

Press Release: October 31, 2024  
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## County Survey Finds Housing Affordability Concerns and Development Fears

A survey of 873 Anne Arundel County residents conducted October 11 to 20 by Anne Arundel Community College and the Center for the Study of Local Issues found that issues related to the economy, housing and crime as well as growth and development were key problems facing the county.

According to the most recent AACC/CSLI county survey, high housing costs continue to be a key concern for county residents. In the evaluation of “most important problems” housing costs (25%) were second only to “the economy” (30%) and above crime (20%) or development (18%).

The survey asked respondents to choose how they would best characterize the seriousness of the housing situation. Most said that “it was serious for the county generally, but not so much for me personally” (48%). While 18% said that it wasn’t serious either for themselves nor the county, about one-third (34%) said it was serious both “for me personally and the county generally.”

Only a small percentage were actively looking to rent (6%) or purchase a new residence (10%). Of those seeking to rent, 87% said that they were “not very satisfied” with the affordability of rental units, much more than the selection (57%) or location of such units (58%).

Among those seeking to purchase, the affordability, selection and locations were about equally dissatisfying (around 70%).

A range of policies meant to increase the supply of moderately priced housing was presented, with choices to support, oppose or be neutral to each proposal. The first of these was “requiring new developments of over 10 units to include a percentage of moderately priced units.” This idea was supported by about half of the respondents (49%), with another 20% “neutral” while 19% opposed it (13% were unsure). About an equal percentage favored “increasing funding allocations for affordable housing in the county’s budget” (49%), with a slightly higher percentage opposing this idea (24%).

However, the largest opposition to housing proposals were those that threatened to challenge the perceived quality of life for residents. Only 16% agreed with the notion of “waiving adequate facilities for schools or roads to build moderately priced or income-restricted housing” with 55% opposing. Not quite as strongly opposed was the proposal “allowing developers who include moderately priced units to have higher housing densities than allowed by the underlying zoning” (20% support, 40% opposed).

**Residents were able to offer comments** about the housing situation – and all sides were represented. Some said, “Low-cost housing results in crime,” while others argued that “allowing new development without first considering transportation, traffic congestion and parking is malfeasance.” Others said, “I am very concerned about the loss of forests and natural areas for development and support focusing on transit-oriented development or infill development to build additional housing. I support increased housing densities and subsidies/policies to encourage

more affordable housing.” “Houses are too expensive in this county and teachers who work for the county are unable to buy homes near their job.”

When asked **which level of government** – Maryland state government or Anne Arundel County (or Annapolis city) government – they trusted “to make good decisions to increase the supply of housing while also taking into consideration the impact on transportation, school overcrowding, and the protection of open space,” it was clear that state government was less trusted (10%) compared to local government (24%). However, many residents were dubious that either level could be trusted (“neither” 32%) although a significant percentage (17%) said “both equally.”

**New items included in the survey included:**

- **Economic proposals** – majorities favored proposals such as capping prices for prescription drugs (76%), preventing price gouging (75%), child tax credits (64%) and decreasing the federal income tax rate for those earning under \$400,000 (67%). Tariffs were not favored (24%) along with decreasing the corporate tax rate (28%).
- Several factors were attractive regarding **jobs or careers** such as “offering good financial compensation” (85% “very important”), providing adequate sick leave or vacation time (74%) or “making a positive change in the world” (61%).
- Most respondents liked the **cell phone policy** adopted by Anne Arundel County public schools (68% support).
- When asked how they get **local news**, the “very often” answer choice was highest for local websites (27%), social media (25%), television (23%) and regional (22%) or local (18%) newspapers.
- Asked about **top-of-mind issues** when thinking about national elections, the top items were “the harm to the country should the other party’s candidate win” (54%), the economy/inflation (49%), threats to democracy (51%) and abortion (46%). Immigration had declined from its spring percentage (44%) to a lower value in fall (34%).
- Asked to choose between **Kamala Harris and Donald Trump** for president, a majority (55%) chose Harris over Trump (31%).
- Asked to choose between **Angela Alsobrooks (42%) and Larry Hogan (43%)**, it was essentially a tie. Most choosing Alsobrooks mention the Senate balance (75%) or issues (22%) as motives; those favoring Hogan focused on “the trust I have for the candidate” (55%) over issues or Senate balance.
- Asked to choose between **Sarah Elfreth and Rob Steinberger** in the race for Congress in the third district, the Democrat Elfreth was comfortably ahead (38%) of the Republican Steinberger (22%) although many claimed to be undecided.
- Asked how **several factors influenced their candidate choices**, most said that they “researched candidates on websites or using social media” (42% “quite or very important”) along with “saw or read about candidate debates” (35%). Other factors more likely to be generated by the campaigns such as direct mail, ads, or endorsements were less likely to be strong influences.

The **summary of main findings** (p. 4) outlines in greater detail these and other survey results found in this press release. A **detailed review** which explores the survey results in depth follows the summary. **The actual questionnaire and percentages can be found in Appendix A**

(pp. 144-169). Open-ended comments offered by online respondents can be found in **Appendices B-P** (see p. 11 for page numbers and topics).

### **Methodology**

The survey polled a random sample of 873 county residents who were at least 18 years old. Interviewing was conducted online primarily using a database of members of the AACC/CSLI web panel who have been recruited when conducting previous telephone interviews. Students participated in the selection of topics and analysis of results as well as respondents to the survey. There was also outreach to other residents through the assistance of the EyeOnAnnapolis.com and a purchased email list of county residents. The survey was in the field from October 11 to 20. There was about a 3.3% statistical margin of error; the error rate was higher for subgroups such as “Democrats” or “men.” The dataset was weighted by gender, political party, age, race, council district and education to better represent the general population.

Contact Dan Nataf, Ph.D., for additional comments or questions at 410-777-2733 (office) or 443-906-0153 (cell - preferred) and [ddnataf@aacc.edu](mailto:ddnataf@aacc.edu).

This press release can be obtained at <https://www2.aacc.edu/csli/AACC-Community-Survey-Fall-2024-Press-Release.pdf>. For all other press releases see [www2.aacc.edu/csli](http://www2.aacc.edu/csli).

## Summary of Main Findings

This section provides some more details about the topics included in the survey. Often there is more analysis of a question by other respondent characteristics such as age, party registration or gender. Moreover, some items included open-ended comment opportunities for respondents. These are included especially in appendices at the end of the press release along with summaries provided by ChatGPT.

## Most Important Problem Facing County Residents

The importance of housing was already mentioned, along with other factors such as the economy, crime and development. Additional details and analysis are available in the text (pp. 13-21). Open-ended “other” answers are in Appendix B.

## Right Direction/Wrong Direction

The percentage of those saying that the **county** was moving in the right direction dropped slightly from 43% last spring to 41% this fall. Regarding the **state, it was unchanged**. The percentage applicable to the **country** also featured a small decline from 17% in spring to 15% this fall (see pp. 22-27).

## Rating Economic Conditions - County, State and Country

For the **county**, the percentage saying “excellent” or “good” was essentially unchanged from spring (51%) to fall (50%) staying in the 50 percent range as it has been since fall 2020 – the first poll after the clear start of the COVID-19 pandemic. At the **state** level, there was more of a continuing decline from 50% last fall to only 41% this spring: by fall 2024 the figure had fallen a bit more to 39%. although there too, the figure has hovered close to 50 percent since the start of the pandemic. The **federal** level had reached a low of 15% in fall 2020 – but has seen **steady increases** since. In spring 2023 “excellent+good” score rose to 20%; in fall 2023 it was 25%, with a 2-point rise in spring 2024 to 27%. It stayed basically unchanged in fall 2024: 26% (see pp. 28-37).

## Expectations for the National Economy

The percentage of those saying that the economy will **improve** in the future was **up by 9 points** from 20% last fall compared to 29% this spring. It was essentially the same in fall 2024: 30%. The “get worse” percentage (27%) reached its lowest point since spring 2021 although this was partly due to a rise in the percentage of those saying they were unsure (from 17% last spring to 25% this fall – see p. 38).

## National Economy Concerns

A new question was added in spring 2022 that asked respondents to express their level of concern about various economic conditions. At that time, concern over **inflation** topped the list (58% saying “very concerned”); this worsened to 71% in fall 2022 and was essentially

unchanged spring 2023 (69%) and fall 2023 (67%). This spring **the percentage dropped to 58%**, its lowest level in two years and was unchanged in the fall 2024 survey.

All other items such as unemployment, federal debt and deficit, or the lack of opportunities for social mobility also showed very small changes. For details, see p. 39-43.

## **Economic Conditions Applying to Respondents**

This section asked about certain general impressions as well as some specific concerns. There was a small 3-point rise in the percentage of those saying “wages or salaries were not rising as fast as the cost of living” from 59% to 62%. However, on other measures, such as the percentage saying that it was “**hard to afford food and groceries**” **dropped** from 51% to 47%. “Hard to afford the cost of education beyond high school” also dropped slightly from 39% to 37%. All other measures saw very small differences from last spring. An analysis was conducted that highlighted the higher incidences of adverse economic circumstances among those earning under \$75,000 (pp. 44-51).

## **Proposals Meant to Improve the National Economy**

A set of questions focused on some policies that have been proposed by presidential candidates. The most popular were those more associated with Kamala Harris such as capping prices for prescription drugs (76% support) or providing child tax credits. One proposal, “Increase immigration to lower labor costs” was not popular (21%) but was unlikely to be advocated by either candidate. There is a more detailed analysis of the favorability of these proposals by political party in the section - see pp. 52-54 for details.

## **Factors Relevant to Jobs or Careers**

A variety of factors were mentioned as possible reasons for taking or staying on a job or career path. Core attractive factors were “offering good financial compensation” (79%), “offering good benefits such as healthcare or pensions” (79%) or “providing a predictable work schedule” (67%). These factors are examined through the lens of ideology and showed that some items such as “Making positive change in the world” or “fulfills my passions in terms of career” were more likely to be favored by liberals. Only 9% of “very conservatives” felt that “being part of a team that is diverse and inclusive” was very important compared to 54% of those who were “very liberal.” See pp. 55-59.

## **Coronavirus Section**

There is a much more limited treatment of COVID-19 issues than in the past. Last spring only 3% said that they had contracted it, but by fall that figure had increased to 14%. Asked whether respondents failed to test themselves when symptoms arose - 24% mentioned not testing themselves. See p. 60.

## **County Issues**

### **Lawn Equipment Noise and Pollution**

The public was asked about their general attitude about gas-powered lawn equipment “that is noisy and pollutes the air.” A majority (55%) said that this was “not a problem; the county should not attempt to regulate them.” Over a quarter (27%) agreed that the county “should encourage people to transition to quieter electric versions” but very few (9%) wanted a quick transition to electric versions. This topic is covered on p. 61 and also Appendix C.

### **Cell Phone Policy – Anne Arundel County Public Schools**

The survey presented the current cell phone policy and asked respondents whether they supported, opposed or were neutral about the policy. Over two-thirds (68%) favored it. See pp. for details. See p. 62 and also Appendix D.

### **Matching Fund for Political Contributions – Impact on Candidate Selection**

Informed that the county had passed a matching fund to augment donations received by candidates from small donors, respondents were asked whether they were more, less or unchanged in the likelihood that they would support a candidate accepting such funds. Many said that they were unsure (24%). A plurality (40%) said that their vote would not be affected by the knowledge that the candidate had accepted matching funds. ChatGPT categorized open-ended comments as predominantly in opposition (50%) highlighting those who argued that it was a “waste of public funds.” See pp. 63 and also Appendix E.

### **Acquisition of Local News**

The details regarding how individuals claimed to gain information about local news is presented in this section with an eye to differentiating methods based on age. Young people were more likely to rely on social media (72%) compared to older people (50-52%). The latter were more likely to rely on newspapers, radio, television and locally focused websites such as Eye on Annapolis. See pp. 64-66 and Appendices F and G.

### **Housing Issues**

This topic has already been discussed at the beginning of the press release. The analysis in the press release is expanded to review the interactions between respondents’ housing situations and their attitudes about the seriousness of the housing issue. It includes some breakdowns by age, current living situation, and the types of housing sought by income groups, highlighting that those both in the lowest income group as well as the highest income group favored single-family housing over other types. Support for specific approaches to increasing housing supply was analyzed by income group. Support for subsidies for first-time homebuyers was analyzed by a variety of variables. Finally, the amount of trust for state and local governments to handle

increasing the supply of housing without adversely affecting the quality of life and the ability of the infrastructure to handle more housing/population was reviewed. See pp. 67-77 and also Appendices H and I.

## **State Issues**

### **Reopening of the Port of Baltimore**

Most people thought that the state had done an excellent (26%) or good (42%) job in reopening the Port of Baltimore. An analysis of partisan views showed that this positive appraisal was largely shared by both Democrats and Republicans. See pp. 78-79.

## **International Issues**

### **Threats posed by China, Russia, Military Strength, Climate Change, Focus on Domestic Affairs and Less Foreign Relations**

The fall 2024 survey included a battery of questions asked several times in the recent past. These questions focused mostly on international affairs. The first focused on the seriousness of the “rising economic and military threat posed by **China**.” The percentage saying “very serious” decreased from 55% last spring to 48% this fall. Threats posed by **Russia** and **climate change** both received similar scores (50% 56%), but the latter was much more **divisive** (85% Democrats, 29% Republicans) compared to Russia (56%, 53%). The analysis also looked at ideological differences finding that “very conservatives” were likely to highlight China and the need to maintain a U.S. military advantage over all other countries (both 68%) far more than those on the left. The analysis also looked at age differences for these questions, finding a tendency for younger people to perceive climate change as more serious than older generations. This section included two new questions. The first was about “other NATO countries increasing their military spending” favored especially by conservatives and older people, and “the threat to peace caused by the conflict in the Middle East” which was perceived as much more serious by older people (80%+) compared to younger ones (47-52%). See details on pp. 80-88 for a detailed analysis as well as Appendix J.

### **Aid to Ukraine and Israel**

Aid to **Ukraine** was much more favored (63%, agree) than was aid to **Israel** (40%). See pp. 89-91.

## Parties, Elections, Politics

### “Stolen elections”

There was a repetition of a question asked the last few surveys about whether respondents felt the 2020 presidential elections had been “stolen” from Trump. The main conclusions included:

- Between 15% to 20% of the overall sample accepted the stolen election claim at least somewhat.
- Under half of the Republican respondents accepted the claim, although the percentage dropped nine-points from spring to fall 2024.
- Between 10% to 20% of unaffiliated voters accepted the claim.
- Under 5% of Democrats accepted the claim.

See pp. 92-95 for details.

### 2024 Presidential Elections: Harris or Trump in 2024?

The survey asked, “If the presidential elections were today, for whom would you vote?” **Harris expanded the 16-point lead Biden had over Trump from last spring to a 24-point lead this fall.** The main causes for the change were a further consolidation of Democratic support around the Harris candidacy as well as galvanizing of unaffiliated voters to Harris and not a third-party candidate which had been the leading choice in spring. See pp. 96-98 for the main analysis.

### U.S. Senate

Last spring, it seemed that David Trone would beat Angela Alsobrooks in the race for the Democratic nomination – at least in the county and probably lose to Larry Hogan in the general. At this point, it is fair to say that there has been a lot of change in the shape of this race. Clearly, Alsobrooks proved the winner in the primaries, and now is in a close race with Hogan – at least in the county if not statewide where polls have her comfortably ahead. The survey found that a majority of Hogan voters said that the “trust I have for the candidate” motivated their views; for Alsobrooks, 61% pointed to the balance in the Senate, with another 35% saying “issues” – only three percent said “trust.” Among Democrats defecting to Hogan, 66% said “trust.”

See p. 99-105 and Appendix K.

### Issues and the Senate and Presidential Votes

Most polls do not ask to what extent voters are motivated by antipathy to the other party’s candidate, but this was the top issue overall as it was identified by 54% of all respondents as a top factor. It was a bit sharper for Democrats (61%) than Republicans (56%) and lowest among unaffiliateds (45%). Gender is added to the last two columns – clearly women (60%) find this issue more motivating than men (49%).

Threats to democracy was very important to Democrats (71%) and unaffiliateds (50%) but not to Republicans (25%).



The economy and inflation were especially important to Republicans (56% and unaffiliateds (51%), less so to Democrats (39%).

Abortion also a top factor, but especially for Democrats (63%) compared to Republicans (27%) or unaffiliateds (35%). It was much more important to women (53%) than men (37%).

The other issues were less important overall. Some seemed especially motivating to Democrats such as climate change (55%), racism (50%), health care (45%) and guns (42%). Others were more important to Republicans such as immigration (65%), crime (57%), high taxes (47%) and the right to privacy (46%). While some issues were a bit more important than others for unaffiliateds, in general their issue scores were lower with some higher ones being climate change (39%), health care (38%) and high taxes (37%) or racism (37%).

This section compares Harris and Alsobrooks regarding issue saliencies. It found that these two candidates were quite similar, with Harris a little less inclined to highlight traditional liberal issues than was Alsobrooks.

A similar comparison between Hogan and Trump found that the former was less highlighted by traditional Republican/MAGA issues – rating higher for example on threats to democracy than for Trump voters and lower on immigration. However, the analysis makes it clear that Hogan remained much within the Republican umbrella compared to Harris and Alsobrooks. See pp. 106-115 and Appendix L.

### **Congressional District 3**

The seat for the House of Representatives made available by the retirement of John Sarbanes saw a spirited Democratic primary competition that was ultimately won by Sarah Elfreth – a state senator from Anne Arundel County. Currently, the survey shows her with a 16-point advantage over her Republican opponent Rob Steinberger. An analysis of issue saliencies between Elfreth and Harris/Alsobrooks showed her well within the Democratic camp, with the higher salience of climate change for her voters being a rare exception. For details, see pp. 116-120.

### **Factors Gaining Support for Candidates**

There was a new section to the survey that focused on factors that respondents perceived as being likely to shape their votes. Among the factors included were those typically associated with campaigns – door knocking, ads, endorsements, telephone calls, letters and postcards – along with more voter centric factors such as doing research or watching debates. The latter two were thought by voters to be by far the major ways in which they were influenced to support a candidate. See pp. 121-126 and Appendix M.

### **Job Approval – Incumbents, Institutions**

**Job Approval for the President, Governor and County Executive:** For many years, the survey has asked about job approval for major executive positions. As president, **Joe Biden's** approval rose from last fall to spring earlier this year and was unchanged this fall. (41% to 48%) (see p. 127-129). See Appendix N for open-ended comments about Biden's job approval.

**Governor Wes Moore** has had a formidable challenge in rising to the job approval percentages previously shown by Larry Hogan. Originally there was a 26-point gap between Hogan’s last job approval percentage (75%) and Moore’s first (49%). While last spring, Moore’s job approval was an enviable 59%, it dropped 8-points in fall to 51%. See pp. 130-132. See Appendix O for open-ended comments about Moore’s job approval.

**County Executive Steuart Pittman’s** approval score was **a bit lower this fall**– moving down from 45% to 41%. His net approval rate was unchanged (pp. 133-135). See Appendix P for open-ended comments about Pittman’s job approval.

### **Job Approval for County Council, Board of Education, Maryland General Assembly, Congress and the Supreme Court**

The survey included job approval questions for four legislative bodies: the Anne Arundel County Council (down two points at 42% approve); the Maryland General Assembly (down three at 39%); the Board of Education (nearly unchanged from last spring at 36% compared to 37% last spring); and Congress whose approve score hardly moved from 17% to 16%. The Supreme Court showed the most movement, dropping from 36% to only 30% this fall. See pp. 136-140.

**Trust in Political Parties:** Trust in Democrats was up three points to 45% - an all-time high. Republicans dropped a couple of points from 28% to 27% – forming an 18-point gap with Democrats. The “neither” score dropped five points from 25% to 20% (see pp. 141-142).

**Open-ended Comments and Questionnaire:** Note that some questions had an opportunity for open-ended responses – these are included in appendices whose page numbers are listed below. **The questionnaire with frequency distributions (Appendix A) starts on page 144.**

<b>Appendices (Questionnaire and Open-ended Comments)</b>	<b>Pages</b>
Appendix A: Questionnaire with frequency distributions	144-167
Appendix B: Comments about “Most Important Problem” other issue mentioned	168
Appendix C: Lawn Equipment	169-171
Appendix D: AACPS Cell Phone Policy	172-175
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Appendix F: Local News - Sources	178-180
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Appendix I: Other Comments about Maryland	194-200
Appendix J: Comments about International Affairs	201-211
Appendix K: Reasons for Choice of Candidate for U.S. Senate	212-215
Appendix L: Other Comments on Choices – Senate, House of Reps., President	216-221
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## **Methodology**

The survey polled a random sample of 873 county residents who were at least 18 years old. Interviewing was conducted online primarily using a database of members of the AACC/CSLI web panel who have been recruited when conducting previous telephone interviews. Students participated in the selection of topics and analysis of results as well as respondents to the survey. There was also outreach to other residents through the assistance of the EyeOnAnnapolis.com and a purchased email list of county residents. The survey was in the field from October 11 to 20. There was about a 3.3% statistical margin of error; the error rate was higher for subgroups such as “Democrats” or “men.” The dataset was weighted by gender, political party, age, race, council district and education to better represent the general population.

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# Detailed Review of Survey Findings

## The Most Important Problem Facing Residents – Economy, Housing and Crime Top the List

Table 1 shows the pattern of survey results over the last five surveys for the question “What are the **two** most important problems facing residents of Anne Arundel County at the present time?”<sup>1</sup>

**Table 1: Most Important Problems Facing County Residents  
(Ranked by Fall '24)**

Problem	Fall '22	Spring '23	Fall '23	Spring '24	Fall '24	Fall '24 – Spring '24	Mean
<b>Economy</b> – (e.g., no jobs, high cost of living, business closing or losses)	32	22	23	26	<b>30</b>	4	27
<b>Housing cost</b>	13	20	17	24	<b>25</b>	1	20
<b>Crime</b> (other than drug related)	27	24	36	22	<b>20</b>	-2	26
<b>Growth/overpopulation</b> - too much development, poorly planned	18	22	16	20	<b>18</b>	-2	19
<b>Transportation</b> problems/traffic congestion, lack of public transit	10	16	14	18	<b>16</b>	-2	15
<b>Education</b> , problems with schools, quality, facilities, staff, discipline	23	19	18	12	<b>15</b>	3	17
<b>Taxes</b> – too high	16	13	19	16	<b>13</b>	-3	15
<b>Environment</b> (e.g., air or water pollution, saving the Bay)	7	13	9	11	<b>13</b>	2	11
<b>Drugs</b> (use or sale of illegal drugs such as heroin, cocaine, or use of prescription painkillers for non-medical purposes.)	19	21	19	14	<b>12</b>	-2	17
<b>Government waste</b> – inefficient, spends too much	9	8	9	9	<b>9</b>	0	9
<b>Healthcare</b> (cost, access)	7	10	8	12	<b>8</b>	-4	9
<b>Childcare service</b> – access, affordable	N.A.	7	3	6	<b>7</b>	1	6
No answer, don't know	2	3	3	1	<b>6</b>	5	3
<b>Government lacks resources</b> –for roads, schools, services	6	3	5	5	<b>5</b>	0	5
<b>Racism</b> , hate crimes, discrimination	5	4	5	4	<b>4</b>	0	4
<b>Government ethics</b> – corrupt, immoral	4	4	7	6	<b>3</b>	-3	5
<b>Other</b> answer - write in: (See Appendix B)	3	2	2	4	<b>1</b>	-3	2
<b>Coronavirus</b> – spread, treatment, testing	6	2	3	0	<b>1</b>	1	2

Note: Unless otherwise stated, all numeric values in the tables are percentages.

<sup>1</sup> Prior to fall 2020, surveys only asked respondents to identify a single “most important problem facing residents of Anne Arundel County at the present time.” Given the inevitable primacy of the coronavirus as a key concern for several iterations of the survey, a change was made allowing respondents to offer the *two* most important problems.

Overall, the factors that dominated the public's concern in fall 2024 were well established: the economy (30%, up 4 points from spring 2024), housing costs (25%, up 1 pt.), crime 20%, down 2 pts.) and growth/overpopulation (18%, down 4 pts.).

The largest rise was with regard to the economy, which reached its highest point since fall 2022. Many of the other items experienced limited changes, with some items like healthcare dropping 4 points to 8%, but within easy reach of its mean score of 9%.

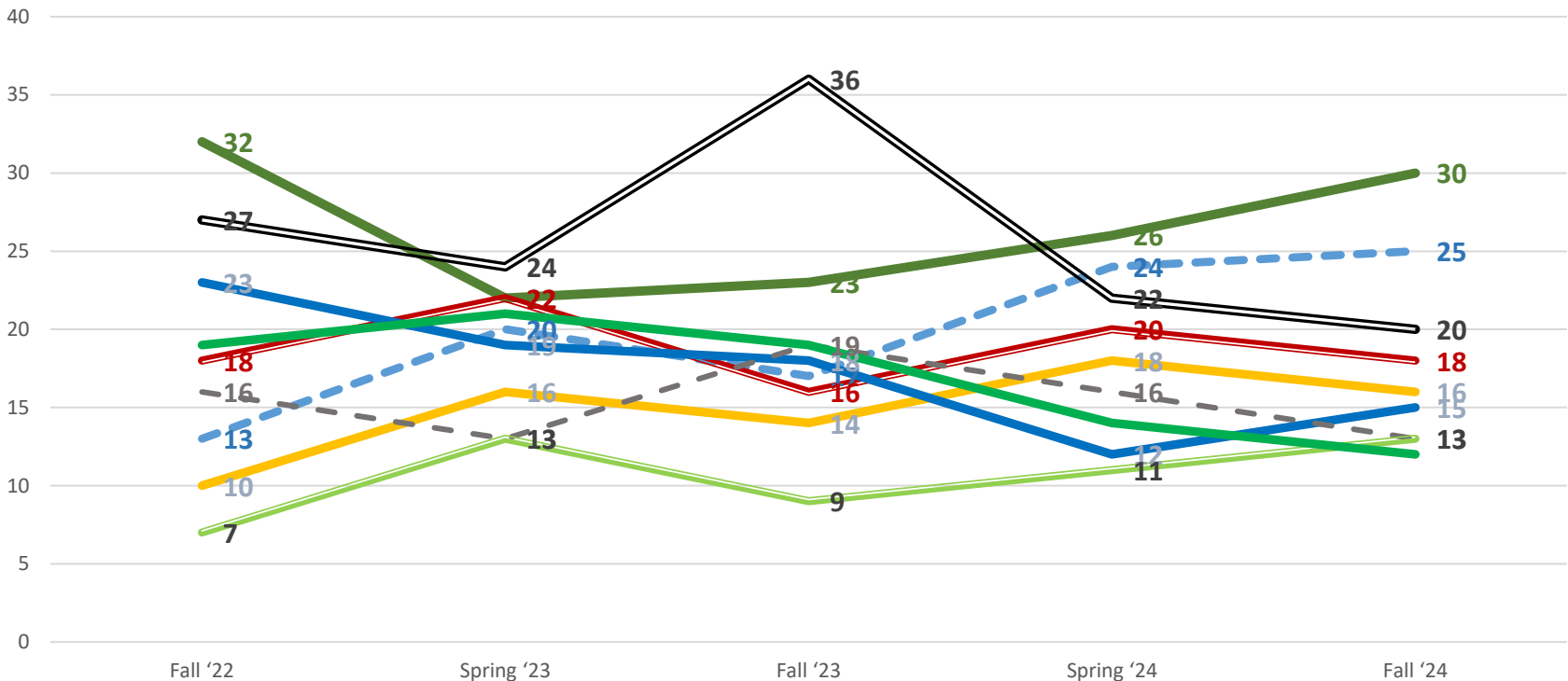
On average over the period since fall 2022, crime has been near or at the top of the list with the second highest average score over the period (26%) essentially tied with the economy has had the highest average score (27%), followed by growth/overpopulation and drugs – both at 17%. Drugs has been declining as a top issue as in spring 2023 it was at 21%; by fall 2024 it was at only 12%.

Looking at the twin group of crime with “illegal drugs” after peaking at a combined 55% in spring 2023, it has dropped to only 32% by this fall – a drop of 23 percentage points.

Bundling similar items together, other than crime/drug, respondents' top concerns would include the economy and “housing costs” were 55% – a 15-point rise since spring 2023. Another couplet was “growth/overpopulation” and transportation at 34% - not much changed since spring 2023 (30%). Graph 1 shows the top few items from fall 2022 to fall 2024.

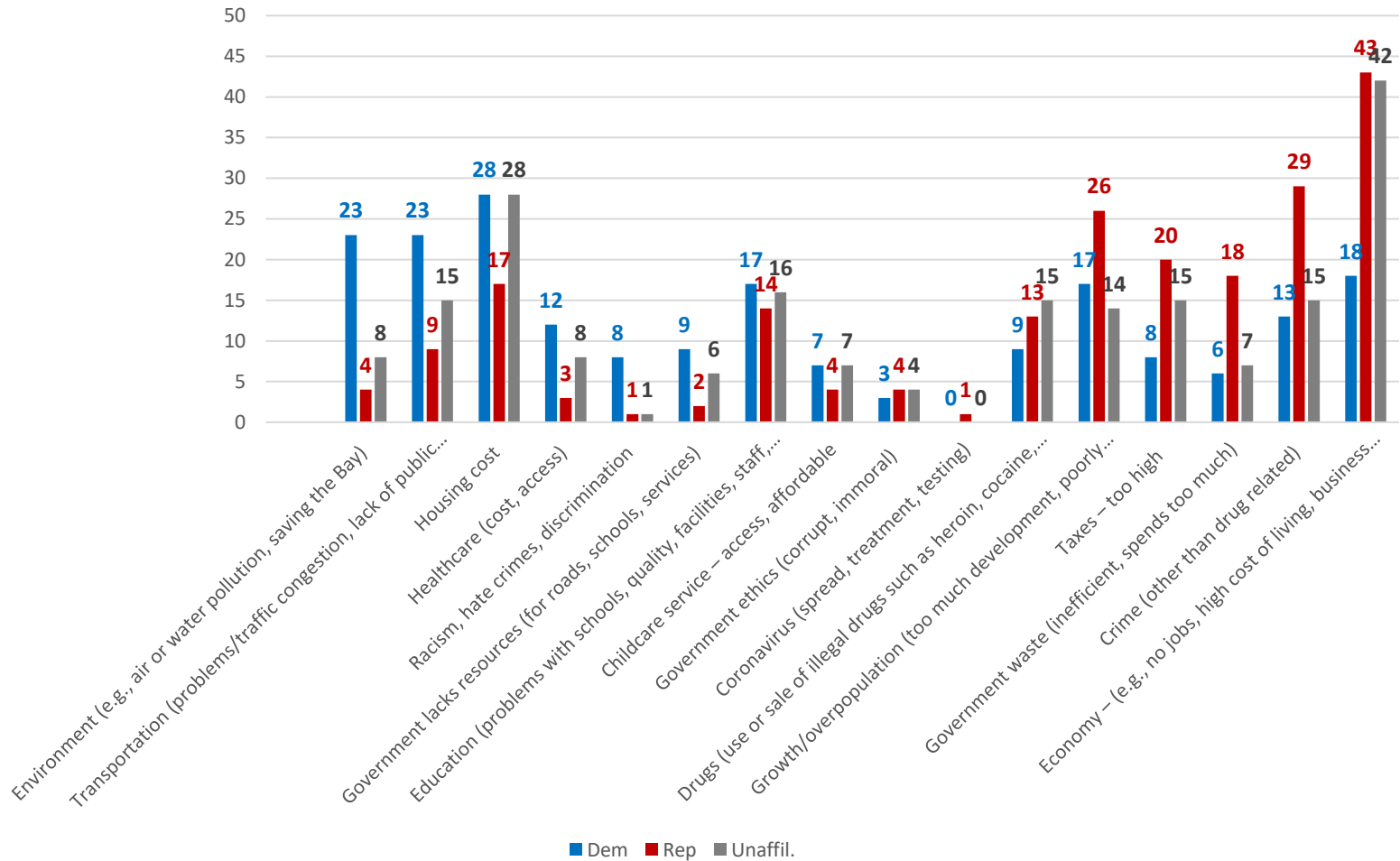
Other items of note were taxes (13%, down 3 pts.), and the environment (13%, up 2 pts.).

Graph 1: Most Important Problems Fall 2022 to Fall 2024



- Economy – (e.g., no jobs, high cost of living, business closing or losses)
- - - Housing cost
- Crime (other than drug related)
- Growth/overpopulation- too much development, poorly planned
- Transportation problems/traffic congestion, lack of public transit
- Education, problems with schools, quality, facilities, staff, discipline
- - - Taxes – too high
- Environment (e.g., air or water pollution, saving the Bay)
- Drugs (use or sale of illegal drugs such as heroin, cocaine, or use of prescription painkillers for non-medical purposes.)

Graph 2: Most Important Problem by Party Registration, Fall 2024





Graph 2 shows the items with the highest Democratic scores on the left, with Republican top scores on the right. Three items topped the list for Democrats: housing costs (28%), the environment (23%) and transportation (23%). For Republicans, the economy was the overwhelming choice (43%), followed by crime (29%) and growth/development (26%). Among unaffiliateds, aligning with Republicans - the economy was first (42%), but housing costs were second (28%) aligning closer to Democrats. The one area upon which there was a relative consensus was education, with Democrats (17%) not much different than unaffiliateds (16%) and Republicans (14%). Overall, there was some predictability to the items which polarized along left-right lines, with very big Democrat/Republican gaps on the environment (19 pts.) and transportation (14 pts.), while Republican/Democrat gaps were very large regarding the economy (25 pts.) and crime (16 pts.), with smaller but still significant differences about government waste or overreach (12 pts) and taxes (12 pts). Unaffiliateds were never higher than Republicans or Democrats on any issues in keeping with their “somewhere in the middle” qualities. Graph 3 shows the results of subtracting the unaffiliateds score from the Democrats clearly showing that the latter were much more focused on the environment, while the former were concerned with the state of the economy.

Graph 3: Unaffil-Dems for Most Important Problem

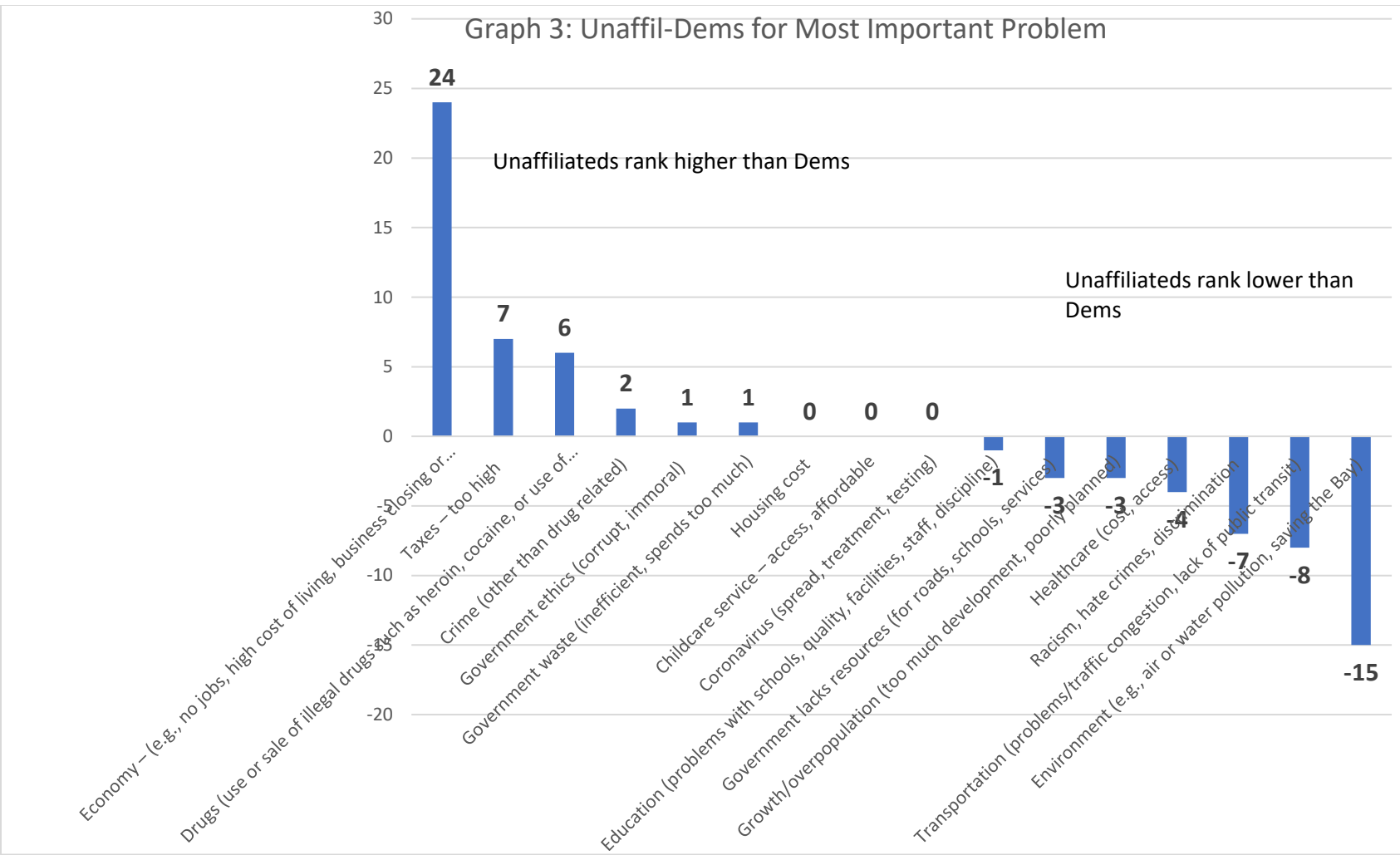


Table 2 shows the “most important problem” time-series in tabular format over an extended period of time (fall 2013 to fall 2024). Graph 4 highlights a subset (fall 2017-fall 2024) of the same data visually. Graph 4 highlights the following elements:

- Prior to the emergence of the pandemic in spring 2020, crime was consistently the top concern among respondents
- As the pandemic abated, crime returned as a top concern
- Prior to the pandemic, the economy had not been a top concern, but it rose sharply beginning in spring 2020 and remained a top issue ever since
- When inflation peaked in fall 2022, so did concern over the economy, but the level returned to a level more consistent with the pandemic period’s range (mid to low 20 percent) since spring 2023 and reached its lowest level since spring 2019 in fall 2024 (20%).
- There has been some rise compared to the pre-pandemic period with concern about “growth and development” as well as transportation, although both experienced small declines in fall 2024 to 18% and 16% respectively.
- The biggest fall in concern with COVID was between fall 2021 and spring 2022 when it dropped from 35% to 14%.
- Starting in fall 2022, concern with COVID had dropped to single digits (6%) – culminating this fall at barely one percent.

Some of these changes starting in fall 2020 might be attributed to the fact that respondents could start offering a second “most important problem” choice while this wasn’t possible previously.

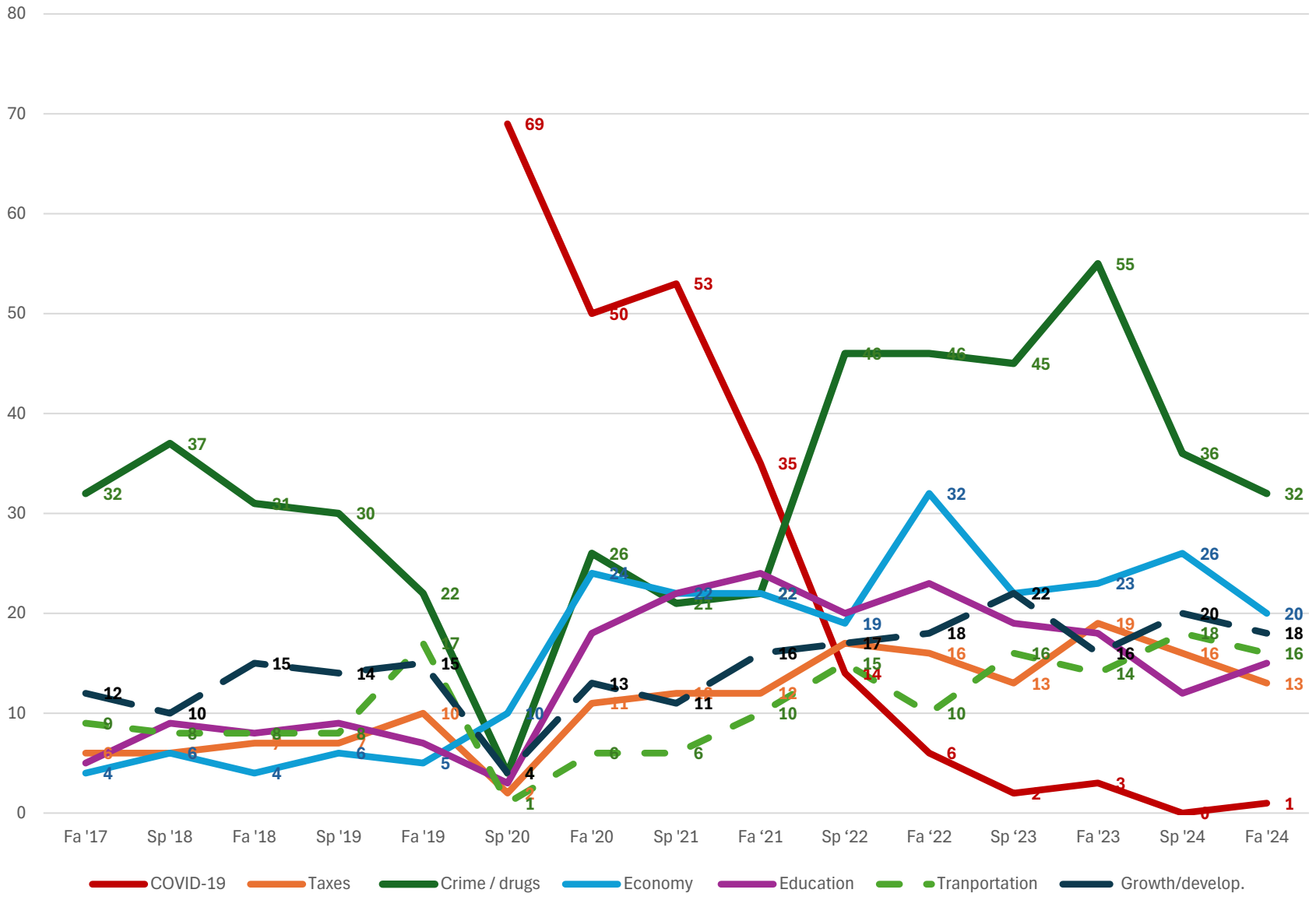
Some respondents mentioned other problems as their most important one – with immigration cited most often about the few who suggested an item. Open-ended comments about this can be found in Appendix B.

**Table 2: “Most Important Problem Facing Residents” – Fall 2013 to Fall 2024<sup>2</sup>**

	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	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sap '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
<b>COVID-19</b>														69	50	53	35	14	6	2	3	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Taxes</b>	19	22	28	25	14	12	9	5	6	6	7	7	10	2	11	12	12	17	16	13	19	16	<b>13</b>
<b>Crime / drugs*</b>	9	8	6	13	15	20	19	32	32	37	31	30	22	4	26	21	22	46	46	45	55	36	<b>32</b>
<b>Economy</b>	16	16	18	12	12	11	10	6	4	6	4	6	5	10	24	22	22	19	32	22	23	26	<b>20</b>
<b>Education</b>	6	12	11	9	9	8	7	10	5	9	8	9	7	3	18	22	24	20	23	19	18	12	<b>15</b>
<b>Transp.</b>	4	4	5	8	9	7	11	6	9	8	8	8	17	1	6	6	10	15	10	16	14	18	<b>16</b>
<b>Growth / development</b>	4	4	2	2	10	11	14	6	12	10	15	14	15	4	13	11	16	17	18	22	16	20	<b>18</b>

<sup>2</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. By spring 2020, a separate break out of “housing cost” started – leading to a possible reduction of the value of “economy” insofar as housing would have been inserted within the economy percentage. In fall 2020, the phrasing asked for the top *two* most important problems, also accounting for some changes in percentages – and explaining the vast change in some percentages between spring and fall 2020.

Graph 4: Selected Most Important Problems - Fall 2017 to Fall 2024



## 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 AACC/CSLI community surveys.<sup>3</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 3 and Graph 5 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?”

Based on the results shown in Table 3, it is apparent that the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic had an enduring depressing impact on the “right direction” scores as they dropped from the mid-50s prior to fall 2020 to the low 40s since. As shown earlier, concern about COVID-19 has dropped to virtually zero as a top concern, yet positive views of the county have been slow to rise – even if it reached a pandemic high of 43% in spring 2024. However, the gap between right and wrong directions reached a peak of 12 points and was 8 points this fall – although this still seems small compared to positive appraisal gaps of 20-40 percentage points pre-pandemic.

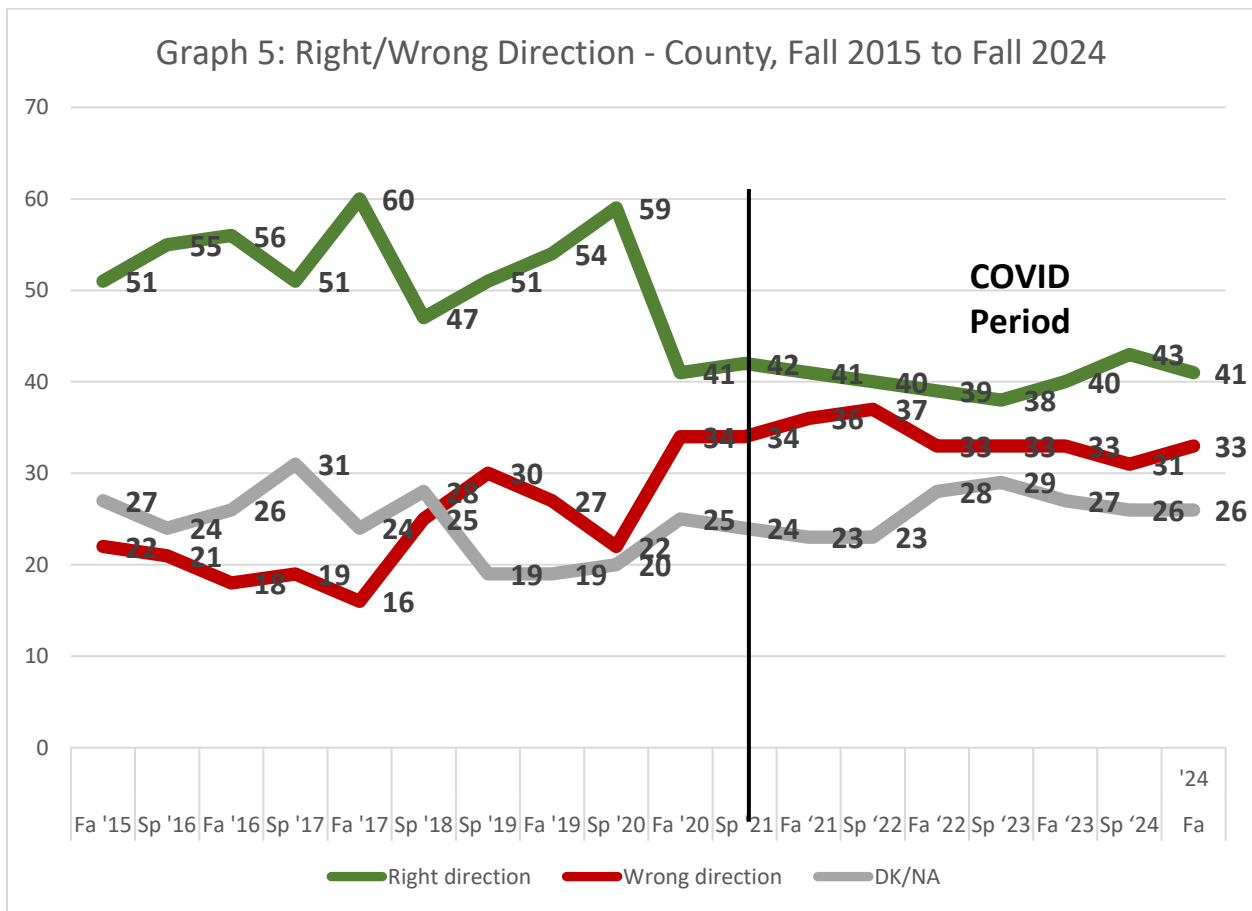
Graph 5 is especially vivid in depicting the dramatic fall in “right direction” perceptions that accompanied the emergence of the coronavirus pandemic. There has been some tendency for appraisals to get more positive since spring 2023, although the fall results were not reinforcing in that direction.

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<sup>3</sup> The Center for the Study of Local Issues (CSLI) has conducted these surveys from 1980 to 2024 – the text might make references to previous surveys refer to “CSLI surveys” before the AACC/CSLI moniker was adopted.

**Table 4: Anne Arundel County - Right vs. Wrong Direction Fall 2015 to Fall 2024**

	Fa '15	Sp '16	Fa '16	Sp '17	Fa '17	Sp '18	Fa '18	Sp '19	Fa '19	Sp '20	Fa '20	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
Right direction	51	55	56	51	60	47	57	51	54	59	41	42	41	40	39	38	40	43	<b>41</b>
Wrong direction	22	21	18	19	16	25	22	30	27	22	34	34	36	37	33	33	33	31	<b>33</b>
DK/NA	27	24	26	31	24	28	21	19	19	20	25	24	23	23	28	29	27	26	<b>26</b>
Total	100	100	100	101	100	100	100	100	100	101	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	<b>100</b>
Right-wrong	29	34	38	32	44	22	35	21	27	37	7	8	5	3	6	5	7	12	<b>8</b>



Finally, looking at the relationship between party or ideology and the right direction scores for the county (Table 4) reveals what might be expected: Democrats (58%) – especially those who claimed to be “strong Democrats” (67%) – and very/somewhat liberals (65%, 51%) were much more inclined to say that the county was heading in the right direction than were Republicans (22%), with “strong Republicans (11%) and conservatives (very 8%, somewhat 29%) especially pessimistic about the county’s direction. Interestingly, “not strong Democrats” were less inclined (21%) than “not strong Republicans” (41%) to say that the county was going in the right direction.

**Table 4: Party and Ideology with County Right Direction**

	Right %				
	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Fall 2024
<b>Registered political party</b>					
Democrat	50	57	56	63	<b>57</b>
Republican	26	28	21	19	<b>22</b>
Unaffiliated	38	16	35	33	<b>35</b>
<b>Democrats (Strength of affiliation)</b>					
Strong Democrat	76	68	68	75	<b>67</b>
Somewhat strong Democrat	38	58	54	62	<b>65</b>
Not strong Democrat	15	20	24	27	<b>21</b>
<b>Republicans (Strength of affiliation)</b>					
Strong Republican	14	6	10	7	<b>11</b>
Somewhat strong Republican	27	16	21	18	<b>23</b>
Not strong Republican	42	60	51	43	<b>41</b>
<b>Ideology</b>					
Very liberal	62	75	57	74	<b>65</b>
Somewhat liberal	56	57	67	58	<b>51</b>
<i>Moderate</i> (only a single “moderate” position)	43	38	43	44	<b>42</b>
Somewhat conservative	16	13	21	21	<b>29</b>
Very conservative	15	2	10	19	<b>8</b>

Table 5 shows the relationship between partisanship and the direction of the county for eight surveys: spring 2021 through fall 2024. Looking first at the Democrats, the current score for fall was exactly the average for the time series: 58%. For Republicans, the mean score for the period was 23% - just one point more than the fall 2024 score of 22%. Thus for partisans, it seems that there haven’t been any strong movements in their appraisals of the county.

The bottom line is that the pandemic diminished the population’s perception of “things going right” – with the partisan divide echoing the party in power: in the case of Anne Arundel County, since 2018 the Democrats have held the executive and have had a legislative majority in the county council, with Democratic voters thus believing the situation to be much better than Republicans (or unaffiliated) voters.

The pattern by ideology was similar – liberals have been consistently much more likely to cite a high “right direction” than have conservatives. Moderates have been relatively fixed with



scores only varying from a low of 38% in spring 2023 to a high of 44% (both spring 2022 and spring 2024) – this fall the figure was again within the range: 42%.

**Table 5: Party and County’s Direction – Spring 2021 to Fall 2024**

Direction	Overall								Dem								Rep							
	S21	F21	S22	F22	S23	F23	S24	F24	S21	F21	S22	F22	S23	F23	S24	F24	S21	F21	S22	F22	S23	F23	S24	F24
Right direction	42	41	40	39	38	40	43	<b>41</b>	59	61	58	50	57	56	63	<b>58</b>	28	24	19	26	28	14	19	<b>22</b>
Wrong direction	34	36	37	33	33	33	31	<b>33</b>	16	18	19	19	19	8	13	<b>11</b>	53	56	64	55	47	59	55	<b>66</b>
Unsure	24	23	23	28	29	27	26	<b>26</b>	25	21	23	31	24	37	23	<b>31</b>	19	20	23	19	25	27	26	<b>12</b>

## Right Direction: Maryland and United States

Focusing next on the state and nation as shown in Table 6 (which includes the county just for comparison), there was a continuation of the shift in previous patterns with the county now either leading or at parity with the state of Maryland in terms of right direction scores. This was partly due to the drop in right direction scores for Maryland that coincided with the replacement of Republican Governor Larry Hogan with Democrat Wes Moore – but a more significant impact was the emergence of the pandemic – as the sharp drop in both state and county “right direction” scores were notable from spring to fall 2020 (see Graph 6).

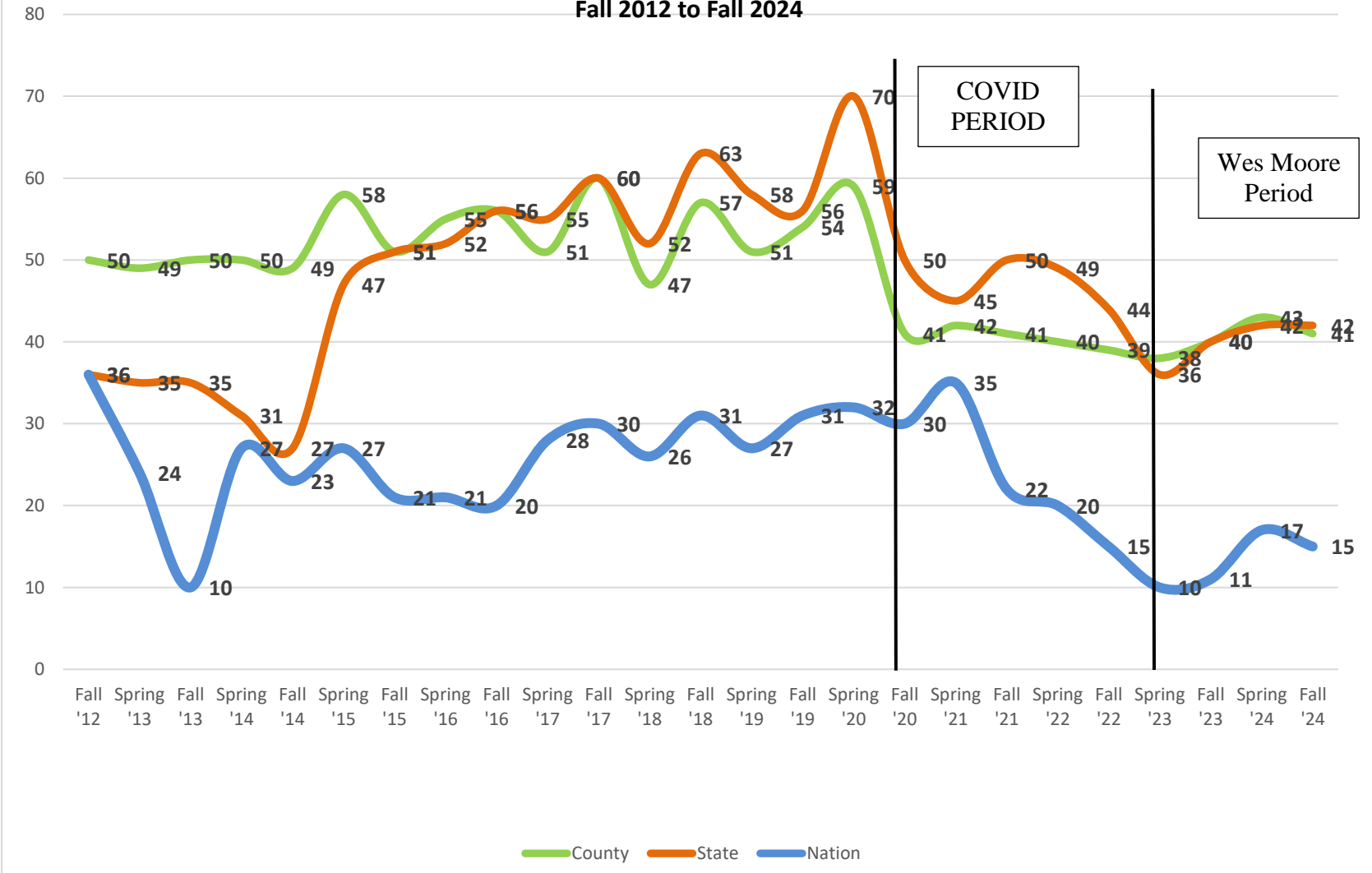
The scores for the nation have consistently been much lower than for either the county or the state. In spring 2020, the national score was 27 points lower than for the county and 38 points lower than for the state. By this fall, those values had homogenized with the difference between the county (26 pts.) and the state (27 pts) essentially equal. Table 6 shows that since fall 2022, the right direction value for the nation has been hovering between a low of 10 and a high of 17 – with the fall 2024 score (15%) a bit closer to the higher end, but a two-point drop from spring 2024.

**Table 6: Right/Wrong Direction for County, State and Nation, Fall 2020 to Fall 2024**

	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021	Spring 2022	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Fall 2024			
	Right	Right	Right	Right	Right	Right	Right	Right	Right	Wrong	Unsure/D.K.	Total
County	41	42	41	40	39	38	40	43	<b>41</b>	33	26	100
State	50	45	50	49	44	36	40	42	<b>42</b>	40	18	100
Nation	30	35	22	20	15	10	11	17	<b>15</b>	70	15	100

Graph 6 provides a visual representation of the right direction trends for all three levels since fall 2012. The depressing impact of the pandemic was clear – and the lack of much rebound since the abating of the pandemic equally clear.

**Graph 6: County, State and Federal "Right Direction"**  
**Fall 2012 to Fall 2024**



## Rating Economic Conditions – Anne Arundel County

Since March 2002, the CSLI/AACC 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 7 and Graph 7, the county’s combined scores for “good” and “excellent” have hovered somewhat above 50 percent even after the start of the pandemic although this was a fall from 65-75% prior to the pandemic’s start. There was a drop from fall 2023 (57%) to spring 2024 (51%) with the fall 2024 value essentially unchanged (50%)

Part of the explanation for the sustained drop from fall 2023 of those saying either excellent or good for the county might be tied to the perception of economic impact resulting from the collapse of the Key Bridge. Last spring, among those saying that they would be impacted by the collapse, only 39% rated the county’s economy in a positive manner; among those denying that they would be impacted, the corresponding figure was 59% - a 20-point gap.

This fall, the survey asked respondents how good a job the state had done in terms of reopening the Port of Baltimore. The expectation might be that those who are optimistic about that process would see the economic condition of the county and state in a more positive way.

This hypothesis was confirmed. Among those who thought that the state had done an excellent job, 76% said that the county’s economy was good or excellent. Among those who thought that the state had done a poor job, the figure was only 34%. Regarding the state’s economic conditions, the pattern was very similar: those who said that the reopening process was excellent had excellent+good scores for the state’s economy at 67%; those who said that the process was poor had a score of only 27% - a 40-point gap.

Another explanation for variances in perceptions of economic conditions might point to partisan divisions. It was already the case that “right direction” scores were affected by partisanship. As shown in Table 8, partisan differences in the appraisal of county and state economies were evident and have been growing over time – from a 4-point gap in spring 2021 to a 23-point gap in fall 2023 – growing to a 32-point gap this fall.

However, there were *no significant differences* between Democratic and Republican views of the reopening process: 72% said that the state had done a good or excellent job compared to 74% of Republicans. Thus, in this case partisan differences were *not a factor* in the appraisal of the state’s reopening performance. The negative evaluation of the reopening was determined by other factors.

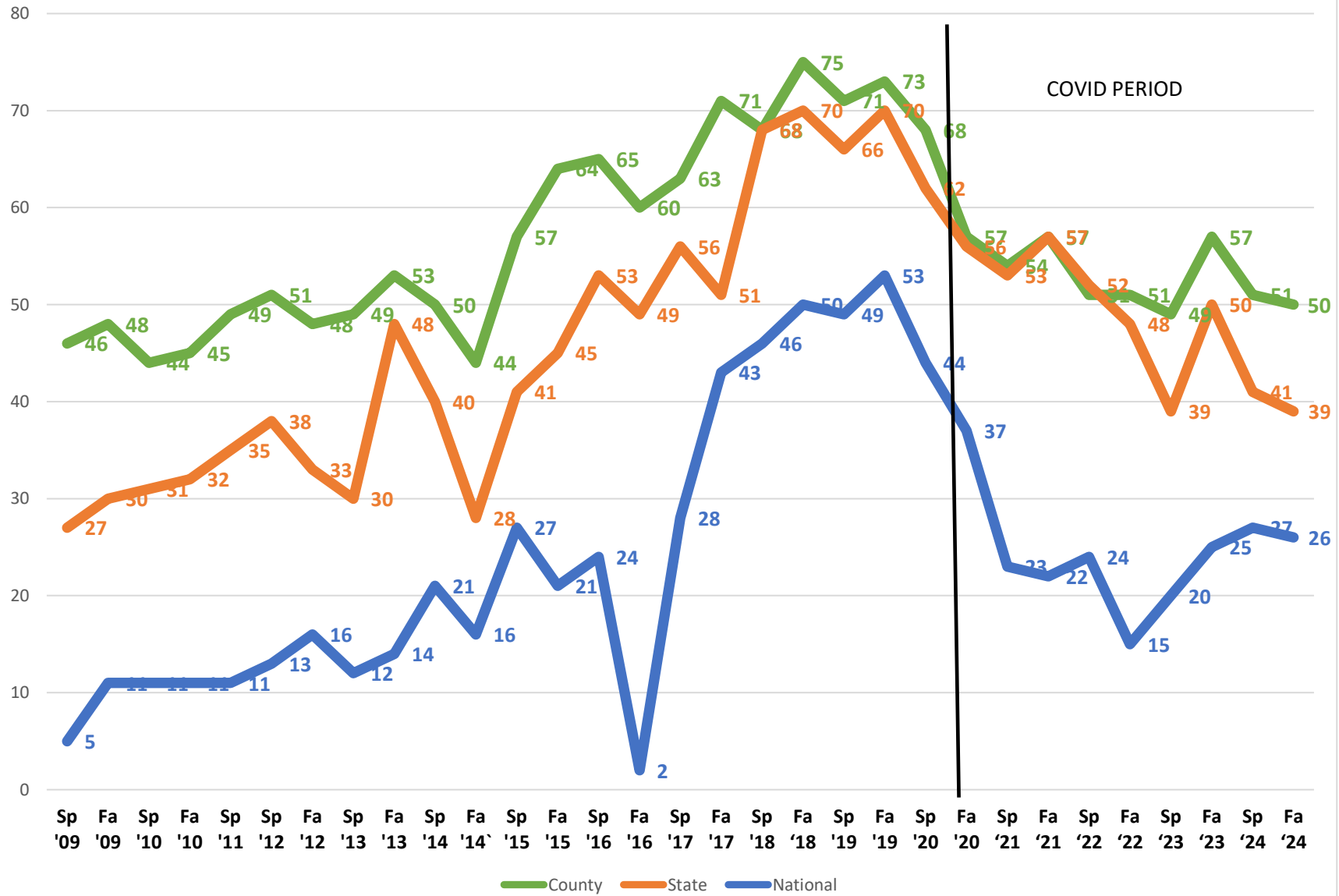
**Table 7: Perceptions of Anne Arundel County’s Economic Conditions – Fall 2013 to Fall 2024**

	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	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Avg.
<b>Excel+Good</b>	53	50	44	57	64	65	60	65	71	68	75	71	73	68	57	54	57	51	51	49	57	51	<b>50</b>	59
<b>Excellent</b>	6	8	4	5	7	8	8	5	9	10	15	12	14	11	7	6	7	7	8	4	6	8	<b>5</b>	8
<b>Good</b>	47	42	40	52	57	57	52	60	62	58	60	59	59	57	50	48	50	44	43	45	51	43	<b>45</b>	51
<b>Fair</b>	35	40	41	33	27	27	34	29	25	27	19	22	20	24	29	38	31	36	36	35	27	35	<b>31</b>	31
<b>Poor</b>	10	9	12	7	6	5	3	3	1	2	2	3	3	4	9	7	9	10	12	15	13	13	<b>13</b>	7
<b>Don’t know</b>	3	3	2	4	3	4	4	3	3	3	4	4	3	4	5	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	<b>5</b>	3
<b>Total</b>	10	101	99	101	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	99	100	100	101	100	100	101	101	100	101	<b>99</b>	100

**Table 8: Economy as Excellent+Good by Party Registration – Anne Arundel County - Fall 2019 to Fall 2024**

	Excellent+Good										
	Fa '19	Fa '20	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fall 24 – Spring 2024
<b>Democrats</b>	71	55	59	63	60	59	62	70	61	<b>67</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Republicans</b>	79	62	55	52	42	38	47	47	38	<b>35</b>	<b>-3</b>
<b>Unaffiliated</b>	73	56	46	53	40	53	31	51	51	<b>48</b>	<b>-3</b>

Graph 7: Economic Conditions "Excellent+Good" County, State, National Spring 2009 to Fall 2024



## Rating Economic Conditions – Maryland

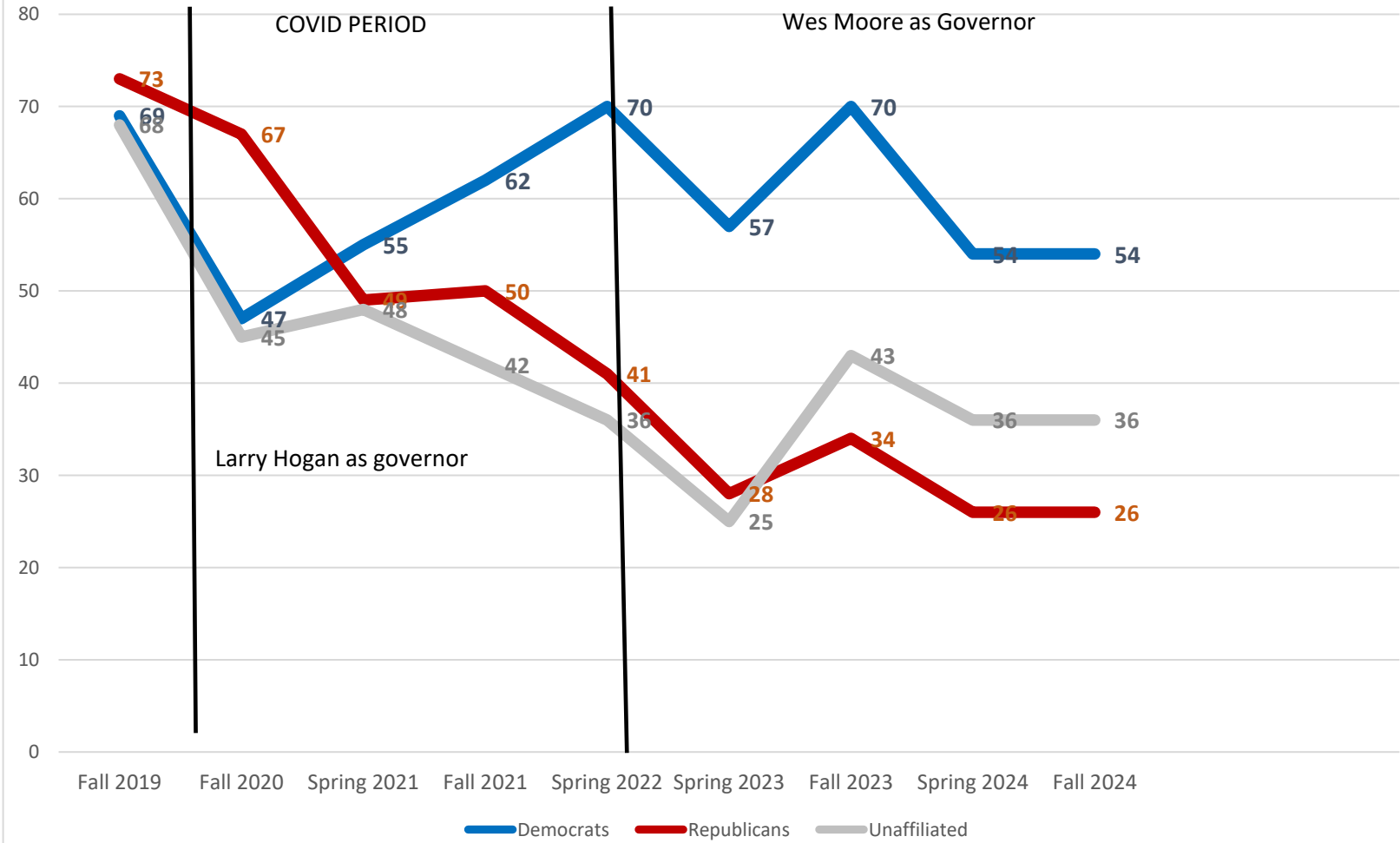
Since spring 2009, the question about rating economic conditions has been extended to the state of Maryland and the country overall.

As shown on Table 9 and Graph 7, the combined “excellent+good” scores have varied quite a bit – with a recent low of 39% (spring 2023) compared to a relative high for fall 2023 (50%). By this fall, the percentage equaled the low experienced a year and one half ago: 39%. The fall 2023 high of 50% was apparently an outlier.

Table 10 and Graph 8 show the partisan impact. The sharpest drop from fall 2023 to spring 2024 among the partisan categories was among Democrats – falling 16 points from 70% to 54%. This was much larger than drops among Republican (-8 points) or unaffiliateds (-7). Since the percentages for fall 2024 were unchanged from last spring, the scores among partisans remained within a limited framework of variation since the start of the pandemic as measured in fall 2020 although this varied somewhat among the parties.

For Democrats, the high for the period fall 2020 to fall 2024 was 70% found in spring 2022 and fall 2023. Five other times, the scores were in the 50 percent range, with a single score of 62 in fall 2021. Among Republicans, the departure of Larry Hogan as governor seems to have been strongly impactful upon their perceptions of Maryland’s economy. In fall 2022 prior to the November elections, 50% felt that the state’s economic conditions were excellent or good. By the following spring (2023), that percentage had dropped to only 41% - which was still much higher than any score since – landing at 26% in fall 2024. Among unaffiliateds, scores were higher than Republicans’ but lower by a larger margin than Democratic scores. These scores show that the pandemic and Hogan’s departure had a lasting impact upon partisan views of the economy since in fall 2019, the economy was universally seen in a positive framework with Democrats at 69% just behind Republicans at 73% - and unaffiliateds at 68%.

Graph 8: Partisan Views of State's Economy  
Fall 2019 to Fall 2024





**Table 9: Perceptions of State Economic Conditions –Fall 2014 to Fall 2024**

	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	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Avg.
Excellent+good	28	41	45	53	49	56	63	63	70	66	70	62	55	50	57	52	48	39	50	41	<b>39</b>	52
Excellent	1	3	2	5	5	3	4	6	11	9	10	10	6	3	6	7	3	4	4	6	<b>4</b>	5
Good	27	38	43	48	44	53	59	57	59	57	60	52	49	47	51	45	45	35	46	35	<b>35</b>	46
Fair	40	39	41	36	39	34	29	29	24	25	22	28	32	40	31	34	37	37	29	36	<b>36</b>	34
Poor	30	16	11	9	9	7	4	5	4	5	5	6	9	7	9	11	12	20	17	20	<b>19</b>	12
Don't know	2	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	2	3	4	3	<b>6</b>	3
Total	99	101	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	99	99	100	100	100	100	99	99	100	100	<b>100</b>	100

**Table 10: Maryland Economy as Excellent+Good by Party Registration – Fall 2019, Fall 2020 to Fall 2024**

	Excellent+Good											
	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021	Spring 2022	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Fall 2024	Avg.	Fall 2024 - Spring 2023
Democrats	69	47	55	62	70	57	57	70	54	<b>54</b>	60	0
Republicans	73	67	49	50	41	32	28	34	26	<b>26</b>	44	0
Unaffiliated	68	45	48	42	36	50	25	43	36	<b>36</b>	44	0

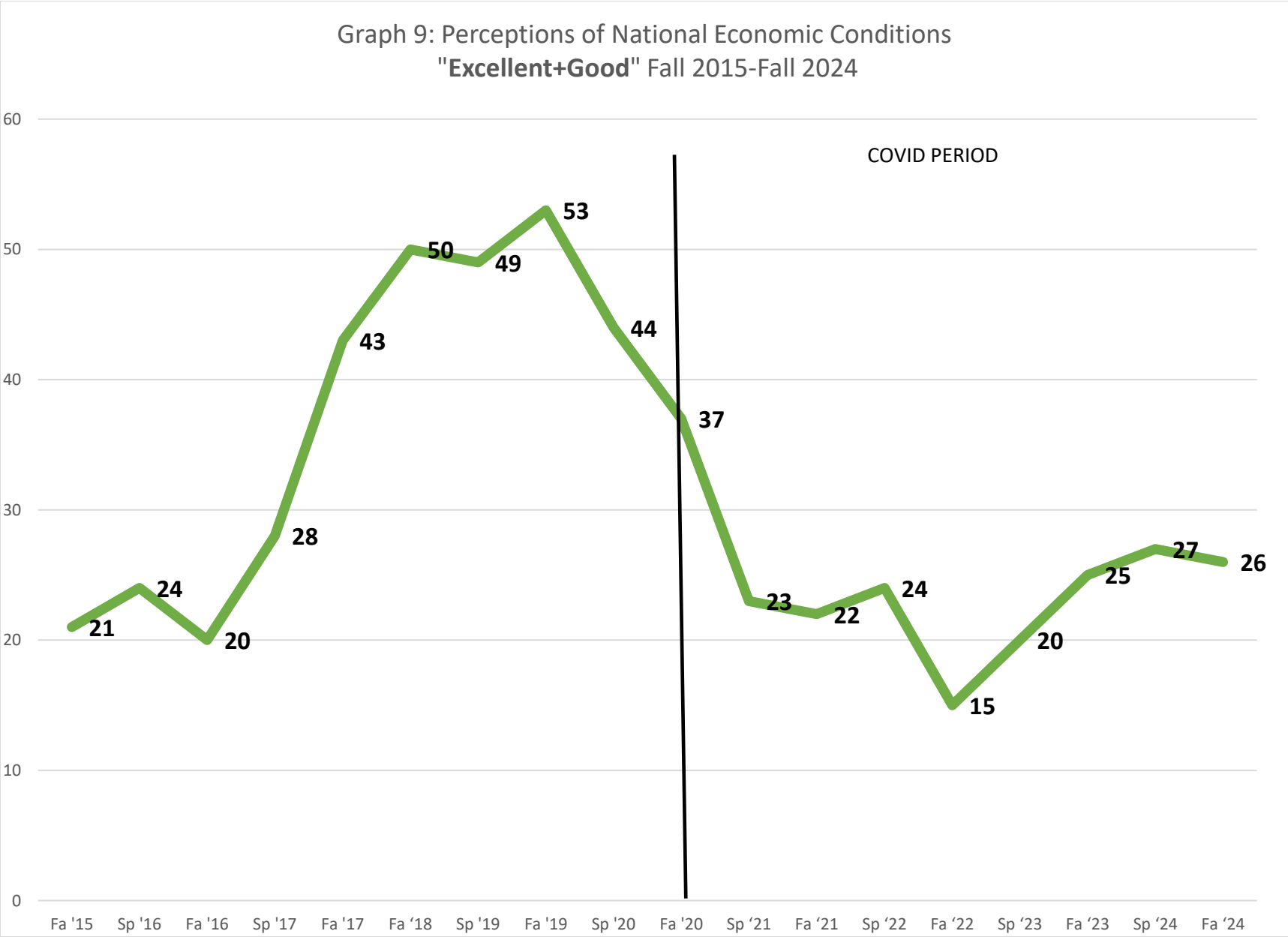
## Rating Economic Conditions –The National Economy

As shown on Graph 7, the appraisal of the *national* economy has always lagged significantly behind both the *county* and *state*. For this fall, Graph 9 and Table 11 show that there was virtually no change – a 1-point decrease in excellent+good scores from 27% to 26%. The pandemic period has essentially paralleled the situation prior to 2017 when economic perceptions hovered in a similar range as during the recent past.

Looking at the results by party registration on Table 12 and Graph 10, it is clear that Republicans enjoyed the economy as it performed under then President Trump – with fall 2019 gaining a score of 72%. One year later, the decline in percentages was already apparent, as the Republican score dipped to 59%. The first poll after President Biden had taken over highlighted the darkened view of the economy held by Republicans as the score declined dramatically to only 24%. In fall 2023, Republicans offered their lowest score yet: 8%. Clearly that was a low point as by spring 2024, the score had improved to 13%, rising another 5 points this fall to 18%. The percentage among unaffiliateds also rose from 18% to 20%.

Unsurprisingly, Democrats held consistently lower scores during the Trump period – 32 points lower than Republicans in fall 2019 and 37 points lower in fall 2020 prior to the 2020 presidential elections. Fall 2023 was the first time that Democrats' total (42%) was higher than it was in fall 2019 (40%) when Donald Trump was still in office. By spring 2024, Democrats had reverted again to their 2019 percentage – 40% - there was no change in fall 2024.

Graph 9: Perceptions of National Economic Conditions  
"Excellent+Good" Fall 2015-Fall 2024



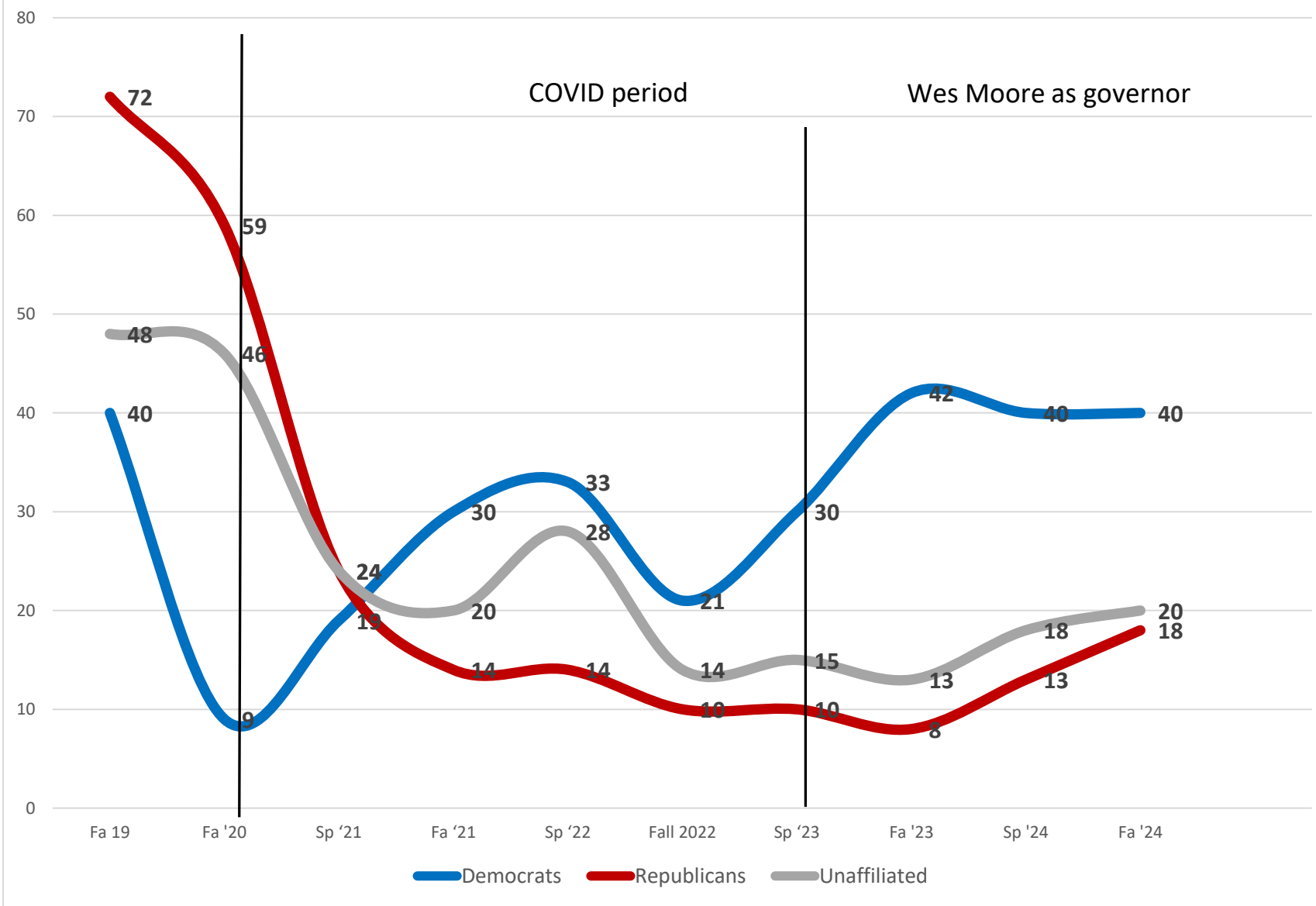
**Table 11: Perceptions of National Economic Conditions– Fall 2015 to Fall 2024**

	Fa '15	Sp '16	Fa '16	Sp '17	Fa '17	Sp '18	Fa '18	Sp '19	Fa '19	Sp '20	Fa '20	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Avg.
<b>Excellent+ Good</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>26</b>	32
<b>Excellent</b>	1	1	1	1	3	7	13	12	16	9	8	2	2	3	1	2	3	5	2	5
<b>Good</b>	20	23	19	27	40	39	37	37	37	35	28	21	20	21	14	18	22	22	<b>24</b>	27
<b>Fair</b>	40	40	38	46	40	36	33	33	30	31	30	45	38	37	39	35	32	29	<b>37</b>	36
<b>Poor</b>	36	34	40	23	17	17	13	16	12	20	32	27	36	36	45	41	40	40	<b>29</b>	29
<b>Don't know</b>	3	2	3	4	1	2	3	3	5	6	3	4	3	3	2	3	3	4	<b>7</b>	3
<b>Total</b>	100	100	101	101	101	101	99	101	100	101	101	100	99	100	101	99	100	100	<b>99</b>	100

**Table 12: Perceptions of National Economic Conditions by Party Registration–Fall 2019, Fall 2020 to Fall 2024**

	Excellent+Good										
	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021	Spring 2022	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Fall 2024	Spring '24 – Fall '23
Democrats	40	9	19	30	33	21	30	42	40	<b>40</b>	0
Republicans	72	59	24	14	14	10	10	8	13	<b>18</b>	5
Unaffiliated	48	46	24	20	28	14	15	13	18	<b>20</b>	2

Graph 10: National Economic Conditions by Party Registration Fall 2019 to Fall 2024



## Expectations for the National Economy

The question for this section was: “Thinking ahead for the next few years, do you expect the national economy to improve, stay the same or get worse?”

As displayed on Table 13, expectations for the national economy remain static, with the percentage saying “improve” staying around 30%. This was higher than in spring 2023 when optimism reach a low of only 20%. What was notable in fall 2024 was a 12-point decrease in the percentage saying “worse” with a corresponding increase in the percentage who said that they were “unsure.” Perhaps this is indicative of uncertainty due to the proximity of the 2024 presidential elections.

**Table 13: Expectations for National Economy – Spring 2020 to Fall 2024**

	Scores										
	Spring 2020	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021	Spring 2022	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Fall 2024	Fa '24-Sp '23
<b>Improve</b>	41	46	40	22	29	32	20	23	29	<b>30</b>	1
<b>Stay the same</b>	23	16	20	24	18	18	18	21	16	<b>15</b>	-1
<b>Worse</b>	27	17	34	49	54	50	55	46	39	<b>27</b>	-8
<b>Unsure</b>	9	21	6	6	0	0	7	10	17	<b>28</b>	11
<b>Total</b>	100	100	100	101	101	100	100	100	101	<b>100</b>	

While no partisan group showed that a majority felt that the economy was likely to improve, Table 14 shows that Democrats were the most optimistic – rising from 36% last spring to 43% this fall. Republicans scores declined somewhat from 22% to 16% but this was accompanied by a large 19-point decrease in the percentage saying “worse” and a dramatic rise among those who were “unsure” from 16% to 38% - the highest partisan group uncertainty score. Among unaffiliateds, there was a 12-point rise in “improve” scores (from 18% to 31%) and an actual drop in the percentage saying “unsure” from 23% to 21%.

**Table 14: National Economic Expectations by Party - Fall 2022 to Fall 2024**

	Democrats					Republicans					Unaffiliated				
	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
<b>Improve</b>	36	33	32	36	<b>43</b>	19	12	14	22	<b>16</b>	31	18	12	18	<b>31</b>
<b>Stay the same</b>	25	25	26	19	<b>18</b>	11	11	15	11	<b>14</b>	18	16	23	15	<b>17</b>
<b>Worse</b>	39	41	31	28	<b>16</b>	70	77	64	51	<b>32</b>	51	66	51	45	<b>31</b>
<b>Unsure, DK</b>	--	--	11	17	<b>23</b>	--	--	7	16	<b>38</b>	--	--	14	23	<b>21</b>
<b>Total</b>	100	99	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	101	100

## Concern for Specific Economic Conditions Related to the National Economy

The spring 2022 survey included a new section relevant to the national economy focusing on respondents' perceptions of factors such as inflation, unemployment, federal deficits and others when thinking about aspects of the national economy. Respondents were asked to say whether they were very, somewhat or not very concerned about the factors identified in Table 15. Graph 11 displays results for the last six surveys. Note that the spring 2023 survey added "excessive private debt" as a new category. In spring 2024, "Lack of opportunities to be upwardly mobile" was also added. To shorten the overall survey, the fall 2024 questionnaire removed both the private debt and business climate categories.

As Table 15 demonstrates, the concern for inflation remained high and unchanged from last spring at 58% saying "very concerned." Among the other items, federal debt/deficit was the second most cited item, with a very concerned score of 55% also virtually unchanged from last spring (56%).

Overall, there wasn't much change in scores for other items. Concern about unemployment remained the item with the lowest level of concern at 25% (up one point from last spring). There were slight increases in the percentages saying "rate of economic growth" (from 34% to 38%) and "lack of opportunities to be upwardly mobile (from 38% to 40%).

Looking through the lens of **party registration**, among Democrats there was a small rise in concern over inflation (from 41% to 43%) as well as unemployment (20% to 26%). The inflation percentage was relatively low compared to the period fall 2022 to fall 2023 when it was over 50%. The largest rise came with regard to "rate of economic growth" whose "very concerned" percentage rose from 20% to 28% which was the highest total since two years ago (fall 2022) when it reached 31%. Concern over "federal government debt and deficit" was mostly unchanged (38%, 39%) as was true for "lack of opportunities to be upwardly mobile" (42%, 42%).

Looking at partisan divides on Table 16 and as these are visually depicted on Graph 12, Republicans were largely unchanged from last spring. They were much more likely to express concern about inflation (75%) than were Democrats (43%), the federal deficit/debt (78%, 39%) and the rate of economic growth (51%, 28%). Democrats were a bit concerned about unemployment (26%) than were Republicans (20%) as well as somewhat more concerned with the lack of opportunities to be upwardly mobile (42%, 34%). Unaffiliateds were especially concerned about unemployment which rose from 22% in spring 2024 to 35% in fall, and inflation (64%) whose score was unchanged.

**Table 15: Concern About Economic Factors – Spring 2022 to Fall 2024**

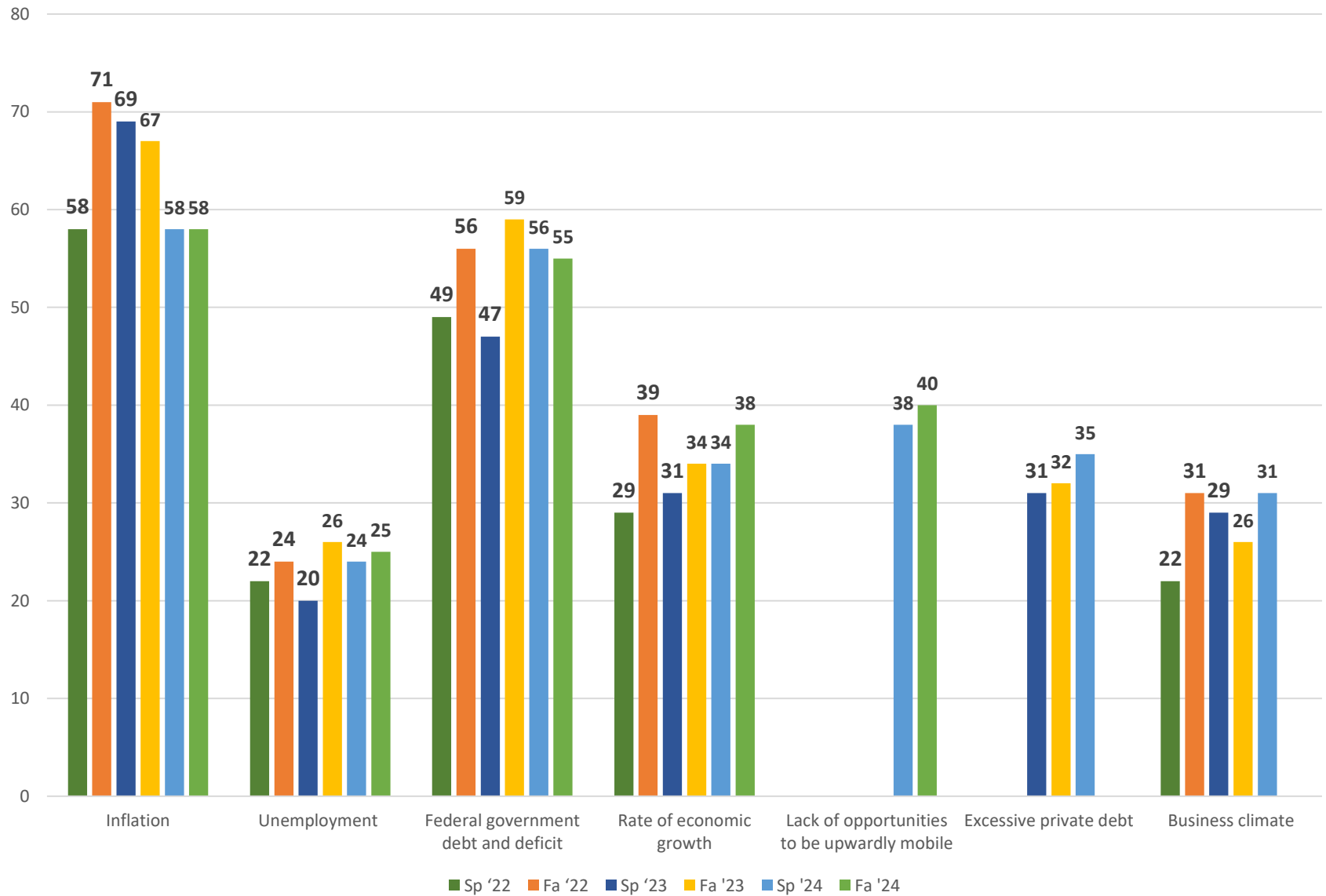
	Very concerned						Somewhat concerned						Not very concerned					
	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
Inflation	58	71	69	67	58	<b>58</b>	36	25	28	28	34	<b>30</b>	4	2	3	4	6	<b>10</b>
Unemployment	22	24	20	26	24	<b>25</b>	36	40	45	37	35	<b>40</b>	41	36	34	35	40	<b>31</b>
Business climate	22	31	29	26	31	N.A	50	46	47	49	41	N.A	24	18	20	16	22	N.A
Federal government debt and deficit	49	56	47	59	56	<b>55</b>	30	25	33	28	28	<b>33</b>	18	18	18	10	14	<b>8</b>
Rate of economic growth	29	39	31	34	34	<b>38</b>	52	41	46	46	42	<b>40</b>	16	17	16	15	20	<b>16</b>
Excessive private debt	N.A	N.A	31	32	35	N.A	N.A	N.A	43	41	39	N.A	N.A	N.A	21	20	22	N.A
Lack of opportunities to be upwardly mobile	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	38	<b>40</b>	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	40	<b>35</b>	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	16	<b>17</b>



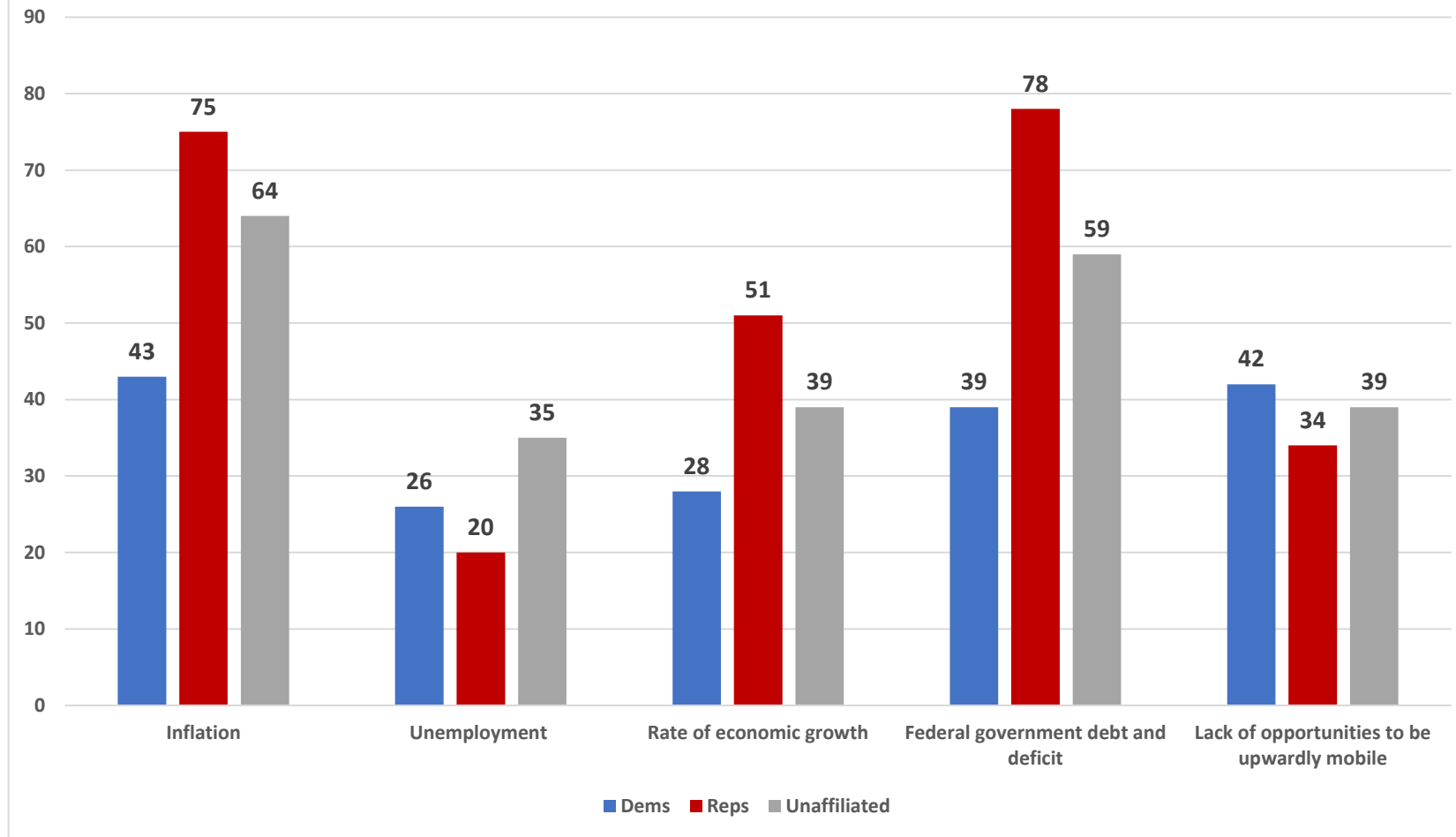
**Table 16: Economic Expectations by Party “Very Concerned”  
Percentage Spring ’22 to Fall 2024**

	Democrats						Republicans						Unaffiliated					
	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
Inflation	40	53	54	53	41	<b>43</b>	79	83	83	86	78	<b>75</b>	69	71	82	70	64	<b>64</b>
Unemployment	17	23	21	24	20	<b>26</b>	25	18	16	26	26	<b>20</b>	24	21	21	33	22	<b>35</b>
Rate of economic growth	14	31	15	17	20	<b>28</b>	42	45	50	52	50	<b>51</b>	44	30	52	45	35	<b>39</b>
Federal government debt and deficit	29	36	26	41	38	<b>39</b>	76	76	65	82	82	<b>78</b>	62	51	64	66	58	<b>59</b>
Lack of opportunities to be upwardly mobile	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	42	<b>42</b>	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	33	<b>34</b>	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	41	<b>39</b>
Excessive private debt	N.A.	N.A.	25	28	32	<b>N.A.</b>	N.A.	N.A.	32	31	35	<b>N.A.</b>	N.A.	N.A.	40	43	36	<b>N.A.</b>
Business climate	14	24	22	15	21	<b>N.A.</b>	32	30	29	39	46	<b>N.A.</b>	26	29	40	29	31	<b>N.A.</b>

Graph 11: "Very Concerned" About Various Economic Conditions Spring 2022 to Fall 2024



**Graph 12: Economic Concerns - Average Percentage Saying "Very Concerned" by Party**



## Economic Conditions Applying to Respondents

This next section has been included for several years – originating in the Great Recession and being retained and modified somewhat along the way. Throughout the period, 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 show the results for recent AACC/CSLI surveys: Table 17 (as well as Graph 13) shows the results from surveys dating back to fall 2020 while Table 18 shows a longer time frame.<sup>4</sup>

Table 17 has been sorted by items with the highest percentages in fall 2024. As can be seen, only the item about receiving a salary increase or other increase in income saw much change – down from 46% to 39%. Looking back through the time series, the impact of inflation was especially visible in the transition from 2021 into 2022. Several measures of economic pressure went up during that time such as wages not rising as fast as the cost of living or “hard to afford the cost of food and groceries.

**Table 17: Economic Perceptions Fall 2020 to Fall 2024  
(percent saying, “applies”)**

	Fa '20	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa 24- Sp -23	Avg.
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	38	45	55	66	64	63	58	59	<b>62</b>	3	52
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	51	57	54	64	58	64	58	59	<b>59</b>	0	57
Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	19	22	32	48	52	53	37	51	<b>47</b>	-4	31
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	30	37	32	49	33	49	41	46	<b>39</b>	-7	37
Hard to afford the cost of education (from spring 2020 – “beyond high school”)	25	34	33	38	40	40	30	39	<b>37</b>	-2	35
Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive, or inadequate/	19	23	27	31	34	26	34	37	<b>36</b>	-1	27
Hard to afford the cost of childcare	Not asked					10	6	11	<b>12</b>	1	9
Facing the possibility of unemployment	11	12	15	11	13	12	9	13	<b>11</b>	-2	11
Found a new or better job recently	9	7	11	13	11	12	7	13	<b>10</b>	-3	11
Hard to afford cost of transportation						N.A	N.A	N.A	<b>34</b>	--	

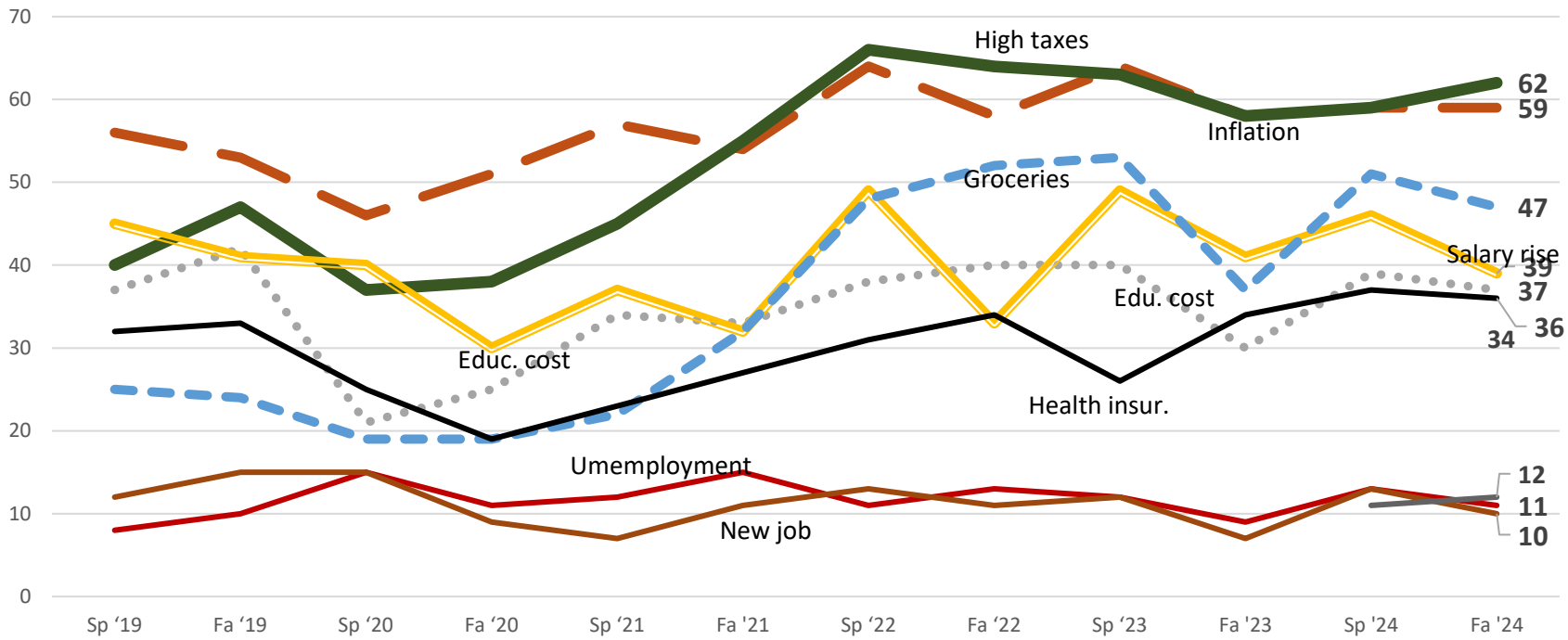
<sup>4</sup> Other modifications have occurred over the years, such as the inclusion of questions asking about a “salary increase or other increase in income recently” and whether the respondent had “found a new or better job recently” – these items were introduced in fall 2011. In fall 2016, the healthcare 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>4</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.” For spring 2023, the item “Hard to afford the cost of childcare” was added. In fall 2024, the item “Hard to afford the cost of transportation” was added.

**Table 18: Selected Economic Conditions Applying to Personal Circumstances –Spring 2016 to Fall 2024**

<b>Condition</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>Sp '21</b>	<b>Fa '21</b>	<b>Sp '22</b>	<b>Fa '22</b>	<b>Sp '23</b>	<b>Fa '23</b>	<b>Sp '24</b>	<b>Fa '24</b>	<b>Avg</b>
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	59	61	58	55	58	57	56	53	46	51	57	54	64	58	64	58	<b>59</b>	59	57
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	58	57	55	49	49	36	40	47	37	38	45	55	66	64	63	58	<b>59</b>	62	52
Hard to afford the cost of education (from spring 2020 – “beyond high school”)	39	40	38	33	32	32	37	42	21	25	34	33	38	40	40	30	<b>39</b>	37	35
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	32	29	31	26	41	36	45	41	40	30	37	32	49	33	49	41	<b>46</b>	39	37
Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	30	29	27	25	24	20	25	24	19	19	22	32	48	52	53	37	<b>51</b>	47	31
Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive, or inadequate (Unable to afford healthcare or medicine during the last year asked fall 2016 to spring 2018)	38	14	16	18	18	35	32	33	25	19	23	27	31	34	26	34	<b>37</b>	34	27
Facing the possibility of unemployment	9	11	14	11	8	7	8	10	15	11	12	15	11	13	12	9	<b>13</b>	11	11
Found a new or better job recently	10	8	10	10	13	13	12	15	15	9	7	11	13	11	12	7	<b>13</b>	10	11

Party-based differences were apparent among some of these measures (see Table 19). Since fall 2020 the clearest partisan differences appeared on taxes, with Republicans much more likely to say that they were too high – and the gaps typically exceeding 30 percentage points in each survey – and reaching 46 points in spring 2022 but dropping to just 24 points in spring 2023. This fall the gap was 34 points – the same as last spring. Republicans were more likely to say that it was “hard to afford the cost of food or groceries” (14-point) and to a lesser degree the cost of healthcare (-7). Democrats were more likely to highlight the cost of education (12-point gap) or to say that they’ve received a recent increase in income (15-point gap). Looking at causes for Republican sensitivity to taxes, food or healthcare costs, it seemed possible that this would be due to lower incomes among Republicans than Democrats. This did not appear to be the case as 27% of Republicans claimed income below \$100,000 compared to 38% of Democrats. In terms of college degrees, Republicans were more likely to have at least a four-year degree (58%) compared to Democrats (51%), although Democrats did have a higher percentage with “post graduate work” (31%) compared to Republicans (22%). Neither income nor education seemed very compelling in explaining varying perceptions of economic pressures or costs.

Graph 13: Econ. Conds, Personal Experiences Spring 2019 to Fall 2024



- Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided
- Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living
- ... Hard to afford the cost of education (from spring 2020 – “beyond high school”)
- Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently
- - - Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries
- Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive, or inadequate
- Facing the possibility of unemployment
- Found a new or better job recently
- Hard to afford cost of childcare
- Hard to afford cost of transportation

**Table 19: Party and Economic Conditions/Experiences – Spring 2023 to Fall 2024**

	Overall				Democrats				Republicans				Unaffiliated				Gap (D-R)			
	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	64	58	59	<b>59</b>	53	44	45	<b>44</b>	77	74	79	<b>78</b>	75	62	63	<b>58</b>	-24	-30	-34	<b>-34</b>
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	63	58	59	<b>62</b>	56	49	55	<b>60</b>	60	63	59	<b>62</b>	74	68	64	<b>59</b>	-4	-14	-4	<b>-2</b>
Hard to afford the cost of education beyond high school	40	30	39	<b>37</b>	34	28	41	<b>42</b>	35	28	29	<b>30</b>	53	34	47	<b>33</b>	-1	0	12	<b>12</b>
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	49	41	46	<b>39</b>	54	45	48	<b>46</b>	43	49	46	<b>31</b>	52	25	43	<b>41</b>	11	-4	2	<b>15</b>
Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	53	37	51	<b>47</b>	54	29	43	<b>42</b>	55	43	60	<b>56</b>	46	39	53	<b>34</b>	-1	-14	-17	<b>-14</b>
Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive, or inadequate	26	34	37	<b>36</b>	28	34	33	<b>33</b>	26	33	42	<b>40</b>	19	39	34	<b>31</b>	2	1	-9	<b>-7</b>
Facing the possibility of unemployment	12	9	13	<b>11</b>	18	11	13	<b>10</b>	6	5	13	<b>9</b>	9	9	9	<b>13</b>	12	6	0	<b>1</b>
Found a new or better job recently	12	7	13	<b>10</b>	15	9	13	<b>8</b>	9	1	9	<b>8</b>	10	10	15	<b>13</b>	6	8	4	<b>0</b>
Cost of childcare	10	6	11	<b>12</b>	8	5	11	<b>10</b>	1	5	6	<b>10</b>	21	6	17	<b>8</b>	7	0	5	<b>0</b>
Hard to afford cost of housing	--	--	42	--	--	--	43	<b>39</b>	--	--	39	<b>39</b>	--	--	42	<b>35</b>			4	<b>0</b>
Hard to afford cost of transportation	--	--	--	<b>34</b>	--	--	--	<b>29</b>	--	--	--	<b>38</b>	--	--		<b>36</b>	--	--	--	<b>-9</b>



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

Table 20 and Graph 14 show 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 up to \$75,000 into one group and those earning over \$75,000 into a second group, the pattern over the years has been consistent: most desirable outcomes favor the higher income group. For fall 2024, five items showed the largest differences: “Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries” (56-point gap, up from 37 pts. last fall); “Hard to afford the cost of housing” (38-point gap, down from 35 pts. last fall); “Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living” (35-point gap, up from 29 pts. last fall); and “Hard to afford the cost of education” (33-point gap, up from 21 pts. last fall). There was also a large gap regarding “wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living” which rose from a 29-point gap to a 35-point gap.

The only curious reversal was the healthcare insurance item, which reversed a 26-point gap favoring those with higher income, to a 9-point gap favoring those with lower income.

Overall, these findings generally show that the wealthier group experiences more desirable outcomes – it is able to experience more increases in income, is less worried about costs of basics like food, is less prone to say that wages aren’t keeping up with the cost of living such as housing and transportation

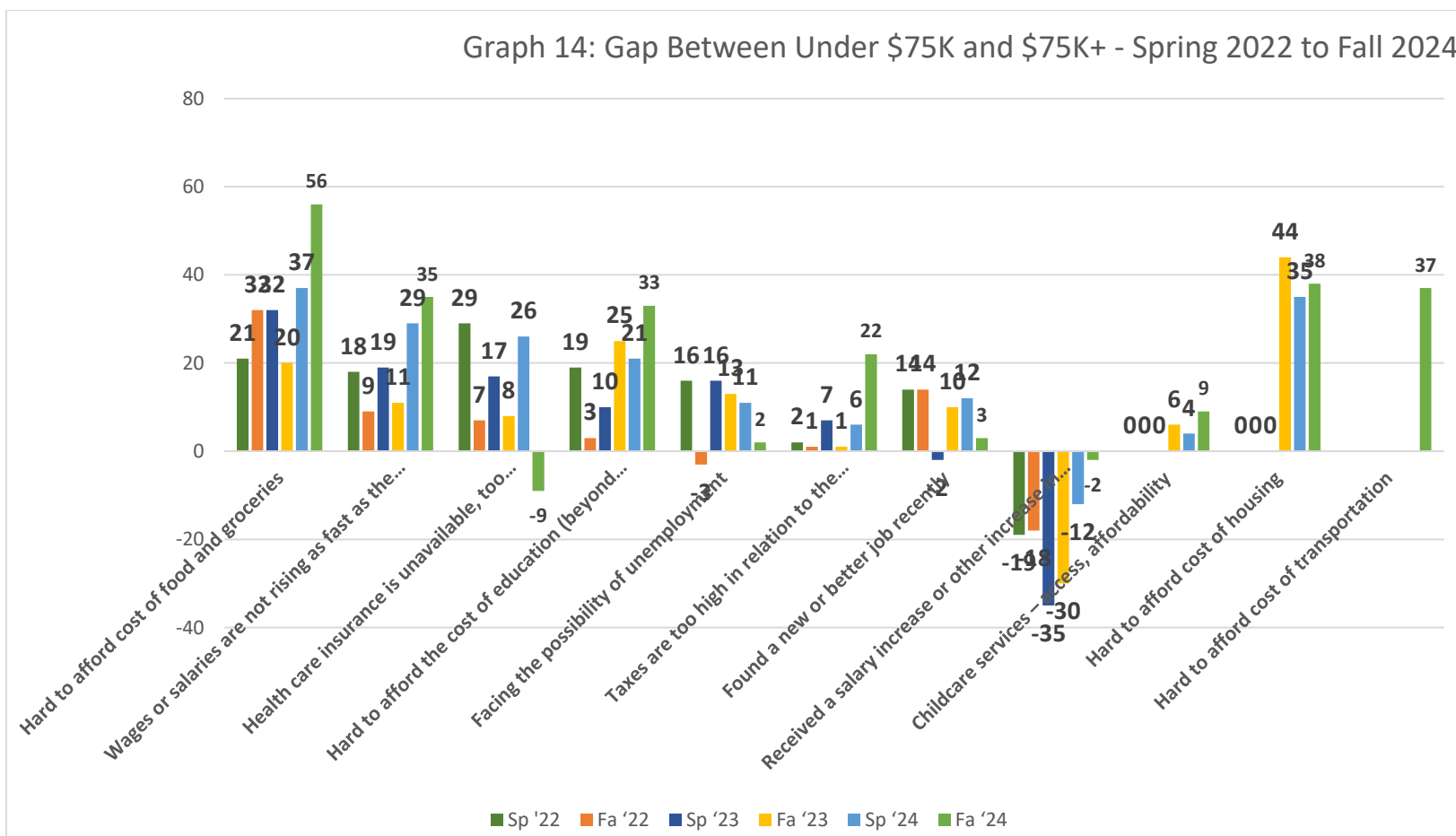
Graph 14 shows just the percentage point gaps between the lower and higher income groups for spring 2022 through fall 2024. The results show that inflationary pressures have been significant throughout the period – especially shown by the cost of food and groceries, housing and transportation.

**Table 20: Income Groups and Economic Indicators Fall 2020 to Fall 2024**

	Fall 2024		Gap: Under \$75k-Over 75K									Avg
	Under \$75,000	\$75,000+	Fa '20	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	
Hard to afford cost of food and groceries	82	<b>26</b>	29	14	23	21	32	32	20	37	<b>56</b>	29
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	85	<b>50</b>	18	21	18	18	9	19	11	29	<b>35</b>	20
Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive, or inadequate	<b>26</b>	35	10	10	24	29	7	17	8	26	<b>-9</b>	14
Hard to afford the cost of education (beyond high school from Fa '19)	66	<b>33</b>	14	17	10	19	3	10	25	21	<b>33</b>	17
Facing the possibility of unemployment	12	<b>10</b>	10	14	15	16	-3	16	13	11	<b>2</b>	10
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	60	<b>38</b>	-7	-18	-8	2	1	7	1	6	<b>22</b>	1
Found a new or better job recently	<b>10</b>	7	-3	0	2	14	14	-2	10	12	<b>3</b>	6
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	44	<b>46</b>	-15	-13	-16	-19	-18	-35	-30	-12	<b>-2</b>	-18
Childcare services – access, affordability	17	<b>8</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	6	4	<b>9</b>	6
Hard to afford cost of housing	67	<b>29</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	44	35	<b>38</b>	39
Hard to afford cost of transportation	56	<b>19</b>									<b>37</b>	37

Note: Desirable outcomes are bolded under income categories.

Graph 14: Gap Between Under \$75K and \$75K+ - Spring 2022 to Fall 2024



## Economic Policy Proposals

In keeping with the focus on the economy, the next section of the survey identified several policies that have been mentioned during the 2024 presidential election. Table 21 shows the proposals and the percentages of respondents who said that they supported, opposed or were neutral.

**Table 21: Support for Various Economic Policies**

	<b>Support</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Oppose</b>
Capping prices for prescription drugs	76	17	7
Preventing price gouging during or after a crisis	75	16	10
Decreasing the federal tax rate just for those earning under \$400,000	67	23	9
Child tax credits	64	30	6
Subsidies for first time home buyers	55	25	21
Decreasing the federal tax rate for all incomes	44	31	26
Limiting immigration to "preserve" jobs for existing workers	33	35	32
Decreasing the corporate tax rate	27	33	40
Increasing tariffs (taxes) on imported goods	24	41	35
Increase immigration to lower labor costs	21	42	39

Table 21 shows that several proposals obtained a majority of support with the first two showing very high levels of support: capping prices for prescription drugs (76%) and preventing price gouging during or after a crisis (75%).

There were two questions about decreasing the federal tax rate. One proposed decreasing it for “all incomes” and received 44% support. The second proposed decreasing it only “for those earning under \$400,000” and received much more support (67%).

Other popular ideas included child tax credits (64%) and subsidies for first-time home buyers (55%).

A set of immigration questions presented alternative scenarios: One focused on limiting immigration to “preserve jobs for existing workers” and received one-third (33%) in support. Another proposed “increasing immigration to lower labor costs” – and this version received the least support of any item (21%).

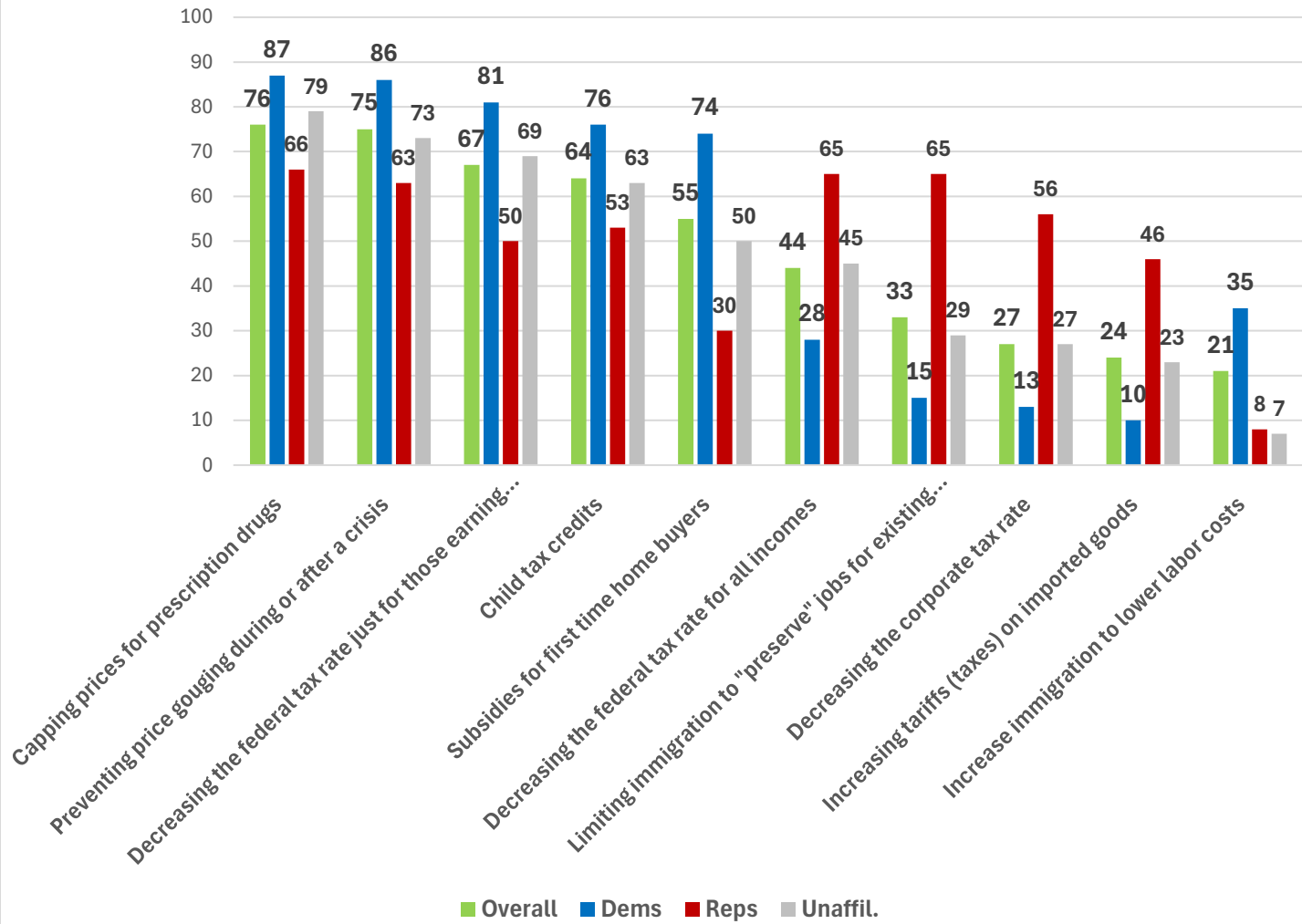
Increasing tariffs has been a cornerstone of former President Trump’s economic agenda. The survey asked about “Increasing tariffs (taxes) on imported goods.” About one-quarter (24%) of the sample supported this idea.

**Table 22: Support for Various Economic Policies by Party Registration**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Dems</b>	<b>Reps</b>	<b>Unaffil.</b>
Capping prices for prescription drugs	76	87	66	79
Preventing price gouging during or after a crisis	75	86	63	73
Decreasing the federal tax rate just for those earning under \$400,000	67	81	50	69
Child tax credits	64	76	53	63
Subsidies for first time home buyers	55	74	30	50
Decreasing the federal tax rate for all incomes	44	28	65	45
Limiting immigration to "preserve" jobs for existing workers	33	15	65	29
Decreasing the corporate tax rate	27	13	56	27
Increasing tariffs (taxes) on imported goods	24	10	46	23
Increase immigration to lower labor costs	21	35	8	7

As shown on Table 22 and Graph 15, four of these proposals are supported by majorities of Democrats, Republicans and unaffiliateds: capping prices for prescription drugs, preventing price gouging, decreasing the federal income tax rates for those earning under \$400,000 and child tax credits. Democrats favored subsidies for first-time home buyers (74%) much more than Republicans (30%) and unaffiliateds (50%). Republicans were isolated in their support for decreasing the federal tax rate for *all* incomes, limiting immigration to preserve jobs for existing workers, and decreasing the corporate tax rate. Surprisingly, a majority of Republicans didn't support increasing tariffs (46% support) which was strongly opposed by Democrats (10%) and unaffiliateds (23%).

Graph 15: Support for Policies by Party Registration



## Priorities for Job: Which Characteristics Matter?

This section of the survey also carried an economic focus, but this time on the desired characteristics of jobs. It was asked of those who are “currently employed or might be looking for a new job.” Respondents were asked to indicate how important a specific quality of a job “in keeping you at your current job or as features of a new job.”

**Table 23: Importance of Various Job Characteristics**

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important
Offering good financial compensation	84	15	1
Offering good benefits such as healthcare or pensions	79	17	4
Providing adequate sick leave or vacation time	74	24	2
Providing a predictable work schedule	67	29	4
Having management that is eager to hear my input	64	32	4
Providing a flexible work schedule	62	31	7
Making positive change in the world	60	29	10
Fulfills my passions in terms of career	58	32	10
Liking the people with whom I work	46	45	8
Being a part of a team that is diverse and inclusive	44	33	22
Allowing me to work remotely most or all of the time	25	27	48

Table 23 shows that financial compensation (84% very important) and benefits like healthcare coverage or pensions (79%) were the most important considerations. Third in priority was “providing adequate sick leave or vacation time” (74%).

Other items that were not based on compensation or benefits were also deemed to be very important by a majority of respondents. Having a predictable work schedule (67%) was slightly more important as having a “flexible” work schedule (62%). Respondents felt that it was important that the management be “eager to hear my input” (64%). Finding a position that fulfills “my passions” was nearly as important (58%) as one that makes “positive change in the world” (60%).

Lesser concerns were liking the people at work (46%), being part of a team that is diverse and inclusive (44%) or having a job that can be done remotely most or all of the time (25%).

**Does ideology affect priorities of a job?** Table 25 lists the percentages of those along an ideological spectrum who think that a given characteristic is very important.

**Table 24: Ideology and Importance of Job Characteristics**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Very cons.</b>	<b>Somewhat cons.</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Somewhat liberal</b>	<b>Very liberal</b>
Offering good financial compensation	84	83	78	82	88	87
Offering good benefits such as healthcare or pensions	79	63	68	78	90	76
Providing adequate sick leave or vacation time	74	65	51	70	88	90
Providing a predictable work schedule	67	70	54	63	79	71
Having management that is eager to hear my input	64	49	42	61	78	73
Providing a flexible work schedule	62	48	53	65	73	58
Making positive change in the world	60	35	40	62	72	69
Fulfills my passions in terms of career	58	36	47	62	60	61
Liking the people with whom I work	46	47	46	49	35	49
Being a part of a team that is diverse and inclusive	44	9	24	42	50	54
Allowing me to work remotely most or all of the time	25	38	11	23	18	40

**Key observations:**

• **High Priority on Compensation and Benefits:**

- **Financial Compensation:** Overall high percentages (84%), with a slight preference from liberals for better compensation (88%/87% for somewhat/very liberal).
- **Benefits:** Strong support for good benefits, especially from somewhat liberal respondents (90%).

• **Work-Life Balance:**

- **Sick Leave/Vacation:** High overall support (74%), with a noticeable preference from liberals (88%/90% for somewhat/very liberal).
- **Predictable Work Schedule:** Moderate support overall (67%), with lower preference among conservatives.



- **Management and Workplace Environment:**
  - **Input to Management:** Overall lower percentage (64%), but liberals show much higher support for engagement (78%/73% somewhat/very liberal).
  - **Diversity and Inclusivity:** Very low support from conservatives (9% very conservative), but higher interest from liberals (50%/54% somewhat/very liberal).
  
- **Flexible Work Arrangements:**
  - **Flexible Schedule:** Lower overall support (62%), with very conservative respondents showing much lower interest (48%) than liberals (somewhat liberal: 73%).
  - **Remote Work:** Lowest priority overall (25%), with higher support among very liberal respondents (40%).
  
- **Personal Fulfillment:**
  - **Making Positive Change:** Moderate overall interest (60%), but higher among liberals (72%/69% compared to very conservatives (35%).
  - **Fulfilling Passions:** Overall lower percentage (58%), with moderate support from liberals (60%).compared to very/somewhat conservatives 36%/47%.
  
- **Team Dynamics:**
  - **Liking Colleagues:** Generally low interest (46%), with somewhat liberal respondents having the least concern (35%) but not much difference across categories.
  - **Team Diversity:** : Generally low interest (44%) Notably lower support from very conservative respondents (9%), highlighting a significant ideological divide.

**Are age differences consequential?** Is there a generational element to job qualities and the importance placed on them? Table 25 shows the percentages by age group.

**Table 25: Age and Importance of Job Characteristics**

	Overall	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69
Offering good financial compensation	84	87	100	88	75	80
Offering good benefits such as healthcare or pensions	79	69	86	82	86	84
Providing adequate sick leave or vacation time	74	76	78	77	70	67
Providing a predictable work schedule	67	74	76	66	63	59
Having management that is eager to hear my input	64	62	67	70	57	65
Providing a flexible work schedule	62	71	60	67	59	54
Making positive change in the world	60	64	76	62	48	56
Fulfills my passions in terms of career	58	62	80	63	35	48
Liking the people with whom I work	46	50	33	47	41	56
Being a part of a team that is diverse and inclusive	44	53	45	44	32	45
Allowing me to work remotely most or all of the time	25	19	26	31	27	32

**Key Observations:**

1. **Financial Compensation:**
  - **High Priority for Younger Age Groups:** The 18-29 group values financial compensation highly (87%), peaking at 100% for the 30-39 group, but drops significantly for older groups (75% for 50-59, 80% for 60-69).
2. **Benefits:**
  - **Variation Across Ages:** The 30-39 group shows the highest importance (86%), while the youngest group (18-29) shows the least (69%). Older groups generally maintain a strong preference for benefits (84% for 60-69).
3. **Work-Life Balance:**
  - **Sick Leave/Vacation:** Generally high support across all ages, peaking at 78% for 30-39, but declining slightly in older groups (67% for 60-69).
  - **Predictable Work Schedule:** Higher importance among younger respondents (74% for 18-29), with older groups showing a declining trend (59% for 60-69).
4. **Management and Input:**

- **Engagement with Management:** The 40-49 age group shows the highest preference (70%), while younger groups also value input (62% for 18-29). Older groups vary, with the 50-59 group showing less importance (57%).
- 5. **Flexible Work Arrangements:**
  - **Flexible Schedule:** Higher support from the younger age group (71% for 18-29), but this interest declines in older groups (54% for 60-69).
  - **Remote Work:** Generally low support overall, with a slight uptick among older respondents (32% for 60-69).
- 6. **Personal Fulfillment:**
  - **Making Positive Change:** Young adults (64%) and those aged 30-39 (76%) place higher importance on this, while interest declines significantly in the 50-59 group (48%).
  - **Fulfilling Passions:** Higher for younger groups (62% for 18-29, 80% for 30-39) but drops notably in older groups (35% for 50-59, 48% for 60-69).
- 7. **Team Dynamics:**
  - **Liking Colleagues:** Younger workers (50% for 18-29) place more importance on this, while the 30-39 age group has the lowest interest (33%). Interest rises again for older groups, particularly the 60-69 age group (56%).
  - **Diversity and Inclusivity:** Younger groups (53% for 18-29) show higher support, while older groups show mixed responses (32% for 50-59).

### Summary of Patterns:

- **Younger respondents (18-39)** prioritize financial compensation, benefits, and opportunities for making positive changes. They also value flexibility and fulfillment in their careers.
- **Middle-aged respondents (40-49)** display a balanced interest across various characteristics, particularly valuing management engagement and flexibility.
- **Older respondents (50-69)** have a greater focus on stability (benefits and compensation) but show declining interest in flexibility, engagement, and making positive changes.

## Coronavirus Section

The virtual disappearance of Covid-19 as a “most important problem” indicates that it is not deemed to be of critical importance by most people. However, that does not imply that people are no longer contracting this illness. This section focuses only two relevant issues: years in which the respondent claims to have contracted the illness and a follow-up question: “Thinking about the past year, do you recall a time when you might have come down with symptoms associated with COVID-19 but didn’t bother to test?” This will provide some measure indicating the degree that the coronavirus is truly in the rearview mirror.

### Experience with COVID-19

The survey asked respondents to indicate the years in which they had contracted the virus, if at all (see Table 26). For simplicity, the fall 2024 survey diverged from the past by not asking about each year, only whether they had contracted it in range of years (2020-2022), and then asking about the most recent years (2023 and 2024). Based on the spring 2024 results, the most serious year for contracting the virus was apparently 2022 with 28% saying that they had contracted it that year. The fall 2024 survey shows that 53% said that they had contracted it sometime between 2020 and 2022. This is somewhat less than the aggregate of each year when it was asked in spring 2024 (65%). However, the percentage for 2023 (22%) was identical in both polls. The percentage for 2024 was 14% - by the end of the year the total should be around 17-18%.

**Table 26: Years When COVID Contracted (check all that apply)**

Years	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Fall 2024	Average
<b>2020</b>	13	12	14	<b>53</b>	13
<b>2021</b>	26	25	23		25
<b>2022</b>	37	26	28		30
<b>2023</b>	4	15	22	22	14
<b>2024</b>	--	--	3	14	3
<b>Never</b>	--	27	35	31	31

The greater difficulty of acquiring free testing suggests that fewer are probably testing for COVID-19 even when they come down with relevant symptoms. This was the basis for the next question: “Thinking about the past year, do you recall a time when you might have come down with symptoms associated with COVID-19 but didn’t bother to test?” **Over one fifth of the sample (24% - up from 21% last spring) affirmed that this was the case** (69% no, 8% unsure). This suggests that 38% of the population either had COVID-19 or something very similar to it. Perhaps it’s not quite yet in the rearview mirror...

## County as Level of Analysis: Lawn Equipment

The survey next turned to matters more directly affecting the county itself, with its first major focus being attitudes about lawn equipment such as gas-powered leaf blowers or lawn mowers. The question asked respondents whether they felt that the noise and pollution this equipment produced was a problem and presented the options listed in Table 27. Respondents were given the option of providing open-ended answers as well under “Other answer.”

**Table 27: Views About Gas-powered Lawn Equipment**

	%
Not a problem; the county should not attempt to regulate them	55
Somewhat a problem - the county should encourage people to transition to quieter electric versions	27
A big problem - the county should require a quick transition to electric versions	9
Other answer (See Appendix C)	4
DK, unsure	6
Total	101

Results shown on Table 27 indicate that a majority did not feel that the lawn equipment’s noise and pollution was sufficiently problematic to require regulation. Over a third (36%) did feel that the county should encourage people to transition to quieter electric versions, but that this should be done gradually rather than quickly. See Appendix C for open-ended comments.

## County Schools (AACPS) and Cell Phone Policy

This part of the survey asked about the cell phone policy held by Anne Arundel County Public Schools at the time when the survey was in the field. Respondents were presented with the following:

**“Schools have been working to find a cell phone policy that avoids classroom disruption while also providing students and their parents with the ability to keep in touch.**

*Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) currently has the following policy:*

*Elementary and middle school students must have their phones off or on silent mode and out of sight throughout the school day, including at lunch and in hallways during transitions between classes.*

*High school students may use their phones during lunch but must have them off or on silent mode and out of sight at all other times, including in hallways during transitions between classes. (see <https://www.aacps.org/article/1709196>)*

**Which of the following best expresses your view about this current policy: Support, neutral, oppose?”**

Table 28 shows the results. A large majority (68%) supported the policy with only a small percentage (8%) clearly opposed to it. Respondents were offered the opportunity to provide another response with open-ended comments – which 7% accepted.

**Table 28: Support for AACPS Cell Phone Policy**

	%
Support	68
Neutral	15
Oppose	8
Other response:	7
Unsure, don't know	2
Total	100

ChatGPT was used to sort the open-ended answers – five categories were discovered: support for strict ban – 14%; conditional support for restriction – 30%; support for flexibility – 26%; oppose restrictions – 12%; and other – 6%. The list of open-ended comments is available in Appendix D.

## County Elections: Support for Candidates Accepting Matching Funds

The county passed a law that allows candidates to request matching funds if they adhere to certain limits on the size and source of contributions that they accept. The question, fully stated below, focused on whether respondents were more or less likely to support a candidate who accepted matching funds.

**“The county passed a law that provides candidates for local office with public matching funds (up to six times) for contributions no greater than \$250 and only from individuals, not corporations, political action committees or unions.**

**Which of the following best expresses your views about a candidate who accepts such public matching funds?”**

**Table 29: Support for Candidates Using County Matching Funds**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Dems</b>	<b>Reps</b>	<b>Unaffil.</b>
I would be more likely to vote or contribute to such a candidate	<b>18</b>	28	11	16
I would be less likely to vote or contribute to such a candidate	<b>13</b>	10	23	5
I would not be affected regarding my vote or contributions	<b>44</b>	41	51	49
Other response: __	<b>1</b>	2	2	2
Unsure, don't know	<b>24</b>	20	14	27
Total	<b>100</b>	101	101	100

As shown on Table 29, a substantial percentage weren't clear about this question and therefore answered “unsure” (24%). A plurality said that they “would not be affected regarding my vote or contributions” to candidates (44%). A slightly greater number were more likely (18%) than less likely (13%) to support such a candidate.

Looking at the partisan responses, Democrats (28%) were much more likely than Republicans (11%) or unaffiliateds (16%) to support a candidate using matching funds. The latter were also the most likely to be unsure (27%).

ChatGPT divided open-ended responses into four categories: Support (22%); Oppose (50%), Conditional or mixed (11%; and, Indifferent or unsure (17%). See Appendix E.

## How is Local News Acquired?

This section of the survey focused on how people get local news and was asked by offering a set of choices with respondents meant to indicate how often they relied upon a given source whether digitally or otherwise. Choices included “very often,” “somewhat often,” and “rarely/never.”

Table 30 shows the choices and the percentages relevant to the answer choices.

**Table 30: Ways People Get Local News (Ranked by “Very often”)**

Source	Very often	Somewhat often	Rarely/never
Friends and family	33	51	16
Websites that report on local news like Eye on Annapolis, Patch or Naptown Scoop <sup>5</sup>	27	34	39
Social media like Facebook groups	25	35	40
Television stations that report on Anne Arundel County or Annapolis	23	33	44
Regional newspapers like the Washington post, Baltimore Sun or the Banner	22	23	55
Other sources (comment)	22	22	57
County focused newspapers like the Capital/Gazette or the Severna Park Voice	18	27	55
Radio stations that report on Anne Arundel County or Annapolis	16	27	57
Newsletters or other communication from local government or elected officials	13	33	54
Communication from your community association or residents' groups like the Greater Severna Park Council	12	28	60
Other websites like Maryland Matters or Maryland Reporter	8	21	71

The results shown on Table 31 indicate that informal means – through family and friends – was the most common way that people gained local news. Nearly all (84%) said that they used this method very or somewhat often. This was 24 points greater than the second item – websites

<sup>5</sup> One method of gaining respondents is through the outreach efforts of Eye on Annapolis. As a result, this category may overstate the frequency when generalized to all county residents.



that report on local news (61%). Two other methods were also among the leaders: social media like Facebook groups (60%) and television stations (56%).

**Table 31: Ways People Get Local News by Age Group (Very+somewhat often)**

Source	Overall	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+
Friends and family	84	93	76	91	81	74	81
Websites that report on local news like Eye on Annapolis, Patch or Naptown Scoop <sup>6</sup>	61	45	62	56	73	76	61
Social media like Facebook groups	60	72	72	54	52	50	41
Television stations that report on Anne Arundel County or Annapolis	56	59	50	51	45	58	68
Regional newspapers like the Washington Post, Baltimore Sun or the Banner	45	28	30	45	53	51	61
Other sources (comment)	44	38	36	67	65	39	31
County focused newspapers like the Capital/Gazette or the Severna Park Voice	45	29	39	52	46	56	54
Radio stations that report on Anne Arundel County or Annapolis	43	39	49	37	38	50	44
Newsletters or other communication from local government or elected officials	46	34	34	56	47	56	53
Communication from your community association or residents' groups like the Greater Severna Park Council	40	32	32	43	35	52	46
Other websites like Maryland Matters or Maryland Reporter	29	33	17	31	28	30	30

Table 31 shows that some media types had greater sensitivity to age differences than others. For example, social media ranked high for people under 40 (72%), but much lower among those over 70 (41%). Conversely, regional newspapers like the Washington Post, Baltimore Sun or Banner were more likely to be accessed by older people like those over 70 (61%) compared to those under 40 (29-30%). The same was true for county-focused newspapers like the

<sup>6</sup> One method of gaining respondents is through the outreach efforts of Eye on Annapolis. As a result, this category may overstate the frequency when generalized to all county residents.

Capital/Gazette or Severna Park Voice: over 70 (54%), 18-29 (29%). Television was the one media type that seemed the most resistant to age differences since those who were between 18-29 (59%) were about as likely as those who were 60-69 (58%) to use it to gain local news. Specialized websites such as Maryland Matters or Maryland Reporter also showed little variance by age.

Here are categories developed by ChatGPT from the open-ended comments about the quality and quantity of local news reporting (a fuller summary is available in Appendix F):

- Lack of Quality in Reporting:** 25% (25 responses)
- Bias in Coverage:** 15% (15 responses)
- Decline in Local Focus:** 20% (20 responses)
- Expense and Accessibility:** 10% (10 responses)
- Limited Alternatives and Source Fragmentation:** 8% (8 responses)
- Loss of Local Journalists:** 7% (7 responses)
- Appreciation for Specific Sources:** 5% (5 responses)
- Community-Based News and Social Media:** 4% (4 responses)
- Legacy Appeal of Certain Papers:** 6% (6 responses)

Overall, there was significant concern about the state of local news. Bias was a frequent criticism. Moreover, respondents often pointed to a decline in local focus often saying that they were receiving news about Baltimore when they wanted news about Anne Arundel County or Annapolis. Several mentioned the rising costs of newspapers such as the Capital/Gazette. See Appendix G.

## Housing – County Options

This section probed residents’ views of the **housing affordability** issue. Rather than simply identify people’s favorability to various policy approaches alone, the goal was to better understand how perceptions could be affected by individual circumstances.

This section of the survey started by distinguishing between perceptions of the seriousness of housing affordability for the individual respondent as well as for the county generally. The question was presented as shown below:

**“The county has been working on policies that would help lower the cost of housing. Before assessing these efforts, please indicate which of the following best expresses the seriousness of the housing situation.”**

Table 32 shows the results. About one-third of the sample (34%) felt that the issue of affordable housing was serious both for them individually and for the county generally. A plurality said that the issue was not serious for themselves, but probably was for the county (48%), while 18% said it was serious neither for themselves nor for the county.

**Table 32: Seriousness of Housing Issue**

It is serious for both me personally and the county generally	34
It is serious for the county generally, but not so much for me personally	48
It doesn't seem to be serious either for me personally or for the county generally	18
Total	100

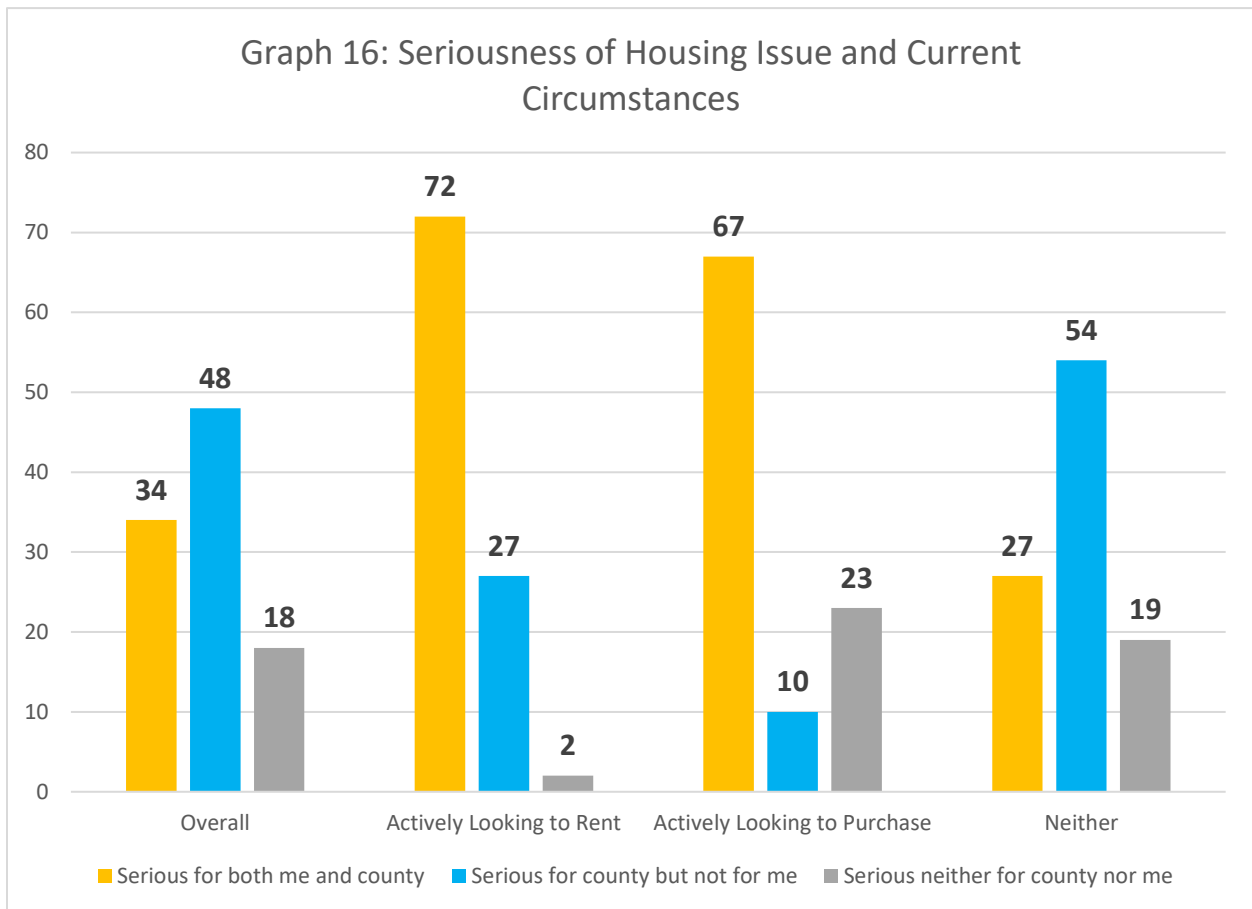
These results show that for two-thirds of the respondents, affordable housing was mostly **not** an issue for themselves; for 82% it **was** perceived as a serious issue “for the county.”

A second question was asked to help further ascertain the **respondent’s current circumstances with regards to housing**. They were asked whether they were “actively looking to rent” (6%), “actively looking to purchase” (10%) or neither looking to rent or purchase at this time (84%).

Table 33 shows the relationship between perceptions of the seriousness of the housing issue with the respondents’ current circumstances on the housing market.

**Table 33: Perception of Seriousness of Housing Affordability and Current Circumstances**

Source	Overall	Actively Looking to Rent	Actively Looking to Purchase	Neither
Serious for both me and county	34	72	67	27
Serious for county but not for me	48	27	10	54
Serious neither for county nor me	18	2	23	19
Total	100	101	100	101



As shown in Table 33 and Graph 16, the perception of personal seriousness regarding housing affordability was much more acute for those currently looking to rent (72%) or purchase (67%) compared to others (27%). The perception that housing affordability was not an issue for either themselves or the county generally was essentially nonexistent among those looking to rent (2%) compared to purchase (23%) or neither (19%), **suggesting that the housing situation was especially critical to those seeking to rent.**

**Table 34: Current Circumstances and Age**

	Overall	Under 40	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+
Actively looking to rent	6	16	2	0	2	2
Actively looking to purchase	10	20	11	3	5	3
Neither	84	64	87	97	93	95
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 34 shows that those most likely to be on the market for housing are those under 40. Only 64% of them are **not** looking to rent or purchase compared to 87-97% of those who are older. Thus, if there is a housing affordability problem, it **disproportionately affects younger people**.

Table 35 shows a majority (64%) said that they owned a house and may have paid off the mortgage. This means that 36% were either living with their families (21%) or renting (16%). Among those under 40, only 16% owned a house; the rest were either living with family or renting. It is not surprising that this group is also the one most interested in changing their current circumstances – either by renting or purchasing.

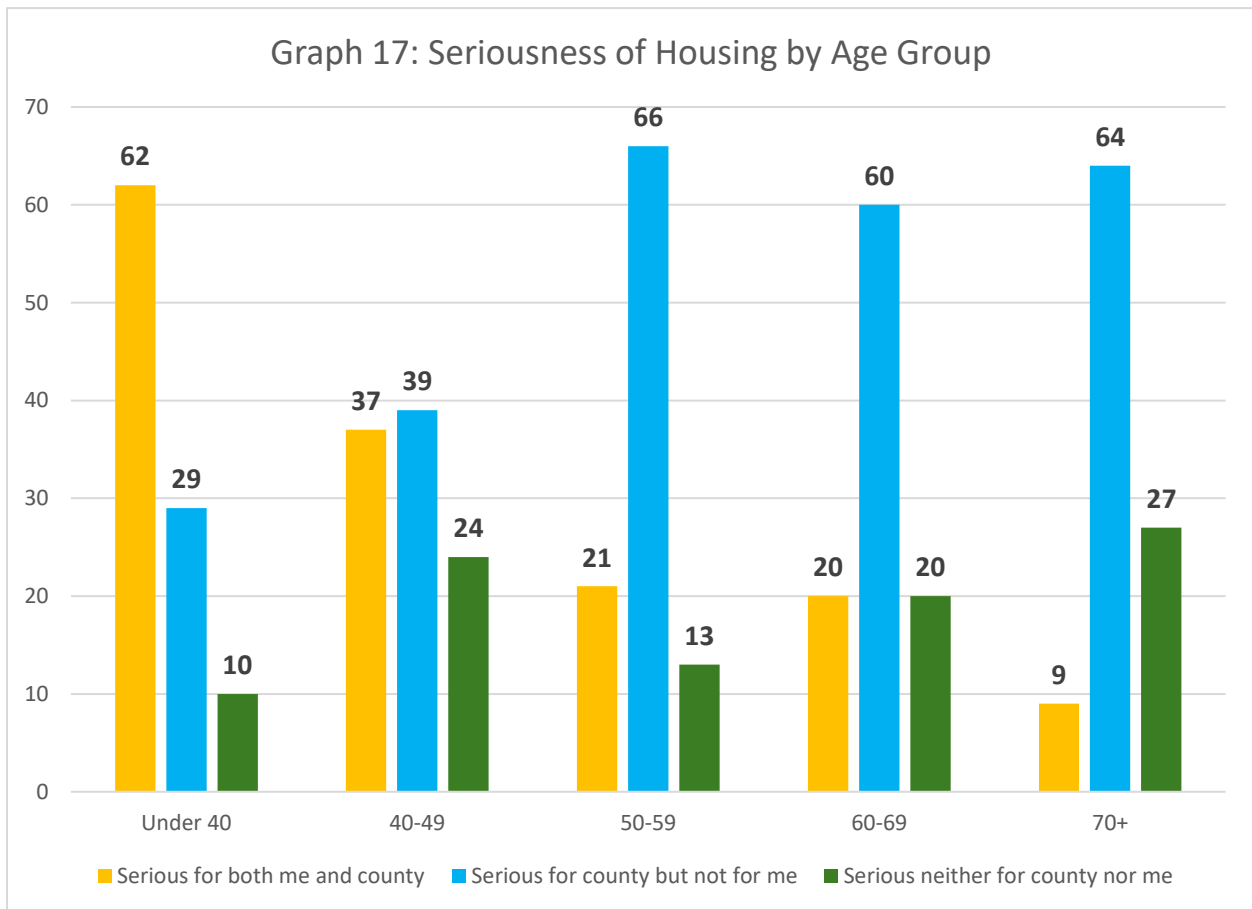
**Table 35: Current Living Situation**

	Overall	Under 40	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+
I currently live with my family and pay little or no rent	21	47	12	3	0	3
I currently am renting on my own or with roommates	16	38	7	5	9	5
I currently own a house but am paying off a mortgage	45	15	81	75	63	37
I currently own a house and have paid off the mortgage	19	1	0	17	28	56
Total	100	101	100	100	100	101

Given the fact that younger people were more likely to be living in a transitional situation and seeking to change their current circumstances, it was not surprising that they were also the ones most likely to say that the housing situation was serious both for themselves and the county.

**Table 36: Perception of Seriousness of Housing Affordability and Current Circumstances**

Source	Overall	Under 40	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+
Serious for both me and county	34	62	37	21	20	9
Serious for county but not for me	57	29	39	66	60	64
Serious neither for county nor me	18	10	24	13	20	27
Total	99	101	101	100	100	100



As shown on Table 36 and Graph 17, the age group saying that the housing affordability situation “is serious for both me and the county” was the **under 40 group**. It was the group that had the most transitional current housing situation, is most actively looking to rent or purchase, and considered the housing situation to be the most serious for themselves and the county.

Next, the survey turned to the issue of whether people who were looking to rent or purchase were satisfied with the selection, affordability and location of units that they sought. Table 37 shows how those seeking to rent answered these questions. While the “not very satisfied” was the majority response in all three cases, the affordability issue was mentioned far more (87% vs. 55% and 58%).

**Table 37: Renters’ Satisfaction with Housing Choices**

Source	Not very satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very satisfied	Total
Selection of rental units	55	42	3	100
Affordability of rental units	87	13	0	100
Location of rental units	58	39	3	100

Among those seeking to **purchase**, Table 38 shows that the **affordability question did not get disproportionately chosen** (all were around 70% “Not very satisfied”) probably due to the phrasing which mentioned “within your price range” in each case. The outstanding fact remains that over two-thirds of current house purchasers were not satisfied with the selection, cost and local of available units under consideration.

**Table 38: Purchasers’ Satisfaction with Housing Choices**

Source	Not very satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very satisfied	Total
Selection of housing types available within your price range	69	29	2	100
Affordability of available housing	69	29	2	100
Location of available units within your price range	70	30	0	100

Table 39 shows the kinds of housing units that people were seeking and divides them between renters and buyers. Overall, about an equal percentage sought an apartment/condo (26%) as a townhouse (22%). A plurality sought a single-family house (48%). However, looking at differences between renters and those seeking to buy, clearly renters had different housing aspirations: 62% sought an apartment or condo, compared to only 5% of buyers. Among the latter, **the overwhelming majority sought a single-family house (74%)** rather than a townhouse (19%) or condo (5%). Given these trends, it seems likely that **different strategies for “solving” the affordability challenge facing the county might be implied:** one that produced a new stock of apartments for renters and another one that produced more single-family housing for buyers.

**Table 39: Types of Housing Units Sought by Income Group**

Source	Overall	Under \$100k	\$100-150k	Over \$150k
Apartment or condo	25	24	41	16
Townhouse	24	27	28	10
Single-family house	48	48	24	63
Other	4	1	7	11

Income affected the choice of desired housing types. It was not unexpected that those in the highest income group would be much more likely to seek single family housing (63%); however, less likely was the relatively large group with incomes under \$100,000 who sought a single-family dwelling unit (48%), which was a larger percentage than those in the middle-income group (24%). From a policy perspective, **it is difficult to envision a policy that focuses on the single-family housing aspirations of those in the lowest income group**, although 52% of that group still sought another housing type.

The survey then asked about a range of approaches to increasing the availability of moderately priced housing units. Table 40 shows the approaches listed and the percentages of all respondents supporting, opposing or being neutral to them.



**Table 40: Approaches to Increasing Housing Supply**

	<b>Support</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Unsure</b>	<b>Total</b>
Requiring new developments of over 10 units to include a percentage of moderately priced units	49	20	19	13	101
Allowing developers who include moderately priced units to have higher housing densities than allowed by the underlying zoning	20	24	40	16	100
Encouraging new developments that are close to stores and public transportation whenever possible	62	23	10	5	100
Increasing funding allocations for affordable housing in the County budget	49	18	24	9	100
Waiving adequate facilities for schools or roads to build moderately priced or income-restricted housing	16	13	55	17	101

Only one of the listed options gained a majority of support (62%): “Encouraging new developments that are close to stores and public transportation whenever possible.” This option was mostly about lessening the burden upon the county’s infrastructure, so it was a proposition that was the easiest with which to agree.

Support for other approaches varied, with “increasing funding allocations for affordable housing” and “requiring new developments of over 10 units to include a percentage of moderately priced units” both at 49% “support.”

What was clearly strongly opposed were proposals that sought to either increase housing densities through upzoning (20% support) or waiving adequate facilities for schools or roads (16%). The latter was the only proposal obtaining a clear majority in opposition. These findings are consistent with previous CSLI polling highlighting the importance that the public places upon maintaining a balance between new development and the burden that it places on existing infrastructure.

Income had some effect upon the willingness of respondents to support some of these proposals. Table 41 shows that “increasing densities” was supported by a much larger percentage of the lowest income group (32%) compared to the highest one (18%). The same was true for increasing funding allocations (65%, 41%) and waiving adequate facilities (29%, 6%). Still, it remains true that **even among the lowest income households, proposals to raise densities and waive adequate facilities were supported by small minorities.** Other than the relatively consensual idea regarding the placement of new developments near stores and public transportation, only the notion that “more funding” could help alleviate the housing situation was favored by a majority overall (51%) and a large majority (65%) of those in the lowest income group.

**Table 41: Support for Approaches to Increasing Housing Supply by Income Group<sup>7</sup>**

	Overall	Under \$100k	\$100-150k	Over \$150k
Requiring new developments of over 10 units to include a percentage of moderately priced units	52	56	44	52
Allowing developers who include moderately priced units to have higher housing densities than allowed by the underlying zoning	24	32	22	18
Encouraging new developments that are close to stores and public transportation whenever possible	66	72	57	66
Increasing funding allocations for affordable housing in the County budget	51	65	49	41
Waiving adequate facilities for schools or roads to build moderately priced or income-restricted housing	17	29	19	6

In a previous section of the survey, there was a question that asked respondents whether they supported “subsidies for first-time home buyers.” This was supported by a majority (55%). Here we can reexamine this idea by looking at whether the level of support varies by living situation, intention to purchase or rent, age, income and party.

<sup>7</sup> There were a relatively large percentage of respondents who did not indicate their income – resulting in some changes to the overall percentages cited in this table compared to those in Table 40.

**Table 42: Support for Subsidies for First-time Homebuyers**

	Support %
<b>Overall</b>	55
<b>Housing Situation</b>	
Living at home	64
Renting	83
House with mortgage	46
House without mortgage	43
<b>Housing status</b>	
Looking to rent	76
Looking to purchase	71
Neither	51
<b>Income</b>	
Under \$100,000	70
\$100,000-\$150,000	53
Over \$150,000	47
<b>Age Group</b>	
Under 40	69
40-49	59
50-59	47
60-69	44
Over 70	41
<b>Party Registration</b>	
Democrat	74
Republican	30
Unaffiliated	50

Table 42 shows how support for this proposal varied. It was favored by a majority of those living at home or renting, but not current homeowners. It gained support across all three housing status categories, although it found the lowest level of support among those not looking to buy or rent at this time. The highest level of support among income groups was among those in the lowest tranche. Younger people under 50 favored the idea more than older people. Perhaps the strongest predictor of support was party registration since three-quarters of Democrats (74%)

supported this idea compared to only 30% of Republicans, with unaffiliateds (50%) in the middle.

Generally, the **main conclusions** about these approaches to increasing housing costs is that they are especially supported by younger people with lower incomes, especially if they are actively in the housing market or potentially seeking new housing. Strong partisan divides can prevent the passage of supportive legislation. Legislation meant to circumvent existing housing densities/zoning or be facilitated by negating the impact of adequate facilities laws are likely to be adversely perceived by most people.

### **Level of government most trusted to address the housing situation**

A final question capping off the discussion of housing focused on people’s trust in a certain level of government to better handle the issue. Specifically, the question was posed as follows:

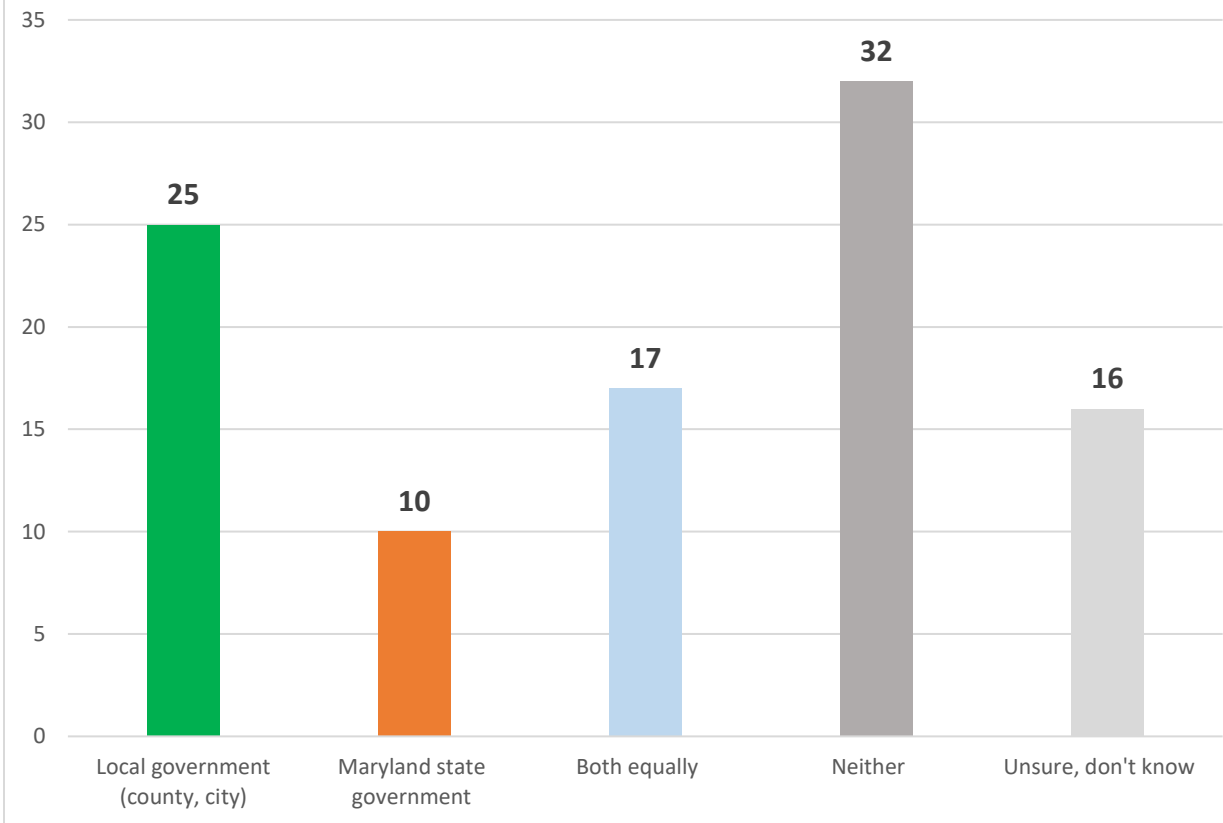
**“Which level of government - Maryland state government or Anne Arundel County (or Annapolis) government - do you most trust to make good decisions to increase the supply of housing while also taking into consideration the impact on transportation, school overcrowding, and the protection of open space?”**

**Table 43: Support for Levels of Government, Housing Balance with Infrastructure**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Dems</b>	<b>Reps</b>	<b>Unaffil.</b>
Local government (county, city)	25	27	23	30
Maryland state government	10	14	3	8
Both equally	17	22	7	19
Neither	32	17	54	35
Unsure, don't know	16	19	11	6
Other - option to explain:	1	2	3	2
Total	101	101	101	100

Table 43 shows that **local government was far more trusted** (25%) than state government (10%) when considering decisions to increase the supply of housing without neglecting a concern with infrastructure and open space. There was a marked **partisan component** to the pattern of answers since far more Republicans (54% vs. Dems 32%) were dubious that either level of government could do a good job in that regard. Democrats were more likely to say that both levels were equally trustworthy (22%) compared to Republicans (7%). See Appendices H and I for relevant open-ended comments.

Graph 17: Trust on Housing by Government Levels



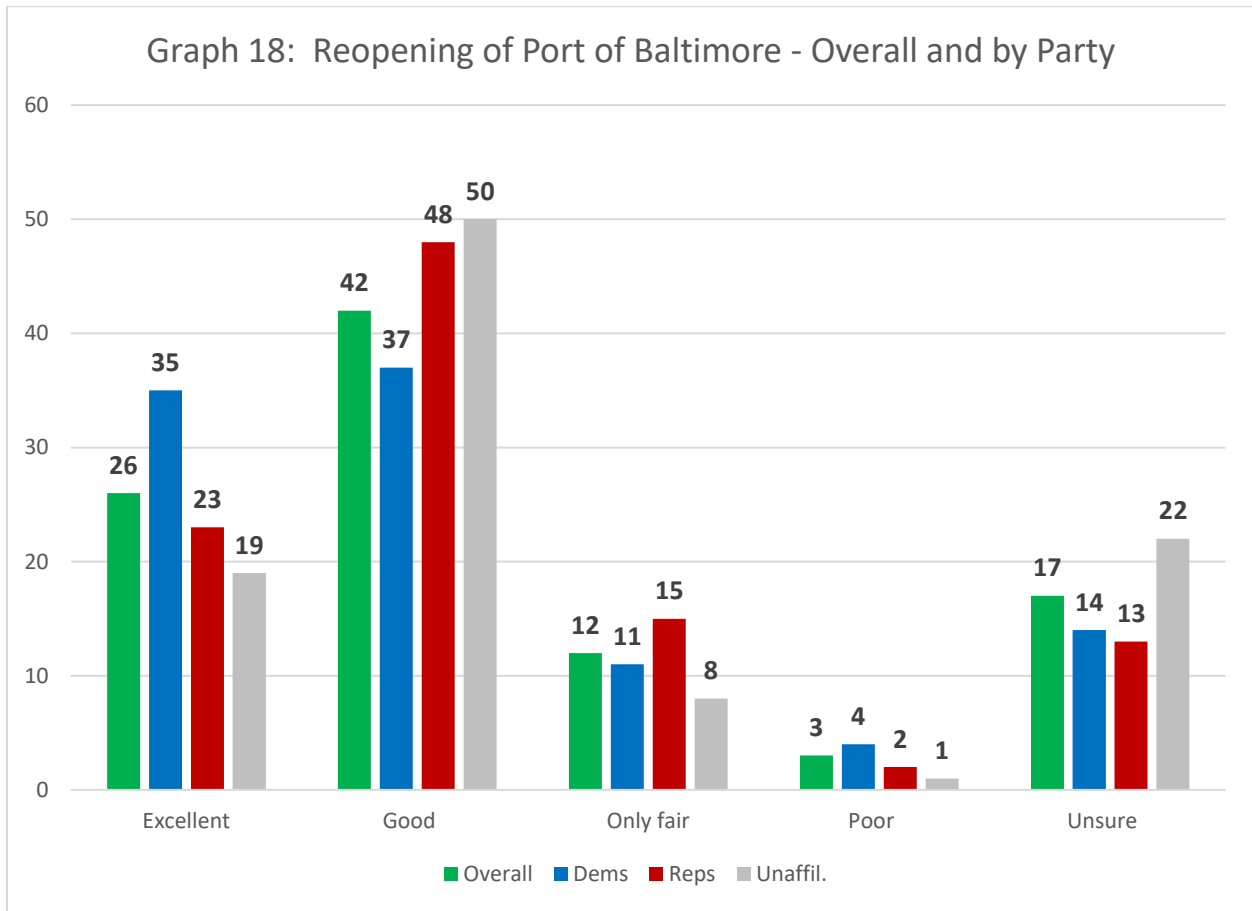
## Maryland State Issues – Reopening of the Port of Baltimore

Last spring the CSLI survey asked respondents whether they were confident that the Francis Scott Key Bridge “will be rebuilt relatively quickly.” Only 38% expressed such confidence. This fall, a related but distinct question was asked:

**“Thinking of the process of reopening the Port of Baltimore after the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge, would you say that the state has done an excellent, good, only fair or poor job?”**

**Table 44: Key Bridge, Opening Port Overall/and by Party – Percentage Saying Excellent**

	Overall	Dems	Reps	Unaffil.
Excellent	26	35	23	19
Good	42	37	48	50
Only fair	12	11	15	8
Poor	3	4	2	1
Unsure	17	14	13	22
Total	100	101	101	100



As was true last time the situation involving the Key Bridge was asked, the partisan response was muted.<sup>8</sup> In this case, the combined excellent+good score for Democrats was 72%, while it was 71% for Republicans – albeit that Democratic “excellent” scores (35%) were higher than Republican ones (23%) – see Table 44 and Graph 18.

An open-ended opportunity to explain respondents’ views about Maryland state issues was presented. Appendix I includes the verbatim statements. Below is a ChatGPT generated summary (see a fuller representation in the appendix):

**Overdevelopment and Infrastructure Strain (30%)**

- Concerns about overbuilding housing and commercial spaces without proper infrastructure planning.
- Traffic congestion issues, particularly on Riva Road and other overcrowded areas.
- Lack of foresight and inadequate planning for future growth.

**Affordability and Cost of Living (20%)**

- Rising housing costs making it difficult for residents, especially retirees, to stay in Maryland.
- High rents, lack of affordable housing, and concerns about inflation and tax increases.
- Affordability for seniors, college students, and low-income families.

**Government Accountability and Trust (15%)**

- Frustration with local and state government’s handling of public input, zoning, and development approvals.
- Concerns about bureaucratic inefficiency and government overreach.
- Distrust of political figures like the County Executive and the state’s fiscal policies.

**Entitlement and Work Ethic (15%)**

- Belief that COVID-related handouts created a sense of entitlement and reduced the willingness to work.
- Concerns that people are no longer working for what they have, leading to a culture of dependence.

**Public Services and Infrastructure Maintenance (10%)**

- Complaints about insufficient public services like road maintenance, streetlights, and transportation.
- Disparities in attention given to different communities regarding public services.

**Environmental Concerns (5%)**

- Overdevelopment leading to environmental degradation, particularly around the Chesapeake Bay.
- Concerns about loss of green spaces, tree removal, and impacts on waterways.

**Housing Policies and Solutions (5%)**

- Opinions on how housing issues should be addressed, including support for more affordable housing.
- Mixed views on government intervention in the housing market.
- Cultural and Community Impact (5%)
- Impact of urbanization and high-density housing on suburban lifestyles.

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<sup>8</sup> See page 80 of the spring press release: <https://www2.aacc.edu/csli/AACC-Community-Survey-Spring-2024-Press-Release.pdf>

## International Issues

Three previous surveys have asked how serious respondents believed were some specific “international affairs” situations – very, somewhat, or not very serious. Table 45 shows the seven questions that related to foreign affairs and climate change. Two other questions in this section were not part of that table and dealt with U.S. support/aid to Ukraine and Israel.

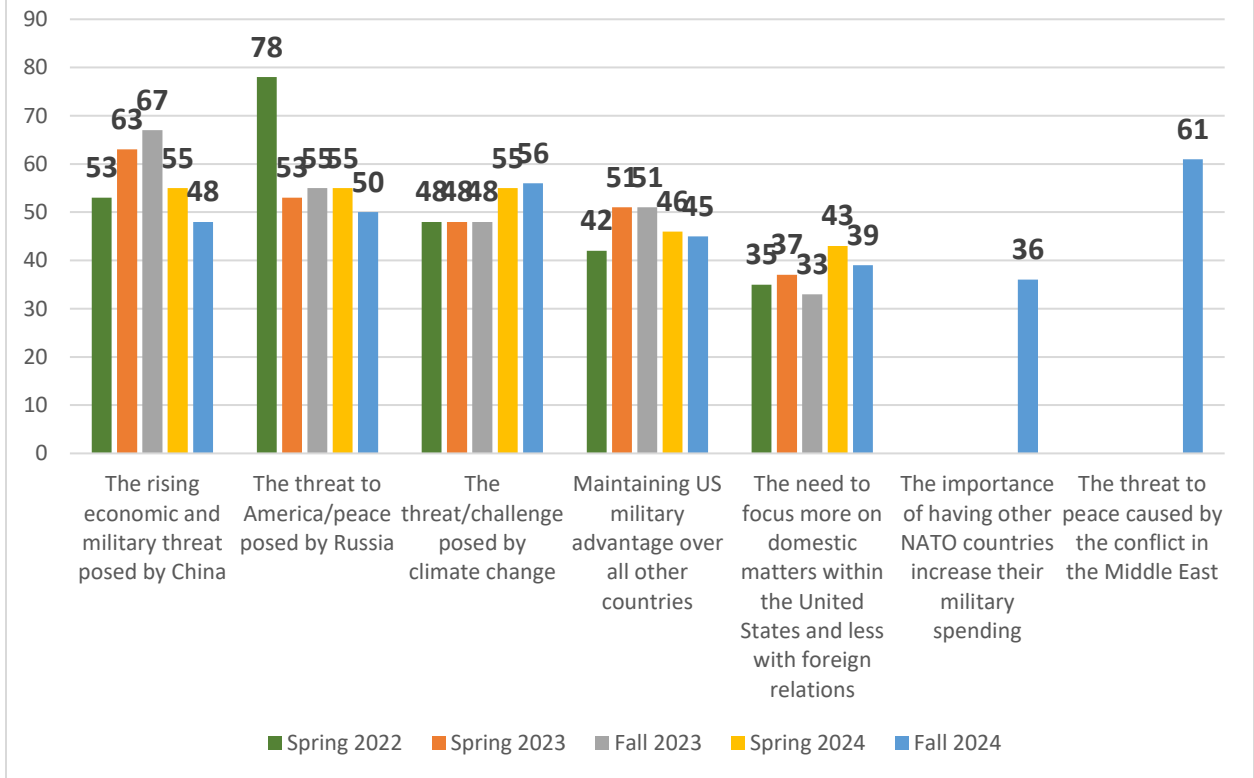
Table 45 and Graph 19 show the results for the seven questions available for spring/fall 2023 and spring/fall 2024.

**Table 45: National and International Issues – Spring 2022/2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024**

	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Fall 2024			
	Very serious	Very serious	Very serious	Very serious	Somewhat serious	Not very serious	Unsure, no opinion
The rising economic and military threat posed by China	63	67	55	<b>48</b>	36	7	10
The threat to America/peace posed by Russia	53	55	55	<b>50</b>	34	8	8
The threat/challenge posed by climate change	48	48	55	<b>56</b>	20	19	5
Maintaining US military advantage over all other countries	51	51	46	<b>45</b>	31	14	11
The need to focus more on domestic matters within the United States and less with foreign relations	37	33	43	<b>39</b>	36	16	9
The importance of having other NATO countries increase their military spending	--	--	--	<b>36</b>	38	12	14
The threat to peace caused by the conflict in the Middle East	--	--	--	<b>61</b>	26	5	8



Graph 19: International Issues - % Very Serious Spring 2022-Fall 2024



Prior to spring 2024, the threat posed by China had been steadily rising as a very serious problem, moving from 53% to 67% over the course of the three surveys. However, by spring 2024, China had receded somewhat as a perceived threat, dropping 12 points to 55%. In fall 2024, it dropped even further to only 48% - the lowest score since the time series started.

The perception of Russia as a threat was very high just after the invasion of Ukraine – captured by the 78% score in the spring 2022 survey. However, just six months later perceptions changed such that scores fell into the 50-55% range – by fall 2024 it was its lowest yet at 50% despite the ongoing war and the dependency of Ukraine on US military and humanitarian aid.

There was no real change in the percentage saying “very serious” for climate change as the percentage citing it as very serious barely moved – from 55% in spring to 56% in fall.

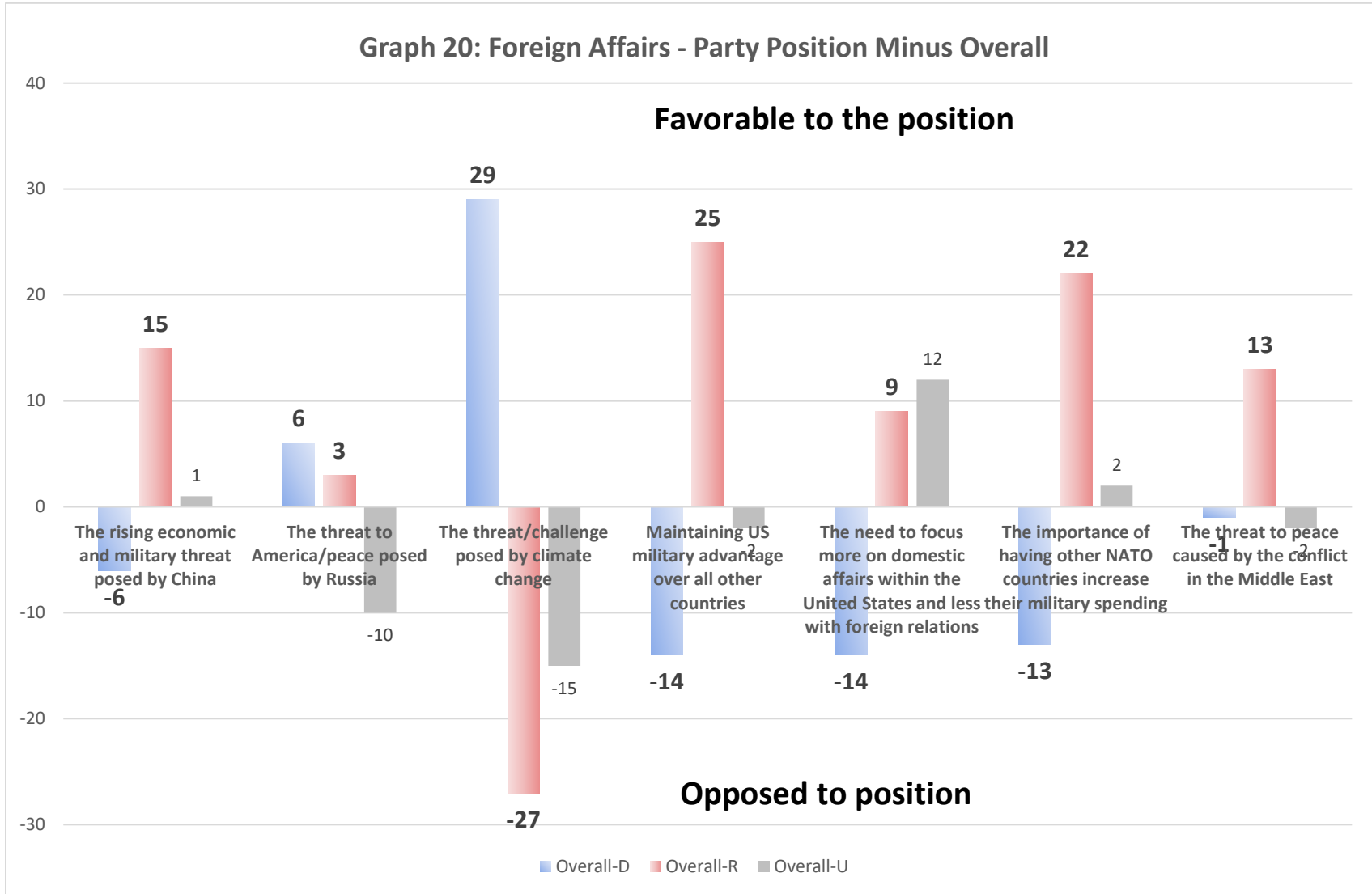
The percentage for the question about “focus more on domestic matters within the United States and less with foreign relations” dropped a bit from 43% to 39% - closer to the average for the period (38%). There was little change in the percentage favoring the idea that U.S. maintain military advantage over all other countries – dropping from 46% to 45%.

Table 46 shows differences in perceptions by political party. Table 47 shows it by ideology while Table 48 shows it by age.

**Table 46: “Very Serious” Percentages for Various National/International Issues by Party**

	Overall Very serious				Dems				Reps				Unaffil.			
	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
The rising economic and military threat posed by China	63	67	55	<b>48</b>	51	61	52	<b>42</b>	84	82	71	<b>63</b>	62	59	48	<b>43</b>
The threat to America/peace posed by Russia	53	55	55	<b>50</b>	55	59	65	<b>56</b>	62	55	51	<b>53</b>	37	52	45	<b>40</b>
The threat/challenge posed by climate change	48	48	55	<b>56</b>	75	76	83	<b>85</b>	25	13	19	<b>29</b>	28	47	53	<b>41</b>
Maintaining US military advantage over all other countries	51	51	46	<b>45</b>	40	41	39	<b>31</b>	75	70	64	<b>70</b>	43	48	38	<b>43</b>
The need to focus more on domestic affairs within the United States and less with foreign relations	37	33	43	<b>39</b>	30	25	36	<b>25</b>	51	36	50	<b>48</b>	33	46	50	<b>51</b>
The importance of having other NATO countries increase their military spending	--	--	--	<b>36</b>	--	--	--	<b>23</b>	--	--	--	<b>58</b>	--	--	--	<b>38</b>
The threat to peace caused by the conflict in the Middle East	--	--	--	<b>61</b>	--	--	--	<b>60</b>	--	--	--	<b>74</b>	--	--	--	<b>59</b>

Graph 20: Foreign Affairs - Party Position Minus Overall



Graph 20 subtracts the overall percentage for an issue from the respective party position using the percentage saying “very serious.” This is a way of visualizing party polarization but goes beyond that to show how distant a party’s stance is from that of the mean found in the overall public.

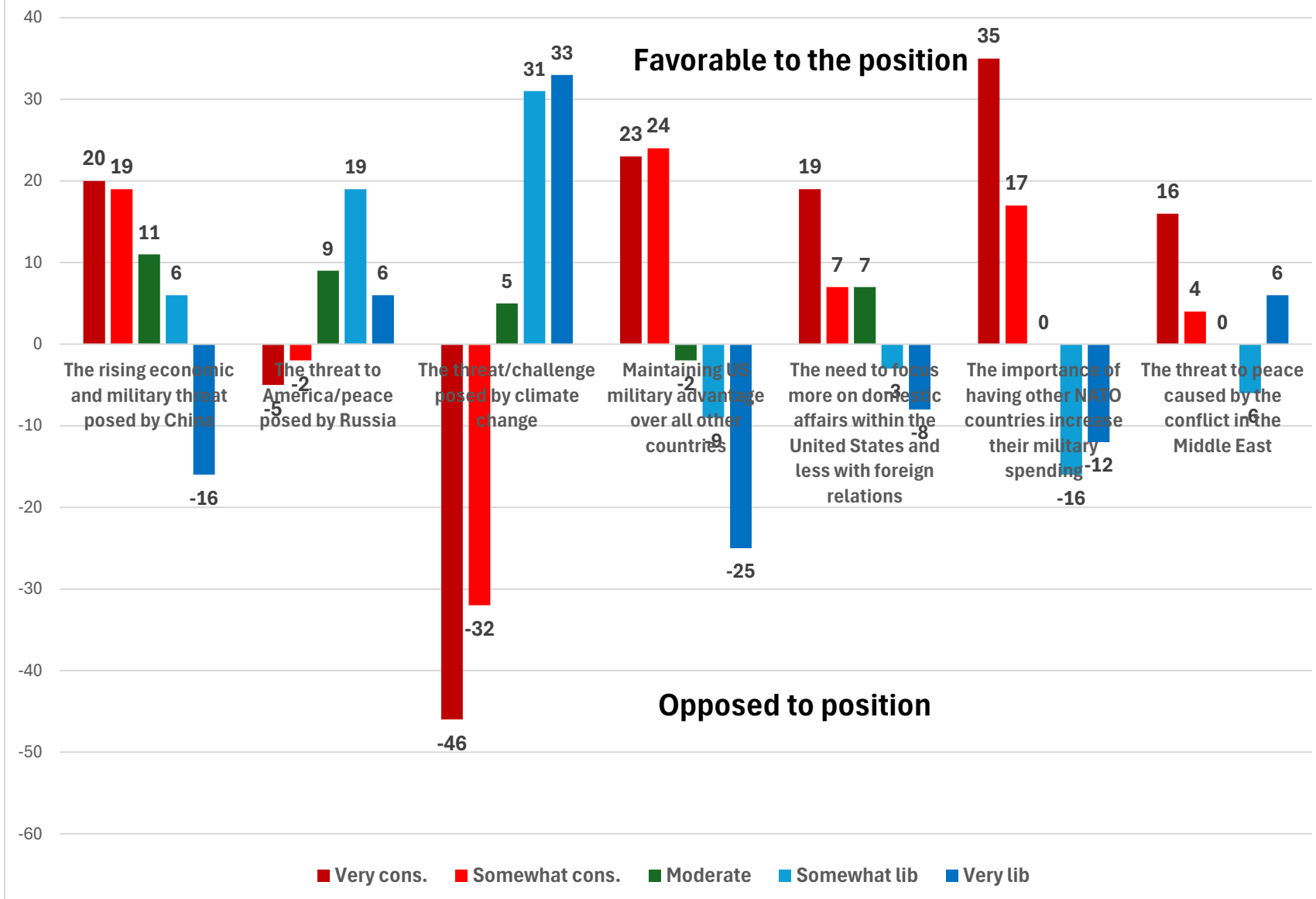
Regarding polarization, the biggest gap is clearly concerning **climate change**. Both parties are nearly equal in their distance from the overall average, but unaffiliateds tend to be more against than in favor of the position, suggesting some Democratic isolation on this issue.

Another two issues seemed to emphasize polarization. The first was “**maintaining U.S. military advantage over all other countries**.” Democrats were 14 points over the average in being against this position, while Republicans 25 points more in favor of it. Unaffiliateds were closer to the Democratic position. The second was “the importance of having other NATO countries increase their military spending.” Democrats were 13 points over the average in being against this position, while Republicans 22 points in favor of it. Unaffiliateds were closer to the Democratic position even though that group was slightly in favor of the proposition overall. Both for that proposition as well as the one “**The need to focus more on domestic affairs within the United States and less with foreign relations**” seem to tap the isolationist strand of foreign policy thinking common to the Trump wing of the Republican Party. While the unaffiliateds were not strongly inclined to agree with the NATO idea, they exceeded the percentage of Republicans agreeing with the idea that domestic needs within the country were going unmet – a kind of zero-sum mindset that counterposes foreign vs. domestic priorities as being mutually exclusive.

**Table 47: “Very Serious” Percentages for Various National/International Issues by Ideology –Spring/Fall 2024**

	Spring 2024	Fall 2024	Ideology Fall 2024				
	Overall	Overall	Very cons.	Somewhat cons.	Moderate	Somewhat lib	Very lib
The rising economic and military threat posed by China	55	48	68	67	59	54	32
The threat to America/peace posed by Russia	55	50	45	48	59	69	56
The threat/challenge posed by climate change	55	56	10	24	61	87	89
Maintaining US military advantage over all other countries	46	45	68	69	43	36	20
The need to focus more on domestic affairs within the United States and less with foreign relations	43	39	58	46	46	36	31
The importance of having other NATO countries increase their military spending	--	36	71	53	36	20	24
The threat to peace caused by the conflict in the Middle East	--	61	77	65	61	55	67

Graph 21: Foreign Affairs - Ideological Position Minus Overall

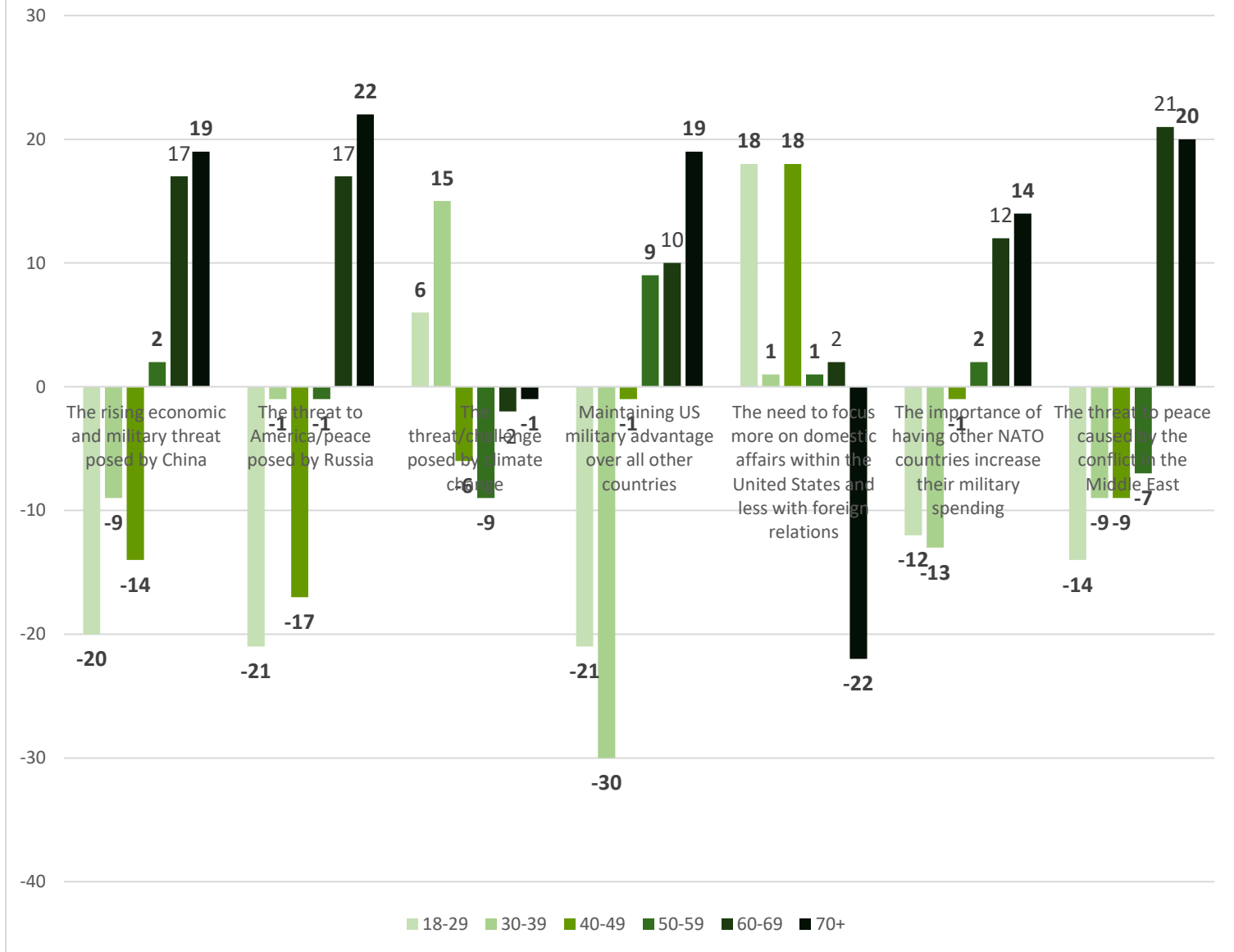


Graph 21 shows the same analysis for ideology. In general, ideology followed partisan trends, but there were some notable nuances. Very liberals were least fearful of **China**, while somewhat liberals were closer to the position held by moderates. This pattern on the left was true as well regarding the threat posed by **Russia**, but on the right both conservative positions were slightly below the average. On **climate change**, very conservatives were farther from the average than were very liberals, but neither liberals nor conservatives were close to the score obtained by moderates. Sharp left/right polarization – especially among very liberals on the left – was seen regarding maintaining a **U.S. military advantage** – indicative of an anti-militarist view among very liberals that was much less pronounced by somewhat liberals. On the NATO question about other members paying more, very conservatives were 18 points more likely to favor this stance than somewhat conservatives. Liberals polarized against the stance, but were less polarized than among conservatives. Finally, in terms of the Middle East, only very conservatives were significantly above the average (16 points) while all other categories were relatively close to the mean.

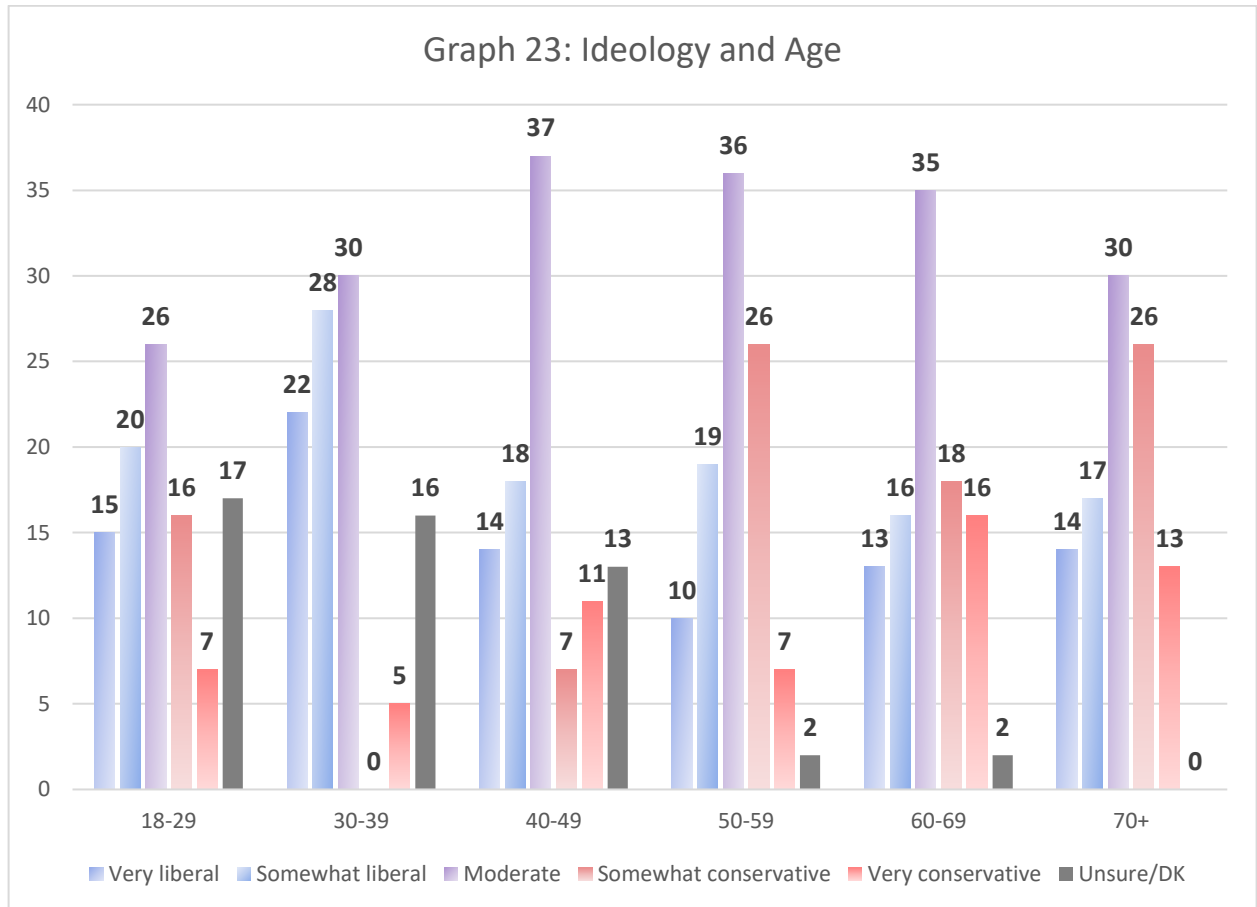
**Table 48: “Very Serious” Percentages for Various National/International Issues by Age, Fall 2024**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>18-29</b>	<b>30-39</b>	<b>40-49</b>	<b>50-59</b>	<b>60-69</b>	<b>70+</b>
The rising economic and military threat posed by China	48	28	39	34	50	65	67
The threat to America/peace posed by Russia	50	29	49	33	49	67	72
The threat/challenge posed by climate change	56	62	71	50	47	54	55
Maintaining US military advantage over all other countries	45	24	15	44	54	55	64
The need to focus more on domestic affairs within the United States and less with foreign relations	39	57	40	57	40	41	17
The importance of having other NATO countries increase their military spending	36	24	23	35	38	48	50
The threat to peace caused by the conflict in the Middle East	61	47	52	52	54	82	81

Graph 22: Foreign Affairs - Age Group Minus Overall



Graph 22 subtracts the average score from the scores associated with each of the age groups. The basic pattern seems clear: **older respondents were generally more likely to favor the military and to perceive threats as more serious**. Younger people were more likely to highlight the seriousness of climate change and the need to focus more on domestic affairs over foreign ones.



Graph 23 depicts the **relationship between age and ideology** since both were referenced in the previous section. As can be seen, the moderate position was the dominant one for each age group. Those under 50 were more likely to say that they were unsure about their ideological stance. However, it was clear that overall, younger people were more likely to be liberal compared to older respondents. For example, 35% of those between 18-29 were liberals and only 23% were conservatives. By contrast among those over 70, 31% were liberals and 39% were conservatives. This would explain the relationship between foreign policy stances that were differentiated by both ideology (e.g., conservatives between more inclined to perceive military/threats) and age (older people were also more inclined to military and threats). See Appendix J for open-ended comments.



## Aid to Ukraine and Israel

Both the situation involving Russia and Ukraine as well as the conflicts in the Middle East were considered to be serious concerns by the sample. The question of the role of American military and humanitarian assistance in both cases is controversial. For fall 2024, the survey repeated a question asked last spring but reduced the “agreement” categories from two to just one.

Table 49 shows the results. There were differences that could be attributed to the changes in question wording as well as the general situations involving both regions. In any case, the question only applied to military assistance each time. In spring 75% agreed at least somewhat with providing such aid to Ukraine, while only 18% disagreed. By fall, the combined (agree) category had dropped to 63%, while the “don’t agree” answer rose slightly to 23%.

Regarding Israel, the spring value was 58% but had dropped to only 40% - an 18-point drop compared to only a 12-point drop for Ukraine – although the “don’t agree” value for Israel aid only went up four-points to 37%. There was a larger “unsure” score for both cases – especially for Israel that went up from 9% to 23% - perhaps signaling more challenges for respondents in making a decision.

**“The Biden administration has advocated providing significant military aid to Ukraine and Israel. Which of the following best expresses your views about such aid?”**

**Table 49: Support for Military Aid to Ukraine and Israel**

	Agree completely with providing aid (only “agree” in fall 2024)		Agree somewhat with providing aid		Don’t agree with providing aid		Unsure		Total	
	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24
Ukraine	47	<b>63</b>	29	<b>N.A.</b>	18	<b>23</b>	5	<b>15</b>	99	<b>101</b>
Israel	24	<b>40</b>	34	<b>N.A.</b>	33	<b>37</b>	9	<b>23</b>	100	<b>100</b>

Below are summaries of open-ended comments made by respondents for the section about international affairs generated by ChatGPT. The full set of comments is available in Appendix J.

• **Support for Increased Military Aid (Ukraine/Allies) 21% (4/19)**

- "We need to dramatically increase aid to Ukraine and get them in NATO."
- "We need to help our allies and NATO to avoid a larger conflict."
- "We should empower our allies to compete with our common rivals."
- "We should supply much more aid to Ukraine."

**Support for Israel with Conditions 21% (4/19)**

- "We need to support Israel but Harris refuses to say they are an ally with the US."
- "With aid to Israel, there must be some conditions to limit the civilian casualties."
- "With regard to Israel, while I agree with providing aid, withholding that aid if they do not stop war mongering would be appropriate."
- "While I support aid to Israel I am very concerned that we seem to have lost influence with Israeli leadership."

**Criticism of Aid to Israel/Focus on Palestinian Rights 21% (4/19)**

- "We should not be giving US weapons to Israel that are used to kill innocent civilians."
- "We should work to broker peace in the Middle East. We should not fund the ironic, genocidal approach used by Israel against the Palestinians."
- "why are we funding a genocide and villainizing the victims' retaliations."
- "While I fully support Israel's right to defend itself, Netanyahu has shown an egregious contempt for the Lebanese people..."

•

**Focus on Domestic Issues Over Foreign Engagement 21% (4/19)**

- "We need to take care of our own country and stay out of foreign wars."
- "We should focus on the citizens of the USA first."
- "With the latest natural disasters affecting Americans. We need to take care of our own first."
- "Worry about our own country first."

- **General Criticism of U.S. Foreign Aid (Accountability Concerns)** 11% (2/19)
  - "Where have the billions gone in Ukraine? There is no accountability."
  - "While it may be important to address many of these issues, HOW they are addressed is of primary importance."

**Calls for Diplomatic Solutions (Peace Efforts)** 5% (1/19)

- "I wish there was a credible government in Palestine we could recognize and force them and the Israelis to negotiate."
- "We should work to broker peace in the Middle East."

## Politics and Elections: 2020 Elections – “Stolen?”

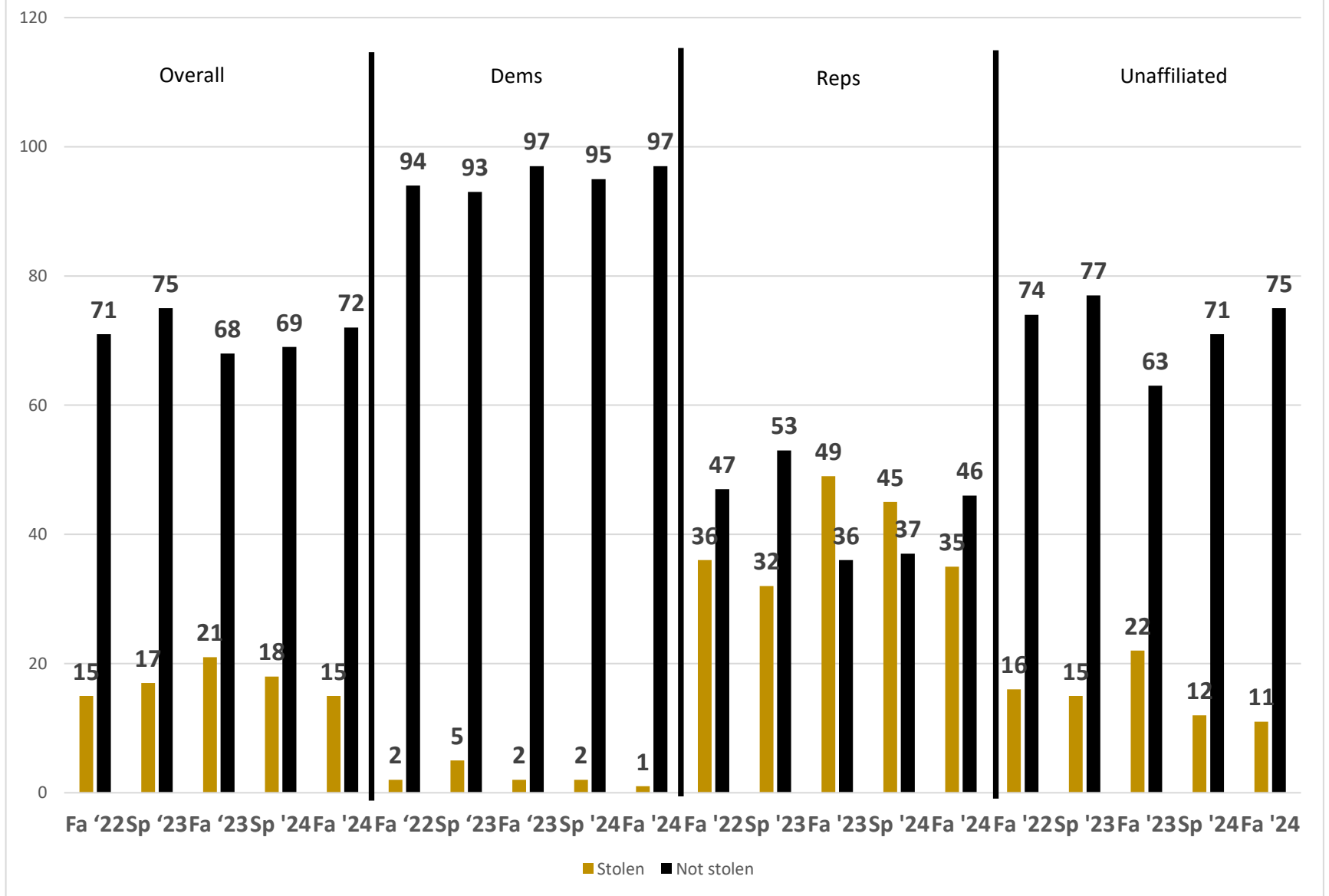
The politics part of the press release starts with the 2020 presidential election and the idea that the election was “stolen” from former President Trump. Specifically, the question asked was: **“Do you agree with the former President Trump that he actually won the last election and that it was “stolen” from him?”** This question has been asked since spring 2021. Table 50 shows the results over time, listing only the “stolen” and “not stolen” categories. Table 51 shows the actual choices faced by respondents for the last three surveys. The “Yes, fully agree” and “Yes, somewhat agree” categories were combined in Table 51 as well as in Graph 24 that visualizes the results.

Table 50 shows that there hasn’t been much change in respondents’ views about the 2020 election in these terms:

- Between 15% to 20% of the overall sample accepts the stolen election claim at least somewhat.
- Under half of the Republican respondents accept the claim, although the percentage dropped nine-points from spring to fall 2024.
- Between 10% to 20% of unaffiliated voters accept the claim.
- Under 5% of Democrats accept the claim.

While the range of responses has varied by party category, it would seem that there has been some overall erosion in the belief that the 2020 election was stolen.

Graph 24: Stolen Election Overall and by Party



**Table 50: Election Stolen, Overall and by Party, Spring 2021 to Fall 2024**

	Overall								Dems								Reps								Unaffil.							
	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
<b>Stolen</b>	26	23	23	15	17	21	18	15	4	6	4	2	5	2	2	<b>1</b>	43	47	49	36	32	49	45	<b>35</b>	32	16	28	16	15	22	12	<b>11</b>
<b>Not stolen</b>	74	77	64	71	75	68	69	72	96	94	94	94	93	97	97	<b>97</b>	57	53	38	47	53	36	37	<b>46</b>	68	84	57	74	77	63	71	<b>36</b>

Note: Results prior to spring 2022 are only roughly comparable since the question was modified somewhat to include two possible “yes” answers (“yes fully agree; and “yes somewhat agree”), as well as a “Unsure, don’t know” answer. The two affirmative answers have been combined in Table 53. The “Not stolen” percentage excludes respondents who said “Unsure, no opinion” and therefore the columns do not equal 100 percent.

**Table 51: Overall Results for Stolen Election Claim – Fall 2022 to Fall 2024**

	Overall Fall 2022	Overall Spring 2023	Overall Fall 2023	Overall Spring 2024	Overall Fall 2024
Yes, fully agree	9	8	13	8	<b>7</b>
Yes, somewhat agree	7	9	9	10	<b>8</b>
No, don’t agree	71	75	68	69	<b>72</b>
Unsure/don’t know	14	9	11	12	<b>14</b>
Total	100	101	101	99	<b>101</b>

Table 50 shows that there remain significant gaps between partisans about the stolen election claim, although the size of the gap ebbs and flows between survey iterations. Democrats are virtually convinced that the claim has no merit while somewhere between a third and half of Republicans believe that has at least some merit.

Table 52 shows that ideological categories tell a clear story: those who say that they are very conservative are most inclined to support the stolen election claim (52% - a 22-point drop from last spring); those who are only “somewhat conservative” are inclined to reject the claim (26% agree). The percentage of “moderates” that believe the claim has varied somewhat over the various surveys – last spring the percentage was 7%; this spring it rose to 11%. Among both categories of liberals (“somewhat” and “very”) there has been a barely measurable propensity to believe it. The overarching conclusion is that whatever the overall trend regarding the stolen election claim, **the most enduring feature is the strength with which party and ideology structure people’s perception of the truth value of the claim.**

**Table 52: Ideology and Stolen Election Claim, Spring 2021 to Fall 2024**

	Very conservative							Somewhat conservative							Moderate						
	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
<b>Stolen</b>	79	78	74	77	69	74	<b>52</b>	30	38	31	31	29	30	<b>26</b>	15	21	5	9	13	7	<b>11</b>
<b>Not stolen</b>	21	19	14	15	15	15	<b>48</b>	70	43	50	59	56	49	<b>53</b>	85	67	73	80	76	75	<b>78</b>

	Somewhat liberal							Very liberal						
	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
<b>Stolen</b>	7	7	4	0	1	2	<b>0</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Not stolen</b>	93	88	96	94	93	98	<b>98</b>	100	100	100	100	100	99	92

## 2024 Elections – Harris or Trump

This section also asked about the 2024 presidential elections. The survey asked, “If the presidential elections were today, for whom would you vote?” The only specific candidates offered were Joe Biden (fall 2023 and spring 2024), Kamala Harris (fall 2024) and Donald Trump, but the question offered the choice of “3<sup>rd</sup> party candidate” and “probably wouldn’t vote.”

**Table 53: Candidates for 2024 Presidential Elections – Fall 2023, Spring/Fall 2024**

	Overall			Dems			Reps			Unaffil.		
	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
Joe Biden/Kamala Harris	42	48	<b>55</b>	78	84	<b>92</b>	7	13	<b>15</b>	32	29	<b>53</b>
Donald Trump	33	32	<b>31</b>	6	5	<b>5</b>	72	72	<b>75</b>	26	28	<b>24</b>
A 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party candidate	17	14	<b>3</b>	12	9	<b>1</b>	17	11	<b>4</b>	25	31	<b>6</b>
Probably wouldn't vote	8	7	<b>11</b>	4	3	<b>2</b>	5	4	<b>6</b>	17	12	<b>18</b>
Total	100	101	<b>100</b>	100	101	<b>100</b>	101	100	<b>100</b>	100	100	<b>101</b>

Table 53 shows that **Kamala Harris widened the lead that former candidate Joe Biden had held over Donald Trump**. Judging by the levels of support within the various party categories, Democrats have clearly “come home” to their current nominee. By contrast, the defection of Republicans from nominee Trump increased slightly. What accounts for most of the change is the percentage of unaffiliateds who have moved from the “3<sup>rd</sup> Party” position to the Democratic one. It is notable that Trump’s totals haven’t really changed much – stuck at one-third of the vote. **The changes have been almost entirely on the side of the Democratic candidate.**

If these changes hold through the November 5 elections, it will mark a modern milestone in support for a Democratic presidential candidate in Anne Arundel County. The Biden lead over Trump in 2020 during the elections was 15 points – this survey shows the current figure at 24 points. This gap would eclipse the previous gap in the 1964 presidential election of 18 points.

Table 54 shows the percentage of Democrats and Republicans who are either strong, somewhat strong or not strong in their party affiliation while Table 56 shows the percentage of each gradation of party affiliation supporting each candidate or voting choice. As shown in all three surveys, nearly all “strong” Democrats (97%, 92%, 98%) were ready to vote for Biden or Harris. The pattern is similar for strong Republicans voting for Trump (93%, 96%, 95%).

Looking at the other strengths of party affiliation shows that for both sides **as the strength of party affiliation decreases, defections away from the nominees increase.**

While the pattern of support for the top candidates among “somewhat strong” partisans stays quite robust, there has been a consistent tendency for defections to be sharper for Trump than for Biden/Harris. This fall, “somewhat strong” Democrats were indistinguishable from “strong” Democrats in support for the party’s nominee (98%, 97%). Among “somewhat strong” Republicans, the tendency has been for a 10–20-point decrease in support for the nominee compared to “strong” Republicans (e.g., fall 2024 - 95% vs. 84%).



For those with **the weakest Republican partisan affiliation** (“not very strong”), the pattern through all three surveys has been clear: **a growing disaffection for Donald Trump and an increasing willingness to vote for the Democratic nominee**. The fall survey showed this pattern very clearly since a majority (59%) of “not strong Republicans” claimed to the voting for Harris. These cross-over party registrants helped bolster Harris’ vote totals.

Table 54 shows that the strength of party affiliation isn’t very different for Democrats and Republicans. Given the internal conflicts within the Republican Party between pro and anti-Trump sides, it is not very surprising that there are fewer “very strong” Republicans (38%) than equivalent Democrats (44%).

**Table 54: Strength of Party Affiliation for Registered Democrats and Republicans**

	Dems			Reps		
	Fa ‘23	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24	Fa ‘23	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24
Strong	46	51	<b>44</b>	44	39	<b>38</b>
Somewhat strong	41	34	<b>34</b>	36	41	<b>39</b>
Not very strong	13	15	<b>22</b>	19	20	<b>22</b>

Among unaffiliateds, a follow-up was asked, “**During elections, do you find yourself leaning more toward Republican, Democratic, third-party candidates or are you mostly voting for specific candidates without concern for party affiliation?**” Most (51%) claimed to vote for the candidate, with more of the others saying Democrat (30%) than Republican (19%).

Table 55 shows how these subdivisions among unaffiliateds affected the anticipated vote. Those who said that they leaned either to the Democratic or Republican sides were quite likely to vote for the party’s candidates in equal percentages – 88% of Democratic leaners for Biden and 81% of Republican leaners for Trump. For Democrats, this was a consolidation of support for their candidate although there was still a notable group saying that they would vote for a third party (11%). Among Republican leaners, the main results were a decline of support for Trump and an increase in support for Harris (from 3% to 13% from spring to fall) – with far fewer indicating that they were voting third party.

Those who said that they were **voting not for party but for the candidate** seemed jump to the Harris side and away from a third-party vote, while the support for Trump was low and unchanged.

**Table 55: Unaffiliated Voters – Party Lean**

	Dem			Rep			Vote for Candidate		
	Fa ‘23	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24	Fa ‘23	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24	Fa ‘23	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24
Biden/Harris	62	77	<b>88</b>	0	3	<b>13</b>	26	21	<b>47</b>
Trump	0	8	<b>0</b>	62	87	<b>81</b>	29	18	<b>17</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Party	17	16	<b>11</b>	33	10	<b>1</b>	26	42	<b>4</b>
Wouldn’t vote	21	0	<b>1</b>	6	0	<b>5</b>	19	19	<b>32</b>

Appendix M includes open-ended comments about presidential selections.

**Table 56: Candidates for 2024 Presidential Elections**

	Dem			Strong Dem (44%)			Somewhat strong Dem (34%)			Not strong Dem (22%)			Rep			Strong Rep (38%)			Somewhat strong Rep (39%)			Not strong Rep (22%)		
	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
<b>Joe Biden/ Kamala Harris</b>	78	84	<b>92</b>	97	92	<b>98</b>	70	87	<b>97</b>	43	48	<b>73</b>	7	13	<b>15</b>	0	0	<b>1</b>	4	5	<b>3</b>	29	49	<b>59</b>
<b>Donald Trump</b>	6	5	<b>5</b>	1	1	<b>2</b>	5	1	<b>0</b>	24	28	<b>17</b>	72	72	<b>75</b>	93	96	<b>95</b>	65	77	<b>84</b>	33	19	<b>28</b>
<b>A 3<sup>rd</sup> Party candidate</b>	12	9	<b>1</b>	1	7	<b>0</b>	16	8	<b>0</b>	31	16	<b>5</b>	17	11	<b>4</b>	2	2	<b>2</b>	28	10	<b>2</b>	28	31	<b>9</b>
<b>Probably wouldn't vote</b>	4	3	<b>2</b>	1	0	<b>0</b>	9	5	<b>3</b>	2	8	<b>5</b>	5	4	<b>6</b>	5	2	<b>1</b>	3	8	<b>11</b>	10	2	<b>5</b>

## Voting Intentions: Senate

Given the two important vacancies affecting many Anne Arundel County voters – the U.S. Senate seat currently held by Ben Cardin, and the House of Representatives seat held by John Sarbanes, the survey inquired about voting intentions for each case.

### U.S. Senate

In the Democratic primaries, David Trone lost to Angela Alsobrooks statewide 53% to 43% as well as within Anne Arundel County 51% to 45%. The spring CSLI/AACC poll was consistent with other statewide polls showing that Larry Hogan had a sizable advantage over either of the Democratic candidates – at least at that time.

The spring CSLI survey offered voters the choice of voting for each of the Democratic candidates as well as Larry Hogan in the general election. Table 57 shows the results (includes both “all voters” and “likely voters.”)

**Table 57: Voting Intentions for U.S. Senate - Spring 2024**

	All Voters	Likely Voters
Angela Alsobrooks	31	34
Larry Hogan	48	51
Unsure but will probably vote	22	15
Total	101	100
David Trone	31	34
Larry Hogan	49	52
Unsure but will probably vote	20	15
Total	100	101

Table 58 shows that Hogan had approximately the same lead over either of the two Democratic candidates (17-18 points), whether all voters or just likely voters are considered. This was consistent with a poll published in the Baltimore Sun which found Hogan beating Trone by 13 points and Alsobrooks by 18 points statewide.<sup>9</sup> The AACC/CSLI poll did not find as sharp a distinction between Trone and Alsobrooks in a match-up with Hogan, although it did find Trone leading Alsobrooks in a head-to-head matchup of just the two Democratic candidates. The Sun poll found Trone leading Alsobrooks by 19 points, far more than the single digit lead discovered just among Anne Arundel County voters – since in the end Trone lost by 10-points, it was clear that these polls did not anticipate the eventual movement of Democratic voters to Alsobrooks.

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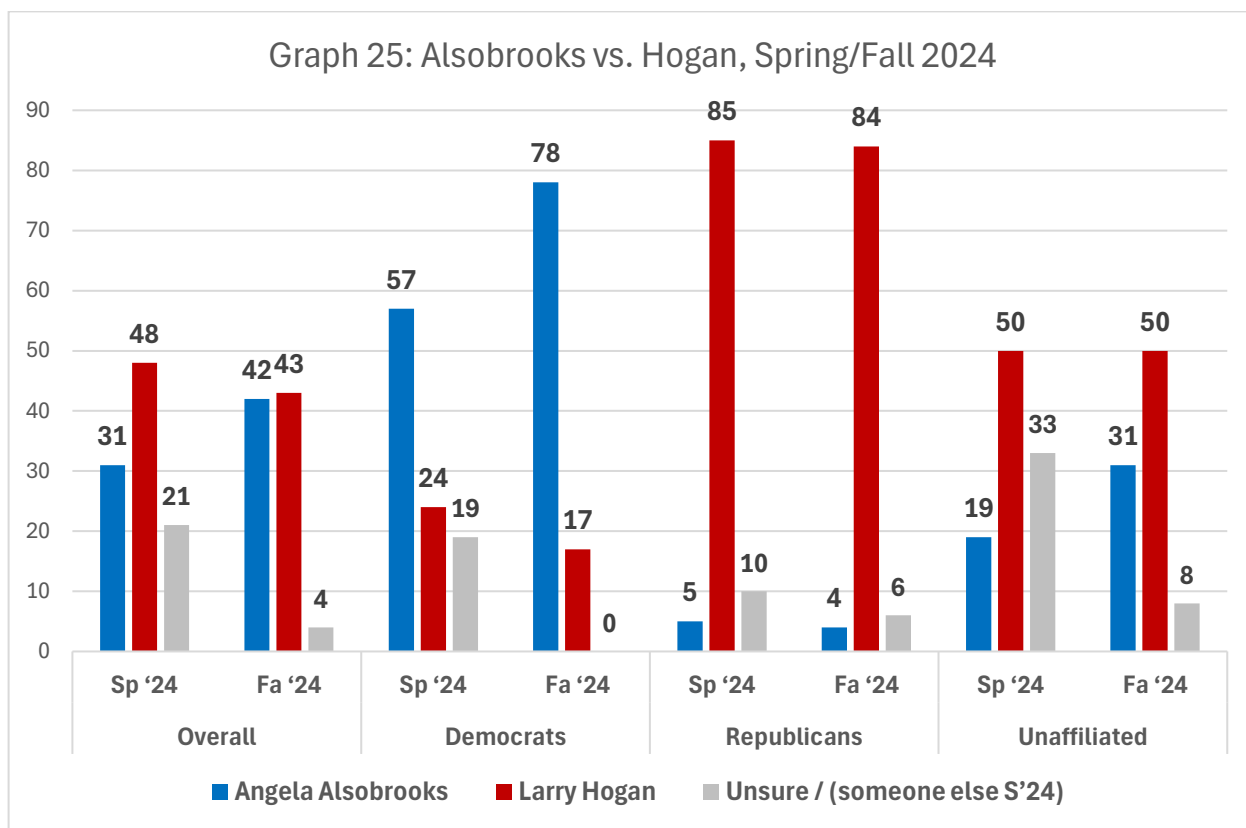
<sup>9</sup> <https://www.baltimoresun.com/2024/04/16/poll-trone-alsobrooks-senate-hogan/>

**Table 58: Vote for Senate – Hogan vs. Trone by Party**

	Overall		Democrats		Republicans		Unaffiliated	
	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24
Angela Alsobrooks	31	<b>42</b>	57	<b>78</b>	5	<b>4</b>	19	<b>31</b>
Larry Hogan	48	<b>43</b>	24	<b>17</b>	85	<b>84</b>	50	<b>50</b>
Unsure / (someone else S'24)	21	<b>4</b>	19	<b>0</b>	10	<b>6</b>	33	<b>8</b>
Won't vote for Senate candidate		<b>12</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>11</b>
Total	100	<b>101</b>	100	101	100	100	101	100

Table 58 shows the results for both the spring and fall 2024 matchups between Alsobrooks and Hogan. The results are also shown in Graph 25. The main takeaways are:

- The race has gotten much tighter than it was last April, with Alsobrooks lessening the gap from 17 points to just a single point.
- Democrats have mostly coalesced around Alsobrooks (57% to 78%).
- Republicans are largely unchanged in support of Hogan (85%, 84%)
- Unaffiliateds have shifted strongly to Harris (19%, 31%) while support for Hogan is unchanged (50%)



The AACC/CSLI spring 2024 poll followed up by asking “What is your preference for the outcome of the U.S. Senate elections in November – the Senate controlled by Democrats or by Republicans.” Table 59 shows the results by party and overall. Voters preferred Democratic control by 16 percentage points, with some greater defection to the other party of Republicans (10%) than Democrats (4%) and unaffiliateds evenly divided.

**Table 59: Party Control Preference for U.S. Senate**

	Overall	Democrats	Republicans	Unaffiliated
Democrats	49	88	10	31
Republicans	33	4	77	33
No preference	9	3	7	23
Unsure	9	5	6	14
Total	100	100	100	101

Anticipating that the main focus of the general election would be control of the U.S. Senate, the spring survey offered another follow-up question with this prompt:

**“When Larry Hogan was governor, Democratic held supermajorities in both houses of the Maryland General Assembly that ensured that Democratic priorities would pass.**

**This November, Democrats are defending more Senate seats in Republican-leaning states such as Montana, West Virginia, and Ohio than there are Republicans defending seats in Democrat-leaning states. Democrats currently hold a 51-49 majority in the U.S. Senate.**

**Should Hogan win in Maryland, this would help ensure that leadership in the US Senate would go to Republicans, with the possibility of Donald Trump also being elected and passing his conservative policy priorities. In that light, which of the following expresses your views best?”**

Respondents were then offered the following choices: “I would vote for Larry Hogan,” “I would vote for the Democratic candidate for Senate in Maryland,” “I don’t know what I would do.”

**Table 60: Voting Intentions of Those Favoring Democrats for Control of U.S. Senate**

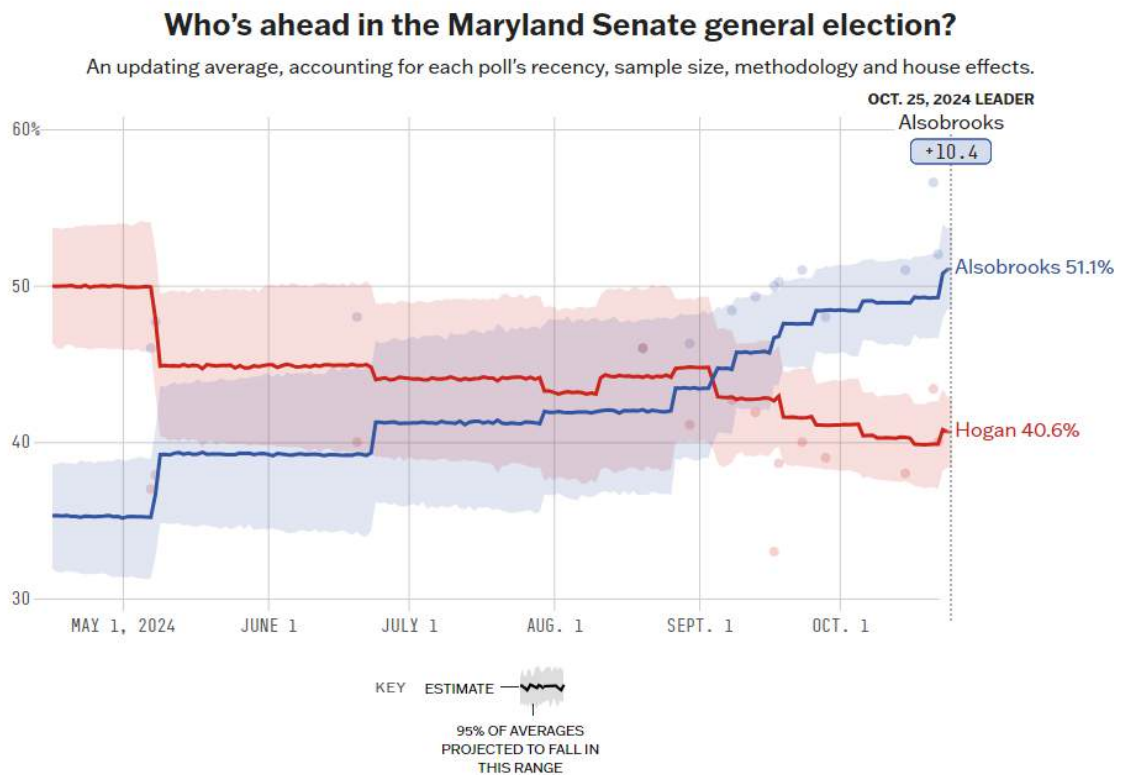
	Overall	Dems	Reps	Unaffil.
I would vote for Larry Hogan	44	16	85	45
I would vote for the Democratic candidate for Senate in Maryland	42	76	6	30
I don’t know what I would do	14	8	9	25
Total	100	100	100	100

As shown on Table 60, the prompt tightened the race considerably, especially among Democrats that were then much more inclined to support whomever the Democratic candidate might be against Hogan (57% to 76%). The overall vote was then reduced from a 17-point Hogan lead to a 2-point lead (from 31%, 48% to 42%, 44%).

This sharp reduction in the gap between Alsobrooks and Hogan last spring completely anticipated the results of the fall 2024 survey in which Hogan had a 1-point lead and 78% of Democrats supported Alsobrooks (vs. 76% shown in Table 60).

These findings suggest that **should the focus of the general election would be on control of the Senate, the defection rate among Democrats would decline dramatically** and make the Senate race much more competitive. Graph 26 depicts the results of the fivethirtyeight.com tracking of polls in Maryland for the Senate race. It shows that Alsobrooks eclipsed Hogan in statewide polls after Labor Day, when campaign advertising/activity increased. Alsobrooks’ advertising has focused almost entirely on control over the U.S. Senate as well as reproductive rights for women. Hogan’s advertising has acknowledged that these are the two key issues dividing them – and has run many television ads depicting himself as an “independent” and in favor of codifying the Roe standard on abortion. The televised debate featured these issues, but also focused on who was more trustworthy – with Hogan touting his accomplishments as governor. There was limited focus on allegations about Alsobrooks failure to pay property taxes – although mailings from a Hogan supporting superPAC called “Marylandsfuture.org” has drawn attention to these claims against Alsobrooks

**Graph 26: “538” Website’s Calculation of Current Polling Results for Maryland Senate<sup>10</sup>**



The fall 2024 survey tried to determine how voters perceived the key elements in determining whether to vote for Alsobrooks or Hogan by offering three options and asking respondents to choose one of them. The exact wording of the question is shown below, with the results in Table 61.

<sup>10</sup> <https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/polls/senate/2024/maryland/general/>

**“In deciding between Angela Alsobrooks and Larry Hogan, which of the following seems to be the most important to you?”**

**Table 61: Choice of Factors Important for Choosing Between Alsobrooks and Hogan, Overall and by Party**

	Overall	Dems	Reps	Unaffil.
The impact of my vote upon the balance between Democrats and Republicans in the U.S. Senate	33	55	18	19
How my vote affects some key issues such as abortion, taxes, foreign affairs	31	29	25	38
The trust I have for the candidate	28	15	45	34
Other response:	9	1	11	10
Total	101	100	99	101

Table 61 shows that while overall, respondents were quite evenly divided among the three answer choices, partisan results were quite different. Among Democrats a majority (55%) said that the Senate balance was the key issue, with the bulk of the remainder (29%) pointing to issues. Only a few (15%) highlighted trust for the candidate. The results among Republicans were vastly different as the top answer (45%) was trust for the candidate followed by issues (25%) and finally Senate balance (18%). Unaffiliateds were mostly divided between issues (38%) and trust (34%) with the remainder being Senate balance or “other response” (10%) which was also high among Republicans (11%) but very low for Democrats (1%).

**Table 62: Choice of Factors Important for Choosing Between Alsobrooks and Hogan, Overall and by Candidate**

	Overall	Alsobrooks	Hogan
The impact of my vote upon the balance between Democrats and Republicans in the U.S. Senate	33	61	14
How my vote affects some key issues such as abortion, taxes, foreign affairs	31	35	24
The trust I have for the candidate	28	3	55
Other response:	9	1	7
Total	101	100	99

The results on Table 62 replace party registration with voting choice for the Senate spot. **The pattern noted in Table 62 highlighted the trust differentials among the two candidates as only 3% said that their vote for Alsobrooks was motivated by “the trust I have for the candidate”** compared to 61% Senate balance and 35% other issues. Table 63 again tackles this set of variables by looking at these same choices, but this time dividing the sample first by party and then by candidate.

**Table 63: Choice of Factors Important for Choosing Between Alsobrooks and Hogan, by Party**

	Dems		Reps		Unaffil.	
	AA	LH	AA	LH	AA	LH
The impact of my vote upon the balance between Democrats and Republicans in the U.S. Senate	68	6	74	18	37	12
How my vote affects some key issues such as abortion, taxes, foreign affairs	28	25	26	25	60	19
The trust I have for the candidate	3	66	0	52	1	55
Other response:	1	3	0	5	2	14
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

As Table 63 and Graph 27 show, all party categories predominantly chose Hogan based on trust, with Democratic defectors to Hogan being especially high (66%) on this factor compared to Republicans (52%) or unaffiliateds (55%). Interestingly, for unaffiliateds the percentage citing Senate balance was low for both Alsobrooks and Hogan, with those favoring Alsobrooks citing issues (60%) and those favoring Hogan citing trust (55%).

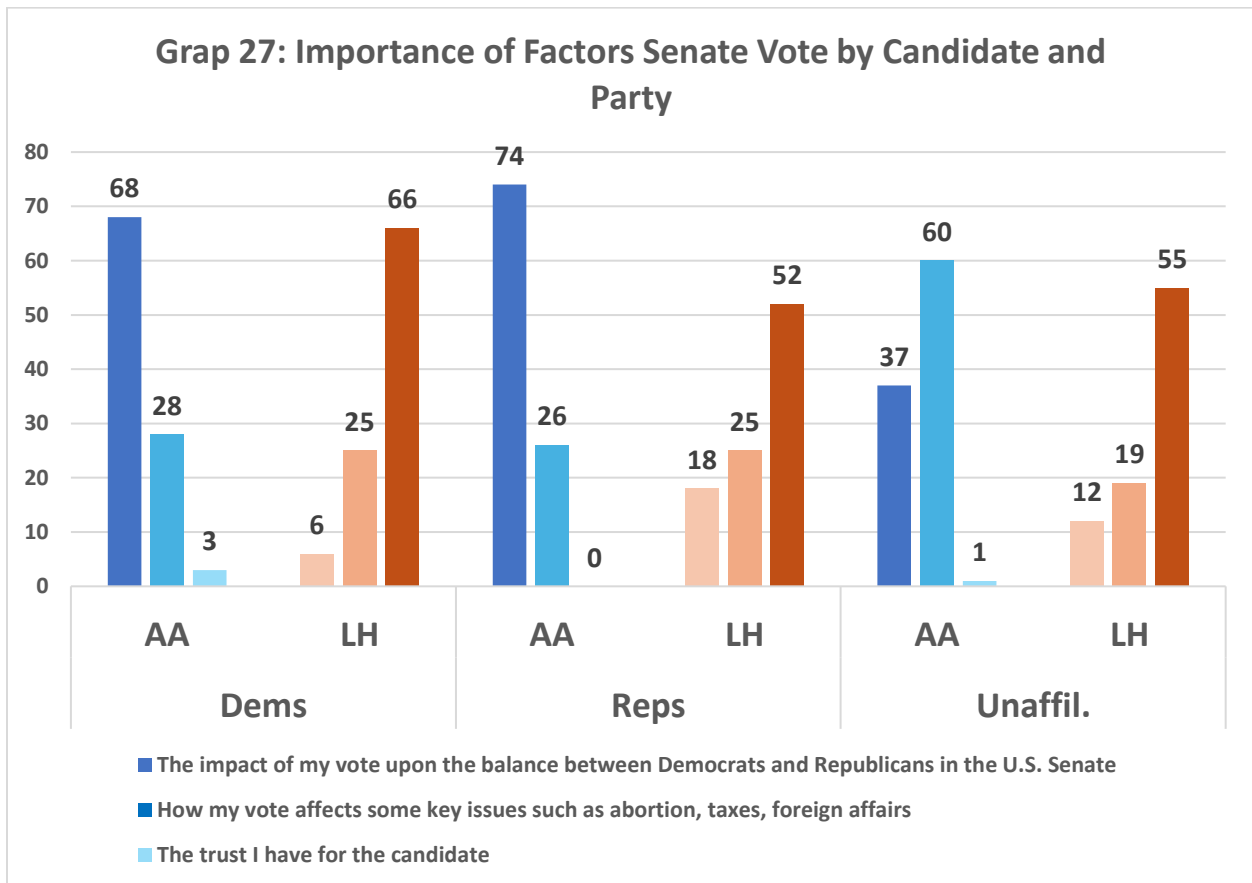




Table 64 examines defections from the choice of presidential candidate to the Senate choice. Defections among Republicans were few – only 3% of Trump voters would vote for Alsobrooks. More were likely to say “Other” (7%) or “Won’t vote for Senate” (7%). This was in sharp contrast for Harris voters as 20% were voting for Hogan which explains why the race for the U.S. Senate was so much closer than that for president.

**Table 64: Defections from Harris to Hogan; Trump to Alsobrooks**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Harris</b>	<b>Trump</b>
Alsobrooks	42	71	3
Hogan	43	20	83
Other	4	2	7
Won't vote for Senate	12	7	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

## Issues and the Senate and Presidential Votes

As the previous discussion makes clear, motives for voting for Senate were largely dependent on the Senate balance and candidate trust issues. However, around a third mentioned “issues” as a motive. This section looks at those voting for Senate and presidential candidates in terms of the issues that voters said were “top-of-mind.” It does not identify policy preferences – just issue saliencies.

### Party Registration and Issue Saliencies

Table 65 and Graph 28 list the percentages of respondents who gave a given issue a score of “5” on the five-point slider that was presented to them on the survey. In this first table for issues, the overall percentage of those listing it as a top issue was followed by a party percentage. This provides a comprehensive initial impression of which issues are given the strongest priority by partisans.

Most polls do not ask to what extent voters are motivated by **antipathy to the other party’s candidate**, but this was the top issue overall as it was identified by 54% of all respondents as a top factor. It was a bit sharper for Democrats (61%) than Republicans (56%) and lowest among unaffiliateds (45%). Gender was added to the last two columns – clearly women (60%) find this issue more motivating than men (49%).

The “threats to democracy” item was very important to Democrats (71%) and unaffiliateds (50%) but not to Republicans (25%).

The economy and inflation were especially important to Republicans (56% and unaffiliateds (51%), less so to Democrats (39%).

Abortion also a top factor, but especially for Democrats (63%) compared to Republicans (27%) or unaffiliateds (35%). It was much more important to women (53%) than men (37%).

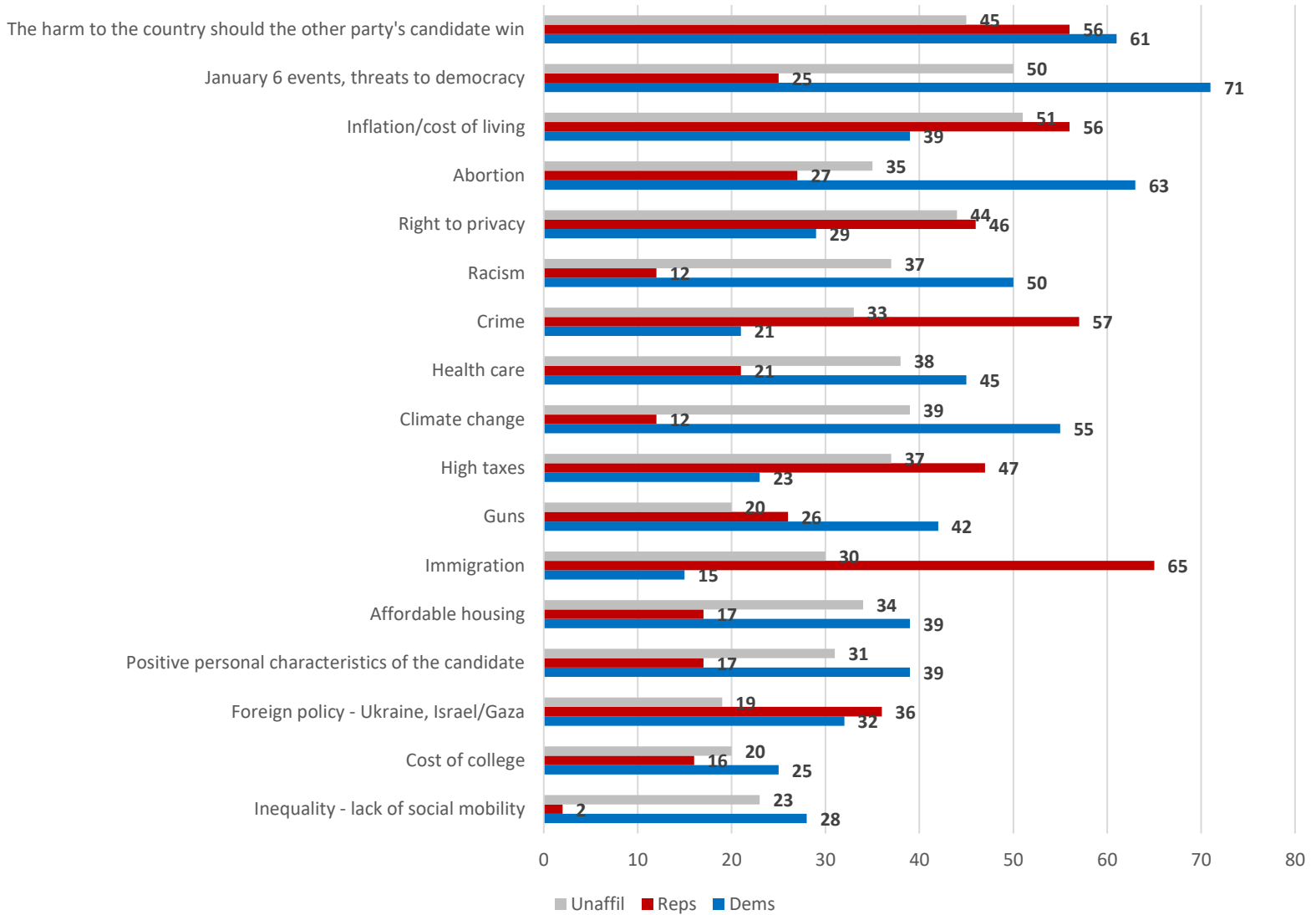
The other issues were less important overall. Some seemed especially motivating to Democrats such as climate change (55%), racism (50%), health care (45%) and guns (42%). Others were more important to Republicans such as immigration (65%), crime (57%), high taxes (47%) and the right to privacy (46%). While some issues were a bit more important than others for unaffiliateds, in general their issue scores were lower overall, with some of the higher ones being climate change (39%), health care (38%) and high taxes (37%) or racism (37%).

The survey included a question meant to assess how well partisans liked their candidates. Democrats seemed to like Kamala Harris (39%) a lot more than Republicans liked Trump (17%).

**Table 65: Issue Saliencies - Overall, Party, Gender**

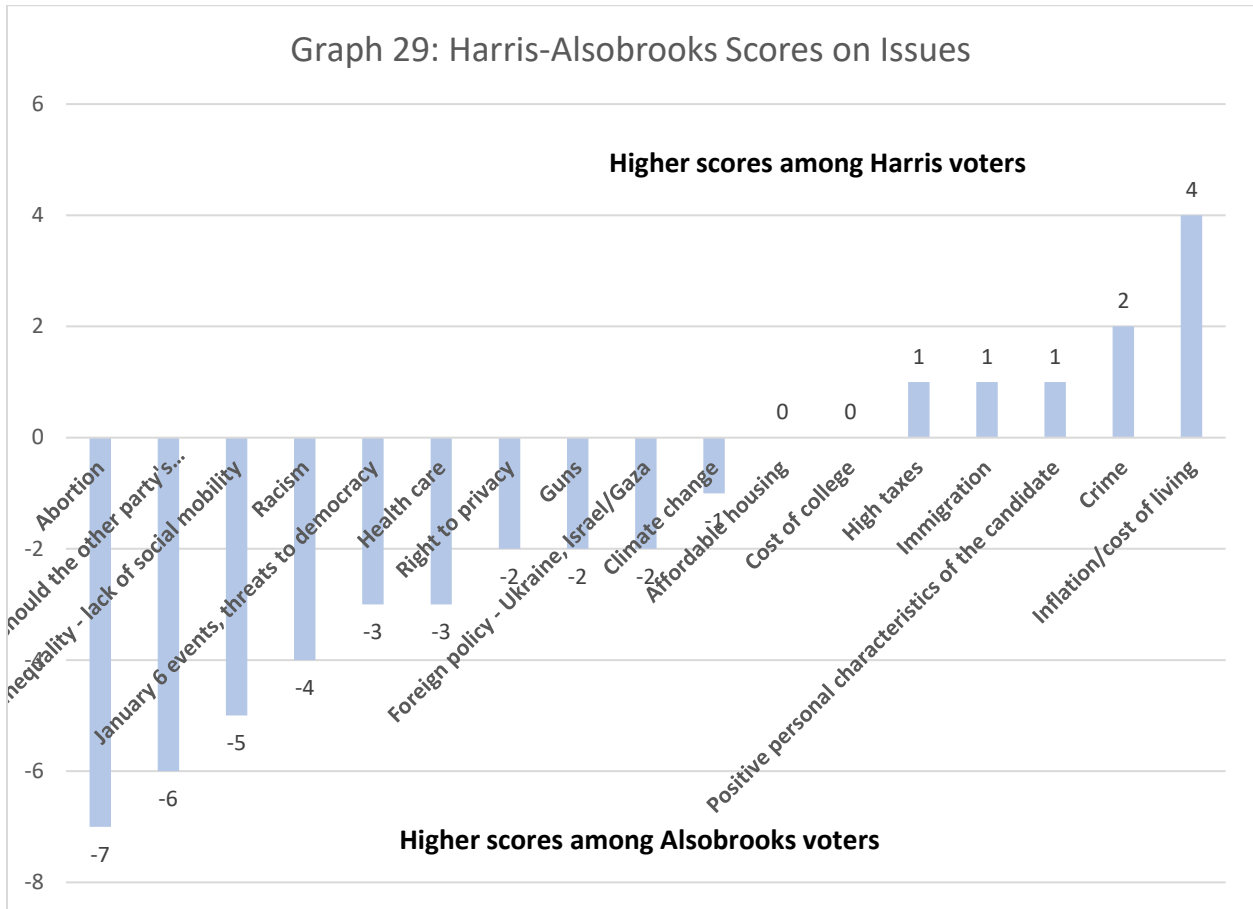
	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Dems</b>	<b>Reps</b>	<b>Unaffil.</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>
The harm to the country should the other party's candidate win	54	61	56	45	49	60
January 6 events, threats to democracy	51	71	25	50	56	47
Inflation/cost of living	49	39	56	51	47	49
Abortion	46	63	27	35	37	53
Right to privacy	38	29	46	44	33	41
Health care	37	45	21	38	29	45
Crime	37	21	57	33	31	44
Racism	37	50	12	37	33	41
Climate change	36	55	12	39	32	46
High taxes	35	23	47	37	35	36
Immigration	34	15	65	30	32	38
Guns	34	42	26	20	24	44
Affordable housing	33	39	17	34	29	35
Foreign policy - Ukraine, Israel/Gaza	29	32	36	19	31	28
Positive personal characteristics of the candidate	29	39	17	31	24	34
Cost of college	24	25	16	20	19	27
Inequality - lack of social mobility	20	28	2	23	14	25

Graph 28: Voters' Issue Saliencies by Party

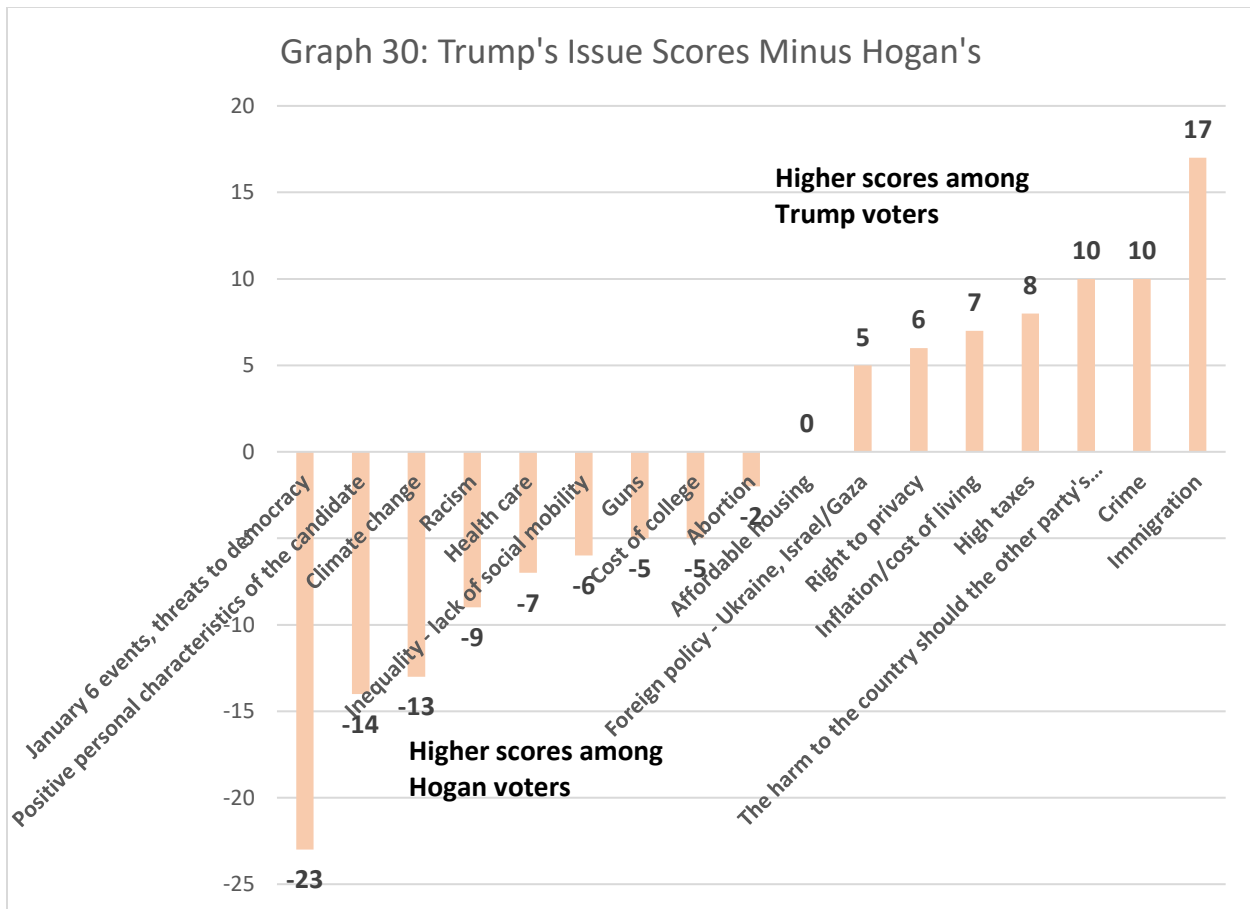


**Table 66: Issue Saliencies - Overall and by Candidate**

	Overall	Democrats			Republicans		
		Harris	Alsobrooks	Harris-AA	Trump	Hogan	Trump-Hogan
The harm to the country should the other party's candidate win	54	60	66	-6	54	44	10
January 6 events, threats to democracy	51	72	75	-3	6	29	-23
Inflation/cost of living	49	38	34	4	59	52	7
Abortion	46	60	67	-7	21	23	-2
Right to privacy	38	29	31	-2	48	42	6
Health care	37	44	47	-3	19	26	-7
Crime	37	20	18	2	58	48	10
Racism	37	46	50	-4	7	16	-9
Climate change	36	53	54	-1	8	21	-13
High taxes	35	22	21	1	50	42	8
Immigration	34	15	14	1	69	52	17
Guns	34	39	41	-2	19	24	-5
Affordable housing	33	39	39	0	19	19	0
Foreign policy - Ukraine, Israel/Gaza	29	27	29	-2	36	31	5
Positive personal characteristics of the candidate	29	40	39	1	8	22	-14
Cost of college	24	22	22	0	15	20	-5
Inequality - lack of social mobility	20	24	29	-5	2	8	-6



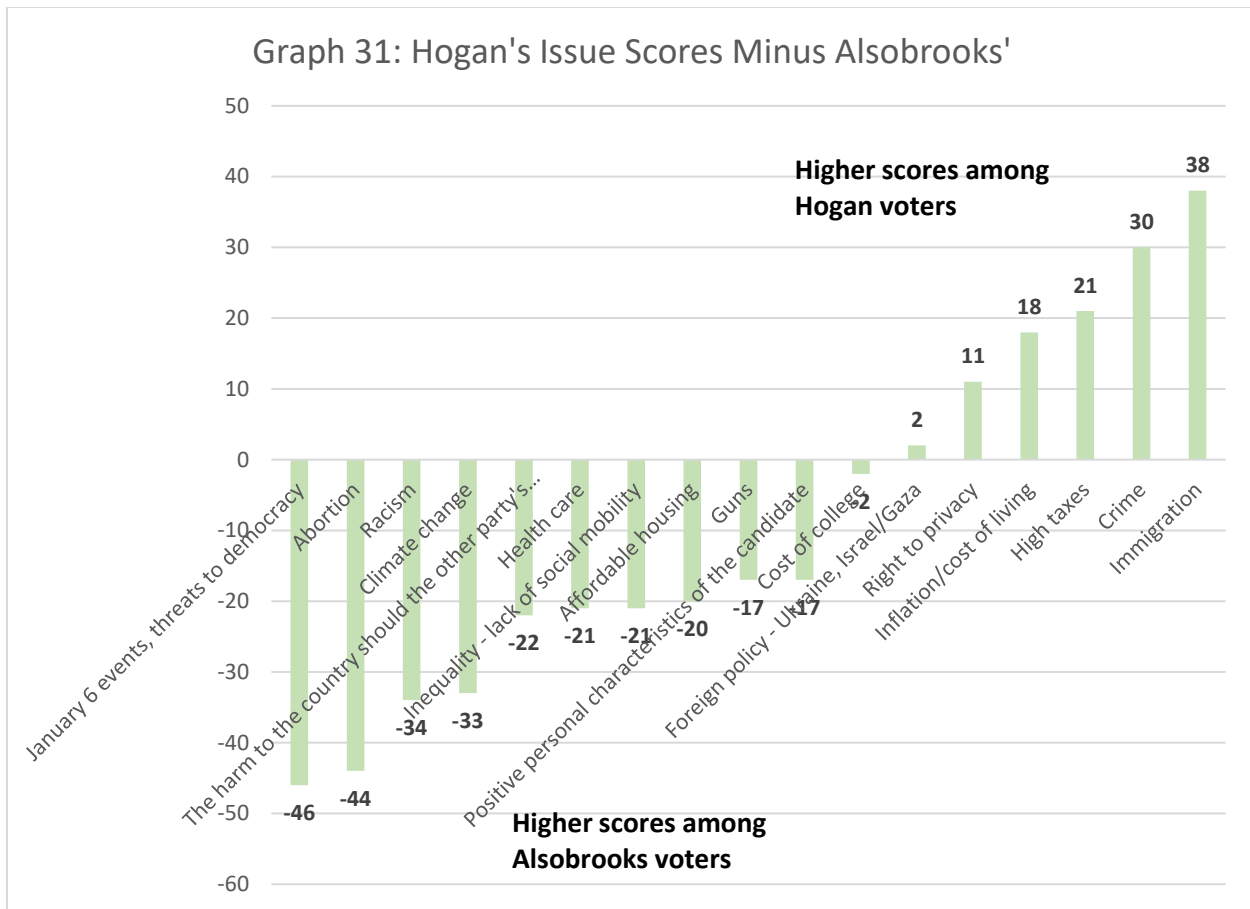
Graph 29 shows how issues ranked in terms of saliency for Harris and Alsobrooks. Negative scores meant that these issues were deemed more important for Alsobrooks’ voters compared to Harris’ voters. Such issues include abortion, the adverse consequences of having the other party’s candidate win and inequality. There were fewer issues where Harris ranked more highly, but these included inflation and crime. This pattern suggests that Alsobrooks’ voters were more generally driven by stronger feelings about liberal stances on various issues, while Harris’ voters were more attracted to bread-and-butter issues like inflation and crime.



Graph 30 does the same for Trump and Hogan, showing issues for which Hogan's scores were higher on the left, with Trump's higher scores on the right. The range is much greater among the Republican candidates (-23 to 17) compared to the Harris/Alsobrooks divide (-7 to 4), implying that Hogan and Trump presented a more sharply contrasting alternative to voters than did the Democratic candidates.

The key points of distinction between Trump and Hogan can be seen at the extremes of Graph 30: January 6/threats to democracy (-23) and positive personal characteristics of the candidate (-14) show that Hogan voters were much less favorable to Trump personally as well as the signature issue – the “stolen election” claim and the incitement of the insurrectionists on January 6, 2021. Hogan seemed also more “on the left” as other issues that were more important to his voters compared to Trump's and included items like climate change, racism and health care. By contrast, Trump's issues included crime, high taxes and inflation – again, more of a bread-and-butter appeal. The only item much more important to Trump voters was immigration. Overall, it seems that **Hogan has tried to offer an alternative to Trump that is more moderate and centrist, while still being distinctive mostly conservative.**

Just how much more conservative can be seen in Graph 31, which subtracts Alsobrooks' issue saliencies from Hogan's. Negative scores indicate higher saliencies among Alsobrooks' voters; positive scores point to higher Hogan saliencies. First, the range (-46 to 38) was far greater than that found between Trump and Hogan, signaling a wider gulf in the priorities placed by the respective voters on the various issues. Second, it is clear that on liberal issues,



Alsobrooks' scores are much higher including for abortion, racism, health care, inequality and affordable housing – all items that would resonate more deeply on the left than on the right.

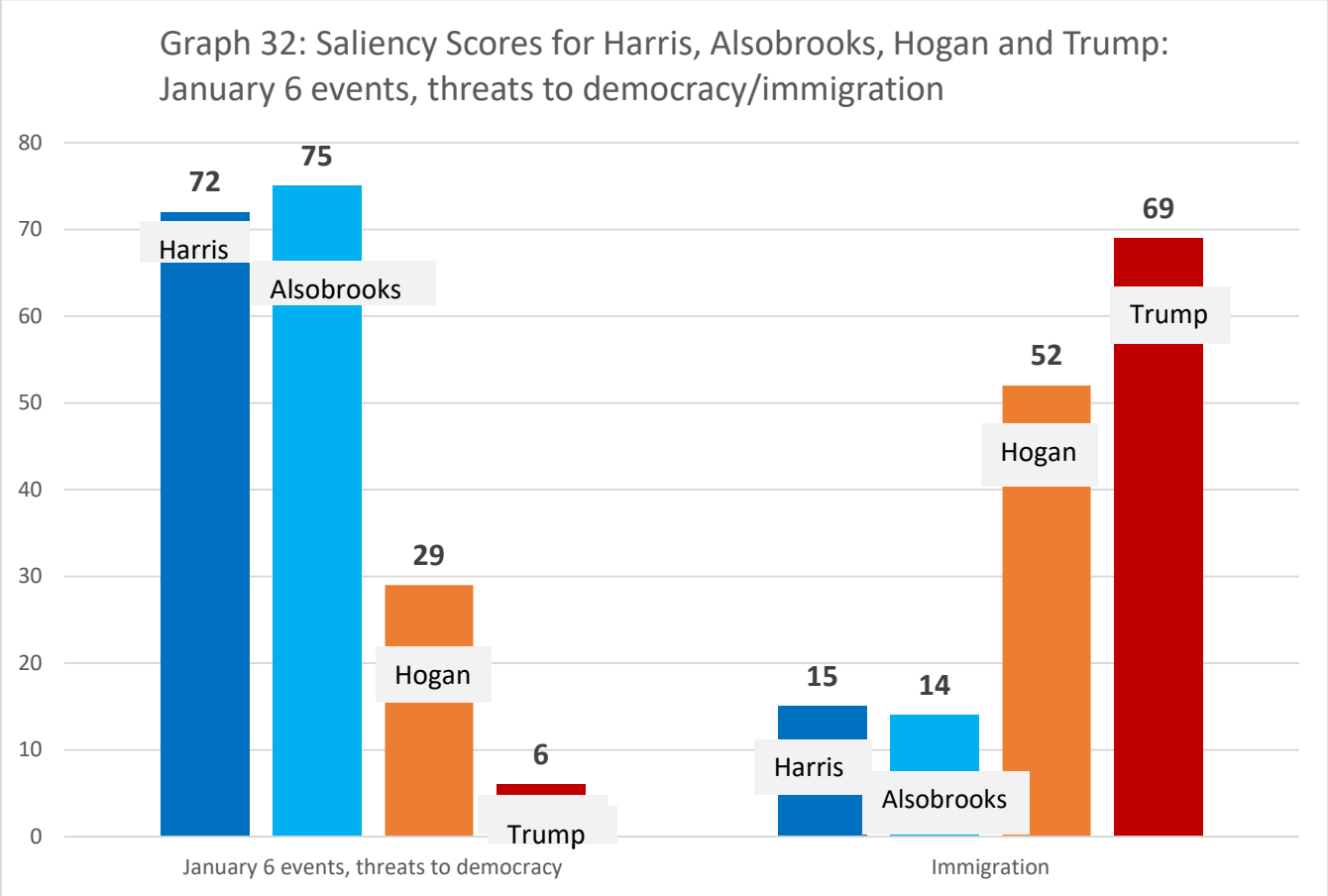
Third, even though Hogan's voters are more likely than Trump's to highlight the importance of January 6/threats to democracy, it remained the largest single gap between Alsobrooks' voters and Hogan's (46 points).

Graph 32 clearly shows that the gap across parties appears is vast since the two Democratic candidates are virtually identical on this issue of threats to democracy (72%, 75%) but have enormous gulfs between themselves and Hogan (29%) and Trump (6%). Graph 32 also shows the sizable gaps on Trump's signature issue of immigration – while Hogan and Trump's voters are only 17 points apart, Harris is 54-point apart from Trump while Alsobrooks is 38 points distant from Hogan and 55 points from Trump's voters' saliency on this issue.

On Graph 33, issues are roughly ideologically arrayed left to right, with the gaps between the overall scores for each issue subtracted from the scores for a candidate. Higher scores indicate a greater distance from a theoretical "center" score. Two generalizations are possible:

- Harris is closer to overall scores than Alsobrooks.
- Hogan is closer to overall scores than Trump.



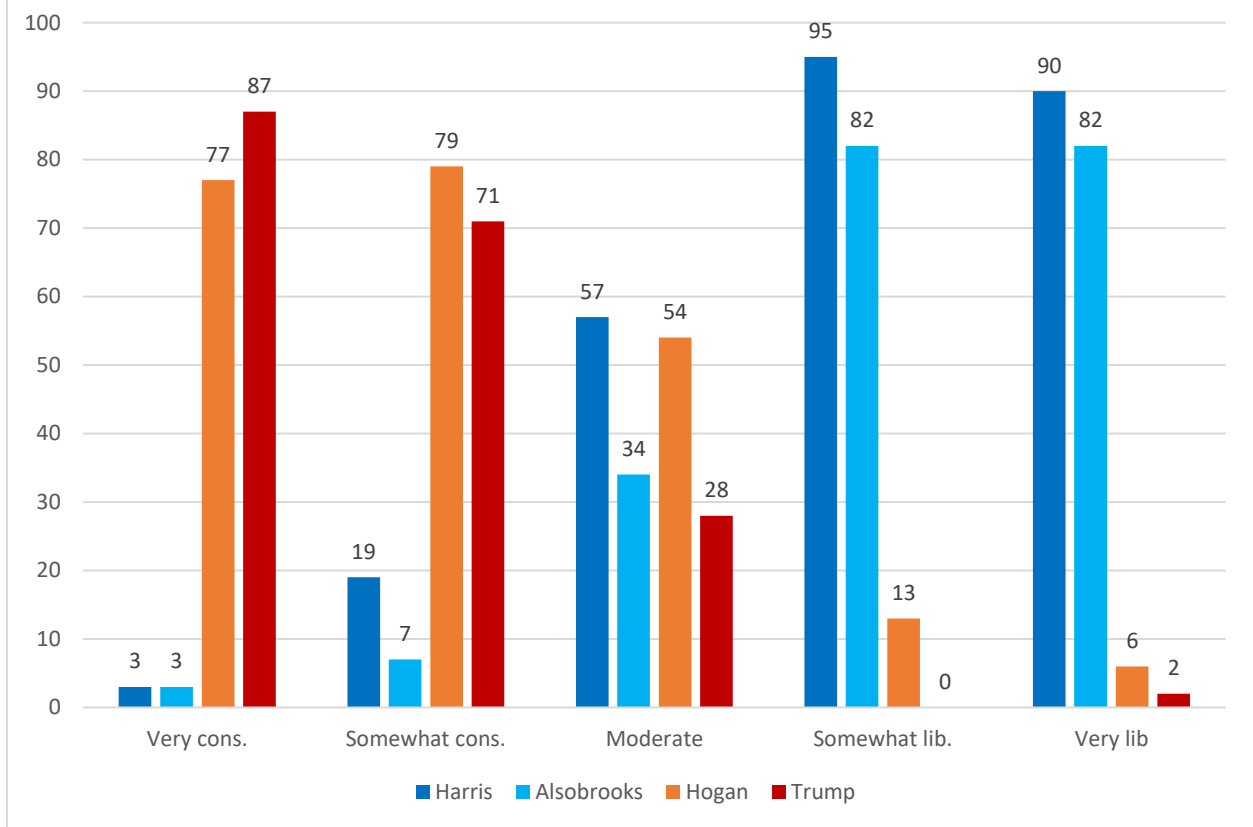


Graph 33 shows how the candidates lined up with the respondents by ideological self-identification. Two main conclusions seem warranted: (1) Harris is substantially more likely to gain voters from conservative and moderate segments of the electorate than is Alsobrooks, who is also less likely to be chosen by liberals than is Harris; (2) Hogan (54%) is much more likely to gain support among moderates than is Alsobrooks (34%); (3) Trump only does well with conservatives and is the least attractive candidate to moderates.

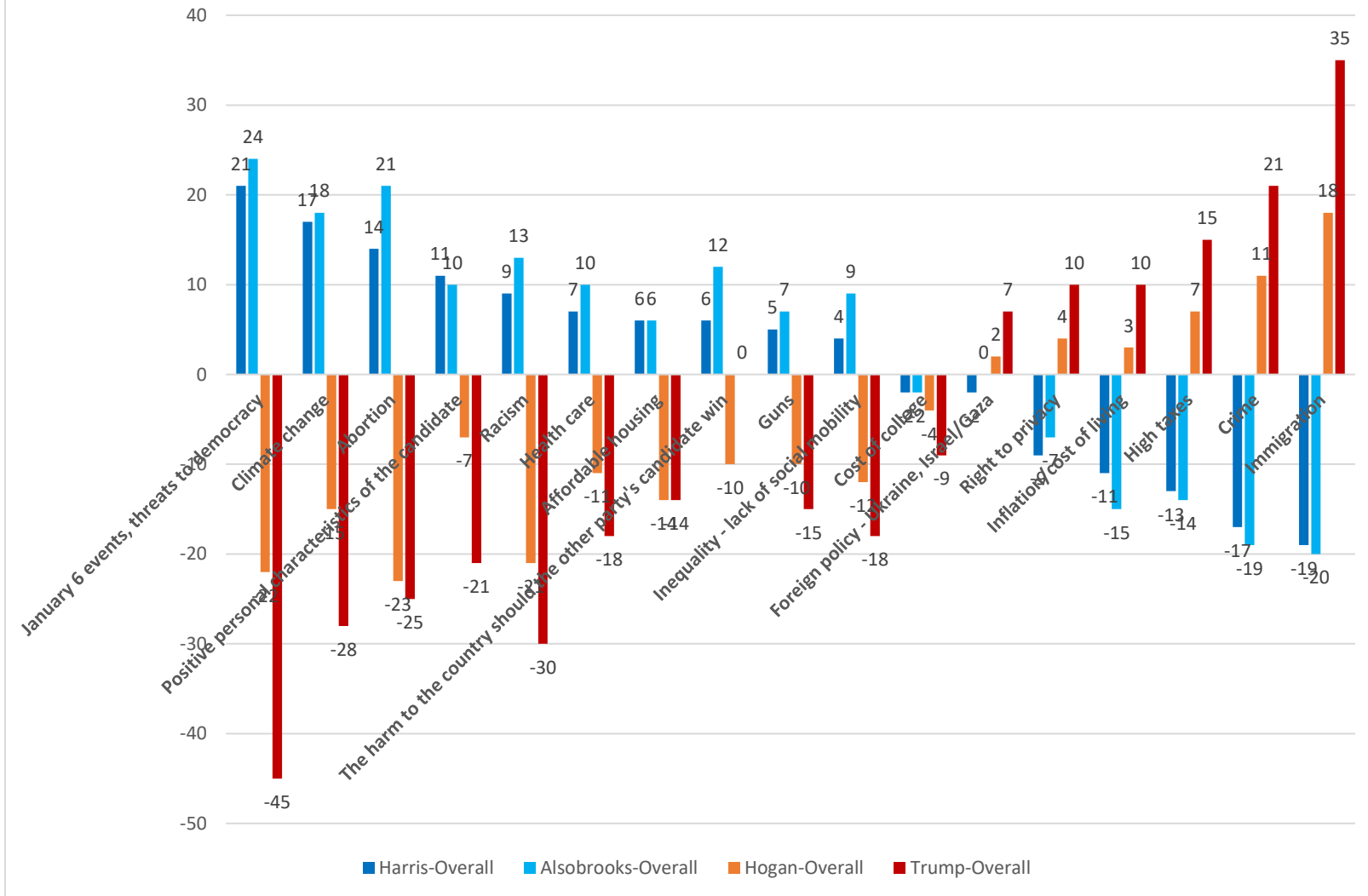
Graph 34 shows the distance from the overall mean by candidate for all the top-of-mind issues.

See Appendices K and L for open-ended comments relevant to the choice of candidates for Senate.

Graph 33: Candidates by Voters' Ideology



Graph 34: Overall Scores Minus Candidate Scores



## Voting Intentions: Congressional 3<sup>rd</sup> District

The decision by John Sarbanes to leave Congress set up a flurry of activity among Democrats seeking to replace him.<sup>11</sup> At a candidate forum held in Annapolis on April 17, no fewer than 18 Democratic candidates appeared, forcing moderators Dan Nataf and Keanuu Smith-Brown to keep strict time limits on candidates' answers. The presence of so many candidates naturally complicated the discovery of frontrunners, since the district is large encompassing large sections of Anne Arundel County, all of Howard County and a part of Carroll County. In 2022, Sarbanes won the district with 60% of the vote – making it likely that the winner of the Democratic primary would ultimately be elected to Congress. Polls run at that time tended to show that the main candidates were Sarah Elfreth and Harry Dunn. The AACC/CSLI survey that spring reinforced that view of the frontrunners, although Mark Chang and Mike Rogers were also listed with some level of measurable support.

The Elfreth/Dunn competition was tight not just in terms of projected polling results, but also from competing concepts of meaningful endorsements. Dunn benefited from a strong financial advantage and notable endorsements such as Congressperson Nancy Pelosi and former Majority Whip Jim Clyburn.<sup>12</sup> Elfreth relied on endorsements from less recognized local elected officials such as County Executive Steuart Pittman, Howard County Councilmember Christiana Rigby, unions like the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 500 of the SEIU and interest groups like the Sierra Club.<sup>13</sup> With polls showing a large number of undecided voters, the endorsement and fundraising competition was essentially meant to persuade voters still unsure about for whom to vote.

After the primary vote was taken, it was clear that the polls had captured the key dynamic of the race as being between Elfreth and Dunn. In Anne Arundel County, Sarah Elfreth the state senator from district 30, ultimately beat Harry Dunn by 20 points (45% to 25%), while also winning the district overall (36% to 25%). She was the only candidate with sufficient electoral popularity across the entire congressional district to fend off challenges from not only Dunn, but Howard County challengers such as Clarence Lam (12%) or Terri Hill (7%) as well as Anne Arundel County representatives to the Maryland General Assembly such as Mark Chang (5%) or Mike Rogers (3%).

Among **Republicans**, polling was much more difficult as there was no acknowledged frontrunner – in the AACC/CSLI poll, the field was poorly defined, with 68% saying “unsure.” Two candidates seemed to gain the most attention – Thomas Harris (5%) and Berney Flowers

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<sup>11</sup> The 2020 redistricting resulted in John Sarbanes no longer living in the district, perhaps a factor in his retirement decision.

<sup>12</sup> See <https://www.axios.com/2024/04/19/nancy-pelosi-jan-6-harry-dunn-congress>. According to The Hill, other Democratic insiders have also endorsed him: Dunn's campaign has also [received backing from](#) other high-profile Democratic figures, including Reps. [Adam Schiff](#) (D-Calif.), [Bennie Thompson](#) (D-Miss.), [Eric Swalwell](#) (D-Calif.) and [Jasmine Crockett](#) (D-Texas). Dunn's campaign has also [received backing from](#) other high-profile Democratic figures, including Reps. [Adam Schiff](#) (D-Calif.), [Bennie Thompson](#) (D-Miss.), [Eric Swalwell](#) (D-Calif.) and [Jasmine Crockett](#) (D-Texas). See <https://thehill.com/homenews/campaign/4606528-pelosi-clyburn-endorse-jan-6-capitol-police-officer-for-congress/>

<sup>13</sup> See <https://elfrethformaryland.com/endorsements/>

(4%) with Anthony Baker Jr. at 2% and Jordan Mayo at 1%. All the others had less than one percent. The great majority (71%) said “unsure.” In the end, Rob Steinberger ended up gaining the plurality of votes (25%) with Baker and Flowers trailing at 18%.

For the fall 2024 survey, the question was repeated only now with the focus on the general election. Elfreth led by a wide margin (16 points, see Table 67). Treating all the non-candidate entries as missing values provided a final score of 64% for Elfreth and 36% for Steinberger – not far from Sarbanes 60% district wide scores of the past.

**Table 67: Candidate Preference for Third Congressional District**

Sarah Elfreth (Democrat)	38
Rob Steinberger (Republican)	22
Someone else	0
Undecided	20
Won't vote for this office	20
Total	100

Table 68 shows the issue saliency percentages for all the candidates including Elfreth and Steinberger. Graph 35 shows the issue saliency percentages just for the three Democratic candidates. Elfreth’s highest issue saliencies suggested that those attracted to her were also especially interested in climate change and guns. Democrats as a group were especially below the overall scores for issue saliencies on inflation, taxes, crime and immigration.

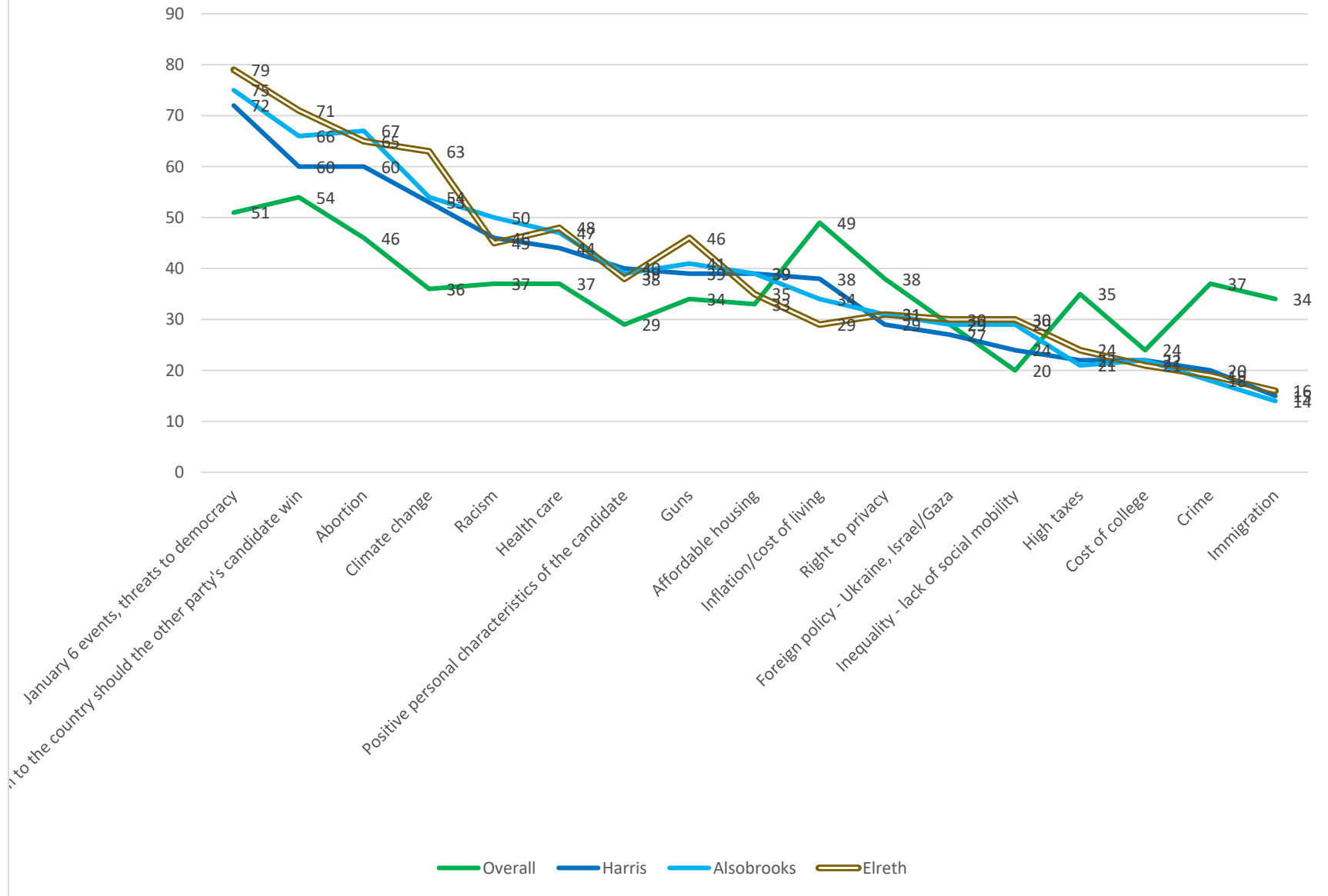
Graph 36 shows the alignment of Republican candidates by issue saliencies. As in the other graphs of this type, the green line shows the overall percentage choosing a given issue as most important. **Steinberger’s scores are farther from the overall average on most conservative issues such as immigration, crime and taxes than even Donald Trump.** He seems closely adversely aligned with Trump on most liberal issues such as climate change and racism. Hogan clearly seems the outlier among the three with scores that are consistently closer to the overall scores.

An option to comment about voting choice for president, Senate or the House of Representatives was provided and is included in Appendix L.

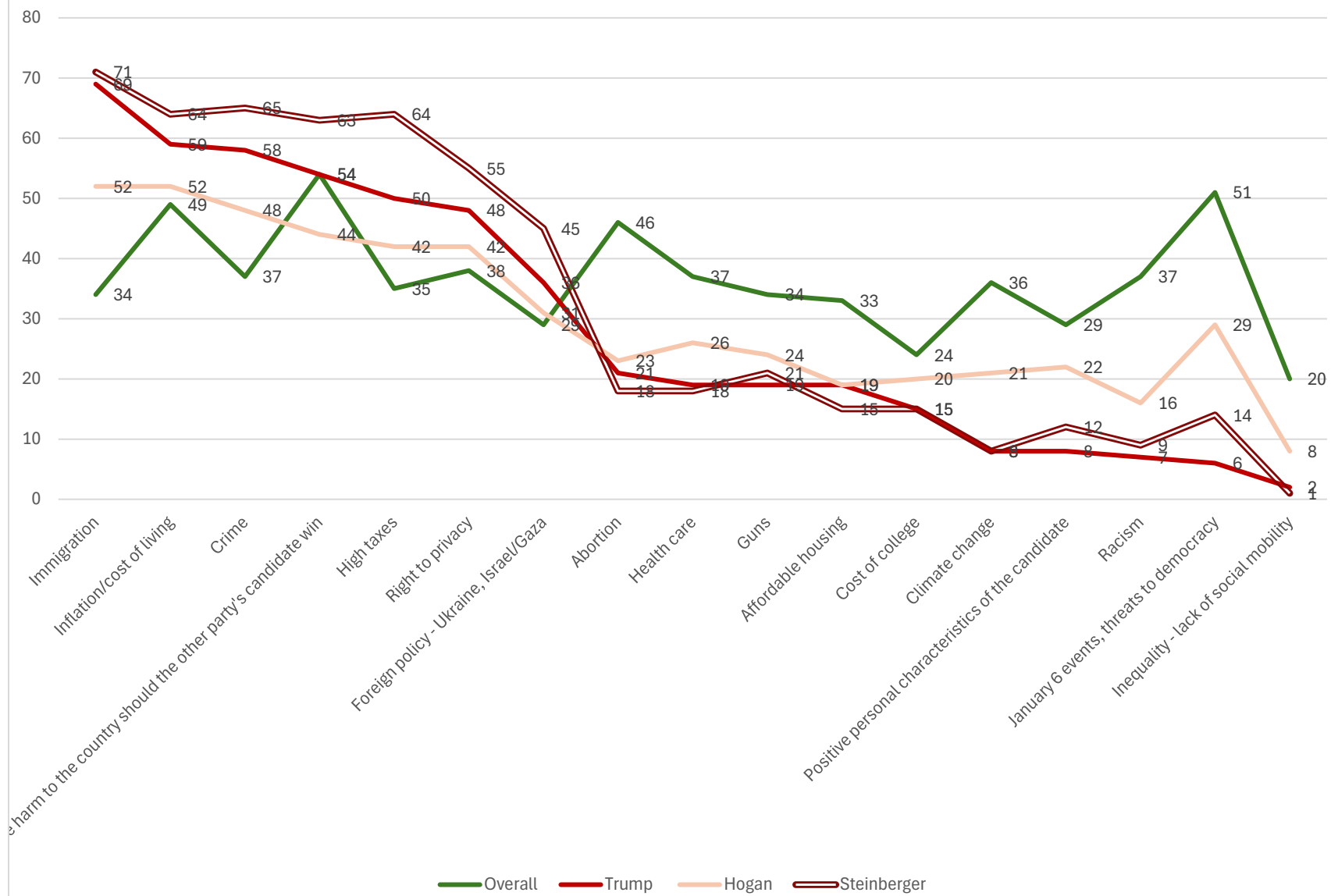
**Table 68: Issue Saliencies - Overall and by Candidate**

		Democrats			Republicans		
	Overall	Harris	Alsobrooks	Elfreth	Trump	Hogan	Steinberger
The harm to the country should the other party's candidate win	54	60	66	71	54	44	63
January 6 events, threats to democracy	51	72	75	79	6	29	14
Inflation/cost of living	49	38	34	29	59	52	64
Abortion	46	60	67	65	21	23	18
Right to privacy	38	29	31	31	48	42	55
Health care	37	44	47	48	19	26	18
Crime	37	20	18	19	58	48	65
Racism	37	46	50	45	7	16	9
Climate change	36	53	54	63	8	21	8
High taxes	35	22	21	24	50	42	64
Immigration	34	15	14	16	69	52	71
Guns	34	39	41	46	19	24	21
Affordable housing	33	39	39	35	19	19	15
Foreign policy - Ukraine, Israel/Gaza	29	27	29	30	36	31	45
Positive personal characteristics of the candidate	29	40	39	38	8	22	12
Cost of college	24	22	22	21	15	20	15
Inequality - lack of social mobility	20	24	29	30	2	8	1

Graph 35: Harris, Alsobrooks, Elfreth Compared to Overall - Issue Saliencies



Graph 36: Trump, Hogan, Steinberger Compared to Overall - Issue Saliencies





## Factors Gaining Support for Candidates

The section on politics has three more elements. The first is a consideration of different ways in which voters might be influenced by a variety of methods for gaining information about candidates. Following that discussion, the press release will turn to the job approval section as well as trust in the political parties.

Politically active people often wonder what they can do to persuade voters that their candidates are the most appealing. This section examines voters' own perceptions of how consequential various methods have been in that regard. The question that was posed was:

**“When thinking about the election cycle, indicate how important any of the following been in getting you to support a candidate? (Choose "No experience" if the method doesn't apply.)”**

The results are found in Table 69. The figures on that table are distributed across four categories, include “no experience.” Several items ranked high on that measure such as “candidate or representative came to my door or other personal contact” (56%) and “received a phone call from campaign” (40%). Since it seems more relevant to ask whether those with experience in a certain factor seemed strongly influenced, Table 70 treats “no experience” answers as missing values – and calculates scores for the other categories without considering the “no experience” percentage.

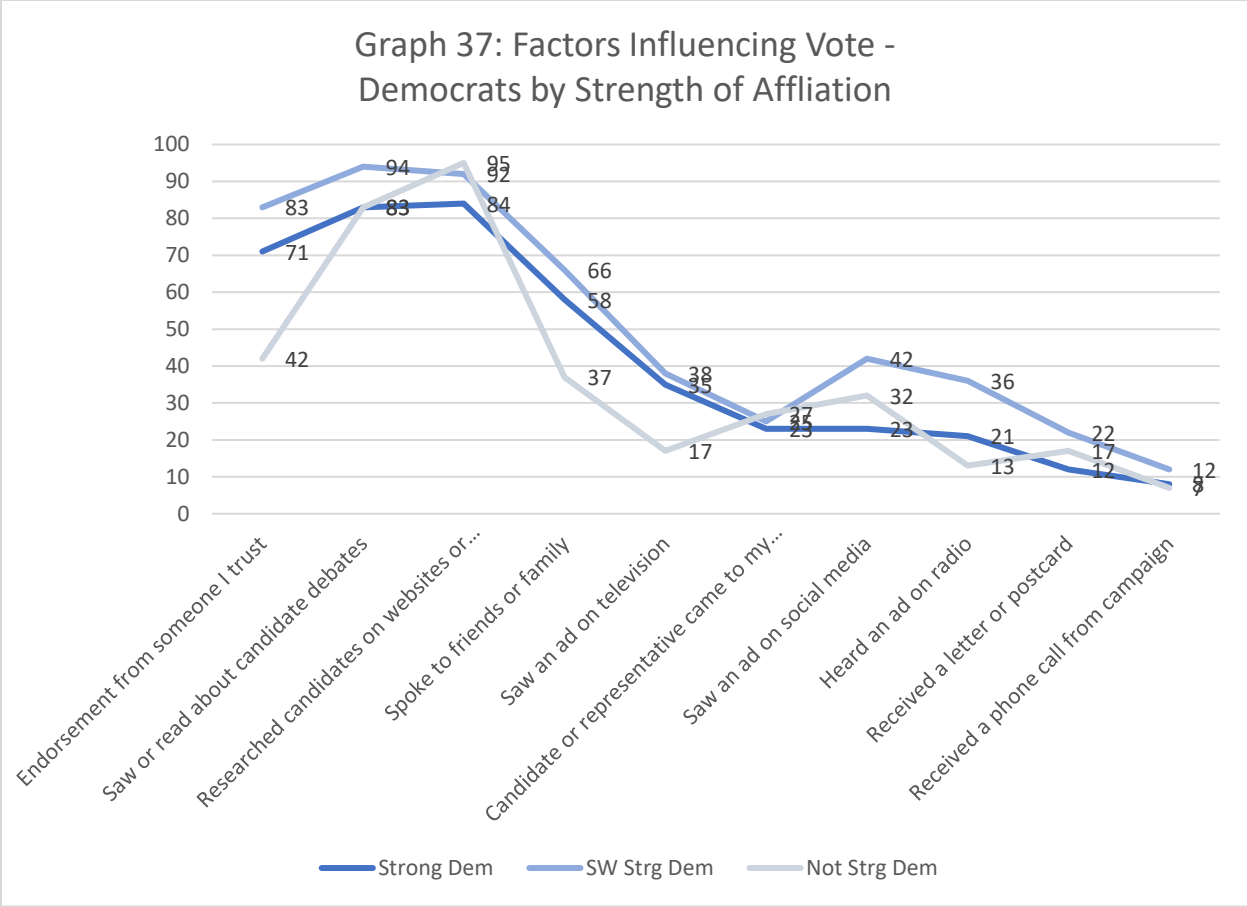
**Table 69: Importance of Various Factors in Influencing Voters Choices**

	Importance in your voting choice			
	No experience	Not very important	Somewhat important	Quite or very important
Researched candidates on websites or using social media	16	10	33	42
Saw or read about candidate debates	13	13	38	35
Endorsement from someone I trust	20	32	33	14
Spoke to friends or family	17	36	37	10
Candidate or representative came to my door or other personal contact	56	31	9	5
Received a letter or postcard	31	57	10	3
Saw an ad on television	17	57	23	3
Saw an ad on social media	23	56	18	3
Heard an ad on radio	23	61	14	2
Received a phone call from campaign	40	53	6	1
Other (option to explain)	36	11	21	32

Table 70 shows the results of removing “no experience” from the calculation. The top two items were public events (candidate debates) or sources (websites or social media). The “no experience” scores for these items were quite low (13%, 16%) indicating that voters felt that they wanted to inform themselves about the candidates using events (debates) or information that was accessible to them and allowed them to make a rational choice. The methods least likely to influence voters were direct appeals by the campaign – phone calls (12%), letters (18%) on personal contact (30%), along with ads on the radio (21%), social media (28%) or television (32%).

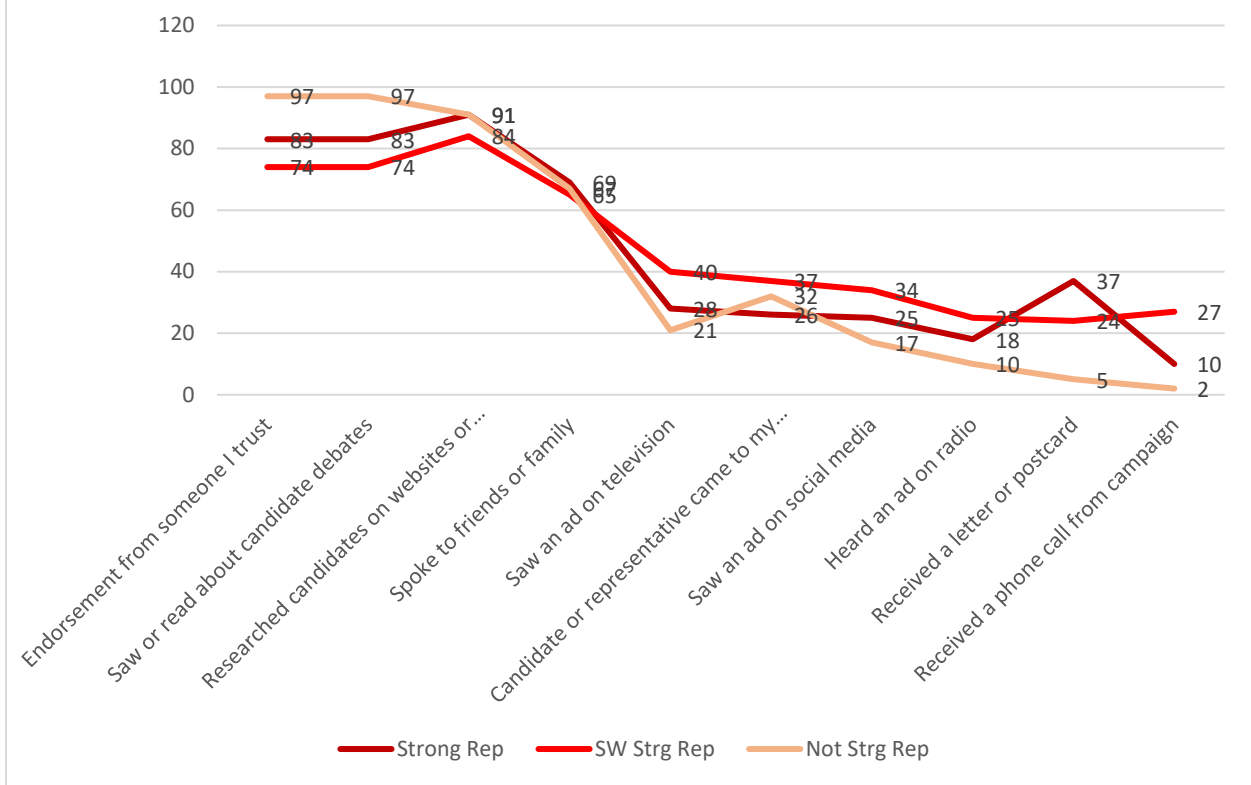
**Table 70: Importance of Various Factors in Influencing Voters Choices  
(without “no experience”)**

	<b>Importance in your voting choice</b>			
	<b>Not very important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Quite or very important</b>	<b>Somewhat+Very important</b>
Saw or read about candidate debates	15	44	41	85
Researched candidates on websites or using social media	12	39	49	79
Spoke to friends or family	43	44	13	57
Saw an ad on television	68	28	4	32
Candidate or representative came to my door or other personal contact	70	20	10	30
Saw an ad on social media	73	24	4	28
Heard an ad on radio	79	18	3	21
Received a letter or postcard	82	14	4	18
Received a phone call from campaign	88	11	1	12
Other (option to explain)	17	32	50	82



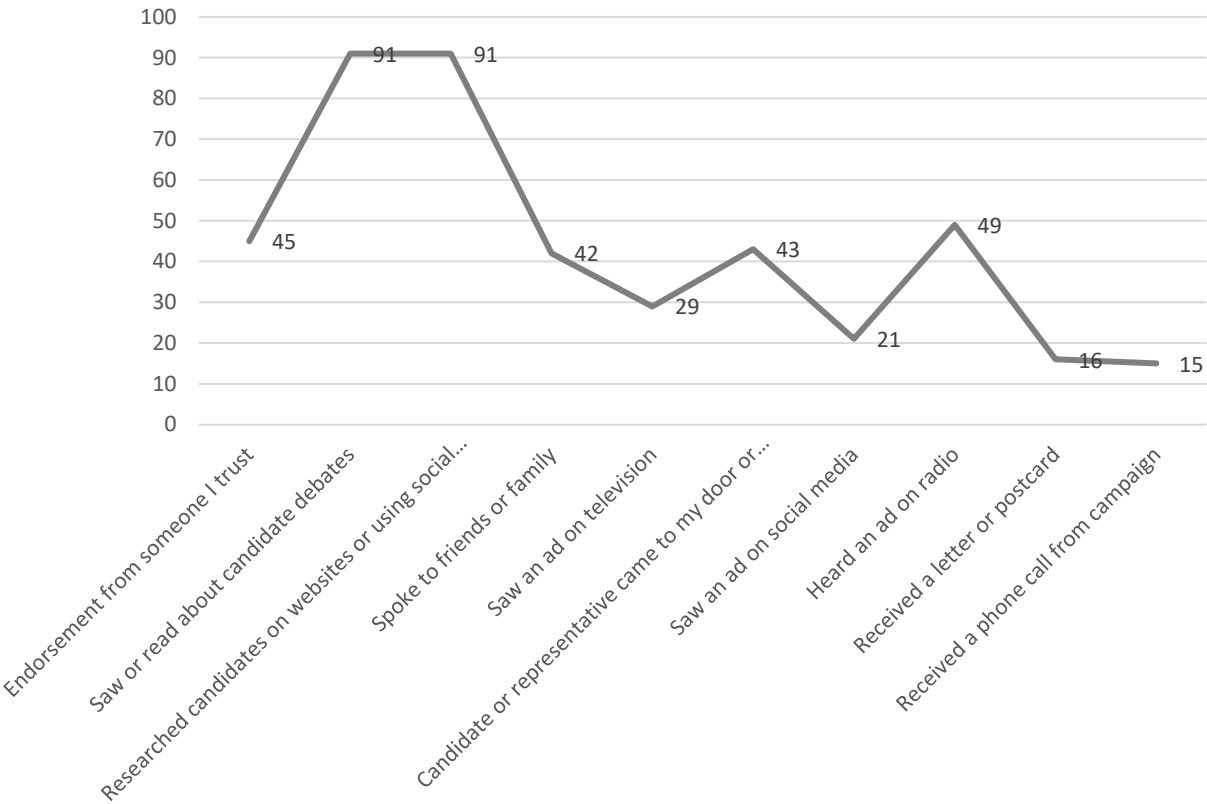
Graph 37 shows the impact of each factor among those registered as Democrats – distinguished by strength of affiliation. Since the group most likely to be affected by a factor other than partisanship was that of “not strong Democrats” it can be seen that there were some differences between them and other Democratic groups. They appeared especially likely to research candidates online, but unlikely to speak to friends or family about candidates.

Graph 38: Factors Influencing Vote -  
Republicans by Strength of Affiliation



Graph 38 shows that the “not strong Republicans” were especially influenced by endorsements and debates; they were least likely to be affected by ads, letters or phone calls.

Graph 39: Factors Influencing Vote - Unaffiliated Voters



Graph 39 shows that unaffiliateds were less likely than other groups to be affected by endorsements or conversations with friends or family, but more likely to be influenced by radio ads and having the candidate or representative come to the individual's door.

An option to comment about factors influencing voting choice was provided and is included in Appendix M. ChatGPT was used to categorize responses into various groups and assign percentages to the categories – see Appendix M for a fuller summary.

**Candidate Character and Integrity – 16 entries**

Examples: "Character," "Honesty of candidate," "Understanding their character views and policies," "Intelligence and passion."

**Percentage:** 23%

**Political Affiliation and Partisan Opinions – 13 entries**

Examples: "Democrat," "Democrats," "Not a Trump Republican," "Republicans and Trump are IDIOTS."

**Percentage:** 19%

**Policy Positions and Philosophy – 12 entries**

Examples: "policy positions," "Overall philosophy and approach," "who aligns with what I see most important for the USA."

**Percentage:** 17%

**Past Record and Experience – 11 entries**

Examples: "Track record," "Records!," "Past performance and results in their previous jobs."

**Percentage:** 16%

**Personal Research and News Sources – 10 entries**

Examples: "Research their websites and talks," "My own research on reputable sites," "Using news reports such as the Washington Post."

**Percentage:** 14%

**Personal Experience and Observations – 4 entries**

Examples: "Long-term personal observation," "Knowing them personally," "Seeing who my neighbors are supporting with Lawn signs."

**Percentage:** 6%

**Endorsements and External Influences – 3 entries**

Examples: "Endorsements by newspapers or organizations," "Discussions on conservative radio talk shows."

**Percentage:** 4%

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

Each AACC/CSLI community survey asks respondents to indicate approval or disapproval of the job performed by an incumbent in office. There are open-ended comments associated with each office – see Appendices N through P (see pp. 229-255).

### Presidential Job Approval

The first job approval focus will be on the president. Historically, prior to the 2020 elections for president, our poll found that former President Trump’s job approval was 43%, just slightly higher than the previous spring when it was 42%.

As shown on Table 70, one year later in fall 2021, Joe Biden’s job approval registered 54% – combining “strong” with “somewhat” approve. By spring 2020, Biden’s job approval had skyrocketed well beyond Trump’s reaching 52%. One year later, his job approval had dropped to 46% echoing a generally declining job approval score in national polls which reached 41% at that time according to [realclearpolitics.com](https://www.realclearpolitics.com) (see Graph 40). While the spring CSLI 2023 survey showed Biden as having reached a new low in job approval (41%), the fall 2023 survey showed the beginning of a pattern of improvement, rising to 44% followed 48% in spring 2024 – which is where it remained in fall 2024.

This pattern did not reflect national ones according to [realclearpolitics.com](https://www.realclearpolitics.com) which has had Biden’s job approval around 40% for the last year.<sup>14</sup> Given that the margin of Biden’s election win in Anne Arundel County in 2020 was much higher than over Trump nationally, it isn’t surprising that Biden remains a bit more popular in the county than nationally. Moreover, the growing disenchantment with Republican politics in Anne Arundel County – where the decline in Republican Party registration has been significant over the last few years – should also be taken into account as a factor explaining the discrepancy between national and local percentages.<sup>15</sup>

Graph 40 shows the pattern for both poll sources –AACC/CSLI as well as Gallup/RCP. Table 70 shows the overall job approval score over the period spring 2016 to fall 2024. Table 71 shows presidential job approval from fall 2022 to fall 2024 by party as well as overall.

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<sup>14</sup> For the RCP’s job approval scores see <https://www.realclearpolling.com/polls/approval/joe-biden/approval-rating>

<sup>15</sup> Since fall 2007 and prior to Biden’s victory in 2020, AACC/CSLI polls of county residents generally tracked national presidential job approval trends as indicated by Gallup surveys. Unfortunately, the Gallup organization now only tracks presidential job approval monthly, making it less relevant to the periods when the AACC/CSLI poll is in the field. Comparisons now rely on the [realclearpolitics.com](https://www.realclearpolitics.com) site, where recent national polls can be compared to AACC/CSLI poll results.

**Table 70: AACC/CSLI Presidential Job Approval Spring 2016 to Fall 2024**

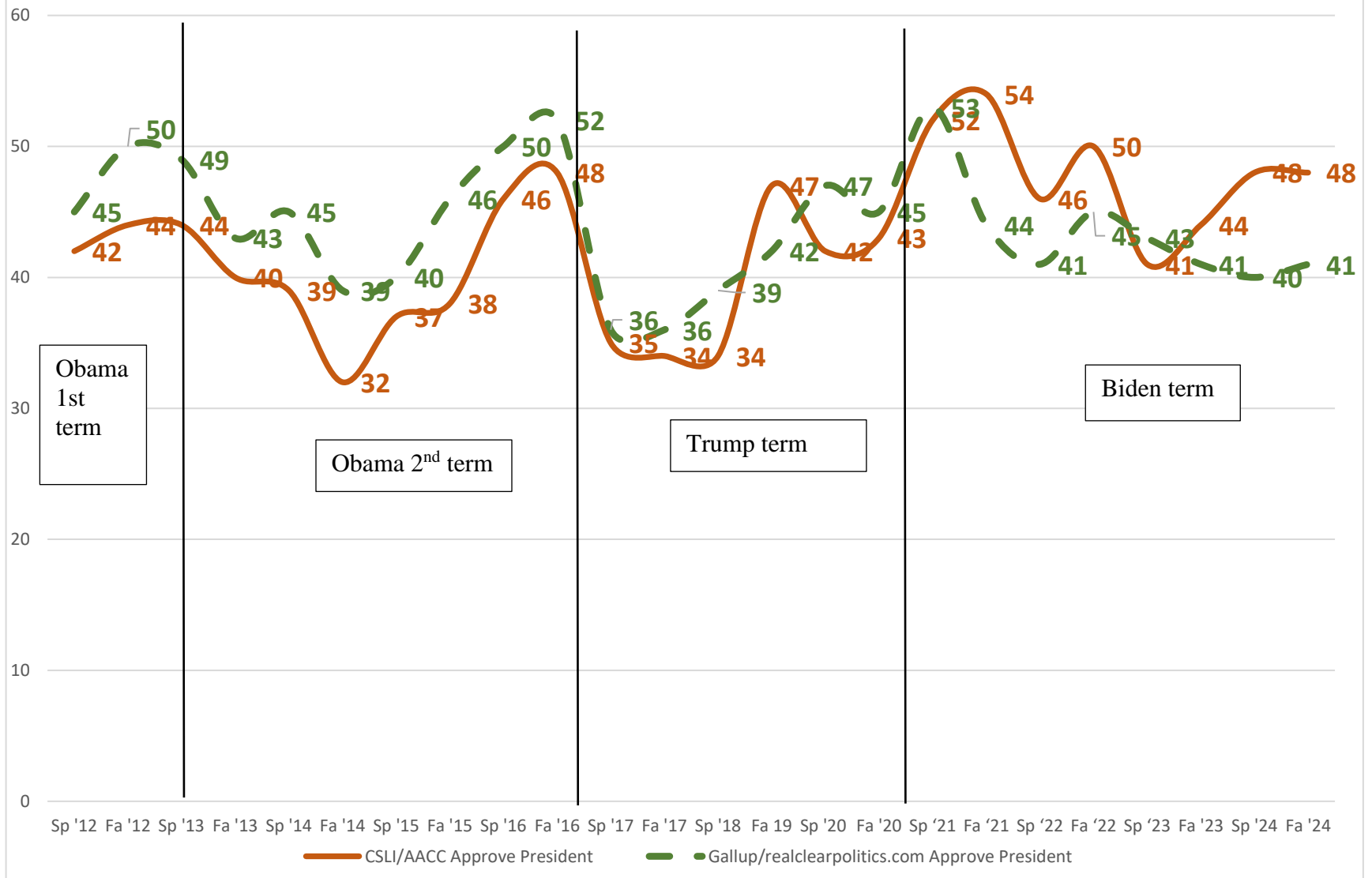
	Sp '16	Fa '16	Sp '17	Fa '17	Sp '18	Sp '19	Fa '19	Sp '20	Fa '20	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
<b>Approve</b>	46	48	35	34	34	40	47	42	43	52	54	46	50	41	44	48	<b>48</b>
<b>Disapprove</b>	47	46	54	55	56	56	56	58	56	42	44	50	42	54	49	50	<b>44</b>
<b>No answer</b>	7	6	11	11	11	4	3	0	1	5	3	5	7	6	4	2	<b>8</b>
<b>Total</b>	100	100	100	100	101	101	99	100	100	99	101	101	99	101	100	101	<b>100</b>

**Table 71: Presidential Job Approval – Overall and by Party Registration, Fall 2022 through Fall 2024**

	Overall					Dems					Reps					Unaffiliated				
	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
<b>Strongly+somewhat</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Strongly approve</b>	18	15	21	21	<b>18</b>	34	31	42	36	<b>36</b>	4	2	4	3	<b>4</b>	18	3	6	10	<b>5</b>
<b>Somewhat approve</b>	32	26	23	27	<b>30</b>	39	41	37	39	<b>45</b>	14	7	4	9	<b>11</b>	33	24	24	24	<b>34</b>
<b>Somewhat disapprove</b>	8	13	9	11	<b>11</b>	8	9	8	11	<b>8</b>	7	9	7	11	<b>12</b>	15	26	18	16	<b>12</b>
<b>Strongly disapprove</b>	34	41	43	39	<b>33</b>	10	16	11	11	<b>7</b>	73	80	85	77	<b>71</b>	25	41	45	41	<b>38</b>
<b>Unsure, don't know</b>	7	6	4	2	<b>8</b>	9	4	3	4	<b>4</b>	2	3	0	0	<b>3</b>	9	6	8	8	<b>11</b>
<b>Total</b>	99	101	101	100	<b>100</b>	101	101	101	100	<b>100</b>	100	101	100	100	<b>101</b>	100	100	101	99	<b>100</b>



Graph 40: Presidential Job Approval Spring 2012 to Fall 2024



## Gubernatorial Job Approval

Former Governor Larry Hogan set a high bar for job approval as he ended his governorship with job approval scores above 70 percent. Wes Moore would seem to have a difficult time creating the broad coalition of Democrats, Republicans and unaffiliateds to sustain similar job approval scores. It seemed inevitable that Moore would be very unlikely to hold on to much of the Republican Party, implying that his job approval would ultimately depend mostly on Democrats as well as liberal or moderate unaffiliateds. The results for gubernatorial job approval are shown in Tables 72 and 73, as well as Graph 41.

We now have four results for Moore's job approval – spring/fall 2023 and spring/fall 2024. The following observations seem warranted:

- (1) There was initially a 26-point gap between Hogan's last job approval score (75%) and Moore's first score in spring 2023 (49%). That gap narrowed to just 16 points (59%) by spring 2024 but increased again to 24 points by fall 2024 (51%).<sup>16</sup>
- (2) Moore's job approval improvement has been based on maintaining a high score among Democrats and sustaining improvement in scores among unaffiliateds.
- (3) Republicans' support has varied from 37% to 22% but reached that low mark this fall accounting for some of Moore's decline in general approval.
- (4) It seems likely that any future enhancement of Moore's job approval would require a strong uptick in Democratic scores, some stabilization in Republican scores closer to the 30% range, and sustaining relatively high percentages among unaffiliateds, many of whom have had no opinion.
- (5) Moore's job approval has declined among moderate and conservative ideological categories. A resurgence among "moderates" – the largest group – would have a strong positive impact upon his job approval (see Table 73).

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<sup>16</sup> While there isn't a way of testing the hypothesis that Moore's reaction to the collapse of the Key Bridge improved his job approval scores for last spring but it is possible that both Biden's and Moore's approval scores in spring 2024 were positively impacted by their responses to the collapse of the Key Bridge. See the reporting at, e.g., <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/baltimore-bridge-collapse-biden-visit-francis-scott-key/>

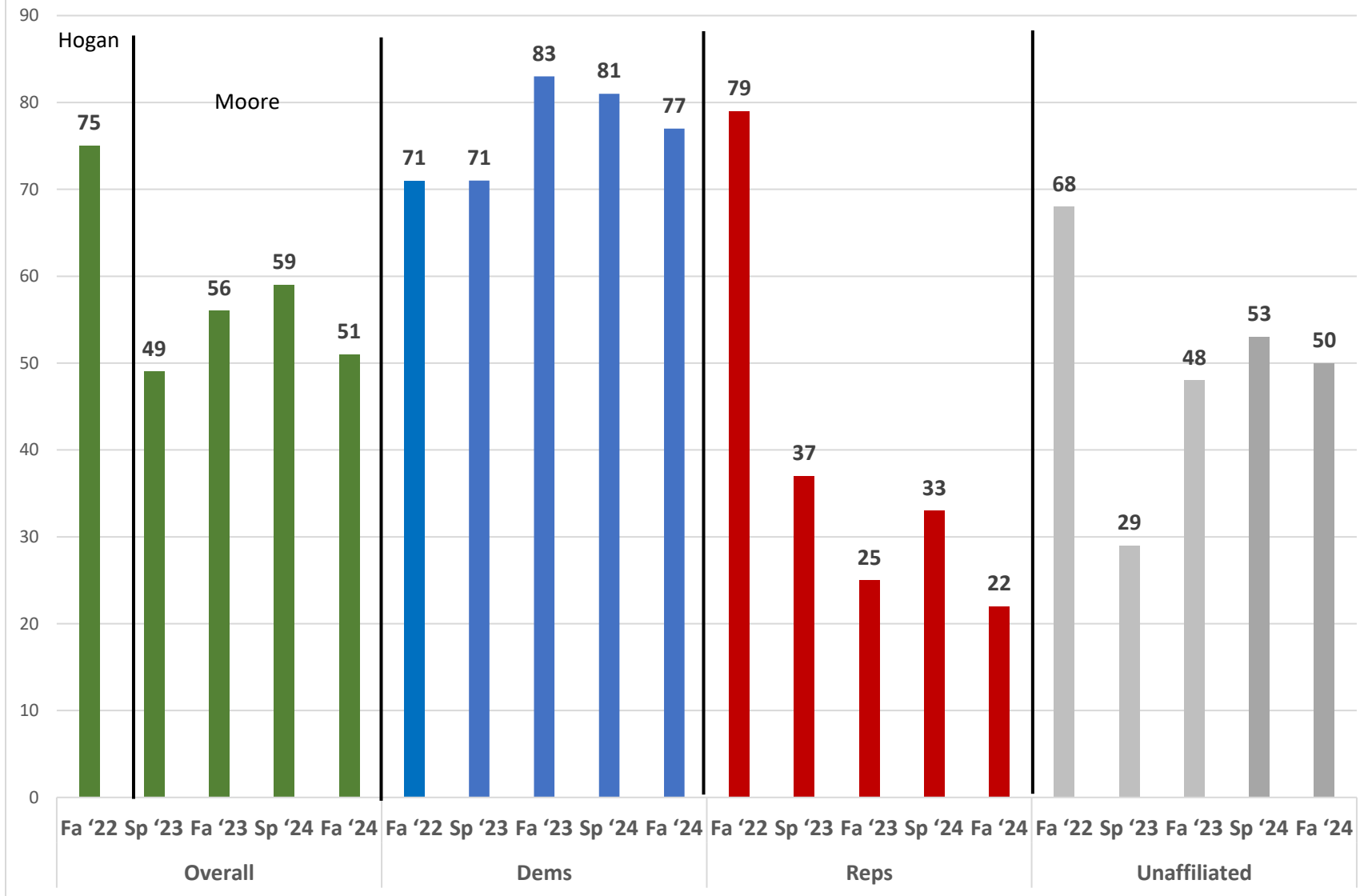
**Table 72: Gubernatorial Job Approval – Overall and by Party Registration, Fall 2022 through Fall 2024**

	Overall					Dems					Reps					Unaffiliated				
	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
Strongly+somewhat	<b>75</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>50</b>
Strongly approve	36	23	27	28	<b>25</b>	35	35	48	47	<b>45</b>	48	18	7	7	<b>6</b>	28	11	15	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>
Somewhat approve	39	26	29	31	<b>26</b>	36	36	35	34	<b>32</b>	31	19	18	26	<b>16</b>	40	19	33	<b>27</b>	<b>32</b>
Somewhat disapprove	13	14	13	16	<b>18</b>	17	9	5	6	<b>8</b>	15	20	24	30	<b>35</b>	8	20	11	<b>19</b>	<b>18</b>
Strongly disapprove	3	10	18	13	<b>13</b>	1	2	4	3	<b>3</b>	4	25	40	30	<b>32</b>	8	6	15	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>
Unsure, don't know	10	27	14	12	<b>18</b>	11	19	7	10	<b>12</b>	2	19	11	7	<b>11</b>	17	44	27	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>
Total	101	100	101	100	<b>100</b>	100	101	99	100	<b>100</b>	100	101	100	100	<b>100</b>	99	100	101	<b>101</b>	<b>99</b>

**Table 73: Gubernatorial Job Approval by Ideology, Fall 2023-Fall 2024**

	Overall			Very cons.			SW cons.			Mod.			SW lib.			Very lib.		
	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
Strongly+somewhat approve	57	59	<b>51</b>	17	13	<b>9</b>	31	39	<b>26</b>	66	68	<b>53</b>	83	80	<b>84</b>	88	86	<b>78</b>
Strongly approve	27	28	<b>25</b>	0	6	<b>4</b>	8	9	<b>7</b>	29	31	<b>27</b>	52	42	<b>39</b>	49	53	<b>47</b>
Somewhat approve	29	31	<b>26</b>	17	7	<b>5</b>	23	30	<b>19</b>	37	37	<b>26</b>	31	38	<b>45</b>	39	33	<b>31</b>
Somewhat disapprove	13	16	<b>18</b>	23	37	<b>33</b>	27	30	<b>34</b>	9	14	<b>21</b>	2	3	<b>5</b>	2	3	<b>2</b>
Strongly disapprove	18	13	<b>13</b>	53	35	<b>51</b>	31	25	<b>24</b>	12	9	<b>11</b>	1	1	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>2</b>
Unsure, no opinion	14	12	<b>18</b>	7	15	<b>8</b>	12	6	<b>16</b>	12	10	<b>14</b>	14	16	<b>12</b>	10	11	<b>18</b>
Total	101	100	<b>100</b>	100	100	<b>101</b>	101	100	<b>100</b>	99	101	<b>99</b>	100	100	<b>101</b>	100	100	<b>100</b>

Graph 41: Gubernatorial Job Approval  
Fall 2021 to Fall 2024



## County Executive Job Approval

Anne Arundel county executives have had a difficult time knowing exactly where they stand with the public due to the relatively large percentages of respondents who don't know enough to offer an evaluation. On average, between a fifth and a fourth of respondents say "don't know" when asked about the county executive's job approval. With County Executive Steuart Pittman in his second term, it might seem that there would be growing recognition of his performance while in office, but this hasn't been seen in the survey results. This tends to create the impression of relatively low job approval, looking only at the absolute values of the percentages in the "strongly+somewhat" approve line in Table 74 – for this fall, 41%. One way to circumvent this issue is to note the net approval score – this means adding strongly and somewhat approve together and then subtracting the somewhat and strongly disapprove scores.

**Table 74: County Executive Job Approval – Overall**

	Overall						
	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
<b>Net approval</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Strongly+somewhat</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>41</b>
Strongly approve	15	20	18	16	19	18	14
Somewhat approve	30	27	24	27	27	27	27
Somewhat disapprove	13	11	15	13	12	14	12
Strongly disapprove	21	21	19	22	19	17	15
Unsure, don't know	21	21	24	22	22	24	32
<b>Total</b>	100	100	100	100	100	100	<b>101</b>

According to the scores in Table 75, Pittman has essentially maintained a narrow range of variation in net approval score for the last three surveys – in fall 2023 it was 15%, this spring it was 14% where it stayed in fall 2024. This stability has been based on consistent recent net positive scores among unaffiliateds, with relatively little change among Democrats and Republicans (Table 75).

Table 76 shows that there was a decline in net positive scores for "very" conservatives, but that this was offset by a rise among "somewhat" conservatives. Pittman did experience a 9-point decline among moderates (from 22% to 13% net positive) as well as a 5-point drop among "very" liberals (from 59% to 54%). Graph 42 shows job approval scores for the president, governor and county executive from fall 2014 to fall 2024.

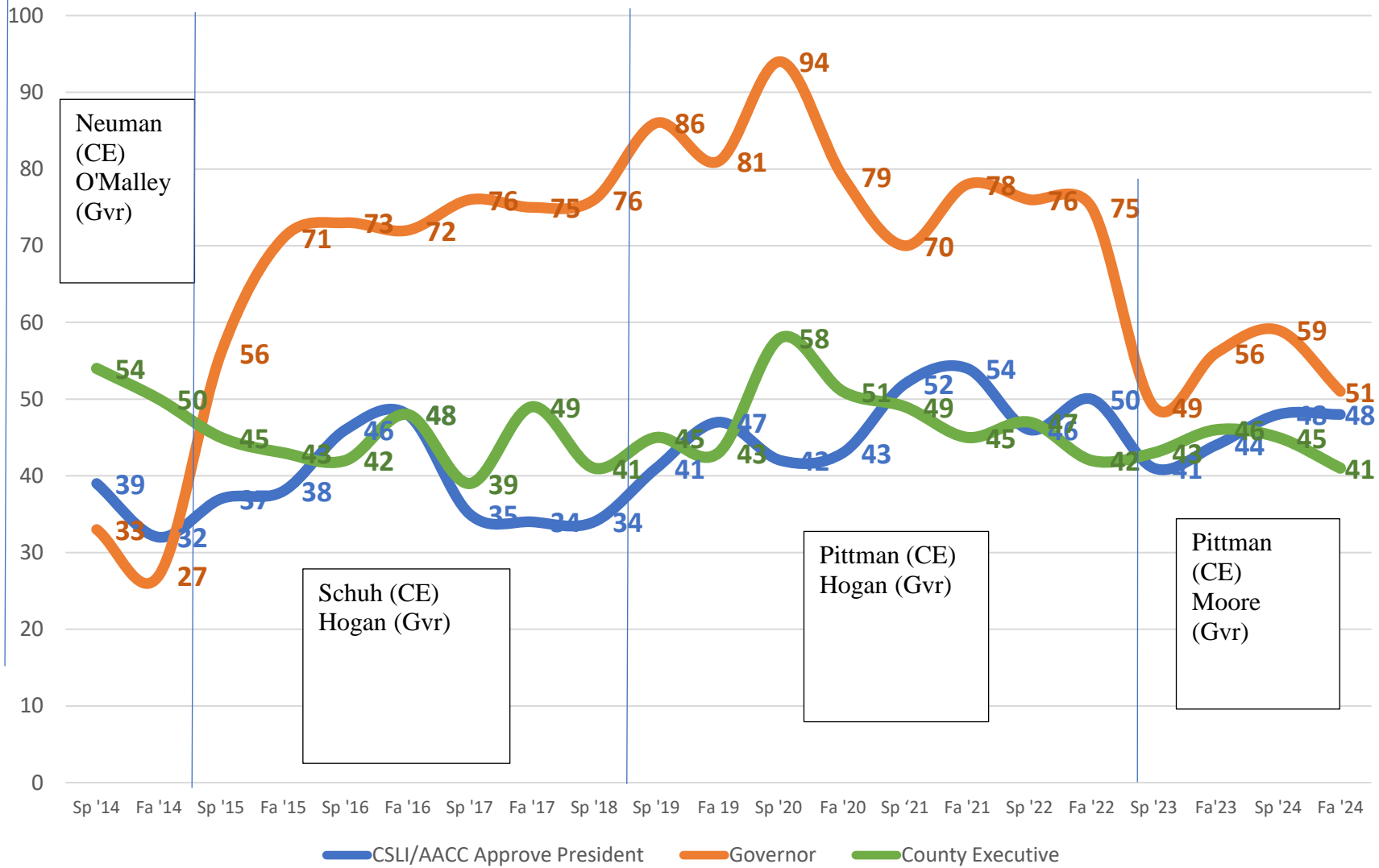
**Table 75: County Executive Job Approval – Overall and by Party Registration, Fall 2022 to Fall 2024**

	Overall					Dems					Reps					Unaffiliated				
	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
<b>Net approval</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>-41</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-36</b>	<b>-38</b>	<b>-35</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>-28</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Strongly+somewhat</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>38</b>
Strongly approve	18	16	19	18	<b>14</b>	34	32	37	30	<b>27</b>	5	3	5	6	<b>4</b>	9	6	6	11	<b>4</b>
Somewhat approve	24	27	27	27	<b>27</b>	30	30	33	34	<b>35</b>	16	29	23	19	<b>18</b>	25	25	25	28	<b>34</b>
Somewhat disapprove	15	13	12	14	<b>12</b>	4	7	6	9	<b>4</b>	25	20	23	24	<b>24</b>	22	21	13	13	<b>14</b>
Strongly disapprove	19	22	19	17	<b>15</b>	6	8	5	4	<b>5</b>	38	31	41	39	<b>33</b>	13	38	16	13	<b>10</b>
Unsure, don't know	24	22	22	24	<b>32</b>	27	24	19	23	<b>29</b>	16	17	9	12	<b>21</b>	32	11	40	34	<b>37</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>99</b>

**Table 76: County Executive Job Approval by Ideology, Fall 2023 to Fall 2024**

	Overall			Very cons.			SW cons.			Mod.			SW lib.			Very lib.		
	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
<b>Net approval</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-53</b>	<b>-45</b>	<b>-63</b>	<b>-23</b>	<b>-31</b>	<b>-15</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>Strongly+somewhat</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>59</b>
Strongly approve	19	18	<b>14</b>	4	8	<b>2</b>	3	6	<b>6</b>	19	15	<b>14</b>	33	26	<b>20</b>	43	40	<b>31</b>
Somewhat approve	27	27	<b>27</b>	16	11	<b>9</b>	30	22	<b>24</b>	37	33	<b>29</b>	27	41	<b>42</b>	25	25	<b>28</b>
Somewhat disapprove	12	14	<b>12</b>	15	15	<b>32</b>	26	27	<b>20</b>	13	12	<b>13</b>	2	8	<b>5</b>	7	4	<b>2</b>
Strongly disapprove	19	17	<b>15</b>	57	49	<b>42</b>	29	31	<b>25</b>	15	14	<b>17</b>	2	2	<b>2</b>	1	2	<b>3</b>
Unsure, no opinion	22	24	<b>32</b>	8	17	<b>14</b>	12	14	<b>25</b>	17	27	<b>28</b>	36	22	<b>31</b>	23	30	<b>36</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>

**Graph 42: Job Approval for President, Governor, County Executive - Spring 2014 to Fall 2024**



## **Legislatures and Supreme Court – Job Approval**

The spring 2021 survey included a first look at legislatures and job approval. The institutions included were the Anne Arundel County Council, the Maryland General Assembly, and the U.S. Congress. The fall 2021 survey added the Anne Arundel Board of Education as well as the U.S. Supreme Court. The updated results are shown on Tables 77 and 78 as well as Graph 43. Overall, there were some light changes such as the approval score for the Supreme Court declining to its lowest recent level – 30% approval. Otherwise, there was a bit of generalized lowering of scores for other institutions, but all within the margin of error.

As in the past, none of the state and local institutions have had particularly impressive “strongly approve” percentages (all at 5%); all the local institutions had very high “unsure” scores (from 27 to 34 percent).

In Table 80 (and Graph 44) were the scores for each institution by party registration from fall 2022 to fall 2024. As in the past, those institutions in which a party has a majority were usually more highly rated than in institutions in which the party was in a minority. It is not a surprise that Democrats think more highly of the Anne Arundel County Council (57% approve vs. Republicans 27%) or the Maryland General Assembly (54%, 19%) than do Republicans given Democratic majorities in each. Conversely, it might be expected that Republicans would have a higher job approval score for the Supreme Court (62%) compared to Democrats (9%).

Congress was distinct in that neither party (nor unaffiliateds) was inclined to give it high marks – it registered the lowest scores of the series both overall as well as among partisans.

Lastly, the Supreme Court seems headed to being regarded as another partisan institution rather than something “above politics” since there is a 53-point gap between Democrats (9%) and Republicans (62%) in job approval scores. Overall, the middling or very low scores with underlying party polarization offer long-term challenges to the legitimacy of each of these national institutions.



**Table 77: Legislatures and Supreme Court – Job Approval Overall, Fall 2021 to Fall 2024**

	Strongly+somewhat approve						
	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
Anne Arundel County Council	47	49	46	44	48	44	<b>42</b>
Board of Education	36	36	32	27	38	37	<b>36</b>
Maryland General Assembly	44	42	39	36	42	42	<b>39</b>
U.S. Congress	24	19	24	15	14	17	<b>16</b>
US Supreme Court	42	42	39	31	36	36	<b>30</b>

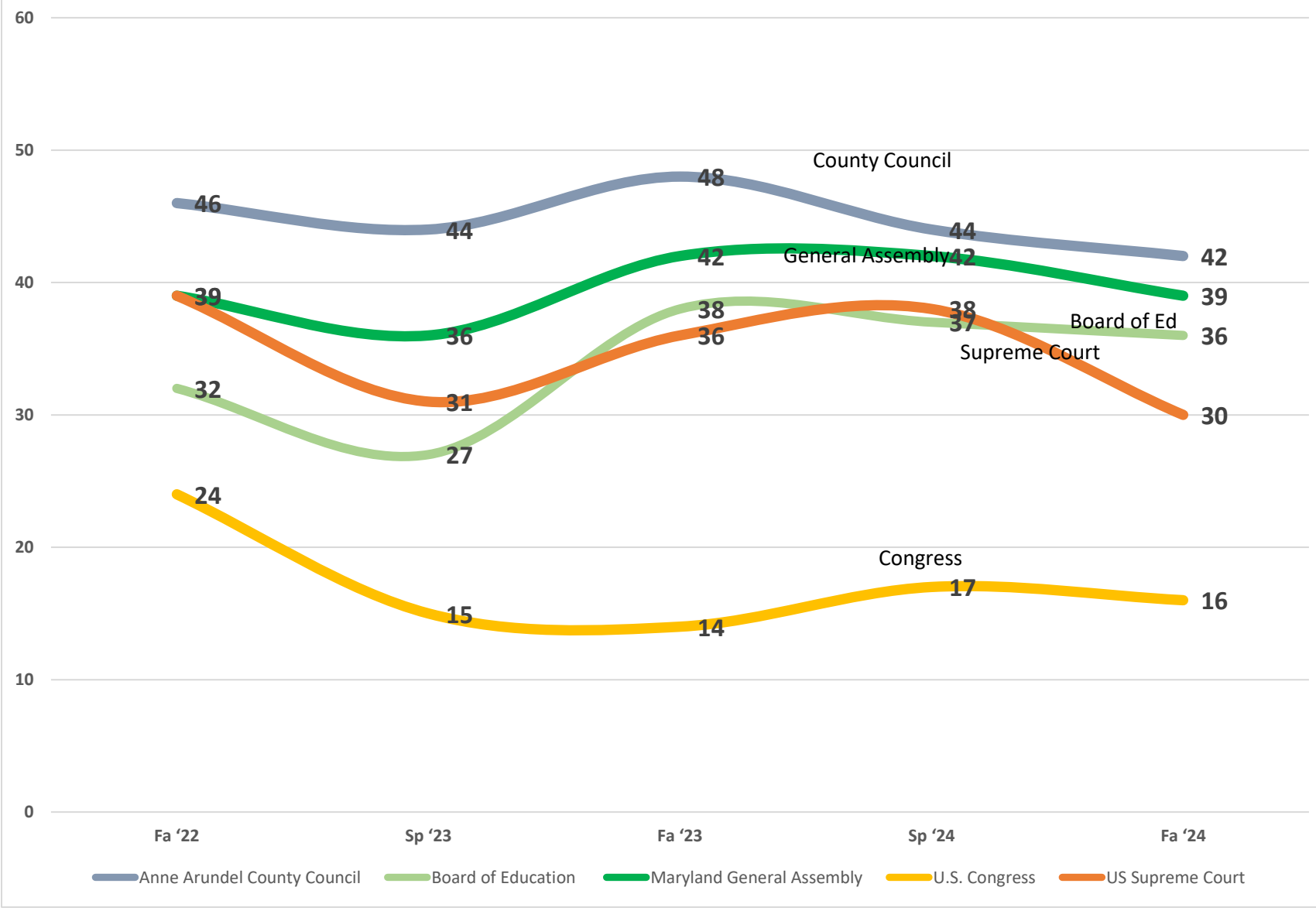
**Table 78: Legislatures and Supreme Court – Job Approval Detailed, Fall 2022 to Fall 2024**

	Strongly approve					Somewhat approve					Somewhat disapprove					Strongly disapprove					Unsure, no opinion				
	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
Anne Arundel County Council	9	6	7	8	<b>5</b>	37	38	41	36	<b>37</b>	21	17	13	23	<b>20</b>	6	7	15	8	<b>5</b>	27	31	24	26	<b>34</b>
Board of Education	3	2	4	6	<b>5</b>	29	25	34	31	<b>31</b>	25	18	19	21	<b>26</b>	21	23	18	15	<b>11</b>	22	32	25	27	<b>27</b>
Maryland General Assembly	9	7	9	9	<b>5</b>	30	29	33	33	<b>34</b>	13	14	13	19	<b>17</b>	17	18	21	16	<b>11</b>	32	33	25	23	<b>34</b>
U.S. Congress	3	1	1	2	<b>1</b>	21	14	13	15	<b>15</b>	28	41	30	32	<b>32</b>	34	33	46	43	<b>36</b>	14	11	9	9	<b>16</b>
US Supreme Court	12	7	9	11	<b>11</b>	27	26	27	25	<b>19</b>	15	21	20	18	<b>16</b>	36	36	35	38	<b>40</b>	10	9	9	9	<b>15</b>

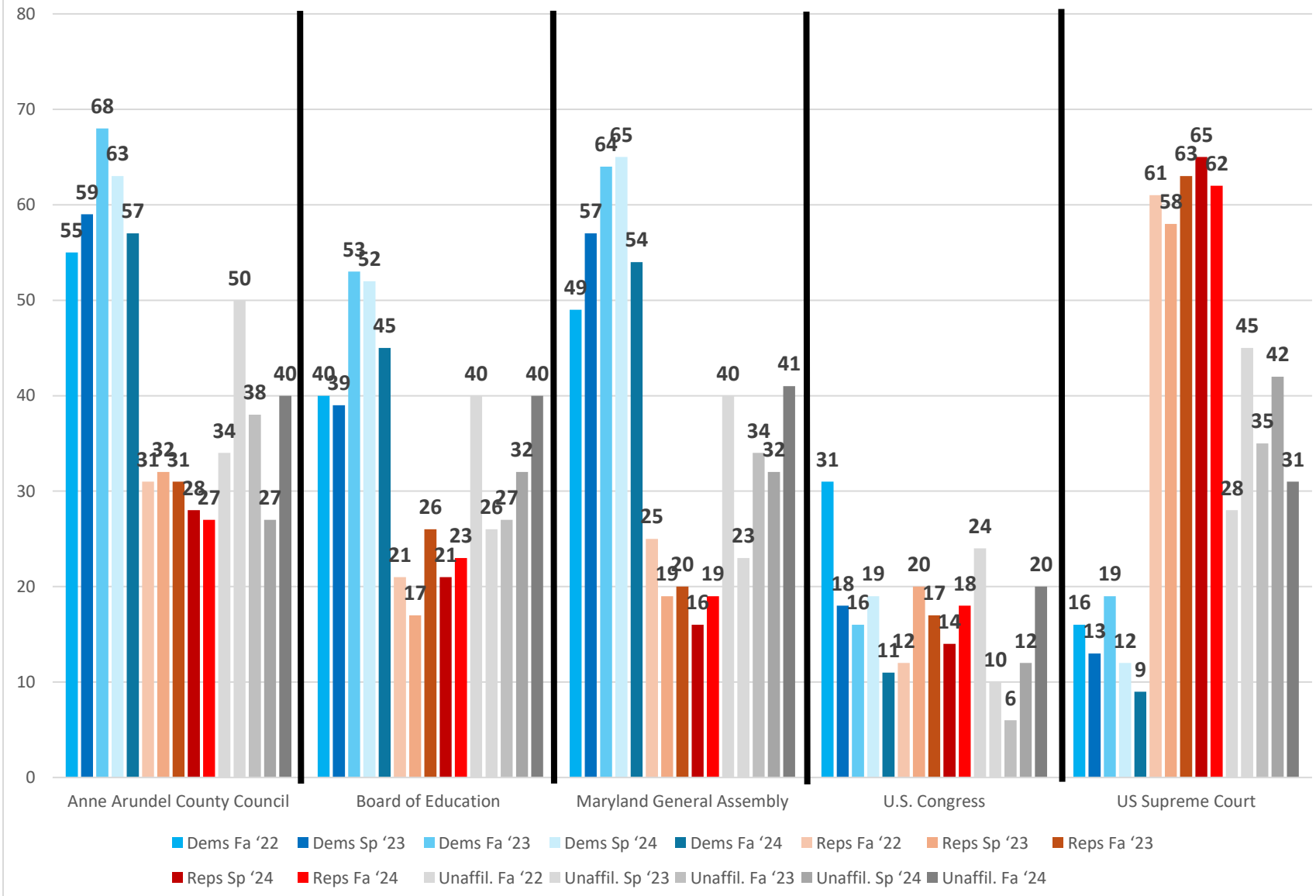
**Table 80: Legislatures and Supreme Court – Job Approval by Party (Strongly+somewhat), Fall 2022 to Fall 2024**

	Overall					Dems					Reps					Unaffil.				
	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
<b>Anne Arundel County Council</b>	46	44	48	44	<b>42</b>	55	59	68	63	<b>57</b>	31	32	31	28	<b>27</b>	34	50	38	27	<b>40</b>
<b>Board of Education</b>	32	27	38	37	<b>36</b>	40	39	53	52	<b>45</b>	21	17	26	21	<b>23</b>	40	26	27	32	<b>40</b>
<b>Maryland General Assembly</b>	39	36	42	42	<b>39</b>	49	57	64	65	<b>54</b>	25	19	20	16	<b>19</b>	40	23	34	32	<b>41</b>
<b>U.S. Congress</b>	24	15	14	17	<b>16</b>	31	18	16	19	<b>11</b>	12	20	17	14	<b>18</b>	24	10	6	12	<b>20</b>
<b>US Supreme Court</b>	39	31	36	38	<b>30</b>	16	13	19	12	<b>9</b>	61	58	63	65	<b>62</b>	28	45	35	42	<b>31</b>

Graph 43: Job Approval: Other Legislative Units + Supreme Court, Fall 2022 to Fall 2024



Graph 44: Job Approval for Legislatures and Supreme Court by Party Fall 2022 to Fall 2024



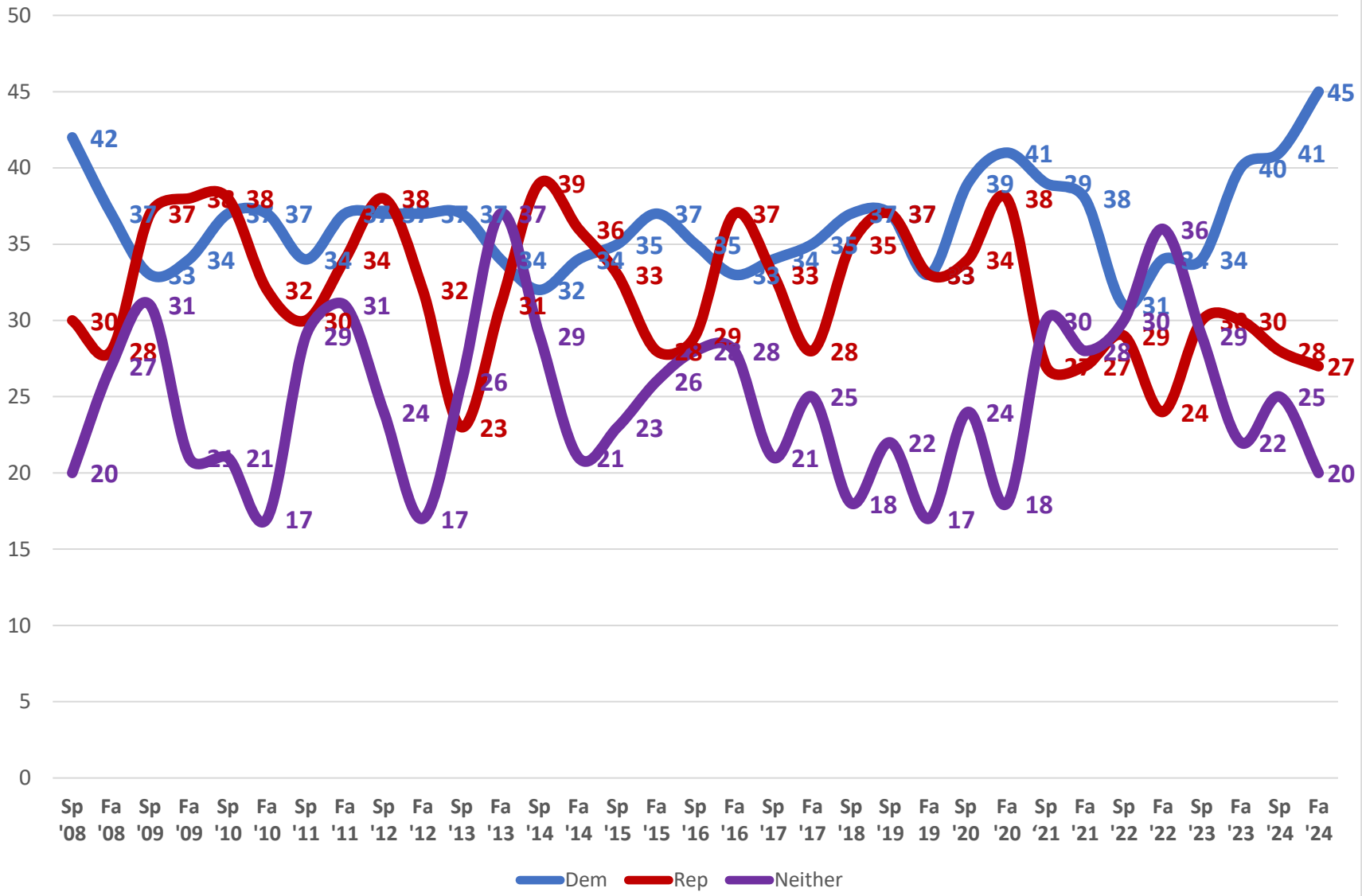
## Trust in Political Parties

Since 2008, AACC/CSLI 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 45 shows that there have been some sharp oscillations on the Republican side, scores as low as 23% and as high as 39%. The current value (27%) is near that party’s typical range over the last three years. It fell some 10 points after the January 6, 2021, insurrection at the Capitol and has never really recovered since.

Prior to this fall, Democrats have had less variation in trust levels, ranging from 32 to 42%. The current score is 45%; that is an all-time high score topping the previous high of 42% in spring 2008 and a 4-point improvement from last fall.

Those saying “neither” have varied the most, from a low of 17% to a high of 37%. The uptick in the Democrats’ score diminished the value of the “neither” score, dropping from 25% to only 20% last fall.

### Graph 42: Percentage Saying Trust a Party



## **Methodology**

The survey polled a random sample of 873 county residents who were at least 18 years old. Interviewing was conducted online primarily using a database of members of the AACC/CSLI web panel who were recruited when conducting previous telephone interviews. Students participated in the selection of topics and analysis of results as well as respondents to the survey. There was also outreach to other residents through the assistance of the EyeOnAnnapolis.com and a purchased email list of county residents. The survey was in the field from Oct. 11 to 20. There was about a 3.3% statistical margin of error; the error rate was higher for subgroups such as “Democrats” or “men.” The dataset was weighted by gender, political party, age, race, council district and education to better represent the general population.

Contact Dan Nataf, Ph.D., for additional comments or questions at 410-777-2733 (office) or 443-906-0153 (cell - preferred) and [ddnataf@aacc.edu](mailto:ddnataf@aacc.edu).

This press release can be obtained at <https://www2.aacc.edu/csli/AACC-Community-Survey-Fall-2024-Press-Release.pdf>. For all other press releases see [www2.aacc.edu/csli](http://www2.aacc.edu/csli).

## Appendix A: AACC Semi-Annual Survey – Fall, 2024

(with selected percentages from spring 2020-Spring 2024)

**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 '21	Fall '21	Spring '22	Fall '22	Spring '23	Fall '23	Spring '24	Fall 2024
Childcare services (access, affordable)					8	3	6	<b>7</b>
Coronavirus (spread, treatment, testing)	53	35	14	6	2	3	0	<b>1</b>
Crime (other than drug related)	10	13	26	27	24	36	22	<b>20</b>
Drugs (use or sale of illegal drugs such as heroin, cocaine, or use of prescription pain killers for non-medical purposes.)	11	9	20	19	21	19	14	<b>12</b>
Economy – (e.g., no jobs, high cost of living, business closing or losses)	22	22	19	32	22	23	26	<b>30</b>
Education (problems with schools, quality, facilities, staff, discipline)	22	24	20	23	18	18	12	<b>15</b>
Environment (e.g., air or water pollution, saving the Bay, climate change)	11	13	10	7	13	9	11	<b>13</b>
Government ethics (corrupt, immoral)	9	5	8	4	4	7	6	<b>3</b>
Government waste (inefficient, spends too much)	12	7	9	9	8	9	9	<b>9</b>
Government lacks resources (for roads, schools, services)	3	4	6	6	3	5	5	<b>6</b>
Growth/overpopulation (too much development, poorly planned)	11	16	17	18	22	16	20	<b>18</b>
Healthcare (cost, access)	4	7	6	7	10	8	12	<b>8</b>
Housing cost	7	11	16	13	20	17	24	<b>25</b>
Racism (hate crimes, discrimination)	6	6	7	5	4	5	4	<b>4</b>
Taxes – too high	12	12	17	16	13	19	16	<b>13</b>
Transportation (problems/traffic congestion, lack of public transit)	6	10	15	10	16	14	18	<b>16</b>
No answer, don't know	0	1	2	2	2	3	1	<b>6</b>
Other answer - write in: (See Appendix B)	5	0	3	3	2	2	4	<b>1</b>

Note: **Bolded** percentages are for the fall 2024 results, unbolded percentages are for prior surveys.



**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	
	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24
2.1 Anne Arundel County	43	<b>41</b>	31	<b>33</b>	26	<b>26</b>
2.2 Maryland	42	<b>42</b>	39	<b>40</b>	19	<b>18</b>
2.3 US	17	<b>15</b>	68	<b>70</b>	16	<b>5</b>

**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	
	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24
3.1 Anne Arundel County	8	<b>5</b>	43	<b>45</b>	35	<b>31</b>	13	<b>13</b>	2	<b>5</b>
3.2 Maryland	6	<b>4</b>	35	<b>35</b>	36	<b>36</b>	20	<b>19</b>	3	<b>6</b>
3.3 US	5	<b>2</b>	22	<b>24</b>	29	<b>37</b>	40	<b>29</b>	4	<b>7</b>

**4 Thinking ahead for the next few years, do you expect the national economy to improve, stay the same or get worse? (fall 2023, spring 2024, fall 2024 is bolded)**

	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
Improve	23	29	<b>30</b>
Stay same	21	16	<b>15</b>
Get worse	46	39	<b>27</b>
N.A./unsure	10	17	<b>25</b>

**5. Thinking again about the national economy, indicate whether you are very, somewhat, or not very concerned with each condition at the present time.**

	Very concerned			Somewhat concerned			Not very concerned			Don't know		
	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '24
5.1 Rate of economic growth	34	35	<b>38</b>	46	39	<b>40</b>	15	22	<b>16</b>	5	5	<b>6</b>
5.1 Inflation	67	58	<b>58</b>	28	34	<b>30</b>	4	6	<b>10</b>	0	1	<b>2</b>
5.2 Unemployment	26	24	<b>25</b>	37	35	<b>40</b>	35	40	<b>31</b>	2	2	<b>4</b>
5.3 Business climate	26	31	--	49	41	--	16	22	--	9	7	--
5.4 Federal government debt and deficit	59	56	<b>55</b>	28	28	<b>33</b>	10	14	<b>8</b>	3	2	<b>4</b>
5.6 Private debt (excessive)	32	34	--	41	42	--	20	20	--	7	4	--
5.7 Lack of opportunities for upward mobility	--	38	<b>40</b>	--	40	<b>35</b>	--	16	<b>17</b>	--	6	<b>8</b>

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

	Applies		Doesn't apply	Unsure, no answer
	Spring 2024	Fall 2024		
6.1 Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	<b>59</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>5</b>
6.2 Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	<b>46</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>4</b>
6.3 Facing the possibility of unemployment	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>13</b>
6.4 Found a new or better job recently	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2</b>
6.5 Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	<b>51</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>3</b>
6.6 Hard to afford the cost of childcare	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>7</b>
6.7 Hard to afford the cost of housing	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>5</b>
6.8 Hard to afford the cost of education beyond high school	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>5</b>
6.9 Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive or inadequate	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>4</b>
6.10 Taxes are too high in relation to government services provided	<b>59</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>11</b>
6.11 Hard to afford the cost of transportation	<b>N.A.</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>4</b>

**Q7 The following are some proposals meant to improve the economy and/or reduce costs for the public. Indicate whether you support, are neutral, or oppose each of them.**

	<b>Support</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Oppose</b>
Preventing price gouging during or after a crisis	75	16	10
Capping prices for prescription drugs	76	17	7
Child tax credits	64	30	6
Decreasing the federal tax rate for all incomes	44	31	26
Decreasing the federal tax rate just for those earning under \$400,000	67	23	9
Decreasing the corporate tax rate	27	33	40
Subsidies for first time home buyers	55	25	21
Increasing tariffs (taxes) on imported goods	24	41	35
Increase immigration to lower labor costs	21	42	39
Limiting immigration to "preserve" jobs for existing workers	33	35	32

**Q8 The next question should only be answered if you are currently employed or might be looking for a new job.** How important are each of the following in keeping you at your current job or as features of a new job?

	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Not very important</b>
Offering good financial compensation	84	15	1
Offering good benefits such as healthcare or pensions	79	17	4
Providing adequate sick leave or vacation time	74	24	2
Providing a flexible work schedule	62	31	7
Providing a predictable work schedule	67	29	4
Allowing me to work remotely most or all of the time	25	27	48
Fulfills my passions in terms of career	58	32	10
Liking the people with whom I work	46	45	8
Being a part of a team that is diverse and inclusive	44	33	22
Having management that is eager to hear my input	64	32	4
Making positive change in the world	60	29	10

## COVID QUESTIONS

**9. If you have contracted COVID-19, indicate when using the choices below (choose all years that apply).**

Year	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Fall 2024
<b>2020</b>	12	14	<b>53</b>
<b>2021</b>	25	23	
<b>2022</b>	26	28	
<b>2023</b>	15	22	<b>22</b>
<b>2024</b>	--	3	<b>14</b>
<b>Never</b>	36	35	<b>31</b>

**10. Thinking about the past year, do you recall a time when you might have come down with symptoms associated with COVID-19 but you didn't bother to test?**

	Spring 2024	Fall 2024
Yes, at least once	21	<b>24</b>
No	75	<b>69</b>
Unsure	4	<b>8</b>

**11. What is your general view about lawn equipment (e.g., gas powered leaf blowers or lawn mowers) that is noisy and pollutes the air.**

	%
Not a problem; the county should not attempt to regulate them	55
Somewhat a problem - the county should encourage people to transition to quieter electric versions	27
A big problem - the county should require a quick transition to electric versions	9
Other answer (See Appendix C)	4
DK, unsure	6
Total	101

**12 Schools have been working to find a cell phone policy that avoids classroom disruption while also providing students and their parents with the ability to keep in touch.**

*Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) currently has the following policy:*

*Elementary and middle school students must have their phones off or on silent mode and out of sight throughout the school day, including at lunch and in hallways during transitions between classes.*

*High school students may use their phones during lunch but must have them off or on silent mode and out of sight at all other times, including in hallways during transitions between classes. (see <https://www.aacps.org/article/1709196>)*

**Which of the following best expresses your view about this current policy: Support, neutral, oppose?**

	%
Support	68
Neutral	15
Oppose	8
Other response: Appendix D	7
Unsure, don't know	2
Total	100

**13 The county passed a law that provides candidates for local office with public matching funds (up to six times) for contributions no greater than \$250 and only from individuals, not corporations, political action committees or unions. Which of the following best expresses your views about a candidate who accepts such public matching funds?**

	<b>Overall</b>
I would be more likely to vote or contribute to such a candidate	18
I would be less likely to vote or contribute to such a candidate	13
I would not be affected regarding my vote or contributions	40
Other response: __See Appendix E	1
Unsure, don't know	24

**14. Thinking about how you might get local news, indicate how often you rely on the following (whether digitally or otherwise):**

<b>Source</b>	<b>Very often</b>	<b>Somewhat often</b>	<b>Rarely/never</b>
Friends and family	33	51	16
Websites that report on local news like Eye on Annapolis, Patch or Naptown Scoop <sup>17</sup>	27	34	39
Social media like Facebook groups	25	35	40
Television stations that report on Anne Arundel County or Annapolis	23	33	44
Regional newspapers like the Washington post, Baltimore Sun or the Banner	22	23	55
Other sources (comment)	22	22	57
County focused newspapers like the Capital/Gazette or the Severna Park Voice	18	27	55
Radio stations that report on Anne Arundel County or Annapolis	16	27	57
Newsletters or other communication from local government or elected officials	13	33	54
Communication from your community association or residents' groups like the Greater Severna Park Council	12	28	60
Other websites like Maryland Matters or Maryland Reporter	8	21	71
Other sources (See Appendix F)	22	22	57

<sup>17</sup> One method of gaining respondents is through the outreach efforts of Eye on Annapolis. As a result, this category may overstate the frequency when generalized to all county residents.

**15. Overall, how satisfied are you with the quality and quantity of local news that you are getting? (Option to comment.) See Appendix G.**

**16. The county has been working on policies that would help lower the cost of housing. Before assessing these efforts, please indicate which of the following best expresses the seriousness of the housing situation.**

It is serious for both me personally and the county generally	34
It is serious for the county generally, but not so much for me personally	48
It doesn't seem to be serious either for me personally or for the county generally	18

**17. Which of the following best describes your current housing situation?**

I currently live with my family and pay little or no rent	21
I currently am renting on my own or with roommates	16
I currently own a house but am paying off a mortgage	45
I currently own a house and have paid off the mortgage	19

**18. Continuing with the focus on housing, which of the following best applies to you?**

I am actively looking to rent	6
I am actively looking to purchase	10
I am neither looking to rent or purchase at this time	84

1.



**19. You said that you were actively looking to rent. How satisfied are you with the following?**

	<b>Not very satisfied</b>	<b>Somewhat satisfied</b>	<b>Very satisfied</b>
Selection of rental units	55	42	3
Affordability of rental units	87	13	0
Location of rental units	58	39	3

**20. You said that you were actively looking to purchase. How satisfied are you with the following?**

	<b>Not very satisfied</b>	<b>Somewhat satisfied</b>	<b>Very satisfied</b>
Selection of housing types available within your price range	69	29	2
Affordability of available housing	69	29	2
Location of available units within your price range	70	30	0

**21. What types of housing units are you looking for at this time?**

Apartment or condo	26
Townhouse	22
Single family dwelling/house	48

**22. Improving the affordability of housing within the county means increasing the supply while ensuring that at least some of these new units are moderately priced. Indicate your views of the following proposals - do you support, are neutral or oppose them?**

	<b>Support</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Oppose</b>	<b>Unsure</b>	<b>Total</b>
Requiring new developments of over 10 units to include a percentage of moderately priced units	49	20	19	13	101
Allowing developers who include moderately priced units to have higher housing densities than allowed by the underlying zoning	20	24	40	16	100
Encouraging new developments that are close to stores and public transportation whenever possible	62	23	10	5	100
Increasing funding allocations for affordable housing in the County budget	49	18	24	9	100
Waiving adequate facilities for schools or roads to build moderately priced or income-restricted housing	16	13	55	17	101

**23. Which level of government - Maryland state government or Anne Arundel County (or Annapolis) government - do you most trust to make good decisions to increase the supply of housing while also taking into consideration the impact on transportation, school overcrowding, and the protection of open space?**

Local government (county, city)	25
Maryland state government	10
Both equally	17
Neither	32
Unsure, don't know	16
Other - option to explain: (See Appendix H)	1

**24. Thinking of the process of reopening the Port of Baltimore after the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge, would you say that the state has done an excellent, good, only fair or poor job?**

	Overall
Excellent	26
Good	42
Only fair	12
Poor	3
Unsure	17
Total	100

**25. Option to explain your views on any of the Maryland state questions or other issues involving the Maryland state government. \_\_\_\_\_ See Appendix I \_\_\_\_\_**

**26. On international issues indicate how serious you consider the following:**

	Spring 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Fall 2024			
	Very serious	Very serious	Very serious	Very serious	Very serious	Somewhat serious	Not very serious	Unsure, no opinion
The rising economic and military threat posed by China	53	63	67	55	<b>48</b>	36	7	10
The threat to America/peace posed by Russia	78	53	55	55	<b>50</b>	34	8	8
The threat/challenge posed by climate change	48	48	48	55	<b>56</b>	20	19	5
Maintaining US military advantage over all other countries	42	51	51	46	<b>45</b>	31	14	11
The need to focus more on domestic matters within the United States and less on foreign relations	35	37	33	43	<b>39</b>	36	16	9
The importance of having other NATO countries increase their military spending	--	--	--	--	<b>36</b>	38	12	14
The threat to peace caused by the conflict in the Middle East	--	--	--	--	<b>61</b>	26	5	8

**27. The Biden administration has advocated providing significant military aid to Ukraine and Israel. Which of the following best expresses your views about such aid:**

	Agree completely with providing aid (only “agree” in fall 2024)		Agree somewhat with providing aid		Don’t agree with providing aid		Unsure		Total	
	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘24
Ukraine	47	<b>63</b>	29	<b>N.A.</b>	18	<b>23</b>	5	<b>15</b>	99	<b>101</b>
Israel	24	<b>40</b>	34	<b>N.A.</b>	33	<b>37</b>	9	<b>23</b>	100	<b>100</b>

**28. Option to comment on questions in this section. \_\_\_\_\_Appendix J\_\_\_\_\_**

(Intentional skip in question numbers)

**36. What kind of device best describes what you are using to complete this survey?**

Smartphone	38
Tablet	6
Laptop	34
Desktop	21
Other ____	1

## Parties and Elections

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

1. 41% **Democratic** => ASK: **38. Do you consider yourself a**

1. Strong 44%
2. Somewhat strong 34%
3. Not a strong Democrat 22%

2. 30% **Republican** => ASK: **39. Do you consider yourself a**

- a. Strong 38%
- b. Somewhat strong 39%
- c. Not a strong Republican 23%

3. 19% **Unaffiliated** (or “independent”)=> ASK: **40. During elections, do you find yourself leaning more toward Republican, Democratic, third-party candidates or are you mostly voting for specific candidates without concern for party affiliation?**

1. Democratic 30%
2. Republican 19%
3. Third party 1%
4. Vote for candidate regardless of party 51%

**40.1. Other registration options:**

1. Other/Third party 3%
2. None (not registered to vote) 8%

**41. 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?**

	Spring 2024	Fall 2024
Democrats	41	<b>45</b>
Republicans	28	<b>27</b>
Neither	25	<b>20</b>
Other party	1	<b>0</b>
Unsure, don't know	5	<b>8</b>

**42. We are in a presidential election year. From the list below, use the sliders to indicate the level of importance for issues that are most "top of mind" when you consider voting this election cycle.**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Spring 2024</b>	<b>Fall 2024</b>
The harm to the country should the other party's candidate win	57	<b>54</b>
Inflation/cost of living	45	<b>49</b>
Immigration	44	<b>34</b>
January 6 events, threats to democracy	44	<b>51</b>
Abortion	43	<b>46</b>
Guns	38	<b>34</b>
Health care	36	<b>37</b>
Climate change	36	<b>39</b>
Crime	34	<b>37</b>
Right to privacy	34	<b>38</b>
Foreign policy - Ukraine, Israel/Gaza	33	<b>29</b>
High taxes	33	<b>35</b>
Affordable housing	31	<b>33</b>
Racism	26	<b>37</b>
Cost of college	22	<b>24</b>
Inequality - lack of social mobility	21	<b>20</b>
Positive personal characteristics of candidate I favor	--	<b>29</b>

**43. If you voted for a presidential candidate in the 2020 general elections, for whom did you vote?**

	<b>Spring 2024</b>	<b>Fall 2024</b>
Joe Biden	48	<b>47</b>
Donald Trump	27	<b>27</b>
A 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party candidate	7	<b>5</b>
Didn't vote	18	<b>21</b>
Total	100	<b>100</b>

**44. Do you agree with the former President Trump that he actually won the last election and that it "was stolen" from him?**

	<b>Spring 2024</b>	<b>Fall 2024</b>
Yes, fully agree	8	<b>7</b>
Yes, somewhat agree	10	<b>8</b>
No, don't agree	69	<b>72</b>
Unsure/don't know	12	<b>14</b>
Total	99	<b>101</b>

**45. Which of the following best describes your voting situation or intentions for this election?**

1. You have already voted by mail or dropbox	18
2. You will be voting by mail or dropbox	18
3. You will be voting in-person, but earlier than Nov. 5	22
4. You will be voting in person on Nov. 5	31
5. You might not vote at all	6
6. Definitely won't vote	5

**46. If the presidential elections were today, for whom would you vote?**

	<b>Overall</b>		
	<b>Fa '23</b>	<b>Sp '24</b>	<b>Fa '24</b>
(Joe Biden) Kamala Harris	42	48	<b>55</b>
Donald Trump	33	32	<b>31</b>
A 3rd Party candidate such as the Green or Libertarian candidate	17	14	<b>3</b>
Probably wouldn't vote	8	7	<b>11</b>
Total	100	101	<b>100</b>

**47. Considering the two candidates seeking to replace Senator Ben Cardin as Maryland's representative in the U.S. Senate, for whom are you most likely to vote?**

1. Angela Alsobrooks (Democrat)	42
2. Larry Hogan (Republican)	43
3. Someone else	4
4. Won't vote for Senate candidate	12

**48. In deciding between Angela Alsobrooks and Larry Hogan, which of the following seems to be the most important to you?**

The impact of my vote upon the balance between Democrats and Republicans in the U.S. Senate	33
How my vote affects some key issues such as abortion, taxes, foreign affairs	31
The trust I have for the candidate	28
Other response: Appendix K	9

1.

**49. This question is just for residents living in the 3rd Congressional District who currently have retiring Congressman John Sarbanes as their representative**

(See this [link](#) to find your representative - **open in a separate window to avoid losing your place in the survey.**)

For whom would you vote as your choice to replace Representative Sarbanes?

1. Sarah Elfreth (Democrat)	38
2. Rob Steinberger (Republican)	22
3. Someone else	0
4. Undecided	20
5. Won't vote for this office	20

**50. Option to comment about voting choice for president, Senate or the House of Representatives:** See Appendix L.

---



**51 When thinking about the election cycle, indicate how important any of the following been in getting you to support a candidate? (Choose "No experience" if the method doesn't apply.)**

	<b>Importance in your voting choice</b>			
	<b>No experience</b>	<b>Not very important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Quite or very important</b>
Candidate or representative came to my door or other personal contact	56	31	9	5
Received a letter or postcard	31	57	10	3
Received a phone call from campaign	40	53	6	1
Saw an ad on television	17	57	23	3
Heard an ad on radio	23	61	14	2
Saw an ad on social media	23	56	18	3
Spoke to friends or family	17	36	37	10
Endorsement from someone I trust	20	32	33	14
Researched candidates on websites or using social media	16	10	33	42
Saw or read about candidate debates	13	13	38	35
Other (option to explain) See Appendix M	36	11	21	32

**52. How strongly do you approve or disapprove of the way the following officials or institutions are handling their jobs?**

Official or institution	Strongly Approve		Somewhat Approve		Somewhat disapprove		Strongly disapprove		No answer/DK	
	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24	Sp '24	Fa '24
County Executive Steuart Pittman	18	14	17	27	14	12	17	15	24	32
Governor Wes Moore	28	25	31	26	16	18	13	13	12	18
President Joe Biden	21	18	27	30	11	11	39	33	2	9
The Anne Arundel County Council	8	5	36	37	23	20	8	5	26	34
The Board of Education	6	5	31	31	21	26	15	11	27	27
Maryland General Assembly	9	5	33	34	19	17	16	11	23	34
US Congress	2	1	15	15	32	32	43	36	9	16
US Supreme Court	11	11	25	19	18	16	38	40	9	15

**53. Option to explain your approval score for County Executive Steuart Pittman.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Appendix P \_\_\_\_\_

---

**54. Option to explain your approval score for Governor Wes Moore.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Appendix O \_\_\_\_\_

---

**55. Option to explain your approval score for President Joe Biden.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Appendix N \_\_\_\_\_

---

**56. Option to explain your approval score for any other office or institution.**

**Demographics**

This is the last part (demographics) of the survey and helps us better understand your answers.

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

	Spring 2024	Fall 2024
Very conservative	11	9
Somewhat conservative	24	16
Moderate	26	32
Somewhat liberal	19	19
Very liberal (or “progressive”)	17	15
Unsure/don’t know	4	9

**58. Which, if any, of the following characterizations of political beliefs seem to apply to you best?**

	Spring 2024	Fall 2024
Social conservative, fiscal conservative	24	20
Social conservative, fiscal liberal	3	1
Social liberal, fiscal conservative	29	29
Social liberal, fiscal liberal	19	18
None of these	10	11
Unsure, no opinion	14	21

**59. What is your current age in years? \_\_\_\_\_ (weighted) \_\_\_\_\_**

Age Groups	Fall 2024
18-29	18
30-39	16
40-49	18
50-59	15
60-69	14
70+	20

**60. Regarding race or ethnicity, how would you describe yourself? (weighted)**

	Spring 2024	Fall 2024
White or Caucasian	71	69
Black or African American	13	12
Hispanic or Latino	4	7
Asian or Asian American	3	5
Mixed	1	2
Other	2	1
No answer/decline	7	4

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

	<b>Spring 2024</b>	<b>Fall 2024</b>
None or “nothing in particular”	14	16
Non-practicing	12	12
Evangelical or born-again Christian (possibly Baptist, Pentecostal)	11	11
Catholic	22	17
Protestant (possibly Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterian, Anglican, Episcopalian)	19	17
Some other Christian (e.g., possibly Mormon)	2	2
Jewish	2	2
A ‘spiritual person’ not associated with an organized religion	9	13
Something else (e.g., Muslim, Hindu)	5	5
No Answer	4	5

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

	<b>Spring 2024</b>	<b>Fall 2024</b>
Single	27	25
Married	53	55
Separated/divorced	9	8
Widowed	6	3
Living together	3	5
Other	1	2
Decline to say	3	2

**63. Do you currently have any children in public or private schools (K-12) or both?**

	<b>Spring 2024</b>	<b>Fall 2024</b>
No children in either public or private schools	83	75
Children in public schools	13	18
Children in private schools	2	5
Children in both public and private schools	2	2

**64. Which of the following best describes your highest level of formal education? (weighted)**

	Spring 2024	Fall 2024
Less than a high school diploma	2	2
High school diploma	9	9
Some college	24	23
Completed a 2-year associate college degree	19	17
Completed a 4-year bachelor's degree	21	22
Post-graduate work	24	26
No Answer, decline	2	2

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

	Spring 2024	Fall 2024
Less than \$30,000	8	5
\$30,000 to \$50,000	5	8
\$50,001 to \$75,000	10	12
\$75,001-\$100,000	11	9
\$100,001-\$150,000	17	16
\$150,001-\$250,000	17	17
Over \$250,000	11	13
No Answer	22	20

**66. Which of the following best describes your employment situation?  
(choose all that apply)?**

	Spring 2024	Fall 2024
Student (mostly or full-time)	19	27
Fully or semi-retired	37	26
Self-employed or consultant	5	5
Employed part-time	13	16
Employed full-time	33	38
Unemployed and seeking a job	3	4

**67. Are you a military veteran?**

	Spring 2024	Fall 2024
Yes	17	12
No	83	88

**68. Gender (weighted)**

	<b>Spring 2024</b>	<b>Fall 2024</b>
Male	46	<b>48</b>
Female	50	<b>49</b>
Non-binary/3 <sup>rd</sup> gender/trans male/female	1	<b>1</b>
Prefer not to say	2	<b>1</b>

**69. Which, if any, of the following categories apply to you?**

	<b>Spring 2024</b>	<b>Fall 2024</b>
Heterosexual/straight	87	83
Gay or lesbian	4	3
Bisexual	6	6
Transgender	1	1
Queer	2	1

## 70. Zip code

Zip code	% Sp '24	% Fa '24
20707	0	
20711	1	
20724	2	
20733	0	
20764	1	
20776	1	
20778	0	
21012	5	
21032	2	
21035	2	
21037	3	
21054	2	
21060	6	
21061	6	
21076	3	
21090	2	
21106	0	
21108	4	
21113	7	
21114	5	
21122	10	
21140	1	
21144	7	
21146	6	
21224	0	
21225	1	
21226	0	
21401	11	
21403	6	
21405	0	
21409	6	

## Appendix B: “Most important problem facing the residents of Anne Arundel County at this time” – Comments/Other items

(All comments in these appendices are unedited and verbatim. Summaries of open-ended responses by ChatGPT are included when there are sufficient responses to warrant categorization, e.g., there weren’t enough for this item about “Other” most important problems).

---

Climate change

---

Dept of Juvenile Services Director

---

Gun violence in schools in general

---

Guns, violence, crimes

---

Higher education or college costs

---

Housing availability

---

Housing cost AND availability.

---

Illegal immigrants

---

illegal immigration

---

Immigration

---

Investment in solar farms & windmills which are tools of the left to maintain control and fund their donors.

---

I’ve faced no problems

---

Lack of community. Crime is a symptom; it doesn't happen in a healthy society.

---

Nothing overwhelming

---

Panhandling

---

Quality of Life for citizens. If, instead of posing siloed topics like transportation, taxes, etc you added Quality of Life as the filter through which all of these topics are viewed, then you would have a true, person-centered start to any decision-making process

---



## Appendix C: Lawn Equipment – Open-ended

---

A bigger problem in the city than in the county because of noise.

---

big problem - make the switch economically beneficial to those who turn in old equipment

---

can't answer with these options. Need to take into account the costs of regulation vs. the benefits to the environment. I'm not concerned about the noise factor.

---

Concentrate on the corporations that ( Don't get charged for pollution as they should).

---

Currently there is not enough infrastructure for landscaping companies to effectively use them for their business and they are still dangerous with the lithium batteries. They should eventually switch over but currently Its not in the foreseeable future.

---

Depends on the area you're in.

---

Electric is the better long-term alternative. Noise is less a problem than air emissions (from combustion or fuel evaporation). Some amount of fuel is released on/into the ground as well. Noise can be addressed locally by limiting hours of use. Ambient traffic noise is arguably just as bad.

---

give the people the option to use gas or electric

---

Hite smart people to develop noise cancelling devices for current common equipment

---

I believe its a problem to be addressed but not the top priority.

---

I don't care

---

I hate them but not sure banning is feasible. I use battery operated equipment myself.

---

I have never heard of this being a problem before, Im not sure how to respond. I want to say the county should not get involved, but I do not know of the severity of consequences not intervening would cause. (Before anything else I think I would say not a problem the county should not get involved, so you can put me as that, but i thought i should mention my hesitation to pick that)

---

I think they should only be used if they want to be used.

---

I'm cool with gas power tools but they noise can be loud which sucks if your trying to sleep in

---

It depends on the cost of electric mowers

---

limit to daytime hours - with hefty fines to enforce

---

Many seniors and handicapped folks depend on lawn care vendors. Burden should not be on small businesses to lug batteries around either. Limit time of day only.

---

Noise - no gas-pow blower operation evenings and weekends

---

Noise isn't a long term changing factor, the gas should be limited for pollution

---

noise pollution isn't as much as a problem as air pollution, so it would be better to focus on more environmentally-beneficial alternatives

---

NOT A PROBLEM; we should be more worried about the rich using their private jets whenever they want to

---

Not too worried about the noise pollution just the air pollution

---

Set usage hours

---

should be left up to the person but if they want people to change then give an incentive, like making them cost less than gas powered ones or something to give them a reason to.

---

Somewhere between "not a problem" and "somewhat a problem" so "somewhat kindof a little bit of a problem"

---

The county should implement a gradual mandate for the transfer to electric versions

---

The noise is not a significant problem but I believe they generate a lot of pollution for what we get from them.

---

They should tax celebs and government officials for the pollution their private jets stream into the sky. Just another "fuck you" to the middle/lower class.

---

To an extent, I am not concerned about the noise and air pollution. I don't believe that gas powered lawn equipment is something we need to be concerned about when there are more important matters.

---

Too hard on small businesses

---

Transition to more environmentally, friendly equipment, but overtime allowing normal aging of currently owned equipment

---

use 4 strike motors not 2 stroke

---

## ChatGPT Categories and Percentages

1. **Regulate and Encourage Electric/Environmentally Friendly Equipment** - 30%
  - Advocate for a gradual mandate for transitioning to electric equipment.
  - Limit gas-powered usage due to pollution, with focus on environmental benefits.
  - Propose incentives or cost reductions for electric alternatives.

- Suggest use of 4-stroke motors over 2-stroke to reduce pollution.
  - Corporate accountability for pollution.
2. **Concerned about Feasibility, Cost, and Infrastructure** - 20%
- Currently lacks infrastructure for a full transition.
  - Cost concerns, especially for small businesses and individuals.
  - Recommend a phased transition and allow equipment to age out naturally.
  - Electric options may not be affordable or feasible for all.
3. **Noise and Time Restrictions** - 15%
- Set usage hours to address noise.
  - Hire experts for noise reduction and use noise-canceling technology.
  - Limit gas-powered tools' usage in evenings and weekends.
  - Suggest alternative approaches for noise without a complete ban.
4. **Air Pollution over Noise Pollution** - 20%
- Emphasize pollution over noise as the primary concern.
  - Prioritize environmental impact rather than noise.
  - "Focus on bigger issues" such as private jets for the wealthy.
5. **Neutral, Indifferent, or Non-Problem Perception** - 15%
- Somewhat indifferent about noise or pollution.
  - Responses like "not a problem," "somewhat of a problem," or "no opinion."
  - Belief that there are more pressing issues than lawn equipment regulation.

## Appendix D: AACPS Cell Phone Policy – Open-ended

---

Agree in every way, but high schoolers should be able to have their phones out whenever there is no instruction.

---

All students should not be using cell phones during school hours, including lunch.

---

allow only flip phones for phone calls only

---

ban entirely

---

Cell phones should be kept in lockers, accessible at lunch. If the parents have an emergency they can call the school. Cell phones have an addiction quality and may worsen ADHD in children.

---

Children should be able to speak to their parents during breaks - lunch, free period, etc

---

Depends on what the sanction is for violation.

---

due to school shooting at a rise if i had a child their phone would be on and in their pocket AT ALL TIMES.

---

Elem/Middle should be same as high school

---

Exception to phone being off for approved emergency health reasons (asthma, etc)

---

For all students, Phone should be inaccessible during the day. If there's a family emergency, it can be conveyed through the office. Students can contact parents regarding transportation at the close of the school day or report their difficulty to the office.

---

Happy I graduated!

---

High school policy makes sense

---

Hold them in a secured location till end-of-the-day

---

Homeschool.

---

I agree with the part about elementary and middle schoolers, but not with the part about high schoolers

---

I do somewhat agree with not having them during classes however I think during lunch students should be able to communicate on their phones incase if they have friends they don't see during the school day etc

---

I feel like students should be able to use phones in the hallways and in the lunchroom.

---

I support all but the portion of transition and lunch time. I think middle and Highschool students should be allowed to have their cell phones during lunch and transition periods.

---

I support the idea, but I think there should be a varied level of what classes they are / are not allowed in. AP classes, for example, I believe should not have to be regulated on phone use since it's supposed to be like a college class, and colleges aren't going to regulate your phone use.

---

I support the policy as long as it's equitably enforced and doesn't prevent disadvantaged students from accessing their online assignments.

---

I think only call school for child. no phone in class

---

I think that the students should be able to use their phones during lunch

---

I think this policy is okay but i think it is a little strict about when the students can have thier phones out

---

I would like to see a cell phone policy that utilizes "brick" technology

---

If High School is permitted to use their phone during lunch time so should Middle School. Equality for all! I think they should be able to carry their phone in case of a emergency. It should be on silent or vibrate mode. We all have different emergencies. Phones are part of our daily life's let's start teaching kids how to be responsible and manage their time on the phone!

---

in the event of an emergency, they should be able to have access to such

---

Inadequate. We need a way for teachers to know that all of the phones are totally off during school hours yet provide easy access during an emergency. Compartments? New technology?

---

Incorporate other technology for students to have to alert crisis like. The push button necklaces provided for senior citizens

---

It needs to be better defined. Limiting cell phone use is important but parent and/or students need to be able to contact each other in emergencies or very special conditions.

---

Its not effective, Kids still use there phones as much as they would normally

---

Lunch and hallways should be allowed. Exceptions should also be made for family emergencies.

---

My children are all adults. I agree with phones being off or silent during classes and perhaps other times of the school day. However, it seems to me AACPS could come up with something more imaginative (e.g., designating certain windows of time and locations for elementary/middle school as well).

---

need new apps that allow emergengy alerts

---

Needs reworked

---

No cell phone at anytime.

---

No phones at school

---

No phones except for an emergency

---

No phones in school

---

No use during instruction, okay at other times

---

Not strict enough

---

Off and away during class/instruction time but not anywhere else since I feel it's not fair

---

Off not silent, available at lunch for all grades

---

oppose for high school

---

oppose; not strong enough

---

Parents should be able to reach their children if they are providing a phone, however i understand phones are a distraction.

---

Phones need to be handled by parents and family, it is a respect and engagement problem. Schools are too dangerous to take away communication between students and their families or people outside of the school.

---

phones should be banned during all school hours

---

Phones should be off/unavailable during school hours

---

Phones should only be off, away, or on silent during class times and that is it for all grades

---

Should be allowed phones during lunch and in hallways but not in class

---

Students should be able to check phones during lunch

---

Support as long as it doesn't result in suspension or expulsion

---

Support to an extent but children who use their device to medicalSupport SHOULD be allowed. For example: diabetics who depend on a monitor.

---

Support, but phones should be banned from classrooms for ALL students period!

---

That is a good idea but i feel like the students should be able to use their phones during lunch and in class if the teacher allows it.

---

What if something were to happen to them a school

---

What is the reason that elementary and middle school students cannot use their phones during lunch like high school students?

---

Why should they be available to the student during their time in school? Leave that to the school admin only.

---

won't work, they need to be stored.

---

### **ChatGPT Categories and Percentages**

1. **Support Limited/Conditional Cell Phone Use - 35%**
  - Allow use during lunch, hallways, or transition periods.
  - High school students could have more relaxed rules.
  - Allow emergency access, especially in light of safety concerns.
  - Phones should be on silent/off during class but accessible at other times.
  - Support policy but want allowances for health needs or emergencies.
2. **Favor Strict or Total Ban on Cell Phones - 20%**
  - Phones should be kept off or stored throughout the day.
  - Complete ban from school or classrooms.
  - No access to phones during school hours, except in emergencies.
  - Prefer students to use school communication channels for emergencies.
3. **Mixed/Conditional Support Based on Implementation - 15%**
  - Support the idea but believe enforcement needs improvement.
  - Policy should be fair, flexible, and not overly punitive (avoid suspensions).
  - Some express concerns over student equity, access, or medical exceptions.
  - Need for better, creative ways to allow safe emergency access without distraction.
4. **Concerned About Emergency/Safety Access - 20%**
  - Believe students should have phones for emergencies due to safety risks.
  - Emphasize parental and student ability to communicate in crisis situations.
  - Call for technology or apps for emergency alerts, similar to emergency buttons.
5. **Indifferent, Neutral, or Opposed to Restrictions - 10%**
  - Not strict enough, ineffective, or not feasible for modern use.
  - Feel it should be a parental responsibility rather than a school policy.
  - Suggest alternative approaches or new technology to balance access and safety.

## Appendix E: Political Contributions – Open-ended

---

All contributions private public corporate governmental should be reported within the period they are received for all candidates at all positions all times

---

Another miss use of tax \$

---

Depends on the source of the public matching funds. If from tax dollars, I oppose.

---

Don't support any government contributions

---

Don't understand question

---

I am not sure how I would be affected. I think other factors would come into play.

---

i do not care

---

I don't think govt should provide support to any candidates

---

I hate the amount of money being spent for political campaigns when those funds could benefit so many people who need help.

---

I vote on issues but believe that elections should be publicly funded and not by corporate PACs

---

I would like to see no matching public funds to any candidate.

---

impossible to gather data on this

---

NO PUBLIC FUNDS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO CANDIDATES.

---

Pleased

---

Public money should not be used for this purpose. The legislature/Governor was wrong to pass it.

---

Ridiculous waste of taxpayer money!

---

the wording is confusing so I don't know what you are asking exactly, but if it means that government officials should not be getting paid a lot of money and instead should be doing it through volunteering or not getting paid so corrupt people won't join then I definitely support that.

---

they should not be running for this office if they dont like the pay

---

Voting in this country is absurd. There should be alternate mechanisms for voters to know about candidates and their positions. NO money allowed. No donations. No Super PACS. Perhaps public monies only and not very much.

---



## ChatGPT Categories and Percentages

- **Oppose Public Financing/Use of Taxpayer Money for Campaigns - 45%**
  - Strongly against the use of public funds, taxpayer dollars, or government support for candidates.
  - View public financing as a waste of taxpayer money.
  - Believe campaigns should not rely on government contributions, with some suggesting alternative, non-monetary methods for campaign promotion.
- **Support Transparency in Contributions - 15%**
  - All contributions, regardless of source, should be reported immediately and with full transparency.
  - Emphasis on accountability for private, corporate, and public contributions.
- **Support Public Financing with Conditions - 15%**
  - Open to public financing but with limits on the source of funds, particularly avoiding tax dollars.
  - Preference for campaigns to be publicly funded but without corporate PACs or Super PACs.
- **Neutral/Uncertain or Lack of Clarity on the Policy - 15%**
  - Unclear about the policy details or how it would impact them personally.
  - Responses show indifference or lack of understanding about public financing mechanisms.
- **Oppose Corporate and Private Funding - 10%**
  - Prefer no private or corporate donations, advocating for solely public financing with strict limitations.
  - Suggest alternatives to monetary campaigning, like using public resources to inform voters.

## Appendix F: Sources of Local News – Open-ended

Anne Arundel First alert local FB Groups
Asking Alexa
Baltimore Banner
Baltimore Sun and Washington Post have websites
Cable TV
CBS and CNN
Church
Church bulletins
church newsletter
Citizen Journalists X
Cnn
CNN
CNN 10
Colleagues
coworkers
current events classes at Senior Centers   ters
Daily wire
Fox News
Fox News; Newsmax
Independent sources
Internet news - various sources
LEGITIMATE news sources!!!
Letters from an American, Heather Cox Richardson
Local news station
Military
MSNBC
N/A
National news sources online
Network news
New York Times
New York Times morning email
New York Times, AP
New York Times, Chesapeake Bay Program Newsletters, LinkedIn, various science journals and publications
news websites
Nextdoor
None
nonprofit organizations to which I belong
NPR & MPT
NPR, apple news app
NYT

Online news
online- msn.com
Podcasts
Police and Emergency Services radios
political clubs
politico
Professional organization
Public Radio
RADIO
Reddit
research reputable sites in a variety of places
Severna Park Voice
talk radio
Teachers Union
Things I hear from other people
TikTok, facebook, instagram, ect....
tiktok
TikTok/snapchat/instagram
Unslanted sources
Weather app
Weather sites
WSJ
X
X/Twitter
You tube news channels
Youtube

## ChatGPT Categories and Percentages

- Mainstream News Sources (25%)**
  - Traditional and widely recognized news outlets, including major newspapers, TV networks, and national broadcasters.
  - Examples: “New York Times,” “CNN,” “Fox News,” “Washington Post,” “MSNBC.”
- Digital and Social Media Platforms (20%)**
  - Platforms where users consume or share news through social media or other digital channels.
  - Examples: “TikTok, Facebook, Instagram,” “Reddit,” “X/Twitter,” “YouTube.”
- Local and Community Sources (16%)**
  - Local news and community information sources, often region-specific or focused on particular areas.
  - Examples: “Anne Arundel First Alert,” “Baltimore Banner,” “Severna Park Voice,” “Nextdoor.”
- Alternative and Independent News Sources (15%)**

- Non-traditional or independent news outlets, often with niche or alternative reporting.
- Examples: “Daily Wire,” “Independent sources,” “Citizen Journalists,” “Letters from an American, Heather Cox Richardson.”
- **Public and Educational Radio (10%)**
  - Public radio and educational channels that focus on news, analysis, and discussions.
  - Examples: “NPR & MPT,” “Public Radio,” “Radio.”
- **Specialized or Professional Sources (8%)**
  - Sources that are specific to professional or specialized fields, often research-based or organization-focused.
  - Examples: “Professional organization,” “Police and Emergency Services radios,” “various science journals and publications.”
- **Word of Mouth and Informal Sources (6%)**
  - News or information obtained through casual conversations or informal settings.
  - Examples: “Colleagues,” “Things I hear from other people,” “Church newsletter.”

## Appendix G: Quality and Quantity of Local News – Open-ended

---

Very biases

---

A lot less then before when the Maryland Gazette was large and thriving

---

adaquate

---

adequate

---

Adequate for my level of involvement

---

All elements of media are increasingly biased

---

All news is biased. Nothing is truly fact based.

---

Annapolis Gazette is no loger local, reports on items in other counties, very limited local news

---

Are there local TV shows??

---

Balt Banner has filled the void left by the shrunken coverage of The Capital.

---

Becoming too conservative in view point

---

Bias

---

can't afford print newspaper or their web subscriptions

---

Canceled Capital newspaper because it is horribly priced for what you get!

---

Capital Gazette is no longer the local paper it once was. Prints a lot of 'news' not related to where I live. Very disappointed in the changes. Below professional quality work.

---

Capital is getting better at covering local news again.

---

Capital is getting worse

---

Capital newspaper is getting worse

---

Capital seems to be going downhill with respect to the county news and general editing.

---

Capital/Gazette is totally disappointing!

---

Could be better

---

Currently too agenda driven

---

Decent

---

Difficult to discern their biases

---

Disappointed in local paper (Capital) but prefer that to any regional/national option; however getting too expensive to receive hardcopy

---

Facebook or social media is the way to go with news

---

Fox 45 covers everything I need to know.

---

Frequently biased - hard to find the truth and hard to trust

---

Gazette is blocked unless subscribed - Banner not too local

---

Getting local (Anne Arundel County) news is increasingly difficult with The Capital's new ownership in Baltimore.

---

good

---

Good

---

Hard to find reliable non biased information

---

I am a big fan of the Baltimore Banner

---

I am a retired journalist who canceled subscription to Capital after Sinclair bought it. Unfortunately I have been derelict in my duty to follow local news.

---

I am concerned about the lack of trustworthy, affordable news coverage about Annapolis and Anne Arundel County. The Capital became too expensive and cut local coverage/local reporters and I felt compelled to cancel my subscription. With the corporate owners of the Baltimore Sun and Washington Post, I don't trust that their coverage is unbiased.

---

I am disappointed that The Capital Gazette is writing more about Baltimore news than Annapolis news! I live in Annapolis not Baltimore! I want to have more news that is local to Annapolis and Anne Arundel County.

---

I am very concerned about the number of Sinclair affiliates putting out far right propaganda, masquerading as news. This now includes the Baltimore Sun after it was purchased by a right wing ideologue.

---

I bought a subscription to the Banner after the Capital was bought out. The Banner while good barely converts the news I'm interested in AA Co and Annapolis. I want one credible source for local news instead of going to 3-4 websites or social media. Social media is not a source.

---

I do not like reading the local news, so if there is something going on, I trust my family to tell me if there is something important.

---

I do not read or watch the news often at all.

---

I don't really watch news so I don't get much news

---

I don't subscribe to the local newspapers because they are too expensive I dropped the Baltimore Sun and the Gazette a couple of years ago

---

I don't get much because I don't seek it, and if I get information about the news it is hearing it while my parents are watching and that is mainly about the country, not state or county. But

---

stuff about traffic I get sometimes when looking at maps when I am taking some form of transportation.

---

i dont watch the news

---

I feel that news should be free and will not pay for any news source.

---

I get a lot of local news from TV.

---

I have little faith our media honesty. Slanted very liberal.

---

I have not had or watched local or network TV, much less news, since 2016. I cannot listen to anything but NPR at this point, and sometimes even that is too troubling.

---

I hear all the time about the diminishing number and quality of local journalists and am very concerned about the decrease in quality information.

---

I like the radio and TV stations that try to report the news, without left or right leanings.

---

I like the reports from the County Exec. Lately the local paper Capital is being frugal on ink and I can barely read it .

---

I like to watch the local news first thing in the morning before going to work and in the evening for updates.

---

I love my local news channel

---

I love the Capital but it is too costly, so I default to national print & TV media

---

I miss the Evening Capital when it was a real newspaper. They were good reporters good photographers good people good at Orioles and it's missing now.

---

I miss the OLD unbiased Capital Gazette.

---

I only read national news

---

I rarely get local news, and when I do it is nothing I need to do further research on, because it is not really news. I am pretty uninformed about local matters outside of my community.

---

I receive most of my news about Anne Arundel County from Baltimore news station Fox 45

---

I regret that I haven't found one single source to read or listen to about local news.

---

I Simply cannot bring myself to pay the exorbitant prices for regional and local newspapers anymore!

---

I tend to avoid news outlets and reports, it increases my anxiety exponentially

---

I use MSN on my computer but they provide limited news from only 1 source & it seems very partial to democratic views

---

I used to enjoy reading The Capital in hard copy. I regret that habit was not sustainable. I believe local journalists hold local governments and business people accountable.

---

I used to get Capital Gazette until they raised subscription rates immensely. I wish there was an alternative to learn about local news in Annapolis besides some of the email newsletters.

---

I used to read the Capital regularly until it was purchased by the Sun and dropped almost all local county news

---

I used to rely on the Capital for local news but so much of it seems to come straight out of the Baltimore Sun and is not as applicable anymore.

---

I wish the Capital Gazette had more staff to cover more the city, county, and state governments.

---

I would like more detailed crime and justice information.

---

I'd like to get the whole story on issues like schools, the dock park. I don't like a small group making all the decisions for this beautiful, old, colonial town.

---

I've stopped watching the main stream media as they are SO EXTREMELY BIASED!!

---

If News is being posted online ie: The Capital Gazette, The Baltimore Sun I think it is ridiculous that they block the article unless you purchase a subscription.

---

in my opinion there are no good local news online sites

---

increasingly difficult to separate fact from fiction and/or rumor

---

Is there a local radio in Annapolis anymore?

---

It all seems balanced and fair.

---

it feels like the news is filtered as false in part or in total when speaking about politics

---

It is hard to report when so much being said by certain politicians is false and they get upset when fact checked. I praise the media for fact checking in real time when reporting.

---

It lacks substance because it is overwhelmed with local or national politics when there are other sensitive issues to talk about

---

It's enough to let me know what's going on.

---

It's poor and I wish there was a better source.

---

Its alright but I think it could be way better

---

Legacy news is biased and has a clear agenda . Think Gas Lighting

---

Local Capital and Baltimore Sun are terrible. Clearly right wing bias

---



Local news and reporting are valuable to the community!

---

Local news availability has diminished since the Capital was taken over by the Sun.

---

local news becoming less, unfortunately

---

Local news has heavily biased reporting that includes opinion of reporter with facts.

---

Local news is completely biased and for someone like myself a trash progressive agenda.

---

Local news is either behind a pay wall or happy hour focused. There's a void, that's incredibly unprofitable to fill, but still needs to be addressed nonetheless

---

Local news is incredibly important to me. I worry about the quality of the Capital Gazette reporting with the new ownership. I find I read the articles with a more critical eye, being aware of possible bias since the paper was sold.

---

Local news is missing

---

Local news is shared as a political party previewed reports. Regional happenings is shared, but not always in a timely fashion.

---

Local orgs on facebook and youtube

---

local papers and newspapers liberally biased; i read them to get balance for news from conservative talk radio and online sources

---

lots of political bias in reporting

---

Love getting the Annapolis paper and reading Eye on Annapolis

---

Low quality, high quantity.

---

Mainly online from social media or family and friends

---

major news outlets have become nothing but opinion pushers or press release readers. I find them totally worthless.

---

Major newspapers and media are too biased to trust; local newspapers (i.e., The Capital) no longer provide adequate coverage of local news and events.

---

Mediocre

---

Minimal and of poor quality

---

miss having a beat reporter in annapolis. We need one - we are the state capital

---

Most news is biased and professional journalists are rare.

---

Most of it is through social media that I am sure is not biased, but only after a long vetting period

---

Most of the news we get is presented in a very liberal approach

---

most part fakeneews

---

Mostly biased! Only 1 possible two TV stations reveal the truth.

---

Mostly the television.

---

Need better coverage of county govt

---

Need good local newspaper

---

Need more community oriented news

---

Need more news focus on Annapolis matters.

---

News centers around metropolitan centers, not suburbs

---

News reporting is mostly biased and is not based on factual information. The media is hugely focused on swaying opinions, not reporting the news.

---

Newspaper prices are too high. Otherwise we'd subscribe.

---

No real news reporting since the government has censored clearly back to the Gulf War.

---

Nonpartisan news is not readily available, from what I've seen.

---

Not enough free digital news

---

Not enough sources of unbiased local news

---

Not very accurate/informing

---

NPR is awesome! But doesn't cover AACO much.

---

Pay walls suck

---

Poor not sure if it is true

---

Prevent conglomerates like Sinclair from choking out smaller, independent news orgs. Local journalism matters.

---

Propaganda is stealth, at least in Communist European countries they know when they turn on the news it's state run.

---

Pure GARBAGE!!!!

---

Quality of local news from The Capital has become not great. I rely more on the Baltimore Banner of late.

---

Quality seems adequate, though I see (notice?) very little information pushed out relating to development activities and transportation improvements. One clarification about social media-

---

-I only pay attention to information from official social media accounts, not personal or private.

---

Quality seems reasonable and accurate.

---

Receive plenty

---

Regional newspapers are losing quality, NPR radio is struggling. This is a loss.

---

Sadly, local news reporting is of poor quality now.

---

Satisfactory

---

Severna park voice is good and provides me local news often.

---

Since being sold, the Capital has become primarily a local sports report, greatly reduced political and local issue reporting.

---

Since The Capital newspaper closed its Annapolis office local news coverage has been abysmal.

---

Since the Sun took over the Capital, it's hard to get much local news. Sun doesn't apparently have much connection with AA County.

---

Slanted liberal bias not balanced at all

---

Social Media

---

Social media like Facebook groups can be pernicious.

---

Sometimes it's difficult to determine reliability of news. I look forward to Vincent Muldoon and Stuart Pittman newsletters.

---

SP Voice is the best, Capital not as good as it used to be - too much AP reports or Baltimore news

---

Still like WJZ/CBS but still look on all sides

---

Stopped subscription to newspapers since they no longer carried local news and no longer were owned or operated locally.

---

Sun and Capital Gazette are declining

---

terrible local coverage, threatens democracy

---

terrible on both accounts

---

Terrible... local news an opinion space has rapidly decreased and insures citizens are kept in the dark and cost of a paper ensures lowered readership and County actions that impact citizens aren't reported

---

The Annapolis Capitol needs to add maps to its coverage to enable people to understand where events take place!

---

The Baltimore Sun provides good AA County coverage

---

The Banner and WaPo higher quality than Baltimore Sun now.

---

The Capital and Gazette have proven so poorly written and non-factual that I stopped my subscription several years ago.

---

The Capital Gazette has lost its local-ness due to the purchase by the Sinclair Group. I only keep getting it for the obits since I grew up in Annapolis and want to know of friends who died.

---

The Capital gazette is worthless. The only source is naptown scoop and eye on annapolis

---

The Capital has become completely irrelevant - they're so biased it's hard to take them seriously.

---

The Capital has less and less quality articles

---

The Capital has lost local reporters, has less local news and is more right-leaning. Not happy with these changes.

---

The Capital has really gone downhill since it was bought!

---

The Capital is a small fraction of what it once was on local news. I rely on a portfolio of sources to stay abreast of local news and issues

---

The Capital is crap since the most recent takeover.

---

The Capital is horrible.

---

The Capital should return to local (AA County) news.

---

The lack of investigative journalism in Annapolis is very concerning. The Capital is a shell of it's original self, and that's a pity.

---

The local newspaper has become prohibitively expensive for very little local content.

---

The majority of local media is left leaning and know attempt is made allow opposing view points to be expressed.

---

The news is often one sided.

---

The Post seems somewhat biased. As does the Capital. I stopped receiving the latter some time ago.

---

The Post, Sun and the Capital have had dramatic reductions in quality of coverage.

---

The problem is most places now require you to pay to read the news or watch it live on TV. Would be better if the County itself had their own NEWS site and published their own version of the news their. I am even ok with them putting adds on it to support its infrastructure.

---

The quality of these news stations are very high

---

The reporting is very left leaning

---

The Sun and the Capital have changed since new ownership from being local and nonpartisan to only spreading the Sinclair views

---

Thec Capital has become the Baltimore Capital. We don't care what happens in Baltimore

---

There is no local newspaper. The Capital Gazette is Baltimore oriented and rarely reports on Annapolis.

---

There should be more accessible options

---

They are excellent source of news

---

Too bias

---

Too left wing bias.

---

Too local & repetitive - not enough non-political & world News !

---

Too many people are glued to mis/disinformation on TV news shows - especially senior citizens.

---

Too much during election years.

---

Too superficial and chaotic. Failing to keep community well informed and government in check.

---

Very bias

---

Very biased most times

---

Very disappointed that The Capital is no longer a local newspaper. It instead is a reprinted Sun or wire service compilation of old news.

---

Very Informative. Necessary.

---

Very limited local reporting. I would subscribe to the Capital if it was less partisan.

---

very little Annapolis city or Anne Arundel county news

---

very one-sided

---

Very Poor

---

Very spotty. Cannot count on newsworthy items to be reported

---

Waaay too much time and space devoted to crime and sports. This constant focus on crime makes everyone think it is increasing dramatically and we are all unsafe (unlike reality where violent crime in US peaked in 1991). Similarly, sports is somewhat interesting (I'm a die-hard Caps fan) but not pages and pages of newsprint or minutes after minutes on social media and evening news. There is a big world out there, both within and outside the US, that we should be learning about. There should be public interest stories everyday on ropixa likw farming, environmental challenges, quality of life challenges, transportation wins and woes, and so on. And not just wars overseas (at this point let them all kill each other; I'd rather learn about their life at home, how they educate their children, anything).

---

We are blessed to have both Baltimore and DC access .

---

We need to quit putting politicians on a pedestal. For example during a debate, if they talk over or don't actually answer the question turn the mike off until they will. If the other does answer it, they move on to the next question. If they break the law while in office, kick them out when proven guilty and make how they spend TAX PAYERS MONEY more transparent.

---

We primarily watch either Channel 11 or WJZ 13 to get information regarding local and state news. The majority of the time these channels are reporting on factual information that supports the stories they cover or present upon. I think the quality of the reporting is well done (although there are a few reporters in the field that seem much more vain than others).

---

We should help finance local news voices and give them incentive for same reason as we should candidates.

---

Weak, mostly associated press

---

wish more local news with some real fact finding

---

Would like a dedicated local radio station that's not politically biased

---

WTOP

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## ChatGPT Categories and Percentages

- **Bias in News Coverage (26%)**
  - Concerns about biased reporting, with some pointing to specific political slants, either liberal or conservative.
  - Examples: “Very biased most times,” “The Capital has become completely irrelevant - they're so biased it's hard to take them seriously.”
- **Quality of Coverage (23%)**
  - Remarks on diminished local reporting, reduced journalistic quality, and insufficient investigative journalism.
  - Examples: “The Capital is a shell of its original self,” “Local news is incredibly important to me. I worry about the quality of the Capital Gazette.”
- **Access and Cost Concerns (15%)**
  - Comments about the high costs of subscriptions, limited access due to paywalls, and affordability issues.
  - Examples: “The local newspaper has become prohibitively expensive for very little local content,” “There should be more accessible options.”
- **Preference for Alternative News Sources (12%)**
  - Preferences for non-traditional platforms like social media, TV, or radio to obtain news.
  - Examples: “We primarily watch either Channel 11 or WJZ 13,” “Local orgs on Facebook and YouTube.”
- **Nostalgia for Past News Quality (13%)**
  - Comments expressing disappointment over changes from previous, higher-quality local news standards.
  - Examples: “The Capital Gazette has lost its local-ness,” “I miss having a beat reporter in Annapolis.”
- **Disinterest or Limited Engagement with Local News (7%)**
  - Indications of limited engagement with local news or ambivalence due to lack of relevance or preference.
  - Examples: “Very spotty. Cannot count on newsworthy items to be reported,” “It’s enough to let me know what’s going on.”

**Appendix H: Open-ended Comments -  
Level of Government More Trusted Regarding Development  
Anne Arundel County or Maryland?**

Both gov'ts should be open to expanding housing into underdeveloped areas of the County.

Both, but not equally. Local government has more say, but state government can weigh in.

Do not increase the supply

Don't trust the zoning board

far too many "variances" and exceptions are allowed

i just moved here so I'm unsure still

I trust both equally, but at the same time I might not have any way of learning how government officials are or are not influenced by private interests. I am not suggesting there are inherent conflicts of interest--I am just saying I have not investigated and I do not know what relevant information is publicly available.

If it's run by a Democrat=NO. If it's run by a Republican=YES unless that Republican is a RINO!

It appears that developers have more power than the government in these decisions!

Local and state government should come to a agreement

maybe the governor depending on who it is, but normally I am unsure/don't know.

No government

Not the government's job! Also when I sell, my home value will be suppressed to attract low income people who will not contribute enough to merit their cost to the citizenry.

Only HUD can subsidize housing on a large enough scale to make an impact

Public meetings for proposed sites and taking suggestions and concerns in to consideration. Get the public involved

Since developers have so much money it is hard to trust government to do the right thing.

State makes better decisions, but county has more control over impact areas

Stop adding. Much of the country is empty. Stop trying to cram more into dense areas.

Too much development going on and the roads and schools can't handle it



## ChatGPT Categories and Percentages

- **Support for Government-Managed Development (26%)**
  - Support for government involvement in managing land use and housing development, including collaboration between local and state levels.
  - Examples: “Both governments should be open to expanding housing,” “Local and state government should come to an agreement,” “Public meetings for proposed sites.”
- **Distrust in Government or Developers (22%)**
  - Expressed skepticism or distrust of the government’s ability to manage development impartially, often mentioning influence from developers.
  - Examples: “Don’t trust the zoning board,” “Developers have more power than the government,” “Hard to trust government to do the right thing.”
- **Preference for Limited Government Role (18%)**
  - Preference for minimal government involvement in land use or housing development, with a focus on personal property rights.
  - Examples: “Not the government’s job,” “No government,” “Stop trying to cram more into dense areas.”
- **Conditional Trust Based on Political Affiliation (14%)**
  - Trust or distrust in government decisions based on political affiliation or perceived alignment of values.
  - Examples: “If it’s run by a Democrat=NO, if it’s a Republican=YES,” “Maybe the governor, depending on who it is.”
- **Concerns Over Infrastructure and Resources (12%)**
  - Concerns about the impact of development on infrastructure, such as roads and schools, and whether current resources can handle increased density.
  - Examples: “Too much development going on, and roads and schools can’t handle it,” “Stop adding—much of the country is empty.”
- **Uncertain or New Residents (8%)**
  - Respondents who are unsure about their stance, often due to being new to the area or unfamiliar with government operations.
  - Examples: “I just moved here so I’m unsure,” “Normally I am unsure/don’t know.”

## Appendix I: Comments About Anne Arundel County or Maryland

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It's a great time to sell and move out of state!

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AA County - keep affordable high-density housing projects close to current high density areas (or vacant commercial properties), not by changing zoning in low-density neighborhoods where hardworking families live to avoid traffic and crime.

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AA County is already saturated with housing. The increase in vehicles on our roads is overwhelming. The County is not transparent with disclosing additional housing until they have the project locked in. Then it's too late to fight. Sometimes, somehow a housing development will get leaked and then homeowners in the area have to quickly band together and gather info and attend Council Meetings to fight against the project. The County Council only supplies it's agenda 1 hour before their meeting. This requires attending and being prepared to lodge your objections unless you live very close to Annapolis and can be there within the hour. A perfect example of this is the fight to stop the building of condos on the property Pasadena Golf Center. This involved critical areas, forest preservation that had been identified years ago, but Pittman was ready to void them and allow 300+ multiple use housing. This project would have also involved being located at the connection of Mountain Rd and Rt 100 E. This area is the Lake Shore Peninsula with Mountain Rd being an ingress/egress road. The road has multiple accidents and when they happen, the entire Peninsula is shut down. There are 4 schools and 3 Pre-K that are then blocked. When that happens you have students put in danger for multiple reasons. Some of which are they may not get required medications on time, sit on buses or held at schools for hours, and those with challenges ie: Autism, ADHD, Anxiety, and for Pre-K Separation Anxiety.

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AA county is developing too many expensive homes, apartments and strip malls everywhere in the county

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AAC has allowed housing to increase past the capacity of the roads. Takes twice as long to drive down route 2 as 97. Transportation budgets are not prioritized. Spending funds to rebuild existing curbs instead of increasing traffic flow is a waste of money and sitting in traffic decreases quality of life.

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AAC is building too much. Roads are not equipped to handle the extremely high rate of increase in building in the county. The company that owns Dali should be 100% responsible for ALL the costs associated with rebuilding the FSK bridge. No ancient law capping financial responsibility should be applied.

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Affordable housing can significantly impact the equity of homeowners, particularly in middle-class neighborhoods. The introduction of affordable housing can reduce property values, thereby affecting the overall equity that homeowners have built over time. This decline in property value often results in homeowners seeing diminished returns on their investments when they choose to sell. Additionally, affordable housing can contribute to an increase in local taxes. Government funding for affordable housing initiatives is often subsidized through taxpayer dollars, which places an added financial burden on middle-class families. These higher taxes can make it harder for homeowners to save, invest, or spend, potentially limiting their economic growth and contributing to inflation pressures in the economy. In summary, while affordable housing may provide necessary options for low-income families, it can also harm middle-class homeowners by decreasing their property values, increasing their tax burden, and adding to inflationary pressures in the community.

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Affordable housing in AACO has not been explained. It is a label to justify many things. We are told there is a crisis to justify rampant and reckless overdevelopment. Luxury condos with minimum designations for affordable housing for a limited time. I rented in one for two years. The theory of get denser where it is already dense is a failed 1970s idea. I moved here in 1986 with lots of student loans, lived in crummy apartment, then house shared for a decade and then eventually bought in Cape St Clair and then Arnold and now downtown. HIGH interest rates most of that time. This is how life rolls and is not unique. Overdevelopment with special concessions to developers is not about affordable housing. It is about greed and bad judgment. I would like to see vouchers, like in Howard County, used to diversify neighborhoods and help people bridge the gap on high rents. I do not think paving over paradise is the way to go.

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Affordable housing in Anne Arundel County and Annapolis is totally inadequate for people with disabilities.

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Affordable housing might be best run by a combination of income-based grant process and government-owned/managed buildings.

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Allowing new development without first considering transportation, traffic congestion parking is malfeasance.

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Parole is a perfect example

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Am active in lots of local issues. So every time we try to fight for the neighbors, the environment, better transportation, less light, less noise, more parks, more water access, etc., we always end up with unresponsive County and State employees and departments. They often use the excuse that "It's not my job" or "This is above my/my department's pay grade/remit". Add in unscrupulous real estate developers who have politicians in their pockets (Shuh was terrible in this regard, Pittman's turning out to be) and one understands why my neighbors are increasingly moving out of state for less traffic, less noise, less taxes, and so on. There are no systematic feedback/communication mechanisms in place for federal, state, and local coordination or collaboration. And forget national: when Hogan was governor and head of the National Governors Association during the beginning of the

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pandemic, trying to get him to bring together governors across the US to share information and assistance might always have been difficult but he didn't even try, despite repeated calls from our non-profit to try.

Am concerned about pipelines going through conservation areas; data centers being built without considering impact on water and power supplies; and privatization & role of private equity in healthcare facilities & nursing homes.

Annapolis is being way over-built. Our schools are already not great here, many at or close to capacity and we are building more and more. Traffic is getting worse.

Anne Arundel county is growing for the better. With new schools and work opportunities. If we lower the cost of living it will cause over population, crime to go up! Let's continue to grow the county up and follow the same example as Howard County!

Anne Arundel needs more affordable housing for police/fire/teachers who currently can't afford to live where they work.

As a nation, we are suffering from the subprime mortgage housing collapse of 2008 and it is going to take time to recover.

At question #7, it is unclear if talking about U.S. or MD. Need to reiterate in each question. Affordable housing is a tool for developers not for low income individuals- a bait & switch tactic. Affordable pricing is not affordable to public servants and lower income individuals. Affordable tag is used to push thru building corporate housing units.

Be careful with providing more housing options and effect on schools

Both the State of Maryland and Anne Arundel County should look to duplicate the model used for Columbia, MD, to develop a community of townhouses and condominium apartment buildings to use new multi-modal transportation and encourage home ownership for first time buyers, allowing them to accumulate multi-generational funds.

Can we prevent people from purchasing multiple houses that they're not going to do anything with? Please?

City, county and state government have consistently demonstrated they are not serious in dealing with these situations without just raising taxes.

Cost of housing is too expensive

County and state government leaders seem to want to increase the supply of attainable housing but they're too swayed by constituents and special interests who oppose change. Change is hard but necessary and our representatives need to force us to accept it.

Currently living with my family so I don't have a prospective of a person who is looking for housing and the problems they face.

Decrease housing developments being built over beautiful land. Decrease destroying trees to build more developments.

Developers should incorporate a range of housing options (price and design) into all their housing projects and they shouldn't have to be paid (by taxpayers, through incentives) to do so.

Everyone says they're going to do something about affordable housing, but I haven't seen anything done for years.

Forcing "affordable" housing currently only seems to create a centralized predetermined depressed area.

Get rid of the moldy building in the low income units in Eastport. Build new clean apartments then get rid of the gangs. Lock them up and throw away the keys.

Government should stay out of the housing market.

Govt funding for individual donors to political campaigns only means all candidates will get more tax dollars. This is a prima facie waste of public dollars.

Homes in my area should not have been built but changes to the building codes have allowed it 40 years ago this would not have been allowed because of the high water table.

Houses are too expensive in this county and teachers who for the county are unable to buy homes near their job.

Housing is unaffordable for young adults and they can't break into the housing market like my wife did in 1986. We need to address the housing as it is a crisis

HUGE apartment complexes with new retail stores on Riva Road without adequate traffic studies was a mistake! Over development affects quality of life.

I absolutely disagree that there is limited pre planning done before any housing development starts! The infrastructure can't handle it, including police, fire, trash

I am against section 8 housing or the equivalent. It brings in people with no respect for property upkeep and drives down house values for those living nearby

I am the parent of young adults who cannot earn enough on their own to pay rent and other ordinary costs associated with renting or owning (e.g., utilities, internet, television). Perhaps some television (like streaming services) are not true necessities, so it seems reasonable to take those out of the equation. However, basic television is a reasonable expense. Mobile communication services are generally considered necessary now, so those must be considered. Some 1-bedroom apartment rentals are as much as or more than \$2,000/month, which

is outrageous. I recall such rentals being half that cost less than 10 years ago. My mortgage payment is less than \$2,000/month, so paying more for a 1-bedroom apartment is completely unreasonable. The services some rentals provide have some value, but I have not seen anything worth \$1,000/month. Even if the monthly rent includes utilities (gas/electric), it is still unreasonable. Perhaps that is a lingering consequence of the pandemic, and I don't know how to change it. I can say with great confidence that such high rental costs have kept many young adults living at home with their parents. Many parents of young adults already need to help their children, but adding outrageously high rental costs only makes more help necessary. As a parent, it makes more economic sense for me to allow an unmarried young adult to live with me rent-free while they pay for their other necessities and contribute to utilities and similar costs.

I am very concerned about the loss of forests and natural areas for development and support focusing on transit oriented development or infill development to build additional housing. I support increased housing densities and subsidies/policies to encourage more affordable housing. Anne Arundel County has very poor access to public transit and growing traffic congestion. This area also has a huge number of aggressive drivers and I would strongly support having speeding cameras and increased enforcement to make roads more safe.

I believe housing is out of control in anarundo county. Every time a building and condos go up the traffic increase is so bad. I can't even get out of my neighborhood

I do not approve of unvetted illegal aliens in our county, state or country. Nor do I approve of non citizens to vote in any of our elections. Ex: If you are a member of a club, outsiders cannot vote on the issues of the club. Neither should non citizens vote in our elections.

I do not support the 2040 plan or UN agenda to control how we live.

I hate the term "housing crisis." It's a "housing glut," but not a crisis.

I have been living here over 20 years in my current home. There are houses that have virtually collapsed and have not been touched because the County has labeled them as historical and are inflexible on what you can do with them. The county has also been slow in trying to get running water, cable etc..... to places like these (or near them) which is why so many homes are still using septic tanks.

I have seen nothing close to a cost-benefit analysis that shows how beneficial the proposed governmental actions would really reduce the cost of housing. Supply and demand, interest rates and the national economy are the big drivers of costs. Will the County efforts actually reduce the cost of housing...or increase it by making the system even more convoluted? When the County is taking in the neighborhood of 5 to 7 years to process development proposals, that is increasing the cost of housing. If the County legislation exempts certain environmental and adequate public facilities requirements for "affordable" housing, that just does not make sense. Weren't those requirements deemed necessary in the first place? Is it fair to lower educational and other requirements for the lower income residents? Don't they deserve the same as the rest of us? Equity or equality? If such legislation is implemented, then shouldn't the proposed residents have to count all income such as transfer payments to qualify. Shouldn't such housing be for those that are working and not unemployed? I haven't read the latest legislation, but doubt that it is different from previous proposals.

I haven't noticed any terrible policies implemented neither have I noticed that Maryland is doing exceptionally well compared to other states (although we do seem to be doing better than some). Overall I would say that I am reasonably content with the state of things.

I highly recommend that county and state government look into price gouging accountability on condominium and HOA fees.

I hope the MD govt holds the owner of the ship that hit the Key Bridge liable for the cost of replacing it

I live near the Bay bridge and there is absolutely too much traffic already to support dense housing

I think for the bridge they have taken a long time to decide something

I think Gov Moore has done the best he can in a horrible situation.

I think government actions are conflicting with market forces and will ultimately fail to help the people in need; instead, transportation options could best help those seeking affordable housing

I think the collapse of the Key Bridge really shows just how unprepared we, as a society, are when it comes to major routes of travel like this are interrupted. Obviously, a suspension bridge (like The Francis Scott Key Bridge) being struck by the Dali raises a lot of questions as far as the regulation of the proper upkeep of such supply ships transporting goods into The Port of Baltimore. The Port workers striking had every right to do so and I hope that it works out for all of them in the end, but there needs to be accountability to the companies that allowed for a defective and KNOWN malfunctioning shift does put into perspective how other regulations outside the state of Maryland (nationwide) can create such a domino effect. The Trump administration cutting these regulations heavily played a role in this tragic event.

I was brought up that if you earned something you appreciate it, if given to you then you have nothing to lose. I feel we cater to people and they don't have to earn it. I came from a poor family and my brothers and sisters worked to get where we are. There was no free handouts, work toward a goal. COVID got a lot of people feeling more

entitled since they received free money and now don't think they should work. Look how many places are looking for employees who work, not just put in time.

If my home was not almost paid off before I retire, I could not afford to stay here in Maryland. After retiring, I believe I will be moving as Maryland is now not affordable for retirees. And with Spend More Moore, it is only going to get worse.

If the activity puts \$\$\$\$ in their pockets -- BAN IT!!!!

If the current trajectory of development continues, the quality of life for all citizens will diminish. That appears to be our reality.

In Anne Arundel, Hispanics would like a Multicultural Center. Is there someone who could help us acquire one?

Income based housing vs how much money already saved/available for spending. Comparing that in relationship to job stability and seasonal inflation.

It appears that attention is given to the minority areas when it comes to streetlights, roads, etc.

It is criminal that so many apartments have been built on Riva Rd. with ridiculously high rents and with no additional amenities like a grocery store within walking distance.

It seems that apartment complexes are going up in a much higher rate. The impact that it has on the community is most noticeable on the amount of traffic it creates. In many cases, the infrastructure is not there to accommodate the new influx of traffic such as on Riva Rd, with three new 300 plus apartments per building.

It seems like there is little thought of infrastructure when adding large residential projects and what planning is done is patchwork and shoehorned into place with scant foresight into future needs. Things seem very reactionary and planned communities are no longer the aspirations of our city planners.

It's been unclear on who is doing what for who

Lack of affordable housing is costing the state jobs. Citizens of leaving because they can find opportunities in other states.

Let us live free. I moved here for the ideal suburban life and you want to cause overcrowding, urbanization, and inevitable higher taxes to deal with more students, more government services and CRIME.

Low cost housing is very important but location is also. Schools in the area must be adequate and the effect on existing properties must be minimized.

Low cost housing results in crime

Lower costs to make it affordable for college students as well

Most decisions are centered on profit maximization without considering the welfare of the people. Government should be people centric.

need to more affordable houses

Not a lot of trust in both county and state government for seniors with tax and transportation matters.

Not sure what the state did versus the Feds - but process was superb

One mishap shouldn't change anything

Other than when it collapsed I have not received or seen any news about the bridge collapse. In my entrepreneurship class we sadly have this as our final project, assuming you guys caused this since it was originally actually related to making our own business and related to entrepreneurship but then it just changed, so now I know why, that really ruined the class for me and made me lose interest in it. Thanks for that, unless somehow you did not cause it.

Over Development has caused our schools and services too much stress

Over development of some areas is a serious issue, yet we do need more moderate housing to be made available.

Overbuilding both housing and commercial. Over spending by government.

Perhaps the State and Counties (solely) should buy, build and manage housing properties on their own, by-themselves in order to ensure this is carried out and they too can feel some of what it is like.

Pittman is THE worst!

Plenty of lower cost single family homes in older areas of the County that could be renovated for a fraction of the cost of new townhomes. Maybe provide redevelopment funding instead of new low quality townhomes in high density neighborhoods.

Politicians and people representing views in the government are too one side or the other politically. It puts me off and makes me not trust them, no matter what party they fall under.

Public transportation is too limited and not well thought out in terms of making it available to communities that actually want or need it. Make public transportation available where it's actually needed, and offer more affordable housing there. Remove light rail stop in Linthicum since it's overwhelmingly unwanted.

Regarding the last question, I think the shipping company should be fully liable for the impact to the community, as well as the bridge replacement. I still believe it was intentional, as the ship's movements were not normal in a loss of steerage, based on my years of service in the Navy. Additionally, I believe there is way too much development going on in the County and the infrastructure is grossly inadequate to handle the growth. Also, the loss of trees all around the Bay is having a huge impact on the quality of the waterways feeding the Bays. The quality of life in AACO has been drastically reduced over the years.

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Rent control necessary

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Revisiting and reforming zoning laws can facilitate higher-density housing, especially in areas close to public transit. This can lead to more sustainable urban development and reduce reliance on cars.

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Riva Rd is a big mess due to massive home construction.

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Roadway car traffic since the bridge collapse is terrible-. Waiting 2 more years for an alternative is unacceptable

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Sadly it's a fact that any lower socio economic areas are higher in crime and such. If those problems could be addressed and actually taken care of in a consistent matter, there may be less issues. EDUCATION, SHOULD BE THE SAME ACROSS THE BOARD FOR LOWER INCOME AREAS AS RICHER AREAS. Who knows what miracles are stored in those beautiful minds. Paint the lines on the roads so we can see at night when it rains. Some you can't even see during the days. Don't allow any more hysterics from either side. Be professionals and do the assigned job.

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Senior citizens housing should be affordable and safe

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Some areas like the Broadneck Peninsula and the Route 3/Waugh Chapel area have been overdeveloped making travel very difficult. County should not allow this kind of development....there's other land in the county.

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Stop handouts

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The allowance of building more high rises and shopping centers has made Riva Road more crowded and makes angry drivers and gridlock and worsened dangerous intersections like under Arris T Allen on Riva. It is more of a horror.

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The Broadneck area and Annapolis are both overdeveloped and traffic a nightmare. No more building should be allowed in either area.

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The building in some areas, is too much and the density is questionable. The cost of these units is much too high for the average family.

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The county executive tried to slide in a zoning change on Mountain Rd without fully explaining anything to the nearby residents. Very sneaky move. Luckily, our local reps(Nic Kipke and Nathan Volke) were on top of it and let us know. We fought it and won.

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The county is overbuilding housing causing traffic nightmares. Stop the overbuilding. There is plenty of housing but not affordable. Control what we have now.

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The government should not be involved in providing housing. Taxes paid by citizens should be spent on services that benefit the general population (roads, water & sewer lines, police & fire) not subsidizing someone's lifestyle. People manage and have shown to be pretty resilient and creative in order to move forward.

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The governor and government did a great job on helping to reopen the Francis Scott Key Bridge.

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The HOA that my Mom has ran as president, and been apart of for many years, has consistently reached out to the county about problems we need assistance with, such as; potholes, electrical wires, and road lights, and we rarely get help or a response. So my perceptions of the county are that they don't do a lot for the residents. They don't fix things that need addressed; like faulting lights, and crowded hanging wires where children play. Maybe this idea of the county is skewed, but I see some of these problems elsewhere too.

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The Housing problem is caused by inflation. Federal Government spending caused inflation, therefore the government is the cause of the housing problem

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The housing shortage should not be used as an excuse to dramatically increase the number of units without regard to zoning, land preservation or adequate facilities. Lots of proposals seem to increase density without increasing affordable units. We need more housing co-ops as a way to help people get started.

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The less interference on housing, the more growth we will see. We must stay out of the way and keep our thumb off the scale. Free markets prosper and we should practice that. Our collective hand is clumsy in individual markets like housing.

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The mess created on Riva Road has left me both angry and shaking my head and simply speechless!!

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The percentage of affordable housing units should be higher than 15% for new developments.

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The planning department in Annapolis is ridiculously slow in approving permits. They seem to be on a power trip rather than being objective.

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The private sector can take care of housing without government intervention. The current regulations and bureaucracy is the main cause for increased housing prices. The current situation makes it impossible for the small builder or developer to supply housing. This also leads to a corrupt bureaucratic government.

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The State must root out the cause of shortage of supply of housing. Blackrock, other subsidiaries never allow the home to come to market. Onerous laws such as paint composition, efficiency standards, roofing standards, etc. Make it difficult and expensive to maintain a home or even to prepare it for market.

The state will be in a deficit in FY 26. The General Assembly should have never passed the Blueprint for Education as is. The cost is expensive and the State will suffer as a whole. County schools are not held accountable for public funds. It seems that schools are held to a different standard on spending than other forms of government.

There is no compelling reason to add luxury housing in AA County. New developments historically fail to pull their weight in offsetting infrastructure costs.

This question belongs on the housing page. We do not need low income housing. Baltimore can provide low income housing, transportation and jobs. It is not Anne Arundel's mission.

Throwing environmental regulations (buffer sizes, setbacks, stormwater mitigation) out to let developers increase density is absolutely WRONG! The watersheds are fragile, the water quality in our creeks and rivers borders on toxic and the County wants to allow it to GET WORSE in the name of housing. JUST SAY NO!!! We do NOT need to ruin our environment to accommodate more and more people!! The limit to our infrastructure has already been passed and we are suffering the consequences EVERY DAY as we sit in gridlocked traffic and have toxic algae blooms in our creeks.

to live in this state is very expensive and they houses you can afford are small and cramped

Too much building, stores/ housing etc not enough roads. Riva Rd by the Annapolis Town will be a mess once finished. Who took kickbacks to overbuild in this area?

Too many house without improving roads.

We are in a desperate search for housing since we were scammed out of our house. The affordable apartments are insect infested. Shouldn't have to deal with that just because we have no money.

We continue to build high-density housing in Western District, bringing more and more low-income people and more traffic into the area. This must stop.

We have got to stop overbuilding, overcrowding. We can't support the traffic, damage, etc. We need to take empty buildings & get them fixed or find ways or areas to build. That don't damage our home values & personal safety.

We rely on the Key Bridge to access our business. Grateful for the speed and investments made to date and anticipate a fast build.

Whenever government gets involved in the private sector it generally fails to work. If the county or state wants moderately priced housing, pay for it, but get a return on the investment.

While I believe that the cost of housing is outrageous I feel that lowering the cost will encourage illegals to purchase these houses allowing multiple families to live in a single dwelling.

While I support affordable housing, I oppose the option to have higher density development than zoning allows or waiving adequate facilities requirements because that could add to already congested roads, schools. It seems like it would create other problems for the county to deal with (crowded schools, roads). All of it will require spending government funds. It seems to be a decision of how to spend that money. Is government providing rental or home buying assistance or if density is increased for more affordable units, the government will pay for more teachers, portable classrooms, road maintenance. It all comes with a cost.

Why have we spent so much time with long-range planning and requests for community input only to have the input of residents ignored? Far too many exceptions, variances, "loop holes", ... follow the money.

## ChatGPT Categories and Percentages

- Housing Development and Overdevelopment Concerns (33%)**
  - Persistent worries about overbuilding, impact on infrastructure, traffic congestion, and environmental degradation.
  - Examples: “Too much building, stores/housing etc., not enough roads,” “The watersheds are fragile... County wants to allow it to GET WORSE,” “Too many houses without improving roads.”
- Affordable Housing Challenges (21%)**
  - Concerns on the need for affordable housing, including issues with housing quality, access, and economic impacts on local communities.
  - Examples: “We do not need low-income housing,” “Affordable apartments are insect-infested,” “Lowering the cost will encourage illegals to purchase these houses.”
- Government and Policy Critiques (20%)**

- Critiques of government decisions, lack of accountability, perceived favoritism toward developers, and unmet community needs in housing policy.
  - Examples: “Government generally fails when involved in the private sector,” “Schools are held to a different standard on spending,” “Community input ignored in long-range planning.”
- **Economic and Financial Impact on Residents (14%)**
- Economic concerns, including housing affordability, cost of living, and impacts of state spending policies on residents.
  - Examples: “Living in this state is very expensive,” “State deficit due to the Blueprint for Education,” “If county wants moderately priced housing, get a return on investment.”
- **Social and Environmental Concerns (12%)**
- Environmental degradation, preservation of natural resources, and community safety concerns related to overdevelopment.
  - Examples: “Throwing environmental regulations out to let developers increase density is wrong,” “We can't support the traffic, damage, etc.,” “Damage to home values & personal safety.”



## Appendix J: Comments About International Affairs

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A country has the right to defend itself. Every nation also has an obligation to seek peace when national defense punishes innocent civilians. Children of the world are not enemies...they are the hope of the future.

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Agree Israel has to defend itself and should always have a state- do not like their leadership (Netanyahu) and the humanitarian crisis he has created

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agree to aid, don't agree to write blank checks to foreign gov or entity

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Agree with providing aid to Israel for humanitarian and defense aid, but not sure that Israel hasn't transitioned to an offensive mode. October 7th was partly a result of the way Israel treated Palestinians. NATO made a mistake in not retaining some sort of Palestinian country. Now they need to fix consequences. I don't know if Hamas would have taken over Palestine anyway with similar results though.

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Aid to Israel needs to be tied to a cease fire and negotiations for peace. Killing innocents is not acceptable

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Anything that hinders Putin's desire to reestablish the Soviet Union is money well spent. The Ukraine is doing our and NATO's work for us at bargain rates. Israel seems to be the only democracy that is willing to acknowledge the evil of Muslim extremism because they must to survive. If we don't support Israel the war will inevitably come to us.

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Apply air after airing our own country

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Are we doing enough to find peaceful ways to resolve conflicts?

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At first it made sense to provide funding to Israel, but not now.

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At this point, we're stuck providing aid because there would be a power vacuum if we left and it might cause us to be pulled into conflict if our allies go to war.

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Biden is too weak and has placed the world in a precarious state.

---

Both countries should receive aid just not nearly as much

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But also ceasefire and release of hostages, perhaps tied to support

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Concerning Ukraine, we have already given them billions. I think it's enough! We should focus more on Israel, our ONLY friend in the Middle East, by providing them with the money and military equipment to protect and defend themselves.

---

Current leadership in Israel is too right wing. we should threaten lowering of military support.

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Diplomacy should be the cornerstone for peace irrespective of the political divide or religious differences

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Domestic issues belong to states and International issues belong to the federal government.

---

Find the common denominator

---

Foreign aid is important to support countries entrenched in conflict, but billions of dollars is overspending. Especially in the Ukraine situation.

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Honestly, the concept of a nation based on religious belief being intolerant of other peoples religious convictions is the height of hypocrisy. Too many people have been killed, historically, for religious belief.

---

I agree we must support our allies but there absolutely be a limit to the spending

---

I am a supporter of the Palestinians: Israel has done them a great disservice for years...they deserve to either have their own 'state' or be recognized as citizens of Israel and treated accordingly.

---

I am opposed to aid to Israel as long as they continue to pursue unscrupulous methods to protect themselves.

---

I am unsure of both foreign affairs. If we agree to provide aid then it puts a target on the US and possible war. If we do not agree to provide aid then we lose an alliance and potentially target the US.

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I believe in military aid for all. I support military aid to Ukraine and Israel. How's we should help Iran as well

---

I believe in the Washington Jefferson Doctrine. We need trade relations with all countries but we should not meddle in their affairs. We should take care our own business first here at home.

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I believe the plight of the Palestinians must be resolved and a condition of USA support.

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I believe we need to supply less to Israel, they do human rights violations. We need to intervene and take out terrorists, and give Israel defensive aid and not offensive aid.

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I do agree with providing aid but perhaps not nearly to the extent which has been done. It is not solely our responsibility to fund the wars in other countries and so far we have committed much more to these causes than other countries.

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i do not hear much about it so i truly have no idea whats going on. i do not want to put my opinion without having a better understanding of the situations

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I do not support Israel's inability to compromise. And believe that Palestine has rights also.

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I do not support sending American troops into Ukraine or Israel.

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I don't support arming Israel to continue the killing of civilians in Gaza

---

I feel like our politicians launder money through Ukraine which is why they are hell-bent on sending funding over there. There is no clear national interest there. Israel, on the other hand, is our ally and we must help them.

---

I strongly disagree with giving Israel funds and weapons if they continue not to listen to the US concerns about how they respond to the Palestinians in Gaza.

---

I support helping Israel but the overwhelming crises, loss of innocent life, caused by the attacks ordered by Netanyahu have me asking why would we support this type of fighting that kills so many innocent people? Yes, Hamas and its factions need to be stopped but I can't support our government giving aid to Israel when what they are currently doing is not much more than indiscriminate slaughter. There has to be a better way!!

---

I support Israel's right to exist but this war is happening because their president is corrupt and he wants to remain in power. I do not believe we should be supporting this! I understand the Palestinians started the war but Israel has gone way past retribution, this is now turned into a blind killing rage with way too many innocents in the crossfire.

---

I support the Israel state, but do not support the actions they are now taking.

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I think both countries deserve aid because the people in both places are suffering and need help, no matter who started the war first.

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I wish my tax dollars were not being used to fund the genocide of innocent people.

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I would support Ukraine aid if the funds were properly audited, which they have not been. Ukraine is a notoriously corrupt country.

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I'd rather not

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I'm not totally opposed to providing support to Ukraine, however I think there should be less money sent and more accountability for what they are doing with the money

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If you let terrorist groups or violent dictators get strong and grab other peoples' lands and let illegal criminals into this country at will, it won't be long until we don't have our country as we know it. You cannot just turn inward. Churchill (?) "walk softly but carry a big stick." And then use it if necessary.

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In both cases, the U.S. has provided a substantial amount of aid with no positive results for either situation. I vehemently oppose funding the killing of innocent people, where it can be helped when tracking down the known enemies.

---

Israel doesn't need money, just let them go after Hamas unrestricted.

---

Israel is a partner and that is fine. However, its belligerence and constant encroaching on Palestinian lands needs to stop. Need a two-state system and we should stop sending money to Israel until they agree to this (why are we sending military aid to a country that builds its own weaponry and sells it abroad?). I lived in Russia for a year after the fall of the SU and they have many lovely people but their government cannot be trusted. And the people are both

---

fatalistic and unused to any form of democracy, feeling more comfortable with "a strong hand". They will not stop Putin so we must (along with international partners). Chinese culture is simply ruthless so completely untrustworthy, which doesn't mean we don't trade or collaborate with them but means that we watch our back and always assume that they have their own interests at heart (so we should do the same). We don't need to be the world's police officer; we need to be part of an international police squadron. And we need anthropologists seeking out information and feeding it back to our leadership to better inform our decision-making processes.

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Israel is killing innocent civilians in Gaza who have no affiliation with Hamas. Why are we supporting something like that?

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Israel is uncontrollable and does not respect the rights of others or human life.

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Israel needs to be reined in. Her action in Gaza is genocide.

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Israel needs to be safe but the Palestinian people deserve to be safe also. But if I had the answers to this I'd be in the State Department.

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Israel not caring about human rights.

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Israel should be able to defend itself, but not so much aid that it wages war and causes devastation as it has in the last year.

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Israel situation is heartbreaking. No good answers.

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It is critical that there is a cease fire in Israel as soon as possible. I support Israel but the US must insist this war and the deaths in Gaza must end immediately.

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It is not like I don't understand their situation, but we have things going on here in the United States that need addressing.

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It's time for the US to stop the endless wars and its foreign aggression. The US could have and should have ended the conflict in Ukraine before it began with diplomacy.

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It's OK to worry about other countries but we have homeless people in this country and teachers make lower salaries than mechanics and HVAC technicians. That money could be used to pay better salaries to them and improve the conditions of poor people and homeless.

---

Keep money in the U.S. to support education, infrastructure, R&D, manufacturing, farmers & food production. Save the bees or no food will be available for anyone. Put welfare recipients to work to empower them. Utilize the incarcerated to support needed production of goods & services. Retrieve overseas jobs that our government agreed to outsource years ago!

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Less foreign spending to address domestic issues of U.S. citizens except more foreign spending to protect Israel.

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Make peace with Russia and China, not Iran, and keep a strong national defense as a deterrent.

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Military aggression by Russia, China, and terrorist groups cannot be tolerated if we want a peaceful and prosperous world.

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Military aid to Israel would be dependent on their actions to pursue peaceful policy solutions with it's neighbors.

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Money given to Israel should be conditional based on their respect for human rights.

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More aid given to Israel the more deaths you create. Israel is out of control.

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more pressure to stop Israel from continued bombing Gaza. OK for Israel to protect itself from incoming missles but not for them to invade

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Most dangerous time since the end of Cold War as far as I can tell

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Need to take care of the US first

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No comment until the election cause if Trump wins it over!'

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Not necessarily don't agree with proving aid, but more so not providing as much aid as we already have.

---

Once the administration knew Russia was going to invade, negotiations should have been conducted IMMEDIATELY and compromise reached—even if it meant conceding the Donbas region—and war averted. Allowing, funding and dragging out that war is foolish and a terrible loss of lives and resources. Making false promises to Ukraine re joining NATO was foolish as for starters, Ukraine had too many corruption issues to even qualify. Israel has always been our strongest ally, and is our strongest partner in terms of sharing innovation, military intelligence, etc. Clearly our schools need to be required to teach on the Holocaust to keep antisemitism at bay. The media facilitates it at present due to willfully ignoring the horrifically barbaric nature of the attack on 10/7, and rather skewing stories in an unbalanced and censorious way sympathetic to Palestinian terrorists. Absurd, illogical, and just wrong and in violation of the First Amendment and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

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Other surrounding countries should provide more or the same amount of aid that the U.S is and that is not the case

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Our alliances are integral to our national security. Supporting Ukraine keeps our troops at home. Israel's security is the key to Middle East peace.

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Our providing financial and/or military aid should be LIMITED to both countries.

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Peace through Strength. We'd be FOOLISH to give up our position of strength. Too much going on internationally. We're in NATO to help not only with our own security but that of the others in the union. With that comes international communications about security breaches and possible terrorist acts etc and so on. Should they pay their fair share? Yes !!!! can they??? It's STILL important to have those connections.

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Provide aid but not weapons to Israel.

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Provide more to both -- in the long run, the investment will pay for itself

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Providing aid to other countries is important but not at the expense of taking care of issues domestically.

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Should spend more money taking care of issues within the US.

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The aid to Israel should be contingent on making sure that Israel is not creating humanitarian suffering in Gaza, West Bank, etc. They absolutely should have our backing against terrorists and countries that attack them, but bombing civilians and starving them is not okay.

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The Biden Administration should not be sending military aid to Israel while it's also sending humanitarian aid to Palestinians under genocide.

---

The fact that appears most often ignored is the Congressional power over federal funding. Every dollar to be spent by the Government must be authorized and appropriated by Congress. There are an infinite number of ways to allocate Government funding and programs, both foreign and domestic, and there are many foreign and domestic Government programs that the United States could give up without any unreasonably difficult consequences. The administration (Executive branch) is never solely to blame, because Congress controls the funding, and there are many programs that Congress will not terminate, because of the potential effects on constituents and re-election. Economies of nations are all intertwined and interdependent. Spending on things like foreign aid (military or otherwise) can help maintain security and balance. It is important to oppose military aggression, tyranny and terrorism.

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The government needs to get the budget deficit under control and start helping the American People when needed.

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The government needs to take care of home first, and they're not doing a good job of it

---

The Middle East conflict is emotionally crushing to me and I have no answers besides a two state solution. I disagree with the scorched earth tactics of the current Israeli administration and I absolutely agree with them having the ability of self defense. However, I am not sure how what Israel is doing now is going to keep an entire religious segment of the world population, who is bent on their destruction from continuing vicious attacks on Israel or other Jews around the world. I don't see how there is any end game. And I hate that our support for Israel's right to exist, is costing the beautiful lives of the innocent. I have no answers and it makes me very sad that centuries old conflicts are still continuing to destabilize our world.

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The presidential election in a few days impacts all these questions

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The US must stop being timid. Strength deters wars, not timidity.

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There have been reports of concerns regarding how Ukrainian aid is being used, with some suggesting that taxpayer dollars are being mismanaged or misused. A decrease in the amount of money spent, along with more oversight and accountability, could help address these issues

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while still effectively managing the national security threat posed by Russia. Regarding Israel, they are undoubtedly an important ally in promoting democracy in the Middle East. However, based on the news often available from the media (which can sometimes be biased), it seems that Israel is frequently portrayed as the aggressor. Yet, in many cases, their actions may be reactions to attacks and threats on their nation, making it important to consider the broader context when assessing their role in regional conflicts. In both cases, greater transparency and a more balanced approach to aid and media coverage could lead to better outcomes and a clearer understanding of these complex issues.

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There's a huge disconnect. The present administration pledges support of Israel "only/if" they abide by our constraints. With Ukraine, it pours billions of support but won't let them advance and win. Why are we supporting a stalemate that has no endgame? It's absurd.

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They need to stop. I understand we are one of the most powerful countries in the world, but why does it fall to us to provide everything and other countries do not?

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Too many strings attached to how both Ukraine and Israel can use aid by Biden Administration. Extremely important to eliminate Hamas, Hezbollah and Iranian influence in Middle East. Russia should retreat to previous borders.

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TOO MUCH has already been spent, AND on things like PAYING Ukraine official THEIR PENSION, BY US!!! WHAT ABOUT US, the U.S.!! WE HAVE YET to see significant relief for Palestine Ohio, FOR EXAMPLE!!

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Trade

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Ukraine has proved to be a money pit. The Democrats love endless wars.

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Ukraine is a money laundering operation by the Zion Israel, we need to STOP sending them money, isn't 77 years enough? We also need to end AIPAC funding and influence on our elected officials. If we wanted to solve Americas problems we could overnight but they DO NOT want to.

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Ukraine is an important partner for peace. Israel is creating a major conflict that will start a war in the MidEast.

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Ukraine is fighting our rival and winning because we give them missiles and weapons that we would be expired. That would been more expensive to keep than to give away for Israel I think there's no peaceful solution any more due to the fact they are fighting on the basis of religion this is why I believe the only money we should be sending is humanitarian purposes

---

Ukraine is fighting to preserve democracy and it is in America's best interest to stop Russian aggression. Israel has become a rogue state committing war crimes.

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Ukraine is not in the alliance that is made up of many different countries that was made in the past, and I do not know if Israel is either, but I feel that they are helping with dealing with a problem the world needs to be rid of which is terrorist. Also Israel is a powerful ally, but the people in this country that are against Israel I feel like somehow got brainwashed like in a

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movie because I can't begin to fathom how they could be against Israel, getting rid of such people would only help our country in the long run.

---

Ukraine is the beginning if they lose Russia will continue if they win. Israel I was all in until they continue killing civilians,not seeming to negotiate -Netanyahu anyway ,yet I don't want Israel people killed either . I am no longer sure because we likely will be brought into a larger war

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Ukraine-do we really know where the money is going? More support from other countries

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Ukraine/Zelinsky has received way too much funding, especially since we have absolutely no accountability for those funds. I strongly believe there's been some major corruption ongoing, and wouldn't be surprised if any of our politicians have received something in return. Regarding Israel, it's my opinion that we should provide weapons to support the war against Iran, but no troops on the ground. The use our ships and aircraft is appropriate, but we should have taken much stronger measures as soon as any of our bases were attacked.

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United States needs to stop spending money on helping other countries and needs to spend money on helping the homeless and find a way to control the inflation. We as a country need to stop being the worlds big brother.

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Unkaine needs our help more than Israel relative to our national interest

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Ukraine had known for a long time it was only a matter of time before Russia attempted to invade their country and they were prepared, expected, and knew that would happen. While I believe it is important the United States aids Ukraine, it is extremely important that the United States recognizes the state of Palestine and condemn the genocide that Israel has been committing against the Palestinian people for well over a century at this point. Ukraine is praised for defending itself, but the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip can't even have aid properly transported to them because the IDF is ruthlessly and lawlessly killing aid workers. I also don't appreciate that my tax dollars pay for us to ship OUR weapons for Israel to genocide a population that does not have nearly the same resources as Ukraine has to defend itself. I'm an American, but I'm ashamed we are allowing Benjamin Netanyahu as much freedom as he has been given. When the United States ignores the International Court of Justice's condemnation of Israel and the factual evidence that they are committing genocide, it's simply a reminder that the United States built our country off the backs of slaves and genocide of Native Americans. A leopard never changes it spots.

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US has given Israel too much money and arms without sufficient preconditions.

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USA is failing and must turn its focus on its citizens

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USA is openly funding a nation which has committed war crimes on Palestine for over 7 decades and continues to commit genocide.

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USA needs to bankrupt IRAN so they stop funding terrorists

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USA needs to suspend all payments to Iran, Hamas and Hesbullah , humanitarian or otherwise. These people have been causing trouble for 5000 years. Don't expect a fix tomorrow

---

Very biased here as I have volunteered numerous times to hand deliver clothing and supplies to Lviv and Kiev Ukraine. The issue is the systemic corruption in their government. The amount of actual aid that arrives in country versus the amount of aid that goes to the individual is appalling. Aiding is great but we need to ensure that those in need get that aid and not be taken for resale by the corrupt.

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We also need to provide aid with helping Palestine.

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We are supporting the terrorist Israeli government

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We have provided far too much for Ukraine and not enough to our own country and citizens. Other countries to need amp up their aid to Ukraine.

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We must support our allies and NATO partners.

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We need more pressure and threats to Israel for a cease fire. Nonetheless, we can still support Israel and its people despite their leaders warmongering.

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We need to concentrate our foreign aid on those countries that are in our direct national interests. We should avoid becoming the world's police force. Europe should be doing more to help Ukraine. It is interesting that as soon as Israel begins winning, Europe wants a cease fire, but the same countries have never called for a cease fire between Ukraine and Russia.

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We need to continue to support Ukraine.

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We need to dramatically increase aid to Ukraine and get them in NATO; I used to support aid to Israel but no longer do -- I wish there was a credible government in palestine we could recognize and force them and the Israelis to negotiate.

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We need to help our allies and NATO to avoid a larger conflict.

---

We need to increase our military to protect our country before other countries. The military strength in this country has decreased and we are open to any who come across our borders. The United States is under a great risk from both borders and cells already in our country. Question is when we will have another 9/11 and how many sites at one time?

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We need to support Israel but Harris refuses to say they are an ally with the US. If we do not support Israel and keep them independent it would be catastrophic for the US.

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We need to take care of our own country and stay out of foreign wars.

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We should empower our allies to compete with our common rivals.

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We should focus on the citizens of the USA first

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We should not be giving US weapons to Israel that are used to kill innocent civilians. I do believe the US should support the existence of Israel in connection with a two state solution.

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We should supply much more aid to Ukraine.

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We should work to broker peace in the Middle East. We should not fund the ironic, genocidal approach used by Israel against the Palestinians.

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Where have the billions gone in Ukraine? There is no accountability. It's probably going right into the hands of the oligarchs and then back to the Bidens!

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While both countries were attacked without provocation, I am concerned with some of Israel's responses that appear to disregard civilians, especially children.

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While I fully support Israel's right to defend itself, Netanyahu has shown an egregious contempt for the Lebanese people and a complete disregard for human life. His actions make him unfit to lead the country and the US should NOT be aiding his efforts to commit genocide.

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While I support aid to Israel I am very concerned that we seem to have lost influence with Israeli leadership. Long term that is unacceptable to me.

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While it may be important to address many of these issues, HOW they are addressed is of primary importance. We should be able to maintain respect without throwing huge sums of money around the globe, where it is often wasted or, worse, used in ways that cause harm.

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why are we funding a genocide and villainizing the victims' retaliations

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Why are you asking about international issues? I am devastated for both Israel and Palestinians, and want both to receive the aid each needs. However, I also believe the Israelis need to call a cease fire on Gaza, and our government needs to stop supporting Netanyahu in everything - he needs accountability, and less aid from the US.

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why is AAC inquiring about National Security? What happens to the results of this survey? Can FOIA requests be filed and will the results per person become public? Are the people answering this survey going to be exposed as antisemitic for not wanting to provide more weapons to Israel?

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With aid to Israel, there must be some conditions to limit the civilian casualties.

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With regard to Israel, while I agree with providing aid, withholding that aid if they do not stop war mongering would be appropriate.

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With the latest natural disasters affecting Americans. We need to take care of our own first. People lost everything.

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worry about our own country first

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## ChatGPT Categories and Percentages

- **Conditional Support for Aid (29%)**
  - Significant support for providing aid with conditions, such as oversight, limits on civilian casualties, or humanitarian concerns.
  - Examples: “Aid to Israel must come with conditions,” “Decrease aid if civilian casualties are too high,” “More accountability is needed to ensure aid reaches the people.”
- **Support for Allies with Reservations (21%)**
  - Support for aiding Israel or Ukraine but with concerns over current leadership, military actions, or potential misuse of aid.
  - Examples: “Support Ukraine to avoid a larger conflict,” “Israel’s right to defend itself is valid but must consider civilians,” “Questionable influence of Netanyahu in Israel.”
- **Opposition to Aid or Intervention (16%)**
  - Opposition to extensive aid, citing issues like prioritizing domestic issues or avoiding foreign conflicts.
  - Examples: “U.S. should not be the world’s police force,” “We need to focus on helping Americans before funding other countries,” “Foreign aid overspending weakens us.”
- **Humanitarian and Civilian Concerns (17%)**
  - Concerns centered on the humanitarian impact of military aid, particularly protecting civilians and focusing on peaceful solutions.
  - Examples: “Worry about innocent lives in Gaza,” “Aid to Israel should consider Palestinian needs too,” “Maintain aid but limit harm to non-combatants.”
- **Focus on Domestic Priorities and Economic Impact (17%)**
  - Calls to prioritize domestic spending and address U.S. issues before international concerns.
  - Examples: “Why is the U.S. providing for other countries while inflation is rising here?” “Take care of U.S. infrastructure and citizens first,” “Homelessness here should be a higher priority.”

## Appendix K: Reasons for Voting for Senate

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adding a rogue element to the US Senate

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Issues, trust of the candidate and keeping the balance in the Senate

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All of the above. Plus, I don't trust Hogan.

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Alsobrooks has shown herself to be corrupt and should not be in Congress.

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balance of the senate

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Both A and B

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Both candidates are terrible.

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Both candidates have their faults. If Harris and Alsobrooks win, it will be good for the state.

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Both support abortion so I will vote for neither of them

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Both will be terrible for Maryland and our country.

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Career politicians are a drain on the American People.

---

Centrist policies

---

Gov Hogan proven to work with both parties

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Haven't looked in to Senate candidates

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Hogan isnt independent and if he refused to cross party lines when the country depended upon it, why should i! I voted for him but will never cross party lines again if he couldn't

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HOGAN'S RECORD AS GOVERNOR

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Honesty

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I do not trust either candidate

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I don't know

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I don't know enough about eithers' policies to cast a proper vote in good conscious

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I don't even know who Angela Alsobrooks is

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i dont know anything at all about these candidates

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i just moved here im not sure

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I will vote for Hogan but not enthusiastically. I do not trust either one of them to be good stewards of this nation's blood and treasure.

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I won't be voting

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I'll hold my nose and vote for Hogan.

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I've met Hogan many times, hes a decent guy, I followed some of his policies and like most of them.

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independence

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Independent, people not party

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LARRYS HIMMY

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Might not vote for Senate candidate. I need more time to think about it.

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One is a Democrat masquerading as a Republican and the other is an ultra liberal Democrat. Neither are worthy of my vote. If Hogan would at least support the Republican platform, I could hold my nose and vote for him to help the Republicans gain control of the Senate, but he goes out of his way to be anti-Republican. He is a major hypocrite and was a petty tyrant during COVID,

---

Originally an Independent (until no ability to vote in Primaries), I normally simply vote best person. However, since Gingrich there has been a steady lurch of the Republicans towards insanity so I will try to keep the Senate in Democratic hands. I agree with Alsobrooks but lived in Hyattsville for almost a decade years ago and PG Co is not something to emulate. However I do trust her on abortion and women's right, not sure of other issues but hopefully she'll learn. I originally voted for Trone.

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Owned by AIPAC

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The better candidate for the job in my opinion

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They are both Democrats!! What difference does it make??

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they are the same UNIPARTY losers

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To be honest I do not know much/anything about either but I have heard better things about Hogan than Alsobrooks, and my parents want me to.

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will carefully weigh party balance & trust

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## ChatGPT Categories and Percentages

- **Candidate Trust and Character** (28%)
  - “I don’t trust Hogan.”
  - “Alsobrooks has shown herself to be corrupt.”
  - “Career politicians are a drain on the American People.”
  - “Honesty”
  - “I do not trust either candidate.”
  - “I won’t be voting.”
- **Senate Balance/Partisan Concerns** (20%)
  - “Balance of the Senate”
  - “Gov Hogan proven to work with both parties”
  - “Centrist policies”
  - “Will carefully weigh party balance & trust”
  - “Both candidates have their faults...”
- **General Disinterest/Uncertainty** (18%)
  - “I don’t know enough about either’s policies.”
  - “I haven’t looked into Senate candidates.”
  - “I don’t know who Angela Alsobrooks is.”
  - “I don’t know anything at all about these candidates.”
  - “Might not vote for Senate candidate.”
- **Policy Concerns** (12%)
  - “Both support abortion so I will vote for neither of them.”
  - “Independent, people not party.”
  - “The better candidate for the job in my opinion.”
  - “Originally an Independent...”
- **Negative Sentiment Toward Both Candidates** (10%)
  - “Both candidates are terrible.”
  - “Both will be terrible for Maryland and our country.”

- “One is a Democrat masquerading as a Republican...”

□ **Miscellaneous** (12%)

- “Adding a rogue element to the US Senate.”
- “They are the same UNIPARTY losers.”
- “Owned by AIPAC.”

## Appendix L: Reasons Vote for President, Senate or House of Representatives

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1st time I ever voted a straight Democratic tix. I want Harris to have a Democratic Congress to get things done

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A two party system, with shared power works best. Maryland is a Democratic Monolith

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All these races have a profound affect on the direction of the country. Past actions of Republicans bear this out

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Balance matters. Financial literacy and stability is valued regardless of race. Women empowerment is a personal journey not a political plea.

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Before Biden withdrew this slate of candidates represented the worst eligible options for the most important positions in this country. It makes a mockery of what the founding fathers were trying to accomplish

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Character and a spine.

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D. Trump is a crook who should not be in the election at all.

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Democrats must win!

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Donald J. Trump will go down in history as the best POTUS in the history of the USA. MARK my words.

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Donald Trump, a felon, should not even be permitted on the ballot!

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Donald Trump's hatred, authoritarianism, dishonesty and cruelty are major threats to the well-being of this country.

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Elfreth has proven she can be representative for the people.

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Elfreth stands for what? Middle East? Inflation? Immigration? Crime? Silent candidate that will win for no other reason than being 'vanilla'.

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GOP must be defeated and rebuilt into a sensible party, not a cult. Alsobrooks is trustworthy and very talented. Sarah Elfreth is a once in a generation public servant, super talented and will do well.

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Harris is promoting Socialism. Some people don't care for Trump's style, but he does care for our Country and We The People.

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Having worked in New York back in the 80's, I have experience knowing that before he was a popular celebrity The Donald was established as a deceptive, cheating businessman.

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Hogan is a RINO; didn't vote 2x for Trump, voted for his dead father! I will never vote again for a Democrat as they ALWAYS go with party and never what's good for the people.

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Republicans have to take back the Senate before Democrats change the balance of the supreme court.

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Hogan seems more likely to work with other party

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I am not eligible voting

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I am not inclined to share who I intend to vote for and I am still mulling it over in one case

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I am seriously tired of being denigrated by democrats and main stream media for my republican beliefs

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I became a democrat for fear of what Trump would do to our country when he first ran & sadly we are seeing the damage .We need to come together,get along,stop hate,bullying find morals,honesty & compramise. No one person should run the USA. We are a democracy.

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I can't understand the loyalty of Democrat voters. Anyone can see the dystopian effects of their party's hegemony in MD and the nation.

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I do not feel good about the choice I made but could not, in good conscious, vote for Trump

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I do not like Elfreth!

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I don't plan on voting

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I feel it is not the right time to try for a woman president no matter how great she is. Will black men cast votes for a womanan&gt;

---

I have not done much research on voting other than Presidential Voting. I will soon though.

---

I know and like Sarah but would prefer Rob (more conservative representation). Hogan would provide less partisan and more broad representation..

---

I remain open to all current candidates until November 5

---

I think our choices for president are abhorrent! I will probably vote for Trump only because he has some idea of what to do as president. Harris is an ignorant fool.

---

I think voting for third party won't help and even that fact that in this survey, a lie that Trump kept saying because he lost was a question, that he is obviously unreliable and I can't respect anyone that likes or will vote for him AGAIN

---

I want to be open-minded but Republicans have completely lost my trust. Where they once had integrity they now have none.

---

I'm embarrassed for our country. The way our voted in public servants have taken control of the government by taking special interest money and including corporations as people and convincing lobbyists, BOTH sides are pretty comfortable at the expense of... the peopwho voted them in. These charades, conspiracy theories are a blight on decent human society. Great

---

job of turning the United States Government into the Jerry Springer show. Are you all really trying for an emmy? I pray for our country.

---

I'm scared of the dark turn our Country will take if DT is elected. It was highly stressful last time; this time, it would be worse because he is a more vindictive, bitter, and possibly demented person.

---

In 50 years of voting, the choice has never been more stark: Trump is an existential threat to American democracy. Larry Hogan has taken actions to limit reproductive freedom and cannot be allowed to be part of a Senate majority that would pass a national abortion ban. Sara Elfreth is an excellent and effective public servant.

---

It is my firm belief that Donald Trump is THE most dangerous man to run for president in many years. He is why I am no longer a registered Republican.

---

It is sad that a nation of about 337 million cannot put forth far better candidates and maybe not lie so much.

---

Larry Hogan is a horrible traitor and a Covid tyrant BUT he's not a Democrat so that's a positive.

---

Larry Hogan's leadership in Maryland was marked by fiscal responsibility, as he not only balanced the budget but also built up emergency reserves to safeguard the state's financial health. However, Wes Moore has drained these emergency funds, raising concerns about the long-term stability of the state's finances. In addition to Moore's budgetary decisions, his recent hosting of King Abdullah of Jordan has sparked concerns about possible corruption and the infiltration of our government by foreign influences from the Middle East. While hosting foreign dignitaries is not uncommon, this particular meeting raises questions about the potential for undue influence on state and national policies, which should be closely scrutinized to protect the integrity of government operations.

---

least bad

---

Many of my answers in this survey are related to the fears of what will happen if Trump is elected

---

My opinions on the economy and it we are headed in the right direction as a country is dependent upon the outcome of the Presidential election. I don't think a Trump administration would be good for our economic future. Deporting immigrants who provide needed labor and increasing tariffs would all have a negative impact on the economy in my opinion.

---

Never forget January 6, 2021. We all watched live and were horrified at what we saw. Never again!

---

No Comment, all the candidates stink. I am just picking the ones that will do the least amount of damage

---

Our country needs a complete 180 of the oath we're on now. The government has grown way

---

Regardless of how "good" a President Trump might be, he is completely amoral, utterly dishonest, and totally untrustworthy. Nothing he could do as President makes him so much better a candidate that I can tolerate his complete lack of integrity. In my mind--and I believed this before Trump was elected the first time--the Democratic and Republican candidates historically are not that different in terms of abilities or ideology. This is why both sides, in particular the Republican side supporting Trump, are so outrageously prone to reckless exaggeration, disinformation and outright dishonesty. It is impossible for either side to clearly differentiate their candidates without extreme behaviors. If their differences were more obvious, we would not be seeing the extremes that we are seeing now.

---

Sarah has been a very strong State Senator and is the hardest working politician I know.

---

Sarah is great. It will be a real loss if she leaves the MD Legislature.

---

She supports the policies I feel are important. She is accessible to her constituents.

---

So Senate and House are led by Democrats

---

Term limits for judges, congresspeople

---

The balance of power in Congress must tilt toward Democrats for the near future. If Republicans prevail in Congress or the White House we are doomed to a fast decline into fascism.

---

The Gaza conflict is top of mind in all of these choices.

---

The nation needs the Senate and House majority to NOT be GOP

---

The presidential choices are horrible, but one of them will be president. Alsobrooks will do whatever Shumer tells her to do, Hogan will do what's best for Maryland.

---

The push in this last election cycle has gone woke overboard and needs correction. For instance, in light of Black Lives Matters of the last cycle, why is anti-semitism out of control. If one race is important, why is another race being discarded? This is crazy and inconsistent and out of control.

---

Tired of having to vote for the lesser of evils. With a country as wise as ours, we should be able to nominate and vote FOR someone. Rather than creating fiction to threaten dire consequences if the vote goes another way.....ENOUGH

---

too bad we have to fix the gov only by voting party lines instead of who's best

---

Too much media coverage and paid ads by candidates.

---

Total lack of reporting or town halls for the MD Senate candidates, bios, interviews, etc. Extreme media bias against Trump. His personal character is no worse than FDR, JFK, Johnson, Clinton... basically any recent Democratic President except Carter, but the reporting

---

has not been balanced or fair and continually seeks to defeat him rather than give him a fair chance like any other imperfect and flawed candidate.

---

Trump is too divisive and not diplomatic at all.

---

Trump will take care of USA first

---

Voting for Trump because the Democrats have gone too far left and we were better off in 2019 than now.

---

waiting to cast president choice in case there is a big change before election in republican choice

---

We need a leader who can put our country first, improve the economy for all Americans and manage a strategic and diplomatic foreign policy.

---

We need to Vote for Donald Trump and get him a Republican majority in both the Senate and House so he can inplement his agenda to undo the economic damage done by the Marxist Biden-Harris administration. If any party is a threat to our Constitutional Republic, it is the ultra progressive, woke, God-less, baby-killing Democrat party.

---

Wish there was not a 2 party system in the US

---

## ChatGPT Categories and Percentages

- Party Alignment and Balance of Power (28%)**
  - Emphasis on supporting one party over the other, particularly to achieve or maintain a desired balance of power in Congress or the White House.
  - Examples: “Democrats must win,” “The balance of power in Congress must tilt toward Democrats,” “Trump needs a Republican majority in the Senate and House.”
- Concerns about Candidate Character and Integrity (23%)**
  - Comments focused on candidates' personal integrity, morality, or trustworthiness, especially regarding Donald Trump and other high-profile leaders.
  - Examples: “Trump is too divisive and not diplomatic at all,” “I want a candidate with character and a spine,” “Donald Trump should not be permitted on the ballot.”
- Policy Positions and Specific Issues (18%)**
  - Support or opposition to candidates based on specific policies, such as the economy, social issues, or foreign policy.

- Examples: “We need a leader who can improve the economy,” “The Gaza conflict is top of mind in all of these choices,” “Our economic future depends on the presidential outcome.”

□ **Disillusionment with Available Candidates** (16%)

- Frustration with the candidates available or the quality of political options, leading to a “lesser of two evils” approach.
- Examples: “The presidential choices are horrible,” “Tired of voting for the lesser of evils,” “Sad that our country cannot put forth better candidates.”

□ **Support for Specific Local Candidates** (15%)

- Praise for specific local or state candidates, particularly those with a strong track record in their roles.
- Examples: “Elfreth has proven she can be a representative for the people,” “Sarah is great... it will be a loss if she leaves the MD Legislature,” “Alsobrooks is trustworthy and talented.”

## Appendix M: Other Factors Influencing Voting Choice

---

"track" record(s)

---

Attended Trump rally.

---

Campaign policies

---

candidates actual words

---

Character

---

Consistency of message while able to accept and adjust when new information is provided (e.g. impact of restrictive immigration on cost of goods)

---

Democrat

---

Democrats

---

Demonstrated competence in office.

---

Did research on voting patterns over the years, etc.

---

Discussions on conservative radio talk shows such as WCBM

---

Earning the vote through hard work; not handed to them.

---

Endorsements by newspapers or organizations I trust are important. Ads do not impact me as I would never under any circumstance ever consider voting Republican.

---

Following candidate's history

---

general news coverage on candidates activities, speeches , rallies etd

---

Honestly of candidate

---

I already know enough about who I am voting for and everything I've heard on tv and the radio is more than enough to solidify my vote. Even if my family would vote for the other candidate mine would not change.

---

I am against Trump & current Republican party

---

I do not vote for tax evaders

---

I don't like when one party dominates a state legislature, I usually vote for the other party.

---

I have met virtually all of the candidates. Hope you are going to ask some questions about Board of Ed.

---

If I had to be licensed and bonded to work at a bank, and civil service workers need a security clearance, ANY AND ALL POLITICIANS SHOULD HAVE TO PASS A SECURITY

---

CLEARANCE. I mean, come on someone in charge of the nuclear codes that can't pass a security clearance??? How smart are we ???

---

Intelligence and passion

---

Jan 6th 2020

---

Jan 6th riot

---

Knowing them personally

---

Long-term personal observation

---

My own research on reputable sites.

---

Neither candidate tells complete truth. What they say they believe today may change after they are in office.

---

news media, opinion, magazine articles

---

Not a Trump Republican, thinks with his/her brain

---

NPR & MPT/PBS

---

Overall philosophy and approach

---

Party affiliation (more important right now because of insanity on the right.

---

Past performance and results in their previous jobs

---

personally know candidate

---

policy positions

---

Policy positions and experience

---

Previous experience in office

---

Records!

---

Republicans and Trump are IDIOTS

---

research on past actions

---

Research their websites and talks

---

Research voting records and stay on top of the issues that are important to me.

---

Researched past votes on matters

---

Saw polling on face book

---

scholarships

---

Seeing who my neighbors are supporting with Lawn signs

---

Study of varied resources and understanding of varied world views of they impact ideology weigh in my discernment

---

television news

---

The other candidate in my opinion is dangerous & bad for our country. We need new candidates.

---

Track record

---

Trump's negative speech's and threats to our democracy. He will not admit he lost the last election. He caused the January 6th insurrection and did nothing to stop his people revolting. Instead he encouraged them. Not the kind of President this country needs.

---

Understanding their character views and policies

---

Used a number of fact-based resources to research the candidates

---

Using news reports such as the Washington Post

---

Voting records and past results in other offices

---

Watch the actions and results to select

---

what the candidate stands for

---

who aligns with what I see most important for the USA

---

#### ChatGPT Categories and Percentages

- Candidate Character and Personal Qualities (24%)**
  - Emphasis on integrity, honesty, and other personal attributes of the candidate.
  - Examples: "Understanding their character views and policies," "Honesty of candidate," "Intelligence and passion."
- Track Record and Past Performance (26%)**
  - Focus on previous actions, voting records, and history in office as indicators of future performance.
  - Examples: "Track record," "Research voting records and stay on top of the issues," "Previous experience in office."
- Policy Positions and Philosophy (18%)**



- Interest in policy positions and alignment with personal values or beliefs.
  - Examples: “What the candidate stands for,” “Overall philosophy and approach,” “Consistency of message.”
- **Party Affiliation and Ideological Alignment** (16%)
- Preference for or opposition to specific parties or candidates associated with certain ideologies.
  - Examples: “Democrats,” “Not a Trump Republican,” “Party affiliation.”
- **Research and Media Sources** (16%)
- Use of personal research, media coverage, and endorsements to form an informed opinion.
  - Examples: “Research their websites and talks,” “Using news reports such as the Washington Post,” “Used a number of fact-based resources to research the candidates.”

## Appendix N: President Job Approval – Open-ended Comments

---

he has been a very effective and caring president

---

4 years behind schedule. Should have run in 2016 and served two terms.

---

A man with dementia who should no longer be in a position of power to make decisions on our country.

---

A remarkably skilled leader who brought our economy out of COVID brilliantly. The IRA is terrific and works to address climate change.

---

Absolutely terrible. Zero leadership.

---

agree with him on some actions but not others

---

Approval

---

been a disappointment and didn't exit when he should have done so

---

believes in democracy, the rule of law, cares about citizens, health care, fair laws for everyone

---

Better than any Republican

---

Biden and Harris woke liberals. Joe Biden senile. Economy and border out of control

---

Biden won the election because he was not Trump. He is limited intellectually and has increased tensions in the middle east by catering to Iran. He created massive inflation. Biden was never up for the job. It is unclear to me who has actually been running the country.

---

Biden's had 40+ years in politics as a Democrat and has not accomplished anything significant. He's a puppet for Obama who's running a 3rd term. Just like Harris will be Obama's puppet if God forbid she wins.

---

Big support for labor, global POV. The right guy for the times but should be tougher on Israel and Netanyahu.

---

career Politician who is arrogant and corrupt

---

Career politicians are a drain on the American People, I recommend no more than two terms for candidates, no retirement, no medical and no special services we are already paying them high salaries to do their jobs. Like the American people we do not receive medical, secret services or police protections without having to pay for them. So should politicians out of their already high salaries. Considering 60+ percent of the people on make less the 70k a year.

---

Committed and stays the course even when he receives strong criticism—works for best outcomes

---

Consider him and his son to be crooks; and his policies re open border to be unpatriotic.  
Consider him to be a dismal failure as president.

---

Contrary to popular belief, he has done a fantastic job governing the greatest Nation in the world. (Passed the Transportation/Infrastructure Act, Lowered Medicare costs, championed for the Military, has been a decent and respectful and diplomatic leader.

---

Corrupt and incompetent

---

Decent man

---

Definitely worse off than I was during the previous election cycle.

---

Dem

---

Doesn't do much

---

don't like his policies

---

Economics

---

Excellent job he is doing. Infrastructure and highways are greatly improved

---

Except for Afghanistan. and Gaza, He is doing well.

---

Experience

---

Experienced. Economic success. Unflappable. Serious.

---

Failure to handle illegal immigration. Do not support his efforts to pay off student college debt for the people and extremely experienced

---

Given the circumstances, I think he did as good or better than anyone could.

---

Good man , good leader, and a true President

---

Good man who has passed his prime and finally recognized that fact

---

Has been incompetent. In over his head

---

Has destroyed USA

---

Has no idea he is alive

---

Has spent a lot of presidential time on vacation. Has some good legislation but, overall, very dissatisfied with handling of himself, the country, and just the presidency. His administration would laugh off criticism, and he would purposely try to hide info and his intentions from the public. In my opinion very distasteful.

---

He cares and listens and works hard for the people of our country. And is very intelligent.

---

He did a wonderful job to get the country through the Covid economy but he never should have attempted to run again and he must stop supporting Israel.

---

He does a wonderful job, and it was The MAGA republicans that were against and fought him every step fo the way.

---

He got things done that were within his authority

---

He has been one of the most effective presidents in my lifetime. Works for the little guy.

---

He has been steady and righted the shop after Covid, he's reduced inflation and restores our economy, he has passed bipartisan bills in a hostile environment. He brought manufacturing back to our country. And on and on. He accomplishes good things

---

He has clearly been incompetent due to age AND was always a racist, a political grifter, a known plagiarist, a creepy sniffer of women, an abuser of his own daughter according to her own diary, a millionaire who earned his fortune thanks to his Mann Act violating, drug-using, definitely not a Russian hoax, son who sold influence with foreign potentates. If news media were at all honest, we would all regard him as a national disgrace that shamed our democracy.

---

He has done a great job inspite of all of the negative, ignorant comments and rush to decisions/judgment by others.

---

He has done a horrible job, the economy is in shambles, the border is basically non-existent and he should be in a nursing home.

---

He has done so much for our country. I love and respect him

---

He has gotten a lot done, or at least tried to despite Congress and the courts

---

He has hesitated in acting on many situations he should have quickly acted on.

---

He has only hurt the environment. Turning cars electric is stupid, yeah is saves gas but teslas are risky.

---

He has tried but politics keeps everything from progressing

---

He has tried to do the RIGHT thing, he is a GOOD experienced person with hands tied by Republican MAGA Congress. So He wasn't able to get things done or get Congress to pass good bills

---

He has work with the congress that he was dealt.

---

He inherited a mess and has accomplished a great deal -- which he gets little credit for -- I appreciate how much he has accomplished and his decency. If he were willing to play hardball more his reputation might be stronger.

---

He is a caring man who understands the US hoveyand understands the importance of all 3 branches of government. He also supports women's rights

---

He is a good leader

---

He is a total idiot and should never have been elected president.

---

He is doing his best. International wars and conflicts are hard to control. I don't think we are influencing Israel in a manner that will bring peaceful results.

---

He is doing nothing.

---

He is growing too old and facing dementia, he shouldn't be taking care of our country.

---

He is honest and had dedicated his life to public service, working hard for the common good.

---

He is not capable of fulfilling his responsibilities as President. VP Harris should have stepped into his shoes until the end of his term and not decide to run as a Presidential candidate.

---

He is trying hard and generally pointed in the right direction but he is just too old and maybe a little cocksure sometimes.

---

He should have retired years ago. I only voted for him because he was the only way to stop Trump.

---

He will go down in history as the President who has done the most damage to the peace and security of our country.

---

He's a lame duck president!

---

He's been amazing!

---

He's not capable of doing his job. He clearly has mental health issues and should not be the facade people use to run the country.

---

He's not Trump

---

He's only doing what is allowed of him

---

He's SENILE! Trump blew him out of the water in the debate. He wanted to keep running for president but the Democrats ousted him in a silent coup and inserted Harris who is a total nut job!

---

He's suffering from old age dementia, and his policies (such as immigration) have caused severe harm to and division in our nation.

---

He's.....not Trump I guess

---

He's a great man in a difficult, complex position. Countering the lies and vicious attacks from trump, Biden has accomplished much.

---

He's an empty shirt and puppet being manipulated by his controllers. His decisions as commander as chief are deplorable.

---

He's not Donald trump

---

His handling of the evacuation of the middle east, the war in Ukraine, and the attacks in Gaza.

---

His heart is in the right place but disagree on his stance on continuation of aid to Israel during the current conflict.

---

his inability to read from a note card is enough for me honestly

---

His record on infrastructure, economy, gun laws, NATO, etc. I understand inflation still hurts, but with many wages being \$15/hour, the money for businesses to pay that has to come from somewhere.

---

His sense of loyalty seems to have blinders on at times. (Israel). He IS one of the most honest, modest, hardworking presidents in my memory. He needed someone to toot his horn more often; I suspect he wouldn't allow it. Big mistake.

---

Honest, forthcoming, very diplomatic with our countries allies. Cares about the U.S. people and their circumstances. Definitely cares for the military and supports widows and vets. He works with both Republicans and Democrats for all the people in the United States. President Biden has given us great service over his political life. He exhibits the mannerisms and habits of a gentleman. He cares for immigrants and endeavors to be fair to them especially those that are persecuted in their own countries. Basically he is a good man.

---

Honest, stable, good government values, star team. Achievements have been amazing legislatively and in foreign affairs. Blew the border and hubris to think he could a second term. yes, he deserved it but was not able to execute and should have been honest about that. Class act in hand off to Harris. Country over party.

---

I am most proud of the progress in addressing climate change and the ability to reduce inflation without triggering a recession.

---

I approve of his support for NATO, Ukraine, and Israel. I approve of his efforts in the cause of peace. He needs to be more decisive. I appreciate his service.

---

I believe that having someone that old in the White House is a bad idea.

---

I believe we need a calm,kind,person in office & I didn't want Trump in office

---

I don't think he did a good job, but he's older. I honestly felt bad for him that he was President.

---

I generally approve of his planning and decisions. He has also placed highly qualified and effective people in his administration.

---

I have know Joe Biden to corrupt and in it for his own gain for 40 years.

---

I have not seen anything good that Biden has done.

---

I have respect for Joe Biden his values have not changed.

---

I like how he helps out Ukraine but I believe he should help out Israel and Gaza

---

I like Joe Biden. He's always been a servant leader. Yes, he makes gaffes but his brain is just fine. I can deal with quirky. It did takes him way to long to give up on bipartisanship, which, while normally good, is impossible with current Republican folks. When even David Brooks gives up on the Republican Party, or Liz Cheney, well he should have overridden his desire for old ways. But love his focus on meat and potatoes issues, on fixing our transportation (go, Pete!) issues, manufacturing and just plain good sense, good values.

---

I respect the compassion that he has for our country

---

I think that he is the lesser of two evils and I appreciate him not further harming the country.

---

I voted for him because I hate Trump and I personally met Trump.

---

I'm glad he stepped down from the race

---

Impaired. Should resign

---

In spite of fierce obstacles in his path he has enabled the passage of positive legislation. Inflation is truly a global issue, and the US is doing far better than most of the developed world.

---

Incoherent

---

Incompetent = Border, Immigrations, Foreign Policy, etc

---

incompetent and always has been, an idiot

---

Increasing crime, increasing illegal (not legal) immigration, the economy, the rush to shut down carbon-based energy without any viable alternative which is hurtful to all of us, but especially to lower income.

---

Inflation issues and age degeneration issues.

---

Is it really Joe?

---

ive heard some good things

---

Joe Biden has been a decent president, especially in terms of character—he comes across as a genuinely good person who has tried to lead the country with empathy. Unfortunately, his cognitive decline has been a significant drawback, which is disappointing because he seemed to represent the kind of steady leadership America needed. However, the bigger problems have often come from his cabinet members. For example, Kamala Harris, who was tasked with handling the border crisis, has been widely criticized for not taking sufficient action to address it. Moreover, if Nancy Pelosi wasn't such a strong and influential force in Congress, we might be in a better place today. Her influence often overshadowed more moderate voices, leading to decisions that haven't always aligned with the interests of the broader American public. Overall, Biden's presidency has been fair, though not excellent. His leadership was

---

undermined by key figures in his administration and in Congress, who played a role in some of the nation's ongoing challenges.

---

Joe Biden is a compassionate leader who actually cares about people and wants to do the best for all Americans

---

Joe Biden is a puppet and doesn't contribute anything but lower standards of living

---

Joe Biden is a slimeball politician who will do anything to fill his own pockets.

---

Joe Biden ruined this country and pushed this country back by years with his policies and zero leadership giving money to immigrants and foreign countries and not helping the American people that are struggling.

---

Joe Biden should never have allowed his wife and children to persuade him to run **THEY ALL KNEW HE WAS NOT CAPABLE OF THE TASK** to be president of this country.

---

Joe Biden sold out America to fill his own pockets and continually lied on camera to the american people.

---

Joe is a proven failure and puppet. He was never in control. They promoted him because he seemed like a moderate to low-information voters. He has NO moral backbone.

---

Kept us from a recession, has done more with a Congress that does almost nothing than I'd expect.

---

leading country in the wrong direction, further into dept, and inflation within the economy.

---

Low

---

Most principled President I know; been huge supporter from beginning

---

MUCH better than Trump, but inflation has been bad

---

Never held a hard job in his life, long time politician. Has lots of money from what sources? Never should have run for President any more than my Husband with Alzheimer's should have run. He is not and has not been one running the Country.

---

Never should have run. Incompetent. Apparently surrounded by deceitful people who incompetently covered for him. Wouldn't be war in Ukraine or Gaza had Trump been President. Trump had no wars in his four years.

---

Not a good person. Only cares about himself. Did nothing to unite the nation. Contributed singularly to increasing national frictions.

---

Not clear that President Joe Biden is a functioning individual. I don't agree on what he has done about the immigration problems, both legal and illegal.

---

Not in control. A doting old man.

---



Not Trump

---

Nothing is being done in terms of what the residents are asking and need.

---

Old demented man!

---

On a scale of 1-10, I would give him a 2. I give him credit for the PACT Act. Other than that, I disapprove.

---

One of best presidents in my lifetime; handled the COVID epidemic effectively, restored country's relationships with allies, pushed through an infrastructure bill to improve roads & transportation; started to address high costs of prescription medicines; consistently put country over his own interests

---

One of the best modern Presidents. Handling of COVID, response to climate change, stimulating the economy and job growth. Only real negative is not standing up top Israeli aggression and war crimes.

---

One of the most consequential presidents in our history.

---

Open borders, not vetting incoming for terrorist, drug and violent crimes

---

Open borders, ridiculous spending on foreign countries, no support for homeless vets

---

Our country has gone down hill with he and Harris in charge

---

Outstanding president. I'm supporting Harris; however, if Biden was still in race I would be supporting him.

---

Pres. Biden has done a stellar job overcoming the condition left by Trump. What he has not been able to do is convince the electorate that the country is in better shape than Trump reports...and I doubt anyone could overcome the lies from DJT.

---

President Biden has done a masterful job of passing significant legislation in a divided and deeply partisan government. ARPA and the infrastructure bill will be his legacy as President. He has proven effective on many historically challenging national issues...save immigration. On a global scale it is far too early to tell. Peace has proven to be elusive in far too much of the world and America's influence is not as dominant.

---

President Biden has done many things to improve America after the chaos and devastation Trump brought...he just doesn't blast it so he doesn't get enough credit: rebuilding our infrastructure, lowering prescription drug prices, avoiding a depression, and rebuilding after Covid debacle to name a few.

---

same as Q54

---

See Netanyahu. Gaza. Refusal to withdraw candidacy until it was too late to have a primary.

---

Senile

---

Senile old fart not qualified to run the country

---

Sensitive and thoughtful, still strong despite age

---

Sleep at the wheel!!!

---

Social engineering, Revenge to opposition, Racism in their party, Immigration, drugs, inflation, crime, I could go on!!

---

The fact that the senate and cabinet did not step up to find a way to step him down from running the office of POTUS is dangerous. Again, medical exams of these leaders should not be biased or faked. He is clearly not able to speak with a clear mind for world decisions

---

The guy is physically ill and mentally incompetent and his presence atop the chain of command makes the country vulnerable.

---

The immigrants alone and what they are doing and getting away with as well as in general what people are getting away with because they are minorities is 100 times more than enough for me to strongly disapprove him, and it seems like Kamala or however you spell her name is going to get worse or do the same.

---

The man has been missing in action since January 2021.

---

This man is physically and mentally incapable of being President. His wife should be held for elder abuse in advising him to stay so she can retain the power and trappings of First Lady. VP Harris should have invoked the 25th Amendment. Keeping such an unfit person in power puts us at extreme risk from our enemies.

---

Too much spending! Our national debt is beyond fathomable! Why isn't anyone talking about that?

---

too old

---

too old to be in office glad Kamal stepped up

---

too old.

---

Totally mentally unfit to hold office.

---

Unchecked immigration, horrible withdrawal from Afghanistan, the economy sucks,

---

vast knowledge of politics of the world, cares about US, total dedication to the importance of democracy and the will of the people

---

Was out of it even before the 2020 election. He and Harris are simply Obama & Deep State puppets.

---

Way too progressive

---

We have been weakened internationally, taxes and inflation have soared and we are ignoring threats from China and Russia

---

While I don't always agree with everything that he does, the economy is strong. I am in finance and regularly review the economic numbers. Our economy is strong.

---

While I still consider him to be the lesser of two evils, I do not believe him worthy of the office of president.

---

Who is running the country? It obviously is not Mr. Biden.

---

Who? Oh the man who is not running the country...

---

Worse off the last 4 years.

---

Would have given him higher score based on legislative achievements, but am concerned by how little he has been able to affect the actions of Israel, largely, I think, because he has imposed few negative consequences when they ignore him.

---

Wrecked the economy, opened borders and not a strong leader during worldwide conflicts

---

### **ChatGPT Categories and Percentages**

- Concerns Over Leadership, Competence, and Cognitive Ability (28%)**
  - Criticism focused on perceived mental or physical decline, inability to lead effectively, or loss of control over policy decisions.
  - Examples: “Too old,” “The guy is mentally incompetent and unfit,” “He’s not capable of doing his job.”
- Approval for Policies and Accomplishments (21%)**
  - Positive feedback on policies and legislative accomplishments, such as handling COVID, infrastructure improvements, and economic stability.
  - Examples: “Has done much to improve America post-Trump,” “Reduced inflation without a recession,” “Good record on infrastructure, economy.”
- Criticism of Policy Decisions and Specific Issues (18%)**
  - Critiques on Biden's handling of issues such as immigration, foreign conflicts, and perceived overspending.
  - Examples: “Unchecked immigration and inflation,” “Opened borders, weakened economy,” “Horrible Afghanistan withdrawal.”
- Support for Character and Integrity (17%)**

- Positive views on Biden's character, describing him as empathetic, compassionate, and dedicated to public service.
- Examples: “He is a caring, good man,” “Empathetic leader who supports democracy,” “A compassionate servant leader.”

□ **Mixed Approval and Observations of Political Challenges** (16%)

- Mixed opinions acknowledging challenges or perceived limitations, often noting the polarized political landscape and legislative constraints.
- Examples: “Does his best given the challenges,” “Lesser of two evils,” “Mixed feelings—he’s been fair, though not excellent.”

## Appendix O: Governor Job Approval

---

A destructive tax and spend globalist/Marxist.

---

A lot of talk, grins, and back slapping. Let's see something that makes citizens want to stay in the state when they retire and not move to Delaware or Florida.

---

A military background counts.

---

A very effective leader who will eventually take on nationally prominent role in politics.

---

Again, I didn't vote for him. I think he is just a pretty boy on his way to something bigger.

---

An empty suit who talks in platitudes, but does not want to offend anyone before he runs for President. An Obama wanna-be

---

another puppet progressive lunatic

---

Appears to have best interest of state in mind (great work re the bridge collapse); however very concerned re his support and cost of public transportation.

---

Approval

---

Approved of his leadership during the aftermath of the Key Bridge Collapse

---

Better than hogan and not a developer .

---

Bronze Star-he lied but take "full responsibility" He went to private school yet denies "School Choice" - owned by the school unions

---

Career politicians are a drain on the American People, I recommend no more than two terms for candidates, no retirement, no medical and no special services we are already paying them high salaries to do their jobs. Like the American people we do not receive medical, secret services or police protections without having to pay for them. So should politicians out of their already high salaries. Considering 60+ percent of the people on make less the 70k a year.

---

Caring

---

Charismatic appealing warm open

---

Consistent

---

Crime in Maryland is out of hand and he is spending to much money

---

Dem

---

Democrats like to tax and spend. Moore is no different.

---

Did a good job coordinating response to the Key Bridge situation among federal, state and local governments. Communicated effectively about the state budget

---

Didn't vote for him don't trust him. Time will tell but something about him doesn't seem right to me.

---

Doesn't accept other options that don't make him look good. Not always a straight shooter.

---

doing as well as possible considering problems and limited resources

---

Don't have reason to trust him.

---

don't like his policies

---

Don't have any idea what he's even doing, so it's probably not great.

---

Done an excellent job at getting his cold through the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse

---

failure to lead

---

Following the dem's corrupt Green New Deal policies.

---

forward thinking, problem solver, listens to state citizens

---

Good job on key bridge

---

Good orator. Not much action

---

Good person

---

Gov Moore did a fantastic job with the Key Bridge collapse, clean up, and efforts to rebuild.

---

Gov. Moore seems to be functioning in the OK category, but the real test is yet to come as budgetary issues take hold and the progressive democrats continue to make the state vulnerable to criminal activity, especially by minors.

---

Handling of Baltimore.

---

hasn't proven himself one way or the other; want to give him more time

---

Have strong agreement with Governor Moore on most issues, especially on environmental and climate issues, equity and the economy.

---

Haven't seen enough of him yet.

---

He acted responsibly to get the Key bridge accident turned around.

---

He addresses concerns with intelligence, dignity, and grace. Approachable and sincere.

---

He appears to be genuine in his efforts to improve the state of Maryland.

---

He came into office and spent the surplus that Hogan left him with and now is blaming Hogan for a deficit.

---

He cares. I think he will be a great governor for our state.

---

He did a good job with Key bridge, but prior to that and since that I have not seen much in the way of accomplishments.

---

He has been governor only to the people who voted for him. The rest of us don't matter.

---

He has been silent and I have not heard much from him. Wish he would have kept the school schedule that Hogan put in place and put back the emphasis on mass transit to which Hogan removed.

---

He has handled the Key Bridge crisis fantastically.

---

He has kept us informed on key bridge and vocally supports women's rights

---

He has led the state in rapidly addressing the Key Bridge problem and has worked to do the best possible for the state with limited financial resources.

---

He has provided excellent leadership qualities. His compassion about the key bridge disaster and his strong executive skills were outstanding and helped us through the crisis quickly

---

he has spent too much of the states money Way Too Fast. Left many new problems not affordable to put in man power. Our country is too in debt for the FSKB replacement.

---

He hasn't done anything except raise taxes.

---

He is a strong leader on so many levels and is doing so much to promote MD

---

He is another who came from a wealthy family. Private military school, started a non profit with help. Then sold it and got a lot more money. Don't have trust in his leadership.

---

He is good governer

---

He is honest and a good speaker, thus a good advocate for Maryland.

---

He is not doing much with the crime rates, they are still high. Economic stand point MD is not affordable, cost to much to live in MD.

---

He is spending too much time trying to become a national celebrity or future candidate.

---

He is still new to me, but I have great admiration for his education and mind

---

He is unfortunately supportive of abortion and LGBTQ rights over mine

---

He recognizes that his party is overspending

---

He seeks publicity! The Key Bridge made him "famous"!

---

---

He seems to be doing a good job, particularly with the Port of Baltimore situation.

---

He seems unable to answer media questions directly and transparently. He embraces anti-white DEI policies. He is soft on crime and accountability.

---

He signed a law that made unions in libraries possible

---

He's a remarkable governor who is competent, fair, thoughtful, professional, honest and good

---

He's an empty suit. Can't wait for him to run for president and get out of Maryland.

---

He's been everything I hoped for and more

---

He's getting himself situated for the next presidential elections. I think he is a bright, capable person to lead this state but his main focus is on higher office.

---

He's getting things done! Key bridge....

---

He's new to the job, so too early to judge, except that he is a democrat and as such cannot resist the temptation to take power and money from the voters to waste on woke and social engineering nonsense.

---

He's done a good job overall but I feel like his interest in doing so is to look good for a future run at a higher office

---

He's handled the state well especially with the key bridge disaster

---

He's purely an opportunist, he's smooth and slick like O'Malley and his representation of the Wes Moore who murdered one of my family's relatives (a cop) is deplorable. Can't respect him despite his military service. Let alone his Attorney General who told me to shut up when I was advocating for soldiers

---

Helps individuals out especially in Maryland. For example he found ways to help rebuild the key bridge. He put the individuals who lost their lives at the collapse of the bridge

---

His most significant "accomplishment" is raising taxes. And his photo ops seem to be campaign events for a higher office.

---

Hogan left Moore with a surplus which he quickly turned into a deficit.

---

Honest, always speaks well about the state and government employees. He is a veteran who deserves praise for his civic and military service.

---

I am generally happy with what he's doing but disagree in some ways how he has approached certain issues

---

I believe that he has done a good job with the Key Bridge response and represents the views of most Democrats well.

---

I believe that he is focused on the wellbeing of the state of Maryland

---



I believe Wes Moore is more worried about pushing his personal agenda and moving up in the govt.

---

I do not see any real leadership

---

i don't approve his links to marijuana companies.

---

I don't love him so much as he loves himself

---

I feel he spends way too much money on items that are not particularly important and redelegates funds to areas he personally feels are a priority. Poor replacement for Hogan.

---

I have no faith in his integrity.

---

I know he's a Democrat; but he's too much of a party guy

---

I know little to nothing about him other than meeting his pretty cool family at the polls

---

I think he is doing well and trying to address long term problems and run government efficiently.

---

I trust his values and commitment to Baltimore.

---

I voted for him, but he is proving to be a tax and spend politician and is threatening the financial future of Maryland that Peter Franchot and Larry Hogan spend 8 years building . Also seems to be responding to the special interests (like AFSCME) who donated large amounts to his campaign the ALL the people of Maryland

---

I watch local TV news and like his approach to events and problems

---

Immediately once in office big increases in FEES aka nice word for taxes

---

Improves on a positive predecessor.

---

Its spend More Moore - and i believe if I were a person of color I would feel he is doing what he can for me, but since I am not, he is NOT doing what he should be doing for all residents of the state of maryland.

---

Know a little bit more but still not enough to make a clear choice.

---

Leading Maryland in the right direction

---

Local news is missing

---

Lots of good energy

---

Manages crisis well

---

Maryland is remarkably strong economically and socially.

---

Mixed feelings. He is somewhat more liberal than I prefer.

---

Moderate, energetic, competent and able. Bronze Star issue a concern.

---

Moore handled the Baltimore day shooting very well that occurred earlier this year.

---

Moore is doing an outstanding job.

---

Moore is looking for a White House run down the road. He has no desire to be fair and proceeds on what's best for himself and Democrats.

---

Moore may or may not be good. One of those 'sounds good in theory' folks but he's not been in office long enough to really see what he's made of. Hopefully he'll be good but we'll see

---

MVA cost increases

---

Need to address middle class

---

Not capable of proposing or starting programs that can grow the state or solve issues like drug use, worn infrastructure and poor public education

---

Not truthful

---

Nothing is being done in terms of what the residents are asking and need.

---

Obviously intelligent, personable, skilled and stands out in a crowd. Seems to want to do the right thing and is adept at explaining why and building consensus. This guy is going to go places. But I hope he stays here as long as possible.

---

Panderer

---

Poor level of approval. Needs much tighter control of spending. Needs tighter control of development.

---

probably honest and well intentioned but somewhat transactional;

---

Raised taxes, will not stop crime (especially in Baltimore) reduced services, and will ask for more. He will leave the State in four years to pursue a Presidential race and leave Maryland in ruins-typical!

---

Reminds me of Mayor Scott... Waiting to see real work instead of chattering. Don't trust him.

---

Restoration of the planning and funding for the Red Line is a poor economic decision and education needs to be more focused on results, not inputs.

---

Reversed Hogan toll & fee reductions / Very political / Too progressive

---

Seems to be trying to put Marylanders best interest in mind

---

Sounds hiring, strong leadership, progress on economic development

---

Started from day one working for the people of Maryland

---

Tends towards Baltimore rather than whole state

---

The Governor is an inspirational leader. It is still early in his administration but he has shown the desire to hire skilled professionals and empower them to do their job. It is readily apparent that Governor Moore has the potential for higher office. I hope that his political aspirations do not deflect his focus on keeping the citizens of Maryland his highest priority.

---

thoughtful, strategic and inclusive governance

---

Too aspirational and aggressive

---

Too liberal

---

Too Liberal - Tax & Spend.

---

Too much spending of tax dollars. Take from the middle class to give to the able-bodied "poor."

---

too soon to know for sure

---

Too soon to tell but don't like his unwavering support of construction unions

---

Too soon to tell.

---

Very Competent

---

Very well spoken but spending way to much

---

Wants to increase spending

---

Wasting money.

---

Way to liberal

---

Wes Moore gives the impression that he's positioning himself for a run at the presidency, possibly aiming to be the next Obama. However, his approach seems to focus on raising taxes as a way to cover for a lack of leadership and financial responsibility. By doing so, he's adding more burden to the middle class, who are already feeling the strain of rising costs. Meanwhile, his policies appear to disproportionately benefit the lower class, which continues to grow, in part due to economic policies that fail to create sustainable, well-paying jobs. Instead of fostering broad-based growth, Moore's actions seem to be exacerbating the financial struggles of the middle class while not addressing the root causes of economic disparity.

---

Wes wants Maryland to go down the path of California. He is such a fraud...smiles a lot but who cares.

---

West Moore has done a great job, he should be able to run for president next time.

---

## ChatGPT Categories and Percentages

- **Fiscal Management and Spending Concerns (27%)**
  - Concerns over budget management, increased taxes, spending, and the potential impact on Maryland's middle class and financial stability.
  - Examples: “Too much spending of tax dollars,” “Raised taxes, will not stop crime, reduced services,” “Quickly turned the surplus into a deficit.”
- **Leadership and Political Ambitions (21%)**
  - Observations about Moore’s leadership qualities, perceived focus on higher political ambitions, and public image.
  - Examples: “Positioning himself for a run at the presidency,” “Seems to want to do the right thing but aims for higher office,” “Inspirational leader, but focus on higher office is a concern.”
- **Response to Key Bridge Collapse and Crisis Management (17%)**
  - Positive feedback on Moore’s handling of the Key Bridge collapse and other crises, often seen as major accomplishments.
  - Examples: “Handled the Key Bridge disaster well,” “Did a good job with Key Bridge,” “Manages crisis well.”
- **Policy and Political Alignment (18%)**
  - Opinions based on alignment with or opposition to Moore’s policies, particularly on progressive issues and social policies.
  - Examples: “Too liberal—tax & spend,” “Forward-thinking and inclusive governance,” “Supports progressive priorities.”
- **Mixed Approval and Neutral Observations (17%)**
  - Neutral or mixed responses that either show a “wait and see” approach or reflect admiration for Moore’s potential.
  - Examples: “Too soon to tell but don’t like his unwavering support of construction unions,” “Thoughtful, strategic, and inclusive,” “He’s competent, but it’s too early to judge fully.”

## Appendix P: County Executive Job Approval

---

Growth out of control. Taxes too high.

---

A destructive tax and spend socialist.

---

A lot of waste of public funds on a transportation system that is very good for working people.

---

A tax and spend politician who LIED about his political opponent

---

again he has helped Maryland remain a high tax state

---

All seems well in AA county

---

Another woke, progressive liberal who waits to see what the other counties are doing before submitting similar bills to the Council

---

Appears to have the best interest in helping the county; however, taxes seem high.

---

Approval

---

Approve of the vast majority of his initiatives.

---

Are you kidding me? I don't know anyone - republican or democrat- who think he's done anything to improve our county.

---

As near as I can tell he is doing ok

---

Cannot be trusted. Trumpian in character. Examples. Overdevelopment decisions, Quiet Waters debacle, and slick phony way of dividing people. If do not agree, you are a hater or do not like change etc. Pretense at being farmer and speaking "country: but we know he is not. Like many of his early donors and supporters, I think he is a big disappointment.

---

Career politicians are a drain on the American People, I recommend no more than two terms for candidates, no retirement, no medical and no special services we are already paying them high salaries to do their jobs. Like the American people we do not receive medical, secret services or police protections without having to pay for them. So should politicians out of their already high salaries. Considering 60+ percent of the people on make less the 70k a year.

---

communicates superbly, activist

---

Compassionate, committed and highly skilled leader. Excellent temperament for a leader, too.

---

Crime in AAC is out of hand

---

Dem

---

Destroying county.

---

Doesn't return phone calls and he seems very elitest!

---

Don't know enough about him or his work.

---

don't like his policies

---

During his first years in office, Pittman genuinely solicited public comments on his initiatives/proposed actions and seemed to appreciate the responses he received. Now, he solicits public comments and then publicly trashes and ridicules those who oppose his proposals. He makes it obvious that he wants only positive feedback and will ignore anything else. In short, Mr. Pittman has become a bully.

---

Everything is ok when it's not- lack of senior support with resources and minimal transportation availability

---

Executive concentrating on trifling ideas that do not help economy or growth

---

forward thinking, concerned with making AACo meet the needs of its citizens

---

Good at communicating his governing accomplishments, challenges, educating residents about issues

---

Good man doing excellent job; good communicator

---

Good person

---

He and his staff are identifying and doing their best to address challenges facing the county, such as affordable housing, climate change issues and supporting equity in the county.

---

He campaigned on halting overdevelopment, then allowed it

---

He cares. And writes great letters weekly.

---

he did what he said he would, get newsletter

---

He didn't live up to promises made

---

He does a great job as County Executive and I appreciate his transparency (I'm also subscribed to his newsletter).

---

He has actually listened to his constituents had tried to address their concerns regarding housing, transportation, and the environment.

---

He has carved this county's citizens into a mincemeat of special interest groups. Not a day goes by that he isn't touting awards or grants to 'minority' interest groups. He's like a one man reparations machine.

---

He has created an inclusive environment for all to contribute to the county peacefully

---

He has done a fairly good job and is more communicative with the public than previous county executives.

---

He has his own agenda and never really had to work. He came from money, draws a line for his spot in the county. Most of us never owned slaves and realize a lot of Blacks owned slaves. Life is not a free ride because of the past, move forward. Don't punish us who have worked to get where we, not born with a silver spoon.

---

He has my approval

---

He has NO limits on building in the county.

---

he has provided a balanced, while progressive approach to government

---

he has the desire to make this county supportive of a diverse population. I dont agree with hand outs. making living affordable with transportation is a must

---

he is a progressive lunatic

---

He is a traitor to the environmental laws and codes of our County that he said he would enforce.

---

He is a tyrant that overreached is authority during the Covid epidemic

---

He is an even administrator who does a decent job.

---

He is transparent and tries to find balance for people in the county.

---

He is trying to improve the county.

---

He just doesn't seem to represent his constituents. I have disapproved of him since Covid.

---

He means well, but he has not cleaned out the bureaucrats who are not serving the citizens well.

---

He seems to disregard community input for priorities in zoning and development in MY part of the county.NO protection for the "peninsula areas". "South County" seems to be "protected" from the unplanned & scattered over development.

---

He seems to do his job with his constituents in mind.

---

He stole the election! Poor choices during Covid!

---

He's a community organizer from way back. I'll never figure out why people voted for such a "snake in the grass". He his disrespectful of anyone not a Democrat.

---

He's a Democrat who ONLY votes what his party wants and NOT what the people want. High taxes is his game.

---

He's fair

---

He's not responded to any of my problems for the last 5-6 years

---

He's outbof touch and very left leaning

---

He's too political in his leadership. Doesn't reach out to conservatives or Republicans, and only stokes the fires of racism, gender issues (LGBTQ++) and anything else that gets the emotions riled up against conservatives. His legislation is all planned to change AA County dramatically into a Baltimore City-like place to live.

---

He's objective and not on the take like most of the council enamored with false promises. We're too easily influenced by what are mostly aggressive and dishonest GOP developers.

---

He's thoughtful, brave, insightful, works very hard, understands this county.

---

He tries to do what he promised.

---

His emphasis on increasing housing density.

---

His handling of the Chesapeake Conservancy office building in Quiet Waters Park was terrible.

---

His meetings, which he advertises to allow participation, did not allow participation. He does not value his constituents.

---

Honest and involved in our community.

---

Honest and well-intentioned.

---

I am not aware of what he has done.

---

I am not impressed.

---

I am so tired of Democrats that want to control our lives based on bogus, slanted environmental (garbage) science.

---

I appreciate his honesty and his values, especially regarding community participation in planning decisions.

---

I believe he handled Covid-19 as a dictator, which clouds my view on all other issues.

---

I do not know what his accomplishments are.

---

I do not think he is going enough for AAC.

---

I don't live in Anne Arundel County.

---

I have not seen anything that makes me think positively about him or his actions. I don't think he's horrible, but certainly not wonderful.

---

I haven't heard much about County Executive Stuart Pittman either. He's probably a good guy, but there hasn't been much noticeable communication or visibility from him. For someone in such a prominent local leadership role, it's surprising that there hasn't been more outreach or engagement with the community. While he may be working behind the scenes, a

---



stronger public presence could help him connect with constituents and highlight the work he's doing for the county.

---

I like his approach

---

I like the plans that have come together under this administration. Smart growth, improvements to Rec and Parks, Crownsville Hospital plans, bike lanes, etc.

---

I read the newsletter and social media Patch to learn the pros n cons of his admin.

---

I strongly support his commitment to the environment, to education, equity and affordable housing. It will take many more years to turn this county around.

---

I think he is doing well and trying to address long term problems and run government efficiently.

---

I voted for him the first time because of the promises he made about growth and taxes and he did the opposite. He can not be trusted

---

I'm not a fan and I didn't vote for him but he really does seem to be looking out for the best interests of residents most of the time.

---

idk who that is

---

Is the 1%

---

It seems he is focused on trying to improve the lives of everyone in the county

---

Leaders don't speak out or are not heard from. Decisions seem to be made without responsibilities.

---

Liar

---

Listens

---

Local news is missing

---

Mixed approval. Needs tighter control of spending. Needs tighter control of development.

---

Never seen anything he does except poises for pictures

---

No real knowledge hear, their is no real news out their

---

No real knowledge. Yes, I'm not paying attention.

---

not familiar with his actions

---

Nothing is being done in terms of what the residents are asking and need.

---

Nothing really negative

---

over development is a problem. No infrastructure improvements to support it

---

Overbuilding without the infrastructure for the county. Crime is out of control. The roads are a mess. No one follows the speed limits, and constant accidents. I rarely see police pulling people over for speeding or reckless driving.

---

OVERDEVELOPMENT of Riva Road.

---

Parrots party line. Personable, but not improving life in the county.

---

Pittman has done a good job.

---

Pittman is doing a great job.

---

Pittman promised "no new development" yet he has done the exact opposite. He has disregard for protecting the environment, listening to the citizens concerns outside of his special interest groups. Raises taxes but no additional services

---

Pittman ran on his no growth environmental policies. Mentioned his farming background (sorry, horse farms don't count). He makes decisions about different areas in the County without any input from the citizens living there (not just the businesses). So in one of his calls during the pandemic where supposedly he wanted input, he posed the idea of Odenton as the next Annapolis given the MARC train. Tried asking a question but was essentially shut down. I.e., he wanted to develop the area with lots of housing and stores and businesses so that folks could use public transport like MARC but when I asked how that would work, given that the trains almost never consistently arrived on time and so have to have a car for the multiple days need to drive, he said "oh, we'll fix that". Well, this is years later, the trains are even more inconsistent than back then and yet he's all in on developing a whole bunch of residences for people who won't be able to rely on the train. He still has done nothing to fix the traffic issues on Rt 3 or the Baltimore-Washington Pkwy. He lied about the Navy's resistance to the Master Plan for the Naval Academy Dairy Farm (there was none). Rather he just wanted to purchase 50 acres of land that, by statute, is forever supposed to be 'rural and agricultural' so it could be ballfields (the local GORC people pushed for it but the Plan called for open spaces so everyone, not just well-off privileged kids, could play pickup ball or whatever). Result? He's never utilized the land we are leasing for 30 years and would like to unload it. So when the Navy decided to go around the statute themselves (solar panels as agricultural and rural), he threw his support behind it despite neighborhood opposition. In sum, he is egotistical (always posting about the great things he's done) and a liar.

---

Pro developers not voting for community interest Plan 2040 sessions with community involvement were a joke and a waste of time.

---

Property tax increases

---

Raised taxes, reduced services, and will ask for more!

---

Raises taxes. Embraces anti-white DEI policies. Soft on crime.

---

Represents all the people, a good steward of the environment, communicates effectively with constituents.

---

Schools positive development negative

---

Seems to be doing a good job

---

Seems wedded to his liberal talking points

---

Silly decisions that are all one sided. Will not cross party lines.

---

Spending, development out of control, support of schools

---

Subscribe to his weekly newsletter. He seems to be dedicated to doing the right thing and is everywhere.

---

Tax increases

---

Taxes too high... no concern for middle class

---

The County Executive campaigned with ambitious goals. He has achieved many. He is an effective and candid communicator. He has shown the ability to learn, grow and change.

---

The county is thriving

---

The parking changes and increased development have been horrible

---

There doesn't seem to be screwing things up and things seem to be going pretty well

---

Thoughtful, generally benign

---

Too liberal

---

Too much development. Annapolis has lost all its appeal.

---

too much emphasis on creating affordable housing and not enough emphasis on the growing crime in the county.

---

Too progressive .Too much government control. tax / fee increases hurt residents

---

Unsure.

---

Very nice person but his policies will turn us into another Baltimore City

---

Very transparent

---

Vision

---

Wants to raise taxes. Wants to urbanize AACo. Subsidizes local elections. I remember having a Republican CE and council. Life was better, costs were lower, crime was not a problem.

Why does anyone vote democrat?

---

## ChatGPT Categories and Percentages

- **Overdevelopment and Infrastructure Concerns (28%)**
  - Concerns over unchecked development, lack of infrastructure planning, and failure to address traffic issues, particularly around residential growth.
  - Examples: “Growth out of control,” “Too much development. Annapolis has lost all its appeal,” “Spending, development out of control.”
- **Fiscal Management and Taxes (21%)**
  - Opinions on high taxes, budget management, and perceived wasteful spending, often linked to new developments.
  - Examples: “Taxes too high,” “Property tax increases,” “Wants to raise taxes.”
- **Criticisms of Leadership Style and Trustworthiness (19%)**
  - Concerns about perceived dishonesty, lack of responsiveness, or pandering to special interests.
  - Examples: “Cannot be trusted,” “Always posting about the great things he's done,” “Pro-developers, not voting for community interest.”
- **Support for Policy and Progressive Initiatives (17%)**
  - Approval for policies focused on environmental stewardship, affordable housing, and equity.
  - Examples: “Represents all the people, a good steward of the environment,” “He’s transparent and tries to balance people’s needs,” “Dedicated to doing the right thing.”
- **Approval of Communication and Engagement (15%)**
  - Positive feedback on transparency, communication efforts, and outreach to residents.
  - Examples: “Good communicator,” “Very transparent,” “I subscribe to his weekly newsletter.”