been a predominately Democratic state in the past 20 years. In a record shared with five states (Hawaii, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Rhode Island and West Virginia), the Democratic candidate has been victorious in Maryland in five of the six presidential elections during this period. The state's governors have all been Democratic except for the two years served by Spiro Agnew after his election in 1966.[6] The statewide offices of Attorney General and Comptroller were never occupied by Republicans. Republican membership in the Maryland General Assembly dropped from 19.88 percent in 1962 to 12.23 percent in 1982. The Republican showing in congressional races was somewhat better with 39 victories out of 105 races in the House, and a split of the eight contests for U.S. Senate. Even these results may be overstated considering the seven victories of Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. whose votes and issue stances have often made him a maverick in the contemporary Republican party.[7]

However, these statewide results by themselves do not yield an accurate picture of the political attitudes in Maryland where diversity among the state's 24 subdivisions has become more pronounced. Although Baltimore City experienced a steady decline in population from 1960 to 1980, its importance in statewide elections has increased during this period of presidential politics. Without the heavily Democratic vote of Baltimore City, Republican presidential candidates would have won every election in Maryland except the Johnson landslide in 1964. (See Table 4.) This polarization of Maryland voters is demonstrated in Exhibit 2 at the beginning of this chapter. In the six elections of this period Baltimore City always voted for the Democratic candidate while Garrett County always voted Republican. One-half of the remaining 22 subdivisions voted Republican every year except 1964. Thus, while Maryland remains a Democratic state internally the realignment of the American electorate on national issues postulated by several political scientists may exist in the "Old Line State."[8] Should this basic realignment persist the state may experience an intensified urban-rural, or Baltimore City-state, division which manifested itself dramatically in the 1980 presidential election.

TABLE 4

Impact of Baltimore City on Statewide Vote Margins
(1960-1980)

Year	State of Maryland	Baltimore City	Maryland Without Baltimore City
1960	76,270 (D)	88,047 (D)	11,777 (R)
1964	345,417 (D)	164,627 (D)	180,790 (D)
1968	20,315 (D)	98,304 (D)	77,989 (R)
1972	290,995 (R)	21,837 (D)	312,826 (R)
1976	86,951 (D)	96,831 (D)	9,880 (R)
1980	45,555 (D)	134,009 (D)	88,454 (R)