|  |
| --- |
| **Table 2.3 Average victory margins in battleground states as defined by Shaw and Althaus** |
| | **Year** | **Base Democratic** | | **Battleground** | | **Base Republican** | | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Democratic (%)** | **Republican (%)** | **Democratic (%)** | **Republican (%)** | **Democratic (%)** | **Republican (%)** | | 1952 | 11.9 | 12.6 | 12.9 | 12.3 | 27.9 | 28.0 | | 1956 | 15.3 | 19.1 | 16.9 | 14.6 | 27.1 | 24.3 | | 1960 | 12.0 | 11.0 | 6.7 | 4.4 | 8.7 | 10.4 | | 1964 | 33.3 | 35.7 | 26.8 | 27.8 | 19.3 | 12.4 | | 1968 | 15.7 | 19.2 | 6.9 | 6.5 | 16.2 | 14.5 | | 1972 | 19.8 | 20.5 | 19.5 | 26.5 | 36.7 | 33.0 | | 1976 | 13.2 | 18.9 | 3.5 | 5.7 | 12.8 | 11.5 | | 1980 | 8.5 | 9.6 | 14.7 | 10.6 | 40.3 | 31.0 | | 1984 | 17.3 | 14.7 | 17.8 | 16.8 | 30.9 | 27.9 | | 1988 | 15.6 | 14.3 | 5.2 | 7.0 | 17.0 | 17.8 | | 1992 | 21.7 | 22.3 | 7.0 | 5.9 | 9.6 | 11.3 | | 1996 | 24.0 | 25.0 | 7.9 | 7.8 | 11.2 | 11.8 | | 2000 | 26.3 | 26.0 | 4.9 | 5.8 | 23.5 | 25.8 | | 2004 | 18.6 | 19.5 | 3.0 | 4.2 | 21.2 | 22.2 | | 2008 | 28.4 | 28.4 | 8.4 | 7.7 | 18.1 | 17.2 | | 2012 | 25.4 | 26.3 | 5.4 | 5.7 | 21.4 | 21.4 | | 2016 | 19.1 | 24.1 | 2.9 | 3.6 | 24.7 | 25.4 | |
| **Note: Classifications and data courtesy of Daron Shaw via personal communication. Numbers represent the unweighted means by classification. Each party has its own strategy, so averages were taken for each party’s strategy separately. Same conclusions hold if all targets are included as battlegrounds, or only those where there is concurrence.** |