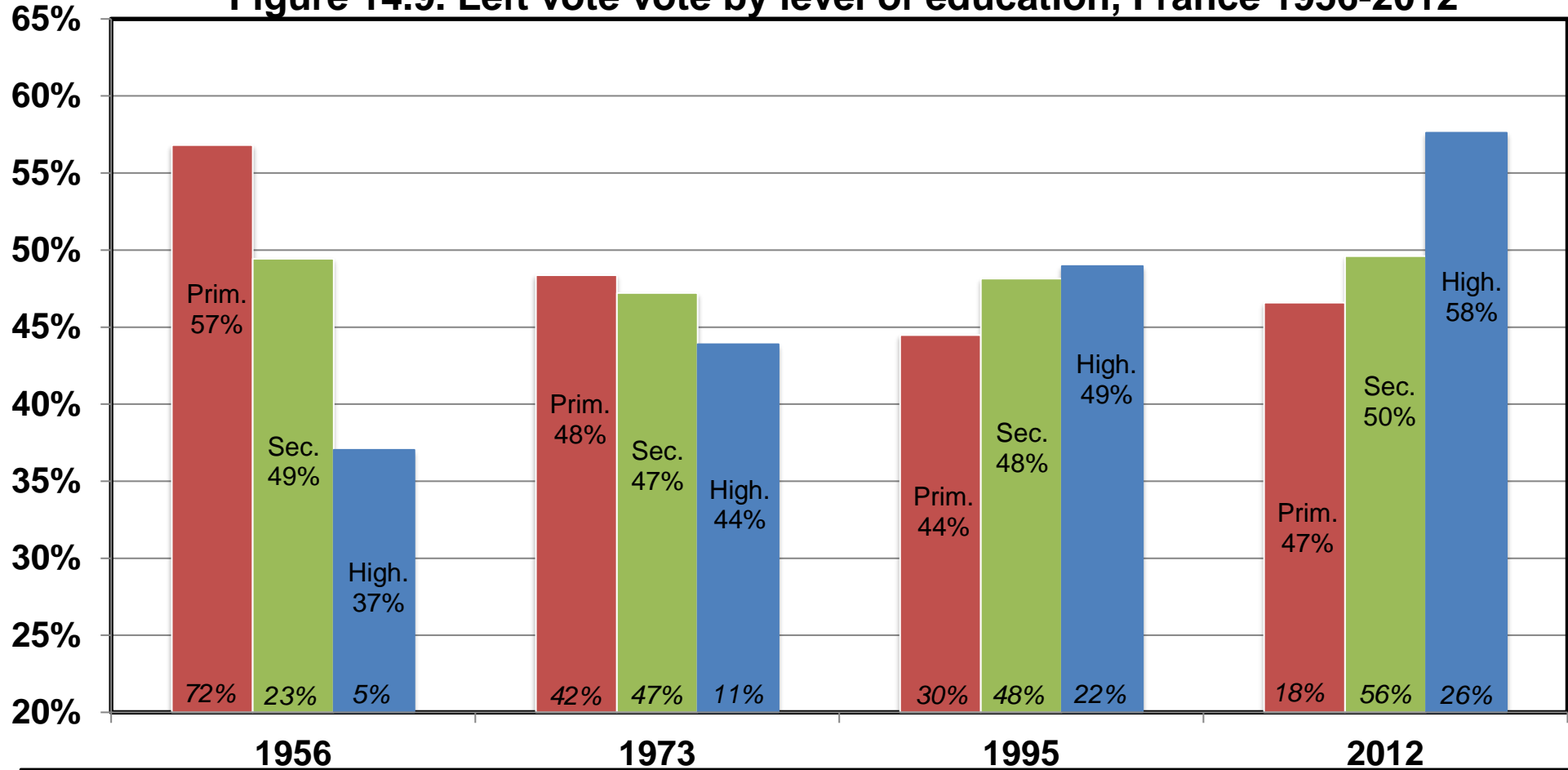


Figure 14.9. Left vote vote by level of education, France 1956-2012



Interpretation. In the 1956 legislative elections, 57% of voters with no degree or whose highest degree was a primary education degree (certificat d'études primaires) (i.e. 72% of the electorate at the time) voted for left-wing parties (socialists-communists-radicals), vs. 50% of secondary degree holders (23% of the electorate) and 37% of higher education degree holders (5% of the electorate). In the 2012 presidential elections, the education cleavage was totally reversed: the left-wing candidate obtained 58% of the vote in the second round among higher education degree holders, vs 47% of the vote among primary education degree holders. Sources and series: see piketty.pse.ens.fr/ideology.