County Survey Finds Drug Use and Cost of Living are Most Serious Problems

A survey of 622 Anne Arundel County residents conducted March 28-April 5 by the Center for the Study of Local Issues (CSLI) at Anne Arundel Community College found that 22 percent of the respondents placed the abuse of drugs as the top problem facing the residents of Anne Arundel County, with a combined 30 percent saying either drugs or crime (down slightly from last fall’s total of 31 percent). In a separate question, 60 percent said that “drug use among high school students” was a “very serious” problem. The “high cost of living” received the second highest score (56 percent) within this group of items.

The survey asked respondents whether they supported or opposed a variety of proposals.¹ A majority of respondents supported the following:

- Banning contributions to local officials and candidates from developers with projects pending approval before the county (80 percent support);
- Requiring buyers of rifles and shotguns to have a qualifying license and be subject to a background check prior to purchase (78 percent);
- Increasing bus services from the Eastern Shore to destinations in Anne Arundel County and to the DC metro system (71 percent);
- Expanding bus routes or frequency within the county (68 percent);
- Expanding the current Chesapeake Bay Bridge so that it can handle more traffic (66 percent);
- Building a commuter rail line on Route 50 from the Eastern Shore to the DC metro system with a stop in Annapolis (62 percent);
- Requiring ninth graders to take a course about diversity and inclusion (57 percent support); and,
- Enabling local school boards to set the start and stop date for the school year (57 percent).

Other items involving tax proposals, subsidies to Laurel racetrack, moving the Preakness race from Pimlico to Laurel and adopting a system of public financing for local elections obtained less than a majority of support.

A section of the survey asked about town meetings held by County Executive Steuart Pittman. Only one third (34 percent) were aware of such meetings; just three percent of the respondents claimed to have attended. A majority (59 percent) believed that “he is helping to

¹ A few questions were only asked of the online panel including whether counties should have a veto over the building of a new bridge over the Chesapeake Bay and “making it easier for a woman to have a later term abortion if her life or health is threatened.” All open-ended questions were only asked of the online panel.
increase trust in local government.” More questions about the county executive are discussed later in the press release.

The survey also updated other benchmark questions such as the right vs. wrong direction for the county, state and country. Economic conditions ratings were also updated as well as questions about personal economic circumstances such as facing the possibility of unemployment, the cost of education and health care.

A detailed review of these issues as well as other results follows the summary of findings below. The review examines the impact of party and gender upon the results. The actual questionnaire and percentages can be found in Appendix A on page 53 of the press release. Open-ended comments offered by online respondents can be found in Appendices 1-19 starting on page 63.

**Summary of Main Findings**

**Most Important Problem Facing County Residents:** Additional details are available in the text (p. 5-7).

**Right Direction/Wrong Direction:** The percentage of those saying that the county was moving in the right direction was down from 57 percent last fall to 51 percent this spring. A year earlier the figure had been 47 percent, so this is within the recent general range. Regarding the state, there was a similar decrease from 63 to 58 percent from last fall to this spring. The percentage applicable to the country also returned to a similar percentage from one year ago (26 percent; this spring 27 percent) down from 31 percent last fall (pp. 8-13).

**Rating Economic Conditions - County, State and Nation:** For the county, the percentage saying “excellent” or “good” dropped from 75 percent last fall to 71 percent this spring. There was a small decrease for the state - from 70 percent last fall to 66 percent this spring. The federal level was essentially unchanged, dropping one point from 50 to 49 percent (pp. 14-18).

**Economic Conditions Applying to Respondents:** The changes from fall 2018 to spring 2019 were modest and mixed. Residents continued to express concern with inflation and taxes, but also featured a higher percentage receiving a salary/income increase. The analysis shows the impact of gender as well as income upon the likelihood that groups will be impacted by adverse conditions (pp. 18-21).

**Support or Opposition to Various Proposals at the National, State and Local levels:** Some of these were mentioned above and will be reviewed in more detail later in the press release.

National questions focused on issues such as declaring a national emergency on the border, using government shutdowns, tuition free college, legalizing recreational marijuana at the federal level (none received a majority disfavored) and well as a wealth tax and a strong effort to fight carbon emissions (both obtained majorities in support) (pp. 22-25).

**Health Insurance:** The online panel was asked about three approaches to providing health insurance – rating each option using a three-point scale indicating the level of appeal. Medicare-for-all was the least appealing and the most polarizing; an option to purchase
coverage on Medicaid or Medicare as well as one that “reinforces reliance upon private or employer-based coverage” were similarly appealing (pp. 25-27).

**State and Local Issues:** These focused on transportation alternatives dealing with the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and public transportation options and ways of raising county revenue. Raising the income tax was more popular (47 percent supporting – all figures are “support” scores below) than a work around the property tax/revenue cap (34 percent). There were two questions about racetracks – subsidies for the renewal of the Laurel racetrack (19 percent) and moving the Preakness race from Pimlico to Laurel (31 percent). There were also two questions about schools: requiring a diversity course for ninth graders (57 percent) and allowing local school boards to choose start/stop dates (also 57 percent). Late term abortion (51 percent) and long gun licensing (78 percent) were asked. There were two questions about the political process: banning contributions from developers with approvals pending from the county (80 percent) and adopting a system of public financing for local elections (41 percent) (pp. 28-34).

**County – How Serious are Problems.** Other than the drug and cost of living issues mentioned above, topics such as homelessness, sexual harassment and gun violence (among others) were discussed (pp. 34-36).

**Gerrymandering (Congressional Redistricting):** The online panel was asked about various options to deal with redistricting with a majority (59 percent) favoring the use of an “independent panel to draw the lines of congressional districts” (p. 37).

**County Executive Questions:** In addition to those mentioned above, there were other questions about the Citizens Advisory Committee for the General Development Plan (would adding non-developers increase trust), whether County Executive Pittman will better manage growth and development, and residents’ confidence that he will work well together with the county council to solve problems (11 percent very confident, 42 percent somewhat confident) (pp. 38-39).

**Presidential Voting Choices in 2016 and 2020.** There is an analysis of how ideology, party registration, strength of party identity and ideology interact with choices for candidates – both retrospectively for 2016 (Clinton/Trump) and prospectively (Trump/Democrat) (pp. 40-45).

The survey asked respondents to indicate their choice for president in 2020. They were offered the choice of voting for President Trump, voting for a Democrat, voting for another candidate or “don’t know.” The generic Democratic candidate (37 percent) edged out President Trump (33 percent), with an additional 16 percent seeking “another candidate.” Among online respondents, Joe Biden was the favorite alternative to President Trump (pp. 46-47).

**Job Approval for County Executive, Governor and President.** The job approval question was asked differently than in the past. Last spring, respondents were just given the choice of “approve or disapprove” while this spring they were allowed to use a scale strongly approve/disapprove, somewhat approve/disapprove. Combining the strongly and somewhat approval scores, there was a gradual rise in job approval for incumbents in all three positions:
Which Party Do You Trust? The spring 2019 figures showed both parties hovering in the same range as in the recent past. Democrats dropped from 37 to 34 percent while Republicans stayed at 37 percent (pp. 51-52).

Methodology: The survey polled a random sample of 622 county residents who were at least 18 years old, primarily using a database of listed and unlisted landline numbers. Telephone interviewing was conducted April 1-4 during evening hours. In addition, members of a CSLI web panel were also asked to participate in an online version of the survey during the period March 28 to April 5. The two data sources were merged for this analysis. There was about a four percent statistical margin of error for the combined sample; the error rate was higher for subgroups such as “Democrats” or “men.” The dataset was weighted by gender, political party and education to better represent the general population. College students were trained and used as telephone interviewers as part of a general introduction to social science research methods and polling.

Contact Dan Nataf, Ph.D., center director, for additional comments or questions at 410-777-2733 and ddmataf@aacc.edu. Check the CSLI website for results for information and press releases for this and previous surveys: www2.aacc.edu/csli.
The spring 2019 CSLI poll showed no real change in the percentage of respondents saying crime/drugs (30 percent, down slightly from 31 percent last fall and 37 percent one year ago).\(^2\)

The economy continued its decline as the most important problem since only 6 percent mentioned it. In spring 2012, 30 percent had mentioned it. Also notable is the long-term decline of the saliency of taxes: only four years ago (in spring 2015), it was mentioned by 25 percent; it was only cited by 7 percent this spring – same as last fall. As the fiscal side decreased in saliency, “growth and development” have increased: a year ago it was mentioned by only 10 percent but since it has risen to 14 percent. Three development relevant issues form a cluster: “growth/development,” transportation (8 percent) and the environment (6 percent). In spring 2018 the combined value for this cluster was 23 percent; this spring it was 28 percent, down somewhat from 31 percent last fall. Table 1a (p. 7) and Graph 1 (p. 6) summarize recent results.

Table 1 shows the overall results for this question as well as by gender – a thematic focus of this spring’s press release as it was last fall. Differences between men and women seemed greatest regarding drugs, education, development and crime (women expressing more concern); men seemed more focused on taxes and government waste. The relationship divided along similar lines as last fall.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crime</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drugs</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economy – (e.g., no jobs, high cost of living, business closing or losses)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education, problems with schools, quality, facilities, staff, discipline</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment (e.g., air or water pollution, saving the Bay)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government ethics – corrupt, immoral</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government waste – inefficient, spends too much</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government lack resources – for roads, schools, services</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth/overpopulation – too much development, poorly planned</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare (cost, access)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes – too high</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation problems/traffic congestion, lack of public transit</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other answer - write in:</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/No Answer</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Some of the issues mentioned under “Other answer” included immigration, aircraft noise, and the cost of housing.

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\(^2\) Previous surveys combined crime with drugs – so it is reported combined in this section. However, this spring the categories of crime and drugs were separately coded so the individual values are shown in Table 1. The combined values are shown on Graph 1 and on Table 1a.
Graph 1: Most Important Problem Fall '14 to Spring '19

Taxes – too high
Crime / drugs*
Economy
Education
Transportation
Growth / development
Environment
### Table 1a: “Most Important Problem Facing Residents” – Spring 2009 to Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sp '09</th>
<th>Fa '09</th>
<th>Sp '10</th>
<th>Fa '10</th>
<th>Sp '11</th>
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<th>Sp '12</th>
<th>Fa '12</th>
<th>Sp '13</th>
<th>Fa '13</th>
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<th>Fa '15</th>
<th>Sp '16</th>
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<th>Sp '17</th>
<th>Fa '17</th>
<th>Sp '18</th>
<th>Fa '18</th>
<th>Sp '19</th>
<th>Ave.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime / drugs*</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economy</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36</td>
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<td>48</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Growth / development</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/no answer</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>90</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: In this and other tables, totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Unless otherwise noted, all numeric values included in tables and graphs are percentages.

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3 From spring 2007 to spring 2010, surveys’ answer categories for “most important problem” included “lack of affordable housing” for interviewers to check off. Previously, that answer to the open-ended question would have been categorized under “economy” a practice which was resumed in fall 2010. The running totals in Table 1 combine both answers into the single “Economy” category.
County, State and Nation – Right or Wrong Direction?

Each survey includes a variety of benchmark questions – the “most important problem” has existed since the start of CSLI surveys while others such as the “right or wrong direction” questions for the county, state and country are more recent. Shown on Table 2 and Graph 2 are the results just for the county: “Overall, would you say that the county is headed in the right direction or in the wrong direction?” Due to a rise in the percentage saying “wrong direction,” there was a 6-point drop in the right direction score from last fall. This put the “right” direction score (51 percent) at the low end of the range over the last four years (47-60 percent).

Table 2: Anne Arundel County - Right vs. Wrong Direction Fall 2011 to Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fa '11</th>
<th>Sp '12</th>
<th>Fa '13</th>
<th>Sp '14</th>
<th>Fa '15</th>
<th>Sp '16</th>
<th>Fa '17</th>
<th>Sp '18</th>
<th>Fa '18</th>
<th>Sp '19</th>
<th>Avg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Right</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrong</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DK/NA</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Right-wrong</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graph 2: Right/Wrong Direction for Anne Arundel County, Fall 2009 to Spring 2019

Fa '09 Sp '10 Fa '10 Sp '11 Fa '11 Sp '12 Fa '12 Sp '13 Fa '13 Sp '14 Fa '14 Sp '15 Fa '15 Sp '16 Fa '16 Sp '17 Fa '17 Sp '18 Fa '18 Sp '19

- Green: Right direction
- Red: Wrong direction
- Gray: Unsure/NA
Gender and right/wrong direction for the county is shown on Table 2a. Table 2a shows that women (52 percent “right” direction) were generally a bit more optimistic about the county’s direction than men (49 percent), a reversal of the pattern from last fall.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direction</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Right direction</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrong direction</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2a: Gender and County’s Direction

Given the tendency for women to be a larger part of the Democratic electorate than men, and noting that last fall (prior to the election of Democrat Steuart Pittman as county executive, replacing Republican Steve Schuh) the tendency was reversed with men more positive than women, the relationship between party registration and right direction for the county was explored.

Table 2b shows that there was a sharp reversal of perceptions: last fall, 67 percent of Republicans thought the county was going in the right direction; this fall only 40 percent did. Conversely, only 48 percent of Democrats viewed the county in a positive manner last fall; after Pittman’s election, 62 percent did. Since the drop for Republicans (27 percentage points) was larger than the rise for Democrats (14 percentage points), this in combination with the 14-point decrease among unaffiliated voters explains the overall reduction in the right direction score for spring 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Right Direction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fa ’18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrats</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republicans</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaffiliated</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2b: Right/Wrong Direction for County by Party Registration, Fall 2018 vs. Spring 2019

Focusing next on the state and nation as shown in Table 3 (which includes the county just for comparison), the state dropped from 63 percent “right direction” score to 58 percent this spring – but this was still the highest “right” direction scores of any jurisdiction. By contrast, the nation still trailed by a large margin, and dropped from 31 percent last fall to only 27 percent this spring. Looking at the trends shown in Graph 3, it is apparent that the right direction percentages have oscillated quite a bit over the last few surveys, but last fall seemed to be a recent high point at all three levels.
Table 3: Right/Wrong Direction for County, State and Nation, Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall 2018</th>
<th>Spring 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Right</td>
<td>Wrong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nation</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graph 3: County, State and Federal "Right" Direction
Fall 2012 to Spring 2019

- O’Malley period
- Hogan period
Gender and right direction scores shown in Table 3a portray a similar general pattern for both fall 2018 and spring 2019 in that women at all or most levels were less positive than men, with the gap being the most extreme at the national level. In fall 2018 the gap at the national level was 19 percentage points (vs. 15 for county and 9 for state). By spring 2019, the same pattern prevailed except for the county level as described above. The gap at the national level was 13 percentage points, but only 3 points for the state and county. The 4-point drop in overall scores for the nation was mostly due to a 7-point drop in right direction scores among men.

Table 3a: Right Direction Percentages for County, State and Nation by Gender, Fall 2018 vs. Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>M-W Gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F18</td>
<td>S19</td>
<td>F18</td>
<td>S19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>57</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>63</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3b shows that much of decline in right direction scores from fall 2018 to spring 2019 at the state and national levels was due to sharp declines among Republicans: a 22-point decline for the state and a 16-point decline for the nation. This seems consistent with drops in right direction scores among men shown in Table 3a.

Table 3b: Right/Wrong Direction for State and Nation by Party Registration, Fall 2018 vs. Spring 2019 (Right Direction Percentages)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Right Direction County</th>
<th>Right Direction State</th>
<th>Right Direction Nation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F18</td>
<td>S19</td>
<td>F18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrats</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republicans</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaffiliated</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The online sample was able to add open-ended answers to some questions. Comments illustrating the types of remarks respondents offered are only included for this section (below); all other comments (as well as the full list of comments for this section) can be found in appendices at the back of this press release.
OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS – Right direction for County/State/Nation:

Positive comments about the county:

- “County executive seems to have lined up his priorities well.”
- “County Executive Pittman is very progressive, and I hope we will see positive changes.”
- “Generally, I feel that things are looking up.”
- “I do think that the new county executive and county council will make positive changes.”

Negative comments about the county:

- “I think that we keep on adding more housing, only our highways can’t handle the volume.”
- “It appears that crime is increasing due to the opioid epidemic.”
- “More immediate acknowledgement of climate change and its effects locally is badly needed.”
- “Most is in right direction, BUT there is certainly too much growth and over-development.”

Positive comments about the state were typically focused on Governor Hogan and split control over state government:

- “As long as we have Hogan we will be OK.”
- “Gov. Hogan is doing a great job in addressing the needs of the State.”
- “Maryland is still progressive in many important areas such as gun control and women’s reproductive rights as compared with many other states.”
- “The state has problems, crime, drugs, guns, finances, but has reasonable attitudes.”

Negative comments about the state:

- “$15 minimum wage - too much, too quick.”
- “Democratic Party resistance to common sense Gubernatorial initiatives combined with pushing their multiple leftwing initiatives and more taxes.”
- “Education ranking of our state has taken a nosedive under the current Governor. Very short sighted.”
- Hogan is doing great but the veto overrides of his tax cut proposals & school schedule by Dems are idiotic! Pass euthanasia!”
- “Overdevelopment, need more funds into education, environment, less fear of taxes.”

Positive comments about the country were focused on the Trump record:

- “Economy is up, jobs are up. Foreign policy has improved and support for Israel is unprecedented and fixing past mistakes from Obama and previous presidents.”
- “Fantastic move forward for the USA as a result of President Trump and his agenda despite leftist Democrat party.”
- “Less government is the correct direction for USA.”
- “President Trump is doing a great job in spite of biased press, Democrats, RINOs.”

Negative comments about the country focused on problems associated with President Trump and his vision or agenda:

- “Awful president, who is eroding the core values of our country.”
• “Illegal immigration and giving our tax dollars to them.”
• “Leadership taking the country down the wrong road at all turns.”
• “The Republican leaders in government and their president are killing this country.”
Rating Economic Conditions – Anne Arundel County

Since March 2002, the CSLI semi-annual survey has asked a benchmark question about the economy: “How would you rate economic conditions in Anne Arundel County – ‘excellent,’ ‘good,’ ‘only fair’ or ‘poor’?”

As shown on Table 4 and Graph 4, the last two years have been high points in recent economic ratings with scores ranging from the spring 2017 combined “excellent+good” score of 65 percent to last fall’s high of 75 percent. This spring, the score dropped to 71 points.
Table 4: Perceptions of County Economic Conditions – Spring 2009 to Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sp '09</th>
<th>Fa '09</th>
<th>Sp '10</th>
<th>Fa '10</th>
<th>Sp '11</th>
<th>Fa '11</th>
<th>Sp '12</th>
<th>Fa '12</th>
<th>Sp '13</th>
<th>Fa '13</th>
<th>Sp '14</th>
<th>Fa '14</th>
<th>Sp '15</th>
<th>Fa '15</th>
<th>Sp '16</th>
<th>Fa '16</th>
<th>Sp '17</th>
<th>Fa '17</th>
<th>Sp '18</th>
<th>Fa '18</th>
<th>Sp '19</th>
<th>Avg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent+</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>65</td>
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<td>65</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>43</td>
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<td>62</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>35</td>
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<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>Don't know</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Rating Economic Conditions – Maryland

Since spring 2009, the question about rating economic conditions has been extended to the state of Maryland and the country overall.

The combined “excellent+good” score for spring 2019 was down 4 points to 66 percent. This score was on the high end of the recent range as it still equaled a 17-point increase since fall 2016 (see Table 5).

Table 5: Perceptions of State Economic Conditions – Fall 2011 to Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fa ’11</th>
<th>Sp ’12</th>
<th>Fa ’13</th>
<th>Sp ’14</th>
<th>Fa ’14</th>
<th>Sp ’15</th>
<th>Fa ’15</th>
<th>Sp ’16</th>
<th>Fa ’16</th>
<th>Sp ’17</th>
<th>Fa ’17</th>
<th>Sp ’18</th>
<th>Fa ’18</th>
<th>Sp ’19</th>
<th>Av.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent+Good</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Good</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA/DK</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>101</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rating Economic Conditions – The National Economy

As shown on Graph 5, economic appraisal of the national economy has always lagged significantly behind both the county and state. In the recent past, the combined indicator (excellent + good) for the country increased markedly – first rising to 43 points in fall 2017 – a 15-point increase over spring 2017 and then rising a bit more in spring 2018 to 46 percent. This spring, the national score followed the state and county ones with a small dip from 50 to 49 percent saying that the national economy was excellent or good.

These findings of little change in consumer sentiments in the CSLI surveys regarding the federal level are consistent with those of other studies. For example, the University of Michigan survey of consumers has a measure of consumer sentiment putting the fall 2018 figure at 98.6; the most recent score of March 29 was nearly identical: 98.4.4 Just as the CSLI scores were consistent, so were those of residents nationally polled.

Table 6 shows the actual CSLI percentages over time and the limited variation over the last three surveys.

---

4 See https://tradingeconomics.com/united-states/consumer-confidence.
### Table 6: Perceptions of National Economic Conditions—Fall 2011 to Spring 2019

|        | Fa '11 | Sp '12 | Fa '13 | Sp '13 | Fa '14 | Sp '14 | Fa '15 | Sp '15 | Fa '16 | Sp '16 | Fa '17 | Sp '17 | Fa '18 | Sp '18 | Fa '19 | Sp '19 | Avg. |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Excellent+Good | 9      | 13     | 16     | 12     | 14     | 21     | 16     | 27     | 21     | 24     | 20     | 28     | 43     | 46     | 50     | 49     | 20    |
| Excellent     | 2      | 1      | 2      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 3      | 7      | 13     | 12     | 2     |
| Good          | 7      | 12     | 14     | 10     | 13     | 20     | 15     | 24     | 20     | 23     | 19     | 27     | 40     | 39     | 37     | 37     | 18    |
| Fair          | 28     | 47     | 37     | 38     | 31     | 41     | 42     | 32     | 40     | 40     | 38     | 46     | 40     | 36     | 33     | 33     | 39    |
| Poor          | 62     | 39     | 46     | 47     | 55     | 37     | 40     | 37     | 36     | 34     | 40     | 23     | 17     | 17     | 13     | 16     | 39    |
| NA/DK         | 2      | 2      | 1      | 3      | 1      | 1      | 2      | 4      | 3      | 2      | 3      | 4      | 1      | 2      | 3      | 3     | 2     |
| Total         | 101    | 101    | 100    | 100    | 101    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 99     | 101    | 101    | 100    | 99     | 101   | 100  |

### Graph 5: Excellent+Good Scores Spring 2009 to Spring 2019 - County, State and Nation

- **County**: Green line
- **State**: Orange line
- **Country**: Blue line
Gender differences were apparent regarding perceptions of economic conditions. As shown on Table 6a, women were consistently less likely to say excellent+good for any level of government, but especially at the national level. The 15-point gender gap for spring 2019 at the national level was nearly the same as the 13-point gender gap for “right direction” showing the especially negative perception of the national scene by women.

Table 6a: Gender and Percentage Saying “Excellent+Good” for Economic Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Men F18</th>
<th>Men S19</th>
<th>Women F18</th>
<th>Women S19</th>
<th>Gap S19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>F18 75</td>
<td>F18 80</td>
<td>S19 71</td>
<td>F18 67</td>
<td>S19 67</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>F18 70</td>
<td>F18 75</td>
<td>S19 66</td>
<td>F18 62</td>
<td>S19 62</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nation</td>
<td>F18 50</td>
<td>F18 59</td>
<td>S19 49</td>
<td>F18 44</td>
<td>S19 44</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Economic Conditions Applying to Respondents

Respondents were asked: “Thinking about your personal circumstances, please tell me whether any of these economic conditions apply to you or your household.”

Table 7 shows the results for recent CSLI surveys. The fall 2014 survey significantly modified the list of items included – two new items were added (“Hard to afford the cost of education” and “Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries”), while several previous items were dropped. Other modifications have occurred over the years, such as the inclusion of questions asking about a “salary increase or other increase in income recently” and whether the respondent had “found a new or better job recently” – these items were introduced in fall 2011. In fall 2016, the healthcare question was changed from “healthcare insurance is unavailable, too expensive or inadequate” to “unable to afford healthcare or medicine during the last year.” The rationale for this change was to make the question accord with a question asked by Gallup Inc. which claimed to measure healthcare insecurity. Since fall 2018, the survey reverted to prior form to note whether there have been changes in the value of this measure over time.

Generally, the yearly changes from fall 2018 to spring 2019 showed a mild rise in cost of living concerns. There was a 4-point rise in the percentage of those citing “wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living” which rose from 36 to 40 percent. There were also some increases in the percentages saying that it was “hard to afford the cost of education” (up to 37 percent from 32 percent in fall 2018) and “hard to afford the cost of food and groceries (up to 25 percent from 20 percent last fall). On the other hand, there was a 9-point rise in the percentage of those saying that they had “received a salary increase or other increase in income recently.” Regarding perceptions of health care, there was a small decrease from 35 to 32 percent citing it as a concern, very close to the average value of 33 percent.

5 See http://www.gallup.com/poll/192914/healthcare-insecurity-record-low.aspx for more information about this measure. The most recent Gallup measure for this question had a value of 15.5 percent, similar to average CSLI value of 17 percent. However, one might question how well it actually measures “healthcare insecurity” since the more general framing of the question in our previous surveys usually produced a score about twice as high as this measure. Unfortunately, Gallup no longer appears to be including this question in its Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index. See http://www.well-beingindex.com/
Table 7: Economic Conditions Applying to Personal Circumstances – Fall 2010 to Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taxes are too high in relation to the govt. services provided</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard to afford the cost of education</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive or inadequate/</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unable to afford healthcare or medicine during the last year (starts fall</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facing the possibility of unemployment</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Found a new or better job recently</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant losses in your stock or retirement accounts</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay in making a major purchase such as a home or car</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard to afford cost of utilities such as electricity or gas</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard to afford cost of transportation</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unable to find affordable housing</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gender based differences were apparent among these measures (see Table 7a). Both in fall 2018 and spring 2019, women were less likely to convey positive economic conditions with an identical 9-point gap for the item “wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living” and a 12 to 13-point gap regarding “hard to afford the cost of food and groceries.” Men were consistently more likely to report salary or other increases in income (5-point advantage in both surveys). Other differences were less consistent or smaller.

Table 7a: Gender and Economic Conditions/Experiences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Gap^6 F18</th>
<th>Gap^6 S19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taxes are too high in relation to the govt. services provided</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>-9</td>
<td>-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard to afford the cost of education</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>-6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>-12</td>
<td>-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive or inadequate/</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>-8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facing the possibility of unemployment</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Found a new or better job recently</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^6 The gap is measured by subtracting the score for women from the score for men. A negative gap value indicates that the item had a higher score among women than among men.
Economic Conditions Applying to Individuals/Households – Socio-economic Factors

Table 8 shows the impact of income on the indicators of economic conditions applying to personal circumstances. Dividing the sample of respondents into those earning $75,000 or less into one group and those earning over $75,000 into a second group, most desirable outcomes favor the higher income group.

The largest differences applied to questions about the costs of food/groceries, healthcare and education. The lower income group clearly struggled more to pay for such expenses. In spring 2019, there was an especially large gap regarding the affordability of food and groceries, which grew from a 21-point gap to a 36-point one. As in the past, the lower income group was also considerably less likely to have received an increase in income lately (a 23-point gap). As in the past, the main conclusion remains that lower income households are substantially more susceptible to negative economic conditions. Perhaps due to the increased vulnerability among those in this group, they were not much different from the higher income group in their attitude about taxes.

Table 8: Income Groups and Economic Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Sp ‘19 Under $75,000</th>
<th>Sp ‘19 $75,000+</th>
<th>Under $75k-Over 75K</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hard to afford cost of food and groceries</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unable to afford healthcare or medicine during the last year</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard to afford the cost of education</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facing the possibility of unemployment</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Found a new or better job recently</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Desirable outcomes are bolded.
Agreement with Statements About National, State and Local Issues

A section of the questionnaire focused on either specific proposals, statements or actions relevant to the country, state or county. Respondents were asked to express their support or opposition to each statement that was presented to them. Due to space constraints, all national issues as well as some state/local ones were only asked of the online panel (N=237, margin of error is 6 percent vs. 4 for overall sample).

Table 9 presents six questions focused on the national level. Support was greatest (59 percent support) for the proposal to impose a 2 percent wealth tax on households worth at least $50 million. This was an idea floated by Senator Elizabeth Warren in her presidential quest. This percentage was nearly identical to the 61 percent found in a Morning Consult poll in February. Only 20 percent opposed the measure in that poll; a slightly larger number (32 percent) opposed it in the spring 2019 CSLI survey.7

Table 9a shows the results by party registration. Unlike the Morning Consult survey that found that over half of Republicans favored the wealth tax, the CSLI poll found that only 29 percent of Republicans favored Warren’s proposal compared to 80 percent of Democrats and 63 percent of unaffiliated voters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure/NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A 2 percent wealth tax on households worth at least $50 million</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong efforts to cut carbon emissions to limit climate change, even if it requires lifestyle changes and higher costs</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legalizing recreational marijuana at the federal level</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making public colleges and universities “tuition free”</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Trump’s decision to declare a national emergency and redirect funds to build a wall on our border with Mexico</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using a government shutdown to obtain a desired policy outcome</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graph 6 shows that on two issues, a majority of unaffiliated voters sided with Democrat majorities: the wealth tax and efforts to cut carbon emissions. On the legalization of recreational marijuana, unaffiliated voters (37 percent support) were closer to the Republican position (23 percent) than the Democratic one (60 percent). They were much closer to Democrats in opposition to using a government shutdown to obtain a desired policy outcome (Democrats support was only 11 percent, nearly identical to the unaffiliated score of 13 percent, and down considerably from the Republican score of 44 percent). Democrats and unaffiliated voters viewed negatively President Trump’s decision to declare a national emergency to redirect funding for a barrier on the Mexican border (Democrats 10 percent, unaffiliated 23 percent) while Republicans favored that move by a large majority (73 percent). Gaps between Democrats and Republicans on these issues are shown on Graph 7.

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7 This and other polls regarding taxes on the wealthy were covered in the Washington Post article “Over 60 percent of voters – including half of Republicans – support Elizabeth Warren’s wealth tax,” February 5. See https://www.washingtonpost.com/us-policy/2019/02/05/over-percent-voters-including-half-republicans-support-elizabeth-warrens-wealth-tax/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.f649ba673a9f
Table 9a: Support for National Statements or Proposals by Party Registration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Level of support by party =&gt;</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaffiliated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A 2 percent wealth tax on households worth at least $50 million</td>
<td></td>
<td>59</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong efforts to cut carbon emissions to limit climate change, even if it requires lifestyle changes and higher costs</td>
<td></td>
<td>57</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legalizing recreational marijuana at the federal level</td>
<td></td>
<td>43</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making public colleges and universities “tuition free”</td>
<td></td>
<td>37</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Trump’s decision to declare a national emergency and redirect funds to build a wall on our border with Mexico</td>
<td></td>
<td>34</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using a government shutdown to obtain a desired policy outcome</td>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graph 6: Percentage of Support by Party Registration for National Issues
A 2 percent wealth tax on households worth at least $50 million

Strong efforts to cut carbon emissions to limit climate change, even if it requires lifestyle changes and higher costs

Legalizing recreational marijuana at the federal level

Making public colleges and universities “tuition free”

President Trump’s decision to declare a national emergency and redirect funds to build a wall on our border with Mexico

Using a government shutdown to obtain a desired policy outcome

Graph 7: Democratic-Republican Percentages Saying "Support" of National Proposals
Table 10 shows the results for these questions by gender. Women were consistently more favorable to Democratic and liberal positions on these issues, with women much more likely to favor a wealth tax, cuts in carbon emissions or making public colleges and universities tuition free (although regarding the latter, a majority did not support the proposal, unlike for the other two mentioned). The biggest difference between men and women was regarding the declaration of a national emergency to redirect funding for a wall with Mexico. There was only one item showing a relative gender consensus: the legalization of recreational marijuana at the federal level (3-point gap).

Table 10: Support for National Statements or Proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A 2 percent wealth tax on households worth at least $50 million</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong efforts to cut carbon emissions to limit climate change, even if it requires lifestyle changes and higher costs</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legalizing recreational marijuana at the federal level</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making public colleges and universities “tuition free”</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Trump’s decision to declare a national emergency and redirect funds to build a wall on our border with Mexico</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using a government shutdown to obtain a desired policy outcome</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Health Care Approaches

Another section of the survey focused on the national health care debate by asking respondents to indicate how appealing – very, somewhat, or not very – were three different approaches: (1) one that reinforces reliance upon private or employer-based coverage; (2) one that provides an option to purchase coverage on Medicaid or Medicare; and (3) One that largely replaces the existing system with a Medicare-for-all approach.

Table 11 shows that only the Medicare-for-all approach did not receive a majority of “very+somewhat” appeal. Both the private/employer option (64 percent) and the Medicaid/Medicare buy-in options (72 percent) received relatively high support. The Medicare-for-all choice was sharply polarizing: about the same percentage perceived it as “very appealing” as with the other options but relatively few found it “somewhat appealing.” By far the largest group found it “not very appealing” (46 percent).
Table 1: Health Care Approaches – Level of Appeal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approach</th>
<th>Level of appeal=&gt;</th>
<th>Very</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Not very</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One that reinforces reliance upon private or employer-based coverage</td>
<td></td>
<td>33</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One that provides an option to purchase coverage on Medicaid or Medicare</td>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One that largely replaces the existing system with a Medicare-for-all approach</td>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Looking at party registration shows how politicized these approaches have become. Table 11a shows the percentages of those saying “very appealing” to each approach by party registration. Clearly, Republicans are much more enthusiastic about an approach relying upon private/employer coverage, with nearly half (48 percent) of them saying “very appealing” compared to only 18 percent of Democrats and 24 percent of unaffiliated voters. This seems consistent with the underlying conservative governing philosophy espoused by Republicans.

Table 11a: “Very Appealing” Support for Health Care Approaches by Party Registration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Level of support by party =&gt;</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaffiliated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One that reinforces reliance upon private or employer-based coverage</td>
<td></td>
<td>33</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One that provides an option to purchase coverage on Medicaid or Medicare</td>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One that largely replaces the existing system with a Medicare-for-all approach</td>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Another approach featured an expansion of reforms begun by the Affordable Care Act by proposing a “public option” allowing individuals to purchase coverage through Medicaid or Medicare. The percentage of “very appealing” support never reached a majority (38 percent) even among Democrats, although they had the highest levels of such support.

By contrast, the Medicare-for-all option nearly reached a majority (47 percent) for Democrats, but it was deeply polarizing as only nine percent of Republicans seemed enthusiastic about it. The level of support from unaffiliated voters was nearly identical for all three alternatives.

By combining the two highest levels of support, it is evident that the most favored approach is the public buy-in option as it gains support from 82 percent of Democrats, 61 percent of Republicans and 69 percent of unaffiliated voters for an average of 71 percent overall. This was more than the private/employer option (66 percent) and the Medicare-for-all (41 percent). These findings indicate that there may be room for compromise on some reform other than the Medicare-for-all approach.
A look at gender and health care approaches shows that (see Table 11b) men and women did not differ dramatically regarding these alternatives. Differences in scores for the “very appealing” level were not very large.

Table 11b: “Very Appealing” Support for Health Care Approaches by Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Level of support by gender —&gt;</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One that reinforces reliance upon private or employer-based coverage</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One that provides an option to purchase coverage on Medicaid or Medicare</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One that largely replaces the existing system with a Medicare-for-all approach</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>32</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
State and Local Proposals

The array of state and local “support/oppose” questions is listed in Table 12. They are divided into sections on transportation, raising revenues, racetracks, schools, abortion, guns and the political process.

Table 12: Support for Various State and Local Proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State and Local Issues</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure/NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transportation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allowing affected counties to have a veto over any building of a new bridge over the Chesapeake Bay <em>(ONLINE ONLY)</em></td>
<td>46</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expanding the current Bay Bridge so that it can handle more traffic</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing bus services from the Eastern Shore to destinations in Anne Arundel County and to the DC metro system</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building a commuter rail line on Route 50 from the Eastern Shore to the DC metro system with a stop in Annapolis.</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expanding bus routes or frequency within our county</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing state gas tax for road improvements and transit</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Raising Revenues</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raising revenue for schools and other priorities by increasing the local income tax less than one percentage point to levels found in Prince George’s, Howard and Montgomery counties</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legally bypassing limits imposed by the property revenue/tax cap to raise funds dedicated to public schools</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Raceticks</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having Maryland provide matching subsidies for the renewal of Laurel race track</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving the Preakness from Pimlico to Laurel race track.</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Schools</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requiring ninth graders to take a course about diversity and inclusion</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enabling local school boards to set the start and stop date for the school year</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Abortion</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making it easier for a woman to have a late term abortion if her life or health is threatened <em>(ONLINE ONLY)</em></td>
<td>51</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Guns</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requiring buyers of rifles and shotguns to have a qualifying license and be subject to a background check prior to purchase</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Political Process</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banning contributions to local officials and candidates from developers with projects pending approval before the county</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adopting a system of public financing of local elections as some neighboring counties have done.</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transportation

The transportation section focused on Chesapeake Bay crossing ideas as well as various transit alternatives. The first of these addressed the idea that counties that are affected by the building of a new bridge over the Chesapeake Bay should have a veto on any such proposal. Senator Ed Reilly of Crofton proposed such a bill to give Anne Arundel County parity with Eastern Shore counties that had previously gained this ability. As reported in The Capital, “Senate Bill 107 would add Anne Arundel County to a list of Eastern Shore counties that can veto any toll bridge or road as long as a majority of affected counties agree to do so. The bill also creates new law granting Anne Arundel County veto power over bridge projects spanning the Chesapeake Bay and affecting the county.”

Table 12 shows that the idea did not receive a majority of support (46 percent). Among non-fiscal proposals, this obtained the lowest total.

Better received was the idea that the current bridge might be expanded “so that it can handle more traffic” which gained a two-thirds majority.

Alternatives for expanding access from the Eastern Shore to Anne Arundel County and beyond were favorably received. One proposal suggested “increasing bus services from the Eastern Shore to destinations in Anne Arundel County and to the DC metro system” – 71 percent supported this idea. Another proposal offered “building a commuter rail line on Route 50 from the Eastern Shore to the DC metro system with a stop in Annapolis.” A large majority (62 percent) favored this option.

There was also support for “expanding bus routes or frequency within our county” with 68 percent agreeing with this idea.

Less clear was how to pay for these measures. The only option offered in this survey was “increasing state gas tax for road improvements and transit” but this was supported by only 38 percent.

Table 13 presents these transportation issues overall and by party registration and gender.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transfer for Transportation Proposals by Party and Gender</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dems</th>
<th>Reps</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allowing affected counties to have a veto over any building of a new bridge over the Chesapeake Bay</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expanding the current Bay Bridge so that it can handle more traffic</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing bus services from the Eastern Shore to destinations in Anne Arundel County and to the DC metro system</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building a commuter rail line on Route 50 from the Eastern Shore to the DC metro system with a stop in Annapolis.</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expanding bus routes or frequency within our county</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing state gas tax for road improvements and transit</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

As illustrated on Graph 8, Democrats embraced all of these measures more than either Republicans or unaffiliated respondents, with the exception of bridge expansion. As the other transit options fit better within the historical views of liberals and Democrats that development should be “transit oriented” and car-based sprawl avoided, these results aren’t surprising. Nor is it surprising that a thin majority of Democrats would support an increase in state gas taxes – although the proposal mentioned both “road improvements” which Democrats might favor less as well as “transit” which they might support to a greater degree. In general, the attitude of fostering public transportation options generally seemed well accepted; how to pay for it remains more controversial.

Women agreed with Democrats with nearly identical scores for all measures other than the tax proposal.
Raising County Revenue

Table 12 (p. 28) also includes two questions about raising local revenue to support either the county generally ("increasing the local income tax less than one percentage point to levels found in Prince George’s, Howard and Montgomery counties") or just for public schools ("legally bypassing limits imposed by the property revenue/tax cap to raise funds dedicated to public schools").

The first of these split respondents with 47 percent both supporting and opposing this proposal. The other option received much less support (34 percent). Both the overall "support" totals as well as the scores by party and gender are shown on Table 14.

Democrats are much more inclined to support a raise in income taxes (60 percent) than are Republicans (36 percent). Unaffiliated respondents were a bit closer to the Republican stance (46 percent). Women were not as enthusiastic about increasing income taxes as were Democrats, but a majority (51 percent) did support the measure, unlike men (42 percent).

According to The Capital, “a law tucked into the Maryland Code allows counties to bypass their tax caps as long as the money raised is strictly related to education spending.”9 The public did not seem receptive to this idea as not even a majority of Democrats (47 percent) supported it.

Table 14: Support Percentages for Revenue Proposals by Party and Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dems</th>
<th>Reps</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raising revenue for schools and other priorities by increasing the local income tax less than one percentage point to levels found in Prince George’s, Howard and Montgomery counties</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legally bypassing limits imposed by the property revenue/tax cap to raise funds dedicated to public schools</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Racetracks

Two questions dealt with horse racing and the controversies associated with Pimlico and Laurel racetracks. The first focused on the idea of racetracks – and specifically the Laurel site – receiving subsidies from Maryland. An article in The Capital discussed the idea of having “The Stronach Group use state bonds to pay for upgrades at horseracing facilities in Laurel and Bowie.” The article goes on to say that the Senate bill would allow “bonds [to be] paid back using state subsidies from slot machines in the state’s Racetrack Facility Renewal Account.”10

Respondents were not informed about the details of how the subsidies would be provided, but only told that they would be provided by the state for the renewal of the Laurel site. As presented, the idea did not gain much support as only 19 percent favored it (see Table 15).

A second question asked about moving the Preakness race from its historical Pimlico site to the Laurel track instead. While receiving somewhat more support (31 percent) than the subsidy idea, opponents were still more numerous (43 percent). A large number (27 percent) did not have an answer to this proposal.

---

### Table 15: Support for Revenue Proposals by Party and Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dems</th>
<th>Reps</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Having Maryland provide matching subsidies for the renewal of Laurel race track</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving the Preakness from Pimlico to Laurel race track.</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The results in Table 15 show that there were no partisan or gender impacts on the subsidy question. There were more noticeable variances in responses to the Preakness issue, with men and Republicans more enthusiastic about it than Democrats or women.

### Schools

Two school related issues were on the survey. One focused on a course to be required of all ninth graders dealing with diversity and inclusion. According to The Capital, “The course — centered around embracing diversity and cultivating inclusion — will become a graduation requirement this fall.”

This proposal gained a majority in support (57 percent).

A second issue related to the ability of local school boards to set the start and stop dates for the school year. The Democratically controlled General Assembly passed this measure during the 2019 session; Governor Hogan vetoed it since it would, “undo his 2016 executive order that the public school year in Maryland must start after Labor Day.” According to The Capital, “Hogan said the school bill “runs directly counter to an action favored by the vast majority of Marylanders.” However, the fact that a clear majority in Anne Arundel County favored giving authority to local school boards makes it more likely that the legislature’s veto override was more acceptable – at least in this county.

### Table 16: Support for Revenue Proposals by Party and Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dems</th>
<th>Reps</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requiring ninth graders to take a course about diversity and inclusion</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enabling local school boards to set the start and stop date for the school year</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The results in Table 16 show that both of these issues resurrected partisan and gender differences. The sharper differences were on the requirement for a diversity course, as only about one-third (35 percent) of Republicans supported this compared to 77 percent of Democrats (and 68 percent of women vs. 45 percent of men). More surprising was the fact that a majority of Republicans supported granting local school boards the ability to set start/stop dates – in apparent defiance of the stance of the Republican governor. A majority of men (51 percent) also supported this measure, although Democrats (67 percent) and women (63 percent) supported it more.

---

Abortion, Guns

Two issues touched on general controversies over women’s right to abortion and gun control. As these issues touch the heart of differences among partisans and liberals/conservatives, it was likely to produce large splits within the sample. On the abortion proposal which “would make it easier for a woman to have a late term abortion if her life or health is threatened” a majority (51 percent) supported the idea. There was over a 50-percentage point divide between Democrats (76 percent) and Republicans (25 percent). Interestingly, about the same percentage (around 25 percent) in either party broke with the position adopted by the party majority. Women (60 percent) were more likely than men (45 percent) to support this statement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Making it easier for a woman to have a late term abortion if her life or health is threatened (only asked online)</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dems</th>
<th>Reps</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requiring buyers of rifles and shotguns to have a qualifying license and be subject to a background check prior to purchase</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dems</th>
<th>Reps</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On the gun control idea, The Capital reports, “House Bill 786 would require Maryland residents acquire a long gun qualification license before purchasing said weapon. This would regulate shotguns and hunting rifles much like handguns. Purchasers first have to get the license.”13 As shown on Table 17, this idea was widely supported by respondents (78 percent overall supported it). Some two-thirds of Republicans (63 percent) and men (66 percent) also supported it – among Democrats and women support was nearly unanimous. Gun control measures in previous CSLI surveys have gained a similar level of support.

Political Process

Two questions asked about the political process. The first dealt with the idea that developers with projects pending approval before the county should not be able to provide local officials and candidates with contributions. The second proposed adopting a system of public financing similar to that found in neighboring counties. Table 18 shows the overall scores as well as those by party and gender.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Banning contributions to local officials and candidates from developers with projects pending approval before the county</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dems</th>
<th>Reps</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>77</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adopting a system of public financing of local elections as some neighboring counties have done.</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dems</th>
<th>Reps</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The idea of banning contributions was proposed by Steuart Pittman when running for county executive last year. Once in office, he sought enabling legislation from the Maryland General Assembly. According to The Capital, “Anne Arundel County Executive Steuart Pittman was met with questions on his campaign finance bill Friday [Feb. 15], with House of Delegates members citing concerns about effects on small businesses, First Amendment violations and County Council involvement.” The constitutional and other concerns delayed progress on his proposal. However, what is clear is that this is one of the most bipartisan issues polled by the CSLI spring 2019 survey as an equal percentage of Republicans and Democrats favored it (81 percent). There were only small differences between men and women as well.

The second idea of adopting a system of public financing of local elections was based on an idea long fostered by Representative John Sarbanes and is based on having government offer candidates funding matching small donations by individuals. Howard and Montgomery counties have instituted some version of this idea; Baltimore City was considering it.\footnote{See \url{https://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/politics/bs-md-ci-public-election-financing-20180423-story.html}}

The question in the survey does not go into any detail explaining how the system of public financing would work, which might account for the large 27 percent saying unsure or don’t know. Among those who offered an answer, a plurality (41 percent) favored it, while 33 percent opposed it. Apparently, this idea needs better explication so that citizens can determine its merits. Table 18 shows that this idea has twice as much support among Democrats (51 percent) than Republicans (25 percent) while gender differences were insignificant.

**Seriousness of Problems in Anne Arundel County**

A separate section of the survey asked residents to say whether a given problem was very, somewhat or not very serious. Table 19 shows the overall results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>How serious=&gt;</th>
<th>Very</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Not very</th>
<th>N.A.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drug use among high school students</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High cost of living</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poorly managed growth</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea level rise/climate change (online only)</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of affordable housing</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of convenient public transportation</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gun violence in public spaces</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low college graduation rates due to high cost</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual harassment</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police harassment of minorities</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The item gaining the highest “very serious” score was “drug use among high school students” (60 percent). Other top ranked problems were “high cost of living” (56 percent), “poorly managed growth” (48 percent) and sea level rise/climate change (44 percent – online panel only).
Table 19a shows the percentages of Democrats, Republicans, unaffiliated voters as well as men and women saying “very serious” regarding each issue. The bolded scores are either the highest among party members or by gender. It is clear that on almost every issue, Democrats and women think the issues mentioned are “very serious” more often than Republicans, unaffiliated voters as well as men.

### Table 19a: Very Serious by Party Registration and Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drug use among high school students</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High cost of living</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poorly managed growth</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea level rise/climate change (online only)</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of affordable housing</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of convenient public transportation</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gun violence in public spaces</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low college graduation rates due to high cost</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual harassment</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police harassment of minorities</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graph 9 shows the differences between parties and gender by subtracting the Republican score from the Democratic one, and the score for men from the score for women. The item that most distinguishes party groupings is sea level rise/climate change. The difference (57 percentage points) is nearly twice as large as for the next item – gun violence in public spaces (32 points). Gender differences generally follow a similar overall pattern, but the scores are closer in range. In all cases, Democrats and women have scores that exceed those for Republicans and men except for drug use among high school students – for which there were *no* partisan differences and small gender differences.
Graph 9: Percentage Saying Very Serious - Dem Minus Rep; Women Minus Men
Gerrymandering (Congressional Redistricting): Three Approaches

The online panel was asked to reflect on how congressional districts are determined and to offer views regarding the best option. At the current time, the redistricting process relies upon choices made by the governor and the Maryland General Assembly (option 3 among the choices).

Governor Hogan has suggested using a model he invoked for looking at changes in Maryland’s 6th congressional district. According to conservative commentator Brian Griffiths, “Hogan announced that he was appointing a nine-member, non-partisan redistricting commission to redraw the unconstitutional districts. The commission will bring together three Democrats, three Republicans, and three unaffiliated voters. For the first time, redistricting will need a true multi-partisan consensus.”

He goes on to say, “For far too long redistricting has been held in the hands of the Maryland Democratic Party. Redistricting in Maryland has been less about providing representative congressional and legislative districts, and more about maximizing the ability of Democrats to elect as many rabid, left-wing radicals as possible.” Based on this view, a goal of changing the redistricting system is to increase Republican Party representation in Congress that is currently denied due to the large Democratic majorities in the state legislature.

Table 20 shows the three choices offered the online panel. Clearly, using an independent commission was most favored by respondents (59 percent). If Democrats were to perceive such a choice as detrimental to their political prospects, it would be expected that they would be much more reluctant to embrace the independent commission option. House Bill 1 (HR1) passed by Democrats in the House of Representatives offered a federal approach (option 1) which was quite similar to the independent commission option favored by Hogan. In any case, there was no difference among partisans nor men/women – all were most likely to favor independent commissions.

Table 20: Three Choices for Redistricting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaff.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Relying on changes in federal rather than state law to stop unfair</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gerrymandering of congressional districts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Having Maryland use an independent commission to draw the lines of</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>congressional districts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Relying on the existing system in which the governor and legislature</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>determine the lines</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/NA</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15 See https://www.capitalgazette.com/opinion/ac-ce-column-griffiths-20181207-story.html
16 According to FairVote.org, “Part 2 of Title II of H.R. 1 would require states to use independent commissions to design their congressional plans. Each commission would have fifteen members—five Democrats, five Republicans, and five Independents—all chosen randomly from a pool of qualified applicants. Each commission would draw its map based on the following criteria: (1) population equality, (2) compliance with the Voting Rights Act, (3) compliance with additional racial requirements (no retrogression in, or dilution of, minorities’ electoral influence, including in coalition with other voters), (4) respect for political subdivisions and communities of interest, and (5) no undue advantage for any party. And a plan would need majority support to be enacted, including the backing of at least one Democrat, one Republican, and one Independent.” See https://www.fairvote.org/h_r_1_and_redistricting_commissions
County Executive – Town Hall Meetings, Citizens Advisory Committee, Working with the County Council

One part of the survey asked six questions relevant to County Executive Steuart Pittman including town hall meetings, the changing composition of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the General Development Plan, managing development and working with the county council. The exact questions are presented in Tables 21, 22, and 23.

The first two questions asked whether respondents were aware that Pittman had held town hall meetings about the budget. Overall, only about one-third of the respondents were aware (34 percent). Perhaps due to partisan support or interest, more Democrats claimed to be aware (41 percent) than Republicans (28 percent).

Table 21: Questions About Town Hall Meetings - Awareness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question: County executive Steuart Pittman recently held town hall meetings to ask residents about the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Were you aware of such meetings?</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aware</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not aware</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/NA</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 22 asks whether the respondents actually attended such a meeting: only three percent had, with slightly more Republicans and men than Democrats and women.

Table 22: Questions About Town Hall Meetings – Attend?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question: Did you attend any of these meetings?</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/NA</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 23 shows the findings for the question of whether Pittman was helping to increase trust in local government by holding such meetings. A sizable majority (59 percent) agreed. Here there was a partisan dimension since a higher percentage of Democrats (71 percent) agreed than did Republicans (51 percent).

Table 23: Questions About Town Hall Meetings – Increase Trust?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question: Do you think that by holding such meetings, he is helping to increase trust in local government?</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/NA</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 24 asks whether trust will be increased by changing the composition of the Citizens Advisory Commission for the General Development Plan by increasing the number of residents who are not developers. Respondents were given the choice of “a lot, some, not much.”

Democrats were considerably more likely (37 percent) to say “a lot” compared to Republicans (20 percent), portraying the partisan nature of perceptions. Women were somewhat (32 percent) more likely to say “a lot” than men (27 percent).

**Table 24: Questions About Citizens Advisory Commission – More Non-Developers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question: The county executive has proposed reshaping the Citizens Advisory Committee for the General Development Plan to include more residents who are not developers. To what degree - a lot, some, or not much - do you think this will help increase trust in local government:</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A lot</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not much</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/NA</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Very high unsure/no answer scores marked the question of whether the new county executive will better manage growth (see Table 24a). Democrats (57 percent) and women (40 percent) were much more optimistic than Republicans (17 percent) or men (29 percent).

**Table 24a: Better Manage Growth?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question: Do you believe that the new county executive will better manage growth and development than in the past?</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/NA</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Also relatively high unsure/no answer scores were found on the question of whether the county executive would work well with the county council. Small percentages were “very confident” – many were somewhat confident. Democrats and Republicans were split (e.g., “very” scores: 20 vs 6 percent).

**Table 24b: Work Better with County Council?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question: How confident are you that the new county exec. and council will work well together to solve problems in AA County?</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not very</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/NA</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Presidential Voting Choices in 2016

Since fall 2016, CSLI surveys have asked about past voting with regards to the 2016 presidential elections. This has been both a way of comparing groups among the sample as well as a method for assuring the accuracy of the survey overall. Hillary Clinton obtained 47.5 percent of the vote while Donald Trump received 45.3 – a difference of about two percentage points. Weighting the sample should produce a vote estimate showing around a two-percentage point difference between the two candidates.

Tables 25, 25a, 25b and 25c show the historical percentages voting for Clinton, Trump, someone else, didn’t vote or wouldn’t give an answer over the last three surveys. These are listed for the entire sample as well as by party and ideology.

| Table 25: Presidential Vote by Party and Ideology, Fall 2017 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                | Overall | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative | Democrats | Republicans | Unaffiliated |
| Clinton                        | 37      | 79      | 38       | 3             | 67         | 9             | 36            |
| Trump                          | 37      | 0       | 30       | 80            | 12         | 73            | 21            |
| Someone else                   | 9       | 3       | 15       | 5             | 8          | 9             | 16            |
| Didn’t vote                    | 12      | 16      | 12       | 7             | 9          | 7             | 23            |
| NA/DK                          | 5       | 3       | 5        | 4             | 4          | 4             | 5             |
| Total                          | 100     | 101     | 100      | 99            | 100        | 101           | 5             |

| Table 25a: Presidential Vote by Party and Ideology, Spring 2018 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                | Overall | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative | Democrats | Republicans | Unaffiliated |
| Clinton                        | 36      | 72      | 38       | 6             | 66         | 7             | 30            |
| Trump                          | 39      | 5       | 32       | 78            | 15         | 73            | 32            |
| Someone else                   | 8       | 7       | 12       | 5             | 7          | 8             | 13            |
| Didn’t vote                    | 11      | 14      | 13       | 4             | 7          | 9             | 11            |
| NA/DK                          | 6       | 3       | 6        | 7             | 4          | 3             | 13            |
| Total                          | 100     | 101     | 101      | 100           | 99         | 101           | 99            |

| Table 25b: Presidential Vote by Party and Ideology, Fall 2018 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                | Overall | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative | Democrats | Republicans | Unaffiliated |
| Clinton                        | 39      | 79      | 46       | 9             | 76         | 6             | 30            |
| Trump                          | 38      | 4       | 25       | 77            | 9          | 72            | 33            |
| Someone else                   | 8       | 3       | 13       | 5             | 5          | 13            | 6             |
| Didn’t vote                    | 11      | 14      | 10       | 6             | 9          | 6             | 19            |
| NA/DK                          | 3       | 0       | 5        | 4             | 1          | 3             | 13            |
| Total                          | 99      | 100     | 99       | 101           | 100        | 100           | 101           |

40
Table 25c: Presidential Vote by Party and Ideology, Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Liberal</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Conservative</th>
<th>Democrats</th>
<th>Republicans</th>
<th>Unaffiliated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trump</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone else</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didn’t vote</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA/DK</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The fall 2018 and spring 2019 surveys asked respondents to indicate their party registration but also to say whether they were “strong, somewhat strong, or not very strong” Democrats or Republicans. Table 25d shows the relationship between this nuanced question and both the Trump vote as well as ideological self-identity for fall 2018.

Table 25d: Party Strength by Presidential Vote and Ideology, Fall 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strong Dem</th>
<th>Somewhat Strong Dem</th>
<th>Not Strong Dem</th>
<th>Strong Rep</th>
<th>Somewhat Strong Rep</th>
<th>Not Strong Rep</th>
<th>Unaffil Lean D</th>
<th>Unaffil Lean R</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trump</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone else</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didn’t vote</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA/DK</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/DK</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tables 25d and 25e provide numerous insights into the relationship between the strength of party affiliation and the tendency to defect by voting for the other party’s candidate as well as a change in underlying ideological inclination.

Table 25d shows that in fall 2018, Democrats had no significant differences in behavior among strong and somewhat strong Democrats: both groups were solidly behind Clinton and did not defect to Trump. However, among “not strong Democrats,” a plurality (46 percent) voted for Trump over Clinton (25 percent) or claimed to have voted for someone else or not voted at all. Compared to the Democrats, Republicans were much more likely to stick to their nominee, as only 19 percent of not strong Republicans defected to Clinton, compared to the 46 percent of not strong Democrats defecting to Trump. The pattern was not much different in spring 2019 as 47 percent of “not strong” Democrats defected while other Democrats generally stuck to Clinton. Republicans defected less to Clinton but more to “someone else” or “didn’t vote” (see Table 25e).
Table 25e: Party Strength by Presidential Vote and Ideology, Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strong Dem</th>
<th>Somewhat Strong Dem</th>
<th>Not Strong Dem</th>
<th>Strong Rep</th>
<th>Somewhat Strong Rep</th>
<th>Not Strong Rep</th>
<th>Unaffil Lean D</th>
<th>Unaffil Lean R</th>
<th>Neither</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trump</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone else</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didn’t vote</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA/DK</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/DK</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For both fall 2018 and spring 2019, there was a large increase in the percentage of Democrats labeling themselves “liberal” as the strength of party affiliation grew. For example, Table 25e shows that in spring 2019 only 24 percent of “not strong Democrats” thought they were liberals compared to the 62 percent of “strong Democrats” who chose that ideological label. There was hardly any difference in the ideological makeup of unaffiliated voters who said that they leaned to the Democratic party/candidates (28 percent liberal, 58 moderate, 0 percent Conservative, 14 percent unsure/NA) and the not strong Democrats (24 percent liberal, 59 moderate, 15 percent Conservative, 3 percent unsure/NA). Overall, 22 percent of those registered as Democrats thought of themselves as “not strong” compared to 41 percent who were “somewhat strong” and 37 percent who were “strong” (see Table 25f).

For Republicans, there was a much stronger propensity for strong Republicans to identify as conservatives (82 percent) compared to strong Democrats’ likelihood to identify as liberals (62 percent). Even among somewhat strong Republicans, about one-half (48 percent) identified as conservative rather than moderate (46 percent); only one percent said they were “liberal.” The picture among “not strong Republicans” was much different since only four percent called themselves “liberal” (compared to the 15 percent of “not strong Democrats” who said they were conservatives) and 34 percent called themselves conservatives (vs. the 24 percent of “not strong” Democrats as liberals).

Unaffiliated voters were asked whether they were “leaning toward the Democratic, Republican or neither party/candidates most of the time.” About one-half (49 percent) said neither party; 21 percent leaned to the Democrats, while 30 percent leaned to the Republicans. Table 25f and Graph 10 show the overall percentages among the different voter registration/party choices.

Table 25f: Party Registration and Strength of Party Affiliation, Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaffiliated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strong (lean Dem)</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat strong (lean Rep)</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not strong (lean neither)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The pattern of party defection was similar in the spring 2019 sample as it was in fall 2018. The key finding was that there was more unity among Republicans with any strength of partisan affiliation than there was among Democrats, with not strong Democrats defecting at nearly twice the rate of not strong Republicans (although there was a slight rise from 19 to 27 percent in the percentage of Republicans saying they voted for Clinton).

When looking at gender and prior voting or the strength of party affiliation, Table 25g includes findings for both fall 2018 and spring 2019. It shows that women were more likely to be Democrats, lean more to the liberal side and to have voted for Clinton in 2016. Ideologically, the sharpest differences were at the extremes: 40 percent of men were conservatives (vs. 27 percent of women); 27 percent of women were liberal (vs. 13 percent of men). There was almost no difference in the percentages of moderates.
Table 25g: Party Strength, Presidential Vote and Ideology by Gender, Fall 2018/Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Overall F18</th>
<th>Overall S19</th>
<th>Men F18</th>
<th>Men S19</th>
<th>Women F18</th>
<th>Women S19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trump</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone else</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didn’t vote</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA/DK</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>99</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/DK</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat – strong (% of entire sample)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat – somewhat strong</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat – not strong</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican – strong (% of entire sample)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican – somewhat strong</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican – not strong</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaffiliated – leaning Dem (% of entire sample)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaffiliated – leaning Rep</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaffiliated not leaning</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Graph 11 shows the average of the two surveys regarding party strength and gender. Women are consistently more likely to be found at each level of Democratic party strength. Among Republicans the opposite is true, with men more likely to be found at each level of Republican party strength. Men are a bit more likely to constitute unaffiliated Republican leaners as well as unaffiliated who don’t claim a lean.
Voting Choices in 2020

The spring 2019 survey contained two questions related to the 2020 presidential elections. The first asked, “Several Democrats are already running for president in 2020. At this time, would you be inclined to vote to re-elect President Trump, or to vote for a Democratic candidate instead? This was asked of both telephone and online respondents. The second question was asked only of online respondents and focused on having respondents indicate their top two choices – only if they were disinclined to vote to re-elect President Trump.

Table 26: Presidential Choices – President Trump or Someone Else

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choice</th>
<th>Overall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President Trump</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote for a Democrat</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote for another candidate</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA/DK</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At this point, the unspecified Democrat had a 4-point lead, with many voters (16 percent) saying their preference would be to vote for some other candidate than Trump or a Democrat. As shown on Graph 12, there was about an equal propensity for Democrats and Republicans to support the candidate from within their parties. Unaffiliated voters currently lean to the Democratic side by several percentage points, although they are also least likely to commit themselves at this time.

Table 26a: Presidential Choices – President Trump or Someone Else by Party /Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choice</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaffiliated</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President Trump</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote for a Democrat</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote for another candidate</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA/DK</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graph 12: Presidential Vote Preference for 2020 by Party
The online panel was asked to provide a preference among Democratic candidates – they were provided a list of declared or likely candidates and asked to rate them. Graph 13 provides the percentage of top three citations for each candidate.

As with other polls, former Vice President Joe Biden led the field by nine percentage points over South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg. Also near the top were Beto O’Rourke, Corey Booker and Elizabeth Warren. The 2016 competitor to Hillary Clinton – Senator Bernie Sanders – appeared midway through the pack and not among the frontrunners. While other polls typically place Biden and Sanders at the top, Anne Arundel County may not be fertile territory for the progressive Sanders agenda – especially judging by fellow progressive Ben Jealous’ poor showing in 2018. Pete Buttigieg’s second place finish is also atypical, with other top tier candidates usually being Beto O’Rourke and Kamala Harris.17

Graph 13: Democratic Candidates – Percentage of Top Three Citations

![Graph showing the percentage of top three citations for each candidate.]

---

17 See for example the latest Quinnipiac University Poll (March 21-25) at https://poll.qu.edu/national/release-detail?ReleaseID=2611
Job Approval: County Executive, Governor, President

Each CSLI semi-annual survey asks respondents to indicate approval or disapproval of the job performed by an incumbent in office. Graph 14 shows the percentages saying “approve” for the county executive, the governor and the president.

For the spring 2019 survey, a change was made in how the question was asked: rather than simply asking the respondent to choose between “approve” and “disapprove,” more choices were offered: strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove and strongly disapprove. To make the results consistent with prior results, the four categories were collapsed into just two: approve, disapprove.18

The change in leadership in the governor’s office created a jump in approval values: by fall 2017, Governor Hogan was 48 points higher than Governor O’Malley in fall 2014. Including the results for spring 2019, Hogan’s approval has remained very high.

Regarding the county executive’s office, there was a small increase in approval scores with the transition from Steve Schuh to Steuart Pittman – from 41 to 45 percent.

18 A coding error in combining the online with the telephone samples made the results problematic for Fall 2018. Those results are excluded from Graph 14.
President Trump’s job approval at 41 percent approving was the highest total attained thus far. The pattern of partisan alignment on the presidential job approval question is shown on Graph 15.

Looking at the results presented in Table 27, it is notable that there is very little variance across categories for Governor Hogan. He seems to have essentially surmounted partisan and gender differences. By contrast, County Executive Pittman’s scores show a wide gap across party lines, with 66 percent of Democrats approving but only 29 percent of Republicans. One of the key differences between the job approval scores received by the county executive incumbent – well before Pittman – has been the very high percentage of respondents saying “don’t know” – in this case 39 percent. Among unaffiliated respondents, that percentage rises to 53 percent. Partisanship reduces the approval uncertainty since only 29 percent of Democrats said that they “didn’t know” compared to 44 percent of Republicans. Without taking into account the large numbers of voters who can’t make a decision about the county executive’s job performance, the relatively low approval scores may create an unnecessarily pessimistic impression of his actual job performance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent Approving</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Dem</th>
<th>Rep</th>
<th>Unaffil.</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governor Larry Hogan</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Executive Steuart Pittman</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Trump</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graph 15: Presidential Job Approval by Party Registration – Fall ’09 to Spring ‘19
Presidential job approval – CSLI and Gallup

Since fall 2007, CSLI polls of county residents have generally tracked national presidential job approval trends as indicated by Gallup surveys. Unfortunately, the Gallup organization now only tracks presidential job approval on a monthly basis, making it less relevant to the periods when the CSLI poll is in the field. As a result, from this point CSLI will compare its results to those listed on RealClearPolitics.com which is a poll aggregation service. The “RCP average” will be used in this and future reports. Prior results listed in Table 28 are based on the Gallup findings. As can be seen on Graph 16, CSLI results parallel those found in national polling quite well – with the recent uptick in Trump approval registered in both sources.

Table 28: CSLI Presidential Job Approval Spring 2011 to Spring 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Approve</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>41</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disapprove</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No answer</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>101</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trust in Political Parties

Since 2008, the CSLI survey has asked which party “do you trust to do a better job in coping with the main problems the nation faces over the next few years.” Graph 17 shows that there have been some sharp oscillations, with Republican scores as low as 23 percent and as high as 39 percent. Democrats have experienced less variation in trust levels, ranging from 32 to 42 percent. Those saying “neither” – a volunteered answer not prompted by the question - have varied the most, from a low of 17 to a high of 37 percent.

The spring 2019 figures showed a small decline from 37 to 34 percent for Democrats; Republicans showed no change staying at 37 percent. The percentage saying “neither” rose from 18 to 22 percent.

Historically, changes in the “neither” score appear related to the presence of an election, during which time voters polarize along their partisan inclinations. Prior to the 2016 elections, the average “neither” score for election periods (fall 2008, fall 2010, fall 2012, fall 2014) was only 19 percent; outside of election periods it has been 27 percent – the score for fall 2018 during the mid-term elections was very close to the average at 18 percent. The rise this spring after the November 2018 elections
seems to fall into this same pattern of greater independence from party identification outside of election periods.

Table 29 includes information about party registration and trust in parties. It shows that since fall 2017, there had been a gradual rise among Democrats in their patterns of trust for their own party. This pattern was reversed this spring, with a sharp rise from 6 to 13 percent saying that they would trust Republicans.

During the same period of time (spring 2017 to spring 2019) Republicans saw sharp oscillations in their propensity to trust their own party, with a 23-point range reaching a low of 55 percent in spring 2018 but rising sharply to 78 percent in fall 2018. The spring 2019 was in the middle of the range (67 percent)—only the rise in Democratic trust in the Republicans kept them from falling. This was especially true given the rise of the “neither” choice among Republicans, increasing from 12 percent in fall 2018 to 21 percent this spring.

Table 29: Trust Political Parties by Registration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Democrat</th>
<th></th>
<th>Republican</th>
<th></th>
<th>Unaffiliated</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fa ’17</td>
<td>Sp ’18</td>
<td>Fa ’18</td>
<td>Sp ’19</td>
<td>Fa ’17</td>
<td>Sp ’18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust Democrats</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust Republicans</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust neither</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA/DK/Other party</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Methodology

The survey polled a random sample of 622 county residents who were at least 18 years old. Telephone interviewing was conducted primarily using a database of listed and unlisted landline numbers during the period April 1–4 during evening hours. In addition, members of a CSLI web panel were also asked to participate in an online version of the survey during the period March 28 through April 5. The two data sources were merged for this analysis. There was about a 4 percent statistical margin of error for the combined sample; the error rate was higher for subgroups such as “Democrats” or “men.” The dataset was weighted by gender, political party and education to better represent the general population. College students were trained and used as telephone interviewers.

Contact Dan Nataf, Ph.D., center director, for additional comments or questions at 410-777-2733 and ddnataf@aacc.edu.

a. Check the CSLI website for results for information and press releases for this and previous surveys: www2.aacc.edu/csl.
Appendix A: Questionnaire with Frequencies

CSLI Semi-Annual Survey – Spring, 2019
(combines telephone and online only questions)

1. 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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crime (other than drug related – e.g., robbery, burglary, assault)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drugs (use or sale of illegal drugs such as heroin, cocaine, or use of prescription pain killers for non-medical purposes.)</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economy – (e.g., no jobs, high cost of living, business closing or losses)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education, problems with schools, quality, facilities, staff, discipline</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment (e.g., air or water pollution, saving the Bay)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government ethics – corrupt, immoral, dishonest</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government waste – inefficient, spends too much</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government lack resources –for roads, schools, services</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth/overpopulation - too much development, poorly planned</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare (cost, access)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes – too high only (use “government lacks resources” if “too low”)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation problems/traffic congestion, lack of public transit</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other answer - write in:</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure/No Answer</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Are things headed in the right or wrong direction for the county, the state of Maryland and the country as a whole. First, how about the county? How about the state of Maryland? How about the country as a whole?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Right</th>
<th>Wrong</th>
<th>Unsure/Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1 County</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 State</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Country</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Next I would like to know how you would rate economic conditions in Anne Arundel County, in Maryland, and in the United States generally. First how would you rate economic conditions in Anne Arundel County -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor? How about the state? How about the nation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Only fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Unsure/Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1 County</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 State</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3 Nation</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Thinking now about your personal circumstances, please tell me whether any of these economic conditions apply to you or your household.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Condition</th>
<th>Applies</th>
<th>Doesn’t apply</th>
<th>Unsure, no answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3 Facing the possibility of unemployment</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4 Found a new or better job recently</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5 Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6 Hard to afford the cost of education</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.7 Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive or inadequate</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.8 Taxes are too high in relation to government services provided</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Do you support or oppose the following items with a state or local focus?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure/NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.1 Allowing affected counties to have a veto over any building of a new bridge over the Chesapeake Bay (ONLINE ONLY)</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2 Expanding the current Bay Bridge so that it can handle more traffic</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3 Increasing bus services from the Eastern Shore to destinations in Anne Arundel County and to the DC metro system</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4 Building a commuter rail line on Route 50 from the Eastern Shore to the DC metro system with a stop in Annapolis.</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.5 Expanding bus routes or frequency within our county</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.6 Increasing state gas tax for road improvements and transit</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.7 Raising revenue for schools and other priorities by increasing the local income tax less than one percentage point to levels found in Prince George’s, Howard and Montgomery counties</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.8 Legally bypassing limits imposed by the property revenue/tax cap to raise funds dedicated to public schools</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.9 Having Maryland provide matching subsidies for the renewal of Laurel race track</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.10 Moving the Preakness from Pimlico to Laurel race track.</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.11</td>
<td>Requiring ninth graders to take a course about diversity and inclusion</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.12</td>
<td>Enabling local school boards to set the start and stop date for the school year</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.13</td>
<td>Making it easier for a woman to have a late term abortion if her life or health is threatened (ONLINE ONLY)</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.14</td>
<td>Requiring buyers of rifles and shotguns to have a qualifying license and be subject to a background check prior to purchase</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.15</td>
<td>Banning contributions to local officials and candidates from developers with projects pending approval before the county</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.16</td>
<td>Adopting a system of public financing of local elections as some neighboring counties have done.</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Thinking of your daily commute, if there is a key bottleneck, what would that be? (ONLINE ONLY) Check for listing of comments in appendix

7. County executive Steuart Pittman recently held town hall meetings to ask residents about the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Were you aware of such meetings?

(1) Yes 34  (2) No 62  (0) NA 4

7.1 Did you attend any of these meetings?  (1) Yes 3  (2) No 93  (0) NA 4

7.2 Do you think that by holding such meetings, he is helping to increase trust in local government?

(1) Yes 59  (2) No 20  (3) Unsure 12  (0) NA 9

7.3 The county executive has proposed reshaping the Citizens Advisory Committee for the General Development Plan to include more residents who are not developers. To what degree – a lot, some, or not much - do you think this will help increase trust in local government:

(1) A lot 30  (2) some 44  (3) Not much 18  (0) NA 8

7.4 Do you believe that the new county executive will better manage growth and development than in the past?

(1) Yes 33  (2) No 22  (3) Unsure 28  (0) NA 17

7.5 How confident are you – very, somewhat, not very – that the new county executive and county council will work well together to solve problems in Anne Arundel County?

(1) Very 11  (2) Somewhat 42  (3) Not very 29  (0) N.A. 18

8. How serious – very, somewhat or not very – do you believe the following problems to be in Anne Arundel County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>How serious =&gt;</th>
<th>Very</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Not very</th>
<th>N.A.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.1 Lack of affordable housing</td>
<td></td>
<td>42</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2 Homelessness</td>
<td></td>
<td>34</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3 High cost of living</td>
<td></td>
<td>56</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.4 Low college graduation rates due to high cost</td>
<td></td>
<td>32</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.5 Lack of convenient public transportation</td>
<td></td>
<td>39</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.6 Police harassment of minorities</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.7 Sexual harassment</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.8 Drug use among high school students</td>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.9 Gun violence in public spaces</td>
<td></td>
<td>37</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.10 Poorly managed growth</td>
<td></td>
<td>48</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.10 Sea level rise/climate change</td>
<td></td>
<td>44</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
9. Do you support or oppose the following items with a national focus? (ONLINE ONLY)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure/NA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.1 Using a government shutdown to obtain a desired policy outcome</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.2 President Trump’s decision to declare a national emergency and redirect funds to build a wall on our border with Mexico</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.3 Strong efforts to cut carbon emissions to limit climate change, even if it requires lifestyle changes and higher costs</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.4 Legalizing recreational marijuana at the federal level</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.5 Making public colleges and universities “tuition free”</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.6 A 2 percent wealth tax on households worth at least $50 million</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9.7 Which of the following statements about changing the way in which congressional districts are drawn do you agree with most? (ONLINE ONLY)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Relying on changes in federal rather than state law to stop unfair gerrymandering of congressional districts</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Having Maryland use an independent commission to draw the lines of congressional districts</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Relying on the existing system in which the governor and legislature determine the lines</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Unsure/NA</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9.8 Rate each of these three approaches to health care insurance coverage in terms of how much you find each appealing to ensuring quality and affordable health care: (ONLINE ONLY)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approach</th>
<th>Very</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Not very</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.81 One that reinforces reliance upon private or employer-based coverage</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.82 One that provides an option to purchase coverage on Medicaid or Medicare</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.83 One that largely replaces the existing system with a “Medicare for All” approach</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. With which political party, if any, are you registered? (weighted)

(1) 42% Democratic => (ASK: Do you consider yourself a (1.1) strong (37%), (1.2) somewhat strong (41%) or (1.3) not a strong Democrat? (22%)

(2) 38% Republican => (ASK: Do you consider yourself a (2.1) strong, (2.2) somewhat strong, or (2.3) not a strong Republican?)

(3) 15% Unaffiliated (or “independent”) => (ASK: Do you consider yourself to be leaning more towards (3.1) Democratic or (3.2) Republican or (3.3) neither party most of the time?

(4) (1%) Other

(5) (4%) None (not registered to vote) Go to question 14 next page =>

(0) No Answer Go to question 14 next page =>

57
11. If you voted for a presidential candidate in 2016, for whom did you vote?

(1) Hillary Clinton 38
(2) Donald Trump 37
(3) Someone else 8
(4) Didn’t vote 12
(0) NA/DK 6

12. Several Democrats are already running for president in 2020. At this time, would you be inclined to vote to re-elect President Trump, or to vote for a Democratic candidate instead?

(1) Vote for Trump 33
(2) Vote for Democrat 37
(3) Vote for another candidate 16
(4) NA/DK 15

13. You said that you were inclined to vote for a Democratic candidate. Below are names of declared and potential candidates. Rank your top TWO choices who you feel would earn your vote if the election were today. (See results on Graph 13.)

14. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the following elected officials are handling their jobs: If the respondent provides an answer, ask “Would that be strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove?”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elected official</th>
<th>Strongly Approve</th>
<th>Somewhat Approve</th>
<th>Somewhat disapprove</th>
<th>Strongly Disapprove</th>
<th>No answer/ DK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14.1 Governor Larry Hogan</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.2 County Executive Steuart Pittman</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.3 President Donald Trump</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. Overall, which party, the (Democrats) or the (Republicans), do you trust to do a better job in coping with the main problems the nation faces over the next few years?

(1) Democrats 34
(2) Republicans 37
(3) Neither (volunteered) 22
(4) Other (volunteered) 1
(5) No answer 7

We are almost done. The last few questions will help us to better understand your responses.
16. Which of the following best describes your political beliefs: Conservative, Moderate or Liberal?
(1) Conservative 32
(2) Moderate 44
(3) Liberal 19
(4) Other, No Answer 5

17. What is your age? 18-29 14%; 30-39 3%; 40-49 12%; 50-59 24%; 60-69 23%; 70+ 25%
(0) No Answer

18. Regarding race or ethnicity, how would you describe yourself? (read list if respondent hesitates)
(1) White 82
(2) Black or African American 6
(3) Hispanic or Latino 3
(4) Asian 1
(5) Mixed 2
(6) Other 3
(7) No answer 3

19. Regarding religion, how would you describe yourself? (read list if respondent hesitates)
(1) None (e.g. atheist, agnostic) 15
(2) Non-practicing (e.g. might not go to religious places or celebrate religious holidays) 9
(3) Evangelical or born again Christian (possibly Baptist, Pentecostal) 11
(4) Catholic 27
(5) Jewish 3
(6) Protestant (possibly Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterian, Anglican, Episcopalian) 19
(7) Some other Christian (possibly Mormon) 3
(8) A ‘spiritual person’ not associated with an organized religion 6
(9) Other (e.g., Muslim, Hindu) 4
(10) No Answer 3

20. What is your current marital status? (read list if respondent hesitates)
(1) Single 15
(2) Married 67
(3) Separated/divorced 5
(4) Widowed 10
(5) Living together 1
(6) Other 2
(0) NA 1
21. 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. (weighted)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) a high school diploma</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) some college</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Completed a 2 year associate college degree</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) Completed a 4 year bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) post graduate work</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) Something else?</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(0) No Answer</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

22. Stop me when I reach the category in which your household income falls.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Less than $30,000</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) $30,000 to $50,000</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) $50,001 to $75,000</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) $75,001-$100,000</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) $100,001-$150,000</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) $150,001-$250,000</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) Over $250,000</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(0) No Answer</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

23. Stop me when I reach the employment situation that describes you best.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fully or semi retired</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self employed or consultant</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full time in a defense related activity</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full time in the private sector</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal government (non-defense)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State or local government</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-profit organization</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed part time</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student (mostly or full-time)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed and seeking a job</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caregiver/parent</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No answer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
24. I have one last request: In an attempt to provide us with more opportunities to survey the public, the Center is asking respondents to participate in these surveys online surveys. Can we count on your help?

   (1) Yes  40   (2) No  60

24.1  IF YES: What email address shall we use to contact you?

   (CLEAR SPELLING/HANDWRITING PLEASE!)  

SAY: That concludes our survey, thanks for participating.

Once the respondent hangs up, make sure to enter GENDER and ZIP CODE

25. Gender of respondent to whom you were speaking: weighted (1) Male 50  (2) Female  50  (3) Other/Unknown

26. Zip code

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zip code</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20137</td>
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<td>20714</td>
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<td>21061</td>
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<td>21076</td>
<td>1.3</td>
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<td>4.1</td>
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<td>11.6</td>
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<td>4.4</td>
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<td>21146</td>
<td>9.8</td>
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<td>21156</td>
<td>.2</td>
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<td>21225</td>
<td>.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>21401</td>
<td>10.9</td>
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<td>21403</td>
<td>5.4</td>
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<td>21409</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
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<td>.2</td>
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<td>21619</td>
<td>.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21638</td>
<td>.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Appendix 1: Most Important Problem – Open-Ended Comments

Note: These comments in these appendices have been copied verbatim; the comments found in the text may have been edited for clarity.

AA county and Maryland Government(s) are a waste of time and money. They have not done their respective jobs and we end up paying for it. We need a “Recall” function to get rid of the non-responsive governmental members.

Actually, with a better economy for the lower 2/3, we would also need a more efficient group of government managers! ten, most of the above would improve markedly.

Administration costs are too high.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Bay and rivers need to be cleaned up

Because the county allows, even encourages, development, residents old and new do not get the level of services they need or want. Property taxes do not provide enough funds for appropriate spending on schools, roads, and other necessities.

Building needs to slow down. Route 3 in the Crofton area is despicable. And they just keep adding new businesses and homes. Most residents are opposed and miss the way it used to be. I don’t want to raise my kids here much longer. And if public transportation comes, many residents will flee as all that does is bring in more crime.

BW Parkway between 175 & 197 -Congestion & Potholes

Climate change

Climate change is the pressing existential threat facing the entire world, and we have very little time left to get serious about making the changes needed to reverse the damage. This will be especially devastating to waterfront communities like Anne Arundel County.

Climate Change!

college costs too high

Consumes government resources that could be redirected to other areas, like other crime prevention and infrastructure

Democrats are corrupt

Difficult to choose just one. But Education is the key to solving other social issues. We need to do everything we can to provide out children with the tools to become productive citizens. This includes addressing teacher salaries.

Drugs and open borders are DIRECTLY LINKED.

Economic inequity: high income residents can afford the housing and transportation costs of living here, but many in the services industries must live in horrid conditions or drive great distances for subsistence jobs.

Eroding family values

Federal government
For decades county has focused upon rezoning for homes, with the result that there isn't enough business development to grow tax base and infrastructure is being critically overburdened—schools, roads, traffic, sidewalks, water, sewer and power. Because of this county is headed to higher tax rates.

Hard to choose just one. Education, environment, drugs and traffic were also a consideration for me. Having a lying and dangerous President and a totally corrupt Federal Government that is slowly compromising our world standing and, among other things, is threatening to cut funding for the Chesapeake Bay restoration projects!

I do think traffic is a growing problem and better public transportation options are important, but I think it is a growing problem due to growth and too much development.

I feel our elected reps are not doing what the people want but what they want and need to get re-elected.

I feel that there is little that can be done about growth but that it is also tied to the environmental component. I picked Growth though because it makes any failures to deal with the environment issues effectively, even worse.

I feel the economy is a concern very close. However the drug use has an effect on everything!

I have lived in AACo for more than 60 years and the damage overdevelopment has wreaked is tragic.

I have noticed crimes in areas that were almost crime free. Lack of police presence may be to blame.

I know there is a great Drug problem but I feel that our children need a better education in order to help them understand the drugs and every school district should have the opportunity for a better education. Why is the pre school program only for people of lower income levels. Shouldn't all tax payers be eligible to have this program. Why is the school system set up like it is. There is not enough guidance for especially the high school kids to have direction and more trades need to be offered. High schools should have a Business Education program with classes geared to that. Academic program for those going to college with classes geared to that. Basic for the kids who don't know what direction to go with various classes. Voc tech for those who want to go into those fields and it would help if they were taught about banking and saving money.

I think the drug issue is a problem that not only effects people health but it's probably what drives crime in our area. I work as volunteer in elementary schools with students below grade level standards and know problems

If government was not corrupt, that would have a trickle down effect towards solving the other problems stated.

If we don't reduce global warming, we are murdering our own grandchildren on the installment plan!

Illegal drugs (use, distribution, etc.) affect almost all of the other categories.

It's actually too much development that is making environmental messes.

Middle class America struggling, soon to disappear.

My rare disorder requires very expensive meds and treatments. Some insurers refuse to pay. With this condition and my age my health care costs exceed $14,000/year even with the best health insurance.

Not enough funding for schools

Not enough jobs that pay a living wage with benefits.

not just taxes but fees for what seems like dwindling services.

other issues may apply to state or country, but growth seems biggest in AA
Our county needs to take a leadership role in Maryland to protect our environment. It's a short and long term view that ties many of these other issues together.

Overdevelopment can be the root cause of several other problems, notably school crowding and traffic congestion.

Overgrowth leads to many of the other problems - traffic, problems w/ education, drugs, and crime. Stop the overgrowth and this will solve other problems!!

Permits for development have far out-stripped capacity to provide adequate services.

Politicians continue to give lip-service to cleaning up the Bay.

Pollution and climate change are the most pressing issues of our time.

Poverty in certain areas like south county.

President Trump.

Roads are congested and then residents are angry.

Roads, development

SCHOOLS ARE SPENDING TOO MUCH TIME FOR TESTING PURPOSES. ALSO COMMON CORE IS A MAJOR FAILURE TO THE STUDENTS. CURSIVE WRITING IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO LEARN. VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS IS OUT OF CONTROL.

The Anne Arundel County’s infrastructure can not accommodate the overpopulation such as less green space, less trees and open spaces. Visually not appealing.

the cost of illegals using medical services, school facilities, contributing to the crime, drugs & gang activity, sex traffic, smuggling, as well as stealing Social Security numbers

The County is letting just about any new construction happen, making all the roads a nightmare to travel. I'm especially concerned about the Crownsville sports stadium they're talking about building, as well as losing so many trees to new communities. We need open land with trees to make oxygen and help filter some of the smog out of the air. When I travel and come home, I have increasingly noticed that we smell really bad compared to other states.

The past 4 years has allowed the developers to add too many homes, apartments etc. to the county. Roads needed to be updated and services to the areas around the county were not updated.

There's too much clear-cutting of woodlands and not nearly enough replacement planting! Anne Arundel in one of the three worst counties in the state in complying with replacement planting regulations. That's intolerable for the long term.

Drive up and down Ritchie Highway and you'll see how the border woods are vanishing! I call this the Connecticutization of our county. It is an affront to all of us and must be stopped. We need the trees for a hundred obvious reasons, and we're losing them quickly.

Threats to the environment are rising exponentially and are not being addressed with the urgency that is required!

Three years ago I saw no drug issues in the county (sure it was there but didn't see it). In the last year, just in our neighborhood, we now have a drug dealing house, many overdoses requiring emergency services, and one death.

Too many people and cars, not enough user-friendly public transportation. not enough public access to the water. too much building period.
Too much development causes several other problems on this list—environmental, drugs, crime, education and transportation problems. Stop over development and you solve many other problems!

Too much new housing and traffic is getting worse.

Very difficult choice—traffic congestion comes from too much growth without adequate Government resources to deal with tremendous growth which also makes public transportation inadequate; illegal drug use and crime rise as unchecked growth continues.

We keep spending lots of money and the BOE just wants more and more—but they are not paying the teachers a decent salary. There are too many non-classroom people in the system at salaries that make no sense.

We need to work with Hogan & the Feds to six the Anne Arundel portion of the BW Parkway as our highest road repair priority. It is very dangerous right now. Just got a flat tire on it a week ago.

Total
Appendix 2: Right/Wrong Direction for COUNTY – Open-Ended Comments

A Democrat was elected as county executive and that will eventually lead to bad things for me.
Always excuses why nothing new gets done.
Becoming a sanctuary county after the latest election
County doesn't have enough say in the state, liberal counties overrule our votes
County Executive seems to have his priorities lined up well.
County Executive Stuart Pittman is very progressive and I hope we will see positive changes now.
County-yes
Crownsville Hospital property (why are we paying some corporation to run it) when we own it?
Current budget proposal to increase taxes to increase spending is the wrong direction for county as a whole.
Decent County Exec.
Drugs are taking over along with crime that comes with it
Failure to address issues like pollution, over development, are always problematic but with that said, MD and AA co does better.
Generally, I feel that things are looking up.
Great quality of life.
Happy with a slower growth County Executive who is engaging the public more.
I am very pleased with our new County Executive, Steuart Pittman and with the new members of the County Council.
I believe that things will improve. The representatives need to listen to the people.
I believe we have a County Executive and County Council now with the right priorities.
I do think the new government will make positive changes.
I feel the city is in a mess. If there is a divided country and no path to reach middle class status then democracy is at risk.
I have confidence in the new county executive.
I think that we keep on adding more housing, only our highways can't handle the volume
Improvements in schools and increasing employment is promising
It appears that crime is increasing due to the opioid epidemic
It seems like things are working out for the county.
Low County tax rate is maintained but AA County should NOT mess with the Hogan post-Labor Day school schedule
Many negatives and a few positives balance out
Mid term election with new blood is helping to turn AA CO in the right direction
More immediate acknowledgement of climate change and it's effects locally is badly needed.
Most is in right direction, BUT there is certainly too much growth and over-development.
New County Exec and Council are refocusing AA County in the right direction
New County Exec is a major mistake.

NEW COUNTY EXECUTIVE IS A JOKE AND IS MOVING COUNTY BACKWARDS!
New County Executive is proposing spending more money on luxuries, not necessities.
Newly elected county executive is a progressive socialist whose liberal opinions will adversely impact AA County
Not happy with current County Executives decisions
Not really paying attention to the county
Not sure how the new County Executive will do.
Over-development is straining ability of county to maintain services.
Over-development, crime, drugs
Overdevelopment
Overdevelopment and general cost of living. Too much worry about increasing taxes.
pittman
Pittman is just another tax hog.
Pittman seems to want to spend a lot of money and raise taxes.
pleased with Steuart Pittman
Pleased with the state. New county executive so to soon to evaluate for my county. The country is going in the wrong direction.
Population growth and it's impacts are inevitable. AA county and MD as a whole face real challenges from both climate change and from the increase in impermeable surfaces. We are moving in a positive direction but not fast enough. Also we are losing the generation that remembers how things used to be.
President Trump is ruining the country with his environmental policies, his reckless
Progressives are mainly in control of AA County and the state, and at least Gov. Hogan is not a right-wing Republican (although he is more to the right on labor issues.)
raising taxes and trying to pass laws that are Fed and State jurisdiction, not local jurisdiction.
reserving judgement until we understand how the new administration effects my bottom line
Revent elections
starting school but labor day
Steuart Pittman is taking us in a positive direction.
Steuart Pittmann is such an improvement over Steve Schuh
Steve Schuh is gone. The damage has been done with the over building and lack of control of the developers.
Stewart Pittman is taking us in the right direction!
Stop the building.
Taxes too high
The cost of living is pushing people out of the County. Housing and child care costs are prohibitive for young families.

The County Exec has opted to NOT work with the Feds to remove the Illegals who commit crimes in the county.

The county is building everywhere and not putting in roads. My area is too congested most of the day.

The new county exec has made the county a sanctuary county.

The viability of our Chesapeake Bay ecosystem is vital to the health and prosperity of our AACO citizens.

There is now hope that AAC will become more progressive in addressing the problems it faces.

Think the county is faced with some important decisions - particularly about growth that will determine.

To early to tell w/Pittman. Never heard of him until he was elected.

Too liberal Executive Director

Too many weak and fake local government programs that do not amm

Too much housing going up, roads are bad and not fixed properly, because of over population too much heavy traffic.

Very unhappy with Stuart Pittman's push for a sanctuary county.

We have a county executive that doesn't have a clue on how to run the county.

We have a NewCounty Exec who is more transparent than the last Admin.

We keep spending more and more money and making up things to do with surplus fund instead of admitting we didn't need that much.

We're seeing the massive overdevelopment of the County. We can't take any more in North or Central County.

Total
Appendix 3: Right/Wrong Direction – State  Open-ended Comments

$15 minimum wage - too much, too quick
15.00 minimum wage
A Democratic led legislature working with a moderate governor can address the issues that really matter to Marylanders, such as a strong economy, environmental protection, and racial and gender equality.
A one party state is not good at
As long as we have Hogan we will be OK.
Baltimore City takes a disproportion of resources.
both when I worked for the State of Maryland and now that my brother is under care in a state funded program for autistic when there is more money than needed they made up all kinds of fluff to spend the surplus on instead of admitting the budget was too high. I don't have enough time to list all the example here.
but only because Hogan gets over ridden by the legislature!
Continuing to move too far to the progressive agenda
Decent government. Federal shoud take note.
Democratic Party resistance to common sense Gubernatorial initiatives combined with pushing they multiple left wing initiatives and more taxes
Doing ok but could be better.
Don't approve of the Governor
Education ranking of our state has taken a nosedive under the current Governor. Very short sighted.
Euthanasia SHOULD NOT TAKE PLACE AS STATE SECTION LAW, St. Gov should take over Baltimore, crime, drugs, murders etc...
Gov Hogan has done more for this state than many. Keep going.
Gov. Hogan is doing a great job in addressing the needs of the State.
Gov. Hogan is doing it right!
Government Ethics seems to be something that many government employees know nothing about.
Governor Hogan is doing a good job
Governor is attempting to reduce taxes, and give retirees benefits that keep them in Maryland.
Governor's programs improving overall ecomomy of MD
great governor
Great governor and great quality of life.
Great Governor who is not supported by the Legislature
hogan
Hogan and his developer profiteers are not leading Maryland in the right direction
Hogan is a very sensible, pragmatic and compassionate governor.
Hogan is doing great but the veto overrides of his tax cut proposals & school schedule by Dems are idiotic! Pass euthanasia!

Hogan is focusing on silly things like the school start date as opposed to this common core which leads to me not being able to help my second grader with his math homework. This new minimum wage increase will close so many small businesses who cannot afford it.

Hogan is unable to do his job with the corrupt leftist legislature.

I believe that if some of the old folks that have held office in the senate and the house for Maryland were made to step down after two terms things could be a lot better. I don't feel that our representatives are really listening to the people.

I like the governor's honesty even when I don't agree with him.

I think the legislature generally is forward thinking nad progressive. Not so much the governor.

I wish Gov Hogan would give more funding to education but he's on track for most issues.

It seems like things are working out for the state.

Legislature is driving reasonable agenda, but priorities of governor are all wrong for the state.

Maryland has long been addicted to the tax base provided by residents who have federal jobs while neglecting the private sector. Especially development of manufacturing in the Baltimore area. Maryland's tax rate does not promote economic development either and is too high.

Maryland is still progressive in many important areas such as gun control and women's reproductive rights as compared with many other states.

Maryland is teetering on loosing higher income people due to taxes, regulations & illegals driving the poorer folks out of jobs.

Maryland thinks you pass a law and they fix a problem. This does not work.

Midterm elections has helped to infuse new ideas into our state leading to moving to the right direction.

Moving along well with consensus-building style; needs to keep working hard in all areas.

Not sure about Hogan but better than some of the other choices.

Overall seems going right direction. Legislature seemed to challenge Gov. Hogan more this session - overriding vetos. I am not sure how this will translate for Maryland's future.

Overdevelopment, need more funds into education, environment, less fear of taxes.

People here lack common sense, manners, and decency.

Politicians not concerned with what is good for the state only relection.

Poor road maintenance, lousy law enforcement, and a House & Senate that has done nothing this year.

Population growth and it's impacts are inevitable. AA county and MD as a whole face real challenges from both climate change and from the increase in impermeable surfaces. We are moving in a positive direction but not fast enough. Also we are losing the generation that remembers how things used to be.

Pretty much same answer

Same as above
Same thing drugs bring bad things

Some legislation this year was positive

State government is trying to control/fix/stop federal issues and not dealing with state level problems. Example - state law suites against Trump for his hotels while not dealing with crime and opioid issues at the local level

State income taxes way too high compared to our neighboring states: Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, West Virginia

State is gerrimandered to death

State-no, State's progressive policies hurt the people they profess to help.

taxes are too high compared to other states

Taxes too high, illegals, santuary citys, medical marijuana, traffic, everyone speeding, running red lights and stop sign, etc.

TERM LIMITS ARE NEEDED NOW!

The pullback on the 'rain tax' was a successful marketing trick, but we then saw overdevelopment upstream from Ellicott City wreak havoc twice in just over a year.

The state has problems, crime, drugs, guns, finances, but has reasonable attitudes.

There has been an increase in bullying, substance abuse and overall decline in mental health.

This State is getting to one-sided for me!

Too much crime in the state and little reason to believe that it is decreasing. The revolving door never stops swinging.

We are not doing enough to protect people from the threat to health, democracy and the environment caused by this administration.

We have a one party state. Many Marylanders DON'T agree with liberal politics but they are powerless to stop it because of Gerrymandering WHICH IS CHEATING.

We have a weak governor who caves to the whims of progressive democrats.

we need more of a party balance in annapolis. The major party continue to anything to remain in power and spend money like crazey without thing about the people they represent

We should have never legalized any form of drug use.

When I retire my husband and I can't afford to live here any longer.

With a one-party system currently in place in the state legislature, there is no compromise. The current Democrats seem to be more interested in passing legislation designed to punish political enemies than help citizens.

Total
Appendix 4: Right/Wrong Direction for Nation – Open-Ended Comments

Ahhhh, don't get me started.
As long as we have a strong president who adheres to the constitution we will survive. The border must be closed, and all illegal immigrants should not be sheltered and given sanctuary.
As long as they allow the president to do his job. And if Dems would start doing the job they were elected to do
Awful president, whom is eroding the core values of our country.
Build the friggen wall!

Country-yes, strong economic growth and job creation; attempts to control illegal immigration
Current President and administration
Dangerous President un caring uninformed of Constitution and international relations.
Despise the occupant of the White House.
Divisiveness in the country is increasing
Don't think moving in the right direction or wrong.
Drugs bring crime and death
economy is up, jobs are up. Foreign policy has improved and support for Israel is unprecedented and fixing past mistakes from Obama and previous presidents.
Economy, foreign policy, possibly trade improving. Everything else going to hell. Debt. Ludicrous social policies. Etc
Fantastic move forward for the USA as a result of President Trump and his agenda despite leftist democrat party.
Fine. It took an overt narcissist to do what needed to be done.
Government Ethics on the federal level are non existent!! This is not the way America should work.
Great economy, defeat of ISIS, and pending trade improvements.
HUGE deficit, Isolationism, Health Care, Immigration issues, Environmental degradation, trade war, N Korea, etc
I believe if they would stop trying to oust our President, listen to the people they are supposed to be representing and work together things could be better.
I can not support the current administration therefore I believe the country is headed in the wrong direction.
I don't like the nationalism growing in our country. Views seem to be growing more polarized and leaders are not coming up with solutions to benefit our country overall. It's as if looking for sound bites and gotchas for opponents, not good public policy solutions.
I think President Trump is self serving. The tax cuts for him and his less than 1% cabinet, are creating a huge deficit.
"Business friendly" comes to mean that special interests have access to our representatives in congress - legalized corruption in my mind. Education is becoming unattainable, healthcare is a mess and the environment is being degraded faster while species are becoming extinct faster than at any other time in human history.
I worry about how much this country is divided
Illegal immigration and giving our tax dollars to them.
Imigration is the number 1 treat to the nation right now, but the DEM's refuse to work to stop the invasion. Trump has worked to improve economy, trade, judicial system, prison terms. Dem's refuse to help with any of these issues. The cost of health care and the availability of reasonably priced insurance is a big deal. 80% of the country don't have a problem, but Dem's are willing to wreck the entire system for the 20% without insurance.

It's trying to go the right way but important things are being ignored! Guess I should try learning Spanish again!

Just look around. What's going well in the USA.

Lack of sane leadership

Leadership taking the country down the wrong road at all turns.

Less government is the correct direction for USA.

Less tolerance = more discord

MAGA

More jobs are in our area, and taxes have been lowered so the small business can prosper.

Need to enforce immigration laws. Congress needs to work together and compromise

Negativity is just too much on all sides

No one works together to solve problems

Not the US I grew up in and know and love. Blame that on the politics and particularly how the president carries himself!

Only citizens should be allowed to vote.

Orange Man and minions.

Our country has lost respect from world leaders

Our democracy is under attack. Ethics of presidency/federal administration is deplorable.

Our nation is in a weaker position concerning our military, our domestic policy and our foreign policy!

Our President is a disgrace, provides no leadership, is an over-reactive bully, and stirs up at home and abroad.

Partisanship is getting us no where

People need to be behind Trump not against him, repeal Obamacare, close the souther border, deport all illegals, stop giving free everything to those who don't earn it

Political parties have no problem dividing the population either through economic class lines or race. The new addition of odd gender issues is also another sub culture that further fragments us as a united country.

President Trump is doing a great job in spite of bias press, Democrats ,Rinos

President Trump is sticking to his promise to pursue stronger borders, lower taxes and courts that follow the law.

PRESIDENT TRUMP IS THE BEST THING NEEDED TO MAGA. TERM LIMITS WOULD FIX A LOT OF ISSUES FACING THE CONGRESS AND SENATE STAGNATION!

Prosperity has arrived for most of us. We need better career paths for young people. More manufacturing job opportunities, too.

Same as above
Still need to clean up the swamp in DC and dive into the attempted Presidential coup d'etat, worst scandal in American history needs explanation and accountability

The answer here is for wrong direction with the horrible Trump changes.

the bigger the government the more they come up to provide programs some that were originally under the umbrella of the state or county and now also are being made federal programs as well.

The country is fine as long as we do not head into socialism.

The Democrats are trying to over-throw President Trump because they don't agree with him. That's called civil war.

The economy & unemployment rates are great under Trump. My whole family is doing better

The EPA is not an effective advocate for it's mission statement. The executive branch is acting as an agent of regression not progression towards the current and future needs of it's citizens.

The Executive Branch is rife with nepotism, cronyism, emoluments, and collusion. The 'do nothing Congress' only serves to keep the opposite party from achieving anything worth crowing about.

The Federal government is headed for continued disaster, with the GOP electorate and the Republican Party's establishment both fully supportive of Trump, and the national Democratic Party in disarray.

The politicians are more concerned with re election than what is good for the country

The President is dangerous for our country.

The president is making a mockery of democracy.

The President is trying --- the House and Senate are obstructing everything --- nothing gets fixed.

The Republican leaders in government and their president are killing this country.

The republican senate seems bent on making health care unavailable for many who were helped by Obama care. W.T.F.??

We waste money on much govt spending,why pick on healthcare?Also,preserve the environment,we have enough oil & gas!

The US is still a great risk under the current administration, especially in the refusal to acknowledge the overwhelming scientific evidence that this is an existential threat that is already causing huge damage here and worldwide.

This president does not know what he is dong. If it has the name Obama Admon on it, it is evil. I do not trust the man, especially his doing things on a whim. He is a danger to America and worldwide relationships..

Too divided, extreme views  Lack of civility by the president has permeated the entire population

Too many problems involving our current leaders and time and money on investigations, etc.

Too much deviciveness, no cooperation, too much focus on the politics of issues rather than the solutions

Too much drama in the government.

Too much fighting trying to defeat our President. Nothing getting accomplished

Too much hate, partisan politics, and inaction by national leadership.

too much party politics vs compromise and making sure things are best for all -- they fight rather than talk through

Too much wasteful spending on the wrong things, plus an idiot for a president

Trump

Trump
Trump and cronies are the worst in history. Grifters, immoral, unethical and mean.
Trump and his entire Administration
Trump factor is hurting country as a whole.
Trump is a disaster.
Trump is destroying our country.
Trump is destroying this country!
Trump is too "business" oriented at the expense of other sectors.
Trump is trying to turn things around but receiving so much opposition.
Trump.
Trump's policies need to go
United States is going the wrong direction with Donald Trump as president.
Very disappointed in the performance of the current president
we are becoming a nation of hate.
We are not doing enough to protect people from the threat to health, democracy and the environment caused by this administration.
we can not afford to continue to support everything for everyone mentality, open out borders without considering the costs
and bickering by both parties get to work congres or go home and
We have a leader who may act childish at times but who wants the best for our country. I fear the next election and don't want to lose that.
We have a President who doesn't care about poor people or the environment.
With this President and a Senate controlled by Republicans, the country cannot succeed in areas so critical now - immigration, strong relationships with our international partners, the ascendance of white nationalism, gender equity and many others.
You are kidding, right? It's a nightmare!
Total
Appendix 5: Economic Condition Ratings (All Levels) - Open-Ended Comments

AACO and Maryland are good because they have to balance their budgets. US congress needs to start thinking about and reducing the debt.

Anne Arundel Co & MD benefit due to close proximity to DC. Tax reduction has primed US economic engine which immediately produced 3% GDP, significantly reduced unemployment for all sectors of the personnel demographics, and demonstrated that this country was not stuck in the "new normal."

But please remember our national debt is soaring and gets much larger every year. What is going to happen to our children and future generations of Americans?

Compared to what? The world? The past? My wishes? The average expectation. This question is frustratingly broad. Is the real aim to guage optimism? Decreases environmental regulations and protectionist trade practices will spur short term economic growth. However, it will be exponentially more expensive to clean up the damage that it would be to prevent it. Also, protectionism decreases efficiency and hobbles global trade. Trade is the tide that raises all boats. And the mutual reliance on economic trade partners inhibits violent conflict.

Corporate greed: fewer paid benefits, tax laws favoring the rich, inadequate minimum wage, destruction of international trade and other agreements.

Despite Congress our economy is doing well, and our country is prospering

Economic conditions based on what? In the MD and AACo area, if you have a Federal job then it's pretty good. Pay raises are out pacing the private sector while a good majority of the Federal work force enjoyed a nice paid vacation in January. If you work in the private sector that IS NOT part of government contracts then it's only fair to poor conditions. Increased cost of living, and health cost.

Economy I think thinks are ok.

Every economic measure at the US level is trending positive. AA county is building and remodeling everywhere so investment is way up. Maryland is over taxing and about to lose its growth so only good.

Expenses are growing much faster than my income.

Federal budget headed off a cliff.

Film flam .. shame federal tax reduction. Everyone I know owes this year and most for the first time in ages and substantial amounts.

Going in the right direction in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County.

Good - BUT the Deficit is growing and is too large to ignore - at some point the piper must be paid. Plus, the distance between the Haves and Have-NOTS is reaching an intolerable level.

Great economy.

High wages and low cost for goods.

I am more or less just guessing
I don't notice my family suffering here, but I'm aware of so many others now suffering from economic hardship. Government does nothing.

I think the job market is doing good

If MD lowered taxes and cut out some of the pork spending, we would have a roaring economy

In spite of Trump.

IT ALWAYS COULD ALWAYS BE BETTER! MUCH ROOM IMPROVEMENT!

It is all about behavior. All behavior is a choice. If you are willing & able to work, there are jobs. Live within or below your means. Don't make debt. Save up an emergency fund. Plan for the future. ANYONE can do this.

Loads of poor and middle class folks can't get ahead.

Maryland's passing of the $15/hour law is a big part of the rating of fair...

Nationally, econ conditions are great for the super-rich, and poor for unskilled workers, which situation is tailor-made for Trumpism to continue.

Need more job opportunities and increased salaries but I did not agree with the $15 minimum wage unless they are going to do the job the way it should be done. Customer service sucks and people just want a check.

On some parameters, some people might argue that the economy is excellent, but there are still too many economically marginalized people and too much income inequality to say that. The County and state perhaps have somewhat less of that, but on the whole, it is too prevalent around the country.

People need to give Trump credit for turning the economy around and fighting against bad trade laws.

President Trump is destabilizing our world position militarily, ruining our trade relationships, and creating an artificial "national emergency" at the border with Mexico.

Prices are rising many times faster than incomes.

Priorities and performance at each level

Relatively low unemployment, but still pockets or poverty and drug abuse. Health care issues are hanging over us like the Sword of Damocles.

State move to $15 hour minimum wage is counterproductive to business growth

Tax cuts for the rich are keeping the poor poor.

Thank-you President Trump. Now...if the Democrats would just get out of the economy's way!

The caveat to the ranking of good is that as a count, state, or country the economy may be good but as an individual it would not take much for things to go south. I have decent savings but an unexpected medical issue or other event could make things difficult when on a fixed income.

The election promises are not coming through to the farmers and coal miners, e.g. Trade wars are not good for the economy,

The middle class is what makes our economy run. The middle class is becoming smaller.

The wealthy are always trying to hold on to their position. What happened to Christian values of sharing and helping those less fortunate?

There are many lower income folks who are struggling financially. They need some more help!
There are more jobs available than people looking to fill them. Lower taxes have increased take home pay. Once trade issues with China are worked out we should have even more prosperity.

There is a disproportionate level of wealth in this county/state/country. The wealthiest people hoard capital, and perpetuate unjust institutions which keep them rich at the expense of middle and lower class people. This is not a healthy or sustainable free market economy.

There is always room for improvement, but things are more comfortable than in the past.

Things are good for many I know but I’m aware of the disparities between sue urban and inner city. MD is struggling with its main city, Baltimore. Major corruption and systematic problems are attributable to this.

Too big a wealth gap. The Trump tax cut program is a disaster. Raises the deficit and cuts essential programs.

Too many people are struggling as government programs get dismantled and income inequality increases.

Too many wide gaps between the achievers & non-achievers, and too few jobs that provide a living wage for those who are willing to work hard.

Too much spending and debt... Divisive intersectional culture and move towards socialism

Trump has the economy humming again!

Trump is turning this country around to the positive.

Until the majority are making enough, with ONE job, and ALL are contributing, and the disparity between wealthy and poor is improving, we are not doing well anywhere.

Total
Appendix 6: Issues - Open-Ended Comments

The abortion comment is probably misleading. If the health of the woman is TRULY threatened, then I could deal with a late term abortion. We know that's not the case most of the time. They just want to kill the baby because they don't want it. Still, based on the exact wording of the comment, I support it.

2nd amendment is an equal to the other amendments. Highly disappointed in the continued attempts to remove these rights.

Again, the spineless legislators are reacting only to media induced hysteria rather than a true list of needs. Why are they focusing on physician assisted suicide and medical marijuana rather than cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay or a new Bay Bridge?

Also, Larry Hogan should not be making money by overdeveloping.

Another name for campaign contributions is bribe. We need public financing of political campaigns.

Background checks for rifle sales but gifting between family members should be allowed without interference.

Bay Bridge - affected counties should have input, process to address concerns, but I don't know if one county should be able to veto entire project. I am not sure process would ever get off the ground in that case. Expanding current bridge - Roads serving the bridge won't likely be widened, so it seems that would be an expensive short sighted option. The back ups may just move to a new bottleneck point. A second crossing makes more sense. Schools - because of opioid crisis, I think our schools are going to be asked to educate more children with special needs due to exposure to drugs in utero or trauma situations. Also, is seems there are more ESOL students enrolling every year. I think there are some very specific needs our schools will be asked to meet. Having enough money to pay staff for these positions is going to be critical.

Diversity and inclusion should be worked into curriculum in all grades, not in a course at any level.

Government keeps raiding the general fund to do things that the money is not supposed to be used for. If they raise taxes, they will just take that also.

I agree with publicly financing local elections if it results in making voting more available. The doctor should be the one to recommend a late term abortion based on life-threatening complications; so the doctor's job should be made easier. Can it be guaranteed that government will not use licensing as a method to deny citizens guns? I oppose this reasonable expectation because that is what will happen.

I answered "unsure" to the questions about additional funding for public schools because revenues from the casinos are supposed to be going towards education. Is that actually happening? If so, and the schools are still in their state of disrepair and overcrowding, then yes, do whatever it takes to remedy our education system.

I was under the impression that monies would be going to education and construction of schools from the casinos. Stop taking out of that fund and fix all the schools. No one should be allowed to make a contribution to local officials or candidates if they have projects on going or are planning projects. I think the diversity and inclusion should be taught in schools but be prepared for controversy because a lot of parents are not involved or teaching their kids anything at home.

Increasing education funding is not real --- The teachers DO NOT teach -- they INDOCTRANATE!!!!
Let businesses stand on their own, horse racing has been dead in this State for years! Pittman should have visited Pimlico, not just Laurel, so he could see just how bad that place really is. Banning monies local officials and candidates will not work...just to many ways for it to be funneled. Transit should stand on it own for funding w/perhaps government subsidy and Roads should be funded by gas taxes and users if roads, including bikes, should pay their part! Just how much more money should go to schools....seems to me the more we fund, the more grades go down! And just how legally can you bypass a property revenue cap without it going via the way it was placed on? Again, money for the schools - I think they are well funded as is!

lots of worthy proposals

maintenance dredging for silting creeks, better recycling options

Make election days holidays.

Maryland democrats taking away the 2 amendment rights of responsible gun owners. Criminals will not follow the rules. Rules are a tax on gun owners and many in the MD legislation have no understand of firearms and make stupid rules. Also Baltimore legislators want to infringe on the rights of all MD gun owners to solve their local problems. UNFAIR!

On public financing of elections, the qualifying rules must be well thought out and flexible. Also all candidates should be required to abide by campaign funding limits equal to the public funding amount.

On rifles and shotguns - qualifying license -no, background check- yes

Our schools need more of the basic skills and less of the politically correct garbage being taught

Please don't combine "life or health threatened" in regards to allowing late-term abortion. A pregnancy threatening a woman's life is far more serious than threatening her health. And "health" can be interpreted many ways. This survey question is not phrased well. Many people will support abortion if a woman's life is threatened but not her health. Which answer then should they choose? I chose "no" but I do support saving a woman's life if it is threatened by continuing a pregnancy.

Public education is a rip off for taxpayers. If schools would get some common sense oversight and make some tough decisions, we would find that they have money to spare. No new school funding until they clean up their act.

Race tracks promote animal cruelty. Stats show percentage of hoisted that had to be killed recently (also historically), that prove these are ‘bad entertainment’ options that serve only wealthy and vulnerable populations.

seems like 9th grade is a bit late for diversity/inclusion classes

Serious consideration should be made to contract ferry service for the Chesapeake Bay. Ferry service could be implemented soon and provide for service in different areas of the Bay.

Stick to courses necessary, like reading and math. And make sure kids understand math before moving on. Hardly anyone gets straight into college algebra from high school. Speaks volumes. Forget the feel good diversity classes.

Support green energy jobs

Support the euthanasia bill next year. Why should women have the right to choose, but the elderly do not!

The current tax cap, a knee-jerk Republican-led opposition to taxes, is simply a backdoor method to limit the role of government. Often it is the same people who refuse to consider the idea of raising taxes who also complain about infrastructure, insufficiently funded schools and environmental degradation.

Voter ID required, no early voting, no same day voting, 2 term limits for all elected officials.
We already have background checks when purchasing rifle and shotguns. In addition the state's Hunter safety classes provide basic rifle and shotguns safety training. Where have you been.

Your question on firearms is not totally correct. The Federal Government requires a background check on all firearm sales by a commercial establishment. The only firearms not requiring a background check are muzzleloaders.

Total
Appendix 7: Biggest Bottleneck- Open-Ended Comments (only in appendix – online panel only)

100
during rush hour
100 West Pasadena to 295
214 and Muddy Creek
301
32 into 97
695 outer loop between 95 and Cromwell Bridge Road  GRRRRRR......
895
895 because of the tunnel roadwork - it will eventually be better
895 the harbor tunnel
97 and route 3
97 North and South at the 50 East/West intersection. It's a disaster.
97 north where it splits from rt 50
97 North, at times
97 southbound near RT 3 and 97 northbound right after veterans exit
97 south at 32 and Generals Hwy.
97N
Annapolis Rt. 50 East bound in PM commute.
aris t allen onto the 50 onto the 97. 50 onto the beltway.
At route 2 south getting onto rte 50 east. I hate it when drivers use the rte 2 left lane only to cut into the 50 eastbound exit lane at last second.
beltway is crazy
Benfield Road from Veterans Highway to Shipley's Choice (because of the West Benfield road closure). Honestly, it's not that big of a deal.
Between Arundel Mills and 95
BW parkway between 175 & 197. Horrible - - even on weekends !
BW parkway is always backed up
Chinquapin Round Road
construction on 175 at Ft Meade
construction traffic on 175
DC 295
Detour of Old Benfield Rd.
Does not apply
Does not apply to me.
Doesn't apply.
Doesn't apply. I work from home.
Doing OK
Don't commute. However, I wonder why, in all parts of the country where there are constant increases in traffic, we aren't building monorails right down the middle the highways (Disney has been successfully moving people by monorail for almost 50 years, and there are companies who would be willing to fund the effort!)
Don't have a daily commute
Entering I95 S from Route 100 West
Evenings - Generals Highway corridor particularly at Bestgate Rd.
Expand public transportation options.
Flooding on rt 450, On Riva Road cars illegally block almost all intersections when light turns red at Rt 665, Admiral Cockrane, Truman Parkway.
Forest Drive
Fortunately, I work from home but it seems to be everywhere.
Gambrills rt 3, rt 97 at rt 32, rt 295.
Generals Highway at Crownsville Rd.
Getting out of bed.
I 97
I 97 at Annapolis and Rt 50
I don't have a daily commute, but traffic on MD 3 is getting pretty bad.
I don't understand the question. If we are talking about location, it would be the 32, 198, Ft. Mead interchange.
I don't commute
I work early hours, and haven't had a problem.
I work five minutes from home, no traffic issues.
I'm retired. But, 50E to 97N is terrible every afternoon except weekends.
Inner loop of 495 between 50 and 5
Intersection of Rt. 424 and Defense Highway
Kenilworth Ave thru 695 to 395
MD 424 N between US 50 and MD 450
Morning: Rt 2 S as it hits Rt 50 in Arnold
Mountain Road - Pasadena
N.A.
No longer commute but try to avoid Rt. 100 Westbound in the A.M. and find Ritchie Hwy to be crowded nearly all day.

on Rt 50 E and W in PG county

One day a week I commute to AACC in the evening. With the widening of the Severn River Bridge, Route 50 runs freely, but the bottleneck begins at the exit to Route 2 north and continues until the Safeway intersection.

Poor driving habits, lousy law enforcement, poor signal system and lousy road conditions.

Retired now so I've escaped that rat race; however, Route 3 South. Route 50 South, Route 295 North, and Route 95 North are always bad during rush hour.

Ritchie Highway

Ritchie Highway at Rte. 50 and Rte 3 near Waugh Chapel where it's very overdeveloped.

Ritchie Highway South from Severna Park to Route 50

Ritchie Highway South through Severna Park.

Ritchie Highway/Severna Park and Arnold starting at 3 P.M.

Ritchie Hwy in Severna Park going towards the Community College. Backs up when school is in.

Ritchie Hwy southbound into Rt 50 westbound. Eastbound 50 at Rowe Blvd

Ritchie Highway has two bottlenecks Southbound, both are Zip Merges. One is at m

Riva Road to Rt 50

Riva Road, Route 50/301, I97, Rt 214 Central Ave.

riva/edgewater Solomon's Island Rd between south river bridge and 50 exit near West Street

Route 100 at exit 20 and Route 173 from Edwin Raynor Blvd. to Riveria Beach on weekdays between the house of 3pm and 7pm

Route 100 & 97

Route 100 and route 10 aplit
Route 2
Route 2 & 50 from Exit 28 to the bridge
Route 2 approaching Rt 50 in Arnold
Route 2 at Severna Park
Route 2 from Baltimore to Glen Burnie and Marley Station Road from the 7 11 to Spencer.
Route 2 from Parole all the way down to South County. Especially the intersection of 665 and when it narrows at Central Avenu.
Route 2 in Severna Park
Route 2 South from Parole to Edgewater anywhere from 4p-7p
Route 3
Route 3 and route 424
Route 3, NO MORE ROYAL FARMS<>WAWA<>7 Elevens next thing will be check cashing centers, pawn shops........
Route 32 along Ft Meade
Route 4
Route 450, Defense Highway, just east of Huntwood drive.
Route 50 (Severn River Bridge) to Ritchie Hwy North
Route 50 and Route 2 and the Bay Bridge nightmare
Route 50 eastbound in Parole extending into the Broadneck
Route 50 west bound near Bowie and the airport
Route 97 and 3
route 97 at quarterfield and route 32
Route 97/50
Route Three, 97 and 32, Rt 295 most of the day.
Rowe & Taylor Avenues, Annapolis when Rt. 50 is at a standstill
Rowe Blvd
Rt 100 & Rt 2
Rt 2 south of Edgewater.
Rt 2, between 214 and 665
Rt 3 in Crofton Bowie has become a nightmare. Why? Development. One side of it is thanks to the Hogan family’s business.
Rt 50 W at ramp to I 97 N
RT 713 toward RT175 and RT 713 toward Arundel Mills Blvd.
Rt 97
Rt. 100, Edwin Raynor Blvd as well
Rt. 175 -- no, Rt. 32, no General's Highway (all of the above)
Rt. 2 south and traffic on Route 50
Rt. 4 North turning on to Suitland Parkway, but there is already a large new intersection being built.
Rt. 50 in PG County
Rt. 50 West and 97 North....
Rt. 50, Seven River Bridge
Rt100
Rte 178 out of Annapolis towards Crownsville.
Rte 2 and Rte 50, I97
Rte 32 west bound east of Ft Meade in AM
Severn River bridge
Severn River Bridge
Severn River Bridge East in Afternoon... Route 2 merge onto 50 traveling West in Morning... College Parkway.
Severn River Bridge, and Bay Bridge
SR100 east crossing over I-97 during afternoon rush hour.
Suitland Parkway to MD Route 4 South
The exit from route 50 west to I 97 north
Three areas along rt 100 heading west: rt 2 on ramp, Oakwood Rd off ramp, and rt713/Hanover off ramp.
Tragic is crazy and takes me double the time to get to work
Where 100 and 10 merge
Work from home no commute.
Work from home, doesn’t apply
Total
Appendix 8: County Executive Questions - Open-Ended Comments

9. "better manage" assumes restriction is better
   A lot of talk, inclusion of citizens doesn't matter unless you decide with the "people" and that rarely if ever happens.
   Am in a wait and see position.
   Anne Arundel county always does better from a tax & spend basis under Republican Executives
   Building has continued to increase. He just sees it as more money for the county and isn't concerned with the daily implications for citizens.
   Don't trust government. Plus they have no idea of what money is.
   Having non developers on the committee makes sense. Making sure they don't become targets of corruption and back door deals is another issue.
   He has already FAILED in his acts that void his oath of office. He wants to make the county a "sanctuary" for illegals and to HELL with the legal citizens.
   He's not crazy. That's something these days.
   He's trying to find a solution to a contrived problem. The former County Executive simplified the process to get legal development done. He had nothing to do with overriding the system to benefit developers.
   ICE REPORTING IS NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT THE ILLEGALS ARE DEPORTED BACK TO THEIR COUNTRY!
   It's all about money coming into the county and not about the quality of living.
   Let's give him time to work without judgement.
   Meet the new boss, Same as the old boss!
   Mr. Pittman was elected on a "low growth" agenda. I hope he will manage to keep that in mind and maintain a good working relationship with the council. But we are barely into a first term. Too soon to tell.
   My main problem with Democrats and county politics is their social engineering...when they move poor people from crappy neighborhoods into other neighborhoods artificially. It raises crime and brings down property values for people who have earned the right to be there...and they have paid dearly for it I might add. PLEASE NOTICE how Democrat leaders never move crime and drugs into THEIR neighborhoods.
   Pittman is a terrible choice as county exec.
   Raising taxes on income and abandoning the public vote on the property tax, just so money can be allocated to a bottomless hole that has no restraint or control is not in the public good, no matter what the county exec says.
   The County Executive can not stop development because the policies stated in the County Code would allow for development. Corporations and developers follow what is in the County Code. The County Executive has no authority to stop development because the laws are already in place.
   They are all the same. Say one thing and do another.
   They're mostly all Democrats so they are expected to work together. If they don't, they'll get the boot.
   Time will tell, but I trust Democrats more than Republicans.
Transparency is always the best way to gain trust -- people are inherently non-transparent. So, transparent policies, open meetings, and lots of debate are always better than the composition of committees.

Unsure is solely based on his tenure is to short so far. I certainly hope for good things but can’t say yet we can only hope, but I do feel confident in his approach so far.

With Steuart Pittman’s approach, I am hopeful that growth in AA Co will be managed better than it has been in the past.

Total
Appendix 9: County Seriousness of Problems – Open-Ended Comments

All except one of these "problems" are solvable by improving the family and neighborhood culture in which children grow up, and teenagers and young adults mature. A positive cultural shift can only be accomplished by honest, clear-thinking, effective parents, educators, pastors and community leaders working at shifting the culture from negative behavior to positive, constructive behavior, full-time, 24/7.

As a Realtor, I know there's lots of affordable housing in the county. It's not housing, it's the individual's inability to save for a down-payment. College graduation is the responsibility of the family, not the government.

Climate change has been occurring long before we were on this earth and will continue to change for decades. There is absolutely no scientific evidence to show that people have anything to do with the changes in climate. Who caused the little ice age?? How come there was a warming period that brought Europe out of the Middle Ages and provided more crops? Antartica ice is increasing and Polar Bears can swim a couple of hundred miles! Stop pushing this power grab!

Climate change is a potemkin village for more govt control of our lives

Cut the crime, stop building, fix the roads.

DO NOT bring public transportation into this county. Look at PG County. That is not why people live in AA County.

Do we know that low college graduation rates are in fact due to high cost? Or is it something else, like lack of foundation skills for new students? Lack of support for 1st generation college students? Unrealistic expectations by students on the amount of work required to be successful in college?

Effects of climate change are not being addressed with the urgency required.

Fortunately we have an excellent community college, so higher education is affordable, with access to the last two years at state schools. But we need to provide affordable housing for the middle and lower income workers. They should not have to live in another county. Sea level rise is coming and we need development laws that recognize that.

Glen Burnie area is a magnet for homelessness due to services provided by various nonprofits and government. Tent communities all over the area.

Go to AACC. Community college is the best value out there - it is affordable & you can pay as you go. Students find out whether they are suited for college - credits accepted by most 4 year colleges & no one cares where you take your first 2 year courses anyway. Go to a in-state college for year 3 & 4. Parents should save for children's college - MD College Trust

I believe that development in AA County is out of control and needs to be stopped. The schools, roads and infrastructure can not handle it!

I believe they are taking guns out of lawful citizens hands. Criminals will not stop having guns. Right to defend ourselves is imperative.
I can only speak as a retired person but affordable housing is a serious problem in AA county. You should be able to afford a house in any area, not just a few. Even grocery store prices are higher in different areas for the same products. That is ridiculous. College tuition is off the hook. The cost of living in all areas is high when salaries do not keep up with the pace. I do not believe that there is a harassment of minorities in AA county. People need to be accountable for what they do. The police have a job to do and I think they do it very well in this county. I don't know about drug use in high schools but I know it is a large problem with those in their 20's and older. Gun violence is a problem every where but taking guns from law abiding citizens is not the answer. We would be leaving people defenseless and the bad guys with all the weapons. Growth does need to be subsided in all areas without proper schools, roads, etc. I don't believe in Global warming it is just what is meant to be. I think the drug problem is huge more than most people even know, especially in the High schools with kids who smoke the juhl while in school and its hard for staff to detect it. I'm not sold on global warming. I realize the earth has been warming for a few hundred years. There is too much proof that we may be heading back to normal. Maryland has an area in Calvert or Charles County that was Sub tropical 5K yrs. ago. it is not easy to be poor in America, and harder in a high-cost zone like AA county. Key to Anne Arundel County success is keeping its taxes lower than the surrounding counties. Lots of serious problems. Making a crisis up just so the government can have more control but in the end not really fixing the problem is the road to socialism and the current state and county leadership seem to have found the express ramp to this policy. OPEN CARRY OF A WEAPON IS GUARANTEED BY THE SECOND AMENDMENT AND MARYLAND NEEDS TO WAKE UP AND ALLOW ALL CITIZENS THAT OPTION! Sea rise. We have been warming since the middle i age. MD.has proof that this are was subtropical 5k yrs ago. The items marked “very” are all failures of the system. “Somewhat” are due to questionable costs in building homes and failure to educate the public (students) with some form of responsibility training. The public is forced to accept FAILURES as a normal condition --- totally unacceptable to most of us. the world is not getting warmer. It is a myth. It is going to get colder. There is hidden poverty all over the county, senior citizens too. These are al very serious problems that do not appear to be taken seriously by our federal government. We need our local counties and the states to take the lead. These statements are all myths. This is not the reality. The truth is affordable housing increases crime and declining property values. Total
Appendix 10: National Issues – Open-Ended Comments

‘Other’ with text field would be a good option here or none of the above
A totally INDEPENDENT group should be assembled to allocate the districts according to population and staying with the bounds of the communities. No splitting an area to support a POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION.
any redistricting must be consist of both parties
Base districts on Geography using natural boundaries or county boundaries. Disallow the political party”in control”to determine how the districts are drawn. Both pol.parties should be ashamed for manipulating these boundaries.
Commission representative of both political parties.
Due to Maryland being a democratic state you need somebody who is fair and just.
GERRYMANDERING IS JUST PLAIN AND SIMPLE NOT GOOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF MARYLAND!
Gerrymandering is not just a MD issue. Other states are also guilty. Federal guidelines are required.
I currently have no representation
I do NOT trust Maryland politicians. They are using Gerrymandering TO CHEAT. THEY ARE RIPPING OFF many of the voters in Maryland. I don't mind a fair fight and open debate but GERRYMANDERING IS CHEATING NO MATTER WHO DOES IT.
We are losing our Republic because of it. This is a serious issue that very few people talk about. Yet, it affects everybody.
I do not trust Me gov to draw any lines fair. When the rest of the world stats to cut emmissions we can too. You ever wonder why Europe has no catalytic converter on their cars. China and India pollute with no restrictions.
I don't trust the federal government to pass a federal law to correct gerrymandering, though that solution is ideal. The Republicans wont even allow the District of Columbia full representation.
i dont trust either party to not be biased.
I guess having an independent commission is the best idea. Why can't someone just divide Maryland into districts based on population and common interests? Seems like fairness and common sense.
I have no faith in the federal government right now!
I question who chooses the independent commission and if they will be truely independent
I would like to think that we could depend on a federal government to lead in this but clearly the conservatives do not see an advantage to that position so the states will have to take the lead.
I'm not sure of the best answer, but what is going on now is bogus.
If I thought that the state could actually come up with independent people to select the districts, I would approve. I doubt this can happen. Districts should be aligned with zip codes so that each district has a distinct general position on issues.
If we wait for the feds to do it, it will take forever or never
If we wait for the Fed. government to make the changes it will never happen.
Independent commission was my second choice, but in MD, it would not be independent
Independent meaning what? Who picks it? Will it be bi-partician? Congressional districts should be drawn along county lines.
It depends on who gets on the "independent" commission. If equal representation by both MDC and MRC, the OK. if appointed by governor or state representatives, then it won't provide the desired result.

It's a state issue, not a federal. However the Democrat party had a death grip on this state Maryland can never rely on this federal Administration to get anything necessary done. Maryland is ridiculous in its attempt to eliminate Republican seats in Congress. Maryland needs to fix this injustice itself no matter what the federal government does.

No unilateral disarmament

The districts should be contain both parties. Every time Mr. Hoyer gets close to loosing the change districts. It is a scam. Plus we need term limits.

the gerrymandering in our state is disgraceful.

The gerrymandering that went on in the state of MD should be unlawful. That was a disgrace to the voters of Maryland. The people in legistration cannot be allow to draw lines. Thats how we got to gerrymandering in the first place. The political party in power should not have the sole ability to determine district lines. Independent commissions now!

The State of Maryland sure messed up the 3rd Congressional. Is does not feel good to not have your Representative show up at a Presidential Inauguration or support you in any way! You support the Office and work toward a better Country for all of us, regardless of the Party!

This has to stop - it's past the point of ridiculousness!!!

Why not just go by county

why should MD be outfront on this?

Total
Appendix 11: Democrats – Open-Ended Comments

Depending on what issues are being discussed and which politician is presenting the solution.
Depends on candidate and issue
Former Independant, registered as D to vote in Primary
I am fisicialy conservative and socially moderate - not exactly the way the current Dem party is leaning.
I am more central in my views.
I consider myself a moderate and I have been registered Republican. But, the Republican Party has become too extreme for me.
I disagree with the Democrat's stand on some issues, such as abortion
I have many Progressive views not reflected in this survey.
I identify more as independent, but want to vote in democratic primaries
I see myself as an independent.
I tend to vote for the candidate who I think is the best fit for the county or country - independent of party.
I think that both political parties have problems. I consider myself to be a moderate independent, liberal on some issues such as women's reproductive rights and strict gun laws. I register as a Democrat to be able to vote in primary elections.
I vote the person not the party.
I'm really an independent but find the Democrats less obnoxious than the Republicans.
strong Dem
There are many policies I agree with in the Democratic Party. I am pro choice very much so! However I look for the most qualified candidate when voting. For example I felt Hogan was the more qualified candidate in the last two elections.
Used to be but haven't been for years
Total
Appendix 11: Republicans – Open-Ended Comments

a Constitutional Conservative
Honestly, I lean more towards the Democratic party except for their outrageous platform in abortion. I cannot support candidates who embrace killing babies so passionately. If the taking of innocent lives shouldn't be a litmus test, what would be?
I am a conservative but the "republican" party is not always conservative in its decisions.
I am a Republican so that I may for in the Republican primaries where I have good friends. Eventually, I will once again switch to Democrat.
I am really disgusted with all political parties.
I support specific policies, not party lines.
I SUPPORT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY AS THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS LOST IT TOUCH WITH THE PEOPLE AND IS SELF SERVING POLITICIANS WHO ARE GETTING RICH OFF THEIR POSITIONS. TERM LIMITS NOW!
I very much agree with what the President has done and like what the republicans try to do. Don't understand why the parties cannot work together for the people they represent. Also why isn't there a comment place for the health insurance questions. Medicare for all is ridiculous. Prices are ridiculous for all insurances.
I vote for the best canidate, and try not to consider party lines.
I'm more of a libertarian conservative than a republican.
I'm not for open boarders or socialism or one world order.
Less government. Deregulation. Less social programs.
more Libertarian/Independent but not stupid enough to throw my vote completely away.
Not strong in the current climate of Republican craziness, but after 51 years as a Republican I cannot bring myself to switch parties. I vote mostly Democratic, however.
Originally a Democrat, but has switch because party is too extreme.
Party should stop at the door and do what is right for the people. Debates should happen in both Houses of Congress.
Some of the RINO's need to be removed.... They have picked their party affiliation based on the number of R or D voters.....
The Republican party is spinless and will not stand for the shared views or opinions of any of its conservative constituents.
Today Not the same the Republican Party I though I knew. Focus on the 1% now not the working class at all. Worried about Enriching themselves and not necessarily doing what is good for the country.
Under the current administration, the Republican Party has strayed from its principles.
very strong moderate (which is out of fashion: fiscal conservative, socially progressive
Total
Appendix 12: Unaffiliated registration – Open-Ended Comments

Both parties too muddled and uncertain to maintain basic values. Democrat Party has become too lunatic to ever support. Repubs too timid and vacillating. A pox on both.

Disgusted by both parties.

I "lean" liberal. Both parties have faults but, my views are more in agreement with Dems. Republican ideals, less govt. States' rights, self responsibility are good, but politics has poisoned these ideals making moderate politicians in both parties into an endangered species. What a drag!

I am a true independent. I have voted for both parties in Presidential and gubernatorial elections. However the party of Trump is downright scary to me. There is no plan for anything. Trump just makes decisions based on what he sees and hears on Fox News.... on that day. He may change the next day! This is not the way our country is meant to work. I am worried about the survival of our democracy. And I pray a lot for our country!!

I am actually a political moderate, but neither party seems to be interested in moderate thinking voters

I only like about 20% of the Republicans. The rest are lost along with almost all of the Democrats. Most politicians are thieves and criminals. Ask yourself how do so many of them obtain millions and millions of dollars and serve for 30 or 40+ years? Shame on most politicians for corrupting our amazing system. How can they live with themselves?

I struggle to make options at times that news gives you a piece of the story. Everything is so convoluted, it's hard to know what each party actually thinks or if they think the same but argue over the way to get there based on different information that can be bias. Very confusing.

Sometimes I believe at the Fed level there is very little difference. What their voting pattern.

The hypocrisy of the Republican Party has driven me away from it.

Total
Appendix 13: Most Important Factor Vote for President – Open-Ended Comments

A business approach
A conservative platform.
A willingness to do what's best, REGARDLESS OF PARTY AFFILIATION.
ability
Ability to actually do the job as president instead of treating it like a reality show.
ABILITY TO BEAT TRUMP
Ability to provide leadership with confidence, compassion, and respect for ALL lives.
Ability to unite the country. Basically, NOT Trump.
ability/willingness to forge compromise
Adherence to the Constitution and limited government.
Admirable leadership
Any one but TRUMP!!
Anyone but a Democrat
background/experience
border security
bring people together
Build that wall
Caring for humanity and environment
Centrist positions
character
Character
charisma -- ability to beat DT
civility, common sense, working toward common goals, selfless
Clear policy initiatives
climate change
Clinton was too corrupt to even consider.
Common sense approach. Informed and educated. Respect for all US citizens!
Compassion
competence
Competence
Conservative
Conservative values
Decorum
defeating trump
Defeating Trump
Defending the constitution
Demonstrated honorable service to state and country
don't know who I will vote for but it will not be Trump; he is an embarrassment
Economic policies
economy
Economy
Electability
Electability.
electability
Enforce illegal immigration
Environmental Issues
Ethics and policies
experience
Experience
experience in governmenal affairs
Experience in Government.
Female
Fiscal policy
Follow through on what you said you would do during campaign at all costs.
For democrats - someone who can win
foreign policy
Free from being tied to factions or the good ol' special interests.
Get Trump out ASAP.
gets things done
Getting things done
good character
Governing experience
Govt experience
Has to be able to beat Trump
healthcare
Healthcare
Her/his ability to defeat Trump

His ideas are real issues. Not politically motivated

honesty

Honesty

Honesty and caring about the general population

Honesty and Emathy

Honesty, integrity, concern for US over concern for self or party.

Honesty, Obeying the Constitution.

I agree with what he wants for our country and his willingness to not care about hurting people's feelings to make it happen.

I am not a socialist.

I didn't rank them as it is much too early in the process to make any kind of choice

I don't particularly like Trump, but I do like his policies

I have to have some trust in the person that he/she will live up to what they believe in is best for our country.

I vote for whomever I feel will do the best job, not upon party lines. Right now, while I do not like President Trump personally, I feel he has helped the country immensely. The Democrats are all over the place, with many leaning towards socialism and others just plain idiots.

I'm not a socialist

If I agree with their platform

immigration

Immigration

integrity

Integrity

Integrity - after this past election, this is so important

Integrity of candidate

Integrity, and plan for the country

integrity, ethics

intelligence

Intelligence

Intelligence!!!

Judicial appointments

knowing the working people

Knowledge, experience, Highly moral and truthful. Can't think of the one word that means this!

Knowledgeable

Last name is not Trump
LET’S MAGA TOGETHER NOW!

Liberal
looking out for Americans
Loyalty to the Constitution AND defending our borders
message for unity/inclusion of both sides
Middle of the road
My sense of his/her honesty.
My sense of the concern of the candidate for the best interest of the general public.
National Security
No democrats
No extreme party candidate.
Not Trump
One that is for the people.
One who opposes abortion
Party
Past performance
Personal integrity.
plan to manage climate change
policies I care about and agree with the candidate
Political party
President that will protect USA.
President Trump is pursuing important issues that I support.,
Previous experience in government with an exhibited ability to lead with a strong voice.
Pro-life and not a politician
Progressive
Promise to restore system of checks and balances.
promoting equality
Proven leadership experience.
Put our country first and economic growth and stop ILLEGAL immigration. It's bankrupting cities. We cannot save the world.
Rational
reasonableness
Represents the constitution and the sovereignty of the United States of America.
Restoration of environmental laws and regulations
Right now .. don't know.
Sane
Selecting the candidate that is the most qualified

Socialism
Someone who intelligently understands the issues facing the country
Someone who knows history and the constitution
Someone who would support the main principles of the party while working across party lines.
Someone with a vision for the future, who is not an idiot, and who has basic morals.

Stance on important issues
Stopping the "gridlock" in Congress
Support of democratic institutions
Supreme Court nominations
Supreme Court views
telling it like it is...honesty
That it is a woman
That the president is more concerned with dealing with the most pressing needs, the national defense, secure borders, opportunities for existing Americans
That they are not a criminal being paid for
The ability to defeat Donald Trump
The closest thing to someone who can discuss the issues CLEARLY and present some CLEARLY defined solutions,......without all the rhetoric re. Trump and all the rest of what is wrong!!!
The Economy - - & eliminating ISIS as a threat !
The lesser of two evils.....
The person most able and likely to defeat Donald Trump.
They display common sense.
Traditional American values
Transparency
Trust
Trusted leader who has vision and morals
trustworthiness
Trustworthiness
Trustworthiness!
Trustworthyness
Uncontrolled/enforced Immigration
Unfortunately, in 2020 it will be the candidate's ability to win
Uniting the Country!

Vision for this country - progressive/socialism will destroy this country.

Wants what is best for the US and it's legal citizens.

We need a moderate who can gulf the growing political divide

What I believe to be their character & ability to work with both parties & help unite & reach compromise for overall good.

Who can win and defeat Trump

winning the election

work with both parties for results

Total
Appendix 14: Highest Priority for Next President – Open-Ended Comments

A look to the future
ability to understand the US government structure and how it works
Access to medical care
Addressing income inequality
Affordable health care; sensible gun control; cost of education.
background, honesty.
BORDER CONTROL-ENFORCE IT
Bring back integrity and ethics to the White House. Remove conflicts of interest.
bring people together toward compromise
Bring this country together
bringing both parties to the table and lets make good government happen
Bringing country together again
bringing our country back together again; repairing the divisiveness of Trump
Bringing our country back together....
Bringing people and the country back together and thinking of the middle class ... not all your rich friends.
Bringing the country together and instilling pride in our nation for all.
bringing the country together to reinforce and permanently entrench democratic ideals so a fascist can never again be elected president
Build the wall
Building the wall
campaign finance reform
Charting a responsible course for our country which includes less military conflicts, fair immigration policy that solves the D.A.C.A. problem and a reasonable environmental policy to replace fossil fuel reliance with more renewable energy.
Civility
climate change
Climate change
Climate Change
Climate change and environmental policy
Climate change!
Climate change.
Close the boarders.
continue building the economy by keeping taxes and regulations low and minimal
Continue protecting USA.
Continue the present president’s policies
Court reform so criminals don’t get out so easily.
credibility
Curbing immigration and Healthcare spending
Cybersecurity and data privacy
Decreasing the gap between the wealthy and those in poverty.
Deficit
demonstrate concern and care for the people of and environments versus him/herself -- through policy and not rhetoric;
above all, NO TWEETING
Drain the Swamp! Clear out the FBI, CIA and EPA. Shutdown Education Dept. Repeal Obamacare, stop and deport all Illegals. Remove activist judges. Tort reform. Negotiate fair trade agreements. Stop wasting money on climate change. Make polluting countries stop not just move money around via carbon credits. Increase "Green" Nuclear Energy output. Draining the swamp at DOJ and especially the FBI, and slamming the jailhouse door on those agencies’ alums who have broken the law.
economic disparities
Economic freedom and deregulation
Economic justice
economy
Economy
Economy & immigration reform
Economy and Medicare
Education
Elected by the people not by the antiquated electoral college
Encouraging people to take personal responsibility and to treat others with kindness, regardless of personal characteristics.
Enforce illegal immigration
Enforce immigration laws with stronger border and clear out backlog of cases; quick legal action on all new cases.

environment  infrastructure  illegal immigration  gun control
Environmental reform that puts America as the global leader in climate change efforts.
Equality
Equity  Environment  Education  foreign relations
Ethics
Ethics in government and choosing qualified cabinet.
Fair taxation
first the president needs to make sure our country is stable as a nation and within the world, but we need a unified morale.... making us all proud to be Americans that work together to make the world better, not just being boastful

Fix broken immigration system.

Fix our immigration system. It's a perennial issue in each election and keeps getting worse.

fixing immigration laws and preventing illegal immigration

Fixing our broken infrastructure

Focus on fairness and equity for all.

For ALL the people, not just for the rich.

For the people not politics

Foreign Affairs, Healthcare & Social Security Fix.

gender equality; international relations

getting immigration process fixed once and for all so the legal processes are followed

Getting the wall up on the border. Our economy cannot support all the people coming in and taking our taxpayer money while getting benefits that should only be given to our citizens who have been paying their taxes. Tied with that is keeping our economy growing.

global climate change

Global safety

Global warming

Good judgment

Healing the divisions within the country while rebuilding relationships with allies.

health care

Health care

healthcare

Healthcare

Heroin epidemic

honesty

Honesty

Honesty, transparency, civility.

I need to see the platform

If it is a Democrat, to try to overturn the efforts of the current Administration to reverse the actions of the Obama Administration. This applies particularly to immigration, trade, and environmental regulation.

Illegal immigration.

Immigration control and education.

Immigration
Immigration and closing the Mexican border and deporting every illegal irregardless of why they are illegally here, such as chain immigration, etc. Illegal is illegal.

Immigration and return of manufacturing,

Immigration followed by health care

Immigration reform

Immigration reform and border security

Immigration reform and health care

immigration reform; justice system

IMMIGRATION!!!!!!!

improve inequality and high taxes on the rich

Improving standard of living for marginalized Americans

Integrity

Integrity in government

Integrity, wisdom, policies that are inclusive and not divisive.

Job security for all and an increase in social security payments for seniors

Keeping the economy strong - everyone benefits

Keeping The Economy Strong & Unemployment Low!

Keeping us out of war.

Make America Normal Again

Making websites responsible for the information they contain. No immunity for libel or dissemination of demonstrable falsehoods.

Middle class f the road

Moderate both sides

Moving from a fossil-fuel based economy to a more alternate energy based economy

National & Global Security; many around the world wish the US tremendous harm.

National Security


open and fair elections without interference by foreign persons or domestic special interests

Our country

Prevail with common sense over the extreme stupidity that is out there.

Professionalism

promoting equality

Protection of the environment.
Pushing Congress into actually doing something.

Putting Hillary and the other criminals in jail.

raise taxes on top 1% to support safety net

Rational behavior

Re-building the US manufacturing system, fixing the Infrastructure so that it works for us, Honest assessment of the "treaties" and updating our immigration policy.

Rebuild America's stature in world economics and politics.

Rebuild the reputation of the US, believe that many other countries have lost respect for the US. Improve the economy for all, not just the wealthy.

Rebuilding trust in the federal government and trying to reduce our societal conflict

Reduce global warming.

Reduce government spending and pay down the debt

Reduce government, reduce the national debt

Reducing national debt while ensuring our social safety net programs remain solvent. Not an easy task.

Reestablish political party systems that works together to solve problems rather than focusing on the politics

Regaining America's place as a world leader.

repair trumps caos

Repairing the damage to our country, international relationships and responsibly addressing climate change.

restore capitalism

RESTORE DECENCY AND DEMOCRATIC VALUES

restoring democratic norms

Restoring the US to its former position as a world leader!

Return to civility in the governance sector

Returning sanity to the body politic.

returning to democracy / getting rid of all Trump junk

Reviving the middle class through tax cuts and tax increases on the very rich AND corporations.

Same as above, and make sure something is done about illegal immigration.

Secure borders

SECURE OUR BORDERS IMMEDIATELY. CHANGE THE ASYLUM LAWS TO BENEFIT THE USA.

secure the border to make it possible to keep existing Americans safe and to make this a safe place of opportunity for our grandchildren and those of other Americans..
Secure the southern border, immigration law reform, implement E-verify system nationally and penalize businesses who hire illegal immigrants, address "anchor baby" issue once and for all, revise tax law so that illegal immigrants do not qualify for the "earned income tax credit" on income tax filing, address qualification for refugee status, establish system to ensure that illegal immigrants are not voting during national elections, review legal immigration system to ensure that legal immigrants are "value added" to security
See ansr 19. Also, global warming and climate change is a very real threat to our planet, and we need a leader who doesn't want to go back to the 1950's way of life, which will doom our children and grandchildren.
Someone who can reestablish normalcy
Stop illegal immigration and lower health insurance premiums.
Stop Political correctness
stop the rhetoric, tweeting, aggressiveness towards opposing parties & rest of the world, reestablish broken foreign ties
Stop the stealing of our intellectual property by ASIA & RUSSIA
stopping illegal immigration and fixing the current immigration laws, followed by controlling health care costs
Stopping the flow of people from Central America
Stopping the illegal aliens crossing the border and changing the existing immigration laws that allowed this crisis.
Straightening out the health care mess.
the border
The economy!
The one I think is trying to better this Country and its people!
The United States is front and foremost the most important factor. Something that most politicians on the federal level have forgotten about
To include a vision for ALL the major issues (economy/wealth disparity, jobs with "living wages", Medicare, Social Security, immigration (and how to truly tackle the core problem - in C.A. - horrendous governments that we have supported for 75 years), military (15-20% not U.S. citizens?!?!, and is all-volunteer doable), environment (charging true costs for burning fossil fuels, building highways for individual transportation, Etc.), and infrastructure (with work programs to bring poor people from around the world).
To listen
TRUMP WILL CONTINUE TO DRAIN THE SWAMP OF ALL THE CORRUPT POLITICIANS!
Truthful and not corrupt
Try to restore decency, honesty, and tolerance in government and this country.
Trying to heal a divided nation
Unbalanced federal budget its out of control
Undoing so much from this current administration.
Undoing the damage of the current president.
Undoing Trump damage

Unify our country.

Unify the country and beyond

Unify the nation

Unifying America

Unifying the country and restoring civil discourse

Uniting this country. Show its citizens how to have some humility and compassion. Fix the immigration problem. Set a sustainable annual limit and be fair about admission. Reduce the country's debt to a meaningful financial level.

Unsure

Valuing and prioritizing human life at all stages.

Work to unify the nation insure we are not harming the environment and regaining our superior status in the world as a country undivided and strong.

Work toward compromise between political parties. Only way to growth of any kind in this very damaged country.

Total
Appendix 15: Job Approval – Governor Open-ended Comments

a bridge builder between opposing positions. well done
A concensus builder who works for the good of all the people of Maryland.
Although I am a democrat, Gov. Hogan has shown himself to be a capable and civil leader.
anti-urban / Baltimore bias... especially with regards to transportation policy
Changing school start time to after Labor Day, placing profits as a higher priority than students
Character
don't like his stance on environmental issues or his interference in school calendar
Even though he is a Republican, he has not supported Trumpian policies.
Fair
Fiscal decisions.
For a Reepublican I believe he meets the State's needs. Probably the most liberal Republican Gov anywhere.
Gov Hogan reaches across the aisle and attempts to work with everyone.
Governor Hogan has weakened during this second term in office.
Has done a good job overall but every now & then leans a little too "Republican" for me.
Hasn't done too much damage.
He acts in the interests of the people of MD
He acts like Erlich
he can't decide if he is a conserative or a progressive..
He continues to act in the best interests of MD
He does not take action to support 2nd amendment gun rights. Panders to groups that he thinks will get him ahead. Only worried now about looking good for a presidential run.
He doesn't kowtow to Trump
He is a classic Jeffersonian Republican with wisdom and pragmatism.
He is a two-faced snake.
He is becoming too liberal.
He is fighting a "losing" battle with the Democrat controlled House and Senate.
He is more concerned with politics and popularity than good policy.
He is not a strong party candidate.
He is not interested in smart growth and supports private schools.
He is relatively moderate
He is taking a sensible approach to deal w/ MD's problems.
He is the Best most honest Governor who works hard to bring both sides together
He listens to both sides and makes decisions not based on party affiliations
He lives in the middle of the road and people who try to walk that line, are never great. No great moderates in history books!
He makes decisions in the best interest of its citizens and does not bow to “the party line”.
He needs to be more pro illegal immigration
He opposes the Oaf in the Oval.
He seems a reasonable person who makes decision based on what he thinks is best for the state without really concern about “politics”
He seems to be trying to be the anti-Trump governor, which can only be a good thing.
He seems to work across party lines for some issues, but he needs the Democratic-controlled state house to keep his more Conservative party ideas in check.
He sees the big picture, while taking in consideration on how it will affect the small parts
He uses common sense that does not necessarily fall along party lines. I do not always fall along party lines either. I am a democrat who voted for Larry Hogan.
He wants to make Maryland better for business by making it worse for workers.
He's a lone wolf. He's the antithesis of a team player.
he's a republican after all
He's doing the best he can in our corrupt, one party state. He needs to lay off the President though.
He's done a decent job working with a Democratic legislature. Not sure how I'd feel about him on a national level with a Republican congress
He's straightforward, will not be bullied or coerced into decisions, and is firm in his actions.
He's doing the best he can in our corrupt, one party state. He needs to lay off the President though.
He's straightforward, will not be bullied or coerced into decisions, and is firm in his actions.
Hogan is not near as dick headed as the republicans at the federal level. He is less of a slave to his party.
Hogan tries to present a picture of a middle of the road but is very conservative in many areas.
I believe he is sincere, a common man.
I believe that he truly wants to work with both parties to ensure the betterment of MD.
I do not agree with him on all issues, but he is a moderate and exactly what our country needs right now.
I don't agree with all of his policies such as school calendars
I have seen conservation efforts and protected land under his administration.
I think he does care about a good lifestyle for all residents
I think he is a hypocrite.
i think he is doing a great job but needs the representatives to do better,
I think he sees the BUSINESS and HEALTHCARE costs that result from pollution and environmental issues. Seems to have a bit more empathy for the middle class.
I think the school after Labor Day fight is overstep of his role.
I wish he would speak out more on important national issues, but overall think he's doing a good job for Maryland.

It was good to hear that the governor works with both political parties in Maryland.

Like his moderate stance but wish he were stronger on the environment.

Liked him better before he started riding both sides of the fence.

Looking out for the middle class.

Love his stance on lower taxes, lower tolls, & the school schedule as well as the minimum wage.

Lowered fees and taxes, and gave liberal state house/senate a dose of honest assessment that they are going down the wrong path.

Makes decisions issue by issue, not tied to any ideology.

Non partisan.

not for middle-lower class citizens - veto of minimum wage hike.

Not happy with his signing of gun control laws but better than any Democrat.

Not raising taxes.

Refuse to vote for any socialist democrat. He is a weak governor who caves to the desires of the democrats anyway.

seems too out of touch with voters and issues.

Smooth running government; no scandals; doesn not support Trump.

Stealing money from public education.

Stop siding with democrats.

Stop thinking about running for President work on trem limits and lowering taxes.

They only think of themselves.

things he's overall tremendous; in touch with reality and has a moral compass.

Very partisan, poor leadership choices in some agencies. Too much influence by watermen at the expense of CB cleanup.

very practical, disagreed with his stance on $15 dollar minimum wage.

Want lower taxes.

working in bi-partisan manner to solve serious problems makes MD better.

Works together with everyone.

Total.
Appendix 16: Job Approval – County Executive  Open-ended Comments

All in the good ole boys club

Building hasn't slowed. My kids still have huge class sizes and more homes are being built. I don't want my kids walking in fences areas to go into trailers to learn.

Cancellation of immigration programs in AA county

Dissapproved. Another community organizer, associated with ACORN, a progressive socialist.

Do not agree with his plans

Don't know enough about him, but I'm not really impressed so far

Don't know enough to comment

don't know enough to say more

Don't really know him or what he's accomplished

fresh face

fully supports public education and teachers

Good first steps and appointees, excellent focus on transparency, slower growth.

Hasn't been in office long enough to really accomplish much but seems to be taking a sensible approach.

Have been more and more pleased with the way he conducts business. He is people oriented.

have concerns about some of his recent county hiring decisions and support of his employees (lack of)

have not been following him buy i will start

He appears to be listening to concerns of ALL AACo residents - not just the development community and wealthy

He appears to want to listen to the people of MD

He doesn't seem to be around much.

He has already violated his oath of office --- He can submit his resignation now.

He has not been in office long enough to rate the success of his promises.

He hasn't done anything yet.

He hasn’t been elected long enough to have an opinion

He is opening up government to the public.

He is pushing for socialism and approval of sanctuary status as well as the "green" nonsense

He just got elected; he has had little time to demonstrate is abilities.

He listens to all sides

He seems to be trying hard to involve the public and allowing public chance to voice concerns. Reserving some judgement until he releases his budget.

He wants to restrain developers.

He's a grownup, but I shudder to think that his first job was as a community organizer. For 12 years yet!
He's doing a great job; he listens.

HES A LOONEY TUNE ASSHOLE!

His outreach is admirable.

His priorities do not line up with reality.

I am not familiar with his work yet

I am very impressed with his communication, knowledge, ability to work with the community and speak truth to power. He really cares about the future of our county.

I appreciate his work to include residents in important decisions

I believe in laws and abiding by them. You do not pick and choose which ones you support.

I don't know much about him, but the fact that he didn't immediately replace the Police Chief tells me that he may not try to fix things that aren't broken.

I haven't followed him closely as I am housebound and not reading the local newspaper often

I know the man, I trust the man, he listens.

I like his many outreach efforts and his efforts to get the Vic picture.

I like that he is reaching out to the people and embracing climate initiatives. I need more time to assess his performance before awarding a Strongly Agree rating.

I like what I see, so far.

I'm out of the country for a year and am not up to date on him

impressive attempts to make more transparent

It seems like he wants to raise taxes and spend a lot of money.

It's too soon to judge Mr. Pittman's effectiveness, but his goals and efforts appeal to me.

like his new ideas... hope he can pull it off.

liked the last guy more with fiscal responsibility

Mr. Pittman made false promises to not raise taxes and now wants to raise them as one of his first actions.

No opinion.

No scandals

Not enough time in office to judge him.

progressive leaning toward socialism, not my cup of team. his plans to raise money thru increased taxes to spend on things that don't need more money - just better management - I strongly oppose

so far so good

So far so good but time will tell.

Son't know enough about him yet

spread too thin of variety of issues

Starting to act like a Democrat which is a bad fit for A.A. County
Steuart has many challenges in front of him, but he has the right priorities, and above-all, the honesty and integrity to instill trust in his decision-making.

Still early in his term

Still too soon for me to tell. At least he hasn't tried to insert Bike Lanes around the Arundel Center!

There is no transparency. No press releases are published from Executive Pittman.

Too early

too early to tell

Too early to tell

Too early to tell, but he seems to be working for growth management and teacher benefits

Too early too tell.

too soon to tell

Too soon to tell.

Too soon. Very hopeful.

Uh sanctuary county.

Unfortunately, I haven't been following him as closely as I should.

Unhappy with his decision on immigrants in county.

Voted for his oppo to overdevelopment. Upset about his support of moving Preakness to Laurel.

We'll have to see what he does, but I have my doubts.

Total
Appendix 17: Job Approval – President  Open-ended Comments

A complete and utter imbecile.
A man of very poor character. Narcissist.
A wall is needed, but he needs to calm down and get off twitter.
Acts like a child, too involved in social media and Too many scandals
Approve job performance. Disapprove of his communication.
Aside from disagreeing with his initiatives (tax reduction, border control, health care, he is uncivil and a narcissist.
Aside from his egomaniacal, arm-chair bullying, disgusting personality, I voted for him thinking the environment would be his weakest area (and I lived in NYC for decades!). Instead, one could fault him for everything (and I have benefitted financially). Most importantly, he has no regard for doing good for this country, and has no impulse to push forward with progressive and exciting plans for solutions for our future. A despicable human being.
Besides being an egotistical idiot his actions have been erratic and dangerous.
Buffoon; dishonest; plays to extreme right wing
Can't trust him
Character
Completely incompetent
corrupt, vain, tool of Russia, upholder of tyranny around the world, xenophobe, anti-American and every value I hold dear could there be worse
Does what he says, he will do. Says what others are afraid to say.
Doing what he was elected to do.
GREATEST POTUS EVER, NOT POLICATELY CONNECTED TO THE STATUS QUO!
Has kept his word despite being constantly attacked, has produced significant economic growth, has fought both Republicans & Democrats to try and secure the southern border.
He displays a total disregard for the democratic process. He would prefer to run the country as an authoritarian leader.
He doesn't know the truth from a lie and has no respect for civility.
He gets the job done and has strengthen the economy and added more jobs. Strong foreign policy
He has torn this country apart.
He is a bully and is destroying civility and unity in our country. He does not know what he does not know.
He is a disaster for our country and the world.
He is a liar, unethical, and in this job to increase his wealth. Tired of his constant campaigning.
He is a liar.
He is a person with a shred of human decency. He is destroying long-standing relationships with our allies. He is capricious in the decision making process - doesn't appear to put a great deal of though into anything.
He is a vile excuse for a human; greedy, self-absorbed and is a national disgrace.

He is bad for the environment, lies constantly, badmouths the press, serves as a terrible role model for our children, alienates our allies and disregards the opinions of the FBI, CIA and others while supporting several countries who are our enemies, and is an embarrassment!

He is demoralizing far too many citizens, and bringing down America's worth in the World.

He is for this country if they would let him do his job

He is fulfilling campaign promises. He appointed conservative supreme court judges. Working on immigration.

He is getting some key economic changes done, but I don't approve of his methods and I think he is missing the mark on immigration

He is like a child in a candy store - I will close the borders, off with his head, you're fired. He is so unstable - cannot even speak English, is a joke to the rest of the world. Admires Putin and N. Korea. A disaster all around. Nepotism to make his kids wealth grow and grow because of their position and on and on and on.

He is not fit to be President.

He is playing hard ball. We need to have term limits for congress, like yesterday!

He is the greatest president of my life time. He does what he says. I have not seen that in my 40 years of voting for presidents

He is the most unqualified, ineffective and hateful chief execs we've ever had.

He is the worst thing to happen to our country and the world in a very long time

He is trying --- But the Dems and the "NEWS??" media are making his job damn near impossible.

He is trying to accelerate global warming.

He is trying to protect our Country and he loves this Country. Congress should be doing their jobs to help him!

He is uninformed!! He does not read or listen to the experts around him. He thinks he knows everything and he is actually STUPID about how the government works and his general knowledge is sorely lacking. That is often on display in many of the things he says in interviews. He is also an indiscriminate liar.

He is unsuited to be president, is mentally ill, uniformed and self-focused and has set this country back 300 years.

He is working hard to clean up the US and to make it stronger and better.

He keeps trying to push the policy promises he made before he was elected. That is rare in government

He lies, is ignorant about important issues, and is arrogant & more interested in personal gain than what is good for Americans (all of us).

He loves the country and doesn't want to see it ruined by these other parties.

He needs to keep his mouth shut and stop tweeting - He needs a new PR person.

He supports Israel and has appointed judges that follow the Constitution.

He takes a stand for what i believe in. I don't think another president could handle his ridiculous fight.

He violates the US Constitution

He's a bully and an embarrassment.
He's for prosperity for Americans and for keeping Americans safe. So, I'm for him.

He's trying to save our country inspite of all the media and democrats/republicans against his changes he was elected to do

He's uninformed, a bully, childish, a crook, a liar, and puts our country in danger.

He's a juvenile

His egotistical, irrational, dangerous attitudes & stupidity and pronouncements endanger us all.

His lack of compassion and he is a racist

his lies, his ignorance on global and domestic issues, his extremely uneducated stance on almost every issue

His petty, narcissistic, personality is an embarrassment. He is a divisive, bigot that throws temper-tantrums at the expense of hard working people. I could go on and on..... I think you get the idea.

I can't think of one positive thing he's accomplished. He's cruel; self obsessed!

I do not trust career politicians.

I don't think he is a leader. I think he puts himself before the country. I have not liked him but when he shut the government down for so long, in opposition to what had been negotiated with Congress right before the holiday recess, was terrible. I think he caused financial harm to public servants, the economy and our country for his own ego.

I like that he wants the Wall, I feel we need to stop easy access into our country

I may agree with some of his get tough policies, but I can't condone his nastiness and epic divisiness or his unwillingness to build alliances.

I think he is doing the right things. Wish he won't tweet so much, but he does say what the majority is thinking, just afraid to say for fear of being trolled

I think he is the worst, most dangerous president we've ever managed to elect

I'm actually fearful for the country right now

If you actually study what he has done and what he's TRYING to do...it's amazing. The media is hiding most of it from the general public.

Ignorant blowhard who is not putting the country's best interest first

Immoral, narcissistic, venal, mean, divisive. Lies constantly.

It's all about HIM

It's too obvious to any right-thinking person to list.

Judges, secure borders, removing regulations

LET him do his job. He shares ideas with a lot of the public. Not these "free for all" Dems.

Let me count the ways...Brought in Fed people who have no idea how to do job and only goal is to support business. Has lost confidence of allies, has done nothing to address climate change etc etc

Lies when the truth would do, encourages people to the lowest common denominator, awful person.

Lots of progress on key policy issues & justices despite the collusion delusion for 2 years. Love that ISIS is dead!
MAGA. Adheres to Constitution of the United States, agrees with the right to life, and clearly sees the need for the reduction of the federal government into state issues and is brilliant on foreign policy and sees the fallacy of climate change

Megalomaniac out purely for his own self interest. The best interests of the country are secondary to his quest for attention.

More concerned with Trump than the country; Can't tell the truth; Takes care of the wealthy over needs of the middle and lower class

no credibility, dishonest, immoral, totally self-centered, etc.

No morals. No ethics. Any one thing of a thousand things that President Trump has said or tweeted or done, would have derailed a politician in “normal” times. These are not normal times.

No respect for him as a person

poor leader and bad image for US in the world

President Trump appears to have no integrity and no interest in uniting the US, to the detriment of our country.

President Trump is pursuing the goals that he set and that I agreed with when I voted for him in 2016.

Remains focused on campaign promises at all costs putting commitment to voters first over politics.

sad to see that was the Republican best candidate. He is a disaster. and I am a relatively hard core republican.

Self serving /sexist/ predator/ breaks rules, always has.

Stays on policies and agendas. Consistent.

Still thinks he is on a TV show not running the USA. Does not act presidential, ruining our relationship overseas, just thinks of his rich friends not the working class, out to ruin federal gift as an employer and if he gets his way employment in federal govt will be the choice of last resort. Acts like a clown at times, no class at all. A dictator and admires the wrong people. Running the country and the ability to meet in the middle and give and take. Want to see the details in the Muller report!

Such futile ground... if only one, He has no realistic idea of his abilities.

Terrible personality, drags everybody down.

The economy is good, but the political deviciveness is as strong as it's been for many years,

The effects of his irrational behavior both locally and world wide will be felt for a long time.

the man is crazy

They tried to shut him down but he standing strong

This "man" is an egotistical, lying, pompass, self grandyising, blow hard, idiot. It is indeed very lucky for us and the world that he has not drawn us into another war.

Truly wants America to be great again. Not a politician

Trump has been plagued by endless politically mortivated illegal attempt to overthrow a duly elected President. Even so, he's got a lot done.

Trump has coarsened the societal norms, and undermined the world's faith in the United States as both a trade and military partner.
Trump is and has always been motivated by self enrichment and the trappings of power. He is amoral and will cheat as much as he can.

Trump is trying to do the things that he promised during his election campaign. He is concerned with getting it done instead of being popular. He is staying strong on border control, supporting our military, Medicare and other vital needs of Americans.

Trump will lie as his default response to any question. He oversimplifies most situations to appeal to his supporters which makes Trump and them seem dimwitted.

unethical, dishonest, impulsive, unstable

Unhinged

unintelligent, narcissistic, destruction of environment, runaway deficit, cuts to programs and funding to/for middle/lower class citizens, elderly, push to destroy existing healthcare insurance with zero idea of any sustainable replacement plan

Unqualified, dishonest, crook, racist, sexist, narcissistic, Republican!

Unsuitable for the presidency and a mean-spirited, misguided, flawed individual

was not my first choice, but his support for Israel is immeasurable in positivity. He has been strong against enemies; Russia, Chaina, NK and Iran. He has been a stron proponent of our true allies. My tax rate decreased and I was able to use more of my money through the year while also getting a bigger return.

What happened to the America I knew two years ago?

Total
Appendix 18: Party Trust  Open-ended Comments

After we get rid of the RINO's.
At the very least climate change is in need of being addressed. I feel the Democratic Party will address this issue
Based on the Republican support of Trump.
Both parties are not interested in the people who live in this country.
Both parties have failed to address the problems.
BUT only if they can find a way to work together with all the people who do not identify as Democrats.
Current Republicans have sold out. I could be a liberal Republican but they've gone over the deep end.
DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADERS HAS FAILED MISERABLY IN RECENT YEARS!
Dems want to "mother" the nation and give everything away for free and the "it's ok" approach. Everything is not ok and have them pay for whatever is free.
Each party is tied to their own thinking and will not compromise on anything even gun control.
Education, the environment and gun safety- all essential issues that only democrats seem to care about.
Fire them all and start again
I am in favor of developing new parties. The two-party system is broken.
I believe conservative values will keep this country going in the right direction.
I can't believe the republicans are standing with Trump. We need more senators like John McCain.
I have not see any member of either party really willing to work to make things better.
I see meanness and toadying from Republicans in government. They have done a very poor job in the past two years. I cannot see they will do better in the future.
I think our national parties are no longer focused on governing. It is always trying to "beat" the other side or figure out a way to make them look bad. I am very skeptical about any of the members of congress being able to work together in the best interest of our country. I don't know how health care and immigration have any chance of being solved unless the parties can get away from this winners/losers mentality
I used to be a dem but they are all about themselves and disrupting what needs to be done
If the mass of people who are unelected can be stopped from making policy and regulations, there is hope. Both parties are guilty of playing politics with our money and benefitting from their time in DC, instead of actually attending to the needs of their constituents.
If they cannot BOTH compromise some we make no progress.
Maybe the democrats .. but not sure. Don't agree with the leanings of some of the younger democrats.
Neither party cares only worried about reelection
None of us should be siding with the same party on EVERY single issue. We should do away with Red and Blue. There need to be term limits in congress.

Only 20% of the Republicans are worth a damn...but that's our only hope.

Only if they allow Trump to do his job.

Polar bipartisanship strangles both

Politicians at their worst.

Progressive/socialism lead only to destruction. There is hope with certain elements of the Republican party; however, if they can't find their soul again, they should go the way of the Whig party and we need to create something that will work.

Reps sold out to Trump

Republicans are afraid to challenge their incompetent President

Republicans far more than democrats are supporting the crimes of the President. Congress can only be a check on the Executive Branch if they use the power granted them by the Constitution. The Republican leaders have not.

Republicans have been in control of Congress and accomplished nothing. They were obstructionists to Obama's agenda. And still after they controlled the WH and Congress didn't accomplish anything but created more chaos, ruined our foreign policies, ruined our trade, ruined our immigration. No attempt to even present a real repeal & replace healthcare system.

Republicans have sold their souls for an abortion ban and two SCOTUS seats.

Repubs better overall, but sadly lacking in leadership and resolve. Dems--just plain crazy, selfish, power mad, uninterested in concerns of people they represent. Not qualified to rule a shoe box, much less a nation.

Sadly, the Republicans have shown themselves to be unable to move things forward and unite the US. Recently, however, they have been standing up to the President to work in a bipartisan way, and I applaud that.

Simply look at the parties..refuse to work together to solve problems.

So disappointed in our Congress, both sides! Just have to have hope that things will change! It gets harder every day!

The democrats are now leftist extremists with socialist plans for this country. Very disturbing.

The Democrats want a one world order.

The division along party lines seems to create a barrier to productivity. I don't know who would be best at fixing things at this point.

The main problems are never going to be solved when the apparent objective of both parties is to control their respective branches of government.

The nature of politics is that pols always consider their re-election chances as the guiding principal when deciding to vote for or against legislation. TERM LIMITS NOW!!!!!

The only fiscally responsible party is Republican. The only party with foreign policy acumen is Republican. I fear of the thought of one of these Democrats winning the 2020 election.

The Republicans have abdicated any pretension of working for anyone but the wealthy and themselves. It really is sad because we need to have checks and balances but they have dumbed down their party to the point where they are useless at best and destructive most of the time.
They are both the same. Need term limits. When it becomes a lifetime career they are useless

They fight like children

They put politics and power above the good of the country.

We must get to elected officials without holding parties to it. I don’t know this could be done, but we’ve gotten away from what’s best for the country

We need more unaffiliated party presence but the system doesn’t allow for this so we get stuck with 2 main schools of thought.

Total
Appendix 19: Explain Ideology Label – Open-ended Comments

As a label this fits best. But I decide on each issue after reading and research. I tend to be more liberal on social policy—except on the sanctity of life. Euthanasia and abortion are an anathema to me, while gay marriage or legalization issues I mostly support (I have doubts about controlling the youth usage though).

Conservative libertarian

Conservative on money. You can't help anyone if you're broke. Soon we will be broke. Debt is too high, something need to be cut. I vote cut the military.

Conservative, while thinking that ALL the solutions to problems the Democrats bemoan,.....could be corrected by using business responses (coal-burning energy - high rates of asthma here in MD - cost to our healthcare, etc., etc.)

Fiscal conservative and social moderate. Less government

Former democrat party member for over 50 years, changed to Independent because Democratic party has become the party of Socialism.

I always try to think of the future

I am a fiscal conservative and a social liberal. In the present environment I have to stick with Democrats.

I am a libertarian in that I believe individual initiative and personal responsibility should govern our behavior. However, the playing field needs to be level for everyone to contribute.

I am actually more of a moderate Liberal.

I am economically moderate, somewhat fed up with progressive anti-semitism and intolerance of diversity

I am more liberal in caring for the poor and middle class over the rich.

I am more liberal on some issues like climate change, healthcare. And moderate on immigration, development.

I am more liberal than conservative on many issues which are currently hotly contested - such as Immigration, Health care, and climate change

I am pro-choice (first trimester) and I am NOT religious so I don't fit in the little boxes the media and politicians and surveys try to put me in.

I am very conservative on most social issues and liberal on most financial issues. There are exceptions, though. Neither current political party represents me.

I believe government is here to help people and that the wealthier you are the more you should be taxed to help the most people

I believe in Constitutional government as our country was founded. The mistakes of the past have been righted (like slavery, voting rights), so it is time to come together for the common good and stop dividing people by race or ethnicity or whatever else can be found to divide us. We are Americans first. We need to act like it.

I believe that the Constitution says what it means and means what it says. It is not an "antiquated document" that is no longer applicable to the 21st century. The people who believe this are only trying to get around the restrictions in the Constitution in the pursuit of personal power - the exact reason for those restrictions. T

I can lean liberal (universal pre-K, low/no college tuition) and conservative (death penalty).
I tend to be middle of the road on political issues because I look at the context and circumstance before forming an opinion. Many of my conservative views stem from my traditional and religious background. I am usually not liberal on much because I believe in individual accountability, taking responsibility, and working for a livable standard.

I think government should help people to realize their dreams by protecting the vulnerable and not letting overly greedy corporations rape the earth for the sake of more profits. Govt should fund Big Ideas, space exploration, disease cures, etc.

I'M TIRED OF THE CORRUPTION IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND ITS POLITICIANS! WAKE UP BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE! AMERICA! SOCIALISM HAS BEEN A FAILURE EVERYWHERE IT HAS BEEN TRIED. LOOK AT VENEZUELA! AMERICA IS A CHRISTIAN NATION AND MUSLIMS ARE NOT WELCOME HERE!

I'm not fond of these categories but had to pick one.

Immigration, gun control. I am tired of my taxes paying for people that are waiting for handouts. Get a job or shut up. Everyone has a chance to make it. I was not given anything and I ended up successful.

Less government is better!

Liberal

Moderate by less government.

Old fashioned, security oriented, small government, local rule.

Socially liberal fiscal conservative

Socially moderate and fiscally conservative

While I can understand early abortions and believe the option should be available until a heartbeat is detected, I find it abhorrent that Democrats are now willing to have late term abortions. Once a baby is more than a few cells and has developed organs, it should be treated as a person with the right to life.

Would say moderate / conservative

Total