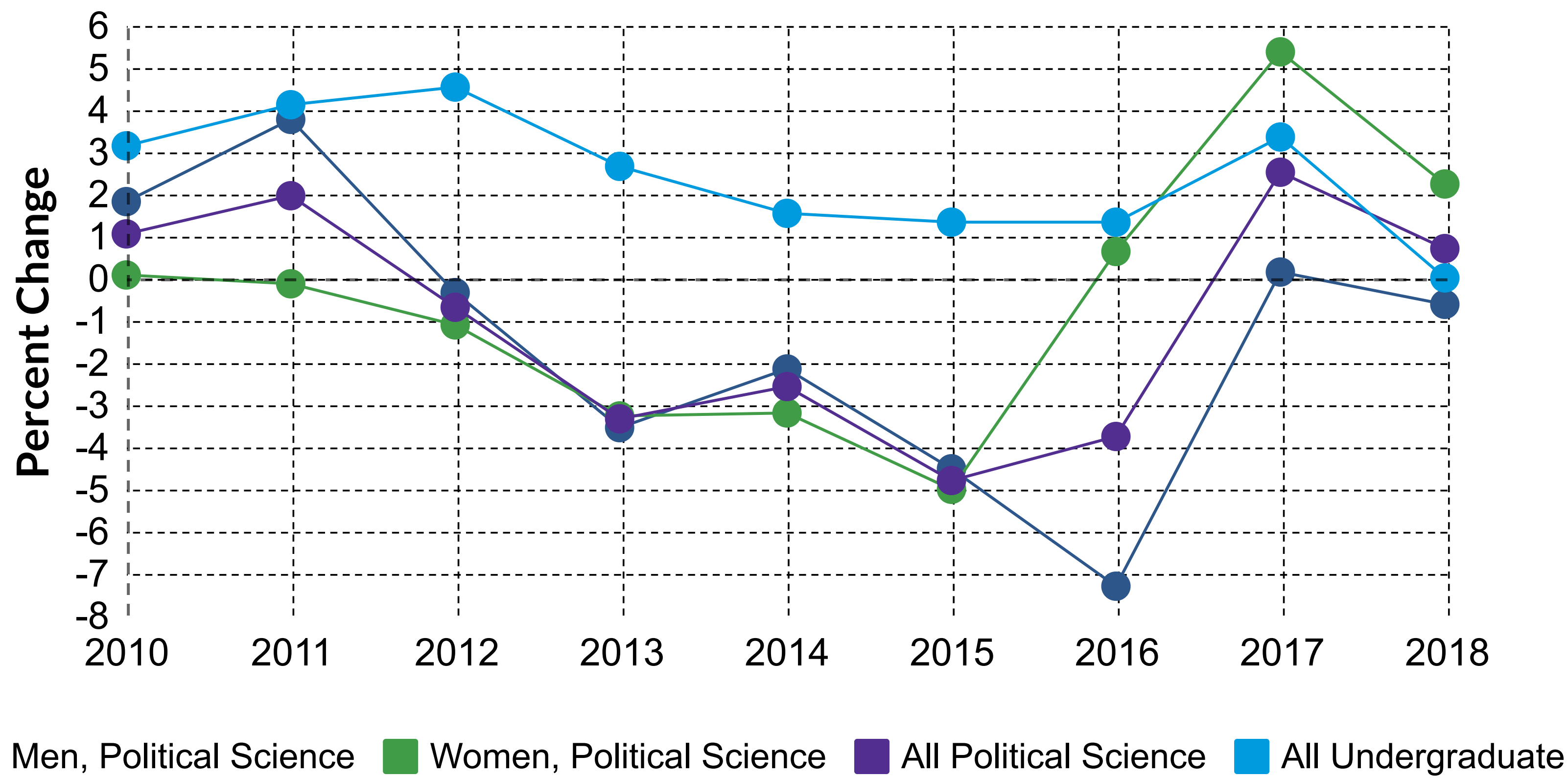


Who is driving the rise in political science degree completions? Women.

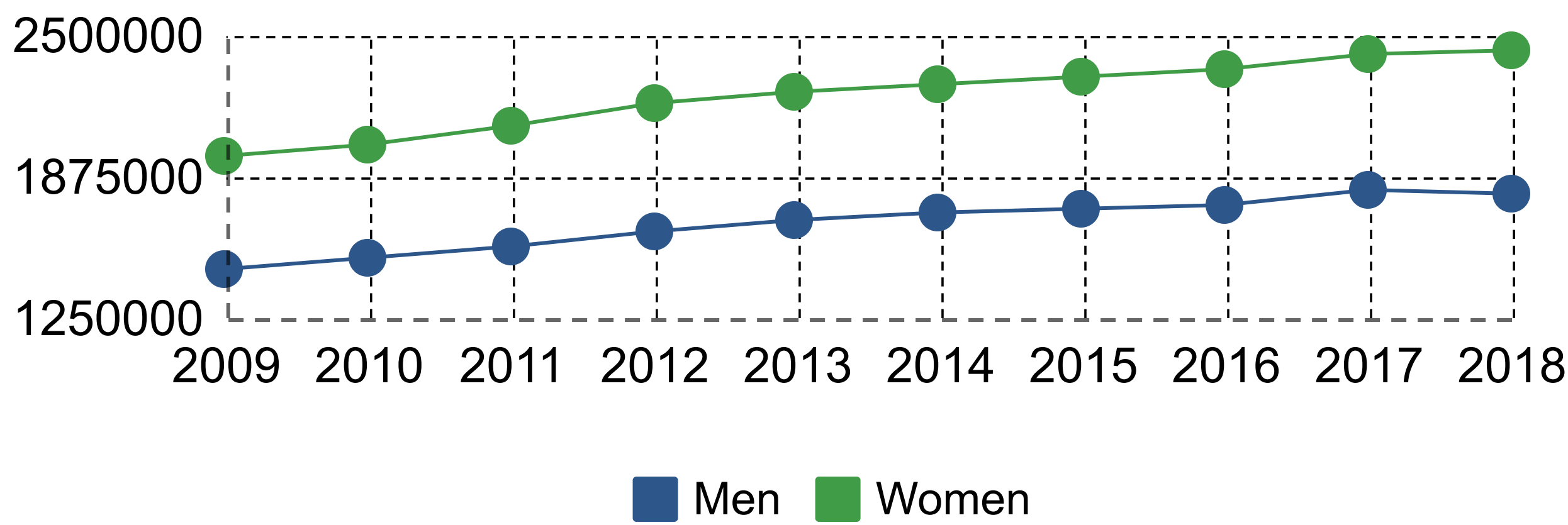
From 2012 to 2016, political science saw a decline in the number of degrees earned, compared to sustained growth in all undergraduate completions.

In 2017, political science saw the first positive growth since 2011 - growth propelled by an increasing number of **women** earning political science degrees.

Year to Year Change in Undergraduate Degrees Completed

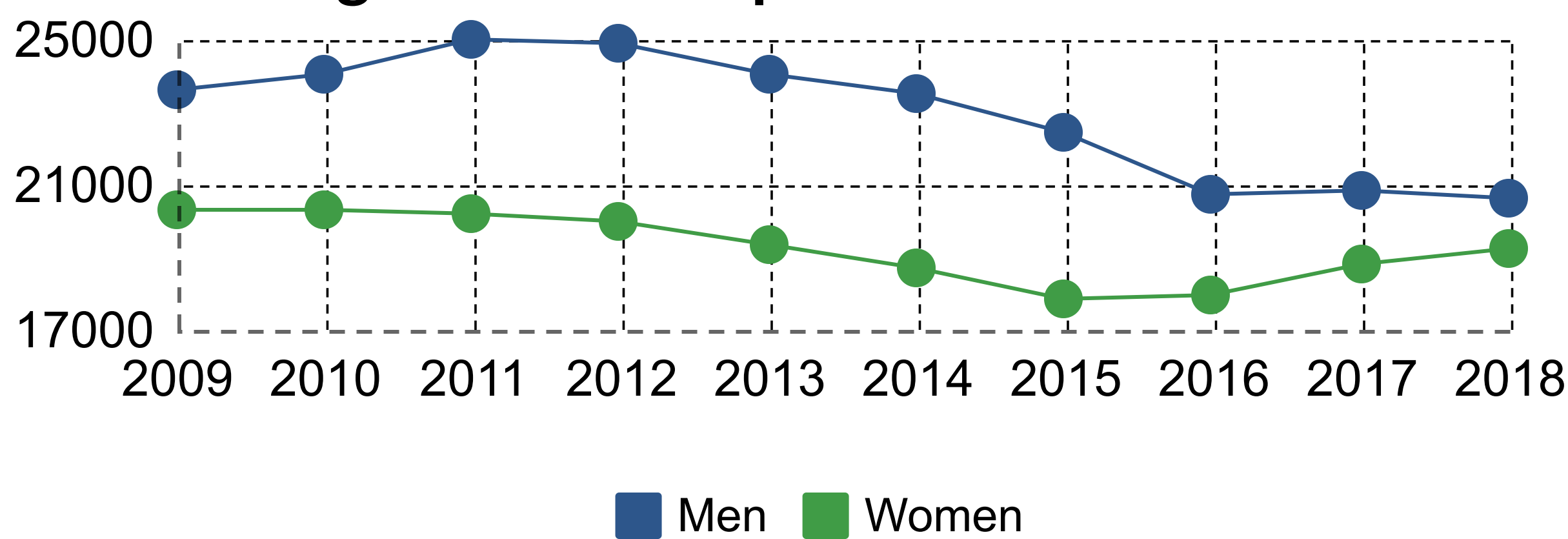


All Undergraduate Completions



In the past decade, as the number of undergraduate degree completions has grown, women completed 34% more degrees than men. Women continue to earn more degrees than men, overall. This gap has continued grow modestly each year in the past decade.

Undergraduate Completions in Political Science

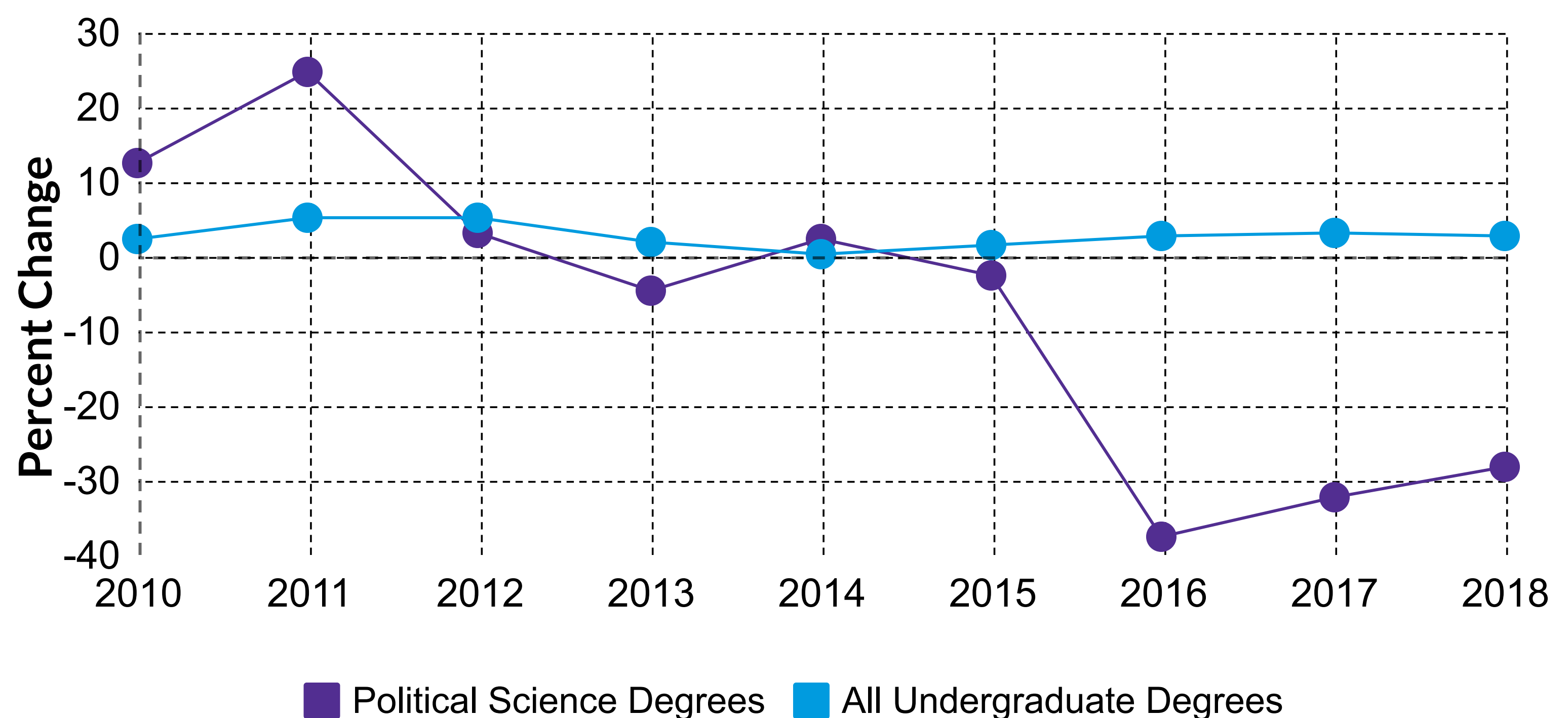


However, in political science degree completions, we did not observe this overall trend. Since 2009, women earned 16% fewer degrees than men; and, in recent years, this difference in completions has begun to *drop significantly*.

In last decade, the gap in *all undergraduate degrees completed*, by women over men, has continued to **grow**, at a modest rate. Since 2015, the gap in *all undergraduate degrees completed in political science*, by men over women, has begun to **shrink**.

Starting in 2016, the gender gap in political science degree completions has seen a *rapid decline* in each academic year, with 2018 having the *most equitable degree completions* the discipline has ever seen.

Year to Year Change in the Gap Between Undergraduate Degrees Completed by Men & Undergraduate Degrees Completed by Women



*All data presented are from NCES IPEDS database on degree completions. Note that 2018 data is provisional release, and may be subject to change.