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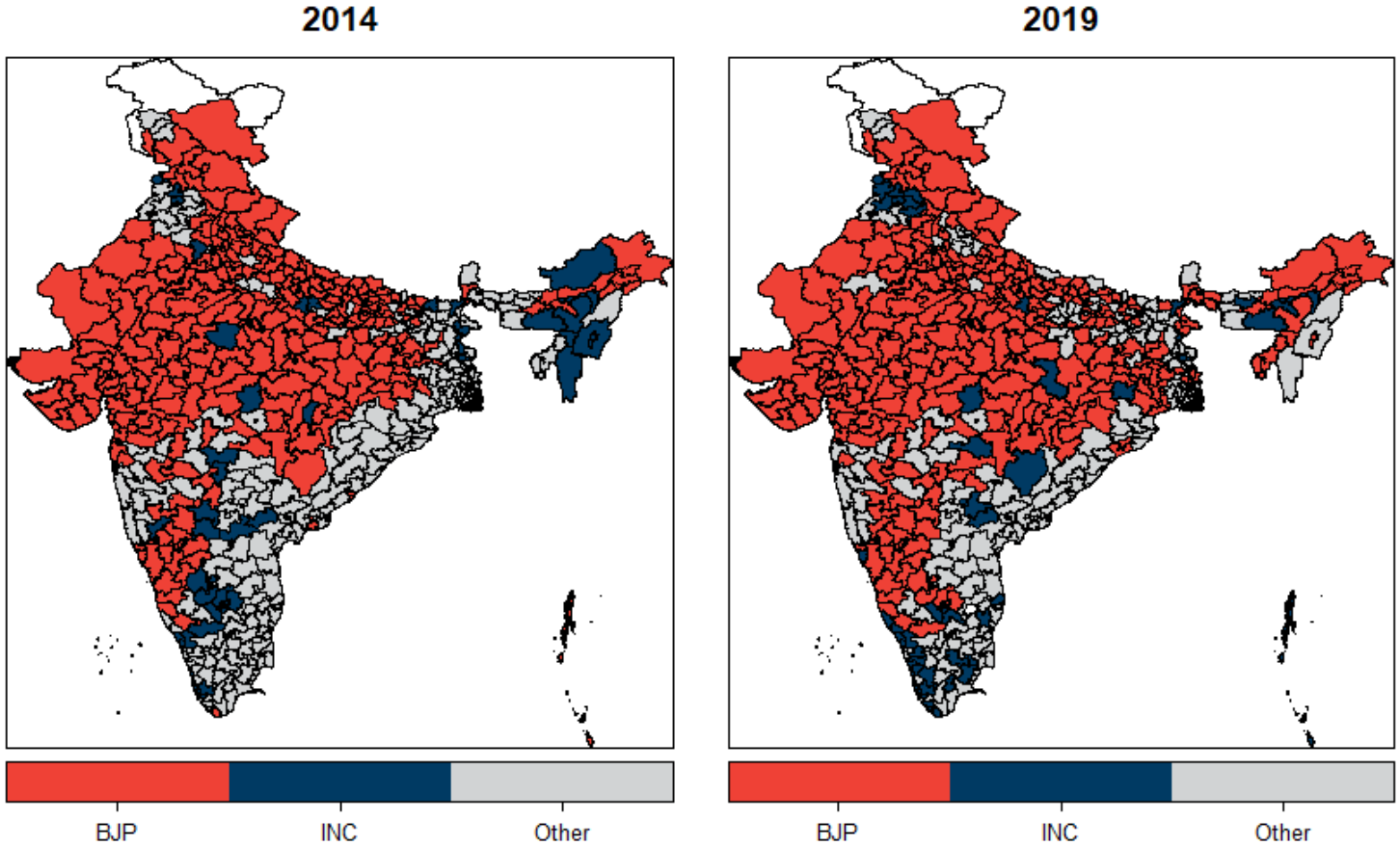
India’s Elects 2019: The Day After

MILAN VAISHNAV | MAY 24, 2019

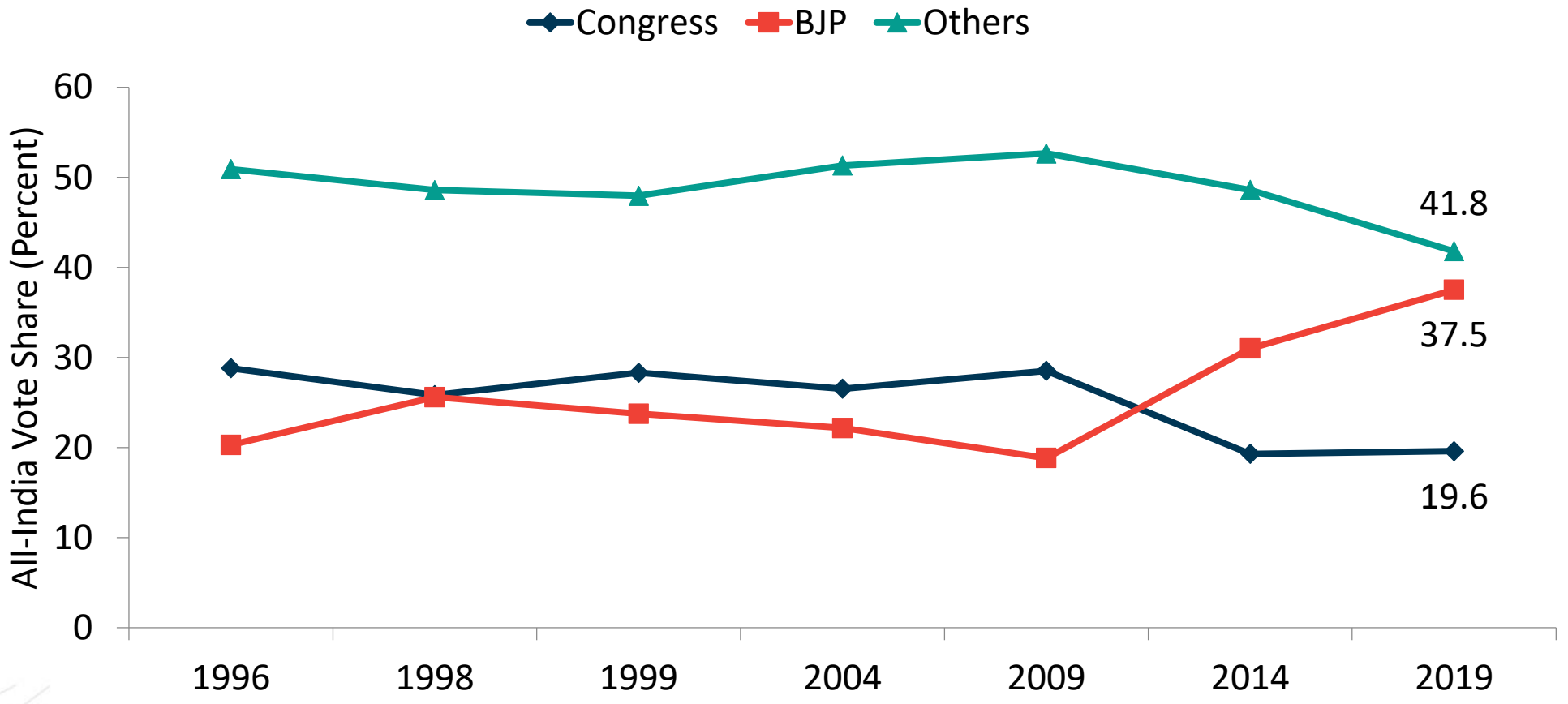
Note: This presentation uses provisional data from the Election Commission of India. Numbers could change slightly.

The BJP's win in 2014 was big. 2019 was bigger.



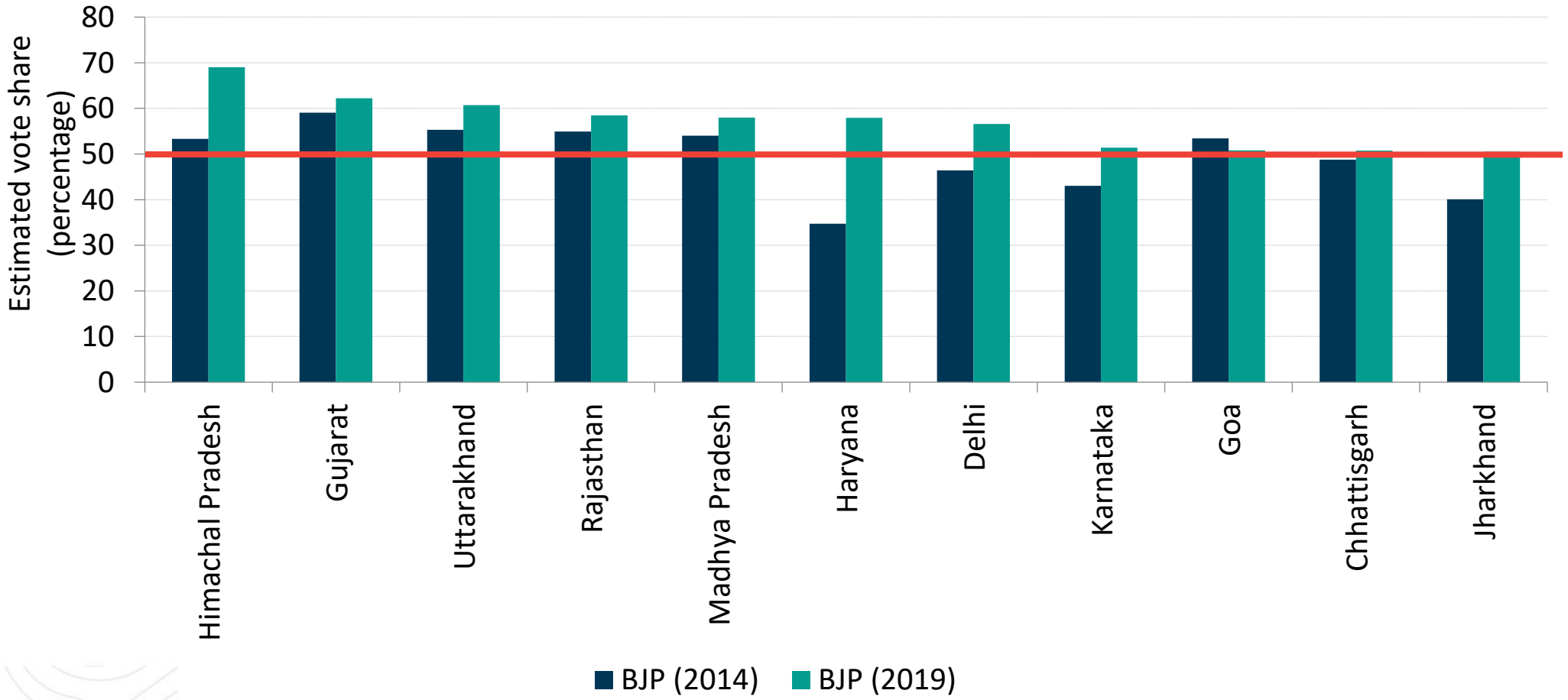
Source: Author's analysis; Election Commission of India

BJP's increased vote share came at the expense of regional parties.



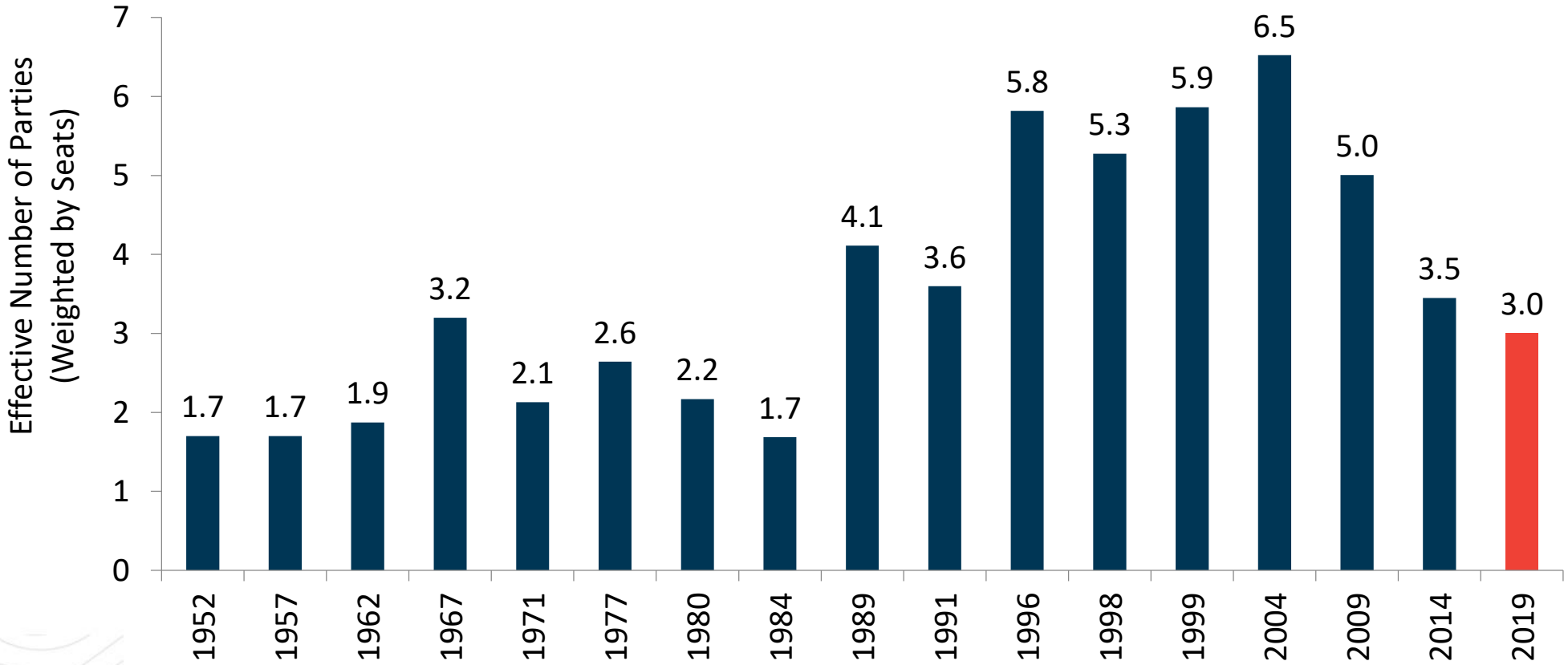
Source: Author's analysis; Election Commission of India

In many key states, BJP vote share > 50%.



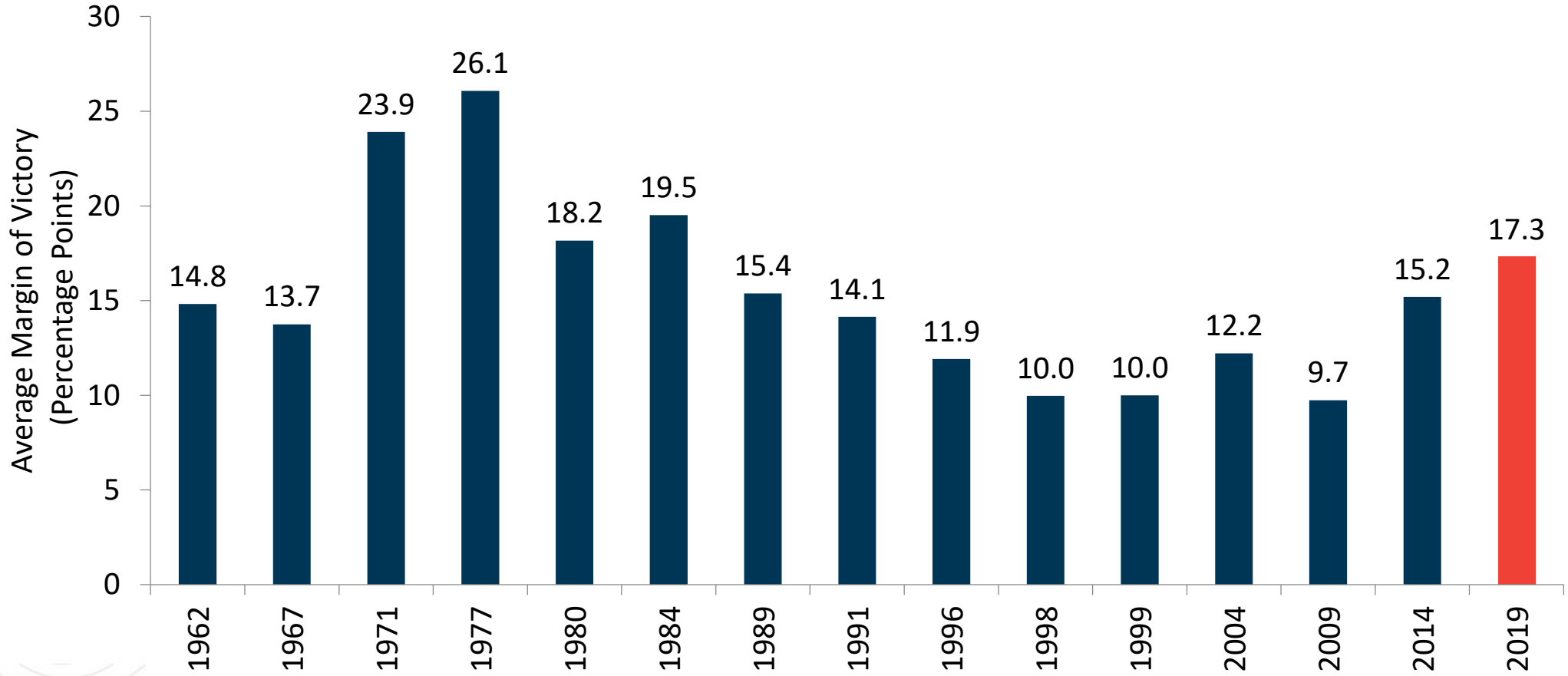
Source: Author's analysis; Election Commission of India

The electoral arena has become markedly *less* competitive.



Source: Author's analysis; Election Commission of India

Margins of victory are getting *bigger*.

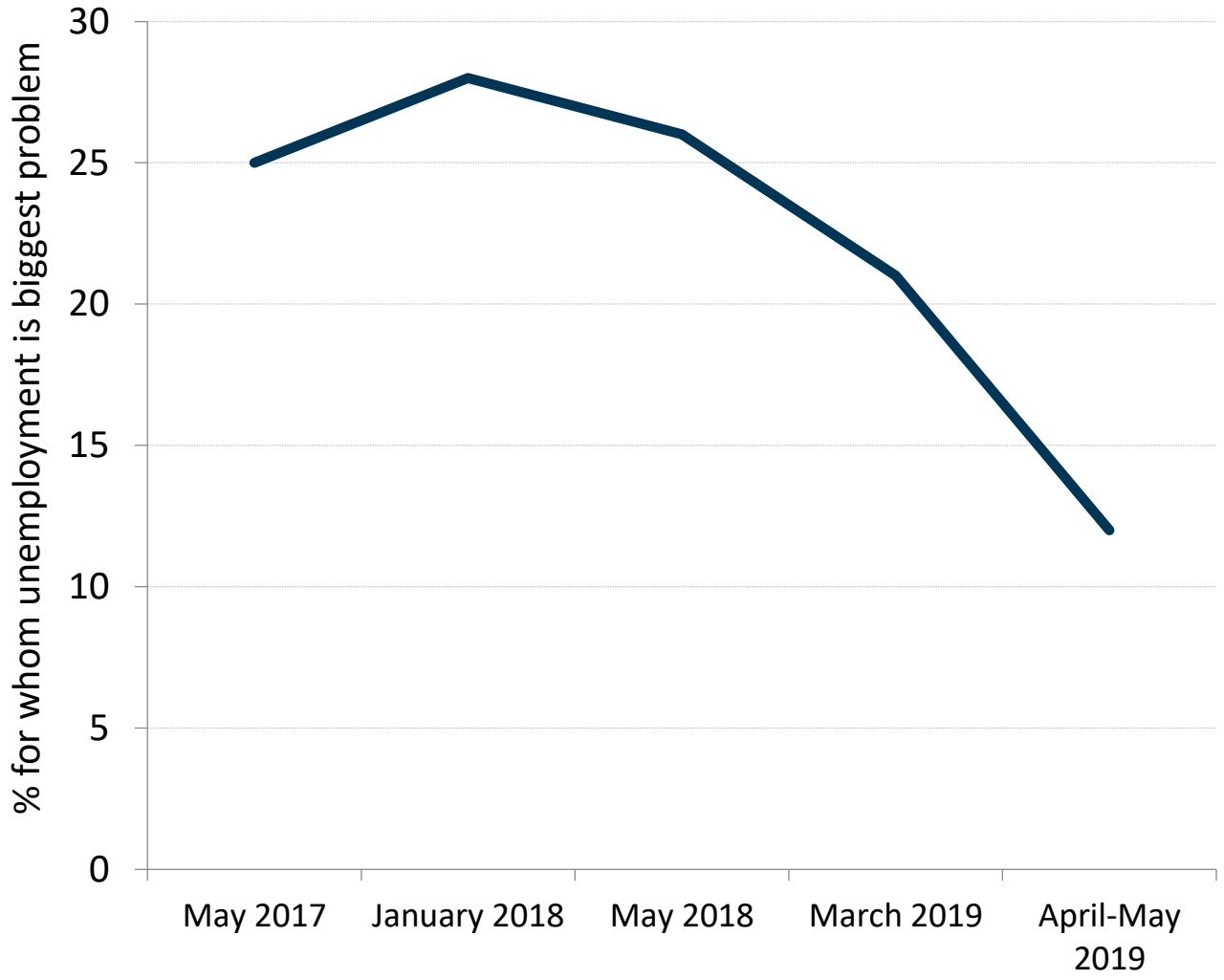


Source: Author's analysis; Election Commission of India

32% of BJP voters would not have voted NDA if Modi was not the PM candidate.

Source: Lokniti-CSDS 2019 National Election Study

Jobs actually became less salient as the campaign went on.



Source: Lokniti-CSDS 2019 National Election Study

Balakot likely provided a bump.

It became a filter through which other issues were seen.

The big winners (other than BJP)

- Jagan Reddy/YSR Congress Party
- M.K. Stalin/DMK
- Nitish Kumar/Janata Dal (United)

The big losers (other than Congress)

- Mandal politics
- Arvind Kejriwal/Aam Aadmi Party
- The Left

A time for introspection?

- Many predicted a BJP victory. Few predicted the magnitude.
- What role do conceptions of nationalism play?
- Do issues shape partisan attachments? Or is it the other way around?
- How big are “campaign effects?”

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