

Press Release: Nov.2, 2005
Center for the Study of Local Issues
Anne Arundel Community College

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Survey Shows Rising Gas Prices a Serious Concern for Anne Arundel Public

According to a survey conducted Oct. 24-27 by the Center for the Study of Local Issues (CSLI) at Anne Arundel Community College, a majority (57 percent) of county residents thinks that the rising cost of gasoline is a very serious concern. Only 12 percent think it is not a very serious concern.

“Clearly, the rapid escalation in gasoline prices has preoccupied residents, anxious about how to plan given the uncertainty about this important expense,” said the center’s director, Dan Nataf.

The survey also examined how rising gasoline prices have affected residents’ thinking about transportation and other choices. Half claimed to be driving less while significant numbers have considered buying a more fuel-efficient car (42 percent), now use a more fuel-efficient vehicle (38 percent) and/or have reduced entertainment spending (45 percent).

Smaller percentages modified their commuting patterns by increasing their use of public transportation (11 percent) and the use of carpools (21 percent), used bicycles or walking more (23 percent) or considered moving closer to work (11 percent). Another 22 percent said that they had changed their summer vacation plans due to high gasoline prices.

Nataf commented that these findings indicate that people will make choices that reduce their use of a suddenly expensive resource.

“Smaller cars, more efficient use of vehicles, and the additional use of public transportation are all choices the public appears to have made to accommodate the impact of high prices on their budgets,” he said.

Summary of Other Findings

The CSLI survey evaluated a range of other issues including how the county government might use its budget surplus, the most important economic and environmental challenges facing the county over the next decade and the confidence the public has that local government is up to the challenges. It questioned support for policies such as a fee for helping streams and rivers, an equestrian facility in Crownsville/Gambrills, a third span over the Chesapeake Bay, an increase in the length of the school day, and state funding for embryonic stem cell research.

The survey included some benchmark questions about the most important issue facing residents, the state of the local economy and questions about terrorism, natural disasters and the preparedness of local authorities to respond. In addition, the survey contained questions on the public's perception of the causes of the rise in gasoline prices, and asked about policy responses that might lessen America's dependence on imported oil.

These items are summarized below and then explained in greater detail in the sections that follow:

- **Most important problem:** Growth and transportation are the most important concerns; education dropped and crime stayed low.
- **Right direction/wrong direction:** There was a small rise in the percentage saying that the county was moving in the right direction, from 53 percent in spring 2005 to 57 percent in fall 2005.
- **Economic conditions:** There was no significant change in the percentage of the sample saying that the county's economic conditions were "excellent" or "good," which dropped from 74 to 71 percent.
- **What to do with county surplus:** The survey asked respondents to choose a best use for a possible end-of-year budget surplus for county government. Nearly an equal number favored having the county spend or keep the money (47 percent) versus sending the surplus to the taxpayers (45 percent).
- **Economic and environmental challenges facing the county over the next decade:** The most commonly identified **economic** challenge was managing growth and development (27 percent), followed by providing affordable housing (17 percent) and providing proper skills and education for workers (11 percent). The most commonly stated **environmental** challenge was water pollution in the Chesapeake Bay and streams/tributaries (57 percent). Significant percentages were not very confident that local government will effectively deal with these challenges.
- **State and local policies:** Sizable majorities supported three policies: building a third span across the Chesapeake Bay (63 percent), state funding for embryonic stem cell research (58 percent), and an annual \$60 environmental cleanup fee (56 percent). There was less support for an equestrian center (44 percent) and opposition to a longer school day.
- **Gasoline price increases – causes and solutions:** High profits by oil companies and oil exporting countries were most frequently identified as causes of gas price increases. A variety of tax incentives and subsidies were seen as possible approaches for dealing with the problem.
- **Terrorism:** The percentage thinking that a terrorist attack was "very likely" within the county over the next year rose from 4 to 9 percent. There was a sharp rise in the percentage thinking that local authorities were "not very prepared" to deal with such a crisis, rising from 27 percent in spring 2005 to 44 percent in this survey.
- **President Bush's job approval:** A slightly greater number disapproved of Bush's performance as President. When asked to name his best and worst policies, the best one was "the war on terrorism" and the worst policy was the war in Iraq.
- **Methodology:** The survey polled a random sample of 417 county residents who were at least 18 years old and living in their primary residence. The margin of sampling error was approximately 5 percent.

Most Important Problem – Growth and Transportation

Each CSLI survey starts by asking the public an open-ended question: “What do you think is the most important problem facing the residents of Anne Arundel County at the present time.” Typically, crime, education, growth, transportation and taxes are the top items cited, as was the case this time (see Table 1 and Graph 1).

Compared with last spring, there was a small increase in concern about growth (from 18 to 22 percent) combined with a spike in concern about transportation and traffic (from 9 to 14 percent). “Several respondents mentioned gas-price-related transportation issues,” Nataf said. Education dropped as a top concern (from 16 to 12 percent), as did taxes (from 13 to 10 percent). Concern about the economy (7 percent), the environment (6 percent) and crime (6 percent) showed little change from last spring. Nataf noted that several of those mentioning the economy also underscored the impact of rising housing prices.

TABLE 1: PERCENTAGE CITING ITEM AS COUNTY’S “MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM” I 2003-05

Problem	Spring '03	Fall '03	Spring '04	Fall '04	Spring '05	Fall '05
Growth/overpopulation- too much development	12	15	8	14	18	22
Traffic congestion/problems	9	11	10	17	9	14
Education, problems with schools	17	17	22	12	16	12
Taxes – too high	9	14	13	10	13	10
Other answer	8	11	8	9	10	8
Economy – (e.g., no jobs, high cost of living, business closing or losses)	14	8	12	8	7	7
Crime	4	5	4	6	5	6
Environment (e.g., air or water pollution, saving the Bay)	5	7	4	5	5	6
Drugs	3	1	4	3	3	2
Inefficient government, wasteful spending	2	1	2	1	1	1
Terrorism	2	0	1	1	0	1
Corruption in government/politicians are bad	0	1	2	1	1	0
Unsure/no answer	13	9	10	13	11	11
Total	98	100	100	100	99	100

Note: Table 2 and Graph 1 below combine “growth” and “transportation” into “Growth” as well as “crime” and “drugs” into “Crime” for reporting and comparison purposes. All values in tables are in percent unless otherwise indicated.

Graph 1: Most Important Issue - Trends

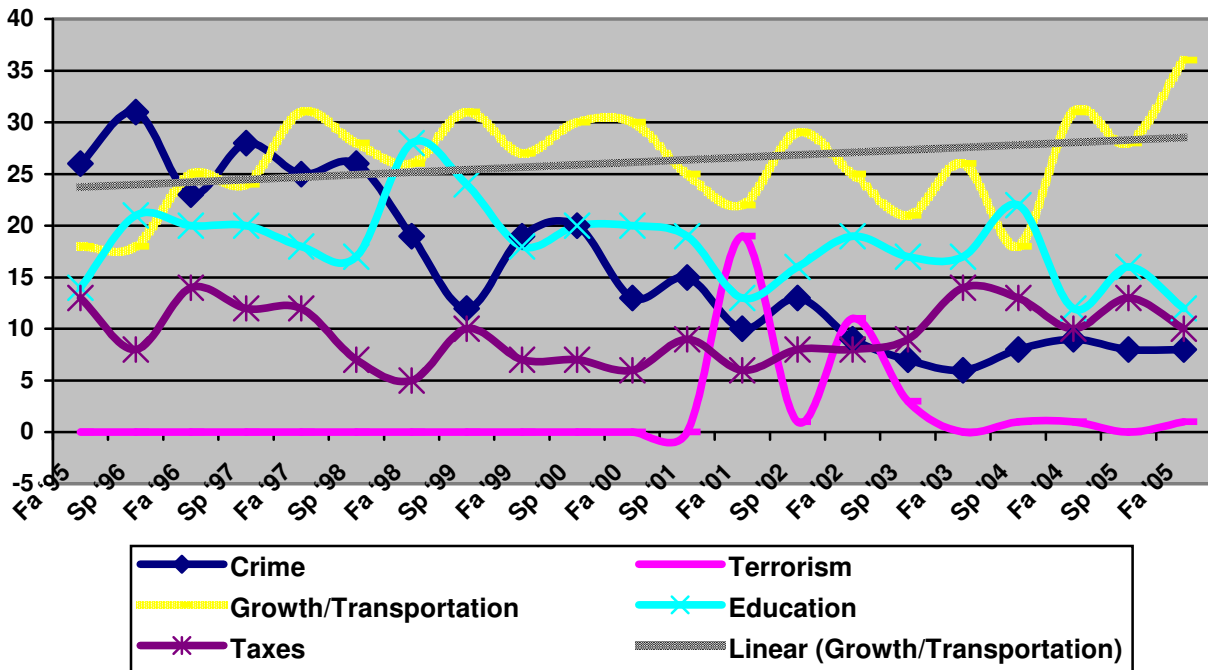


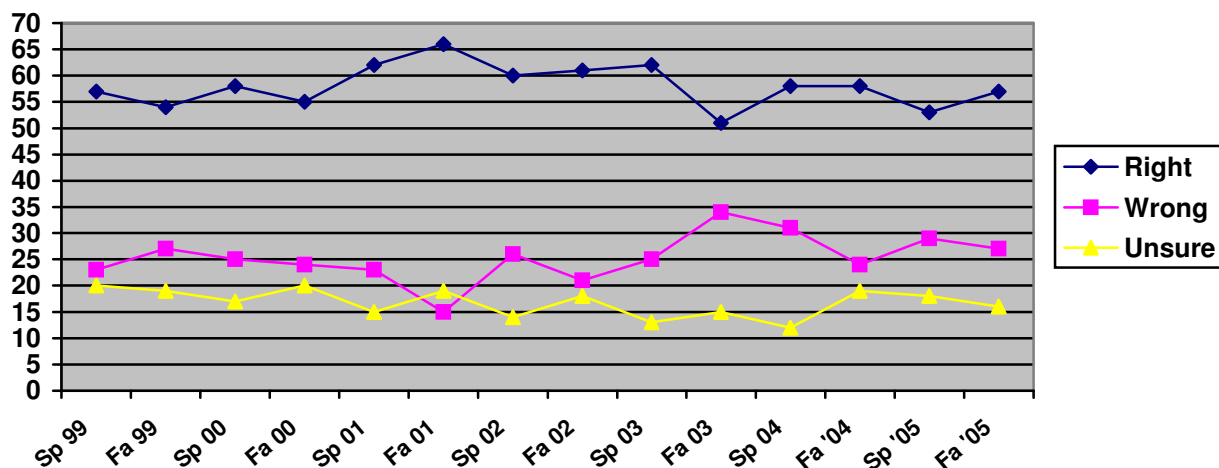
TABLE 2: “MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM FACING RESIDENTS” FALL 1995 TO FALL 2005

Problem	Fa '95	Sp '96	Fa '96	Sp '97	Fa '97	Sp '98	Fa '98	Sp '99	Fa '99	Sp '00	Fa '00	Sp '01	Fa '01	Sp '01	Fa '01	Sp '02	Fa '02	Sp '03	Fa '03	Sp '04	Fa '04	Sp '05	Fa '05
Crime	26	31	23	28	25	26	19	12	19	20	13	15	10	13	13	7	6	8	9	8	8		
Terrorism	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	18	1	11	2	0	1	1	0	1			
Growth/Transportation	18	18	25	24	31	28	26	31	27	30	30	25	22	28	25	21	26	18	31	28	36		
Education	14	21	20	20	18	17	28	24	18	20	20	19	13	16	19	17	17	22	12	16	12		
Taxes	13	8	14	12	12	7	5	10	7	7	6	9	6	8	8	9	14	13	10	13	10		

County – Right or Wrong Direction?

The survey included a CSLI benchmark question: “Overall, would you say that the county is headed in the right direction or in the wrong direction?” Graph 2 shows that until fall 2003, the results did not vary much, hovering around 60 percent. However at that time, a sharp drop in those saying the “right” direction corresponded to the start of a lower overall range. This fall, there was a small rise in those saying the county was moving in the right direction (from 53 to 57 percent). Overall, the last two years have shown little variation.

Graph 2: County - Right or Wrong Direction



Economic Conditions – No Major Changes

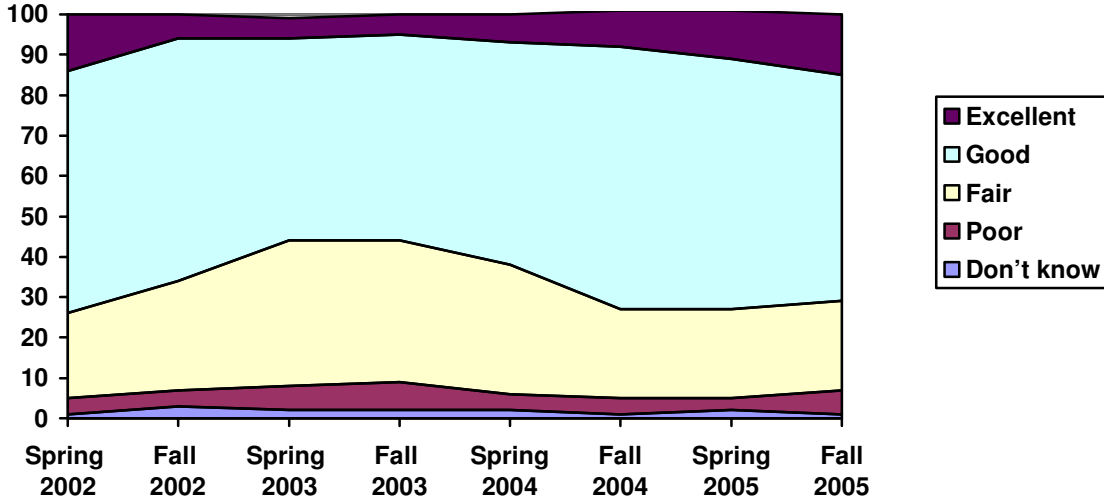
There was little change in the public’s perception of economic conditions. The percentage saying “excellent” or “good” dropped slightly from 74 to 71 percent, but the percentage saying “excellent” rose from 12 to 15 percent. In spring 2004, the combined value was only 62, showing that the improvement noted in fall 2004 has not been significantly altered over the last year (see Table 3 and Graph 3).

TABLE 3: PERCEPTIONS OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

	Spring 2002	Fall 2002	Spring 2003	Fall 2003	Spring 2004	Fall 2004	Spring 2005	Fall 2005
Excellent	14	6	5	5	7	9	12	15
Good	60	60	50	51	55	65	62	56
Fair	21	27	36	35	32	22	22	22
Poor	4	4	6	7	4	4	3	6
Don’t know	1	3	2	2	2	1	2	1
Total	101	100	99	100	100	101	101	100

Note: In this and all other tables, totals do not always sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Graph 3: Economic Conditions



What to Do with the County’s Budget Surplus?

The survey asked the following question: “If the county ends the year with a surplus, which of the following would you prefer to see happen...” Table 4 shows the answer choices and the percentages selecting each choice.

TABLE 4: HOW TO SPEND COUNTY SURPLUS

Choice	Percent Selecting
The county spends it on high priority areas	28
The county keeps it for a ‘rainy day’ when it might be needed, such as an emergency	19
The county sends it back to taxpayers as a tax refund	15
The county uses it to lower taxes next year	30
Other answer	5
No answer, unsure	2
Total	99

The sample was closely divided about the disposition of any possible surplus. Nearly an equal number favored having the county spend or keep the money (47 percent) versus sending the surplus to the taxpayers (45 percent).

“Only 28 percent favored using the surplus on current areas of spending, suggesting that the public was more interested in a refund or in keeping the money for use in an emergency,” Nataf said.

Challenges Facing the County, Confidence that Government is Up to the Task

The survey next asked about the major economic and environmental challenges likely to be faced by the county in the next decade. The most commonly identified economic challenge was managing growth and development (27 percent), followed by providing affordable housing (17 percent) and providing proper skills and education for workers (11 percent). Several respondents mentioned the need to deal with roads and transportation among “other” responses (25 percent total “other” responses).

The most commonly stated environmental challenge was water pollution in the Chesapeake Bay and streams/tributaries (57 percent). A much smaller percentage mentioned air pollution and maintaining open/green areas (both 8 percent), while others mentioned the need to enforce environmental laws (4 percent). A significant block of respondents contributed original answers (14 percent).

The survey asked respondents “How confident are you that local government will be able to effectively deal with this challenge? Table 5 shows the results.

TABLE 5: HOW CONFIDENT THAT LOCAL GOVT. CAN DEAL WITH CHALLENGE

Choice	Economic	Environmental
Very confident	8	7
Somewhat confident	45	38
Not very confident	41	50
No answer	7	6
Total	101	101

The survey results show that there is slightly more confidence that local government can handle the economic challenge (53 percent saying at least “somewhat confident” or “very confident”) compared to the environmental challenge (45 percent).

“This reinforces the idea that the public is very concerned about the county’s quality of life and is dubious that government has the capacity to effectively manage the growth pressures likely to come in the next few years,” Nataf said.

State and Local Policies

The survey queried the public about five state and local policies as shown on Table 6.

TABLE 6: SUPPORT FOR STATE AND LOCAL POLICIES

Policy	Support	Oppose	No answer
9.1 An annual \$60 fee dedicated only to correcting the impacts of storm water erosion and pollution in county streams and rivers	56	38	6
9.2 Putting a large horse training and show facility in the Gambrills/Crownsville area	44	43	13
9.3 Building a third bridge span across the Chesapeake Bay	63	31	5
9.4 Lengthening the school day in county schools, at a cost of about \$30 million	29	60	11
9.5 State funding for embryonic stem cell research	58	34	8

Sizable majorities supported three policies: building a third span across the Chesapeake Bay (63 percent), state funding for embryonic stem cell research (58 percent) and an annual \$60 environmental cleanup fee (56 percent). The sample was evenly divided on the desirability of putting an equestrian center in Gambrills/Crownsville (44 percent support, 43 percent opposed). There was not much support for a proposal to lengthen the school day at the cost of \$30 million (60 percent opposed the idea).

Gasoline Price Increases: Causes and Solutions

Elaborating on the findings related to the rise in gasoline prices, two sections of the survey concentrated on the public's perceptions of the causes of the price rise and the degree of support for various measures to deal with it.

TABLE 7: CAUSES OF THE RISE IN GASOLINE PRICES

Factor	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	No answer
8.2 Increased global demand for oil	53	25	19	2
8.3 High profits by oil companies	68	19	12	1
8.4 High profits by oil-exporting countries	60	24	13	3
8.5 The lack of policies encouraging the use of renewable energy and fuel-efficient cars	51	28	18	4
8.6 Excessive regulation preventing drilling or refining within the United States	39	25	29	7
8.6a Damage to oil production facilities in areas along the Gulf coast	47	30	19	5

As seen on Table 7, high profits by oil companies and oil-exporting countries were seen as the likeliest causes of the spike in gasoline prices (68 and 60 percent saying "very important"). Small majorities agreed that increased global demand and the lack of policies encouraging the use of renewable energy and fuel-efficient cars were important contributors to the problem (53 and 51 percent). A somewhat smaller number felt that hurricane damage to oil-production

facilities in the Gulf of Mexico or “excessive regulation preventing drilling or refining within the United States” were key factors (47 and 39 percent).

“It seems that the public is quick to blame producers for consumers’ economic misfortunes,” Nataf offered.

Table 8 shows support for five policies meant to address rising gasoline prices. Three policies received overwhelming support: tax incentives for the use of wind or solar power (78 percent), tax incentives for the purchase of hybrid or otherwise highly fuel-efficient vehicles (74 percent) and an increase in bus and light rail service even if such an increase would require more subsidies from state government (70 percent).

Two policies were not widely supported: facilitating the building of nuclear power plants in Maryland (43 percent) and imposing higher gasoline taxes (20 percent). “While the public appears ready to defer the receipt of government revenues to achieve energy goals, it is less apparent that it is ready to spend much more out of its own pocket to encourage fuel-efficient choices,” Nataf said.

TABLE 8: SUPPORT FOR POLICIES TO REDUCE USE OF GASOLINE AND AIR-POLLUTING FUELS

Policy	Support	Oppose	No answer, unsure
Tax incentives for the use of wind or solar power	78	16	5
Higher taxes on gasoline to encourage use of more fuel-efficient vehicles	20	76	4
Tax incentives for the purchase of hybrid/highly fuel-efficient vehicles	74	23	3
Making it easier to develop nuclear power plants with the state of Maryland	43	47	10
Increasing bus and light rail service, even if it requires more subsidies from state government	70	26	4

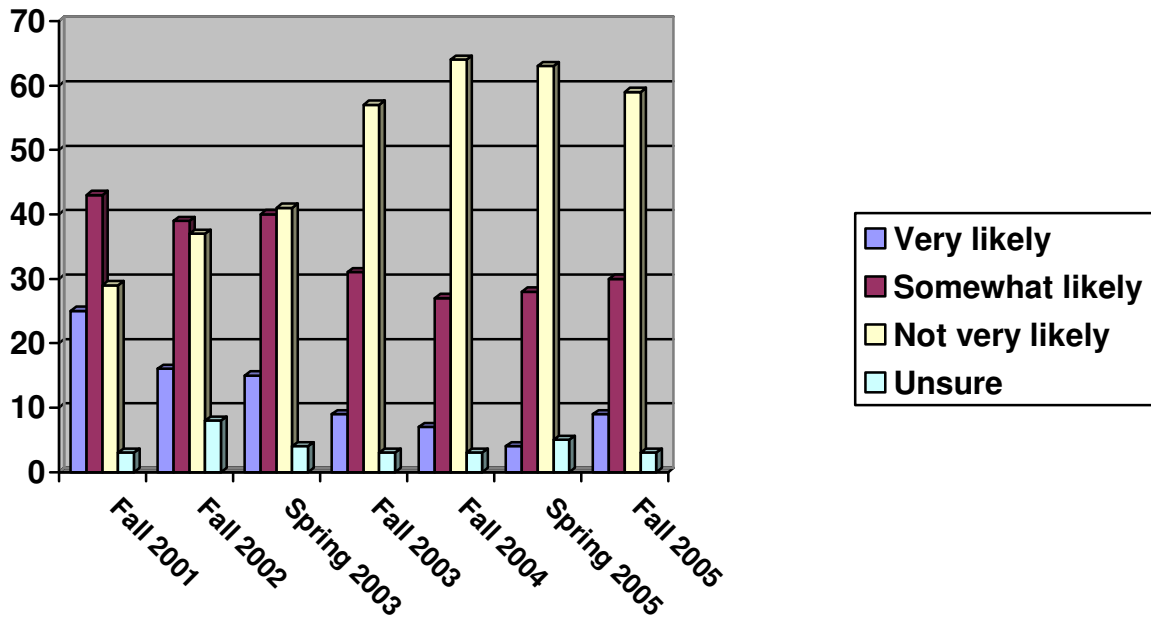
Terrorism

The fall 2005 survey included two questions about terrorism. The first one asked residents about the probability of a terrorist attack on a location within Anne Arundel County over the next year. Over 60 percent said “not very likely” (61 percent) and only 9 percent said “very likely.” While the jump from 4 to 9 percent among those saying “very likely” was sharp, overall these results were consistent with results obtained since fall 2003 and show that attitudes about the likelihood of a new terrorist attack have not changed much during that time.

TABLE 9: HOW LIKELY IS TERRORIST ATTACK WITHIN THE COUNTY DURING THE NEXT YEAR?

	Fall 2001	Fall 2002	Spring 2003	Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Spring 2005	Fall 2005
Very likely	25	16	15	9	7	4	9
Somewhat likely	43	39	40	31	27	28	30
Not very likely	29	37	41	57	64	63	59
Unsure/no answer	3	8	4	3	3	5	2

Graph 4: Likelihood of Terrorist Attack in County



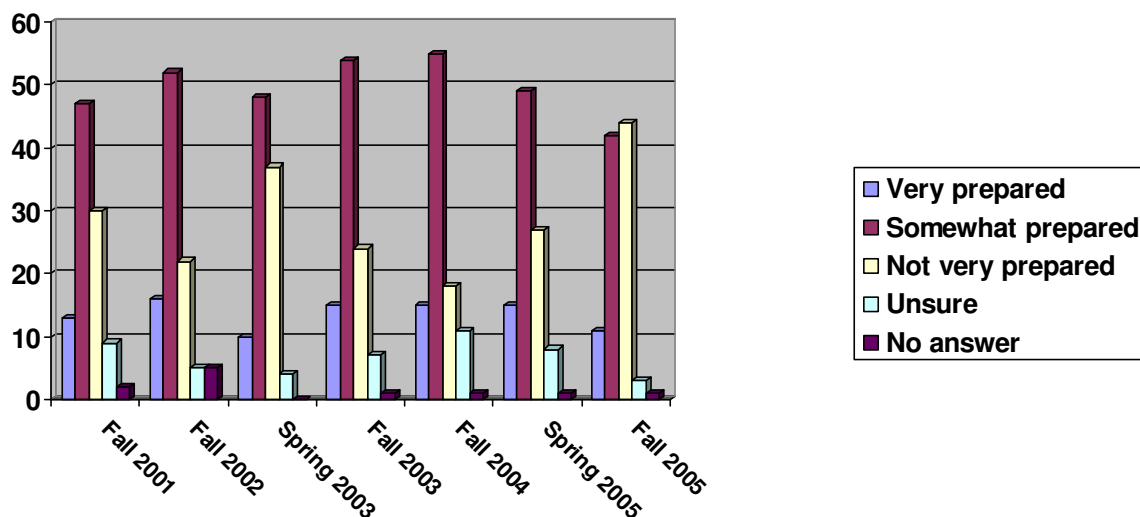
The next terrorism question asked: “How prepared do you believe local authorities to be in the event of a terrorist attack in Anne Arundel County?” As seen in Table 10 and Graph 5, the answer choice “not very prepared” received its highest level ever recorded in a CSLI survey (44 percent).

“This was quite surely a post-Katrina reaction,” Nataf said. “The government’s poor response in the Gulf states probably created a crisis of confidence that government could respond to a manmade disaster produced by terrorism.”

TABLE 10: PERCEIVED PREPAREDNESS OF LOCAL GOVT. IN EVENT OF TERRORISM

	Fall 2001	Fall 2002	Spring 2003	Fall 2003	Spring 2004	Fall 2004	Fall 2005
Very prepared	13	16	10	15	15	15	11
Somewhat prepared	47	52	48	54	55	49	42
Not very prepared	30	22	37	24	18	27	44
Unsure	9	5	4	7	11	8	3
No answer	2	5	0	1	1	1	1
Total	101	100	99	101	100	100	101

Graph 5: Government Preparedness



When the question was changed slightly to ask about the level of preparedness in the event of a natural disaster, the results were a bit less pessimistic: only 36 percent said that the government was “not very prepared” compared to the 44 percent in the previous question. That in both cases only 11 percent said that the government was “very prepared” indicates a low level of public confidence in government’s ability to deal with this type of problem.

In keeping with the theme of the ‘war on terrorism,’ the survey asked respondents whether they had a friend or family member currently serving in the military in Iraq or Afghanistan: 38 percent responded affirmatively. “This shows the importance of foreign policy, defense and the war on terrorism to the Anne Arundel public,” Nataf said.

President Bush’s Job Approval

The survey found a slight plurality disapproving of President Bush’s job in office, with 48 percent disapproving and 45 percent approving (7 percent having no opinion). “Recent national polls show his job approval to be below 40 percent, so the Anne Arundel public seems slightly more supportive,” Nataf said.

When asked to name the best and worst decisions/policies undertaken by President Bush, the sample named the war on terrorism (25 percent) and the war in Iraq (24 percent) as the best policies. The worst policy was the war in Iraq (69 percent), which respondents said had been prolonged or ill advised. No other “worst” decision or policy was cited by more than 4 percent.

Methodology

The survey polled a random sample of 417 county residents who were at least 18 years old. Phone numbers were derived from a database of listed numbers as well as computer chosen, randomly assigned numbers. There is about a 5 percent statistical margin of error for the overall

sample; the error is higher for subgroups. For information about this survey or CSLI, call Dan Nataf at 410-777-2733, or visit the CSLI Web site at www2.aacc.edu/csl where this press release is posted under “Recent Surveys.”

CSLI Semi-Annual Survey – Fall, 2005

Note: All values are percentages except for Cases/N= which indicate the actual number of respondents answering a question.

1.0 What do you think is the most important problem facing the residents of Anne Arundel County at the present time? (DON'T READ THE LIST! Have them *volunteer* an answer)

Problem	Percentage citing
Crime	6
Terrorism	1
Drugs	2
Growth/overpopulation – too much development	22
Traffic congestion/problems	14
Education, problems with schools	12
Taxes – too high	10
Inefficient government, wasteful spending	1
Corruption in government/politicians are bad	0
Environment (e.g., air or water pollution, saving the Bay)	6
Economy – (e.g., no jobs, high cost of living, business closing or losses)	7
Other answer (write in:	8
Unsure/no answer	11

2.0 Overall, would you say that the county is headed in the right direction or in the wrong direction? N=417

- (1) **Right** direction 57
- (2) **Wrong** direction 27
- (0) **Unsure** or don't know 16

3.0 Thinking about our county's economy, how would you rate economic conditions in Anne Arundel County today -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor? N=415

- (1) Excellent 15
- (2) Good 56
- (3) Only Fair 22
- (4) Poor 6
- (0) Don't Know, No Answer 1

4.0 If the county ends the year with a surplus, which of the following would you prefer to see happen? N=415

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1) The county spends it on high priority areas | 28 |
| (2) The county keeps it for a 'rainy day' when it might be needed, such as an emergency | 19 |
| (3) The county sends it back to taxpayers as a tax refund | 15 |
| (4) The county uses it to lower taxes next year | 30 |
| (5) Other answer | 5 |
| (0) No answer, unsure | 2 |

Now I would like to ask you to think about some challenges facing Anne Arundel County.

5.1 First, what do you think will be the biggest economic challenge facing the county over the next decade or so? (DO NOT READ LIST, LET RESPONDENT VOLUNTEER ANSWER) N=404

Circle if mentioned:

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1) providing enough jobs | 8 |
| (2) managing growth/development | 27 |
| (3) providing proper skills/education for workers | 11 |
| (4) providing affordable housing) | 17 |
| (5) Other | 25 |
| (6) Infrastructure, roads | 3 |
| (0) No answer | 8 |

5.1a How confident are you that local government will be able to effectively deal with this challenge, are you very confident, somewhat confident or not very confident? N=400

- | | |
|------------------------|----|
| (1) Very confident | 8 |
| (2) Somewhat confident | 45 |
| (3) Not very confident | 41 |
| (0) No answer | 7 |

5.2 Second, what do you think will be the biggest environmental challenge facing the county over the next decade or so? (DO NOT READ LIST, LET RESPONDENT VOLUNTEER ANSWER) N=392

Circle if mentioned:

- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) Water pollution in Bay and streams | 57 |
| (2) Air pollution | 8 |
| (3) Maintaining open/green areas | 8 |
| (4) Enforcing environmental laws | 4 |
| (5) Other | 14 |
| (0) No answer | 9 |

5.2a How confident are you that local government will be able to effectively deal with this challenge? N=396

- (1) Very confident 7
- (2) Somewhat confident 38
- (3) Not very confident 50
- (0) No answer 6

6.0 How serious a concern is the rising cost of gasoline, very serious, somewhat serious or not very serious? N=403

- (1) Very serious 57
- (2) Somewhat serious 31
- (3) Not very serious 12
- (0) No answer 0

7.0 Thinking back over the last few months, please tell me whether the rising cost of gasoline has affected you in any of the following ways:

Possible effects	Affected	Not affected	No answer	Cases
7.1 Decreased your amount of driving	50	50	1	402
7.2 Made you consider buying a more fuel efficient car	42	57	2	402
7.3 Made you use a more fuel efficient vehicle than the one you would normally	38	59	3	398
7.4 Increased your use of public transportation	11	86	3	401
7.5 Increased your use of car-pools	21	76	3	399
7.6 Increased your use of bicycles or walking	23	74	3	398
7.7 Made you reduce entertainment spending	45	54	1	398
7.8 Made you consider moving closer to your work	11	85	4	397
7.9 Made you change your vacation plans last summer	22	77	1	396

7.10 Do you normally take summer vacations? N=400

- (1) Yes 80
- (2) No 19
- (0) No answer 1

7.11 Did you take a summer vacation this year? N=394

- (1) Yes 65
- (2) No 34
- (0) No answer 1

(IF NO VACATION) 7.11a Was this mostly for personal or economic reasons?

- (1) Personal 39
- (2) Economic 34
- (3) Combination 14
- (4) Some other (volunteered) 10
- (0) No answer 4

7.12 What type of vehicle, if any, do you use most of the time? N=374

- IF CAR:** (1.1) Small 25 (2.1) Medium 31 (3.1) Large 7
IF SUV or VAN: (1.2) Small 9 (2.2) Medium 15 (3.2) Large 6
IF Truck (not SUV/VAN): (1.3) Small 2 (2.3) Medium 1 (3.3) Large 4
- IF Other:** (1.4) Motorcycle 0 (2.4) Bicycle 0 (3.4) Other = 1

7.12a: Is your vehicle a hybrid gas/electric one? (1) Yes 8 (2) No 91 (0) No answer 1
 N= 346

=>8.1 How important – very important, somewhat or not very - do you think the following factors are in having caused the rise in gasoline prices?

Factor	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	No answer	Cases
8.2 Increased global demand for oil	53	25	19	2	394
8.3 High profits by oil companies	68	19	12	1	394
8.4 High profits by oil exporting countries	60	24	13	3	388
8.5 The lack of policies encouraging the use of renewable energy and fuel efficient cars	51	28	18	4	392
8.6 Excessive regulation preventing drilling or refining within the United States	39	25	29	7	392
8.6a Damage to oil production facilities in areas along the Gulf coast	47	30	19	5	198

8.7 Would you support or oppose any of the following policies meant to reduce our dependence on imported oil and other air polluting fuels:

Policy	Support	Oppose	No answer, unsure	Cases
8.8 Tax incentives for the use of wind or solar power	78	16	5	391
8.9 Higher taxes on gasoline to encourage use of more fuel efficient vehicles	20	76	4	391
8.10 Tax incentives for the purchase of hybrid/highly fuel efficient vehicles	74	23	3	390
8.11 Making it easier to develop nuclear power plants with the state of Maryland	43	47	10	390
8.12 Increasing bus and light rail service, even if it requires more subsidies from state government	70	26	4	388

9.0 Do you support or oppose the following state or local policies:

Policy	Support	Oppose	No answer, unsure	Cases
9.1 An annual \$60 fee dedicated only to correcting the impacts of storm water erosion and pollution in county streams and rivers?	56	38	6	388
9.2 Putting a large horse training and show facility in the Gambrills/Crownsville area	44	43	13	388
9.3 Building a third bridge span across the Chesapeake Bay	63	31	5	388
9.4 Lengthening the school day in county schools, at a cost of about \$30 million	29	60	11	388
9.5 State funding for embryonic stem cell research	58	34	8	387

10. Do you approve of the job George W. Bush is doing as President? N=387

- (1) Approve 45
- (2) Disapprove 48
- (0) No answer 7

Next I am going to ask you about the best and worst decision or policy undertaken by President George W. Bush.

10.1 First, what has been the best decision or policy undertaken by President George W. Bush? (LET RESPONDENT VOLUNTEER ANSWER) N=168

BESTREC

	Frequency	Valid Percent
other	23	13.7
Iraq	41	24.4
Homeland Security	12	7.1
War on Terrorism, 9-11	42	25.0
Tax, Economic Policy	17	10.1
Supreme Court Nominations	14	8.3
Afghanistan	5	3.0
Social Security Reform	5	3.0
Education, No Child	6	3.6
Abortion, Stem Cell	3	1.8
Total	168	100.0
Missing System	249	
Total	417	

10.2 What has been the worst decision or policy undertaken by President George W. Bush? (LET RESPONDENT VOLUNTEER ANSWER) N=298

WORSTREC

	Frequency	Valid Percent
No answer	21	7.0
Iraq	204	68.5
War on Terrorism, 9-11 reaction	3	1.0
Taxes, Econ policy	9	3.0
Supreme Court nominations	10	3.4
Social Security Reform	3	1.0
Ed policy, No Child	5	1.7
Abortion, Stem Cell	8	2.7
Environment	4	1.3
Gas prices	5	1.7
Immigration Policy	8	2.7
Spending, Deficit	4	1.3
Katrina, disaster response	7	2.3
Staff appointments	7	2.3
Total	298	100.0
Missing System	119	
Total	417	

11. In your opinion, how likely is a terrorist attack on a location within Anne Arundel County over the next year, very likely, somewhat likely or not very likely? N=383

- (1) Very likely 9
- (2) Somewhat likely 30
- (3) Not very likely 59
- (0) Unsure, no answer 2

11.1 How prepared do you believe local authorities to be in the event of a terrorist attack in Anne Arundel County, very prepared, somewhat prepared, not very prepared? N=382

- (1) Very prepared 11
- (2) Somewhat prepared 42
- (3) Not very prepared 44
- (4) Unsure 3
- (0) No answer 1

11.2 How prepared do you believe local authorities to be in the event of a natural disaster in Anne Arundel County, very prepared, somewhat prepared, not very prepared? N=382

- (1) Very prepared 11
- (2) Somewhat prepared 49
- (3) Not very prepared 36
- (4) Unsure 4
- (0) No answer 0

We are almost done. The last few questions will help us to better understand your responses.

12.0 With which political party, if any, are you registered? N=378

- (1) Democratic 37
- (2) Republican 34
- (3) Independent 11
- (4) None (NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE) 12
- (5) Other 2
- (0) No Answer 4

**13. Which of the following best describes your political beliefs: N=381
Liberal, Moderate or Conservative?**

- (1) Liberal 17
- (2) Moderate 48
- (3) Conservative 32
- (0) Other, No Answer 4

14. I am going to read some categories of age classifications. Please stop me when I reach the category in which your age falls. N=381

- (1) 18 to 29 9
- (2) 30 to 44 29
- (3) 45 to 58 36
- (4) 60 or more 25
- (0) No Answer 1

15. I am going to read some categories relating to education. Please stop me when I reach the category in which the highest level of your formal education falls. N=380

(1) less than a high school diploma	2	(5) post graduate work	24
(2) a high school diploma	17	(0) No Answer	1
(3) some college or a two-year degree	31		
(4) completed college with a bachelor's degree	26		

16. I am going to read some categories relating to income. Please stop me when I reach the category in which your household income falls. N=379

- (1) Less than \$30,000 7
- (2) \$30,000 to \$50,000 16
- (3) \$50,001 to \$75,000 20
- (4) \$75,001-\$100,000 23
- (5) \$100,001-\$150,000 15
- (6) Over \$150,000 8
- (0) No Answer 12

17. Which of the following employment categories best describes your situation? N=380

Employed full time for a company in the private sector or self employed	45
Employed full time for government	17
Employed part-time	9
Retired	23
Unemployed and seeking a job	1
Unemployed and not seeking a job	5
No answer	1

18. Regarding race, how would you describe yourself? N=380

- (1) Black/African American 6
- (2) White 85
- (3) Hispanic 0
- (4) Asian 1
- (5) Other or mixed racial background 5
- (0) No Answer 3

19. Regarding Religion, how would you describe yourself? N=380

- (1) Non-practicing, Agnostic or Atheist 15
- (2) Evangelical or born again Protestant 13
- (3) Other Protestant 30
- (4) Catholic 27
- (5) Jewish 1
- (6) Other 7
- (0) No Answer 6

20. What is your current marital status? N=381

(1) Single 17	(2) Married 66	(3) Separated or Divorced 11	(4) Widowed 5	(5) Other 0	(0) Won't say 1
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21. Did either of your parents obtain at least a bachelor's degree from college? N=380

- (1) Yes 36 (2) No 61 (0) No answer 3

22. Do you have a friend or family member who is currently serving in the military in Iraq or Afghanistan? N=380

- (1) Yes 38 (2) No 61 (0) No answer 1

23. Gender of respondent to whom you were speaking: N=412

- (1) Male 42
- (2) Female 58
- (0) No answer 1

24. Zipcode

#24 Zip code

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	20711.00	5	1.2
	20724.00	3	.7
	20733.00	2	.5
	20751.00	1	.2
	20755.00	2	.5
	20764.00	7	1.7
	20765.00	3	.7
	20776.00	2	.5
	20778.00	1	.2
	21012.00	34	8.3
	21032.00	6	1.5
	21035.00	3	.7
	21037.00	21	5.1
	21054.00	8	2.0
	21060.00	16	3.9
	21061.00	31	7.6
	21076.00	4	1.0
	21090.00	10	2.5
	21108.00	16	3.9
	21113.00	22	5.4
	21114.00	23	5.6
	21122.00	44	10.8
	21140.00	2	.5
	21144.00	25	6.1
	21146.00	31	7.6
	21226.00	3	.7
	21401.00	72	17.6
	21403.00	11	2.7
	Total	408	100.0
Missing	System	9	
Total		417	