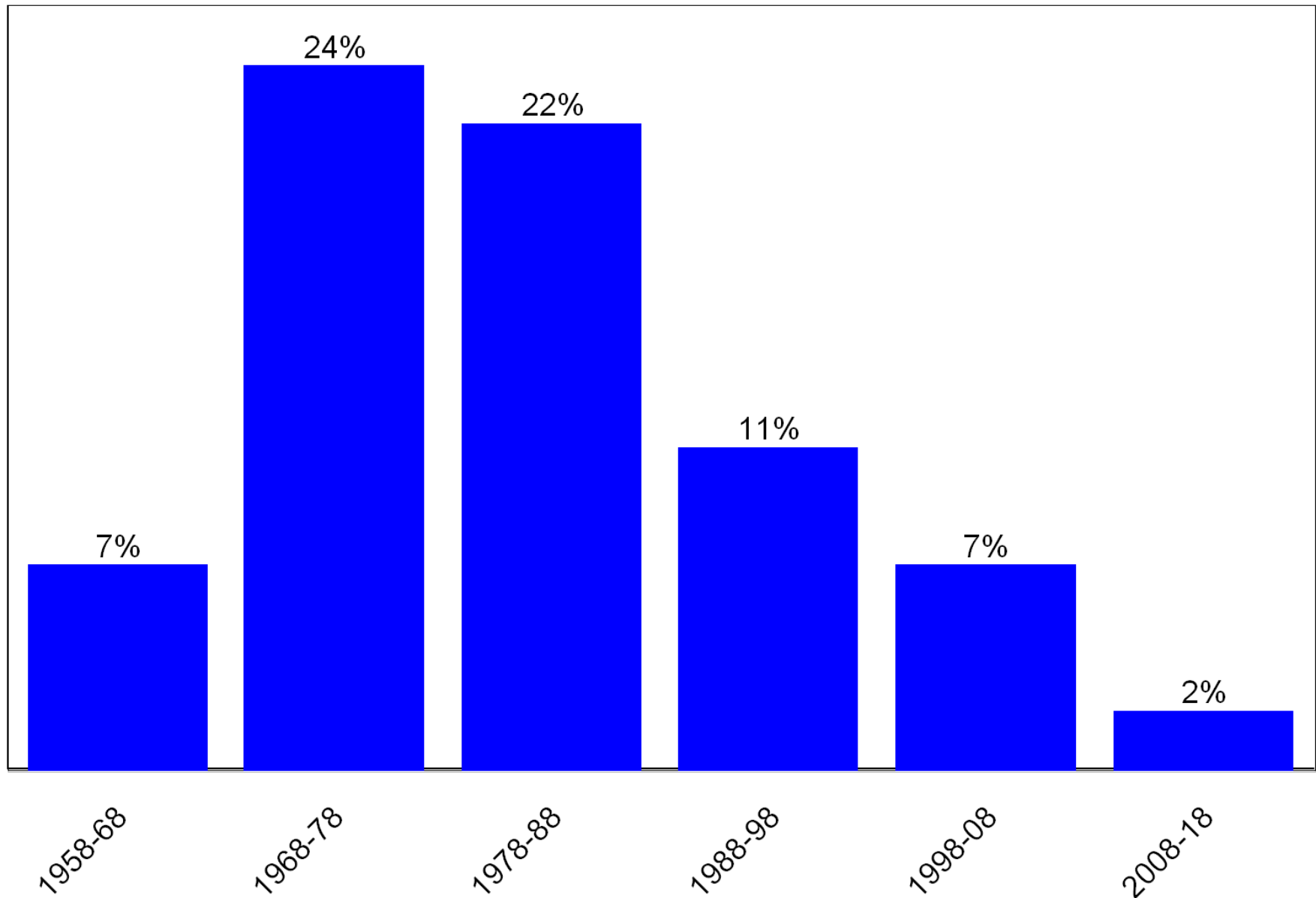
Unemployment rates have generally been lower among women than men since the 1980s



Female labor force participation is no longer rising



Labor force growth is slowing due to the combination of baby boomers aging beyond their peak years of labor force attachment and peaking of the share of working women



Demographic trends not only impact total workforce growth, but also demand for products and services and jobs related to production of those items

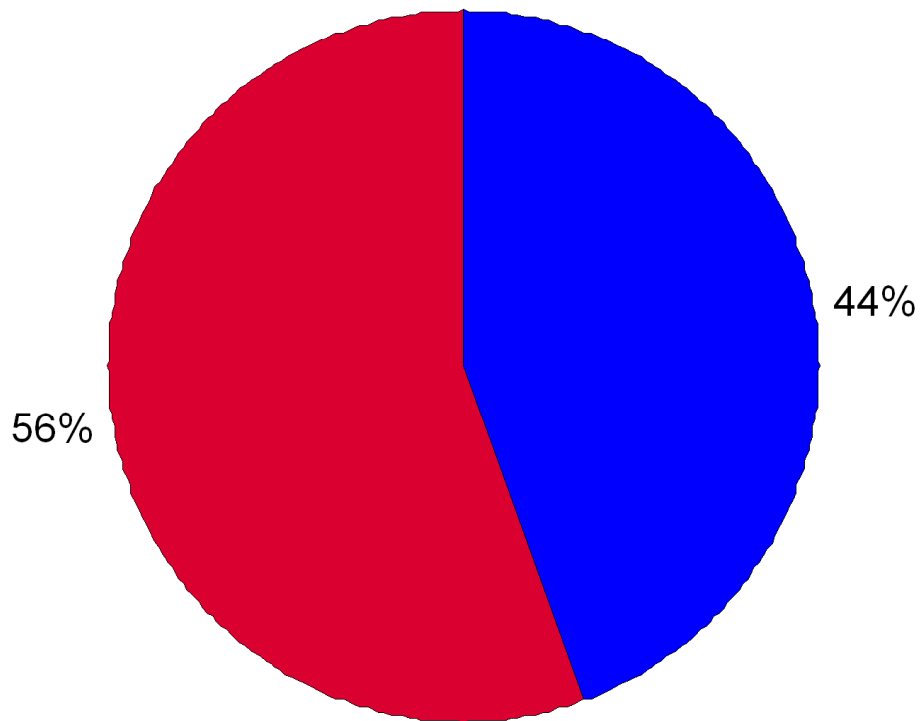
- *A growing middle-age and elderly population will keep demand for health and retirement services rising.*
- *Demand for financial services will continue to rise as baby boomers increasingly focus on retirement planning.*
- *Businesses will continue to pursue productivity gains through automation and more efficient work practices as a response to slower labor supply growth.*
- *Geographic boundaries will continue to fall as consumers and businesses increasingly use technology to locate and purchase products and services, communicate, and perform administrative functions.*

Industry employment trends

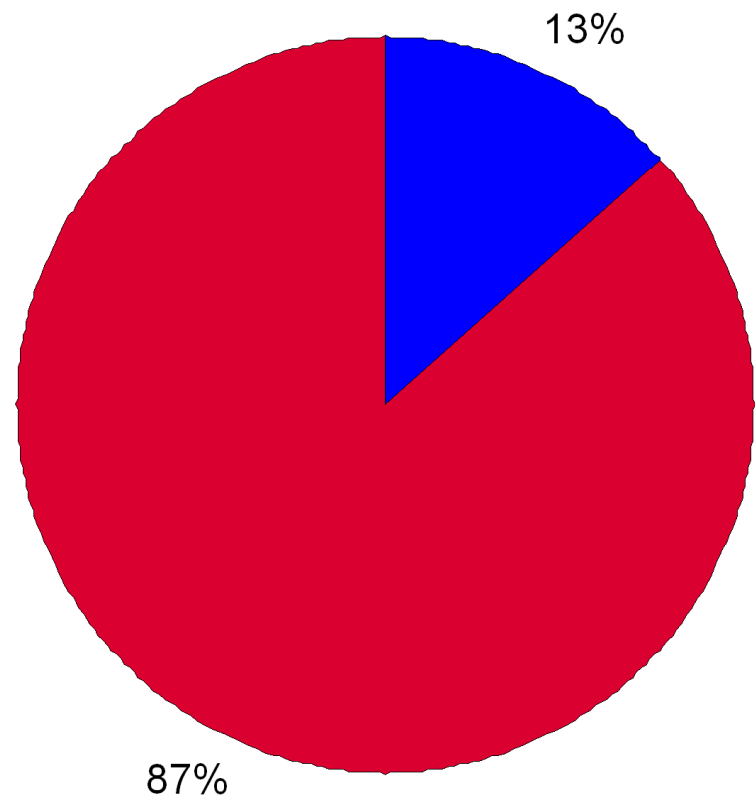
Service-providing industries have increased from just over half to 87 percent of jobs in less than 60 years

■ Goods-Producing
■ Service-Providing

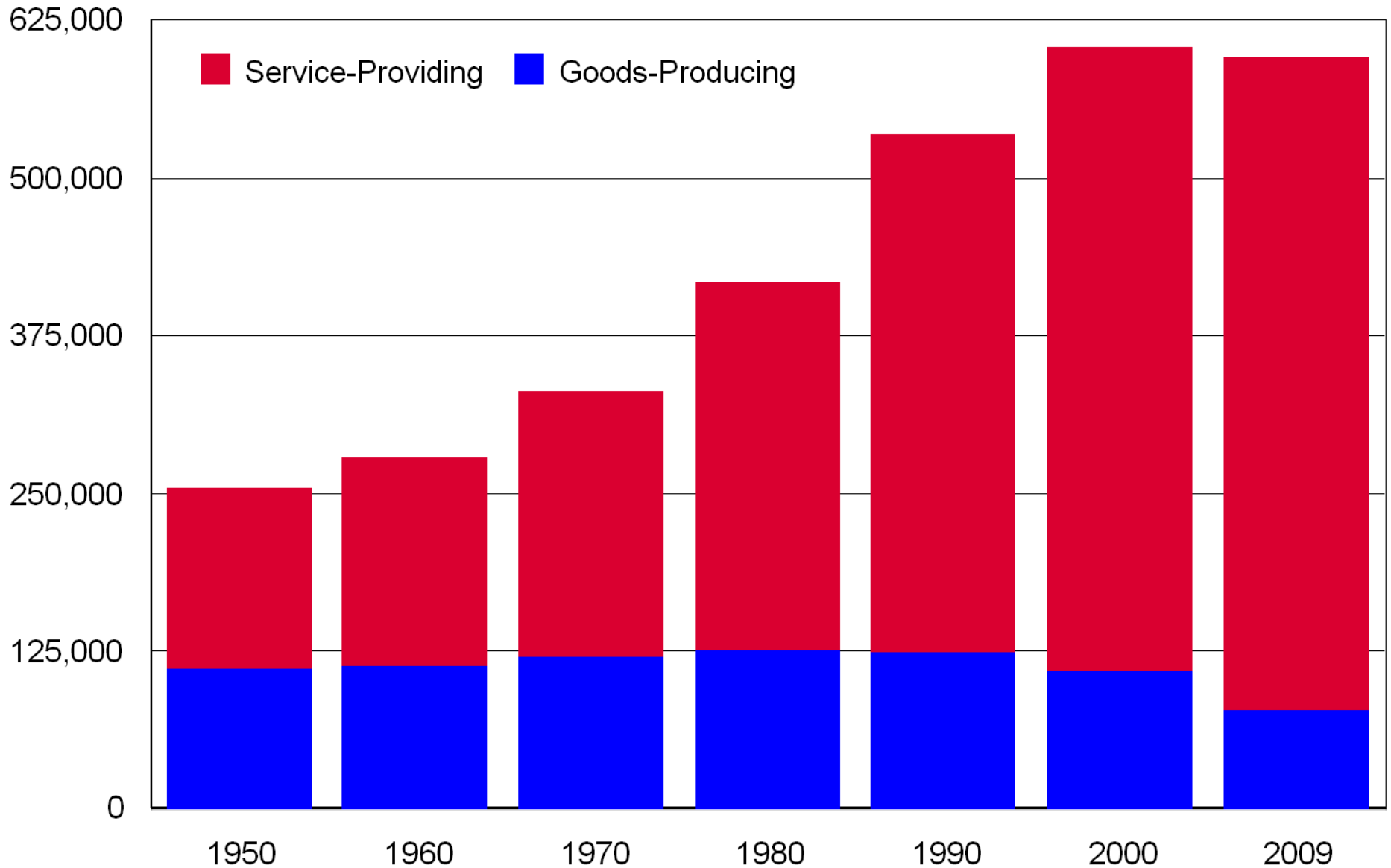
1950



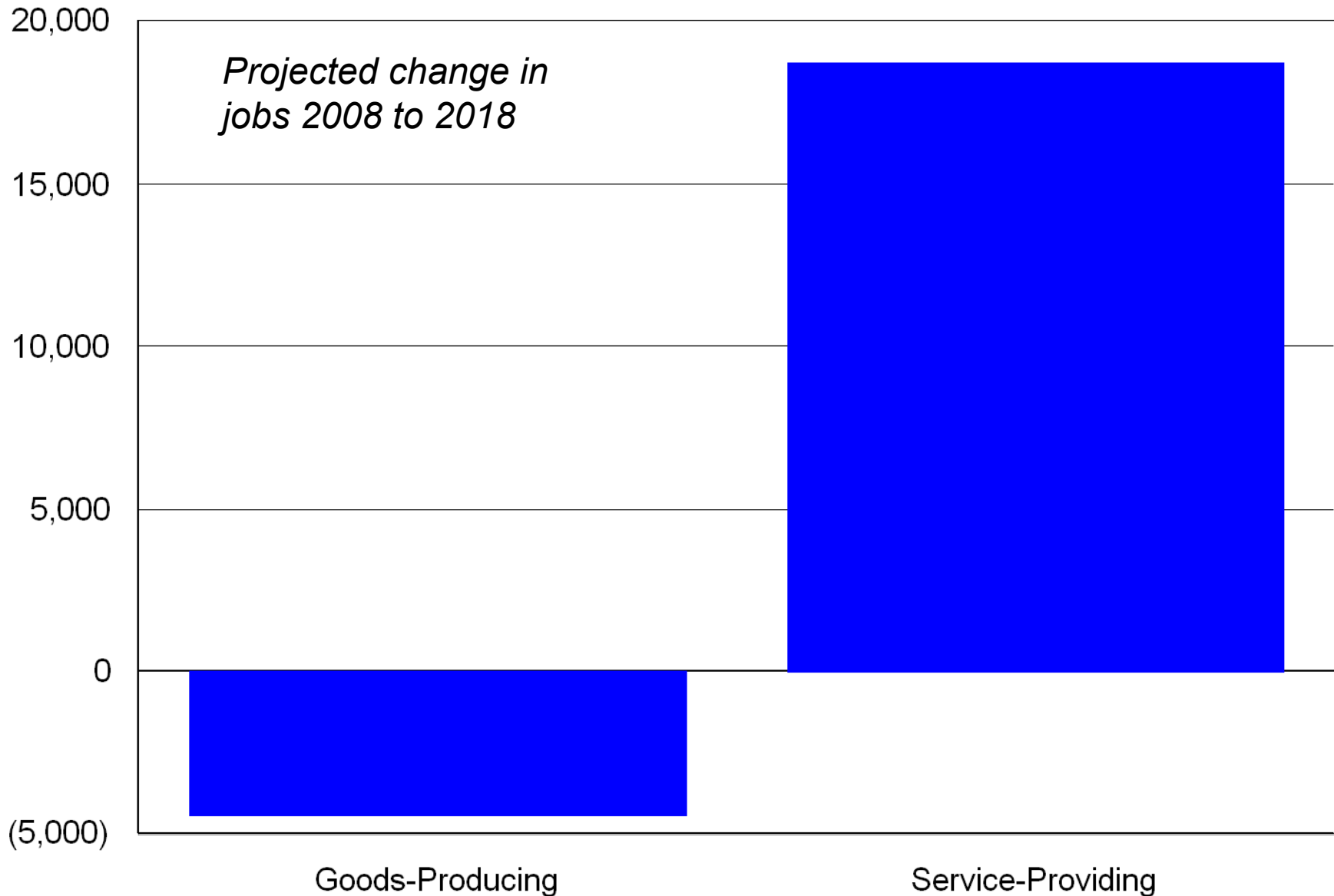
2009



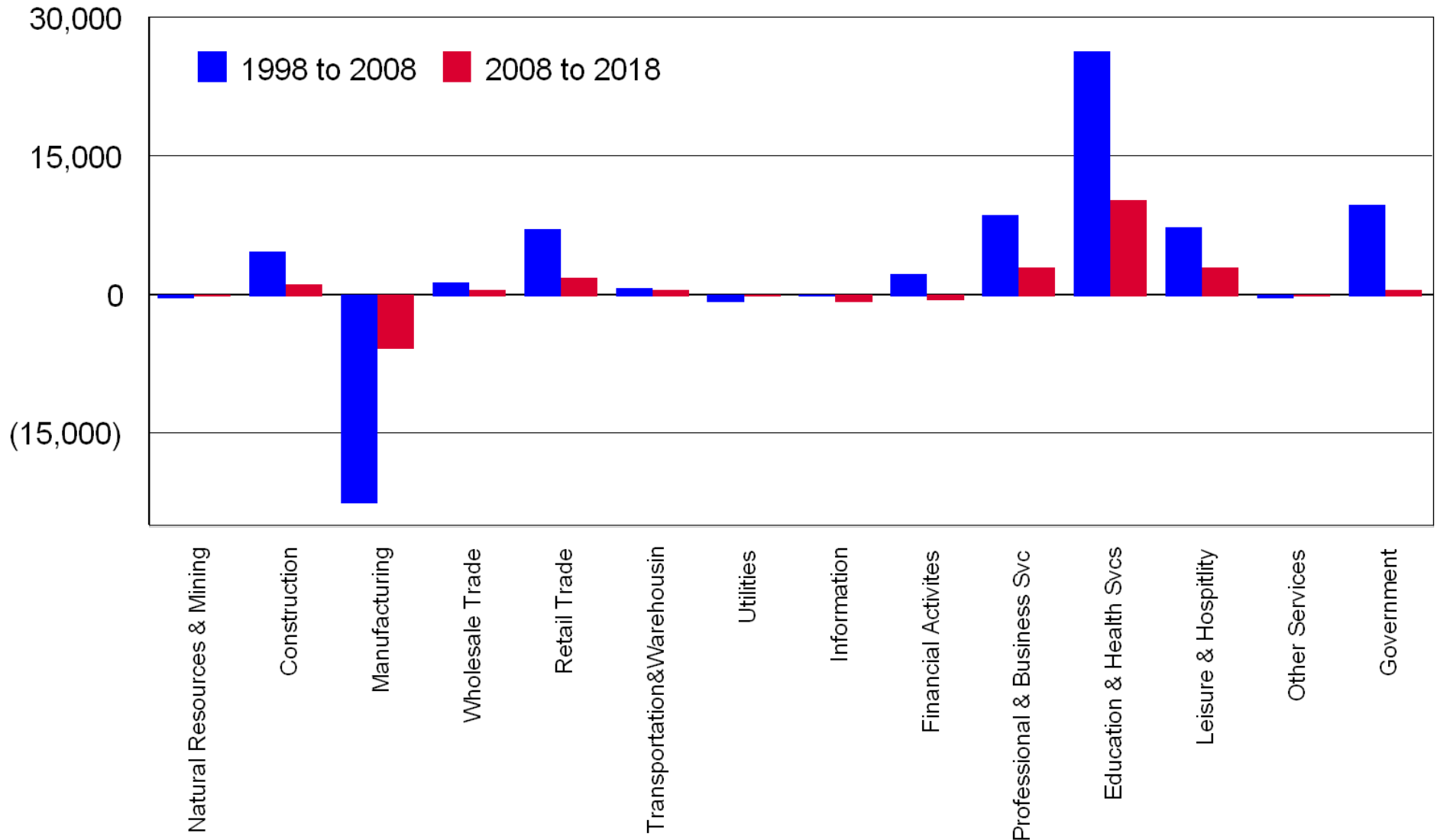
Service-providing industries have been the engine of job growth for decades...



... That trend is expected to continue through 2018
with more manufacturing job losses and
growth in health care and other services



The outlook by sector is similar to the previous ten year period, though job gains and losses are expected to moderate. Most job growth is expected in education & health care, professional & business services, and leisure & hospitality. Manufacturing job losses are expected to continue.

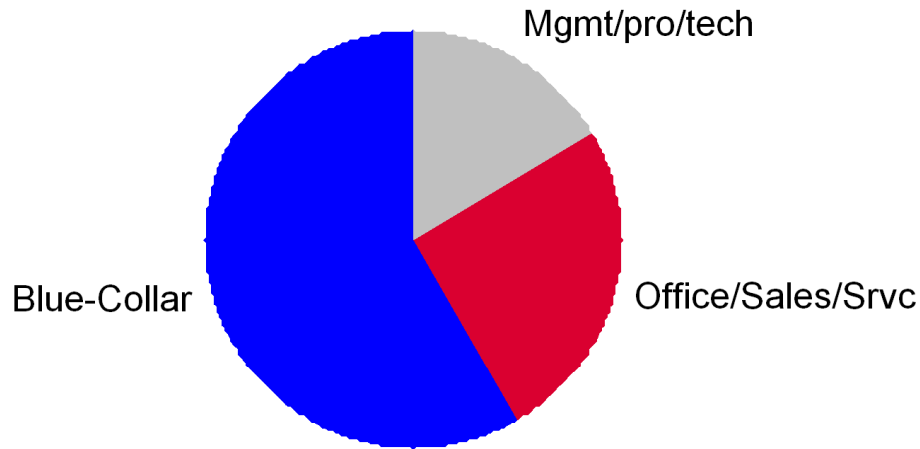


**Industry employment
trends and technological
change influence what
occupations or skills are in
demand**

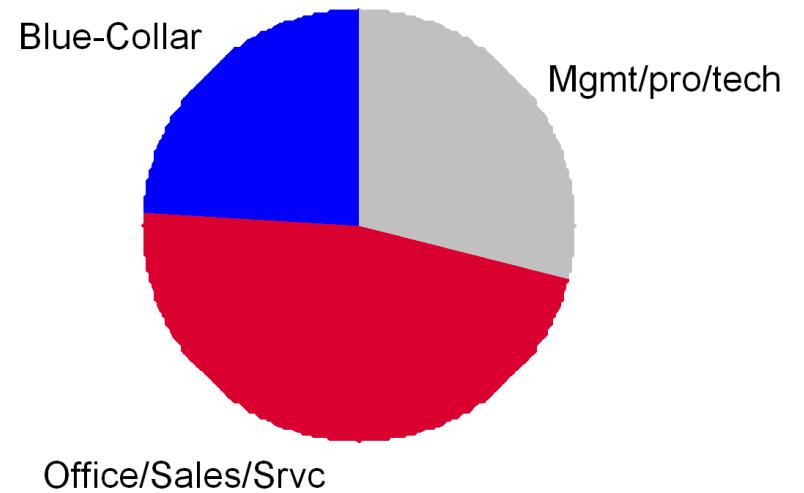
Occupational employment trends

The share of jobs in blue-collar occupations has steadily declined in the last five decades

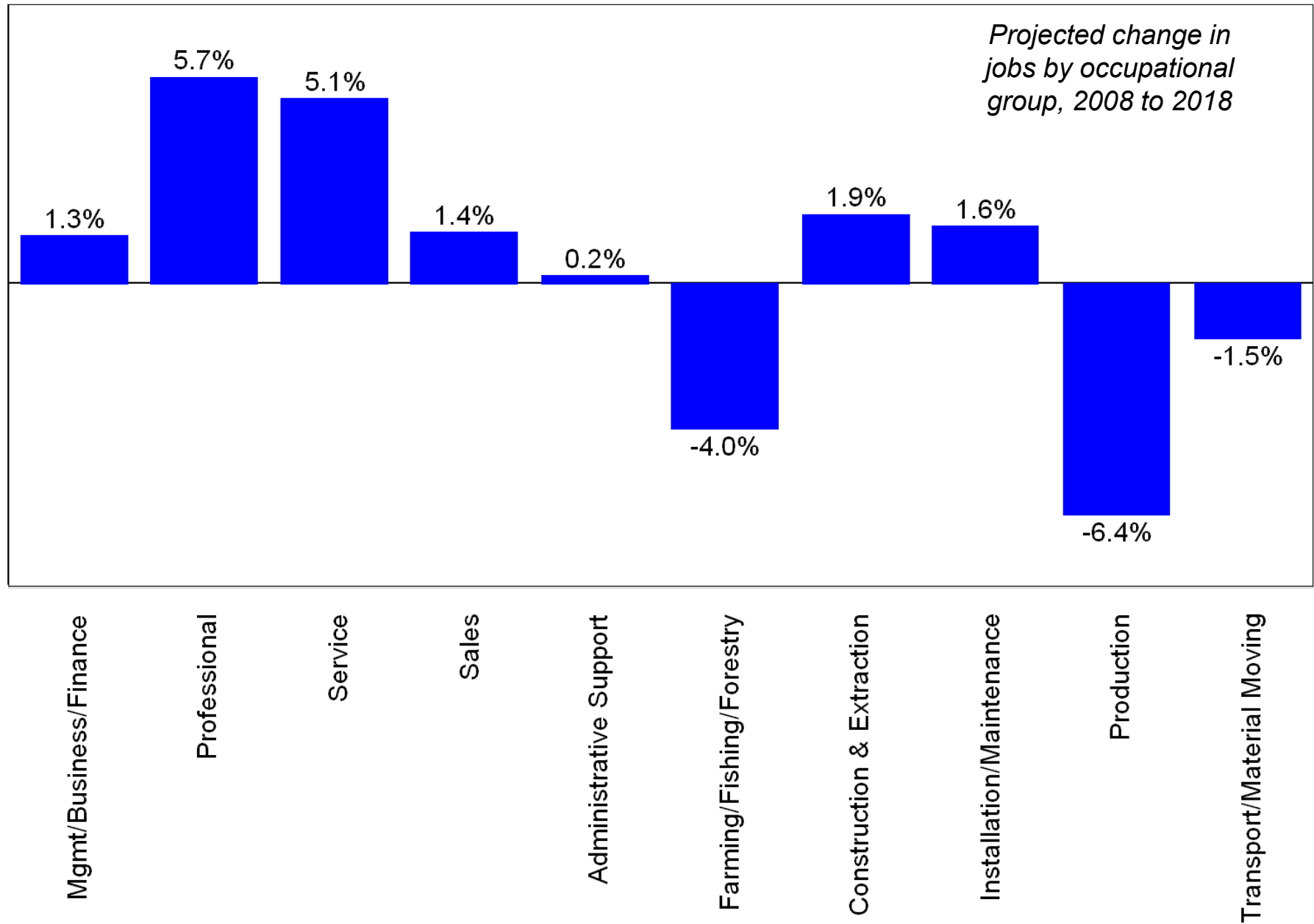
1950



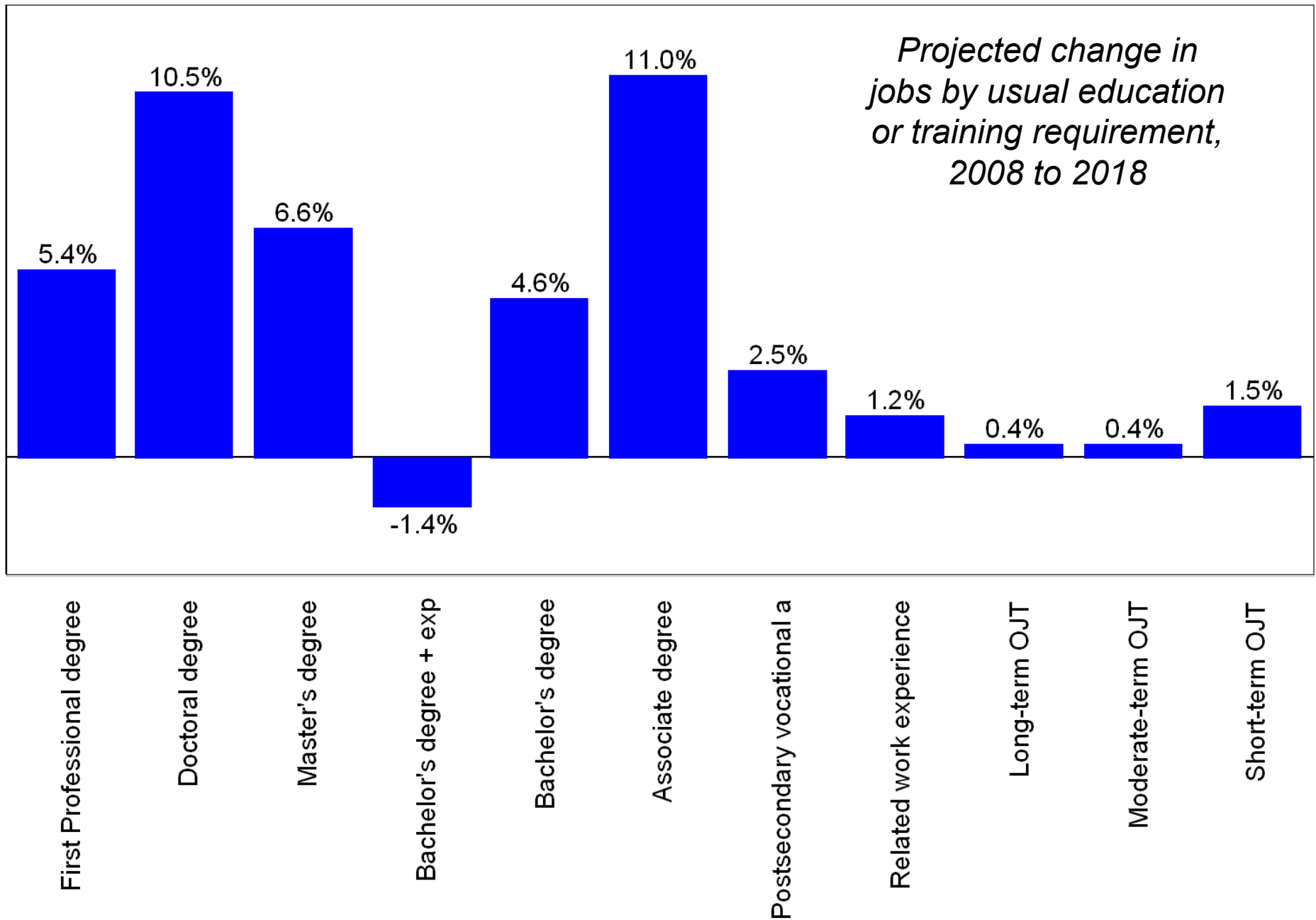
2008



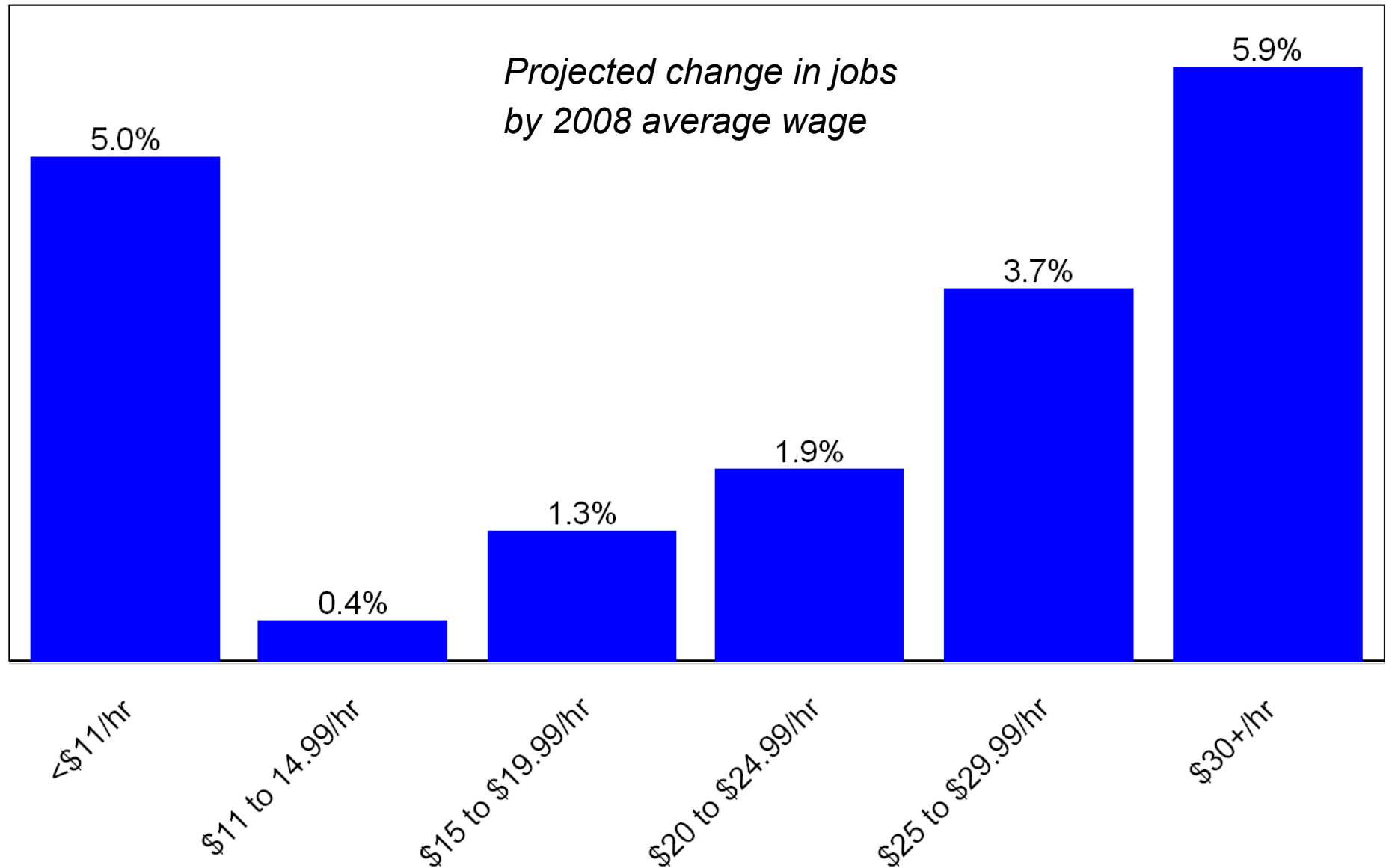
The fastest job growth is expected to continue to be in professional/technical and service occupations...



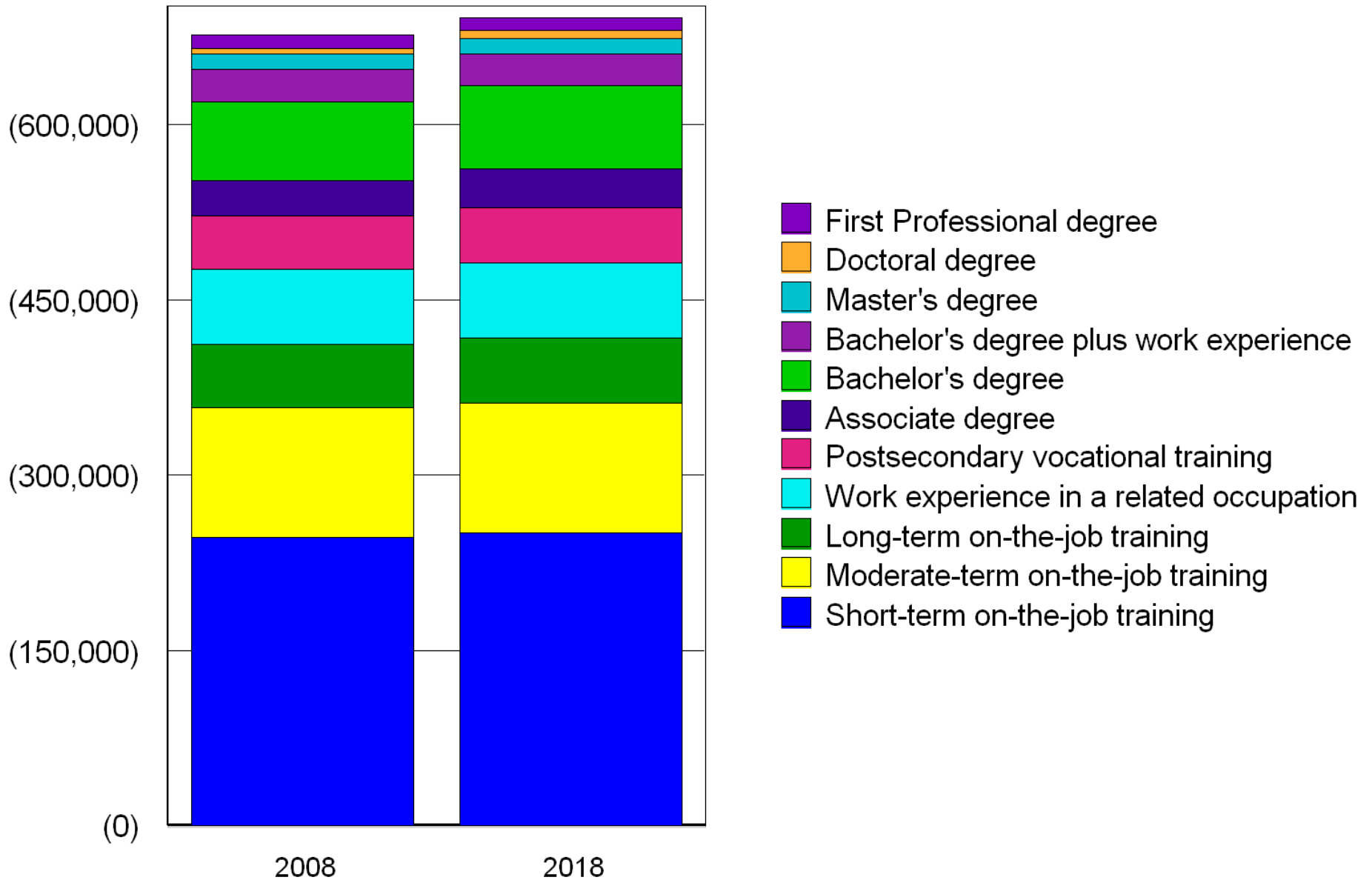
...at the upper end of the education/training spectrum...



Also related to managerial and professional job growth,
the fastest growth is expected in occupations at the
upper end of the earnings spectrum



...Though there will continue to be more jobs with lower education/training requirements



**Occupational employment
trends will continue to be
driven by broad
demographic trends in the
population, shifts in jobs
by industry, and
technological change**