

Press Release: Oct. 23, 2020  
Anne Arundel Community College  
101 College Parkway, Arnold MD, 21012-1895  
Contact: Dan Nataf 410-777-2733 ddnataf@aacc.edu

## **Coronavirus Situation Still Residents' Top Concern According to County Survey**

A survey of 448 Anne Arundel County residents conducted October 9-16 by Anne Arundel Community College found that 50 percent of the respondents placed concern with coronavirus/COVID-19 as *one of the two* “the most important problems faced by residents at the current time.” This was followed by “the economy” chosen by 24 percent.

Last spring, the question only offered a single choice – 69 percent chose the coronavirus and only 10 percent chose the economy. The inclusion of an additional choice was partly responsible for these changes. Three other items in double digits were schools (18 percent), drugs (15 percent) and growth and development (13 percent); last spring, only the economy at 10 percent broke the double-digit level. By offering two “top choices,” it was possible to gain a better sense of the public’s concerns other than just the coronavirus. For more information about the most important problem, see pages 6-8. The press release will explore additional responses regarding coronavirus in a section devoted to this topic.

A part of the survey asked respondents to identify how serious various problems were in the county. The concern regarding coronavirus decreased by 14 percentage points to 46 percent saying “very serious”; the percentage citing “hate crimes in the county” went up 12 points to 33 percent.

Racism was seen as a much bigger problem nationally (53 percent saying “A big problem”) than in Maryland (23 percent) or Anne Arundel County (21 percent). This topic – including perceptions of the Black Lives Matter movement and policy responses - is explored in detail in a later section.

In the section focused on the presidential election, the most favored way for voting (cited by 35 percent) was to have obtained an absentee ballot and used a ballot drop box to return it. This was more than twice as many as those claiming to use the mail (15 percent). Another 46 percent said that they would vote in person – either on November 3 or using the early voting option.

When asked about their choice for president, 49 percent chose Democrat Joe Biden while only 40 percent identified incumbent President Donald Trump as their preferred candidate. When presented a choice of reasons for voting for a given candidate, 71 percent chose “The candidate will foster more peace and justice to America” as “very important” although this option was preferred more by Biden supporters (87 percent) than those favoring Trump (53 percent).

Other benchmark questions included right vs. wrong direction for the county, state and country. Economic conditions ratings were included 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 actual questionnaire and percentages can be found in Appendix A at the end of the press release. Open-ended comments offered by online respondents can be found in Appendices B-J.

## Summary of Main Findings

**Most Important Problem Facing County Residents:** Additional details are available in the text (p. 6-8).

**Right Direction/Wrong Direction:** The percentage of those saying that the **county** was moving in the right direction was down from 59 percent last spring to 41 percent this fall. Regarding the **state**, there was a decrease from 70 to 50 percent from spring to this fall. The percentage applicable to the **country** stayed in the same general range for the last few surveys: 30 percent compared to 32 percent last spring (pp. 9-12).

**Rating Economic Conditions - County, State and Country:** For the county, the percentage saying “excellent” or “good” dropped from 68 to 57 percent. At the state level, this fall there was another drop from 62 to 55 percent. The federal level was down from 44 to 37 percent (pp. 13-19).

**Expectations for the National Economy:** While the percentage of those saying that the economy will get better in the future (46 percent up from 41 percent), this was accompanied by a sharp rise in the percentage who were unsure (21 percent up from 9 percent) – (p. 19)

**Economic Conditions Applying to Respondents:** There had been a steady reduction in concern about high taxes which continued to drop into spring 2020 when it reached an all-time low (46 percent) – but there was a rise to 51 percent in fall 2020. There had been a steady drop in the percentage fearing unemployment, with a rise in that percentage started in fall 2019 reaching a peak in spring 2020 (at 15 percent) before dropping in fall 2020 to 11 percent. The fear of inflation was relatively low over the last year and far below the most recent peaks in 2016. An analysis shows the disproportionate adverse economic impact upon lower income people. (pp. 20-26).

**Coronavirus Section:** This section starts by showing how **concern about the spread of coronavirus compares to other problems** – it rates lower than some others such as climate change and access to opioids. It moves on to review the **pace of reopening** the economy – asking whether the pace is about right or too fast/slow for both Anne Arundel County and Maryland (the pace was about right 56 and 62 percent). Most people were content with the measures limiting hours of bars and restaurants or upon social gatherings (both about right at 52 percent). Differences among members of Democratic and Republican parties were noted. **Most people were supportive of measures** like mask wearing (82 percent supported it a great or good deal) or keeping public schools online (59 percent). Democrats were generally more supportive than Republicans.

People were asked about their **personal experiences** with COVID-19. Few had contracted it (2 percent), but 28 percent knew a family member or friend who had contracted it and 20 percent knew of someone who had died from it. Older people were commonly the ones to consider themselves “high-risk” – 39 percent of the sample.

More people thought that the **situation was getting better** (35 percent) rather than worse (20 percent), but many thought that the virus would surge this fall/winter (62 percent). Many people were concerned that someone in their family might get seriously ill due to the disease (41 percent said “very concerned”).

Many people have already been **tested for the virus** either with a quick results (42 percent) or a longer wait (20 percent).

**Lifestyles had changed due to the virus** – more stocking up of goods, changing travel plans/work routines/managing day care or home schooling and especially the purchase of goods online.

Almost half (47 percent) said that they were **experiencing unhappiness or emotional distress** due to changes related to COVID-19. An open-ended set of questions asked about challenges and positives that have resulted from the virus situation.

Some people were more optimistic than others about the **time frame for a vaccine** – 20 percent said within six months, but 27 percent said one to two years. Republicans were more optimistic than Democrats about the time frame.

**Trusted officials** – President Trump’s credibility relating to coronavirus information declined from 42 to 51 percent saying they had “not at all” trust in his views. All categories of public officials such as the governor, county executive and various health officials also saw trust in them decrease from spring 2020. See pages 27-39 for details.

### **Race Relations, Protests, Police Reforms**

A much larger group saw **racism as a “big problem”** for the country (53 percent) than for Maryland (23 percent) or Anne Arundel County (21 percent). Democrats and African-Americans thought that the prevalence of racism at all levels was greater than whites and Republicans.

Regarding the **Black Lives Matters protests**, most people thought that they were either completely (43 percent) or mostly justified (25 percent). A majority (52 percent) thought that **President Trump’s responses** were “mostly harmful.” Few thought that the protests were “very likely” to produce “**real change**” (6 percent), although a greater number (37 percent) thought that it was “somewhat likely.”

**Several police reforms were embraced by the public.** Majorities favored mandatory use of body cameras (68 percent said “very much support”), increased diversity and de-escalation training for police (55 percent) and were receptive to improvements of schools and health services in disadvantaged areas (57 percent). There was relatively little support for reducing police funding and applying it to community enhancement (15 percent).

**People were hesitant to say that African Americans suffered from unfair treatment by Anne Arundel County police “very often” (14 percent); more said that it might occur “sometimes” (37 percent). See pages 40-45.**

### **Voting Methods, Presidential Election Choices:**

**Voting Methods/Confidence in Vote:** People were strongly divided into equal groups saying that they would either use an absentee ballot to be sent by mail (15 percent) or deposited in a ballot drop box (35 percent) or vote in person early (24 percent) or on November 3 (22 percent). There were strong partisan preferences with Democrats much more inclined not to vote in person compared to Republicans.

**Respondents were much more confident that votes would be accurately counted in Maryland (49 percent saying “very confident” than in the United States generally - 22 percent). These issues are covered in pages 46-47.**

**Presidential Election:** Challenger Joe Biden seemed to be favored by the public – gaining 49 percent of voting intentions compared to incumbent Donald Trump (40 percent). Those who had voted for neither Clinton nor Trump in 2016 seem to now be gravitating to Biden – providing the advantage that puts him in the lead. An analysis was made of the impact of education and gender upon the vote – women and those with a college degree were much more likely to favor Biden than Trump.

**Other factors shaping vote:** Those favoring Trump were especially interested in a candidate who “will shake up the status quo.” By contrast, Biden supporters were more interested in a candidate who could work across party lines and foster more peace and justice to America. Biden supporters were much more likely to say that they were motivated by their dislike for the other candidate than was the case for Trump supporters. Biden supporters were much more inclined to favor the appointment of a replacement for Ruth Bader Ginsburg after the election than before. See pages 48-52 for details.

### **Job Approval for the President, Governor and County Executive**

As might be expected, approval of various incumbents often fell along party lines. The major exception to this was Governor Larry Hogan who obtained support from across the political spectrum. President Trump’s job approval percentage was steady at 43 percent; Hogan’s declined a bit to 79 percent while County Executive Steuart Pittman stayed above 50 percent (at 51 percent), but dropped from 58 percent last spring. See pages 53-57.

### **Trust in Political Parties**

Both major parties experienced a bit of a rise in the percentage expressing trust – Democrats went from 39 to 41 percent (a recent record) while Republicans rose from 34 to 38 percent. See pages 58-59.

Note that some questions had an opportunity for open-ended responses. Check the appendices at the end of the press release for verbatim citations (starts on page 75). The questionnaire with frequency distributions starts on page 60.

## **Methodology**

The survey polled a random sample of 448 county residents who were at least 18 years old. Interviewing was conducted primarily using a database of members of the CSLI/AACC web panel who have been recruited when conducting previous telephone interviews. The survey was in the field from October 9 to 16. There was about a 4.5 percent statistical margin of error; 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. Students participated in the selection of topics and analysis of results.

Contact Dan Nataf, Ph.D., for additional comments or questions at 410-777-2733 and [ddnataf@aacc.edu](mailto:ddnataf@aacc.edu). This press release can be obtained at [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1k-HfI1oQBq\\_12swKnSN632NajBB43P67/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1k-HfI1oQBq_12swKnSN632NajBB43P67/view?usp=sharing)

Check this website for results for information and press releases for surveys prior to spring 2020: [www2.aacc.edu/csli](http://www2.aacc.edu/csli).

## Detailed Review of Survey Findings

### The Most Important Problem Facing Residents – Coronavirus and the Economy Top the List

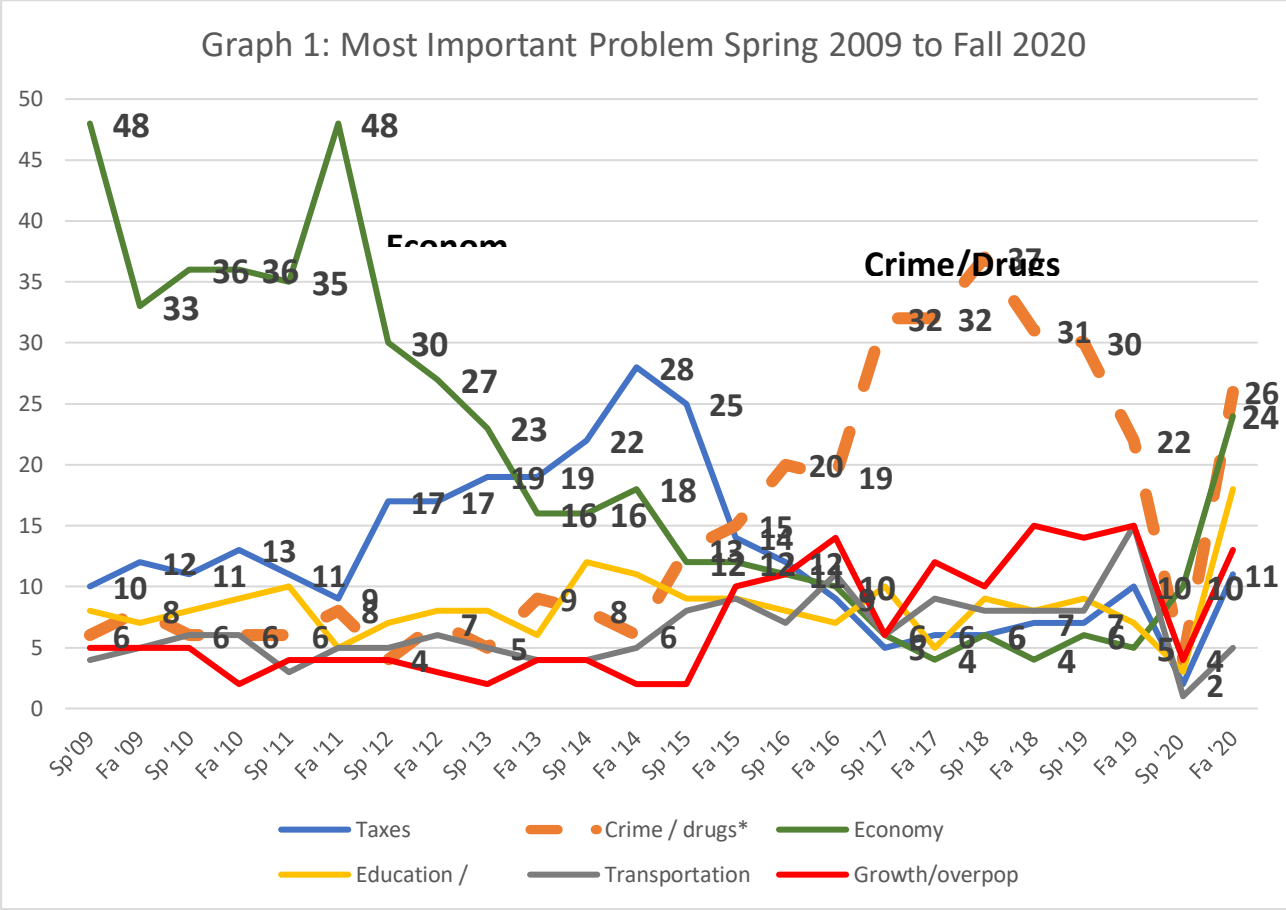
In the recent past, surveys have only asked respondents to identify a single “most important problem facing residents of Anne Arundel County at the present time.” Given the inevitable primary of the coronavirus as a key concern, the survey branched out and asked respondents to identify the top *two* most important problems. Table 1 shows how the spring and fall results differed.

**Table 1: Most Important Problems Facing County Residents**

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Spring '20</b>	<b>Fall '20</b>	<b>Fall-Spring</b>
<b>Coronavirus</b> – spread, treatment, testing	69	50	-19
<b>Crime</b> (other than drug related)	1	11	10
<b>Drugs</b> (use or sale of illegal drugs such as heroin, cocaine, or use of prescription pain killers for non-medical purposes.)	3	15	12
<b>Economy</b> – (e.g., no jobs, high cost of living, business closing or losses)	10	24	14
<b>Education</b> , problems with schools, quality, facilities, staff, discipline	3	18	15
<b>Environment</b> (e.g., air or water pollution, saving the Bay)	0	8	8
<b>Government ethics</b> – corrupt, immoral	1	7	6
<b>Government waste</b> – inefficient, spends too much	2	7	5
<b>Government lack resources</b> –for roads, schools, services	1	4	3
<b>Growth/overpopulation</b> - too much development, poorly planned	4	13	9
<b>Healthcare</b> (cost, access)	1	3	2
Housing cost	1	6	5
Racism, hate crimes, discrimination	0	6	6
<b>Taxes</b> – too high	2	11	9
<b>Transportation</b> problems/traffic congestion, lack of public transit	1	6	5
No answer, don't know	0	2	2
<b>Other</b> answer - write in:	1	9	8

By having the option to include a second top problem, there were major increases in many areas such as crime, drugs, the economy, growth, taxes, the environment and education. Clearly, the public continues to have concerns other than the coronavirus, as important as the latter continues to be.

Graph 1 shows the pattern of importance for some key items over time.



The graph depicts the collapse of all concerns in spring 2020 to just the coronavirus. With the addition of the “second most important item” option in fall 2020, it is clear that the underlying issues other than the virus have resurfaced with crime and drugs regaining prominence it previously had. The depth of the economy’s abrupt fall due to the virus was not as clear in spring as it is now in fall, as it was the top concern once the virus results are removed from the graph.

Some respondents mentioned other problems as their most important. Open-ended comments about this can be found in Appendix B.

**Table 1a: “Most Important Problem Facing Residents” – Spring 2010 to Fall 2020<sup>1</sup>**

	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	Fa '19	Sp '20	Fa '20	Avg.
Taxes	11	13	11	9	17	17	19	19	22	28	25	14	12	9	5	6	6	7	7	10	2	11	13
Crime / drugs*	6	6	6	8	4	7	5	9	8	6	13	15	20	19	32	32	37	31	30	22	4	26	15
Economy	36	36	35	48	30	27	23	16	16	18	12	12	11	10	6	4	6	4	6	5	10	24	20
Education / school problems	8	9	10	5	7	8	8	6	12	11	9	9	8	7	10	5	9	8	9	7	3	18	8
Traffic congestion/problems	6	6	3	5	5	6	5	4	4	5	8	9	7	11	6	9	8	8	8	17	1	5	6
Growth / development	5	2	4	4	4	3	2	4	4	2	2	10	11	14	6	12	10	15	14	15	4	13	7
Unsure/no answer	10	8	12	8	9	9	10	12	11	12	10	6	8	7	10	1	0	5	3	4	0	2	7
Other answer	17	21	19	13	24	23	29	30	23	19	21	25	24	24	24	21	24	22	23	21	76	50	22
Total	99	101	100	100	100	100	101	100	100	101	100	100	101	100	100	101	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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. The total for fall 2020 does not equal 100 due to the option to select two items.

<sup>1</sup> 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?

### Anne Arundel County

Each survey includes a variety of benchmark questions – the “most important problem” has existed since the start of CSLI/AACC community surveys.<sup>2</sup> Other questions have been more recent – the “right or wrong direction” questions for the county, state and country are among this group. 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?” There was an 18-point decrease in the right direction score from last spring, putting the results (41 percent) at the lowest percentage shown on Table 2 and eleven points lower than average.

**Table 2: Anne Arundel County - Right vs. Wrong Direction Fall 2012 to Fall 2020**

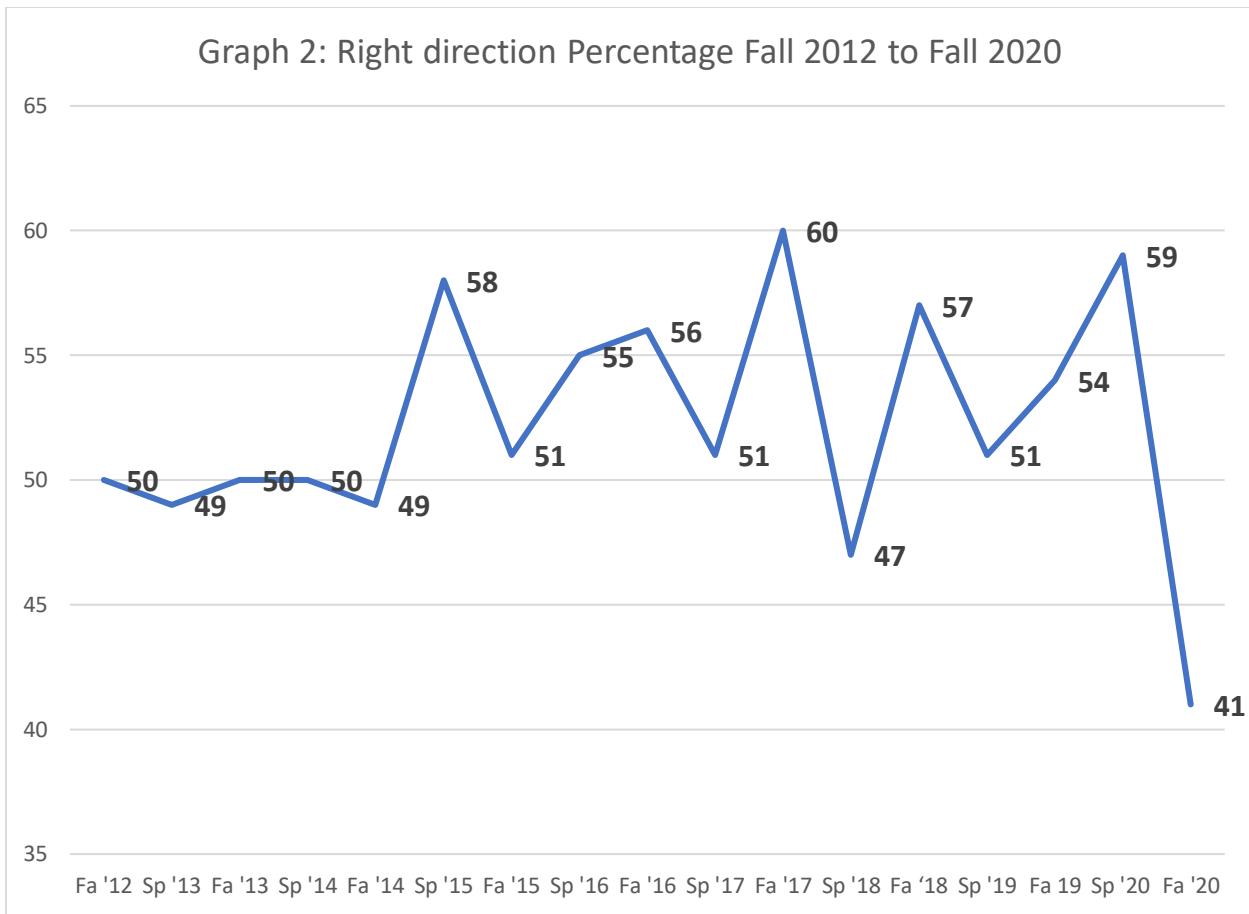
	Fa '12	Sp '13	Fa '13	Sp '14	Fa '14	Sp '15	Fa '15	Sp '16	Fa '16	Sp '17	Fa '17	Sp '18	Fa '18	Sp '19	Fa '19	Sp '20	Fa '20	Avg.
Right direction	50	49	50	50	49	58	51	55	56	51	60	47	57	51	54	59	41	52
Wrong direction	36	33	35	33	38	25	22	21	18	19	16	25	22	30	27	22	34	27
DK/NA	14	18	16	17	13	17	27	24	26	31	24	28	21	19	19	20	25	21
Right-wrong	14	16	15	17	11	33	29	34	38	32	44	23	36	21	27	37	16	26
Total	100	100	101	100	100	100	100	100	100	101	100	100	100	101	100	101	100	100

Accounting for this sharp drop from last spring, it is probably due to frustration with the handling of the pandemic. Those who were worried about the spread of the virus were much more likely to say “right direction” (48-50 percent) than those who were not worried (11 percent). For those not worried, it is likely that county initiatives to restrict gatherings and slow the reopening of the economy were deeply disliked.

Those who were favorable to mandatory mask wearing were clear that the county was going in the right direction (51 percent) compared to those who resisted this measure – 6 to 22 percent depending on the intensity of the dislike of the measure.

Those who said “just right” in answer to the question “Is Anne Arundel County’s decision to close bars and restaurants that serve alcohol at 10 p.m. as a way of slowing the spread of the virus – too strict, about right or not strict enough?” were clear that the direction for the county was “right” – 54 percent – compared to only 12 percent among those who thought that the measure was “too strict.” This suggests that the perception of the severity of the coronavirus situation varies significant – and deeply impacts the perception of the county and its government’s performance.

<sup>2</sup> The Center for the Study of Local Issues (CSLI) conducted these surveys since 1980 – so all historical references to previous surveys refer to “CSLI surveys.”



The exacerbation of partisan divisions is yet another part of this story. While it seems that the coronavirus has taken a toll on both Democrats and Republicans, it is also clear that the drop in “right” direction was more dramatic on the Republican side – falling 17 points from 49 to 32 percent – while on the Democratic side the fall was less acute – from 64 to 54 percent. In addition, the general uncertainty about the present situation and how it can be best handled might be at play in explaining the rise in “Unsure” percentages which were up an average of 6 points in Fall 2020.

**Table 2a: Party and County’s Direction – Fall 2019 vs. Fall 2020**

Direction	Overall		Dem		Rep	
	F19	F20	F19	F20	F19	F20
Right direction	54	41	64	54	49	32
Wrong direction	27	34	18	18	38	46
Unsure	19	25	18	28	14	23
Total	100	100	100	100	100	101

## Right Direction: Maryland and United States

Focusing next on the state and nation as shown on Table 3 (which includes county just for comparison), the state received the highest “right” direction scores of any jurisdiction: 50 percent, but this score was 20 points lower than in spring – exceeding the fall for the county (18 points). By contrast, the right direction scores for the country/nation trailed by a large margin as it has been hovering in the 30 percent range since spring 2017. Graph 3 shows the right/wrong direction for all three levels from fall 2012 to fall 2020.

**Table 3: Right/Wrong Direction for County, State and Nation, Spring/Fall 2020**

	Spring 2020	Fall 2020			
	Right	Right	Wrong	Unsure/Don't know	Total
County	59	41	34	25	100
State	70	50	30	21	101
Nation	32	30	59	11	100

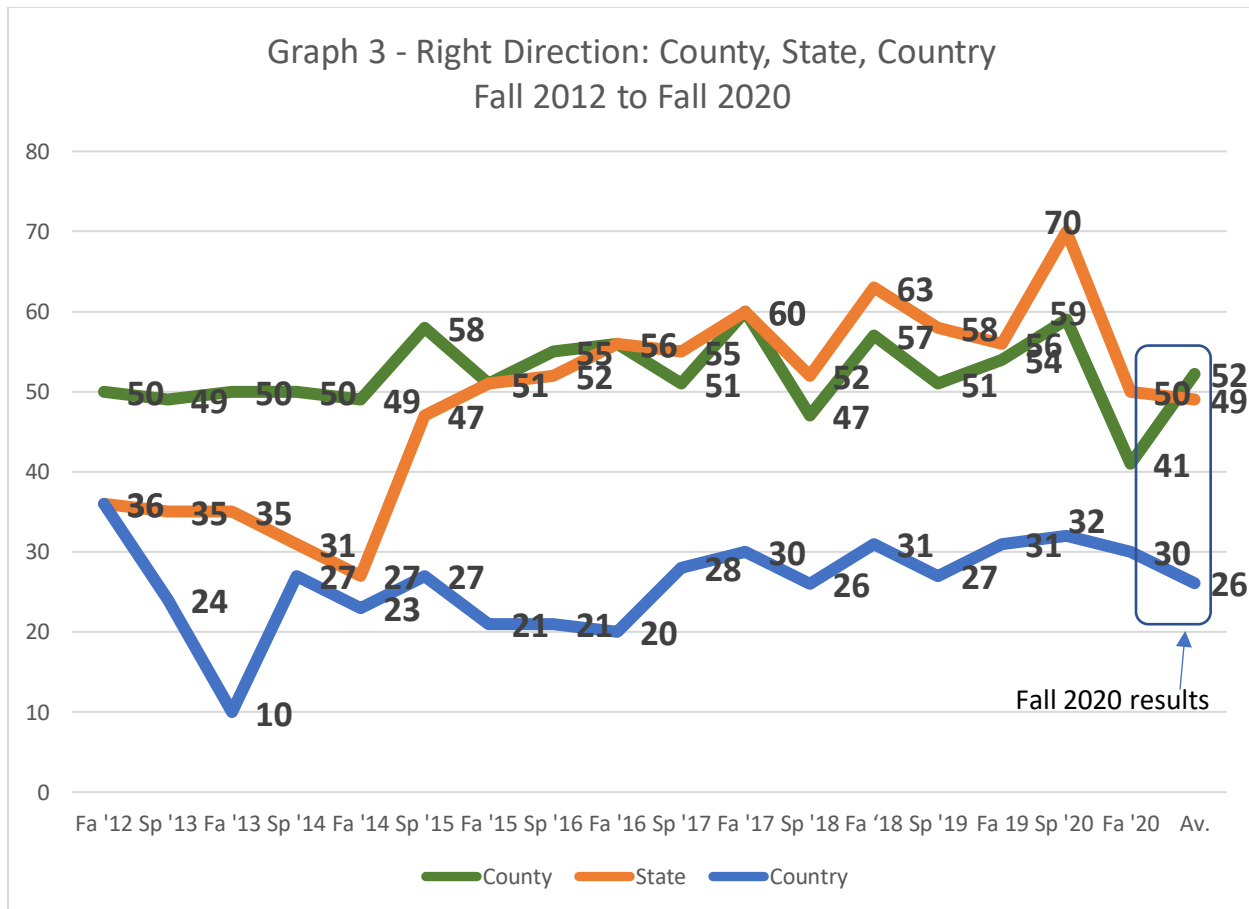


Table 3a shows that Democrats remain more positive about the direction of both the state and the county than do Republicans or unaffiliated voters, although scores declined from one year ago for all three partisan categories. The partisan slant becomes the most obvious at the national level, where the gap between Republicans and Democrats is 36 points compared to just 2 points for the state and 23 points for the county.

**Table 3a: Right/Wrong Direction for County, State and Nation by Party Registration, Fall 2019 vs. Fall 2020**

	Right Direction County		Right Direction State		Right Direction Nation	
	F19	F20	F19	F20	F19	F20
Democrats	64	54	63	51	17	11
Republicans	49	31	50	49	51	47
Unaffiliated	43	36	56	45	23	31

## **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 (p. 14) and Graph 4 (p. 15), despite coronavirus, combined “excellent+good” scores have not fallen as much as might be anticipated. From fall 2019 to spring 2020, that score only dropped 5 points. This fall, the drop was greater – another 11 points. However, the overall score exceeded 50 percent and reached a level similar to spring 2015 rather than spring 2010 – which was in the heart of the Great Recession.

**Table 4: Perceptions of County Economic Conditions – Fall 2009 to Fall 2020**

	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	Fa '19	Sp' 20	Fa '20	Avg.
Excellent+ Good	48	44	45	49	48	51	48	49	53	50	44	57	64	65	60	65	71	68	75	71	73	68	57	58
Excellent	4	3	3	3	4	2	5	3	6	8	4	5	7	8	8	5	9	10	15	12	14	11	7	7
Good	44	41	42	46	44	49	43	46	47	42	40	52	57	57	52	60	62	58	60	59	59	57	50	51
Fair	38	41	45	38	40	37	39	38	35	40	41	33	27	27	34	29	25	27	19	22	20	24	29	33
Poor	11	13	8	12	11	11	12	11	10	9	12	7	6	5	3	3	1	2	2	3	3	4	9	7
Don't know	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	3	3	3	2	4	3	4	4	3	3	3	4	4	3	4	5	3
Total	100	100	100	101	101	100	101	101	101	101	99	101	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	99	100	100	100

Graph 4: Excellent+Good Economic Conditions in Anne Arundel County, Maryland and the United States- Spring 2009 to Fall 2020

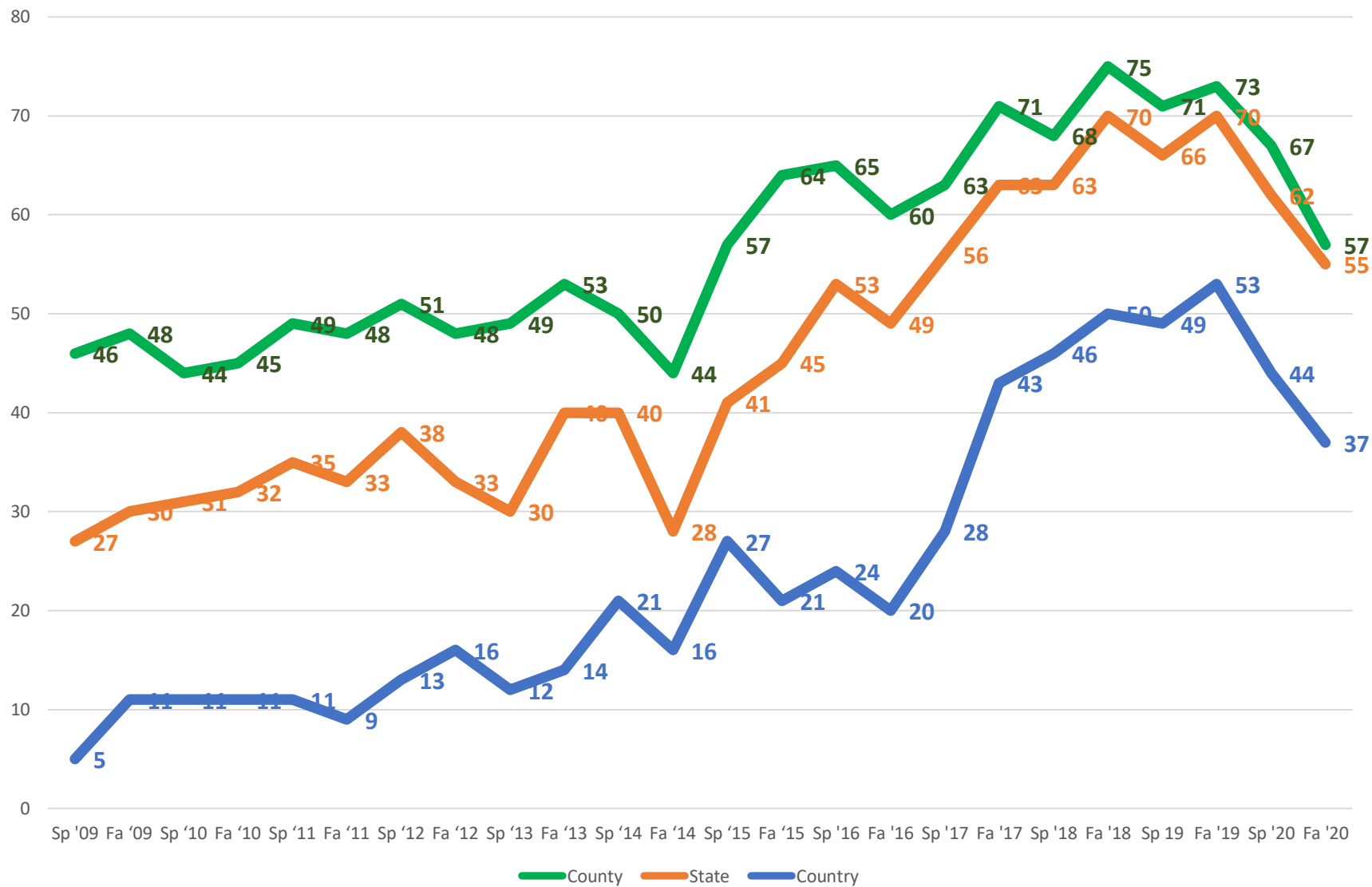


Table 4a shows that there was relatively little partisan differentiation regarding the percentages saying that the county’s economy was excellent or good. All three partisan categories dropped about the same amount over the year.

**Table 4a: Economy as Excellent+Good by Party Registration – Anne Arundel County, Fall 2019 and Fall 2020**

	Excellent+Good		
	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	2019-2020
Democrats	71	55	-16
Republicans	79	62	-17
Unaffiliated	73	56	-17

**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 fall 2020 was down 7 points to 55 percent from spring 2020 and down 15 points from fall 2019. The fall 2020 marks the first time that the combined score has dipped below the average since spring 2015 (see Table 5 and Graph 4).

**Table 5: Perceptions of State Economic Conditions – Spring 2012 to Fall 2020**

	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	Fa '19	Sp '20	Fa '20	Avg.
Excellent+Good	38	33	30	40	40	28	41	45	53	49	56	63	63	70	66	70	62	55	50
Excellent	4	3	1	4	4	1	3	2	5	5	3	4	6	11	9	10	10	6	5
Good	34	30	29	36	36	27	38	43	48	44	53	59	57	59	57	60	52	49	45
Fair	40	42	41	36	40	40	39	41	36	39	34	29	29	24	25	22	28	32	34
Poor	21	23	24	21	18	30	16	11	9	9	7	4	5	4	5	5	6	9	13
Don’t know	2	2	4	4	2	2	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	4	3	3	4	3
Total	100	101	101	101	101	99	101	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	99	99	100	100



Table 5a shows that there are large differences in perceptions of the state economy along partisan grounds. Republican perceptions were almost unchanged from one year ago – only down 6 points. By contrast, there were 22 and 23 point drops for Democrats and unaffiliated voters over the one year period.

**Table 5a: Economy as Excellent+Good by Party Registration – Maryland, Fall 2019 and Fall 2020**

	Excellent+Good		
	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	2019-2020
Democrats	69	47	-22
Republicans	73	67	-6
Unaffiliated	68	45	-23

**Rating Economic Conditions –The National Economy**

As shown on Graph 4, economic appraisal of the *national* economy has always lagged significantly behind both the *county* and *state*.

Over the last year, the decline from fall 2019 to spring was 9 points, followed by another 8 points from spring to fall 2020. The 17 point decline was similar to the declines for both the state and the county.

Table 6 shows the actual survey percentages over time and the limited variation over the last four surveys. Graph 4 compares the county, state and national excellent+good scores from spring 2009 to fall 2020.

**Table 6: Perceptions of National Economic Conditions– Spring 2012 to Fall 2020**

	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	Fa '19	Sp '20	Fa '20	Avg.
Excellent+Good	13	16	12	14	21	16	27	21	24	20	28	43	46	50	49	53	44	37	30
Excellent	1	2	2	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	3	7	13	12	16	9	8	5
Good	12	14	10	13	20	15	24	20	23	19	27	40	39	37	37	37	35	28	25
Fair	47	37	38	31	41	42	32	40	40	38	46	40	36	33	33	30	31	30	37
Poor	39	46	47	55	37	40	37	36	34	40	23	17	17	13	16	12	20	32	31
Don't know	2	1	3	1	1	2	4	3	2	3	4	1	2	3	3	5	6	3	3
	101	100	100	101	100	100	100	100	100	101	101	101	101	99	101	100	101	101	101

Partisan differences might be expected since the lens through which the economy is perceived is partly shaped by respondents' views of the party in power taking credit for any successes. As shown on Table 6a, over the course of one year, Democrats turned much less favorable to the economy – a 31 point decline in the excellent+good score, than did Republicans who were down only 13 points from fall 2019. By comparison, the Republican decline was only 13 points; the unaffiliated voters hardly changed, down only 2 points.

**Table 6a: Economy as Excellent+Good by Party Registration – USA**

	Excellent+Good		
	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	2019-2020
Democrats	40	9	-31
Republicans	72	59	-13
Unaffiliated	48	46	-2

### Expectations for the National Economy

It is not surprising to see that there was a sharp rise in uncertainty about the future of the national economy from spring 2020 to fall 2020. The percentage saying “better” went up by 5 points, but the percentage of those unable to decide about the future of the national economy went up by 12 points. Clearly, respondents were hesitant to forecast the future with coronavirus and a presidential election on the horizon.

**Table 6b: Expectations for National Economy**

	Excellent+Good		
	Spring 2020	Fall 2020	Spring-Fall
Better	41	46	+5
Stay the same	23	16	-7
Worse	27	17	-10
Unsure	9	21	+12
Total	100	100	

The split in the population along partisan lines can be depicted by how supporters of Donald Trump and Joe Biden divided on the future. Among Trump supporters, the “better” score was 65 percent; among Biden supporters that figure dipped to just 38 percent. Obviously, Trump supporters felt confident that with him in charge, the economy would come roaring back post-COVID; Biden supporters weren't nearly as optimistic.

## 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.”

Two tables (7 and 7a) show the results for recent CSLI/AACC surveys. Table 7a (as well as Graph 7) shows a longer time period and includes the fall 2014 survey modifications in 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.<sup>3</sup> Since fall 2018, the survey reverted to prior form to note whether there have been changes in the value of this measure over time. In addition, in spring 2020 the question about the cost of education was amended to say “beyond high school.”

Table 7 shows the results over the last three surveys. Some items have shown swings such as the question about taxes or the possibility of unemployment. The question about wages not rising as fast as the cost of living dropped from fall 2019 to spring 2020 and held since. There was a big ten-point drop in the percentage saying that they had “received a salary increase or other increase in income recently.”

Table 7a and Graph 5 illustrate long-term trends. There had been a steady reduction in concern about high taxes which continued to drop into spring 2020 when it reached an all-time low (46 percent) – but there was a rise to 51 percent in fall 2020. There had been a steady drop in the percentage fearing unemployment, but a rise in that percentage started in fall 2019 reaching a peak in spring 2020 (at 15 percent) before dropping in fall 2020 to 11 percent. As mentioned, the fear of inflation was relatively low over the last year and far below the most recent peaks in 2016.

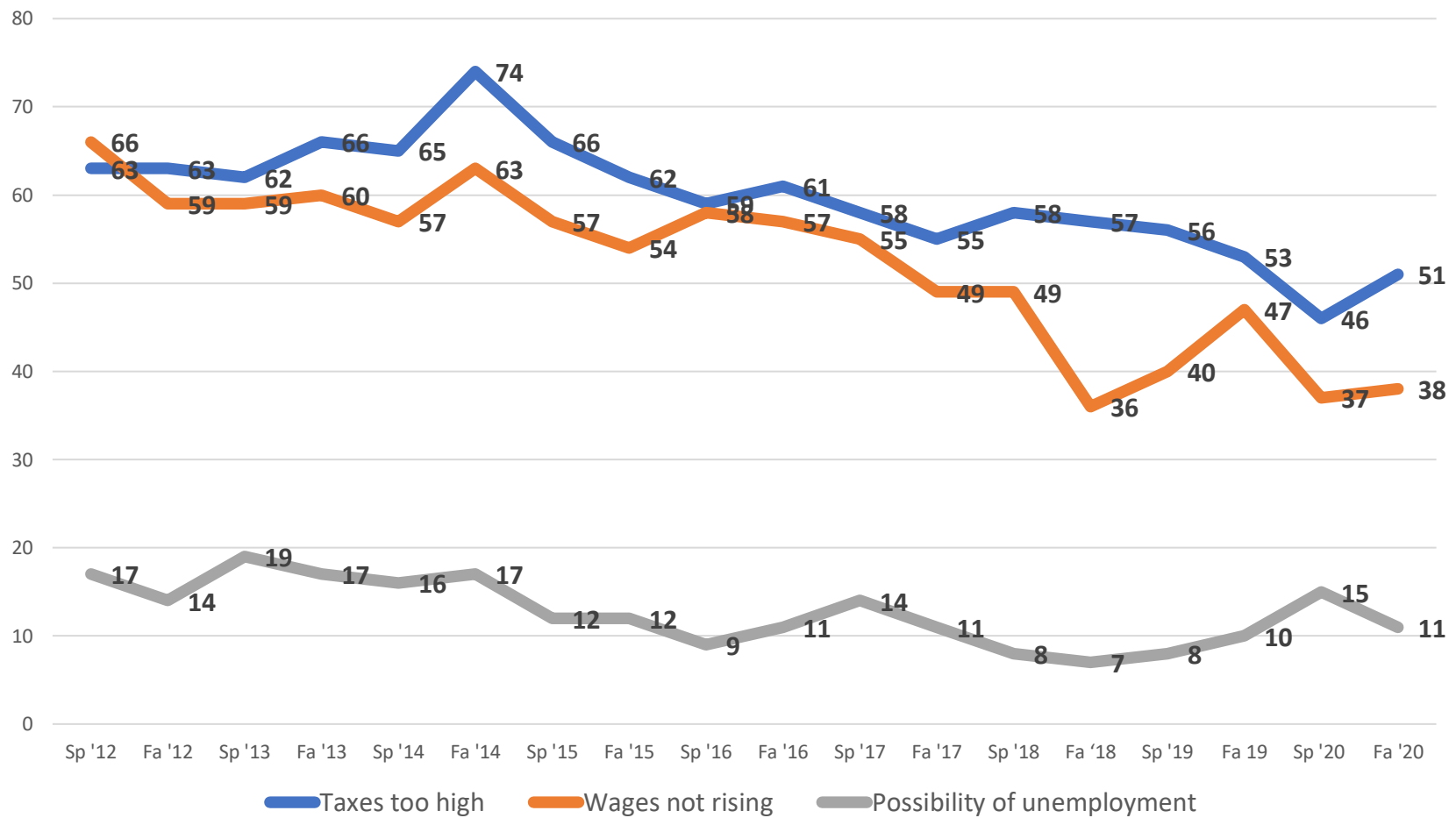
---

<sup>3</sup> 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 so we have reverted back to the original phrasing. See <http://www.well-beingindex.com/>

**Table 7: Economic Perceptions Fall 2019 to Fall 2020**

	<b>Fa '19</b>	<b>Sp '20</b>	<b>Fa '20</b>	<b>Sp '20- Fa '19</b>	<b>Fa '20- Sp '20</b>
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	53	46	51	-7	5
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	47	37	38	-10	1
Hard to afford the cost of education (from spring 2020 – “beyond high school”)	42	21	25	-21	4
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	41	40	30	-1	-10
Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	24	19	19	-5	0
Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive or inadequate/	33	25	19	-8	-6
Facing the possibility of unemployment	10	15	11	-5	6
Found a new or better job recently	15	15	9	0	-6

Graph 5: Select Economic Perceptions/Conditions for Individuals Spring 2012 to Fall 2020



**Table 7a: Economic Conditions Applying to Personal Circumstances – Spring 2012 to Fall 2020**

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Sp '12</b>	<b>Fa '12</b>	<b>Sp '13</b>	<b>Fa '13</b>	<b>Sp '14</b>	<b>Fa '14</b>	<b>Sp '15</b>	<b>Fa '15</b>	<b>Sp '16</b>	<b>Fa '16</b>	<b>Sp '17</b>	<b>Fa '17</b>	<b>Sp '18</b>	<b>Fa '18</b>	<b>Sp '19</b>	<b>Fa '19</b>	<b>Sp '20</b>	<b>Fa '20</b>	<b>Avg.</b>
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	63	63	62	66	65	74	66	62	59	61	58	55	58	57	56	53	46	51	61
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	66	59	59	60	57	63	57	54	58	57	55	49	49	36	40	47	37	38	55
Hard to afford the cost of education (from spring 2020 – “beyond high school”)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	45	41	39	39	40	38	33	32	32	37	42	21	25	38
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	35	31	34	29	36	33	37	34	32	29	31	26	41	36	45	41	40	30	33
Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	33	31	28	30	29	27	25	24	20	25	24	19	19	27
Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive or inadequate/ Unable to afford healthcare or medicine during the last year (starts fall 2016 ends spring 2018)	32	27	32	29	26	40	38	33	38	14	16	18	18	35	32	33	25	19	31/ 17
Facing the possibility of unemployment	17	14	19	17	16	17	12	12	9	11	14	11	8	7	8	10	15	11	14
Found a new or better job recently	16	11	14	16	14	12	11	13	10	8	10	10	13	13	12	15	15	9	12
Significant losses in your stock or retirement accounts	44	38	32	32	26	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.				51
Delay in making a major purchase such as a home or car	45	38	42	38	43	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.				45
Hard to afford cost of utilities such as electricity or gas	39	32	31	29	37	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.				40
Hard to afford cost of transportation	36	30	27	24	24	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.				27
Unable to find affordable housing	15	9	12	14	10	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.				12
Facing the possibility of house foreclosure or loss	8	4	7	7	4	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.				7

Party based differences were apparent among some of these measures (see Tables 7b and 7c). In both fall 2019 and fall 2020, the clearest partisan differences appeared on taxes, with Republicans much more likely to say that they were too high – with the difference nearly doubling from a gap of 18 to 34 points between partisans. Health care insecurity was much higher among Democrats than Republicans in both cases. Another major change was the gap between those who claimed to have received a salary increase – moving from a 7 to a 16-point gap.

**Table 7b: Party and Economic Conditions/Experiences Fall 2019**

Condition	Overall	Dem	Rep	Unaff.	Gap F19 D-R
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	53	45	63	49	-18
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	47	50	42	45	8
Hard to afford the cost of education	42	43	36	43	7
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	41	37	44	47	-7
Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	24	26	19	25	7
Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive or inadequate	33	39	27	31	12
Facing the possibility of unemployment	10	12	9	5	3
Found a new or better job recently	15	15	14	13	1

**Table 7c: Party and Economic Conditions/Experiences Fall 2020**

Condition	Overall	Dem	Rep	Unaff.	Gap F20 D-R
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	51	32	66	61	-34
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	38	42	30	46	12
Hard to afford the cost of education (beyond college)	25	30	17	25	13
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	30	22	38	32	-16
Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	19	19	17	27	2
Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive or inadequate	19	23	15	36	8
Facing the possibility of unemployment	11	12	9	17	3
Found a new or better job recently	9	9	8	12	1



## **Economic Conditions Applying to Individuals/Households – Influence of Income**

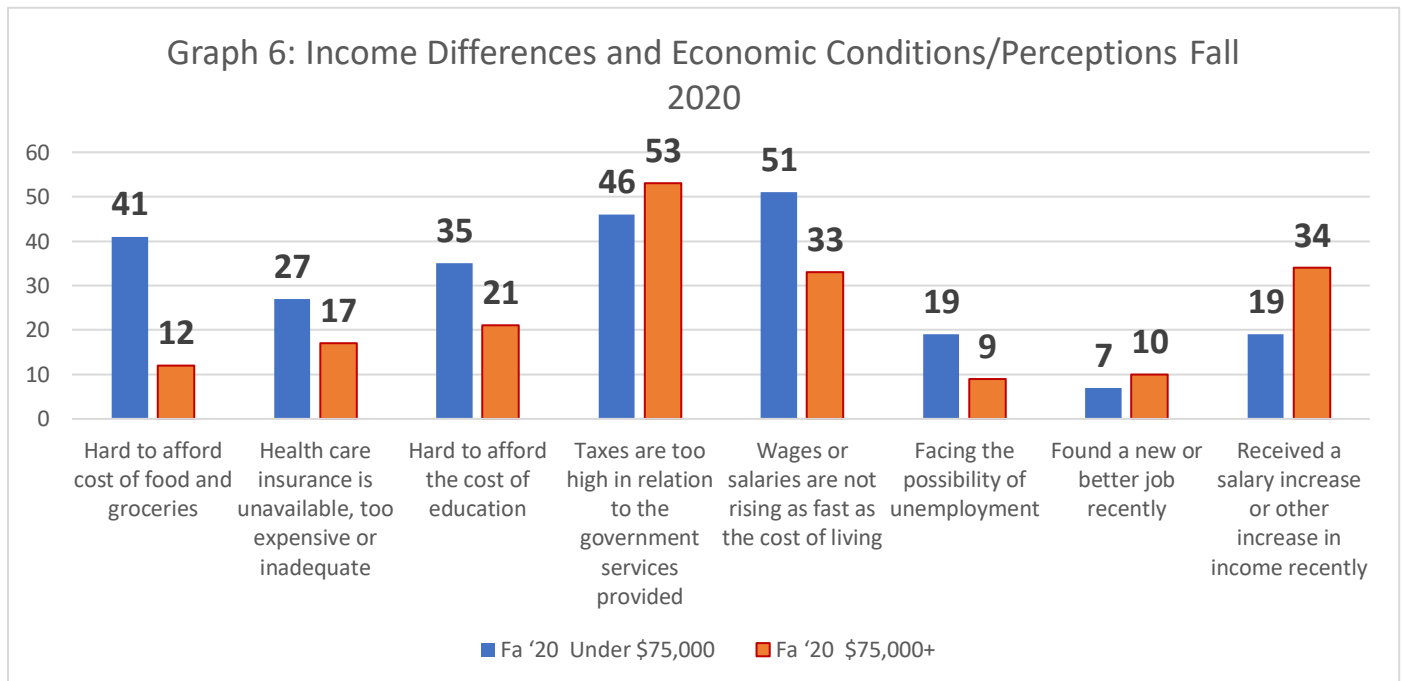
Table 8 shows the impact of income on the indicators of economic conditions applying to personal circumstances both for the current survey as well as the gap between higher and lower income groups over time. Dividing the sample of respondents into those earning \$75,000 or less into one group and those earning over \$75,000 into a second group, most desirable outcomes favor the higher income group. Graph 6 shows just the percentages obtained by each group for fall 2020.

The fall 2020 results are somewhat consistent with previous findings. It is still the case that the single largest difference concerns the costs of food/groceries, but unlike in the past, healthcare is less prominent than wages keeping up with inflation as well as the lack of an increase in income or cost of education beyond high school. The lower income group clearly was more likely to struggle to pay for most expenses. 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 of those in this group, they were not much different in their attitudes about taxes although the gap did increase in fall 2020 mostly due to an increase in higher income antipathy to taxes.

**Table 8: Income Groups and Economic Indicators Spring 2017 to Fall 2020**

Condition	Fa '20 Under \$75,000	Fa '20 \$75,000+	Under \$75k- Over 75K								Avg
			Sp '17	Fa '17	Sp '18	Fa '18	Sp '19	Fa '19	Sp '20	Fa '20	
Hard to afford cost of food and groceries	41	<b>12</b>	32	26	27	21	36	26	28	29	28
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	51	<b>33</b>	8	19	11	8	9	25	29	18	16
Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive or inadequate	27	<b>17</b>	11	26	14	14	19	11	16	10	15
Hard to afford the cost of education (beyond high school from Fa '19)	35	<b>21</b>	5	2	10	10	4	16	15	14	15
Facing the possibility of unemployment	19	<b>9</b>	12	5	0	2	3	7	6	10	6
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	<b>46</b>	53	8	-1	-8	2	3	6	4	-7	1
Found a new or better job recently	7	<b>10</b>	-6	-3	2	1	1	8	-7	-3	-1
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	19	<b>34</b>	-29	-18	-10	-23	-23	-10	-13	-15	-18

Note: Desirable outcomes are bolded.



## Coronavirus Section

The dominant position of the coronavirus concern among respondents was already highlighted when mentioning the results for the “most important problem” variable – where 50 percent mentioned the virus.

When comparing it against the full range of problems, Table 9 shows that it is mid-range based on the phrasing, “The possibility of coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading more widely into Maryland.” Environmental issues like climate change and run-off into the Chesapeake Bay rank higher, along with “having easy access to opioids.”

**Table 9: How Serious are Various Problems**

Issue	How serious=>	Very	Somewhat	Not very	N.A.
The threat posed by climate change		53	17	28	2
Having easy access to opioids		52	23	9	15
The management of run-off into the Chesapeake Bay		49	35	12	4
The possibility of coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading more widely into Maryland		46	34	18	2
Focusing now on international affairs: How serious do to you consider the rising economic and military threat posed by China		46	37	15	2
High cost of housing in the county		45	41	12	3
The lack of trust in government		44	43	12	1
The threat to American democracy posed by Russia		43	32	22	3
Hate crimes in the county		33	33	31	4
The growth in income and wealth inequality in the county		32	34	29	5

**Table 9a: Percentage Saying “Very Serious” by Party Registration**

	Dems	Reps	Unaffil.	Dems-Reps
The threat posed by climate change	86	27	45	59
The management of run-off into the Chesapeake Bay	68	36	38	32
The possibility of coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading more widely into Maryland	66	35	35	31
High cost of housing in the county	58	33	43	25
The threat to American democracy posed by Russia	55	34	33	21
The lack of trust in government	46	40	47	6
Having easy access to opioids	50	60	46	-10
Focusing now on international affairs: How serious do to you consider the rising economic and military threat posed by China	30	59	44	-29
Hate crimes in the county	49	23	23	26
The growth in income and wealth inequality in the county	58	12	28	46

Some of the explanation for the rankings is revealed in Table 9a that shows the percentage saying “very serious” by party registration. The greatest polarization among partisans is with regard to climate change and economic inequality (gaps of 59 and 46 points). The coronavirus issue is in fourth place in terms of party polarization – ahead of hate crimes, the high cost of housing or the threat posed by China. This is consistent with arguments offered earlier about the partisan nature of perceptions pertaining to the pandemic.

### County Measures About the Pandemic

Some questions in this section focused on Anne Arundel County and Maryland. One question asked, “Would you say that Anne Arundel County and Maryland have gone too fast, too slow or about right in the pace of reopening businesses, schools and other facilities?”

Table 10 shows that a majority believed that the pace in both the county and Maryland were “about right” – although with a slightly larger majority for the state. For the county, a larger number thought that the pace was too slow (28 percent) compared to too fast (14 percent). Sentiments were somewhat reversed for the state, with 20 percent saying too fast and only 16 percent saying too slow.

**Table 10: Anne Arundel County and Maryland – Pace of Reopening**

	Too fast	About right	Too slow	Unsure/Don’t know
Anne Arundel County	14	56	28	2
Maryland	20	62	16	2

It seems likely that this was at least partly due to the partisan differences with Democrat Stuart Pittman as county executive, but Republican Larry Hogan as governor. The expectation would be that Republicans would be less likely to say “too slow” for the state rather than the county, and that is precisely what is revealed on Table 10a. Under six percent of Democrats said the pace was “too slow” for either the county or the state. Almost half (48 percent) of Republicans said the pace was too slow for the county, but only one quarter (24 percent) saying the same for the state. Only 43 percent of Republicans thought that the pace was about right for the county, but 66 percent thought that the pace was right for the state.

**Table 10a: Anne Arundel County and Maryland – Pace of Reopening**

	Too fast		About right		Too slow		Unsure/Don’t know	
	Dems	Reps	Dems	Reps	Dems	Reps	Dems	Reps
Anne Arundel County	20	8	75	43	5	48	0	2
Maryland	37	8	57	66	3	24	4	2

The survey continued the local focus by asking about specific measures put in place by the county:

- Is Anne Arundel County’s decision to close bars and restaurants that serve alcohol at 10 p.m. as a way of slowing the spread of the virus – too strict, about right or not strict enough?

- Is Anne Arundel County’s decision to limit social gatherings to 25 people inside and 50 outside too strict, about right or not strict enough?

Table 11 shows that about an identical percentage thought that these measures were “about right” – 52 percent.

**Table 11: County Decisions About Bars/Restaurants and Social Gatherings**

	<b>Too fast</b>	<b>About right</b>	<b>Too slow</b>	<b>Unsure/ Don’t know</b>
Is Anne Arundel County’s decision to close bars and restaurants that serve alcohol at 10 p.m. as a way of slowing the spread of the virus – too strict, about right or not strict enough?	22	52	22	4
Is Anne Arundel County’s decision to limit social gatherings to 25 people inside and 50 outside too strict, about right or not strict enough?	24	52	21	3

Looking again at partisan divisions on Table 11a, the same divide between Democrats and Republicans appeared with Republicans 12 times more likely to say “too strict” compared to Democrats. The latter were 3 times more likely to say “not strict enough” compared to Republicans. However, it is worth noting that almost half of Republicans felt that these measures were “about right” pointing to a general agreement about the overall pace despite the polarization at either end.

**Table 11a: County Measures and Party Registration – Democrats and Republicans**

	<b>Too strict</b>		<b>About right</b>		<b>Not strict enough</b>		<b>Unsure/ Don’t know</b>	
	Dems	Reps	Dems	Reps	Dems	Reps	Dems	Reps
Bars/Restaurants	3	37	60	48	34	12	4	4
Social gatherings	4	41	59	46	35	10	3	3

## Other Measures Regarding Pandemic

The survey then introduced an array of questions about the handling of the pandemic. Table 12 summarizes the results and shows that only one measure received a majority of support at the level of “great deal” – mandatory mask wearing (67 percent). Combining the top two favorable categories, the only item that did not receive a majority of support was the “greater opening of malls and movie theaters.”

**Table 12: “Do you approve the following recent actions regarding the coronavirus pandemic”**

	Great+ Good Deal	Great deal	Good deal	Only some	Not very much	Not at all
Mandatory mask wearing in public indoor venues and where social distancing isn’t possible	82	67	15	7	4	7
Efforts by government to provide financial support for those whose income has been curtailed	66	45	21	22	6	5
Keeping public schools online rather than a rapid reopening	59	35	24	15	12	15
The Naval Academy’s decision to allow midshipmen to go into Annapolis with some restrictions	51	21	30	34	10	5
Greater opening of malls and movie theaters	30	12	18	29	28	12

As shown on Table 12a, mask wearing was not a strongly polarizing issue among those registered in different parties as nearly three-quarters of Republicans supported it. The greatest polarization was regarding the reopening of schools – a 40-point gap separated Democrats from Republicans, with Democrats much more favorable to keeping public schools online.

**Table 12a: “Do you approve the following recent actions regarding the coronavirus pandemic” by Party Registration**

	Great+Good Deal			
	Overall	Dems	Reps	Unaffil.
Mandatory mask wearing in public indoor venues and where social distancing isn’t possible	82	94	72	77
Efforts by government to provide financial support for those whose income has been curtailed	66	83	52	60
Keeping public schools online rather than a rapid reopening	59	80	40	53
The Naval Academy’s decision to allow midshipmen to go into Annapolis with some restrictions	51	41	58	56
Greater opening of malls and movie theaters	30	16	39	36

Looking next at these questions by age, it might be possible to see whether there is a generational difference. Not surprisingly, there wasn't much differentiation regarding masks. On financial assistance, younger people were much more supportive (85 percent) than other age groupings. They were also more supportive (79 percent) of keeping schools online, with those between the ages of 50-59 being the least supportive (43 percent). Those under 40 were also the least supportive (23 percent) of opening malls and movie theaters as well as the Naval Academy's policy of allowing midshipmen to go into Annapolis (32 percent).

**Table 12b: “Do you approve the following recent actions regarding the coronavirus pandemic” by Age**

	Great+Good Deal					
	Overall	18-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+
Mandatory mask wearing in public indoor venues and where social distancing isn't possible	82	87	86	72	82	85
Efforts by government to provide financial support for those whose income has been curtailed	66	85	55	62	60	69
Keeping public schools online rather than a rapid reopening	59	79	65	43	61	56
The Naval Academy's decision to allow midshipmen to go into Annapolis with some restrictions	51	32	53	57	53	55
Greater opening of malls and movie theaters	30	23	32	39	29	23

The survey did not directly ask respondents whether they had students in schools, but it did ask whether the respondent “had to manage day care or home schooling.” As it turns out, there was virtually no difference regarding the question of keeping public schools online among those who said that they did have to manage day care or schooling (60 percent agreed) and those who didn't (57 percent).

Open-ended reflections on policy measures can be found in Appendix D.

## Experience with COVID-19

The survey asked respondents about their specific experience with COVID-19. Table 13 shows the choices and the percentages for each answer choice – respondents could pick more than one choice.

**Table 13: Experience with COVID-19**

Answers	Percentage
Someone you know other than family/friend has contracted it	53
You consider yourself at high risk should you come down with the virus	39
A family member or close friend has contracted it	28
Someone you know has died from effects of the virus	20
None of these apply	16
You have contracted it yourself	2

A majority (53 percent) knew someone other than a family member or friend who had come down with the virus. Over one quarter (28 percent) claimed that a family member or close friend had contracted the illness.<sup>4</sup> One fifth knew someone who has died from the effects of the virus. Another 39 percent considering themselves to be at high risk. Only two percent had contracted the virus themselves.

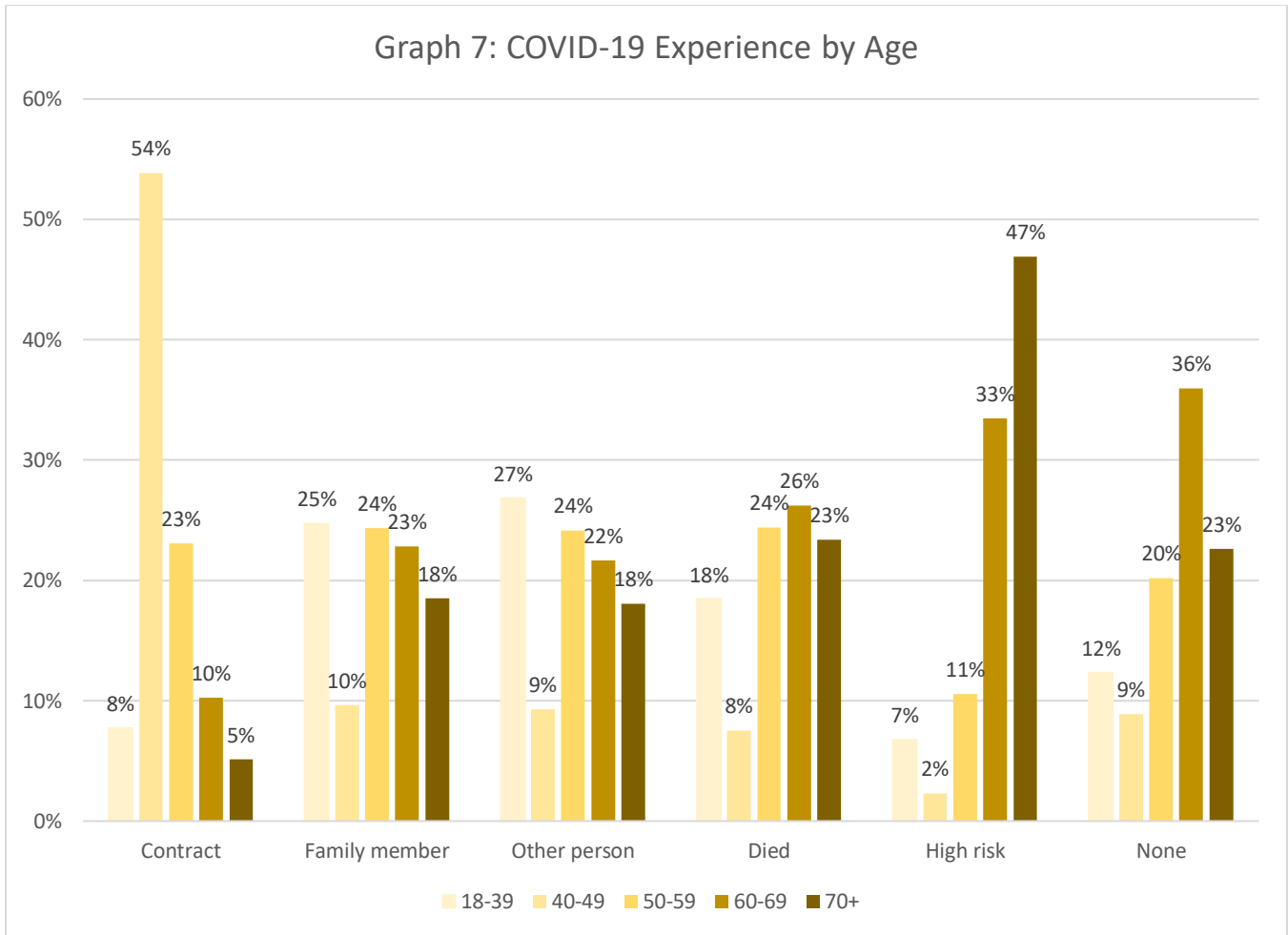
Looking at these answer choices by age on Table 13a and Graph 7 shows a mixed picture. While few people said that they themselves had contracted the virus, of those the highest afflicted age group was between 40 and 49. Otherwise this age group had the least experience with the virus. The most powerful age link was between the respondent thinking themselves to be “high risk” and age. Those who were 50 years old or more constituted 91 percent of all those in the high-risk category; 80 percent were at least 60 years of age.

**Table 13a: Experience with COVID-19 by Age**

	18-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	Total
Contracted yourself	8	54	23	10	5	100
Family member contracted	25	10	24	23	18	100
Other person contracted	27	9	24	22	18	100
Died from it	18	8	24	26	23	100
High risk	7	2	11	33	47	100
None apply	12	9	20	36	23	100

<sup>4</sup> When a version of this question was asked in spring 2020, the percentage was just 10 percent.





Other general perceptions of the coronavirus situation were solicited in the following questions:

- Would you say that the COVID-19 situation is getting better, staying about the same, or getting worse?
  - Getting better, 35 percent
  - Staying about the same, 42 percent
  - Getting worse, 20 percent
  - Unsure, 3 percent
- Do you think that there will be a surge in cases during this fall or winter?
  - Yes, 62 percent
  - No, 16 percent
  - Unsure, 22 percent
- How concerned are you about the possibility of someone in your family becoming seriously ill with the virus?
  - Very concerned, 41 percent
  - Somewhat concerned, 35 percent
  - Not very concerned, 24 percent

Breaking out the responses by party registration, there is again the expected differentiation between partisan groupings. A majority of Republicans (51 percent) say that the situation is getting better, but only 15 percent of Democrats agree.

Nearly all Democrats (83 percent) feel that there is likely to be a surge this fall or winter, but only about half as many Republicans (45 percent) agree.

More than twice as many Democrats (63 percent) say that they are very concerned with someone in the family becoming serious ill due to COVID-19 compared to Republicans (28 percent) although a majority in each partisan group is at least somewhat concerned.

**Table 14: Various General Questions About COVID-19 by Party Registration**

<b>COVID-19 getting better, staying about the same, or getting worse?</b>			
	Better	Same	Worse
Dems	15	51	31
Reps	51	35	12
Unaffiliated	44	39	14
<b>Surge in cases during this fall or winter?</b>			
	Yes	No	Unsure
Dems	83	3	14
Reps	45	24	31
Unaffiliated	56	25	19
<b>How concerned about someone in your family becoming seriously ill?</b>			
	Very	Somewhat	Not very
Dems	63	31	6
Reps	28	36	37
Unaffiliated	22	40	37

## Lifestyle Changes, Testing, Emotional/Health Consequences

Another section of the survey asked whether “**you or any members of your household experienced any of the following because of coronavirus?**” The major categories were testing, lifestyle changes and health/emotion consequences.

Regarding testing, nearly half of the respondents (48 percent) claimed to have taken a test, either with quick, slow or both results.<sup>5</sup> A plurality (42 percent) said that they had taken the test and obtained quick results compared to the 20 percent who said that the results were slow to arrive. Under ten percent wanted to get tested but haven’t been able to do so. There were no statistically significant differences among party groups except that a higher percentage of Democrats (14 percent) compared to Republicans (4 percent) “want to get tested but haven’t been able to do so.”

**Table 15: Testing, Lifestyle Changes, Emotion/Health Consequences**

	Yes		No	Unsure/NA
<b>Testing</b>				
Got tested and got quick results	42		55	3
Got tested, but it took a long time to get the results	20		72	8
Want to get tested but haven’t been able to do so	9		82	9
<b>Lifestyle Changes</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>		
Are stocking up on goods or supplies more than normal	49	40	49	2
Finding it difficult to obtain some key items like toilet paper, masks or gloves	39	70	58	2
Changed travel plans	86	64	13	1
Changed work routines by working online	51	43	39	10
Seen a reduction of hours or been laid off	20	25	68	13
Had to manage day care or home schooling	22	14	65	13
Moved to more purchase of goods online	71	46	26	3
<b>Emotion/Health Consequences</b>				
Are suffering from unrelated health problems due to closure of services	12	9	84	4
Unhappiness or emotional distress due to social isolation (“social distancing”)	47	34	48	5

Regarding lifestyle changes, some of the patterns that were present last spring still persist. In spring, a similar percentage said that it was “stocking up on goods or supplies more than normal” – 40 percent compared to 49 percent in fall. A much smaller percent in fall (39 vs. 70 percent) found “it difficult to obtain some key items like toilet paper, masks or gloves.” An even larger percentage (86 vs. 64 percent) had changed their travel plans. Somewhat more (51 vs. 43) had changed work routines by working more online. A similar number (20, 25 percent) had seen a reduction in hours or been laid off. A somewhat larger percentage (22, 14) had to manage day care or home schooling. The percentage relying more on the purchase of products online grew considerably from 46 to 71 percent.

<sup>5</sup> This figure represents those who took either test or both tests. Some individuals took them both, resulting in a total that is less than 69 percent but only 48 percent.

A slightly greater number said that they were suffering from unrelated health problems due to the closure of services. A greater number claimed to be experiencing “unhappiness or emotional distress” due to the pandemic.

When asked about the most “challenging aspect of adapting to the coronavirus pandemic for you or your household,” commonly mentioned items included:

- Social isolation – not being able to see family and friends,
- Declining mental health due to lack of contact and face-to-face interaction
- Economic disruption – job or income losses
- Various needs to comply with restrictions such as mask wearing
- Having to adapt to virtual living – meetings, work, education all done online
- Limitations on travel
- The need to watch children and monitor school related activities
- Generalized fear of contracting the virus, concern about bringing it home after being out
- Uncertainty about how long the situation will continue

Examples of actual statements (see complete list in Appendix E):

- Losing my part time job. Family member not able to work because they have a medical condition and cannot wear a mask.
- My husband's dramatic slowdown in his architectural practice and having to move his business home.
- Our income has been destroyed. Our child isn't learning.
- I was laid off from my job in March. While I am fortunate that my husband is able to provide for our family, it was an adjustment going from two incomes to one. Additionally, the unemployment system is a disaster and it took 6 weeks for me to receive any benefits.
- Job-related: salary was reduced and at risk of layoff. Did not like working from home.
- Finding space for a home office
- Adjusting to technical challenges of teleworking
- Adapting to online school
- Having the children virtually learning from home and not being able to spend time with friends.
- Managing virtual schooling for 2 elementary school children with some special needs while working from home as a single parent.
- Being in front of a computer most of the time and isolation
- Lack of interaction with other people in face to face situations. Being able to take classes face to face
- Not being able to socialize, worship, shop, visit other venues, outside of home
- Lack of socialization with family and close friends.
- As we are retired, our lives are less affected than most people's. The most challenging aspect has been keeping distance between us and our children and grandchildren. We miss family dinners and hugs.
- Behavior of other people. Experiences of non-compliance even in outdoor dining.
- Being forced to comply with ridiculous mask wearing and social distancing mandates.

- I wear a mask and gloves whenever I leave the house. Also record where and when I went in case of contact tracing. Use curbside pickup instead of going into stores or order online for delivery.
- I work in a restaurant and have to wear a mask for 8 hours straight. When it gets busy, it gets harder to breath, but I still have to wear the mask.
- Fear of spreading it when around people
- I have to limit my exposure since my wife is immune suppressed from a kidney transplant
- Cancellation of nationwide and international travel opportunities.

The survey followed that open-ended statement with another: “Is there anything about lifestyle or work changes that have improved your quality of life and hope to continue after the COVID pandemic ends?”

Commonly mentioned items included:

- Teleworking
- Less commuting, less traffic, lower transportation costs
- More Zoom meetings – that otherwise couldn’t attend
- Online shopping and learning/courses
- Seeing neighbors more often
- Spending more quality time with family, children
- More time for gardening, exercising
- Increased consciousness about hygiene, healthy habits
- Better eating, less eating out
- Some lowered expenses

The complete list of responses is found in Appendix E.

## How Long Until a Vaccine is Available

The questionnaire asked, “When do you think that a safe and proven vaccine will be available to people like you?”

Table 16 shows that most people thought that the vaccine would be available to “people like you” – here thinking about different categories of risk that people finding themselves in – between six months (39 percent) and two years (27 percent). Only a fifth expected the vaccine to be available within the next six months.

**Table 16: Availability of Vaccine – How Soon?**

Answers	Percentage
Within the next six months	20
Six months to a year	39
One or two years	27
Two to three years or more	5
Unsure, don’t know	9

Looking at some demographics:

- **Party** – Only 4 percent of Democrats felt that the vaccine would be available within six months compared to 33 percent of Republicans and 22 percent of unaffiliated.
- **Age** – Only 9 percent of those 18-39 felt that the vaccine would be available within six months compared to 23 percent of those over 70.
- **Race** – Only 4 percent of African Americans felt that the vaccine would be available within six months compared to 19 percent of whites. Only 3 percent of whites thought that vaccine would be available to them in “two to three years or more” compared to 17 percent of African Americans.

## Who Do You Trust About the Coronavirus Pandemic?

The last questions asked regarding the coronavirus situation focused on who respondents would trust to provide information. This question replicated a question used in the spring survey. Table 17 compares the findings for both surveys.

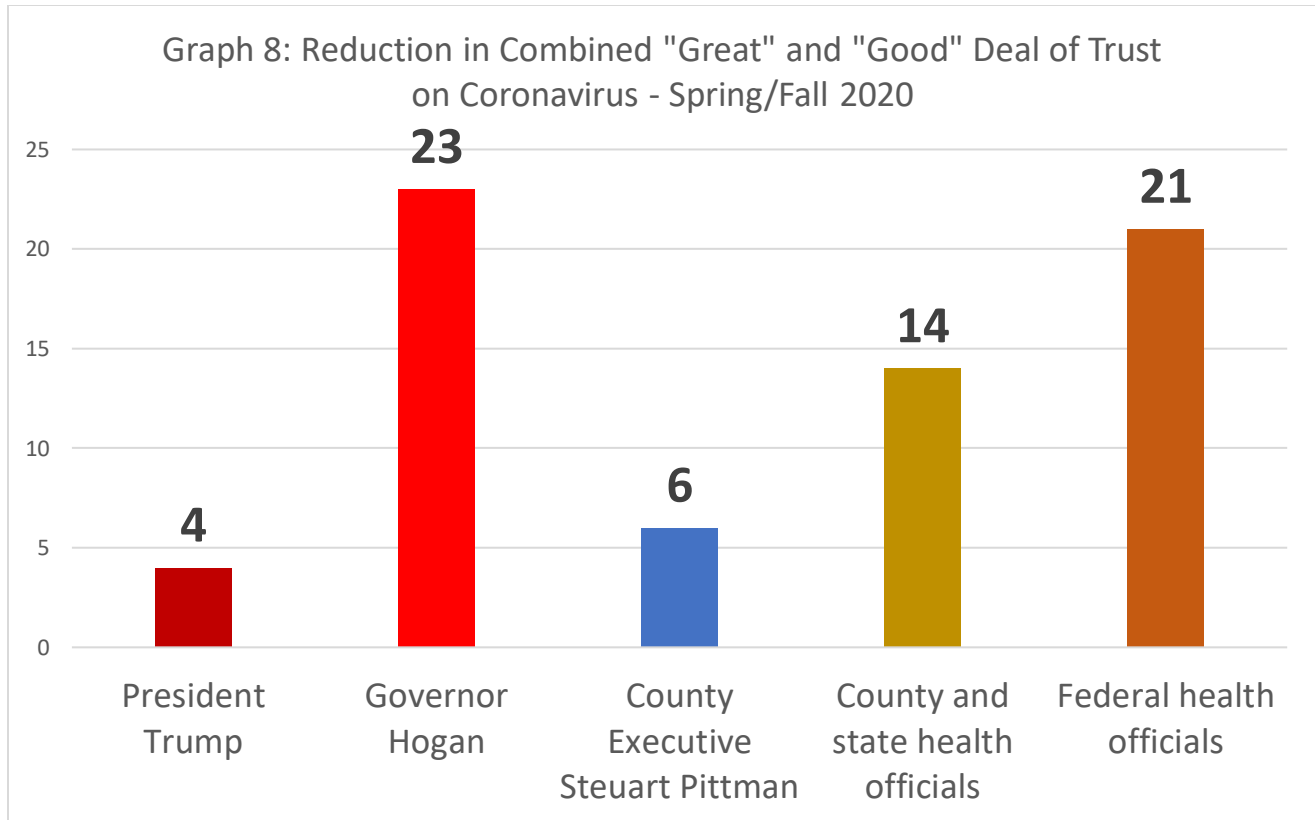
**Table 17: Who is Trusted to Provide Coronavirus Information?  
Spring and Fall 2020**

	Great deal		Good deal		Only some		Not very much		Not at all		N.A.	
	Sp	Fa	Sp	Fa	Sp	Fa	Sp	Fa	Sp	Fa	Sp	Fa
President Trump	18	19	16	11	12	12	11	7	42	51	0	1
Governor Hogan	58	25	34	44	7	21	1	6	0	3	0	0
County Executive Steuart Pittman	24	13	27	32	12	17	5	12	3	13	29	13
County and state health officials	39	26	38	37	9	22	4	6	0	6	10	4
Federal health officials	33	17	39	34	21	32	5	11	2	5	1	1

Graph 8 shows the reduction in trust from spring to fall 2020 for each category of public official. It combines the scores for “great” and “good” deal of trust.

President Trump did not experience a major decline in trust mostly because he did not have much trust to lose: he started at 34 percent and dropped to 30 percent. The other individual who did not drop much was County Executive Steuart Pittman who only fell 6 points – from 51 to 45 percent.

Experiencing a lot more of a drop was Governor Larry Hogan who dropped the most of any category: 23 points from 92 to 69 percent – still high, but still showing erosion. Federal health officials dropped 21 points from 72 to 51 percent. County and state health officials fell 14 points from 77 to 63 percent.



## Race Relations, Protests, Police Reforms

The next section of the survey focused on race relations and police reforms, including a set of questions about the Black Lives Matter protests.

The first questions in this section focused on the scope of racism as an issue. Specifically, the question asked, “How big a problem is racism in our county, state and country today? Is it a big problem, somewhat of a problem, a small problem, or not a problem at all?” Table 18 shows the results.

**Table 18: How Big a Problem is Racism?**

	<b>A big problem</b>	<b>Somewhat of a problem</b>	<b>A small problem</b>	<b>Not at all a problem</b>	<b>No opinion</b>
Anne Arundel County	21	38	23	14	3
Maryland	23	43	18	13	3
United States	53	22	15	10	1

The results at the state and local levels were nearly identical, with respondents convinced that racism was a bit less of an issue in Anne Arundel County than it was in Maryland overall. Combining the first two categories (big and somewhat), 59 percent said the county had at least somewhat of a problem, compared to 66 percent for the state and 75 percent for the country. However, the key difference was regarding the country which had a massive 30-point increase in the “big problem” category over the state of Maryland. Clearly, people thought that the problem was much more serious at the national level.

Just looking at the “big problem” answers by race and party on Table 18a provides a sense of the polarization around this issue.

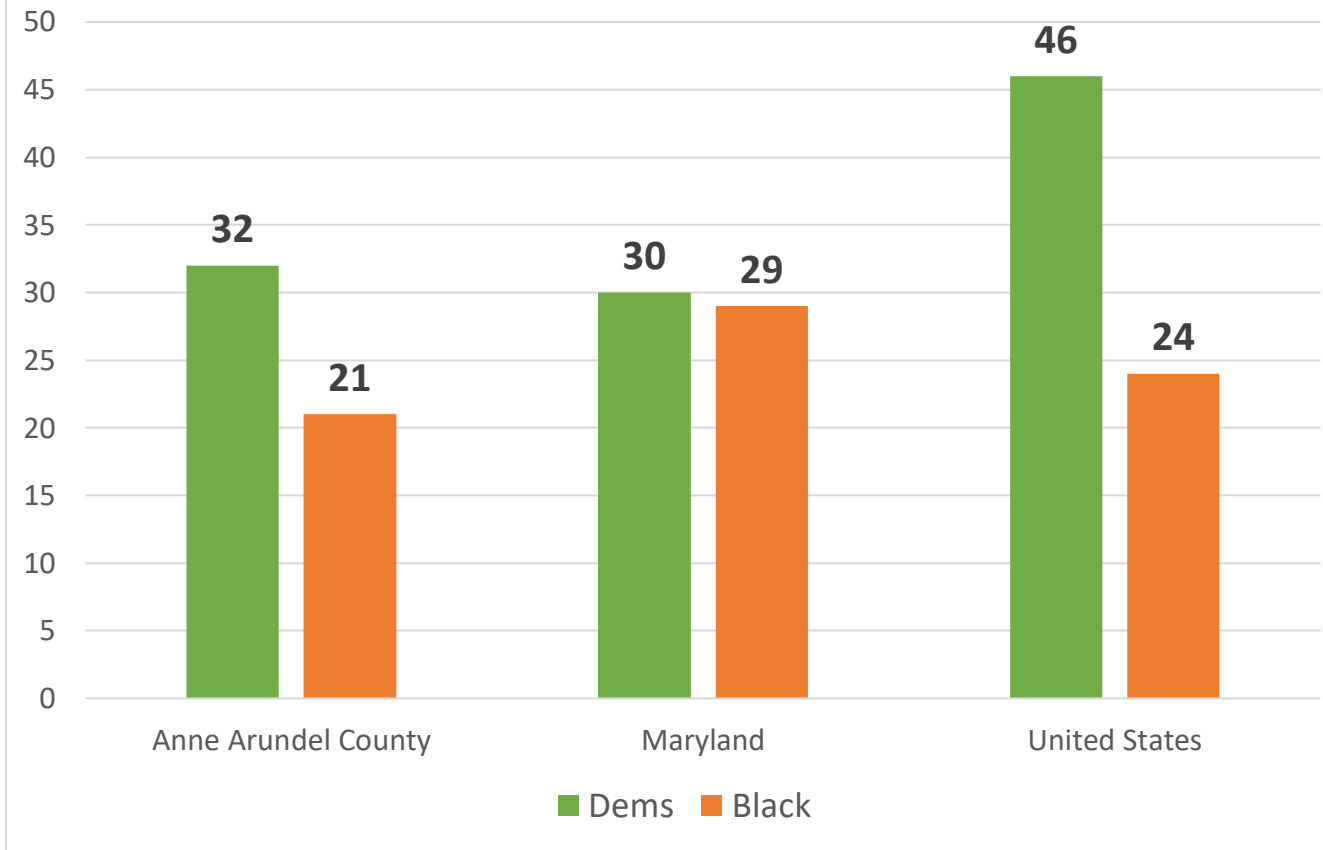
**Table 18a: How Big a Problem is Racism by Race and Party – Percent Saying “Big”**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Dems</b>	<b>Reps</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black</b>
Anne Arundel County	21	39	7	21	42
Maryland	23	41	11	22	51
United States	53	80	34	54	78

Graph 9 is based on the differences in the percentages saying “big problem” between Democrats and Republicans as well as African Americans and whites. While it might seem natural that racial differences would triumph over partisan ones, because there are a fair number of “white Democrats” – the partisan difference is larger than the racial difference at each of the three levels of government. The partisan differences dwarf the racial ones especially at the national level, where there is a 46-point difference between Democrats and Republicans, but only a 24-point difference between whites and Blacks. The point is that both partisan and racial differences in perception of racism as a problem strongly apply.



Graph 9: Differences Between Democrats/Republicans, Blacks/Whites in Percent Saying Racism is a "Big" Problem



The next three questions were focused on the Black Lives Matters protests. The first asked, “Thinking about protests in Anne Arundel County and throughout the nation that have occurred after incidents where African Americans have been harmed or killed by police, please answer the next few questions. Do you think the peaceful protests that have occurred in response to these situations have been justified or unjustified?”

The next question asked, “Do you think that President Trump's response to such protests has been mostly helpful, mostly harmful, or some of both.”

The last question asked, “How likely are these protests to produce real changes in the way African-Americans are treated in this country?”

Table 19 bundles the answers to all three questions and lists the overall results as well as the results by party registration and race.

**Table 19: Questions About Protests**

<b>Are the protests justified?</b>	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Dems</b>	<b>Reps</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black</b>
Completely justified	43	73	20	42	75
Mostly justified	25	17	29	28	5
Mostly unjustified	15	3	26	13	0
Completely unjustified	14	7	20	12	20
Unsure, don't know	3	1	6	5	0
<b>President Trump's responses have been...</b>	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Dems</b>	<b>Reps</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black</b>
Mostly helpful	18	6	30	15	28
Mostly harmful	52	87	25	55	64
Mixed, some of both	26	5	39	25	9
Unsure, don't know	4	1	6	5	0
<b>Protests likely to produce real change?</b>	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Dems</b>	<b>Reps</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black</b>
Very likely	6	12	3	5	8
Somewhat likely	37	51	23	40	29
Not too likely	30	23	38	30	31
Not likely at all	22	9	31	19	28
Unsure, don't know	6	5	6	6	3

As seen on Table 19, Democrats (73 percent) were much more likely than Republicans (20 percent) to say that the protests were “completely justified.” Blacks were about equal to Democrats in terms of the percentage concurring with that answer (75 percent), although again whites were more “liberal” than Republicans at 42 percent.

Democrats were convinced that Trump’s responses have been “mostly harmful” (87 percent), a bit higher than the Black percentage (64 percent) and much higher than the Republican percentage (25 percent).

No group was particularly optimistic that the protests would likely produce real change – overall the percentage was only 6 percent, with even Democrats pessimistic at 12 percent. Combining the “very” and “somewhat” likely categories, Democrats were over twice as likely (63 percent) than Republicans (26 percent) to be at least somewhat optimistic about the effects of the protests. Interestingly, African Americans were less confident (37 percent) than whites (45 percent) about the long-lasting impact of the protests. In short, majorities of the sample believed that the protests were justified, that President Trump’s responses were mostly harmful, but that real change was unlikely.

Open-ended comments about the protests can be found in Appendix G and in Appendix H about whether real change is likely.

## Police Reforms

The questionnaire included a battery of questions about police reforms. These are listed in Table 20 based on a spectrum of answer choices from “very much support” to “oppose completely.” The answer choices are ranked by the percentage saying, “very much support.”

**Table 20: Support for Police Reforms**

	Very much support	Somewhat support	Neither support or oppose	Oppose somewhat	Oppose completely	Unsure don't know
Mandatory use of body cameras during public contacts	68	20	6	1	1	3
Improvement of schools and health services in disadvantaged areas	57	29	7	3	3	1
Increased diversity and de-escalation training for police	55	20	12	6	6	2
Greater use of social and mental health personnel to deescalate community tensions	41	28	15	5	9	1
Reform of the “Law Enforcement Officers Bill of Rights” to make it easier to hold officers accountable	38	21	12	9	11	9
The use of civilian review board to consider complaints against the police	34	26	16	8	11	6
Allow public disclosure of an officer’s disciplinary records	31	25	14	13	12	6
Stopping the practice of purchasing surplus military equipment by police	29	14	17	12	20	8
Reducing police funding and applying it to community enhancement	15	18	8	12	44	3

The proposed reform with nearly unanimous support was “Mandatory use of body cameras during public contacts” with 68 percent saying that they completely supported; 88 percent said that they at least supported it “somewhat.” Other measures that directly related to police accountability included:

- Reform of the “Law Enforcement Officers Bill of Rights” to make it easier to hold officers accountable (38 percent very much support, 59 percent at least somewhat;
- The use of civilian review board to consider complaints against the police (34 percent very much support, 60 percent at least somewhat;

- Allow public disclosure of an officer’s disciplinary records (31 percent very much support, 56 percent at least somewhat).

The answer percentages are very consistent with one another and imply that around one-third were very supportive of any police accountability measures, while a majority might support these depending on how they were implemented and justified.

An additional police reform measure was less oriented to accountability and more to training and read: “Increased diversity and de-escalation training for police.” Since this measure seemed less threatening and/or punitive towards the police, it is not surprising that it was more widely supported. A majority (55 percent) were very supportive of this measure, with another 20 percent at least somewhat supportive – thus around three-quarters appeared ready to favorably consider this approach.

Three other approaches explicitly or implicitly tapped the “defund the police” concept that some BLM protests have generated and focused on funding and how certain situations are approached in the community. The first answer choice said, “Reducing police funding and applying it to community enhancement” specifically identified the zero-sum nature of the defunding slogan – that police funding be reduced and the proceeds applied to improving the community, with the expectation that crime would decrease as conditions for residents improved. This idea received the lowest level of support of any proposal. Only 15 percent completely supported, with another 18 percent supportive it somewhat – about only one-third (33 percent) of the entire sample. It also received by far the largest “oppose completely” score of 44 percent.

The second approach did not posit the zero-sum idea: “Improvement of schools and health services in disadvantaged areas.” There was no assertion about the source of funding for any such improvements, so this was mostly just a general attitude tapping the notion that if schools and health services were improved, this would be a good thing for disadvantaged areas. The answer got a high level of support, with the very supportive score of 57 percent and a somewhat support score of 29 percent – for a total of 86 percent.

The third answer focused on making greater use of personnel (of social and mental health workers) other than the police to deescalate community tensions. Again, this answer did not directly posit a zero-sum funding tradeoff with the police, but only asked whether it seemed reasonable to think that reliance mainly on police was not the only or best solution to community tensions. This answer developed a reasonable level of support (41 percent saying very supportive, 28 percent somewhat supportive) as 69 percent agreed with the approach at least somewhat.

The conclusion from this section is that there is some support for police accountability, better training, and a broader approach to quelling community tensions than the use of police such as improving schools and providing a greater role for social and health workers to deescalate tensions.

## Anne Arundel County, Racism, Police

Another question in this section asked, “How often do you believe that African-Americans suffer unfair treatment by Anne Arundel County police?”

**Table 21: How often Do African Americans Suffer Unfair Treatment by County Police**

Answers	Overall	Dems	Reps	White	Black
Very often	14	27	4	12	29
Sometimes	37	44	32	41	27
Rarely or never	31	9	48	29	23
Unsure, don't know	17	20	15	18	21

As Table 21 indicates, the sample was unusually unsure about how to answer this question, with 17 percent saying “unsure, don’t know.” A majority thought that unfair treatment occurred at least “sometimes” (51 percent combined very often and sometimes), outdistancing the 31 who thought that it occurred rarely or never. Differences by party were along the expected lines: 71 percent of Democrats said that unfair treatment occurred at least sometimes; among Republicans, about half as many agreed (36 percent). There were perhaps fewer differences than might be expected between whites and Blacks on this issue. While a much larger percentage of Blacks said “very often” (29 percent) compared to whites (12 percent), the combined very/somewhat totals were roughly comparable (56 vs. 53 percent). The perception of frequency was strongly affected by underlying ideology: Only 4 percent of very or somewhat conservatives said “very often” while those who were “somewhat liberal” (21 percent) or “progressive” (27 percent) were more than five times more likely to choose this answer category. Among somewhat conservatives, the combined “very/sometimes” value was 25 percent; among somewhat liberals it was 83 percent – a 58-point difference. Clearly, the answer to this question seems to be as much derived from ideological stance than direct knowledge or experience.

## Voting Methods, Presidential Election Choices

Since this survey took place during the period of a presidential election, it offered the opportunity to assess how Anne Arundel County compared to national polling regarding political choices, and how these choices reflected different priorities regarding the qualities of the candidates and their associated attitudes or policy options.

The first element of this section focused on how individuals envisioned their preferred method for voting. Specifically, the question asked: **“If you think that you will be voting (or already have voted) in this year's presidential election, which of the following applies best?”**

**Table 22: Methods of Voting – Overall and by Party Registration**

	Overall	Dems	Reps	Unaffiliated
Will vote or have voted by mail or absentee ballot and sent (or will send) completed ballot by US postal service	15	19	15	5
Will vote or have voted by mail or absentee ballot and will (or did) use a ballot drop off box	35	52	20	36
Will vote at an early voting site in person	24	19	35	15
Will vote on November 3 - election day	22	8	27	41
Probably won't vote at all	3	3	2	0

The choices and the associated percentages are indicated in Table 22. No single method obtained a majority of answers, although using a ballot drop box obtained a plurality of support (35 percent). Generally, the sample was almost evenly split between using an absentee ballot (50 percent) and in-person voting (46 percent).

The situation was quite different among partisan groupings. As has been widely reported, Democrats were much more likely to use an absentee ballot, returned either through the mail (19 percent) or at a ballot drop box (52 percent). Only 27 percent were likely to vote in person. Among Republicans, the key difference was in the percentage of those using ballot drop boxes: only 20 percent compared to 52 percent among Democrats. A total of 62 percent of Republicans were opting to vote in person compared to only 27 percent of Democrats.<sup>6</sup>

This question was followed up by one about confidence that votes would be counted accurately in Maryland and throughout the United States. Table 23 shows the results overall and by party and race.

<sup>6</sup> According to Pew Research, around 60 percent of Trump backers would opt to vote in person, while a similar percentage of Biden supporters would vote by mail. The Pew survey did not ask about using the USPS or ballot drop boxes. Our figures are roughly comparable: 71 percent of Democrats would vote by “mail” while 63 percent of Republicans would vote in person. See <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/09/08/americans-expectations-about-voting-in-2020-presidential-election-are-colored-by-partisan-differences/>

**Table 23: Confidence That Votes Will be Counted Accurately in Maryland and the United States - Overall and by Party and Race**

Answers	Overall	Dems	Reps	White	Black
<b>Maryland</b>					
Very confident	49	65	36	53	31
Somewhat confident	30	27	33	28	34
Not very confident	20	8	30	16	35
Unsure, don't know	2	0	2	2	0
<b>United States</b>					
Very confident	22	24	21	24	26
Somewhat confident	39	53	32	41	10
Not very confident	36	23	44	32	65
Unsure, don't know	3	1	3	3	0

Table 23 shows that the confidence level is much higher for Maryland (49 percent, very confident) compared to the United States (22 percent). For Maryland, Democrats were especially confident (65 percent, very confident) while Republicans were less so (36 percent). Among racial groups, whites were much more confident (53 percent, very confident) compared to Blacks (31 percent). Oddly, this was one time where Republicans and Blacks seemed to agree.

Regarding the United States, low confidence levels were apparently for all the groupings as in each case, between a fifth and a quarter expressed the highest level of confidence, less than half that for Maryland. Blacks were by far the greatest to show skepticism about the vote, with about two-thirds (65 percent) saying “not very confident.” This was twice as much as whites and nearly three times as much as Democrats.

Open-ended comments about the voting process can be found in Appendix J.

## Presidential Voting Choice

The survey asked respondents to convey their voting choice: “Thinking about the race for president in 2020. At this time, would you be inclined to vote (or already have voted) to re-elect Republican Donald Trump, vote for Democrat Joe Biden, or a third-party candidate?”

Table 24 shows the voting intentions overall and by Party and 2016 Vote

**Table 24: Voting Intentions, Overall and by Party and 2016 Vote**

	Overall	Dems	Reps	Unaffil.	Trump '16	Clinton '16	Someone else '16	Didn't vote '16
Reelect President Trump	40	9	65	47	90	1	13	40
Vote for Joe Biden	49	88	19	37	2	97	48	35
Vote for 3 <sup>rd</sup> party	6	2	9	4	2	2	31	11
Unsure/don't know	5	8	6	12	6	1	8	15

Table 24 shows that Joe Biden has a significant lead over Donald Trump in the race for president. According to the party-based vote, Trump's problem comes largely from Republicans themselves, with nearly 20 percent saying that they would vote for Biden. Among those who voted for either Trump or Clinton in 2016, the defection rate is very small, but a much larger percentage of Trump voters say that they “don't know” whether they will vote for him this time (6 percent, compared to only a single percent for Clinton voters). Biden also does well among those who voted for a third-party candidate in 2016 – essentially these were “anti-Trump” votes then and apparently have been converted into “pro-Biden” versions of an anti-Trump sentiment.

Looking at ideology in Table 25, it is apparent that Trump's main problem is not with the conservative base of the Republican Party – but with its moderates. Only 21 percent of them intended to vote for Trump; 54 percent would vote for Biden. It is also notable that there was more defection among somewhat conservatives (16 percent Biden vote) than among somewhat liberals (8 percent Trump vote).

**Table 25: Voting Intention by Ideology**

	Overall	Very cons.	Somewhat cons.	Moderate	Somewhat liberal	Very liberal
Reelect President Trump	40	98	74	21	8	0
Vote for Joe Biden	49	0	16	54	92	100
Vote for 3 <sup>rd</sup> party	6	2	7	11	0	0
Unsure/don't know	5	0	3	14	0	0

The confused state of *Republican* moderates was also highlighted in the survey: 34 percent intended to vote for Trump, but 31 percent claimed to be voting for Biden. A large number were perplexed about what to do as 16 percent said that they would vote for a third-party candidate and 19 percent were unsure. By comparison, 82 percent of *Democratic* moderates were voting for Biden; only 4 percent for a third party, 6 percent were unsure and 8 percent said that they were voting for Trump. Looking at demographics, much of the focus on the 2016 election was on white people without a four-year college degree, especially men. The analysis below generally confirms the findings of national



polling. Table 26 first shows the vote distribution by gender and education. Table 26a shows the results for whites only.

The results across both tables show similar general patterns.

- Men are more inclined to support Trump (46 percent) than women (34 percent)<sup>7</sup>
- Race doesn't have much of an impact on the overall results – partly due to the large number of whites in the sample
- Less educated men are much more likely to support Trump (17-point margin) than Biden; less educated women are mildly inclined to favor Biden by 7 points
- More educated men are virtually identical to less educated women to the degree to which they support Biden over Trump
- Women with four-year degrees or more were by far the largest category among those shown to support Biden - by over 45 points.

**Table 26: Voting Intention by Education and Gender – All Races**

	Overall	Gender Overall		No B.A.			B.A.		
		Men	Women	Overall	Men	Women	Overall	Men	Women
Reelect President Trump	40	46	34	46	54	40	33	39	23
Vote for Joe Biden	49	42	56	43	37	47	56	47	70
Vote for 3 <sup>rd</sup> party	6	8	4	4	5	3	8	11	4
Unsure/don't know	5	4	7	7	4	10	3	3	3

**Table 26a: Voting Intention by Education and Gender – Whites Only**

	Overall	Gender Overall Whites Only		No B.A. Whites Only			B.A. Whites Only		
		Men	Women	Overall	Men	Women	Overall	Men	Women
Reelect President Trump	40	42	33	46	53	41	30	35	22
Vote for Joe Biden	49	44	58	42	35	47	60	50	75
Vote for 3 <sup>rd</sup> party	6	9	1	3	6	1	7	11	1
Unsure/don't know	5	5	8	9	6	12	3	4	8

<sup>7</sup> Pew Research reports nearly identical results. It claimed “Today, 49% favor Biden while 45% favor Trump.” This is the same four point margin obtained in the fall survey. Regarding women, “Women voters continue to favor the Democratic candidate for president by 17 percentage points (55% to 39%).” The results in the fall survey showed a larger margin (56% to 34%). See <https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/2020/10/09/the-trump-biden-presidential-contest/>

The last part of this section on presidential elections deals with other factors that voters said would be important in determining their votes. Table 27 shows the overall results. Five items were mentioned by a majority of respondents as being “very important”:

- Foreign policy - 73 percent
- The candidate will foster more peace and justice to America – 71 percent
- Your agreement with the candidate’s stance on key issues – 66 percent
- The ability of the candidate to work across party lines – 60 percent
- The importance of choices to fill Supreme Court vacancies – 60 percent

Other issues were less frequently mentioned: “My dislike for the other candidate” just missed the majority mark with 48 percent saying that this was very important.

**Table 27: Importance of Various Items for Deciding Presidential Vote**

Item	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	No opinion, don’t know
The importance of foreign policy	73	24	2	1
The candidate will foster more peace and justice to America	71	22	5	3
Your agreement with the candidate’s stance on key issues	66	32	2	1
The ability of the candidate to work across party lines	60	30	8	1
The importance of choices to fill Supreme Court vacancies	60	27	10	2
My dislike for the other candidate	48	26	22	4
The candidate relates well to people like yourself	38	43	18	2
The candidate will shake up the status quo	34	35	25	7
The candidate’s personal background is appealing	30	48	20	2

Table 27a takes the “very important” results and compares them for Trump and Biden.

**Table 27a: Importance of Various Items for Deciding Presidential Vote by Voting Intention**

Item	Donald Trump	Joe Biden	Trump-Biden
The candidate will shake up the status quo	53	19	34
Your agreement with the candidate’s stance on key issues	71	63	8
The importance of foreign policy	73	76	-3
The importance of choices to fill Supreme Court vacancies	59	64	-5
The candidate relates well to people like yourself	33	43	-10
The candidate’s personal background is appealing	20	40	-20
My dislike for the other candidate	36	64	-28
The candidate will foster more peace and justice to America	53	87	-34
The ability of the candidate to work across party lines	38	75	-37

The results in Table 27a reveal key underlying dimensions of voters' expectations about the two candidates. There is only one factor that stands out as clearly and definitively attracting voters to Donald Trump rather than Joe Biden: the willingness of the former to "shake up the status quo." Trump voters are fundamentally discontented with the system as it is and want someone who will challenge norms, rules and institutions. Not many (19 percent) expect this from Biden; a majority expect it from Trump (53 percent).

Among factors attracting voters to Biden, first is the idea that Biden will work across party lines. In this view, Biden is the "unity" candidate who can break through partisan divides and find a broad consensus to the country's problems. There was a 37-point separation between Biden and Trump voters on this point.

The importance of overcoming party polarization and the stalemated politics so typical of national government can be seen in the way party registrants supported this element as a reason to vote for Biden. While 70 percent of Democrats voting for Biden said this was a very important factor, *92 percent of Republicans voting for Biden said the same*. Another *81 percent of unaffiliated voters* siding with Biden cited this factor as very important.

While Biden also had a large 34-point advantage among those who favored, "The candidate will foster more peace and justice to America" – it is important to note that a majority (54 percent) of Trump's supporters also said "very important" to this issue. Thus, a majority of each candidate's voters believe that their candidate will foster more peace and justice.

The last factor that stands out as a key dividing point between the two candidates' supporters is the degree to which Biden's supporters embraced the notion that a strong motive for their support is "My dislike for the other candidate." A large majority (64 percent) of Biden's supporters mentioned this, while only 36 percent of Trump's supporters identified this as "very important."

The way this factor worked to overcome partisanship can be seen by looking at differences between the importance placed on it by both Democrats and Republicans who were voting for Biden. Similar large majorities of Democrats (65 percent) and Republicans (64 percent) voting for Biden said this was a very important factor. Another 59 percent of unaffiliated voters siding with Biden cited this factor as very important. Trump's personal qualities were apparently a strong motivation for voters to choose Biden as their preferred candidate.

The survey also asked about the replacement of Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the Supreme Court: "On a current national question, do you think Ruth Bader Ginsburg's replacement on the Supreme Court should be nominated by Donald Trump and confirmed by the current U.S. Senate, or should this be left to the winner of the presidential election and a Senate vote next year?"

This question relates to the section about presidential choices since it dovetails with the factor "The importance of choices to fill Supreme Court vacancies" listed in Tables 27 and 27a which was considered very important by majorities of both candidates' supporters. Table 27b shows the results.

**Table 27b: How Should Bader’s Replacement be Chosen –  
Overall and by Presidential Vote**

<b>Answers</b>	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Trump</b>	<b>Biden</b>
Nominated by Trump and confirmed by current Senate	45	93	3
Nominated by winner of presidential election with Senate vote next year	51	3	93
Unsure, don’t know	5	4	4

Each candidate’s supporters predictably showed huge majorities favoring the outcome that increased the chances of confirming a justice more likely to share either Trump’s or Biden’s views. The slight majority favoring nomination by the winner of the presidential election simply reflects Biden’s lead over Trump in this survey. More comments about the nomination process can be found in Appendix I.

### **Open-ended Responses to Candidate Preference**

The survey included an open-ended option to explain the rationale for a person’s choice of candidate. The differences between the two options was stark. See Appendix C1 for the exact citations.

Among **Trump** supporters, several factors stood out:

- Many pointed to the pre-COVID economy, citing low unemployment and steady growth, his aggressive stance on trade issues, improvements in manufacturing and the like.
- Another factor cited was foreign policy, with some mentioning Trump’s attempts to remove troops from Afghanistan and Iraq, or his initiatives in the Middle East especially those involving Israel.
- Several expressed a general fear of “socialism”
- Others decried Biden’s personal experience, his family entanglements, and his mental acuity
- Several didn’t like the choice of Kamala Harris for vice president.

Among **Biden** supporters, the key factors were:

- Biden was not Trump – many statements focused much more on a dislike for Trump than an admiration for Biden
- Trump’s politicization of federal agencies
- Biden was “sane”
- Biden had relevant experience
- Biden was decent, honest, good or caring
- Some mentioned liking Kamala Harris
- Some policy agreement – climate change

## Job Approval for the President, Governor and County Executive

Each CSLI/AACC semi-annual survey asks respondents to indicate approval or disapproval of the job performed by an incumbent in office. Graph 11 shows the percentages saying “approve” for the county executive, the governor and the president.<sup>8</sup>

In keeping with the section just concluded, the first job approval focus will be on the president. The president’s overall job approval was 43 percent, just slightly higher than last spring when it was 42 percent. Also in keeping with the results from last spring, those approving were evenly divided between strongly support (22 percent both this fall and last spring) and somewhat support (21 percent this fall, 20 percent last spring). His disapproval percentages were also very similar: 4 percent somewhat disapprove (both fall and spring) and 51 percent strongly disapprove (54 percent last spring). Table 28 shows the approval scores by party registration.

**Table 28: Presidential Job Approval – Overall and by Party Registration, Fall 2020**

	Overall	Dems	Reps	Unaffiliated
Strongly approve	22	6	38	23
Somewhat approve	21	4	34	30
Somewhat disapprove	4	1	7	6
Strongly disapprove	51	89	22	39
Unsure, don’t know	1	0	0	3
Total	100	100	101	101

Not unexpectedly, not many (10 percent) Democrats approved of Trump’s job performance. A large majority of Republicans did approve (72 percent) although many (34 percent) only “somewhat” approved. Over one fifth of Republicans strongly disapproved – 82 percent of these were voting for Biden instead of their party’s nominee.

### Presidential job approval – CSLI and Gallup/RealClearPolitics

Since fall 2007, CSLI/AACC polls of county residents have generally tracked national presidential job approval trends as indicated by Gallup surveys.<sup>9</sup> Unfortunately, the Gallup organization now only tracks presidential job approval on a monthly basis, making it less relevant to the periods when the CSLI/AACC poll is in the field. As a result, from this point our polls will compare results to those listed on RealClearPolitics.com which is a survey aggregation service. The “RCP average” will be used in this

---

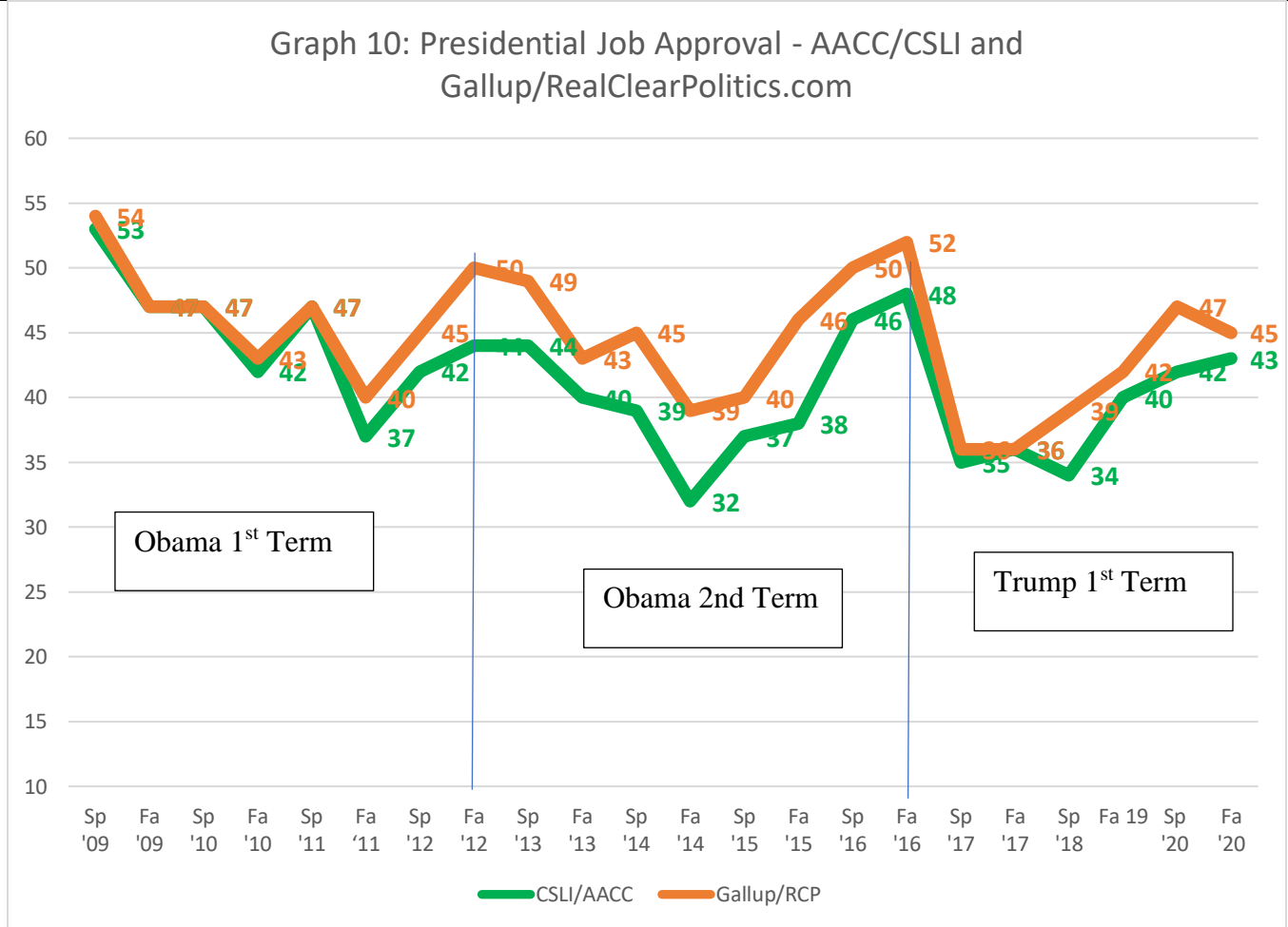
<sup>8</sup> A coding error in combining the online with the telephone samples made the results problematic for Fall 2018. Those results are excluded from Graph 11. For the fall 2018 survey, a change was made in how the question was asked: rather than simply asking the respondent to choose between “approve” 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 in some places such as graphs: approve, disapprove.

<sup>9</sup> See [http://www.gallup.com/poll/201617/gallup-daily-trump-job-approval.aspx?g\\_source=trump+job+approval&g\\_medium=search&g\\_campaign=tiles](http://www.gallup.com/poll/201617/gallup-daily-trump-job-approval.aspx?g_source=trump+job+approval&g_medium=search&g_campaign=tiles) for Trump’s job approval findings cited here prior to spring 2018. Gallup switched to a weekly job approval collection process in 2018, so the new site is found at <http://news.gallup.com/poll/203207/trump-job-approval-weekly.aspx>. The fall 2020 benchmark can be found at [https://www.realclearpolitics.com/epolls/other/president\\_trump\\_job\\_approval-6179.html](https://www.realclearpolitics.com/epolls/other/president_trump_job_approval-6179.html)

and future reports. Prior results listed in Table 22 are based on the Gallup findings. Graph 10 shows the pattern for both poll sources – CSLI/AACC as well as Gallup/RCP.

**Table 28a: CSLI Presidential Job Approval Spring 2012 to Fall 2020**

	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	Sp '19	Fa '19	Sp '20	Fa '20
Approve	42	44	44	40	39	32	37	38	46	48	35	34	34	40	47	42	43
Disapprove	49	50	51	53	52	58	56	52	47	46	54	55	56	56	56	58	56
No answer	8	6	4	7	9	9	7	10	7	6	11	11	11	4	3	0	1
Total	99	100	99	100	100	99	100	100	100	100	100	100	101	101	99	100	100



**Job approval for Governor Larry Hogan** has historically been quite high: By fall 2017, Governor Hogan was 48 points higher than Governor Martin O’Malley had been in fall 2014. One year ago, his job approval was at 81 percent; this fall it was close at 79 percent, about evenly divided between strongly (38 percent) and somewhat (41 percent) approve.

**Table 28b: Gubernatorial Job Approval – Overall and by Party Registration, Fall 2020**

	Overall	Dems	Reps	Unaffiliated
Strongly approve	38	32	49	31
Somewhat approve	41	44	34	46
Somewhat disapprove	14	15	13	17
Strongly disapprove	4	5	4	4
Unsure, don’t know	3	4	1	1
Total	100	100	101	99

Table 28b reveals that Republicans were somewhat more zealous in their approval of Hogan’s job than were Democrats (strongly approve Republicans 49 percent, Democrats 32 percent) although combining the two approval levels result in very similar scores (83 vs. 76 percent).

One interesting discovery regarding job approval and the Republican propensity for defection from voting for Trump was that fewer than half (47 percent) Republicans who strongly approved of Hogan were also voting for Trump. Many (27 percent) were voting for Biden, with others saying a third-party or wouldn’t vote at all. While there was a small propensity for Democrats who strongly approved of Hogan to vote for Trump (11 percent), the main story was clearly with Republicans since Hogan has admitted that he would not be voting for Donald Trump in 2020 (and didn’t in 2016 either).

Moving next to the **county executive’s job approval**, historically a sizable segment of survey participants could not give an answer – in fall 2020, 15 percent were in this camp (compared to 3 percent for Hogan and a single percent for Trump). Overall, 51 percent said that they approved with 34 percent disapproving. Only Democrats were likely to say “strongly approve” for County Executive Steuart Pittman (37 percent), although about a third of Republicans and unaffiliated voters at least offered “somewhat approve.”

**Table 28c: County Executive Job Approval – Overall and by Party Registration, Fall 2020**

	Overall	Dems	Reps	Unaffiliated
Strongly approve	17	37	3	8
Somewhat approve	34	36	33	32
Somewhat disapprove	13	4	23	13
Strongly disapprove	21	4	32	30
Unsure, don’t know	15	19	9	18
Total	100	100	100	101

Comparing Pittman’s job approval by the strength of party affiliation reveals that strong Democrats offered the most emphatic and largest approval scores of any party grouping: 57 percent “strongly approve” and 83 percent overall approval. This was more enthusiastic support than offered by “somewhat strong Democrats” (24 and 68 percent) or “not strong Democrats” (5 and 55 percent). Among Republicans, the pattern was reversed: “Not strong” Republicans offered the greatest overall

approval (47 percent) – almost identical to “Not strong” Democrats. Pittman only received 16 and 39 percent approval scores from strong and somewhat strong Republicans respectively.

**Table 28d: County Executive Job Approval – Overall and by Strength of Party Affiliation**

	Overall	Democrats			Republicans			Unaffiliated		
		Strong	Somewhat	Not Strong	Strong	Somewhat	Not Strong	Lean D	Lean R	No lean
Strongly approve	17	57	24	5	0	3	5	24	0	7
Somewhat approve	34	26	44	50	16	36	42	52	45	21
Somewhat disapprove	13	3	3	13	26	21	21	0	23	8
Strongly disapprove	21	1	2	15	48	33	19	0	2	37
Unsure, don't know	15	13	27	17	10	3	5	24	3	26
Total	100	100	100	101	100	100	100	101	100	101

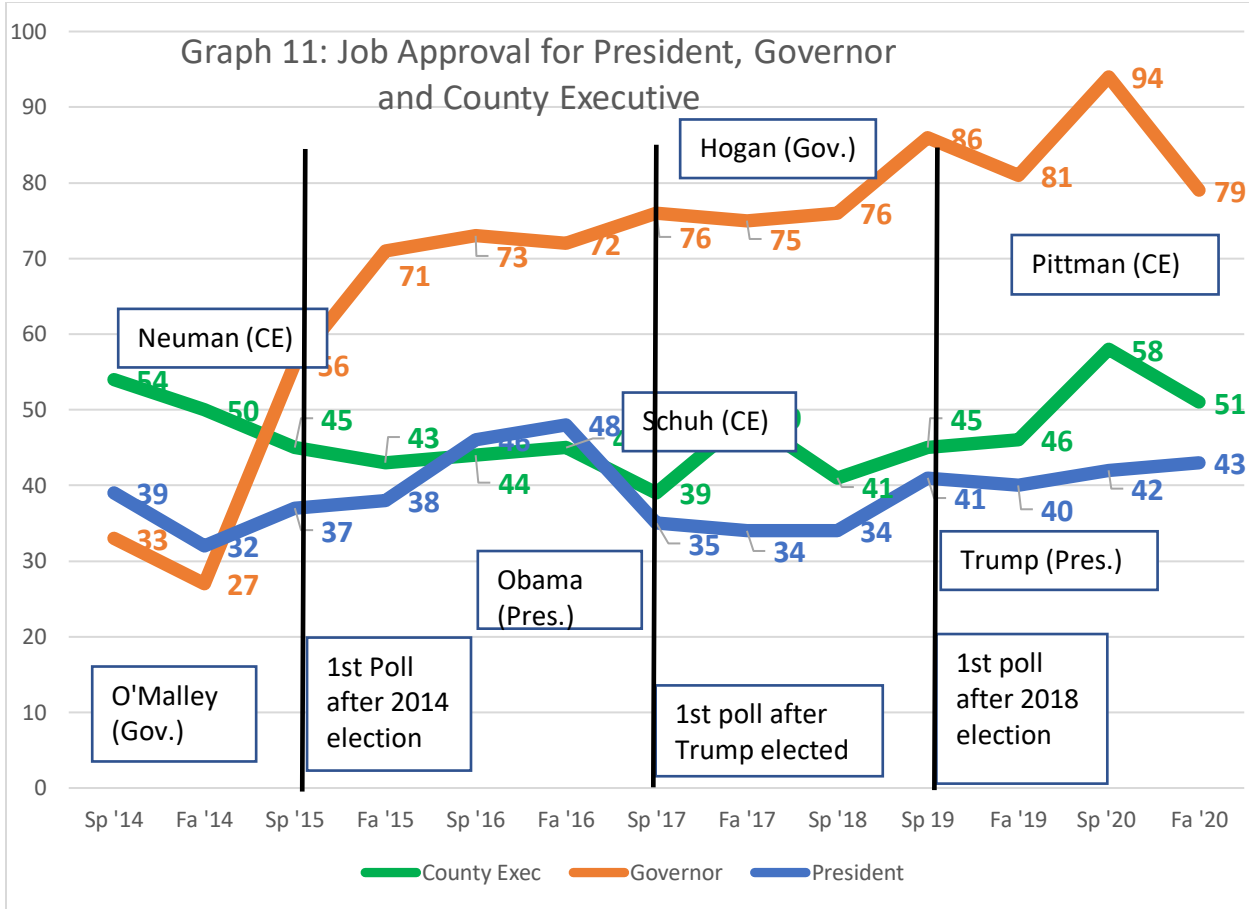
Table 28e shows the most recent relationships between party and job approval scores. Graph 11 illustrates the trends over time regarding job approval.

**Table 28d Job Approval by Party**

Percent Approving	Overall F'19	Overall S'20	Overall F'20	Dem	Rep	Unaffil.
County Executive Steuart Pittman	46	57	51	73	36	40
Governor Larry Hogan	81	95	79	66	83	78
President Donald Trump	40	42	43	10	71	53



Graph 11: Job Approval for President, Governor and County Executive



## Trust in Political Parties

Since 2008, CSLI/AACC surveys have 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 12 shows that there have been some sharp oscillations on the Republican side, scores as low as 23 percent and as high as 39 percent. Democrats have shown less variation in trust levels, ranging from 32 to 42 percent. Those saying “neither” have varied the most, from a low of 17 to a high of 37 percent.

The fall 2020 figures showed a small rise for Democrats from 39 to 41 percent – a recent plateau for that party. Republicans showed a four-point rise from 34 to 38 percent. The percentage saying “neither” dropped from 24 to only 18 percent – a level usually associated with an election year. Prior to the 2016 elections, the average “neither” score for election periods (fall 2008, fall 2010, fall 2012, fall 2014, fall 2016, fall 2018, fall 2020) was only 21 percent; outside of election periods it has been 25 percent.

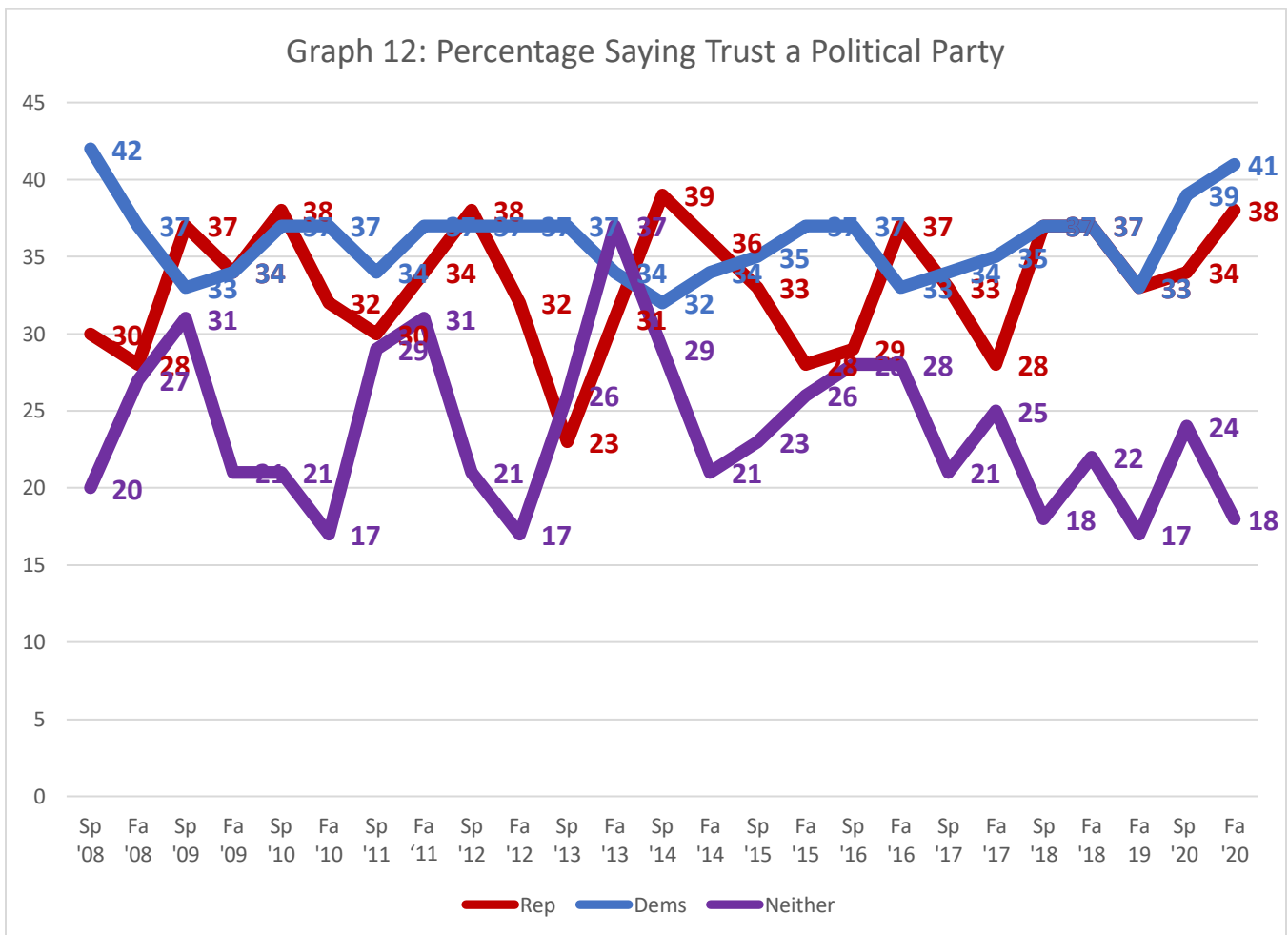


Table 29 includes information about party registration and trust in parties. For Democrats, a four-point rise brought trust to its highest level since fall 2017. For Republicans, party members have generally

been less likely to trust their own party than has been true among Democrats. For fall 2020, there was a four-point rise from spring 2020, but the total – 67 percent – was still 14 points lower than the Democrats’ score. Unaffiliated voters showed a small two-point rise in trust for Democrats to 26 percent, but a larger five-point rise in trust for Republicans to 35 percent, slightly higher than the “neither” score of 34.

**Table 29: Trust Political Parties by Registration**

	Democrat						Republican						Unaffiliated					
	Sp '18	Fa '18	Sp '19	Fa '19	Sp '20	Fa '20	Sp '18	Fa '18	Sp '19	Fa '19	Sp '20	Fa '20	Sp '18	Fa '18	Sp '19	Fa '19	Sp '20	Fa '20
Trust Democrats	65	71	66	73	77	81	7	3	4	8	8	11	30	31	22	34	24	26
Trust Republicans	9	6	13	10	5	8	55	78	67	69	63	67	23	34	28	21	30	35
Trust neither	18	19	16	8	14	8	29	12	21	15	27	20	37	26	38	33	43	34
NA/DK/Other party	8	4	5	9	4	3	9	7	8	9	3	1	10	9	12	12	3	5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	101	100	100	100	101	101	99	101	100	100	100	100	100

## Methodology

The survey polled a random sample of 448 county residents who were at least 18 years old. Interviewing was conducted primarily using a database of members of the CSLI/AACC web panel who have been recruited when conducting previous telephone interviews. The survey was in the field from October 9 to 16. There was about a 4.5 percent statistical margin of error; 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. Students participated in the selection of topics and analysis of results.

Contact Dan Nataf, Ph.D., for additional comments or questions at 410-777-2733 and [ddnataf@aacc.edu](mailto:ddnataf@aacc.edu). This press release can be obtained at [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1k-HfI1oQBq\\_12swKnSN632NajBB43P67/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1k-HfI1oQBq_12swKnSN632NajBB43P67/view?usp=sharing)

Check this website for results for information and press releases for surveys prior to spring 2020: [www2.aacc.edu/csli](http://www2.aacc.edu/csli).

## Appendix A

### AACC Semi-Annual Survey – Fall, 2020

**1. What are the top two most important problems facing the residents of Anne Arundel County at the present time? (Pick your top TWO concerns by checking off two boxes - please no more than just two)**

Problem	Spring '20	Fall '20
<b>Coronavirus</b> – spread, treatment, testing	69	50
<b>Crime</b> (other than drug related)	1	11
<b>Drugs</b> (use or sale of illegal drugs such as heroin, cocaine, or use of prescription pain killers for non-medical purposes.)	3	15
<b>Economy</b> – (e.g., no jobs, high cost of living, business closing or losses)	10	24
<b>Education</b> , problems with schools, quality, facilities, staff, discipline	3	18
<b>Environment</b> (e.g., air or water pollution, saving the Bay)	0	8
<b>Government ethics</b> – corrupt, immoral	1	7
<b>Government waste</b> – inefficient, spends too much	2	7
<b>Government lack resources</b> –for roads, schools, services	1	4
<b>Growth/overpopulation</b> - too much development, poorly planned	4	13
<b>Healthcare</b> (cost, access)	1	3
Housing cost	1	6
Racism, hate crimes, discrimination	0	6
<b>Taxes</b> – too high	2	11
<b>Transportation</b> problems/traffic congestion, lack of public transit	1	6
No answer, don't know	0	2
<b>Other</b> answer - write in:	1	9

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

	Right	Wrong	Unsure/Don't know
2.1 Anne Arundel County	41	34	25
2.2 Maryland	50	30	21
2.3 US	30	59	11

**3. Next, how do you rate economic conditions in Anne Arundel County, in Maryland, and in the United States generally -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor?**

	Excellent	Good	Only fair	Poor	Unsure/Don't know
3.1 Anne Arundel County	7	50	29	9	5
3.2 Maryland	6	49	32	9	4
3.3 US	9	28	30	32	3

**3.4 Thinking ahead for the next few years, do you expect the national economy to improve, stay the same or get worse?**

(1) Improve 46% (2) stay same 16% (3) get worse 17% (0) no answer/unsure 21%

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

	<b>Applies</b>	<b>Doesn't apply</b>	<b>Unsure, no answer</b>
4.1 Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	38	57	6
4.2 Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	30	67	3
4.3 Facing the possibility of unemployment	11	81	8
4.4 Found a new or better job recently	9	87	4
4.5 Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	19	78	3
4.6 Hard to afford the cost of education beyond high school	25	71	4
4.7 Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive or inadequate	19	77	3
4.8 Taxes are too high in relation to government services provided	51	34	14

**5. The next few questions focus on Anne Arundel County. How familiar are you with the programs and services offered to county residents by the Department of Aging and Disability?**

Extremely familiar 2% Very familiar 11% Somewhat familiar 39%  
 Not so familiar 25% Not at all familiar 23%

**6. County Executive Pittman and the Office of Planning and Zoning created an online platform called “Plan2040 Community Engagement @Home” where community members could explore and comment on draft vision, goals, and land-use changes as part of the General Development Plan.**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Unsure</b>
6.1 Were you aware of this online platform	23	73	3
6.2 How were you made aware of this platform?	Open-ended		
6.3 Did you make use of the platform?	7	88	5
6.4 Does having this platform increase your trust in the process of revising the General Development Plan	26	38	35

**6.5 If you were aware, how were you made aware of the platform?\_\_\_\_\_**

**7. In this section, we will be asking questions about the COVID-19 situation. We will start with questions about Anne Arundel County and the state of Maryland.**

**Would you say that Anne Arundel County and Maryland have gone too fast, too slow or about right in the pace of reopening businesses, schools and other facilities?**

	<b>Too fast</b>	<b>About right</b>	<b>Too slow</b>	<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>
7.1 Anne Arundel County	14	56	28	2
7.2 Maryland	20	62	16	2

**7.3 Option to explain:** \_\_\_\_\_

**8. The next two questions ask about Anne Arundel County decisions regarding COVID-19.**

	<b>Too fast</b>	<b>About right</b>	<b>Too slow</b>	<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>
8.1 Is Anne Arundel County's decision to close bars and restaurants that serve alcohol at 10 p.m. as a way of slowing the spread of the virus – too strict, about right or not strict enough?	22	52	22	4
8.2 Is Anne Arundel County's decision to limit social gatherings to 25 people inside and 50 outside too strict, about right or not strict enough.	24	52	21	3

**9. Do you approve the following recent actions regarding the coronavirus pandemic.**

	Great deal	Good deal	Only some	Not very much	Not at all
9.1 Greater opening of malls and movie theaters	12	18	29	28	12
9.2 Keeping public schools online rather than a rapid reopening	35	24	15	12	15
9.3 Mandatory mask wearing in public indoor venues and where social distancing isn't possible	67	15	7	4	7
9.4 Efforts by government to provide financial support for those whose income has been curtailed	45	21	22	6	5
9.5 The Naval Academy's decision to allow midshipmen to go into Annapolis with some restrictions	21	30	34	10	5

**10.0 Would you say that the COVID-19 situation is getting better, staying about the same, or getting worse?**

- (1) Getting better 35%      (2) Staying about the same 42%  
 (3) getting worse 20%    (0) Unsure, don't know 3%

**10.1 Do you think that there will be a surge in cases during this fall or winter?**

- (1) Yes 62%    (2) No 16%    (0) Unsure, don't know 22%

**10.2 How concerned are you about the possibility of someone in your family becoming seriously ill with the virus?**

- (1) Very concerned      41%  
 (2) Somewhat concerned    35%  
 (3) Not very concerned    24%  
 (0) Unsure, don't know    0%

**Which of these apply regarding your experience with COVID-19 (check all that apply)**

Answers	Percentage
10.3 You have come down with it yourself	2
10.4 A family member or close friend has come down with it	28
10.5 Someone you know other than family/friend has come down with it	53
10.5 Someone you know has died from effects of the virus	20
10.6 You consider yourself at high risk should you come down with the virus	39
10.7 None of these apply	16

The following group of questions deal with the coronavirus (COVID-19).

**11. Have you or any members of your household experienced any of the following because of coronavirus?**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Unsure/NA</b>
11.1 Got tested and got quick results	42	55	3
11.2 Got tested, but it took a long time to get the results	20	72	8
11.3 Want to get tested but haven't been able to do so	9	82	9
11.4 Are stocking up on goods or supplies more than normal	49	49	2
11.5 Finding it difficult to obtain some key items like toilet paper, masks or gloves	39	58	2
11.6 Changed travel plans	86	13	1
11.7 Changed work routines by working online	51	39	10
11.8 Seen a reduction of hours or been laid off	20	68	13
11.9 Had to manage day care or home schooling	22	65	13
11.10 Moved to more purchase of goods online	71	26	3
11.11 Are suffering from unrelated health problems due to closure of services	12	84	4
11.12 Unhappiness or emotional distress due to social isolation ("social distancing")	47	48	5

**11.13 Describe the most challenging aspect of adapting to the coronavirus pandemic for you or your household.** \_\_\_\_\_

**11.14 Is there anything about lifestyle or work changes that have improved your quality of life and hope to continue after the COVID pandemic ends?** \_\_\_\_\_

**12. When do you think that a safe and proven vaccine will be available to people like you?**

<b>Answers</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Within the next six months	20
Six months to a year	39
One or two years	27
Two to three years or more	5
Unsure, don't know	9

No question 13.



**14. How much do you trust information about the coronavirus pandemic and how to cope with it coming from...**

	<b>Great deal</b>	<b>Good deal</b>	<b>Only some</b>	<b>Not very much</b>	<b>Not at all</b>	<b>N.A.</b>
14.1 President Trump	19	11	12	7	51	1
14.2 Governor Hogan	25	44	21	6	3	0
14.3 County Executive Steuart Pittman	13	32	17	12	13	13
14.4 County and state health officials	26	37	22	6	6	4
14.5 Federal health officials	17	34	32	11	5	1

**15. How serious – very, somewhat or not very – do you believe the following problems to be?**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>How serious=&gt;</b>	<b>Very</b>	<b>Somewhat</b>	<b>Not very</b>	<b>N.A.</b>
15.1 Having easy access to opioids		52	23	9	15
15.2 The possibility of coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading more widely into Maryland		46	34	18	2
15.3 The management of run-off into the Chesapeake Bay		49	35	12	4
15.4 High cost of housing in the county		45	41	12	3
15.5 The growth in income and wealth inequality in the county		32	34	29	5
15.8 Hate crimes in the county		33	33	31	4
15.9 The lack of trust in government		44	43	12	1
15.10 Focusing now on international affairs: How serious to you consider the rising economic and military threat posed by China		46	37	15	2
15.11 The threat to American democracy posed by Russia		43	32	22	3
15.13 The threat posed by climate change		53	17	28	2

**16. How big a problem is racism in our county, state and country today? Is it a big problem, somewhat of a problem, a small problem, or not a problem at all?**

	<b>A big problem</b>	<b>Somewhat of a problem</b>	<b>A small problem</b>	<b>Not at all a problem</b>	<b>No opinion</b>
16.1 Anne Arundel County	21	38	23	14	3
16.2 Maryland	23	43	18	13	3
16.3 United States	53	22	15	10	1

**17. Thinking about protests in Anne Arundel County and throughout the nation that have occurred after incidents where African Americans have been harmed or killed by police, please answer the next few questions. Do you think the peaceful protests that have occurred in response to these situations have been justified or unjustified?**

<b>Answers</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Completely justified	43
Mostly justified	25
Mostly unjustified	15
Completely unjustified	14
Unsure, don't know	3

**18. Do you think that President Trump's response to such protests has been...**

<b>Answers</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Mostly helpful	18
Mostly harmful	52
Mixed, some of both	26
Unsure, don't know	4

**19. How likely are these protests to produce real changes in the way African-Americans are treated in this country?**

<b>Answers</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Very likely	6
Somewhat likely	37
Not too likely	30
Not likely at all	22
Unsure, don't know	6

**20. Thinking about the factors that have led to these protests, indicate whether you support or oppose the following reforms or changes:**

	Very support	Somewhat support	Neither support or oppose	Oppose somewhat	Oppose completely	Unsure don't know
20.1 Reducing police funding and applying it to community enhancement	15	18	8	12	44	3
20.2 Greater use of social and mental health personnel to deescalate community tensions	41	28	15	5	9	1
20.3 Improvement of schools and health services in disadvantaged areas	57	29	7	3	3	1
20.4 Mandatory use of body cameras during public contacts	68	20	6	1	1	3
20.5 Increased diversity and de-escalation training for police	55	20	12	6	6	2
20.6 The use of civilian review board to consider complaints against the police	34	26	16	8	11	6
20.7 Reform of the "Law Enforcement Officers Bill of Rights to make it easier to hold officers accountable	38	21	12	9	11	9
20.8 Allow public disclosure of an officer's disciplinary records	31	25	14	13	12	6
20.9 Stopping the practice of purchasing surplus military equipment by police	29	14	17	12	20	8

**21. How often do you believe that African Americans suffer unfair treatment by Anne Arundel County police?**

Answers	Percentage
Very often	14
Sometimes	37
Rarely or never	31
Unsure, don't know	17

**22. On a current national question, do you think Ruth Bader Ginsburg's replacement on the Supreme Court should be nominated by Donald Trump and confirmed by the current U.S. Senate, or should this be left to the winner of the presidential election and a Senate vote next year?**

Answers	Percentage
Nominated by Trump and confirmed by current Senate	45
Nominated by winner of presidential election with Senate vote next year	51
Unsure, don't know	5

**23. With which political party, if any, are you registered?**

(1) 38% Democratic => ASK: **Do you consider yourself a**

(1.1) Strong 50%

(1.2) Somewhat strong 35%

(1.3) Not a strong Democrat? 15%

(2) 40% Republican => ASK: **Do you consider yourself a**

(2.1) Strong 33%

(2.2) Somewhat strong 39%

(2.3) Not a strong Republican 28%

(3) 19% Unaffiliated (or "independent")=> ASK: **Do you consider yourself to be leaning more towards the**

(3.1) Democratic 16%

(3.2) Republican 38%

(3.3) Neither party most of the time? 46%

(4) 2% Other

(5) 1% None (not registered to vote) =====>

**24. If you voted for a presidential candidate in 2016, for whom did you vote?**

(1) Hillary Clinton 40% (2) Donald Trump 37% (3) Someone else 9% (4) Didn't vote 14%

**25 . If you think that you will be voting (or already have voted) in this year's presidential election, which of the following applies best?**

1. Will vote or have voted by mail or absentee ballot and sent (or will send) completed ballot by US postal service 15%
2. Will vote or have voted by mail or absentee ballot and will (or did) use a ballot drop off box 35%
3. Will vote at an early voting site in person 24%
4. Will vote on November 3 - election day 22%
5. Probably won't vote at all 3%

**26. How confident are you that votes will be accurately counted in Maryland and throughout the United States generally?**

	<b>Very confident</b>	<b>Somewhat confident</b>	<b>Not very confident</b>	<b>Unsure, don't know</b>
26.1 Maryland	49	30	20	2
26.2 United States generally	22	39	36	3

**27. Thinking about the race for president in 2020. At this time, would you be inclined to vote (or already have voted) to re-elect Republican Donald Trump, vote for Democrat Joe Biden, or a third party candidate?**

- (1) Reelect President Trump 40%
- (2) Vote for Joe Biden 49%
- (3) Vote for third party candidate 6%
- (4) Unsure/don't know 5%

**27.1 What is the most important reason why you currently favor this candidate for president?**

---

**28. Thinking about your choice for president, please say whether the following items are not very important, somewhat important or very important.**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Not very important</b>	<b>No opinion, don't know</b>
28.1 The ability of the candidate to work across party lines	60	30	8	1
28.2 Your agreement with the candidate's stance on key issues	66	32	2	1
28.3 The candidate's personal background is appealing	30	48	20	2
28.4 The candidate relates well to people like yourself	38	43	18	2
28.5 The candidate will shake up the status quo	34	35	25	7
28.6 The candidate will foster more peace and justice to America	71	22	5	3
28.7 My dislike for the other candidate	48	26	22	4
28.8 The importance of choices to fill Supreme Court vacancies	60	27	10	2
28.9 The importance of foreign policy	73	24	2	1

**30. 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 41%
- (2) Republicans 38%
- (3) Neither (volunteered) 18%
- (4) Other (volunteered) 1%
- (0) Unsure, don't know 2%

**31. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the following elected officials are handling their jobs: "Would that be strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove?"**

Elected official	Strongly Approve	Somewhat Approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	No answer/DK
31.1 County Executive Steuart Pittman	17	34	13	21	15
31.2 Governor Larry Hogan	38	41	14	4	3
31.3 President Donald Trump	22	21	4	51	1

**32. Which of the following best describes your political beliefs?**

- 1. Very conservative 15%
- 2. Somewhat conservative 22%
- 3. Moderate 32%
- 4. Somewhat liberal 17%
- 5. Very liberal (progressive or democratic socialist) 12%
- 6. Unsure/don't know 2%

**33. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_**

- 18-39 19%
- 40-49 7%
- 50-59 21%
- 60-69 25%
- 70+ 27%

**34. Regarding race or ethnicity, how would you describe yourself?**

- (1) White or Caucasian 79%
- (2) Black or African American 6%
- (3) Hispanic or Latino 2%
- (4) Asian or Asian American 2%
- (5) Mixed 3%
- (6) Other \_\_\_\_\_ 2%
- (0) No answer 6%

**35. Regarding religion, how would you describe yourself?**

- (1) None 13%
- (2) Non-practicing 14%
- (3) Evangelical or born again Christian (possibly Baptist, Pentecostal) 10%
- (4) Catholic 21%
- (5) Protestant (possibly Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterian, Anglican, Episcopalian) 22%
- (6) Some other Christian 3%
- (7) Jewish 4%
- (8) A 'spiritual person' not associated with an organized religion 10%
- (9) Something else (e.g., Muslim, Hindu) 1%
- (0) No Answer 3%

**36. What is your current marital status?**

- (1) Single 20%
- (2) Married 64%
- (3) Separated/divorced 6%
- (4) Widowed 7%
- (5) Living together 2%
- (6) Other 1%

**37. Which of the following best describes your highest level of formal education?**

(1) less than a high school diploma 2%	(5) completed a 4 year bachelor's degree 23%
(2) a high school diploma 8%	(6) post graduate work 24%
(3) some college 22%	(7) something else? 1%
(4) completed a 2-year associate college degree 20%	(0) No Answer 0%

**38. Which of the following best describes your gross annual household income before taxes.**

- (1) Less than \$30,000 8%
- (2) \$30,000 to \$50,000 5%
- (3) \$50,001 to \$75,000 12%
- (4) \$75,001-\$100,000 10%
- (5) \$100,001-\$150,000 23%
- (6) \$150,001-\$250,000 19%
- (7) Over \$250,000 9% (0) No Answer 15%

**39. Which of following best describes your employment situation?**

Category	Percentage
Fully or semi retired	39
Self employed or consultant	5
Employed part-time	8
Employed full time	30
Student (mostly or full-time)	7
Unemployed and seeking a job	2
Unemployed and NOT seeking a job	2
Caregiver/parent	1
Unsure due to recent workplace changes caused by coronavirus	2
Other	4
No answer	0

**40. Gender (weighted)**

- (1) Male 50% (2) Female 49% (3) Other 1%



#### 41. Zip code

Zip	Percentage
No answer	0.9
20711	0.4
20715	0.3
20716	0.2
20724	0.6
20733	0.7
20740	0.6
20751	0.3
20764	0.8
20765	0.1
20774	0.4
20776	2.3
20778	0.4
20779	0.5
20854	0.1
21012	7.2
21032	0.8
21035	1.5
21036	0.1
21037	2.6
21054	2.7
21060	3.1
21061	5.0
21076	2.7
21090	1.0
21106	0.2
21108	4.1
21113	3.8
21114	4.4
21115	0.1
21122	11.2
21140	1.3
21144	4.4
21146	10.3
21201	0.3
21210	0.3
21225	0.6
21401	8.8
21402	0.3
21403	9.1
21405	0.4

21409	3.5
21638	0.6
21641	0.6
22211	0.5
Total	100.0

## Appendix B: Other “Most Important Problems”

Businesses and schools being closed by the effects of government edicts over Covid issues.
Climate change
County Executive
Democrat Socialism Woke Society
Do not like this question. As a public school teacher, Covid and education are a major concern. One impacts the other.
Economy and education above related to the Coronavirus issues
Education - AACPS policy as it relates to remote learning during pandemic
Environment and Growth are two sides of the same coin. I cannot swim or ski or take my kids tubing in the Severn River anymore (per our physician who lives in our same water access community!)
Eroding family values
Excessive vehicle speeds and poor driving leading to unnecessary crashes lacking targeted enforcement to stop it draining police and rescue resources.
Explanation: Ethics problem with County Executive particularly with reference to refusal to help the police department.
Getting the kids back to school and socializing with others.
Government only worried about their selves and politicians, not about the voters.
Government over step and killing our business with this lock down
I combine Crime and Drug in one category. One is just as bad as the other around here.
I think most of the problems could be solved if racism was a high priority.
I think the crime is rising and getting worse and schools are really far behind (understandably during these times). The schools were lagging prior to COVID. Parks and Rec are underwhelming, to say the least. We need a better transportation infrastructure.
Lack of sidewalks in Glen Burnie area
Lack of true Christianity--love for God, yourself, and others--Christ in us
Lockdowns
Need to email students to let know when the class is going to start I take many courses other vendors always send a reminder it helps so much
Next Gen changes to flight patterns in Anne Arundel County Our home has gone from a peaceful oasis to having 75% of all arrivals converging over or near our home for the sake of the airlines and travelers to get their destination quicker. If you live under new routes (that were moved over you) averaging 250 or more flights a day when you had none, the freight train effect is awful
racism, discrimination
Republicans in Government.
Ridiculous instructions to wear masks outdoors. Not allowing restaurants to operate at full capacity. In home schooling is another problem.
Socialist and anti-Christian indoctrination in our public schools.
Tuition rates: It would be great to reduce some of these rates since there is a shortage on the cash due to loss of jobs, etc.
unconstitutional lockdown

Waterfront development and land clearing is unchecked. Waterfront/critical area developments were limited to their footprint and that is no longer the case. The public was never openly informed of this change.

## Appendix C: How Were You Made Aware of Online Platform?

County Executive Pittman
An email from the County
annapolis capital newspaper
Anne Arundel County Website
Article in newspaper
Article in the newspaper
By belonging to Arnold Preservation organization
Capital Gazette Newspaper
Capital newspaper
Capital?
Civic Group
community association
Community meetings
Community notices
Community website Nextdoor.com
County Council Meeting
County Executive's Facebook
County Flyer
County website and newspapers.
E-mail
email
Email
Email from Chamber of Commerce & newspaper
Email from County
email newsletter that I subscribe to
Eye on Annapolis
facebook
Facebook
Facebook AACO government site
Facebook County Executive
FB
Followed the county executive on Facebook
Friend
Have been familiar with the GDP since 1982
Home Owners Association alerted us.
I believe I saw it mentioned in the Capital
I don't recall for sure, but I think I received an email from a local media source such as Patch, What's Up.

I don't remember if I read about it in newspaper or saw it on County website which I check occasionally
I get emails from his office on announcements (only because I'm on his email list from complaints to him.
I just tried the @home info, It won't let me view anything to check it out.
I read about it in the newspaper
I read on some of the information on this topic from the internet
internet
It was a talked-about platform in my family.
Just now
Letter regarding rezoning of my property
library site online
Local Edgewater group who followed it and shared information. Also the Capital newspaper.
media
Media
Member of the GDP committee spoke to our civic assn.
n/a
N/A
NA
Neighbors told me
news
newspaper
Newspaper
newspaper references
Newspaper- Capital Gazette
newspapers
No
Not aware at all, do we have any way to change it?
Not aware of this platform, but is definitely a step in the right direction.
on line
online
Part of process
Pittman online town meeting
Press
Received an email invitation to participate and saw the hard copy of the plan at the Crofton Library
Saw a link on the County webpage when accessing for other information, but didn't click on it.
Saw meeting post about it on social media
Saw something about it in the Maryland Gazette
Saw the headline in the Severna Park Voice -- have not had time to read the article. Don't expect much from this activity.

# Appendix C1: Explanation of Vote for President

A vote for Biden is a vote for Harris, and I do not support Harris.
All choices are bad. Biden is worse due to economic plan and tax increases. Socialism is not where the USA should be headed.
All ten of Maryland's EC votes will almost certainly go to Biden, so a 3rd party candidate vote matters more because it keeps those 3rd party options on future ballots.
Anything else will ruin our country! Obama changes were bad Socialist agenda of the Democratic party will kill us just like Venezuela, Korea, China, Russia. etc.
At my age, I'm fairly conservative, patriotic, want a strong economy with healthy employment, fair health access by all, and I hate politicians that are crooks and liars more than 90% of the time!!
Because Donald Trump deserves to lose and cry about it after we have had to put up with his abhorrent behaviour, policies, and presidency for the last four years.
Because he is not Trump
Because I'm a patriot
Because the other choice is unacceptable. Trump is not "presidential" in any shape or form. My hope is that Biden can start the process of building cooperation between the two parties, not divisiveness.
BECAUSE TRUMP IS THE WORST THING TO HAPPEN TO THIS COUNTRY IN MODERN HISTORY. I would *literally* vote for a dog before him.
Because we don't have ranked choice voting yet
Biden has mental issues,
Biden is a lifelong political grifter who has never stood for anything and is clearly struggling with senility. Harris built a political career via her liaison with ultra-corrupt Willie Brown and engaged in mass incarceration for nonviolent crimes. Trump is not ideal, I am more libertarian, but he has appointed good supreme court justices and sadly with collectivist politics on the rise, the court is a bastion of our freedoms.
Biden is too far to the left. He also has a socialism agenda.
Biden was not my first choice for President (even tho I am a senior citizen I think it's time for younger candidates to be elected) I am very happy with Kamala Harris as his running mate. But in any case Pres. Trump has been such a disaster I have to admit I would vote for almost anyone other than him.
Biden will not be the president. Harris will be. He didn't even pick her. The DNC picked her. She is as radical as they come and so wrong for our country. She dropped out of the running before any Primary election. They don't even like her in California. She even claims she is black and she isn't. She will destroy our country.
Biden would be replaced by Harris if Pelosi's Commission on Presidential Capacity 25th Amendment bill is passed. Biden's cognitive decline is a clear and present danger.
Both are very immature and unfit to be president, but if I had to make a choice, I don't want Trump in office ever again.
Climate is my biggest issue. Though, Trump violates all my principles.
Don't trust Joe Biden or his VP candidate. They both lie like rugs!!!
Donald trump has done so much for this country in spite of all those people trying to hold him back. Go Bless Our President.
fear of fascism, DT is an autocrat, not to mention mentally ill

For me Donald trump has Demonstrated how childish he is and careless
For the reasons stated below
Four more years would be disasterous for the US.
Hate deficit spending, defunding of the police, Green New Deal nonsense, etc.
He gets things done. Not the typical do-nothing politician. Rough around the edges but effective. Done more for Blacks, Hispanic and all of us in 3 years than the previous admin did in eight. Makes better trade deals, got us out of the Paris climate fiasco and has the respect of foreign leaders even if they won't admit it. Rebuilt the military and other accomplishments too many to mention here.
He has done exactly what he promised. That is refreshing in a candidate
He has morals and will be president of the entire country instead of just the "red states."
He has shown great leadership in managing our military to bring home our soldiers; he has changed the trade policies for the advantage of USA workers; he has been strong on dealing with foreign powers; he has cut red tape to improve the economy and cut taxes, affecting especially low wage earners. He has worked to clean out the corrupt swamp that is Washington DC.
He seems to get things done!
He supports the United States, law enforcement, border control, the Constitution, etc..
He's a good guy with experience and compassion. He sees the entire country as his constituency not just red states. I trust Joe.
He's our only hope.
He's the only choice we have to restore sanity to domestic and foreign policy (among other desiderata).
He's not Trump.
He's sane.
He's the only other choice who could win. I don't like him much, but I believe Trump is a liar, a criminal under the Constitution (let's start with emoluments), a cad, a bully, an ignorant buffoon.
His philosophy and experience as Vice President
honest, sincere, caring
How anyone can vote for the despicable, ignorant, reckless, narcissistic Donald Trump completely escapes me. He has not one redeeming social value.
I am a values voter. The Democrat platform is unconscionable. The finger-pointing, hysteria, disrespect for life, and disdain for our country is frightening. They are so quick to find fault with anyone who disagrees with them, to the point of silencing them. Our country has plenty of problems and faults, but we have a history of trying to improve on our mistakes, not demonizing each other.
I am ashamed to be registered as a Republican or for that matter to be called a US citizen. Trump has eroded my confidence in the CDC, FBI, CIA, FEMA, health department, and government as a whole.
I am catholic and do not feel that either candidate truly values the idea of respecting life. While Trump is pro-life he treats minorities horribly. Locking up children at the border and not condemning the actions of white supremacist groups is a disgrace. Biden is pro-choice and I believe that life starts at conception and abortion is murder. I also think that neither candidate will do nearly enough for environmental causes.
I am not a socialist.



I am not an absolute supporter of President Trump - his personality at times gets in his way. With the media and the members of the establish of both parties doing everything to discredit him, I understand why. However, I can not vote for the democratic party candidate who is not strong. The democratic party in my view is about taking more power and control over us. The new agenda of the Democratic party keeps moving further and further left and will cost citizen more and more.

I am voting before Biden because he is more likely to win than a third party candidate. Also, I am mostly voting against Donald Trump. Trump has almost ruined the country and democracy permanently. His blatant racism, deflection of responsibility, blatant sexism, and divisiveness is unbecoming of a human being, let alone the Office of the President.

I believe Donald J. Trump is the worst U.S. President in history. His administration has caused more harm to more people in the U.S. and around the world than any presidential administration in my lifetime. He personally has done more to undermine American Greatness than any U.S. President in my lifetime.

I believe the two major parties have figurehead buffoons in place now, as they have for the last decade or so. None of the front runners recently has had the skills or intelligence to do a fair job in one of the most powerful positions in the world. They all seem OK with wasting servicemen's lives for nothing.

I do not believe Joe Biden is the best choice for this country by any means; however, I do feel strongly about getting Trump out of office. My ideal candidate was Andrew Yang, but I feel like voting for him at this point is just a waste of a vote unfortunately.

I do not like either of these candidates at all. Neither of them bring anything significant to the table and I believe they could bring more harm than good to the country

I don't agree with everything Trump does or says, but I do also believe he is taken out of context or words are just put into his mouth a lot. What I did like seeing was the unemployment down to the lowest it has been in a long time. I also liked how the economy was thriving under his presidency.

I don't like either candidate or their VP

I don't particularly like either candidate so I will wait to see the result of the debates

I don't think there's much of a choice anymore. Donald Trump has repeatedly shown that he is not for me or anyone that looks like me. He has also publicly supported white supremacists on different occasions.

I don't like any of the options

I don't think either party has the best choice for President

I don't think our nation could survive 4 more years of Trump. Biden will restore our standing in the world & find a way to get COVID under control. We know Joe will do the right thing for everyone.

I don't agree with everything about our president, but I have seen 40 plus years of politics. It seems that each candidate has the answers to our problems, but the solutions are never achieved, only gotten worse. They now attack the other to get in, but never run on their own merits.

I feel strongly about President Trump's policies. Our country needs to be a free market for citizens to thrive. I especially feel strongly on President Trump's decision withdrawing thousands of troops from Iraq and Afghanistan. As a mother of two sons who might join the military some day, we can not lose any US soldiers. President Trump is making good on his campaign promise to get America out of "endless wars."

I have been a life long Republican. I cannot vote for anyone that lies, has no respect for our constitution, and is only in it for himself. I will not support a Republican Congress that refuses to even address the issues and is only in it to block appropriate legislation by either party.

I have watched Joe Biden closely since 1981. He has made mistakes, but he seems to have learned from them. He acknowledges his responsibility and mistakes. MOST OF ALL he is a good listener, and will accept assistance from experts, after hearing all sides!
I Think a lot of what he has done has been good, I don't like his take on the virus and he needs to be better at ho he talks in public
I was a republican until Trump came into office. I always voted for who I thought was the best person not along party lines. But once Trump showed his colors and the party behaved in his favor, I have burned that card and changed my status. I do not think government should pay for all but I do believe we need to look up to our president and be proud. I hope we can do this with Biden.
I will never vote for another Republican the rest of my life. They are liars, cheats, only in power for the rich. I hope they all get voted out of office.
I would generally say that I voted for donald in 2016 because he represented a different face in washington. Unfortunately - he is not presidential and is unfit to be in that office.
I would have preferred, Buttigedge or a younger Democrat. So many of the Dems. were trying to out Radical liberal each other which scared many people into voting for Joe. The Dem primary goal morphed into "Who can beat Trump" not "Who is the best candidate" I am never excited about who is up for election and I think that's sad.
If Senate goes to Democrats it would be a balance in the government, rather than control of two branches by a single party.
In the state of Maryland, any vote other than for the Democrat candidate does not count.
Its a matter of pragmatism and certainly nothing more.
Joe Biden can't handle the position.
Joe Biden is a good and honest man and has the experience to lead the country. A vote for Trump is promoting racism, dishonesty, corruption, turning our backs on our allies and moving the country I love into autocracy.
Joe Biden is a man of good character, has wide ranging experience and will pick the best people to head the Executive Branch. The rats will be thrown out with many landing in prison. Science is real / Keep public lands in public hands / Black Lives Matter
Joe Biden is in cognitive decline and has a platform that is dangerous for the republic. Kamala Harris is a radical.
Just say no to socialism
Lesser of two evils compared to Trump and there's always a two party system in every election so basically only two actual choices for president
MAGA WITH TRUMP OR RISK BECOMING A SOCIALISTS DEMOCRATIC NATION.
Morals are more important to me. I want my kids to be able to watch their president on TV (not a PG rated president).
More emotional intelligence, good experience, a moderating influence who may improve political relations between conservatives and liberals
My 401K has grown substantially since he took office. I can't imagine what would have happened to my investments during our Covid situation if it had not been grown higher prior to this happening.I also think he is trying to get our trade deficit straightened out.
My vote is for the Republican party not Donald Trump.

Nether candidate is good. It's a complete shit show. However President Trump has done the country well and not hurt anything. The economy is doing well and pre Covid we were booming. Joe Biden has a horrible track record and his foreign dealing and sons payouts are really troubling. I am pretty sure with the horrible Persona that President Trump has if their were a half decent Democratic candidate the would have won by a landslide. IE Tusli Gabbard. She was just not enough of a pushover for the Democratic machine.
No candidate has impressed me or gained my confidence in the past three presidential elections. It's all been a high-school popularity contest.
Not a self-serving phony millionaire using the office to pay off debts and keep his family employed.
Not answering
not answering that question
President Trump has honored his promises throughout his 1st term. Biden's record over 47 years is abysmal. I support President Trump's successful efforts despite the leftist hoaxes perpetrated throughout these 4 years. Biden is also unwell and not fit to run the USA.
Results. After 2 generations of do nothing politicians, it took a businessman to even attempt to make needed changes.
Return to sanity
Since campaign 2016 I'm repulsed daily by Donald Trump's policies (e.g., child separation), choices of leaders (e.g., Betsy DeVos, a hater of public ed running Dept of Ed), behavior (e.g. "grab 'em by the p****", "fine people on both sides," costuming himself as a person of faith, disregarding virtually all Americans but his base...), and more. I trust Joe Biden as a good person with a moral compass committed to following science, listening to people who have developed expertise in various fields, and leading with kindness and empathy. I think he's old, yes, and flawed, yes. I think he knows these things and will dedicate himself to balancing his shortcomings with others' strengths and sees his role as President of all not just his voters.
Strong economy
The alternative choice is unacceptable
The two party system is antiquated and neither party bring a candidate worth voting for.
There is no other choice for this country.
Think he has done a great job with the economy
This is a vote against Trump more than a vote for Biden.
Trump developed the best economy prior to the virus, and will do the best job re building up the economy. He defeated ISIS, bringing troops home, archived lowest unemployment for all races and genders, reduced taxes, ended our dependence on other countries for oil, provided justice reform, provided funding for Black Colleges, started Mid East peace initiative and solved many other problems,
Trump has flaws - mostly in how he communicates, but not how he executes. There is no part of the vision that the DEM's currently offer that I want to be part of or see the USA morph into.
Trump has fulfilled his promises; crime reform and support for black community, tax cuts for middle class, Jerusalem as Israel capital, Peace Deal with Israel and Arab countries, new trade deal with Mexico and Canada, closing down borders, building a wall, increase of manufacturing jobs, return of american companies, historic low black unemployment.
Trump is a danger to America and needs to be defeated.
Trump is a dangerous liar
Trump is beyond incompetent and dangerous.

Trump is horribly unqualified and destructive of our national interests and also a global warming threat

Trump is the worst president in the history of our country. From day 1 he has been unfit to lead

Watching the presidential debate was pretty embarrassing so I'm not really inclined to vote for either of them.

We need a return to competence, stability, truth and justice!

We need a return to our constitutional government standards and not the whims of the White House.

While I am not a fan of some of this words or tweets, I am compleyely in line with his policies.

While I personally don't like him. I think his policies have been mostly good for the country. I would love to vote for Biden, but he seems to be more of figure head and seems to be embracing the far left's policies.

You can't have a crazy person in the White House.

## Appendix D: Explain Views About Pace of Reopening

<p>A total shutdown w/ the exception of vital services should have taken longer time to end and enforcement of violations by bars and restaurants should have led to revocation of business licenses for an extended period of time.</p>
<p>Absolutely cruel to put businesses out of business and close schools. Disgusted by the entire process. Do we really think that it wasn't in the area prior to 3/12 when they closed schools? Will be relocating out of state as soon as our son graduates.</p>
<p>According to "experts", once at 5% things could reopen. We are at 2%. Still in Stage 2. Nothing positive ever posted by Governor or The Capital News . Only fear mongering negatives. In fact, the governor just recently extended the state of emergency when we are at 2%. Why? I say stop the testing. The numbers continuously go down. No increased hospitalizations, no deaths. As the President and CDC have said, this is overrated and it should not rule your life. I have a senior and a freshman. To hear my children say they want to kill themselves, just want to go back to school, and are terrified to apply to a college for fear they won't be accepted because she feels so "stupid" because she hasn't has normal learning in 8 months, breaks my heart. I could go in and on.</p>
<p>Anne Arundel did not use the time to flatten the curve to get prepared to reopen with restrictions in place to provide residents and businesses to move about safely. The restrictions put in place were confusing and disjointed. Very disappointed with AA county</p>
<p>Because the state of Maryland is so diverse in population density, it is difficult to assess how well each section is doing with opening.</p>
<p>Both governments have been cautious and used the current rates of infection in decision making... but that is more of a guess, because we have been very conservative about going out and, in those instances we do leave the house, we have masks on.</p>
<p>Corruption in the Maryland Mafia</p>
<p>Counties and state failed to create standards for handling the outbreak and recovery. Too much was left to local communities, school systems etc. This caused unneeded confusion. Guidelines have improved but more should be done.</p>
<p>County Executive Pittman took too long in issuing guidelines for Anne Arundel County after Governor Hogan issued his guidelines. Hogan had issued guidelines one time on a Wednesday but Pittman took until Friday evening to announce his more restrictive guidelines. That would seem unfair for businesses trying to plan their opening one day and then being told they couldn't open two days later. Also, movie theaters were closed in AA County but open in Howard County. How does that make sense? So my family went to see a movie in Columbia since we couldn't see one in our own county.</p>
<p>Covid 19 will spike again since people are out and allowed to take off masks while eating in public places. Now schools are going to reopen which is putting teachers, staff and student at risk. And it will again cause a second around.</p>
<p>Current hybrid plan has way to many flaws and is being rushed.</p>
<p>Depends on locality (county). The one shoe doesn't fit all!</p>
<p>From what I have read, there are going to be a lot of public schools phasing kids into in-person meetings in mid-October in the State of Maryland, and I think the statistics following that will show if the reopening was truly misguided.</p>

Governor Hogan has been a stellar leader on this issue.
Governor Hogan has provided excellent leadership in moving us toward a sustainable living environment.
Hogan attempted to open Maryland too soon and too fast.. Pittman and our health officer used local data to drive decision making which I'm very grateful for. I support Pittman 100%.
Hogan started out doing well but was pressured by protesters to open too quickly.
Hogan was doing good, but then fell to pressure from Trump and the Republicans and moved to open too quickly. CE Pittman looked at the data and moved accordingly. Thank you CE Pittman.
How are things any safer now than in April?
I agree with decisions. However, AACPS is continuously changing their minds about schedules. As a working parent, they need to stick with their original plan.
I am extremely happy with our governor
I am very grateful that Stuart Pitman is steadfast in holding back re-openings, even as the governor seems to be reversing his earlier leadership in favor of pressure from his party and the business community. The virus hasn't gone away. Someone has to represent the public health interest, no matter how much we like or dislike it.
I believe AAC opened a bit slower then the state. I still think AAC opened too quickly, relative to other countries. Though, without a comprehensive regional plan, hopes to squash the virus in a short-term, high intensity lockdown are essentially slashed (due to unavoidable interstate, county travel). As I understand it.
I fear we're headed into Autumn relapse.
I feel that Governor Hogan has handled the Covid situation as well as any governor could. I think he's been an excellent governor for Maryland.
I have been very proud of Maryland's and Anne Arundel's responses, from the Governor and County Exec in particular. I appreciated and agreed with the stay-at-home order. I'm sure the pressure to reopen fast, open schools etc is immense. I'm pleased that they are not rushing. I'm pleased that they strive to follow scientists' advice. I'm pleased about our mask mandate--having a mandate makes it SO MUCH EASIER to wear my own mask. I don't feel I'm put in a position of making a political statement w/ my mask b/c I am simply following the rules. And I feel SO MUCH safer everywhere. I'm grateful each time I walk into the grocery.
I think AA County should have opened up at the same time as other areas. Many business have closed up and leaving our community stranded with no job and no places to purchase from. Wearing mask and sanitizing, and limited number of people is better than not opening businesses at all.
I think the school reopening plan is too fast, however
I think they were doing well until they started opening schools without plans.
I think we could of gone a little faster in attempting to return to normal.
I wasn't happy when the Governor stated (10 days before AA Schools started) that it was ok if kids went back to school because of course some parents assumed they could turn on a dime and start kids back to school. Nevertheless I have been mostly happy with Gov. Hogan's handling of the pandemic. He has been the adult in the room when our President has not.
I would say they did it a little too slow because it's suspected to worsen when Winter hits and the number of cases have been around the same range for a couple of months before they went into the third phase.

i'm glad our governor has not followed his party, but has made decisions, based on what he saw as most favorable for Maryland citizens.
I'm not sure "Too fast" is an accurate answer. I feel the decisions have been made based on influence rather than on intelligent consideration of all relevant factors.
If the decision to reopen is made early on businesses and schools could have been directed to plan accordingly and adequate plans with grant funding to support protections could have been accomplished long ago instead County leadership has waited and waited.
If we waited until late June to reopen we would've been better off.
If you look to the past, those during plagues who isolated came out unscathed. By looking at China, test, remove those infected. This disease is like a cancer, unless you get rid of it all, it keeps coming back until a vaccination. We struggle to maintain the economy so we suffer the most.
In reality, things could go faster if only people would wear their masks and socially distance. Too many people feel it infringes on their rights, and Government does nothing to enforce the rules.
Infection numbers are riding since governor moved state to Phase 3. Could have predicted a rise after people started going out again.
Initial steps at State level were fine but I think the Gov expanded reopening a bit too quickly
It has never been about our health. It is only about control. Way too many things have never made sense and we know that many lies have been told.
It is absolutely critical to follow scientifically based evidence in order to successfully deal with this deadly pandemic. Unlike President Trump, Anne Arundel County and the State of Maryland have successfully followed this path and should continue to do so, especially as we enter the winter months.
It seems as though the numbers are Dow and probably the best in the country
It's an evolving dilemma we have adjusted accordingly. Difficult to say too fast or too slow.
Lets get back to OLD normal life, masks are stupid, we are not allowing normal antibodies to solve the problem!
Many people can be effected by this COVID-19 and many doctor say that this virus can get stronger in the winter time.
My child is suffering with not being in school. I work a part time job that supplements my income drastically. Due to our inept county exec, my job is not making the money needed. I had to sell my house and can't afford to buy a new one. Mind you when everything was open I was able to afford a house up to 450k. This also means no taxes from my income due to not being able to work! It's bullshit and we're all tired of it. Let us open and if people need/want to stay at home then that's their choice. Stop making everyone suffer over politics.
Never should have closed
Non-compliance is not factored into the data. The non-compliant are spreading COVID and literally prolonging the pandemic.
Not sure why Pittman is so slow.
Overall been cautious. However, I feel Hogan has sped things up recently
Overall, I think it has been a good/measured pace, but I am concerned the Governor is caving to outside political pressure when it comes to schools. Certainly, there are parts of the state where re-opening should be happening but in the larger jurisdictions, it is a huge challenge.
Pittman checks to see statistics and closes up when cases rise.

Pittman is holding our county back. He is putting people out of work, closing businesses and creating many problems due to his Covid policies.
Pittman Refuses to follow state recommendations and is hurting our business schools and economy
Pittman should follow Hogan's recommendations and not go with his own recommendations based SOLELY on politics!!!!!!
Private schools have opened. Public school teacher associations/unions are resistant. County and state have not used the science to make decisions.
Public schools should have open in September 2020. Virtual learning does not work for students and parents.
putting small businesses out of business. Kids should have been back in school in September.
Rushing to have in person schools is dangerous
Schools should remain closed at least until late January. Focusing on HS sports is an embarrassment to educators and concerned citizens.
Schools, sports, indoor dining, etc. are reopening as weather is growing colder and more people are indoors. Virus will spread.
Should never have closed down to start with.
So blessed to have our current Governor in place.
State authorized schools to open. Anne Arundel has not opened schools.
Still doubt and unsure about school openings especially for elementary students
The county is behind. The Governor has given permission to open back up schools and is encouraged it. AA county needs to get the ball rolling. Life will never be the same but we can live in a shell. It's funny how the same teachers who all of a sudden feel unsafe to head back to schools were posting pics down at the beach this summer and were supportive to the recovery zones drinking g and eating in public.
The approach taken by the County and the State have been measured and generally driven by the best available public health evidence and advice.
the barrington declaration is the correct thought process. protect the vulnerable and open to everyone else
The governor has shown a lack of leadership and is turning a health crisis into a policy all platform by reporting an inaccurate picture of Covid test results. Additionally he is not even following his original criteria for reopening. I am very concerned.
The Governor was doing a great job at first. Then it seemed as if he flipped suddenly.
The Governor's monetary incentive to reopen schools has led to a rushed and haphazard effort by the school system to push re-entry. While I currently hate that the students are out of school also, I don't think the re-entry plan will be a successful one. As an educator, I feel that it is very important that the public understands just how ill-informed the teachers have been about this process. I would not trust my own child's re-entry and have actually disallowed it because I think the motivation is simply led by monetary motivation and not in the best interests of our students and families.
the risk is extremely low for anyone under age 70, especially under age 19.
The State has provided a faster pace of re-opening, but is allowing the individual counties to set their plans according to their metrics, which is, I believe, a fair and reasonable approach.
The state may be on the verge of moving too fast regarding the move to open schools heading into the fall/winter seasons.



The World Health Organization stated that shut downs have caused unintended consequences. The "cure" has been worse than the virus issues.

There is a general lack of awareness, concern and enforcement for masks etc that would eliminate and control the virus. People are half masking. so education and enforcement is necessary. Putting students that can be known to be asymptomatic risk the teachers health. and where is the tracking on mobiles. ? I want to know if I have been exposed. FAST and I want to know where.

## Appendix E: Most Challenging Aspects of Dealing with the COVID Situation

1) Not seeing extended family members we used to see weekly/monthly for visits, meals. 2) Negotiating with nearly adult children about what they can/can't do. We had "graduated" beyond that part of parent-child relationship and COVID forced us back into those type of struggles.
2 out of six of us are high risk. Income
74 years old and isolating, member of AA and can't attend face to face meetings
adapting to online school
adjusting to technical challenges of teleworking
always needing to be on guard
Anne Arundel County's failure to comply with Hogan's reopening guidance. Pittman is a power-mad dictator.
As we are retired, our lives are less affected than most people's. The most challenging aspect has been keeping distance between us and our children and grandchildren. We miss family dinners and hugs.
Availability of goods and services
awe are watching the grandkids all day because they don't/can't go to school.
Behavior of other people. Experiences of non-compliance even in outdoor dining.
Being cautious about just seeing my friends
Being forced to comply with ridiculous mask wearing and social distancing mandates.
Being in front of a computer most of the time and isolation
Being isolated from friends and family.
Being stuck in the house together all day everyday
Being together for longer periods of time
Being together non stop 24 7.
Being told by the local and state government what they think is best for me and my family. Let each person make their own decisions.
Boredom
Broken TV Remote
Can't see my grandchildren; can't go to classes; can't see friends
Cancellation of nationwide and international travel opportunities.
Cannot travel. All plans have been canceled until fall 2021.
change in routine, uncertainty with the virus --lack of knowledge
changing to online school and not being able to see friends and family as much. Personally I find online school more difficult because the responsibility of learning is completely on the student and how much they choose to read. It is also unfortunate that with online school you can't make friends in classes to help keep each other accountable and help each other with classwork.
Child care
Children feel isolated from their friends.
College sports programs cancelled; lack of extended family time
College student not adapting to online schooling, and may take at least a semester off.

Conducting all of our social and work lives through zoom.
Confusion about COVID-19 such as the reason to wear masks.
Constant worry about the terrible mismanagement of the pandemic and seriously erratic behavior of President Trump that is a huge threat to our national security and to the health of all the people in the US.
Constantly changing criteria and scheduling issues.
Damage to the economy!
Dealing with a parent in assisted living We cannot take her out and can only visit by sitting outside while she sits on a balcony.
Dealing with government shutdown
Dealing with members of the public that don't take it seriously.
dealing with others
Dealing with people who do not follow guidelines.
Decreased socialization
Didn't see the grandchildren in person for a long time
Distance learning for children and not having as many activities for children.
distancing from children & grandchildren
Due to pandemic, my husband decided to retire sooner than originally planned
Economic uncertainty. Constant fear for elderly and the vulnerable household members.
Fear of infection
Fear of spreading it when around people
Feeling confined.
Feeling endangered when I have to provide daycare for my toddler grandson. His parents don't believe in masks or sheltering in place.
Filing my retirement paperwork was a nightmare of delays, unanswered inquiries, unmanned phones, non-responsive (probably non-working) bureaucracy. Officially retired almost two months, no retirement check yet. A family member's medical issues became far more difficult to deal with as healthcare providers apparently retired to the bunker. And miss regular personal interaction with family members.
Finances
Financial aspects.
finding space for a home office
Finding the cleaning products needed. The business group buys up everything and leaves nothing for the households.
Focusing on tomorrow.
Getting laid off
Getting spouse with Alzheimer's to wear mask and maintain social distancing.
Getting those around me to change, adapt, and move forward.
Grocery shopping. I always compare prices and it is hard to do with online shopping
Growing more untrusting of government
guilt over living in a safe bubble which many people can't afford to do
Had to adjust to teaching an AACC class online
Having a seven year old daughter not being able to see her friends.
Having a spouse at home on a daily bases

Having the children virutally learning from home and not being able to spend time with friends.
Having to buy items at the store but the prices have gone up.
Having to home school my kids.
Having to stay home.
Having to wear a mask at work for 8 hours.
having to wear a mask when I already have nasal damage and difficulty breathing, not being able to find cleaning supplies to sanitize or supplies /food that are unavailable for extended periods or not even at all.
Having to wear the mask in stores. Not being able to resteraunts with friends.
Home schooling
I am a teacher - that says it all.
I believe it effects me mentally to stay at home all the time.
I can't visit my grandchildren!
I don't know how safe my friends are and therefore do not get together as usual.
I have to adapt to online learning, and doing things myself mostly instead of in group with other classmates like lab work.
I have young children with ADHD struggling to adapt to the isolation from peers and virtual learning environments.
I live alone in senior housing and find the confinement is depressing and boring
I miss seeing my adult children & having family gatherings.
I was laid off from my job in March. While I am fortunate that my husband is able to provide for our family, it was an adjustment going from two incomes to one. Additionally, the unemployment system is a disaster and it took 6 weeks for me to receive any benefits.
I wear a mask and gloves whenever I leave the house. Also record where and when I went in case of contact tracing. Use curbside pickup instead of going into stores or order online for delivery.
I work in a restaurant and have to wear a mask for 8 hours straight. when it gets busy, it gets harder to breath, but I still have to wear the mask.
In a public setting, having to deal with people who refuse to wear a mask and don't social distance
Inability to be with people
Inability to travel and see family and friends
inability to travel or see or visit family and friends
Inability to travel readily
Inability to travel to family et al.
isolation
Isolation
Isolation by living alone. Miss people contact.
Isolation from family and friends
Isolation from others
It's harder for those of us whose jobs aren't remote and those of us who are getting less and less hours due to loss of business.
Job insecurity
Job-related: salary was reduced and at risk of layoff. Did not like working from home.
Just being home all the time
Keeping healthy and fit

Keeping safe and not getting it.
Keeping up contacts with friends
Kids leaving school and missing sports and friends.
Kids not being able to participate in sports or spend time with friends.
Lack of activities & loss of income
Lack of contact with others
Lack of food at stores
Lack of interaction with other people in face to face situations. Being able to take classes face to face.
Lack of personal contact
Lack of spontaneity and just being able to do something
Lack of Social activities
lack of social contacts
lack of social interaction with friends/family
Lack of socialization with family and close friends.
Less communication with others and always afraid of going near someone
limitations on gatherings
Limited activities
Limited or no visits to parent in assisted living
Limited personal visits with family and friends
LIMITS EXPOSURE AS MY WIFE IS IMMUNE SUPPRESSED FROM KIDNEY TRANSPLANT
Living with other peoples' evident fear.
Living alone
Living alone and restricted to go out to shop, etc. Having food delivered instead of going to Traders. Watching TV with no one to talk to. Only seeing friends and loved ones on Zoom s on AZoom
living alone with little social contact with only occasional contact with few people
Living with mandatory workers
Losing my job and my business because of COVID, yet people not doing enough to safely life restrictions. From individuals to the national government, the response has been horrific because people do not want temporary inconvenience, myself and my four employees still do not have income.
Losing my part time job. Family member not able to work because they have a medical condition and can not wear a mask.
Loss of contact with friends and dealing with unrelated health issues (back surgery recovery)
Loss of socializing
maintaining distance
Maintaining sufficient quarantine to protect elderly and immune-compromised household members.
Maintaining the mental health of my child.
Making decisions about how much to interact with family also living in the area
making sure essential items are on hand
Managing education for multiple kids and adults
Managing virtual schooling for 2 elementary school children with some special needs while working from home as a single parent.

masks
Minor challenges include canceling vacation and out of state travel, no health club & minimize eating out.
Miss seeing family
miss the interactions with people!
Missing face to face contact with family and friends
Missing important family times
missing social contacts
My daughter has a lack of social interaction with her friends.
My family and I both had to get used to not being able to enter stores where they have a certain capacity.
My husband's dramatic slowdown in his architectural practice and having to move his business home.
My three children are not in school and not participating in school activities, they are losing out in socialization.
na
No Autumn vacation or air travel in near future. Life is becoming more boring than it used to be.
No friends, feel distant from family, no usual / safe way to make money, can't travel to cities to get out of MD
No hugs from children and friends who don't live with me. Fear of getting it.
No pay raise
no safe place to go out to
No school.
No sense of future and the isolation
No social events or trips to entertain toddler, not much peer interaction for him.
none
None
none really
Not able to see family
Not being able attend church, go out to eat, or to the movie.
Not being able to be around my parents or close friends as much as I would like to be.
Not being able to continue travel or volunteer activities
Not being able to freely travel and be with family.
Not being able to get certain items. The cost of dinner items going up. Dinner people but respecting social distancing.
Not being able to meet new people, and doing school online is such a drag.
not being able to out to eat
Not being able to see family and friends. Adapting to full time telework.
Not being able to see family members & friends socially and travel
Not being able to see loved ones far away, particularly grandparent who is dying of cancer.
Not being able to see my family and friends.
Not being able to socialize with Family and Friends.
not being able to socialize, worship, shop, visit other venues, outside of home.
Not being able to spend time with friends

Not being able to travel and see family
Not being able to travel or have family members travel to visit.
Not being able to travel to enjoy family and friends. Miss family functions and visits
Not being able to travel to see family
Not being able to volunteer at the animal shelter as it is closed to volunteers.
Not being able to work from home due to department dragging their feet with alternating work from home requests.
Not being allowed to work remotely.
Not being to get together. Tired of watching my grandchildren over the computer.
Not enough space
Not Feeling safe interacting with friends and family face to face and miss going to restaurants,entertainment events and shopping.being able to interact with friends and family and not feeli
not feeling safe to do anything other than the necessities (food shopping, doctor appts)
Not getting to safely see and hold my new grandson as much as I'd like
not getting to spend time with family and friends.
Not going out socially with friends
not having contact with other people
Not interacting with other people in a meaningful way.
Not seeing any family
Not seeing children and grandchildren
Not seeing family and friends
Not seeing friends
Not seeing friends and family as often
Not seeing friends, socializing.
Not seeing light at the end of the tunnel
Not seeing my daughters and grandchildren although we have started seeing them, hopefully in a careful enough manner.
Not seeing my friends
Not seeing my immune suppressed son much
not seeing our friends for social occasions
Not seeing/visiting family & friends
Not visiting elderly father
Not visiting parents.
Not visiting with family
Not with family
nothing really
nothing to do
obtaining things like disinfecting wipes and staying home
one day I was working out of the house five days a week and the next the offices were closed. Adjustment having someone working at home full time was tough on my husband
Online learning
Online learning from someone who typically relies on in person conversations with my professors
Online school

online school + less school = less structure for kid with special needs
Online school with six children at home.
online schooling
Online schooling
our family business is deemed essential, so we have worked through it this whole time. Teachers, and unlimited shutdowns are making us angry, as we have stayed healthy by following CDC guidelines
Our household is split regarding how we view the pandemic and it causes a lot of tension.
Our income has been destroyed. Our child isn't learning.
People are afraid to go to the ER for fear of coming in contact with Covid. Hence, they are not getting the care they need, possibly to the point of becoming extremely ill, for fear of going to the hospital.
Planning to accomplish needed goals related to work and family
preexisting conditions demand high vigilance. Post Polio plus 75 years old...no room for failure.
Prolonged uncertainty due to poor planning at the Federal level.
Public schools being closed and working from home.
Reduced social interactions & live entertainment - we are both retired.
Reducing social interaction.
Reduction in ability to see family members and 2 law enforcement officers/sons are working in public.
Reduction in social interaction for my children
Remaining apart from family and friends
Restricted access to older family members
Restricting travel, entertainment, social interactions
Restrictions of my freedom to go places and then how I go.
Sameness of each day; boredom.
School
School and job changes
School for my teenagers
Schoolchildren missing school
Schooling at home
Shopping in person
Social & Emotional Isolation
social distancing
Social distancing
Social distancing and isolation. Unable to see out of state adult child since last December, 2019.
Social distancing from family
Social distancing has been rough
Social distancing, masks, effects on church attendance, no movies, theaters, dinners out, or clubs, etc.
Social distancing. No eating out, no travel, etc. We are doing it without complaining, but it is depressing.
Social gatherings lack of
Social isolation



social isolation
Social isolation
Social isolation. Also online school for children and working from home by me and two sons.
Socializing
solitude
Son's inability to socialize in person with his friends who live in county
Stay at home more; less eating out; no going out for entertainment such as movies, etc.
staying away from family members because we are all at high risk.
staying away from vulnerable family
Staying home all the time, not able to see friends and family.
Staying in so much. We miss movie theaters.
Staying inside
Staying isolated
Taking care of my elderly mom
Temporary pay cut. Increase in cost of toilet paper.
The adaptation would have been much harder had my mother (who was at risk) not passed of cancer
the closing of schools, and the economic loss of closed businesses
The emotional distress from being trapped at home and not being able to be productive or live a normal life.
The feeling of isolation and knowing many out in public don't adhere to mask wearing.
The idea that I could bring home a potentially deadly virus to my father and/or grandmother is disheartening and frustrating. Although I know I have been responsible, I have no way of knowing if other people are being responsible and I worry my family or friends may pay the price for someone else's irresponsibility or ignorance.
The inability to visit my grandchildren in Florida and to have family gatherings.
The isolation and dealing with online learning
The isolation and the lack of social engagement outside of my spouse.
The isolation of living alone.
The lack of my community's indoor pool and fitness center availability has impacted my deteriorating spine condition, caused more pain from Arthritis and impacted my general fitness and ability to fight disease.
THE MASK. THE MASK. THE MASK.
The most challenging aspect is seeing the United States Constitution being shredded by bogus rules based on corrupt statistics and false information.
The most challenging part was going from constantly on the go to not being able to do anything.
The stress of being together all of the time and the fear that is brought on when someone leaves the house to go to the store.
This is so stupid, seems like a bad Flu and we should stop catering to the Democrats who want this to affect the 2020 election!
Three of us are disabled, and have had to make do with less medical services, such as certain close contact therapies, in order to reduce our risk.
too many closed businesses
Too much isolation
Travel plans changed

Travel restrictions for visiting out of state family, including elderly parent.
Traveling is my passion and there isn't a way to do that easily.
Traveling to see family
Trying to maintain social distance outside of the house at stores, offices and even on public sidewalks
trying to stay safe when we must go out for essential trips, such as to MD visits, grocery shopping
unability to travel freely/attend social gatherings
Unable to attend worship and social gatherings
Unable to exercise at the gym and socialize at weekly dance classes.
Unable to gather with family and friends
Unable to see and be with extended family and friends
Unable to see out of state family.
Unable to travel to visit family.
Unable to visit grandparents/other family in person
Unable to visit my adult children and my young grandchildren
Uncertainty
Unemployment due to this pandemic isn't enough to help support the bills. We need to a federal aid to help again.
Unstable work
unsure if we are taking all the right precautions to keep safe, and not being able to see family members in person
Utility payments
Very limited activities, won't eat out at restaurants
Violence in our society caused by depression, angst, and fomented by Democrats who are exploiting and tolerating it..
Virtual kindergarten for my grandson at my dining room table.
Watching grandkids struggle with virtual learning
We are making it through with change. The biggest challenge is the kids. I think a lot about how the world has changed and how it will affect their lives. It has been nice that we have been together at home as a family but I feel like there is a big world out there and can't wait to be able to get back to showing it to my kids.
We have NO family in Maryland, so we are missing our beloved family who live in other states.
wearing a mask
Wearing masks in public. Seems overblown
Wearing masks though I understand this is essential, not being able to enter shopping areas as frequently as before, and the despair of people disposing of used gloves and masks in parking lots.
Wearing that mask
Wearing the mask
Weighing the risk of going out whether a restaurant or the gym.
Weight of all the decisions, all the time. What is safe, what is not, how to balance a little normalcy, but in a safe manner.
When daycares were closed during the State-wide shutdown earlier this year, it was extremely challenging for my spouse and I to care for our very young children at home during regular business hours while we both worked from home.

when the churches were closed & still limited more than other gatherings
Work, depression, education, anger
Working and managing kids' time
Working for home while also handling two small children
Working from home can be difficult
Working online and emotional distress
Worry that husband or adult, immune compromised daughter will pick up COVID19 and die. Also worried about my 82 year old widowed mother in upstate New York.
worrying about getting sick
Worrying about my parents who live in senior housing.

## Appendix F: Is there anything about lifestyle or work changes that have improved your quality of life and hope to continue after the COVID pandemic ends?

closer to family with zoom.
No
---
A greater appreciation for spending quality time with close family and friends (safely, of course) and fa greater appreciation for the simpler things in life
Ability for spouse and self to work from home now and in the future.
ability to telework
Actually lost weight during this time
Appreciate the time at home and slowing things down.
appreciation of the true pleasures of life, especially the natural world
At first my neighbor did grocery shopping for me, but now that the on-line services are up-to-speed I really enjoy grocery shopping on-line & picking up my groceries at the store!
At home I see more family taking walks together & eating meals together. Also traffic is much better as less people are traveling. At work I use to float from desk to desk. Since COVID-19, I've been assigned a specific and permanent desk. Thankful for the little things.
At work they were paying us extra when the COVID 19 started but has stopped about 4 4/5 months ago
Because I was laid off, I was able to go back to school full time.
Being able to work from home, Most importantly having stores/public places mandated to sanitize regularly. I believe a lot of store/business either didn't clean at all or barely did. I'm not catching colds as much now. I think people are staying home when sick instead of going around and spreading germs.
Being home more and cooking most meals at home has been a good thing
being lazy
being more conscious of health risks.
Being more resourceful, learning new language.
Better online connections with friends
Better personal hygiene
Better time-management skills.
Blood pressure has declined.
brushed up on homemaking skills
Closer with neighbors and community.
Continue to work from home
continuing online school
Cooking more - probably better food. Walking outside almost every day.

Curbside pick-up for both retail and restaurants is great and I hope stays. For schools, being able to attend parent meetings (coffee with principal, parent organizations/boosters) is a really nice option. I have been able to join at 2-3 meetings I would not have been able to otherwise. I can join from the car or waiting at kids' practices. That is a nice convenience to stay informed with busy schedules.
discovered beautiful places for hiking nearby, stayed in touch with friends, supported those who were shut in.
Do like having more online meetings - don't need to go to all of these in person.
Drinking less alcohol
Easy online ordering and curbside pickup have improved greatly. Our friends have been amazing , kind and helpful folks.
Eat at home more; walk more.
Eating healthier, making better financial decisions, and planning.
eating less and more nutritiously.
Eating out less in restaurants but have increased delivery of meals
Elimination of many expenses (childcare, gas, haircuts/color, sports, summer camps, etc.) has allowed me to clean up my finances.
Enjoying more down time.
Flexible work schedules, never seeing other human beings again
Friends checking in on each other
Gardened more
Greater adaption of virtual meetings
Greater appreciation of life's simple pleasures and empathy for those who have either died or have been disadvantaged by the restrictions necessary to deal with the disease.
Having all College classes be completely online is awesome and I hope it continues.
Having the ability to telework more often once the pandemic ends. We are closer to our neighbors as we do an outdoor socially distanced happy hour on Fridays in the cul-de-sac,
having the family together at home in full for several months was a huge gift
I am eating better because I am eating out less.
I am exercising more and eating healthier.
I and closer to my wife if that is possible
I appreciate teleworking and hope to continue to telework when the pandemic ends.
I cook every meal, make my own coffee, have a once a week grocery schedule and go when they open. Morning and evening runs/bike rides every day.
I enjoy not having a daily commute by working remotely. However teaching remotely takes a lot more work
I enjoyed zoom reunions with far flung friends and family. I worked in my gardens more. I enjoyed sending and receiving more "snail mail" cards.
I had a very long commute every day. Once over, I might consider retirement
I had more time and inclination to grow food and flowers. Grilled and smoked more in the BBQ.
I have been at home with my husband and have enjoyed finding things to do together
I have finally learned to balance my time and understand a more healthy lifestyle at home.
I have more time to spend on becoming healthier (like exercise), since I am not commuting to my job.

I have taken advantage of the extra one-on-one time with my child, but know this will end once we are back to school full-time.
I hope that the use of masks continues after the pandemic ends. If someone is sick and they can't stay home they should at least wear a mask.
I hope the option to work remotely continues.
I live near the juncture of Ritchie Hwy and Route 50 and have enjoyed the quiet from fewer people on the road. That's been changing recently, unfortunately.
I started school again, here and that's the best lifestyle change I made. I will continue.
I think just taking a step back and focusing on the present
I think people will not stray far from good hygiene practices. This is always an improvement not only to me, but for the public as a whole.
I think that a lot more important issues in this world are being brought into focus and hopefully it brings about change
I think wearing masks on a more general basis might be nice if it catches on in the US. Especially in Japan, masks are worn frequently for less dangerous viruses than COVID-19, and that would be a nice courtesy to also have here.
I use zoom for therapy appointments, online classes, quilt workshops, socializing with friends. It has been a life-saver. Though I feel isolated in general, not having to drive can be a real benefit.
I work at a 24 hour convenience store. We have seen a steep drop in shoplifting since the first lockdown order that has continued through out the summer. It's only in the last month or so we have begun to see sighs of theft agin. We have also not been robbed this year compared to the five times last year.
I'm cooking more at home, which is always good.
I'm now semi-retired. I like it.
I've been zooming exercise and language classes. I've discovered Kanopy! I've engaged with friends in a different way. I've organized things (like photos) that I've put off for years. And, have done lots of interesting reading! It's not all bad.
I've slowed down a bit, now pushing myself to do too much.
I've gotten in better physical shape
I've learned some good things about making good use of more solitude.
Increased exercise.
Increased schedule flexibility due to school and work going online.
increased teleworking
Initially I was exercising more but now my work is busier than sever and I am working more.
Job has been streamlined somewhat. More in-tune with neighborhood and community.
Laughing: traffic has improved!
learning how to use ZOOM
Less counting to NoVA!!! :)
Less time stuck in traffic!
Less traffic
Less traffic and flexibility of work hours/time.
Less traffic!
Less vehicle traffic is good. The tele-health visits with doctors have helped and expect to continue to use going forward.

Limit going out in public. Ordering online groceries. Food pick up or delivery.
Managers and colleagues more mindful of people's commitments outside work.
Mandatory Telework until vaccine is readily available. More time with family. Working more around the house. More time to exercise. Starting on a weight loss program. Less work stress
Marriage improved
More family time because activities are limited.
More family time together less time communiting
More family time, nightly walks
More flexibility in virtual services has made some aspects easier.
More free time but then no where to go.
More home meals
More immediate family time
More intensive vegetable gardening.
More learning opportunities through Zoom classes, youtube and Facebook.
More online purchases
More quiet time at home with wife for talks and future plans and.... having a few close virus negative friends over for dinner or drinks on the porch in the evening for "happy hour" or games or cards. More time for reading and learning new skills.
More sleep and more time in my day with no commute
More teleworking
More time for breaks during the day.
More time for creative endeavors
More time for reading and other quiet activities
More time with family
More time with family.
More time with my spouse
More walks
more wfh
Motivation to cook
Moving to more telecommuting options for work and school has been beneficial for my family, personally, because it saves us time and energy. However, it would be ideal to do this in a world where we could balance it with healthy social interaction and activity.
My boyfriends mom has moved out of her office and has started working from home fulltime, even when COVID ends. She feels she's able to have a better relationship with her family this way and can still get all her work done the same.
My job has limited the amount of students that can be on the campus (80% online, 20% on-campus) but working from home for the first three months before being required to go back did not improve my quality of life. It didn't make it difficult in terms of being able to work from home, but due to the fact I function better on a routine (e.g. regular schedule getting up, preparing, and traveling to work) and that has been affected and improved since I returned to my work-site, but I still want to test out the alternating work from home on-campus routine (that has yet to happen).
My mental health has not benefited from the virus, but I have been able to improve some social aspects by alternating my social life online and through streaming and voice chats.
My quality of life mentally and physically has declined since shut in since March.

My time management has improved
My vegetable garden rocked this year!
My work never closed, so nothing really changed for me. I have a son that his school schedule had a big impact on finances, and daycare costs.
n/a
N/A
na
Na
no
No
NO
No commuting time.
no commuting to work and saving on gas costs -- have only added gas to my car three times since March
No commuting to work.
no commuting, easy face to face meetings
No horrible travel time
No positive changes felt
No travel to work
NO!
NO!!!!!!
no.
No.
NO.
NO. All of these changes are ridiculous and the government intrusion is spinning out-of-control.
No. Except AACPS was forced to purchase technology for all students which will bring education in the county to modern standards when students finally return to the classroom.
No. Forced to telework and prefer not to do so.
No. Isolation and face coverings are creating problems that humans have yet to realize; emotionally, mentally, physically, spiritually, financially.
none
None
NONE
None whatsoever
Nope
Not commuting
Not commuting.
Not dealing with traffic to and from work; otherwise no.
Not me so much but it's been an opportunity for my daughter to teach her children how to make their own lunches (& clean their bathroom!).
Not really
Not really. I am a little bit better at on-line programs and possibilities but the price to get there was horrendous.
Not spending money and improved savings



Not sure
nothing
Nothing
Nothing comes to mind
Nothing has improved. We've lost money, lost work, lost our faith in this county and are looking for work out of the county and state.
On line shopping is an improvement.
Online doctors appointments. Online meetings with clubs and friends.
Online learning
Online schooling makes my schedule more flexible.
Online work from home
Ordering more on line
Our quality of life has gotten worse. Having the state declare that our two part time jobs are not essential. Every job that someone works is essential. I don't know of anyone that works for pay that works because they are having fun. ALL jobs are essential. Our monthly income was cut by 42%. We have to adjust our spending and have to take money out of savings every month to pay our bills. We wanted to continue to work but our state government wouldn't allow us. Both of us are healthy and have no fear of getting a virus. We know how to take care of ourselves and don't need or want the government telling us how to do it.
Partner working from home has been good for our family's quality of life.
Pre retirement practice
Reading more.
Reduce number of times in a restaurant
Reduced social life
Reduction in traffic has been pleasant.
Remote work, just not all the time
Sanitation and awareness, I was working as a cashier and I found myself being told that I don't have time to wash counters, but now I have to. It keeps everyone aware and people are needing to stay clean.
Seeing neighbors and children and friends outdoors more.
Seems like less litter and pollution in the Bay and other "natural areas".
self examination
Slow down
Slower pace / having time to read, play musical instrument, walk during daytime
Slower pace, more together time within household
Slower pace. More time with family
Social distancing, Ive enjoyed it
Socializing with neighbors more
Spending less money at restaurants and also eating much healthier food cooked at home.
Spending more time with family and doing things together rather spending time going from activity to activity.
Spent more time outdoors
Spouse's work hours were reduced.
state support for childcare in the beginning of Covid helped me tremendously.

Stop wearing masks and allowing 100% church and restaurant capacity.
Telework and more handwashing by everyone
Teleworking several days a week instead of having to go into the office every day.
The amount of tips we have been getting is a lot more than what we would normally get before. however, I do not think this will continue after the pandemic, because tip totals are already declining
The commute is short.
The fact I don't have to do a commute an hour each way each day have added quality time to my life.
The flexibility to work from home was very good for me.
The greater reliance on teleworking and virtual meetings would be a welcome continuation in the post-COVID era.
The reverse is true
This question must be a joke. No one's quality of life has improved. There's not a single lifestyle or work change anyone in their right mind would hope to continue after the COVID pandemic ends.
Time to do more home-maintenance type activities.
Took up running for exercise
Treasure those with whom you cope to.
Use of zoom. Slowed down and enjoy simple things in my yard and community.
Virtual learning
Virtual meetings for groups that I am a part of
We are less busy and we are spending less. I'd like that to continue. My attitude, which was "work, strive, best college, go go go" has eased. For example my son at Virginia Tech went into college w/ enough credits to graduate a year early. He wants to spend that year being a "ski bum." Pre-COVID me was like "bad idea, get a job." Now I feel like, "you know what, go for it."
We are retired, but our kids are working remote (from their own places)
We have definitely been closer as a family and spending a lot more time together. We also have been saving a lot of money from frivolous spending. I hope to continue to not waste money after the pandemic. I believe none special restaurant outings are definitely going to be a thing of the past for us.
We have started meeting weekly online with family members, who live far away.
We now homeschool because the county has made awful decisions regarding educating our kids.
Well, no lifestyle has improved. During the past few months, I have been having little time to sleep because of my school works.
Well...I have a renewed interest in nutrition and cooking. My husband and I decided to start counting calories and carbs in order to bring our diabetes under better control. I started researching recipes and have learned to cook so many different, tasty and nutritious foods. My husband has lost 51 pounds and drastically lowered his A1c and I have lost 25 pounds and lowered my numbers also. And we are enjoying our meals!! This may not have happened if I hadn't had so much time on my hands because of Covid restrictions. We plan to continue eating well at home instead of eating in restaurants every day....a very beneficial lifestyle change that may extend our lives!! (We are 80 and 77)
will cut back on unnecessary driving and shopping
Work from home
work online

Worked more charity work for the troops overseas. Had a group making cards to send to the troops. Cards they could send home to their friends and family.

# Appendix G: Reflections about Black Lives Matter Protests

A peaceful protest does not entail burning down cities.
A relatively small number of blacks have been killed by police compared to whites but the focus is always on the blacks. Nobody pays attention to the real numbers, only the ones that stir up the community. They don't care about the blacks killed in Chicago or other cities every week, only the ones killed by police and hyped by the media.
an excuse for violence and looters
Any peaceful protest in this country is justified, it does not matter if those protesters are right or wrong, they have a right to free speech. However when protests turn into riots, then there is a problem. If you are setting buildings on fire, looting, or causing harm to other people, you are not peacefully protesting.
Any Protesters that damage business or personal property or damage statues should go to jail for a long time
Anyone has the right to protest. However, some of the protests occurred before the facts came out about the situations. I agree with protesting against injustice, but wait until you know that there was actual injustice. Don't just assume that is what happened in every case.
As a white female I realize I do not live the experience of an African American and through my reading I have become increasingly convinced that racism is real and it needs to be addressed by all Americans.
As long as it's peaceful
Awareness about the issue MUST be raised.
Black Lives Matter / peaceful protest is our right and my duty / Anne Arundel County has a terrible history of slavery and Jim Crow and both hidden and overt recent racism
Causing crime doesn't help
Clearly black people are treated differently by some police officers. I think most police are honest and helpful but, the few bad police garner all the coverage in the news. Who would read a headline like this: "Today in America, thousands of arrests by police took place with no shots fired or injury to suspects"
Completely justified. However violence from hate groups and their distorting BLM messaging is drowning some of the peaceful protesting. Trump is making it worse.
Destruction of property after such an incident occurs, intent on harming law enforcement prior to adjudication of an incident, the busing in of groups such as ANTIFA and out-of-towners to demonstrate in a violent manner can never be justified.
Destruction, burning down property, and violence connected to "peaceful protests" by BLM and ANTIFA do NOTHING for Black Americans.
Didn't every victim, except Ms. Taylor, resist arrest? Didn't Ms. Taylor's boyfriend's actions harm her? Yes, there are bad police and they make wrong decisions. Defunding them will not help. The protests were an excuse to cause more harm to all and not improve society.( looting, riots, unrest)
Each individual incident is unique in its own way and must be dealt with on its own and shouldn't be thrown into one category. There are good and bad things that people do in all sides.

Even with the protests the government (police) haven't made an great change and this problema can still occur
First amendment right to speech and petition the government. These incidents show the injustice and that protest is totally justified.
Honestly, these people shouldn't have died and it's amazing that so many people can get together and say "hey, this wasn't right". I'm in awe that people are still acting like these people's deaths are just whatever. It's disappointing.
I always support people's rights to protest "peacefully."
I am extremely happy that the protests in Baltimore have been able to stay nonviolent. This is how we will make the most progress.
I attended the one at the White House for the African Americans who have been unjustly killed by police. It was peaceful until Trump decided to get a photo op of himself holding the Bible upside down and they shot us with rubber bullets.
I don't think they were peaceful protest!
I feel that the protesters are not taking into consideration of all the facts in each case. They are following the news that is sensationalizing before all the facts are determined.
I have no doubt whatsoever that systemic racism is real. I'm grateful it's in the light and I hope we do not lose momentum in our effort to address it. Although I have marched for abortion rights, gun regulation/safety, women's rights, and science, I'm so sad to say that I have not participated in BLM marches b/c of my fear of large groups due to COVID.
I support the protest but not the rioting or looting.
I take issue with your description of peaceful.
I think that there are people of all races that look to hijack peaceful protests and create chaos. They also use this to disrupt and discourage peaceful protests. we need to fix that. have peaceful protests with the assistance of cops who keep the trouble out.
I think there is deep seated anger from a variety of causes that people are willing to protest, demonstrate and vandalize for almost anything. I don't think the isolation and shut down from the corona virus helped anyone in this situation.
I think there is racism to all people which kind of says alot bout us. I know black people that hate white and Indians that hate white and Asian that hate black. We all need to grow up
I was not present & did not witness firsthand any of the incidents between the police & the alleged offenders; therefore, I cannot rush to judgement on either side. I feel the police have a nearly impossible job to do on a daily basis, & are constantly disrespected both verbally & physically by those suspected of committing a crime. You couldn't pay me enough to ever consider being a police officer these days. It's just not worth it.
If people would STOP resisting arrest and showed respect for authority most of those incidents would not have happened. We need law and order.
If the protests were peaceful and not disruptive to those going about there everyday lives they would be ok. But destroying property, screaming in the face of the police, throwing rocks, breaking into stores, trespassing and disrupting non-protesters lives by closing roads should not be tolerated. Protesting should require a permit that limits the geogrp hic area where the protests occur and when.
If these cops don't stop killing black people soon we will be extinct
If they are peaceful that's their right. Unpeaceful should be punished.

In nearly every instance, the police actions were initiated only after a crime or the report of a crime, and the citizens were in almost all cases not cooperating with police. There are a few instances where the police action was not necessary and those police charged with crime, in great majority of cases the charges against police are not warranted and the government will lose their cases in court.

In some cases Yes , but when a person doesn't listen to commands by a police officer , then that person put himself and the police officer in jeopardy of being hurt or even killed.

Isolated incidents portrayed as every day occurred

It is frustrating when you hear Maryland officials condemn the actions of officers in other states when the same problems are going on here locally and not being addressed.

It is obvious that systemic racism is very real in this country. I cannot fault the African American community for being outraged by it, and am happy they have been backed by so many individuals around the country.

Key word - PEACEFUL. Looting, rioting, and burning are NEVER justified.

Labeling them as peaceful is a joke, they have killed more people than the police. There is also no actual data to back up the claims.

Largely justified, even when exploited by opportunists.

Loaded question. Few deaths are by police. Look at statistics. Not emotion. Nearly all protests were violent in the country and not peaceful.

most of the protests are based on misinformation. For instance, George Floyd had enough Fentanyl in his system to kill a horse. Brianna Taylor \_appears\_ to have been involved with weapons and drug trafficking. The gentleman in Kinsosha resisted arrest and sexually assaulted a female. The guy in atlanta resisted arrest and used deadly force against two police officers.

Most of these jumped the gun and after investigation the actions we're justified. The loudest group doesn't want to hear that but the proof is in the pudding. If you choose to live your life as a criminal or on the wrong side of the law it will eventually catch up to you. Unfortunately sometimes it results in more than incarceration do to the amount of violence in the game.

most of these protests or riots are caused by justifiable actions of the police. there is an organized group of protesters fomenting rebellion to the United States republic.

Most peaceful.protests weren't peaceful and were attended by individuals who could care kess.about the issue at hand

Once again seems like only a reason for democrats to get votes.

Only peaceful protest acceptable & warranted. Violence, theft, etc NEVER ok.

Only the peaceful one. The riots are unacceptable

Operative word peaceful. We as a country need to pay attention. There is systemic racism built in from slavery days, most power positions are filled by whites, and mostly males.

Peaceful completely justified and supported as long as it does not violate my rights. Non peaceful or disturbing driving down the street or blocking access to buildings, causing business to have to close, fires etc. completely unjustified and destroying the credibility of the cause

Peaceful expression of concern is always justified, but riots, looting, taking reparitions, etc. are never justified. Confusing demonstrations organized by a Marxist organization like BLM with real demonstrations striving to change a system that needs improvements is just being foolish.

Peaceful is one thing but they rarely are. Looting and rioting and destroying your own city is ridiculous.

Peaceful is the key word

Peaceful nonviolent protests are okay.

Peaceful protest are a cornerstone to democracy and enacting change
Peaceful protest are fine. The riots are unacceptable, and only hurt the peaceful protests. Often, the emotional responses are not based upon the facts of the situation. Cash less bail in NY has failed. We need law and order for all Americans.
Peaceful Protest are justified. but not when harm comes to any person protesting or protecting the area/people
Peaceful protests are a bedrock right in this country. Rock throwing, arson, destroying personal or public property are immoral and illegal.
Peaceful protests are always valid, the scale implied the scale of the need for change. The majority of the protests nationwide were peaceful.
Peaceful protests carry some risk unless everyone is wearing masks and practicing social distancing, and this is very difficult to enforce because there are many people who do not take the pandemic seriously. Violence is never justified, and is also a risk during these protests.
Peaceful protests need no justification. The right of the people to peaceably assemble... Nevertheless, the protests were overreactions and many were not peaceful. Also am appalled by the positive treatment of cryptomarkist, anti-nuclear family BLM and the fascist tactics of Antifa.
Peaceful protests turn into rioting
Peaceful protests with evidence based issues such as the death of George Floyd - If they are truly peaceful. Those whose acts include looting, taking over police precincts, burning down businesses, mayhem, physical injury to others include police officers, removing and destroying historic monuments are not justified. If we do not learn from our history and learn to speak together, we are doomed to repeat.
People who are complaining about racism are the biggest racist!
Poor question unless later question asks about violent element to protests
protests are fine but no looting or burning of businesses
Protests have not been peaceful
Protests wouldn't happen if covid-19 wasn't around. People were out of a job so had time to protest.
Racial inequality is a problem, particularly in housing. Crime is higher in poor communities and the police are caught in a difficult situation: how to be firm against crime in a neighborhood that doesn't trust you! Curing that problem is difficult and requires time and work.
So many of the protests have only divided people more and achieved nothing, often escalating into riots and destruction
Some have been unjustified, also.
Some of my neighbors and coworkers still do not comprehend how unfairly some people are being treated. Keep talking. Continue to raise the issue. Do it peacefully so that no one can use rioting to support some people's misguided belief that "they're all like that".
Somewhat justified ONLY when truly peaceful, not aggressive or disrespect to police or looting, setting fires, destroying property.
The data shows that a large population of African Americans have NOT been harmed or killed by police. The peaceful protest should be about the lack of employment opportunities for people in America, not about the police. If people were working or in school they would not have the time to protest.
The key to that answer is PEACEFUL. Our nation was founded on the right to speak out in protest.

The news is only giving a fraction of the story. It can be very one sided. Facts are being omitted and the stories vary widely depending on the sources.

The OPERATIVE work is peaceful since peaceful protests can help bring change to racism by keeping it on the front page. We need to end remaining racism in order to move forward as a unified country and we now need unity more than ever.

The people who protested the racial incidents did so by following guidelines for gathering and practicing good social distancing?

The problem of police brutality towards black Americans has persisted for too long.

The protesters have no real idea of what they are doing. They only go with what someone tells them to do.

The protesters were mostly unemployed young people with nothing else to do and did not represent a cross section of this country's demographics

The protests are getting out of hand. The bad protesters have latched onto this and they are making it look like the protests are about them. The bad people in the cities have burned ,looted, etc. and this puts a bad look to all protests.

The right to peacefully protest is a protected right.

The right to peacefully protest is fundamental to our democracy.

The right to protest justified. Manner of many protests not justified

The United States as a whole has a systemic racism problem that has not been curbed or created accountability against those who perpetuate it. The vicious cycle continues as long as those in power that continue to perpetuate it do nothing or continue to allow lobbying to fill their pockets and sway their decision making.

The vast majority of the protests have not been "Peaceful". These protests have been nothing more than punks out breaking up and burning everything they can and looters having free reign to steal.

There have been very few "peaceful protests."

There is no option other than protest until legislative changes are made at the local, state and federal levels to recognize and address systemic racism.

These are not peaceful protests but paid orchestrated anarchy



## Appendix H: How Likely are Protests to Produce Real Change?

"Something's gotta give."
"The Freedom Road Socialist Organization (FRSO) based out of Minneapolis, an openly pro-CCP organization, and Bay Area-based Liberation Road, with very close ties to the Chinese consulate there and the Chinese Progressive Association (CPA), are behind the recent riots..." <a href="https://m.theepochtimes.com/china-ties-to-us-riots-exposed-by-trevor-loudon-2_3531626.html?utm_source=newsnoe&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=breaking">https://m.theepochtimes.com/china-ties-to-us-riots-exposed-by-trevor-loudon-2_3531626.html?utm_source=newsnoe&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=breaking</a>
2.0
24. The dishonest media twists every response he makes. 25. The burning, looting & violence I have witnessed on my TV screen night after night is in stark contrast to supposedly "peaceful protests" Turns my stomach. This behavior does not help.
3.0
4.0
A peaceful protest is fine. However, these tend to get out of hand by extremists from both sides. One side vilifies all law enforcement for the actions of a few and plays the race card, even when race may not have been a factor, while the other side refuses to listen to reason/facts. We need a third centrist party as the country is being torn apart.
A protest needs to be peaceful and get involved in your community and local government.
Again, the few looters and violence makers among the many protesters got all the attention. That paints all the protesters in a bad light.
An honest dialogue is starting. Talking to each other is vital to create change.
Antifa has ruined the outcome by being violent. It could have been a good thing, but now it is not
Anxiety will not let me
BLM plans to defund the police & support riots, arson, & looting hurt their cause greatly
Candidly, it is an issue, but not many in my middle class white neighborhood makes it an issue when deciding how to vote.
Change heavily depends on election results at all levels — it will only occur if voters elect leaders motivated to address protestors' valid complaints. These leaders appear to be in the minority in all but a handful of jurisdictions at present.
Change will happen if there is a consistent effort to improve the unequal treatment of minorities after it is NOT such an exposed issue. There tends to be an ebb and flow of efforts based on social climate. There need to be consistent changes with consistent information when there is not consistent news coverage.
Changes though unjustified are occurring, Statues be torn down, Defunding police, Professional sports accepting the bogus BLM claims, etc
Depends on which party is in power...
Depends on who is elected president
Difficult to change personal insights and behavior
Do what the police tell you to do and there won't be a problem. Duh...

Due to the non peaceful participant's diluting the message. In fact it could do just the opposite in the long run
Hard to say. Hope it affects change but as long as some are violent & destructive I feel it only harms the cause.
has created more antagonism
I am hopeful but not optimistic that these protests will change attitudes, but more optimistic that they will push legislative change.
I am hopeful but only time will tell.
I believe protests will produce real changes but those in power must be WILLING to make those changes. They MUST be willing to hold the perpetrators accountable like we would hold any one accountable for any crimes. The punishment levels in the criminal justice system against African Americans do not fit the levels of leniency given to those whom are white. The resistance to making any changes as far as policing and police brutality goes begins with holding officers accountable, invoking stricter guidelines on how to BECOME a police officer (e.g. must have a Bachelor's degree in criminal justice, mandatory racial bias training, mandatory, monthly testing regarding racial bias training, and mandatory connections to social healthcare workers in situations where officers are faced with those whom are in emotional or mental distress). The entire policy of "shoot to kill" or "shoot first" and "ask questions later" is a, literal, cop-out and it provides those involved whom are injured in police involved shootings (e.g. those whom are suspects, "supposed" suspects, or persons of interest) to tell their side of the story. More often than not, they are no longer alive to tell their side of the story after situations like this occur.
I believe that hearts and minds are changing. Many "well-meaning white moderates" are waking up to what it means to have been benefiting from a culture of white supremacy. But others are clamping down harder in response. Hate crimes are up. Nazis are out and proud. It's going to be a process.
I believe that people will see them as violent and will just continue to fight rather than solve differences and talk
I believe that we're taking a step in the right direction but I also think there's too many people who don't care or hate the movement that we're not going to improve much.
I debated between Very and Somewhat here. I think the widespread protests show how many people - from various racial backgrounds - are deeply upset about how African Americans have been treated by law enforcement which has led to more open discussions about and awareness of systemic racism. I think a majority of the country truly wants to be part of a positive change. I chose Somewhat however because as the protests have trended to more violence/property destruction/deaths, I think segments of the country (regions of the country) are growing weary and may actually be less supportive of the protests and the issues the protestors are supporting.
I deeply hope and pray that these protests will produce real change. I also think that if President Trump is re-elected this will not happen.
I don't believe change is likely at all with Donald Trump in office. He simply does not care.
I feel that momentum for the protest movement has already diminished since the summer, especially as the Election Season has heated up.
I have a biracial grandchild. I told a black lady in Baltimore one time that I thought it will take about 4 generations before anyone will think twice about seeing interracial relationships.

I have heard first hand from people who are racists regarding these protests. They tend to clump the peaceful protests and the riots together. For many of these racists, the actions of the rioters define the African-Americans as a whole and sadly, the peaceful protest are not helping to change some minds.

I have hope that these peaceful protests will result in change. Seems to have broad support.

I haven't seen anyone killed that did not have prior criminal activity or a rap sheet. The fact is if you are a criminal and engage in criminal activity or hang with criminals, you might get shot. Me, I am a law abiding citizen and I am not afraid of any police or getting shot. Analogy, play in the road and you might get ran over.

I hope it will...

I hope the peaceful protests will make more Americans of all ethnicity more aware of the problem of racial discrimination. More people are involved this time, and that's a good sign.

I hope you're going to ask what I think about certain prosecutors and certain mayors and certain governors that refused to do their job when violent thugs were arrested.

I think it truly depends on if Trump stays in office. If he does, I doubt any real change will come. If Biden is elected, I think there is a chance for change.

I think the protests have already spurred at least some reforms to departments, will it be enough? That remains to be seen.

I think unruly protest make a group of people look bad and just makes the situation worse. I'm not even sure if peaceful protest gets anyone attention.

If people continue to loot and riot then nothing will be better for anyone. We need to start looking at a crime is a crime and the punishment should be the same across the board.

In and of themselves, the protests will not produce change. They are just one part of the picture. But, they send the message that there are a lot of believers, a lot who care, and help set the course.

Inequality continues to persist. These protests bring attention to the issues of systematic and institutionalized racism.

It takes awareness and action. we need to find a way to address equality to all , not giving preferential treatment but equal access and equal chance

It's out in the open more. Issues are effecting change. Time is needed to incorporate and internalize needed reforms and dignity.

John Lewis said it best. "Get in good trouble, necessary trouble, and help redeem the soul of America."

Look back at the 60's riots and what happened afterword. All they are doing is ticking off the taxpayer and wiping out businesses that are trying to survive.

Need more than just protests. Need more like the Montgomery bus boycott

Not only are the protests overshadowed by COVID and the election this year, but the establishment seems to have little incentive to take them seriously, and some even have reasons to want worse protesting. The more protests there are, the easier it is for military weapons manufacturers to sell arms to apoplectic police departments.

Once again seems like only a reason for democrats to get votes.

Only if there is follow-through on police reform And how individuals are trained to respond in various scenarios. Changes in the way we all view our inherent prejudices, especially as whites with the born-in privilege Of not being suspected of crimes or bad behavior by virtue of our skin color or mere presence.

Only if they can produce real and lasting change with policy and government

People who are complaining about racism are the biggest racist!
Police are now scared to do anything in fear of judgement or losing their jobs or lives even though the media will portray them as bad people when they are not doing anything wrong. People are too quick to assume and judge before facts and evidence are reported. Racism is a two sided issue today that MSM won't report.
Policy changes must occur for any lasting change
Protest must lead to real change enduring after the protest events. We must keep the will to change.
Protests are indicative of desired change. They should give legislators the confidence needed to change policy and regulations, which will lead to the real changes needed to ensure fairness and justice for all citizens.
Protests call attention to the problem and make it clear that many people are concerned.
Rioting and destruction is mostly what ends up happening and it ruins any attempt at progress from the so called peaceful protest. Any protest that disrupts and allows people to do things that are normally unlawful is. It peaceful. Closing streets and creating traffic for a peaceful protest is not helping. It is the society allowing people to get away with breaking laws because of a PC agenda. 2 rights don't make a wrong.
see above explanation
The answer is for this administration. Perhaps will change if Biden squeaks iin.
The Constitution stated that Africans were 3/5 a man at the time written and laws and policies have been passed to reinforce America's Original Sin, until white people have a come to Jesus movement, things will change.
The current new racism/sexism (white man bad) will affect policy for awhile. We should expect also an eventual counter reaction by the majority who are already tired of being blamed for imagined crimes or for historical wrongs often by people to which the majority have no connection.
the democrats only pay lip service to helping the black and brown communities, but they are more interested in helping their silicon valley and wall street friends.
The fact that protests have included significant numbers of whites and young people, I think there may be some hope for more equal treatment of Black people in the US.
The fact that some of the peaceful protests morphed into rioting and looting makes it hard to focus on the reason for the protests. It became hard to separate the protests from the violence, which was unfair for those who just wanted to protest peacefully.
The government needs to put a stop to the rioting by any means necessary.
The government needs to take this issue more seriously
The ignorance, stupidity, and emotions of SOME people and ethnic groups are so deeply seated, or ingrained, or slyly taught at formative stages that I cannot see peaceful protest (let alone riots) changing this thinking or these attitudes.
The peaceful protests can produce some change. The violent outliers muddle the message and make it more difficult to have these protests effect real change
The people that are protesting are letting their emotions run away with them and they are not sure what changes they want to see.
The protests were associated with riots, looting, burnings, and civil unrest. Not a good combo to achieve good results.

<p>The protests will have little impact. The riots will only be destructive re quality of life. Look at Baltimore as an example of a city that failed their citizens.....multiple crooked/inept mayors....school system that cannot educate students.....riots, high crime, drugs and more than one-third of their population has departed the city. Where are the effective and honest leaders who care for their citizens and can solve problems?</p>
<p>The real change needs to be in the way we train our justice officers and the citizens in general. EVERYONE is being filmed, recorded and watched at all times. We could all be caught doing something wrong but for the right reasons</p>
<p>The rioting and violence have undone any positive efforts from the peaceful protests. The voices objecting to the destruction, looting and killing are being drowned out. Until everyone on both sides of these issues condemns the violence, nothing positive will come out of it.</p>
<p>The riots and violence in cities over overshadowed the peaceful protest. How do African-Americans want to be treated in this country? I would hope equally like any other race. They same way Asians, Hispanics or Latinos or Whites are treated - all equal and fair.</p>
<p>The violence and destruction took ALL of the justification behind the protests. If everyone would obey the laws there would be no shootings of "innocent people"</p>
<p>The violence at these protest are not helping any causes, only hurting the people and businesses in those areas</p>
<p>There are more sinister reasons behind these protests. It has to do with Globalists trying to destroy our country. Divide and conquer.</p>
<p>There has been years of training and progress with regards to race relations in this country's police departments. All of the progress is being ignored. To quote Condelezza Rice - the very fact that we are having a conversation about this shows just how far race relations have come in this country</p>
<p>There is already enough EEO and equality programs to satisfy. At a glance seems good but too often these programs cause reverse discrimination</p>
<p>There is racism for all not just african americans I deal witj racism constantly by African Americans regularly because of my nationality. I have rarely dealt with it by any other race. So I have no sympathy. If they want the racism to stop then they also need to stop!</p>
<p>There is some truth to the belief that blacks face racial inequality when interfacing with the government, but much of the problem is not systemic racism but rather systemic cultural issues brought on by such programs as the war on poverty and the breakdown of the nuclear family in the black community.</p>
<p>There will always be people who are racist but just because someone cuts you off in traffic or gets ahead of you in a line, does not mean there is racism, but rather rudeness, experienced by everyone. There is a small handful of people causing most of the problems</p>
<p>These are Marxist's organizations who do NOT care about the wellbeing of African-Americans!</p>
<p>These protesters can shows other African American not to be scared and stand up for equality.</p>
<p>These riots are damaging and it is a Marxist attempt to influence population attitudes, behavior and election.</p>
<p>They are hurting since the massive destruction of property is all the majority of people will care about.</p>
<p>They don't give a damn about these people. BLM is a Marxist organization. They are burning, looting, killing, assaulting, causing a lot of damage all to destroy our country.</p>
<p>They have hurt America.</p>

This issue has been with us since the US was formed. It must stop! The issue must remain news until it no longer is an issue

Those that are prone to racism, police or not, are not likely to change. No matter what type of protest is chosen, violent or non-violent, the protesters are told that isn't the way to make a difference. So, pray tell, what is the correct way to make a difference. I'm not sure there is one.

Too much destruction and mobs intent on causing more hate and destruction is not the answer.

Unpeaceful demonstrations make me disgusted with anyone participating. There is just as much hatred towards the whites from the blacks.

Until this Administration is gone little progress can be made. But the majority of the country now recognize the problem which is the first step to solving it.

Violence and destruction of property doesn't help the cause

We do have a handful of bad police , so we need to be able to weed them out

When the protests turn violent more innocent folks are affected. We need more remembrance and use of the non violent principals used by Martin Luther King.

When there is not an option to say no, to BLM, there will be change, but only time will tell if its for the better! People are afraid to say no or too weak!

When you start burning things down you lose the support you may have had in the beginning

White people have always hated black people and they always will That why you see so many cops getting away with it

Worry that they will be used by trump supporters.

You cannot legislate not force equality by protesting ,rioting and destroying property. As long as there are haves and have nots there will be inequality and bias.

# Appendix I: Thoughts About Replacement of Ruth Bader Ginsburg on Supreme Court

4 Years ago Mitch McConnell and Lindsey Graham said they would never support an appointment in an election year. They have reversed course. They are not men of their word and have lost all credibility as representative leaders.

A president has the constitutional duty to nominate. The Senate can advise and consent on nominee. If they have the votes to pass they should. RBG's personal opinion has no bearing. The only reason she did not retire in 2016 was because they thought Clinton would win the election. They have no one to blame but themselves for the situation. Barrett is a completely acceptable judge to be elevated to the court.

Although it is within the legal rights of the President to nominate and of the Senate to confirm a new SCOTUS Justice, I believe it is utterly hypocritical and immoral of the Senate Republicans to be rushing through the confirmation process for Amy Coney Barrett this close to a Presidential Election after derailing Merrick Garland's nomination in 2016 based on the argument that it was too close to a Presidential Election. As a matter of "moral" or "karmic" justice, I actually believe that President Trump should nominate a new Justice, but that the Senate should not hold confirmation hearings for President Trump's nominee.

And I would expect no different if it were a Democratic President and controlled Senate currently. The one thing I find very amusing is how much more whining is done by the left. I have run a neighborhood community forum for 10yrs now. Over that time when liberal things are posted there is a lot of chatter on the post amongst liberals but nothing ever reported of heads exploding. If there is a conservative post whoa man look out. My alerts go off the chart with people asking to take it down or how offended they are.

as was done in other years including 2016

Based on reasoning to not allow Obama to nominate a replacement in 2016, Trump should not be allowed. Trump potentially has much less time in office.

Both sides need to come together. I cannot believe the hypocrisy of the Senate majority party. I would abhor it if either party behaved in this way! They are truly "gaming" the system.

FACT CHECK: Lincoln Didn't Delay His Supreme Court Nomination Because He Cared About Election Integrity <https://thefederalist.com/2020/10/08/fact-check-lincoln-didnt-delay-his-supreme-court-nomination-because-he-cared-about-election-integrity/>

Flip flop of the "rules" by current Senate majority leader. It will most likely work anyway.

Follow the constitution.

Go by our Constitution not what a few want.

GOP are hypocrites!! They held up Garland's nomination for 9 months and are rushing Barrett in a shameless fashion in a matter of weeks. They are destroying our norms.

He is still president so should be his right

He is the current president, right now, and he has the right to nominate the replacement, right now. He is elected president for four years. within this four years, it is his responsibility.

He is the president and it is within his duty to fill the vacancy on the Supreme court.

He is the president and occurred during his term and should be filled.

He only has less than a month left in his term, the decision should be postponed until the next candidate is elected.

He's the President for a full four years. The people have already spoken. People opposed to it are sore losers.

I feel that we need a confirmation that is non partisan - but that appears to be unlikely. I think that the nomination was totally partisan. I think that perhaps her confirmation should be postponed until after the election results. ( because the voting is done by the senators that might not be there anymore. ) Think about that. its not the nomination but rather the votes that confirm.

I think President Trump should nominate and then it is up to the Senate whether or not to approve.

I think that the next president should fill that seat, however because you can do something doesn't make it the right thing to do.

I'm not entirely sure, but I am leaning more towards being nominated by Trump, just because he is the current president and a replacement for the supreme Court should not wait until next year.

If a Supreme Court Judge is supposed to make decisions based on the LAW rather than their political party, the choice is good.

If they made Obama do the same thing, with a bigger gap in between the election than Trump's, why can't Trump do the same?

It is still his term. Get it done. Move on with other business.

It is the law.

It's hopeless by now.

It's too close to the election to push this so better to wait till after the election and see what party won.

Let's be fair.

Like it or not the party in power is following the law

Like Trump or not he is our sitting President and so yes it's his retro fo so

Merrick Garland -- Republicans are so hypocritical on this topic.

Mitch McConnell is a cancer on our democracy. The hypocrisy of this move after what he did to Merrick Garland is craven.

Moscow Mitch should follow his on precedent.

Mr Trump has placed on the Supreme Court persons who are qualified and undesirable.

My opinion is that trump shouldn't voice shouldn't matter. I believe trump is so bias

Nominated by Trump, but confirmed in as much time as needed. Not rushed.

Not only do I believe the next justice should be chosen by the next president, I'm appalled by the unanticipated consequences of trying to force the vote now (specifically, thinking of the fact that Lindsey Graham won't take a COVID test SO he doesn't get a positive result and can go vote in the Senate, which has led to the cancellation of the next Jaime Harrison/Graham SC debate)

OMG. When the vacancy came open in 2016, Mitch McConnell refused to bring the nomination up 10 months prior to the election because "the people should have the right to choose" so we need to wait till the next election. And NOW, mere weeks ahead of the election he's all systems go. What a hypocrite, along with all the other Republicans who would vote for a candidate now. Respect RBG's last wish -- let the next President replace me.



On#1, I don't understand "community enhancements." On schools question, I want all schools to get the same equipment, number and type of texts and supplemental reading books, same staffing, same safe and well-Maintained school buildings and grounds. There is too much inequity. School board members should be required to tour all schools in their area every year.

Ordinarily, I think the current president should pick the nominee. However, the R's changed the rules of the game in 2016, so these same rules should apply to 2020.

Over these past 4 years, the majority Republican Senate has acted to rubber-stamp everything the President wanted. So although, normally, a sitting president has the right to nominate a new Supreme Court justice now. But since there is no chance this Senate will independently decide to hold-off on seating a new Supreme Court justice until after the election, I do not support this move by the President to nominate one.

Past Presidents, whose party hold the Senate, have routinely chosen a Supreme Court justice so it is the responsibility of the President and the Senate to fill this vacancy immediately

Per the constitution, the president serves for 4 years, not 3 1/2. If there is an opening, the president is duty bound to make a nomination and the senate is duty bound to hold a vote to confirm. Nothing guarantees that the vote will be for confirmation, but that is the senates job to advise and consent.

Plenty of precedents for this. He is elected for four years at a time, not three and a half. RBG even said this should happen.

Position should be filled asap. 4 years ago Democrats wanted quick appointment after Judge Scalias passing. Now they're against it. Can't have it both ways Follow the constitution

President Trump is the president. Part of his job is to fill judicial vacancies. Just because the process of naming the president for the next term is underway doesn't mean his is not the current president with all of those responsibilities. And that position of the Senate is equally valid. That's their job.

Presidents are in place for four years and everything that is legally allowed to proceed should proceed during the entirety of those four years.

Presidents job to get this done

Republican, specifically Mitch McConnell's, hypocrisy on this is outrageous. No vote on Merrick Garland but ram through Amy Conan Barrett.

Rushing the nomination of a new justice before the November election is appalling. The Republicans engineering this travesty should be thrown out of office or defeated in their next election.

Rushing to put the first woman that comes to mind doesn't seem to be a good way to nominate a vice president, judge, or cashier. If sex is the primary (or secondary) criteria, perhaps the selection process is DEEPLY flawed.

Sadly The Senate Leader,(Turtle Mcconnel) is the one who decides who & when a SCOTUS nominee gets a hearing. Either change that rule or change the Senate's leaders. If the big worry is Obama Care and Roe v Wade repeal, make those rules permanent law.Abortion is a terrible thing,UNTIL YOU NEED ONE!

stupid survey

That is how it has been done through our history

that is the policy the Republicans established when there was a Democratic president; what's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander!!

That is what is provided in the Constitution. President elected for 4 years, not 3 and a half

## THE CONSTITUTION ALLOWS FOR THIS ACTION!

The constitution is clear. Also, history shows that when the senate and the president agree, late appointments are confirmed the overwhelming majority of the time. Don't like the situation, get your party elected. As RBG proved, even lifetime appointments are not forever.

The election is already underway. Trump and the Senate are polling well below plurality consensus. Not to mention what happened in 2016, and all the currently COVID infected GOP senators who would be asked to attend a hearing/vote on the topic.

The GOP push to nominate a replacement to Justice Ginsburg disgusts me.

The hypocrisy shown by the current Republican senators is shameful

The precedent has been set and it should be maintained.

The President has been and will continue to be unfit to hold his position in office. He should not be allowed to make any decisions after the catastrophic deaths of the over 200,000 American lives lost to the Coronavirus. His inability to lead and his virulent and vicious attempts to divide have caused the conservative party to continue to devolve into fascist, far-right, propaganda and home-grown terrorism. We have had vicious presidents and we have had presidents whom were idiots, but we have never had a VICIOUS IDIOT for a president.

the president has every right to nominate a replacement but 'big ticket items' like this should be postponed until the next administration....

The president is elected for 4 years, not 3.5 years.

the President serves for a 4 year term. History is on the side of confirmation. With the exception of Abe Fortas (a racist), every Justice nominated in an election year has been confirmed when the President and Senate are from the same party. When they are different parties, 1 in 9 has been confirmed

The process will be too rushed with the election and inauguration coming up.

The Republican hypocrisy is stunning

The Republican Senate set this precedence in 2016 by refusing to even meet with Merrick Garland. I realize it is within their right to proceed with the nomination process but I think it shows a lack of leadership and respect for the Supreme Court, the history of the Senate as a deliberative body and for the American people. I do realize some of this lies at the feet of the filibuster decision made by the Democrats when Harry Reid was majority leader, but two wrongs don't make a right!

The Republicans are such hypocrites. Don't even get me started.

The republicans demanded waiting at the end of the Obama administration so they should honor that at the end of the Trump administration.

The republicans set the precedent with Obama's nomination. Fair play?

the Republicans' hypocrisy on this issue is staggering.

The Senate is about who holds the power. Trump has a responsibility to make the nomination just as Obama did. While I completely disagree with the power games played by ALL of our politicians, it is within the Senate's functionality to confirm the nomination

The sitting President should nominate judges. However, a new (and wrong) precedent was set when the Senate declined to do their job when Merrick Garland was nominated.

The standard set by the Republican controlled US Senate to delay consideration of the nomination of Merrick Garland in 2016 should also apply now. This would be in the best interest of the nation and the Supreme Court as an institution.

The Supreme Court is becoming too politicized. Trump should not be allowed to appoint 3 justices.

The US Constitution gives the sitting President the duty to nominate and the Senate the duty to confirm or not confirm. Since the Senate majority is the same party as the President, they will vote to confirm and the minority party does not have enough votes to stop it. In 2016, President Obama nominated, as was his duty. The Senate majority was in the opposing party, they could have voted, but were not likely to confirm, therefore they chose not to vote. Completely constitutional.

There should be nothing stopping Trump but his own decision. He can nominate a new justice or choose not to. That his his choice

These are the current rules. You better believe that if the Democrats were in this position they would be steamrolling their nomination!! This is the Constitutional process.

This is a mess. I'd rather not leave massive decisions in the hands of 9 unelected people, so I guess in principle I don't love either of them getting to pick, but I do have a vested interest in someone other than the current president making the choice, so I will be hypocritical.

This is following the precedent set by McConnell at the end of Obama's term.

This is the prescedent set by 100 years in this country

This shouldn't even be a question

To confirm a new justice now just enforces that the Republican party is nothing but a bunch of hypocrites.

Too late for that. His pik is going to sweep in and sweep out anything good for us - Rowe/equal rights/gay marriage (And Thomas already on that one), Obama Care, DACA. All that is just. The court is not another group controlled by Trump - what are they afraid of. Two male rapists on the court.

Trump's current term is not up until January 2021. It is his OBLIGATION to nominate a Supreme Court nominee and it is the Senate's responsibility to confirm or deny...NOT WAIT!

Typically, it takes 67 days on average to confirm a Supreme Court Justice. Considering it is a lifetime appointment, there should not be an expedited process to fill a seat when the Court can still operate. Furthermore, if Trump is re-elected, then it can proceed anyway. If he is not, then that is a referendum from the American People and he should not be allowed to nominate another Supreme Court Justice. In fact, I propose to options of law, maybe a limit of 2 Supreme Court Justices Max for a president. Or a President cannot nominate and/or the Congress cannot confirm a Supreme Court Justice between Election Day - Inauguration Day if a President is not re-elected.

Waste of time on that question it is all but done by current Senate

We need the 9th member of the court. The use of political issues to stop the replacement is absurd!!!!

When you look up hypocrite in the dictionary there's a picture of Mitch McConnell next to it. Votes are being cast as I write this. It is not the time for hearings on any nomination.

Why won't Biden say he will stack the count if elected?

## Appendix J: Comments About Voting in 2020

A lot if fraud and theft has already happened
Absentee voting has worked for years , mailing a ballot to every registered voter rod a very bad idra
Again, numerous reports all across the country yet MSM doesn't like to report it.
Anne Arundel County Election Board closed all of our local in person voting locations and now has voting centers where anyone can go to vote; without electronic real time monitoring of voting, which doesn't exist, and lacking required IDs, anyone can vote for a long-time voter if they know their name and they can vote 31 times (once per center) without being stopped on election day. If there was a protection against this, we would have been told. Public not consulted about the change.
AS WE HAVE SEEN ALREADY THE CORRUPTION IN INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE DESTROYING BALLOTS
Corruption is woven into this Country and will likely not be erradicated.
Democrats will try and cheat. Mail-in ballots are subject to fraud. Everyone should vote on Nov. 3rd in person with the exception of the absentee ballot from the military.
Depends on how successful voter suppression efforts by Republicans are.
Depends on how the ballots are delivered to the appropriate counting facility, and if the total number matches the number of ballots sent out/voted in person.
Don't trust Republican dominated states, who can send in a separate group of electors who can vote for the asshole again.
Don't trust Republicans - they want to appoint their own phony electors and claim the authority to do from "failed mailed in votes."
Efforts by Republicans in many states to suppress the vote makes me less confident that all votes will be counted.
Even though it is easy to be jaded with the rhetoric of President Trump around our election process, I still hold faith in the local Board of Elections and State Board of Elections to protect our system of free and fair elections. I do have concerns about some states who have a history of voter suppression, however (i.e. Georgia). So far, most of the stories in the news about problems with the ballots, while problematic, have not been due to some grand plan to rig the elections, but due to unintentional human error. I do have concerns about a foreign government hacking into election computers/systems.
Every eligible person has the right to vote and NOTHING should be done to put up barriers to voters including what has been done to the US postal service and governors removing ballot drop boxes.
Examples of corruption and ballot tampering have been in the news constantly reinforcing the lack of control and ethics concerning ballots for the presidential election in 2020.
Except for the for the Osama Bin Laden Democratic vote in Chicago, it will be fairly accurate!!
Government can never be trusted. Ever.
History repeats itself. Graves will open, Acorn will pay for votes, unsolicited ballots have already been mailed to the living and the dead and to people who are not longer at the mailing address. What do you think? This will not be an honest election. The liberal socialist left wing has been working on this since 2016.
<a href="https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/ensure-every-american-can-vote/vote-suppression/myth-voter-fraud">https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/ensure-every-american-can-vote/vote-suppression/myth-voter-fraud</a>

I am confident in the counting but appalled that ballot restrictions (ie. overly strict voter ID requirements, limited ballot drop off locations) in some states will deprive some voters of their right to vote.

I am confident with the voting process, however, I am not confident with the voter suppression tactics from people who do not want to leave office.

I am deeply concerned about state by state voter suppression tactics by the GOP, as well as the known interference by Russia, plus what we do not yet know. Additionally, we are entering a battle of narratives, as results cannot be called on Election Day, and the GOP is going to try to do just that and claim that the election was "stolen."

I am worried about ballots being mass invalidated and challenged, or election day vote totals being used to call into question absentee totals while they are still being counted if they're different. I worry it will be like 2000 where one candidate declares themselves a winner (or is declared winner) before counting is finished accurately.

I believe that a number of state legislatures are working actively to suppress the vote of minorities and underprivileged people and students.

I can only hope that the president and his supporters will not take action to curtail or affect counts in any way. But I am not sure the election in some areas will be free of active controversy.

I do believe that this can have bad results no matter what, if someone can take advantage of the election in any way possible, they would.

I do not like Mail-in ballots, I think it's very easy to miss use this system. For example, there were already ballots found in the trash in Pennsylvania. Another example is how people who are already deceased get mailed a ballot anyway, so anyone can just fill it out themselves for a second vote. Do I think it's a serious problem, not really, but definitely a problem that can be fixed if you just got to a voting site in person.

I do not TRUST the Trump administration and his CRONIES.

I do not trust Trump and his people to fairly participate in the election. I expect them (him) to do what they can to distort the election results.

I don't have any confidence that my vote will count regardless of the method used to vote.

I feel that Maryland and Anne Arundel County Board of Elections are very honest and will be accurate in counting the votes. I can not say for other parts of USA.

I have faith in the election process. I worry that Trump will raise enough doubt & B.S. that the results may not be accepted. Then we will have 4 years of crying "I think the president, (Biden hopefully) is in office fraudulently" from many Trumpeters. Though I was aghast I accepted the 2016 election results.

i have faith in the live vote tally. i have very limited faith in the postal service employees and their bias and for mail in voting with vote harvesting and counting after the date of the election.

I have never thought that voting was a very secure or well run process. I think it is a very important right in our country and should be reserved for those that are eligible there should be voter roles at the precincts and you should have to show some form of ID to participate. We expect ID for so many things of much lesser importance. And the excuse that people with less will be excluded does not hold water. The manage to show ID to cash or collect their SS checks or welfare. They certainly aren't given HUR housing benefits without some form of ID.

I have no issue with absentee ballots, where you apply to have a ballot sent to you to complete. I have a big problem with blanket mailing of ballots to everyone on the voter roles. Not everyone on the roles is a legal voter. Not everyone on the roles is alive or lives in the area any longer. It is way too easy to corrupt the system with ballots that are late and then judges declare they must be counts, or via ballot harvesting, or via ballots casted fraudulently. if you can demonstrate in the streets or go out to the mall or walmart, you can show up in person to vote.

i know many people getting ballots who haven't lived in MD for years. Voter rolls are outdated and that will lead to the potential for people to vote multiple times

I serve as an election judge and know our county Board of Elections employees are dedicated to the integrity of the process.

I think cyber-criminals who wish to disrupt our election process have a better chance doing so through computerized ballots. I am suspicious that is the reason Trump doesn't like paper, mail-in ballots. To be clear, I would not be surprised if there is collusion between Trump (or his allies) and Russian cyber-criminals to throw the election.

I think the Democrats are already spiking ballot harvesting and fake and multiple voting across the US!

I think the people that are making all the noise about this issue are looking at the wrong indicators and following red herrings.

I think the Republicans will lodge all kinds of complaints about fraud. I think they will be disproven, or shown to have been GOP fraud, like the phony ballot drop-off boxes the GOP installed in California. If you can't win on the merits, then cheat. That is the GOP way.

I think we have seen huge problems with mail-in votes being counted in the primary elections throughtout the country. I expect to see the same in the general election.

I trust the count, and mail in votes, but am worried by trump calling on supporters to intimidate people at voting booths, etc.

I worry about a. Counting ballots. B. Acceptance of results. C. Timeline D. Charges of tampering.....( already being touted by POTUS incessantly.

I'm concerned with the many news stories of discarded absentee ballots (Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and New Jersey), incorrect absentee ballots (Ohio), incorrect ballots (Los Angeles County), and possible election fraud in Minnesota. We need to be able to trust our elections and I'm very concerned that trust is being undermined.

I'm confident the counting will be accurate. My worry is voter suppression--so, votes that get thrown out or never get cast but should have been. I'm not as worried about this in Maryland than other states. As a mostly blue state, I worry less about intimidation at the polls, for example.

I'm confident votes will be counted correctly, however I'm concerned that Trump will use the Supreme Court to throw out as many mail in ballots as possible in order to steal the election

I've never in my life been concerned or confused about what method of voting was safest and least likely to be tampered with. DJT has ruined the voting process for honest Americans by entertaining help from foreign adversaries.

If our President would stop — wrongly —saying that voting by mail is open to fraud (which apparently only happens to others, not him, who has voted by mail often) then it would not be such a big issue. Facts apparently do not mean anything to him which is deeply unfortunate.

if the election is rigged, or unfair, it's because of the Republicans

IF the Voting tabulation is disrupted , it is because of people that stand to loose are creating chaos. Our government is begining to look like its gang run. not civil and concensus but whatever it takes. There is priveledge in washington, and that needs to go. We need Mainstream representation not all lawyers. we need also to the common person to get elected and be able to hire the expertise to do the job....we dont know everything but we can equip them to be able to make the good decisions. term limits and campaign funding limits.

It depends on the honesty of the workers handling the mail in and drop off ballots. There is a lot of room for corruption.

It has already been posted in the Patch that Biden has won Maryland by a landslide

Mail in ballots can disappear, be falsely sent in , many issues. Everyone should have to vote in person. Show a govt issued ID.. Be checked off of the list.

Mail in voting is easy to manipulate.

Mail in voting will result in voter fraud

Many presidents such as trump have cheated on the vote in the passed.

Many safeguards in place, but might be compromised by Republicans.

Maryland did not send out unrequested ballots for the general election (they did for the primaries). Many states have sent out unrequested ballots - and this is an invitation for voter fraud.

Misprint on question G charter amendment on my Anne Arundel County ballot was troubling.. Many states are not prepared for 100% mail-in voting in 2020

No idea what other states are doing. Concerned about Unsolicited mail out of ballots and ballot stuffing.

Removing mailboxes, having fake drop boxes, closing convenient voting places, intimidation of voters by militia members. I am scared to have a sign in my yard. I want my kids to take off bumper stickers.

Republicans in many state legislatures will pull strings to cheat and manipulate the rules. Voter suppression will affect several states. William Barr will do his best to pull a fast one.

Some states will do fine. Then there's Florida, they've never been able to count correctly. Wouldn't the surprised if they skewed the votes

The confidence level is a +/- given the geographical location/state/county.

the democrats are pushing universal ballots with no checks on voter rolls and will use ballot harvesting. They have a record and a history of producing votes when they lose a close election on election night. For instance, Ellen Sauerbray and Dan Bongino come to mind in Maryland. Al Franken did the same thing in his state

The herky-jerky efforts of the Democratic party to expand voting by mail and early voting are obviously because those methods are far more likely to be subject to fraud than in person voting with voter ID. Ilhan Omar's votes for money scam is a good example. Voter fraud is real and new voting methods must take that into account. Even with current procedures Democrats abuse the voting process, just ask the dead citizens of Cook County who for decades have been the historical swing vote in Illinois.

The incumbent will do anything to retain office including collaborating with foreign powers to affect the vote. Republicans are already talking to state electors about throwing the electoral college results. We need Jimmy Carter and the UN to oversee the election.

The primary elections were a mess, and the response is a fraction of the turnout for the general election. And the prospect of voter fraud -Particularly in assisted living facilities and nursing homes - is downright scary!

The question is how many ballots will be rejected as a part of voter suppression

The widespread practice of mailing out unrequested ballots is an attempt to nullify the vote of registered voters. Many have already been incorrect. In fact no one even knows who won the Democrat Iowa caucus. Taxpayer dollars have been used in CA to solicit Democrat votes.

There is a lot of fraud in our elections. We shouldn't have early voting. Vote on Election Day. The polls are open from 7 a.m.- 8 p.m. If you can't get there then it isn't a priority to you. We should 100% have to show identification to vote. I have to show it all the time for just about everything I do. Everybody can easily get an ID. They are lying when they use this excuse.

There is corruption everywhere.

There is too much dishonesty and division in our governmental systems to trust that either party would refrain from taking advantage of an opportunity to skew votes.

There is very little evidence of voter fraud at this point.

There may be some shenanigans in key electoral states like OH, FL, PA and GA.

There's always some type of corruption regardless

Too many checks and balances for widespread fraud

Too many efforts to complicate and even undermine mail balloting.

Too many errors in mailing wrong ballots or mailing them to the wrong people. It's almost a daily occurrence.

Too many mail-in ballots distributed to voters who normally wouldn't bother voting and are uninformed about the candidates or issues

Too many flaws in mail in voting. Fraud ballots lost or thrown away. Should be able to social distance wear a mask and vote in person

Trump has planted the seed of doubt in the outcome of the election. Republican officials are following his lead and doing what they can to suppress votes.. i.e Texas, Florida...

Trump is actively trying and succeeding to suppress the vote in numerous ways

Trump is going to try to cheat his way into a second term. If that happens, he should be thrown out of office by the 25th amendment.

Trump states are actively attempting to suppress the vote.

Trump supporters will only count votes for trump

Trump tweets and speeches about unfounded election fraud is extremely alarming.

Trump, and his Republican Governor friends and DeJoy will do everything possible to make sure mail in votes are thrown out and not counted. Also look for the Supreme Court to play a role if the election is close. Why do you think ACB is being rushed through.

Voter suppression and other attacks on the voting system in many parts of the U.S. undermine my confidence that votes will be accurately counted throughout the country this year.

Voter suppression has been in existence for as long as I can remember. I believe, now, more than ever that in areas where the majority of African American votes, specifically, will be hindered by gerrymandering, legal loopholes, and undermining of the American Constitutional Right for ALL Americans to be able to vote. This election will be rigged by far-right conservatives as long as the President's corrupt policies continue to garner their favor and fill their pockets.

Voting by mail on this scale invites corruption. That's why the Democrats support it. They can't win this election without cheating.



With the Covid situation as it is, the postal service has been put under a tremendous strain. I think it will be overwhelming for them to keep up with ballots submitted by mail. It would be hard to keep up with even before the pandemic, so why would anyone think it's gonna run smoothly now??

With the president trying to discredit the United States postal service I am worried that he will negatively affect voting by Mail. But I have faith in the USPS which is something that is more American than apple pie, unlike the cheeto in office