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## **Economy, Housing and Crime are Top Issues for County Residents**

A survey of 741 Anne Arundel County residents conducted April 5 to 14 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.

The survey asked residents to identify the **“most important problem facing the residents of Anne Arundel County at the present time.”** The percentage saying the **economy** rose to 26%, with the cost of **housing** right behind at 24%. The percentage citing **crime** decreased from 36% last fall to 22% this spring. Coupled with significant percentages saying use of illegal drugs (14%), the crime/drugs duo was cited by 36%.

The survey explored the issue of **crime**, finding that at the neighborhood level (both the neighborhood and county overall were asked) the most commonly experienced type of crime was “cybercrimes” such as identity theft, computer hacking or telephone scams (28% reported experiencing this within the last year), which was deemed the most significant problem at the neighborhood level (52%). The second most experienced crime was theft (16%) whose neighborhood significance (36%) was about on par with personal assault (37%), gunshots/shootings (39%), drug dealing (40%) and illegal drug consumption (42%). When asked again at the level of the county, the latter two were the most cited as significant (47%, 51%).

The survey found that regarding neighborhood crime, most people said that “personal experience” (59%) was “very important” as a way of **finding out about incidences of crime**, which was higher than “word of mouth” (34%) or crime reporting on newspapers, newsletters, radio, or TV (39%). When information sources were asked at the county level, fewer people mentioned personal experience (45%) and somewhat more said “crime reporting on newspapers, newsletters, radio or TV” (44%).

The survey covered other county issues such as awareness of the **revision of the General Development Plan and county provided tools** to keep up with land use and zoning issues. When asked about their awareness about the process of revising the General Development Plan, only 27% said that they had a high awareness of the process, with another 35% saying a “moderate” awareness. There was a significant percentage saying that they were highly concerned “about how it might affect you and your community” (46%) or “how it might affect the county’s quality of life” (53%). Relatively few were aware of online tools such as the “land use navigator” (23%) or the zoning classification guide (20%). Awareness was highest for community land use meetings (43%). Relatively few had made use of any of these tools – or attended related meetings.

The **plastic bag ban** got mixed reviews. A bit more than a third (36%) supported it completely, while 22% supported it somewhat.

The **collapse** of the **Francis Scott Key bridge** had an economic adverse effect on a quarter of the sample while the absence of the bridge would be inconvenient to 41%.

Some **political contests** were also reviewed. Congressman David **Trone** had a 6-point lead among the county's likely voters over Prince George's County Executive Angela **Alsobrooks**. Both would lose by double digits (17-18 percentage points) to Larry **Hogan** if the general election were currently taking place. Many voters are still undecided, leaving plenty of room for campaign effects.

The same could be said for the race for the **3<sup>rd</sup> congressional district** seat being vacated by John Sarbanes. That district encompasses parts of Anne Arundel County and Carroll County as well as the entirety of Howard County. Our survey did not go beyond voters in Anne Arundel County. With that in mind, it seems that State Senator Sarah **Elfreth** (29%) had a wide lead over challengers, with legislative district 32 Delegate Mark **Chang** at 8% and former Capitol policeman Harry **Dunn** at 7%. Joe **Biden** would win handily if the presidential election were "today" having a 16-point lead over Donald Trump.

There was some attention paid to **international affairs**, such as aid to **Israel** and **Ukraine** as well as opinions about the Israel/Palestinian situation more generally.

The survey covered some new issues such as the **use** of **smartphones**, **social media** and **video games** as well as their impact on **mental health and time management**. There was also some analysis of the impact of **artificial intelligence** on future jobs and careers, as well as how respondents have used AI at this time.

The **summary of main findings** (p. 3) 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. 140-169). Open-ended comments offered by online respondents can be found in **Appendices B-S** (see p. 12 for page numbers and topics).

## **Methodology**

The survey polled a random sample of 741 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 April 5 to 14. There was about a 3.5% 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-Spring-2024-Press-Release.pdf>. For all other press releases see [www2.aacc.edu/csli](http://www2.aacc.edu/csli).

## Summary of Main Findings

### Most Important Problem Facing County Residents

The rise of concern among items like housing, the environment and land use/infrastructure, the economy, crime and drugs, education, and the relative decline of concern about COVID-19 are key findings from this question. Additional details are available in the text (pp. 14-21). 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 rose from 40% last fall to 43% this spring. Regarding the **state**, there was a similar 2-point increase from 40% to 42% saying “right direction.” The percentage applicable to the **country** also featured a rise from 11% in fall to 17% this spring. (pp. 22-30).

### Rating Economic Conditions - County, State and Country

For the **county**, the percentage saying “excellent” or “good” dropped somewhat from 57% to 51%, staying in the 50 percent range as it has since fall 2020 – the first poll after the clear start of the COVID-19 pandemic. At the **state** level, there was a more dramatic decline from 50% last fall to only 41% this spring, 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% (see pp. 31-39).

### 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. The “get worse” percentage (39%) reached its lowest point since spring 2021 when it was 34% (pp. 40).

### 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.

There were some other small changes – unemployment concerns dropped two points (26% to 24%); there was a 3-point drop in concern over the federal debt (59% to 56%). There were some rises from last fall in business climate (26% to 31%) and excessive private debt (52% to 55%) For details, see p. 41-45.

## Economic Conditions Applying to Respondents

While the level of concern over inflation seemed to edge down this spring, this was not very obvious when looking at respondents' views of specific economic conditions applying to them. For example, the percentage saying that it was **“hard to afford food and groceries”** rose from 37% to 51%. “Hard to afford the **cost of education** beyond high school” rose from 30% to 39%. There was a small rise in the percentage of those saying that “Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive, or inadequate” from 34% to 37%. However, the **two items** that most directly measure inflationary worries – “Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living” and “Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided” both rose from 58% to only 59% - not indicative of much rising concern about inflation – albeit, from an already high level of concern. An analysis was conducted that highlighted the **higher incidences of adverse economic circumstances** among those earning under \$75,000 (pp. 46-53).

## Ability for Young People to Find Good Jobs or Careers

**One third** (33%) said that it was **“very hard”** for **young people to find good jobs or careers**, with another 52% saying “somewhat hard.” Younger respondents tended to believe that it was harder than the overall sample – very hard scores were 42% for those 18-29 and 55% for those 30-39. Those 40 or more were less pessimistic (29%). See p.54.

## Familiarity and Use of Artificial Intelligence, Impact on Job/Career Choices Next 20 Years

Only 26% said that they had both **heard of artificial intelligence** tools like ChatGPT and **used them**, while 62% had heard about them but had not used them. **Younger people** and those from **higher incomes** were more likely to have used AI tools. The most common use was for **research** (16% said “several times, frequently). Appendix C includes other uses for artificial intelligence tools mentioned by the respondents. See pp.54-55 for details.

## Coronavirus Section

There is a much more limited treatment of COVID-19 issues than in the past – essentially limited to asking about years that people contracted it (only 3% thus far in 2024 compared to 22% in 2023), and whether they failed to test themselves when symptoms arose - 21% mentioned not testing themselves. See p. 56.

## County Issues

### Crime in Neighborhoods and County-wide

This was a section in the questionnaire that focused on perceptions of and experiences with crime both at the neighborhood and county levels. The **most commonly experienced** type of crime was **“cybercrimes”** such as identity theft, computer hacking or telephone scams (28% reported experiencing within the last year), which was deemed the **most significant problem** at

the neighborhood level (52%). The second most experienced crime was **theft** (16%) whose neighborhood significance (36%) was about on par with **personal assault** (37%), **gunshots/shootings** (39%), **drug dealing** (40%) and **illegal drug consumption** (42%). When asked again at the level of the county, the latter two were the most cited as significant (47%, 51%).

The survey found that with regard to neighborhood crime, most people said that “**personal experience**” (59%) was “very important” as a basis for answering the question about significance, which was higher than “**word of mouth**” (34%) or **crime reporting on newspapers**, newsletters, radio or TV (39%). Not very many people mentioned online information from **social media or phone apps** (23%). When information sources were asked at the county level, fewer people mentioned personal experience (45%) and somewhat more said “crime reporting on newspapers, newsletters, radio or TV” (44%). Word of mouth dropped to 30%. “Social media/apps” was unchanged (24%).

When asked if they had been a **victim of crime** over the last year, **80%** said no. Another 9% said that they had but “didn’t report the crime.” Seven percent said that they reported the crime but “there wasn’t any criminal investigation” with another 2% saying they reported the crime and it was resolved; about an equal percentage (3%) said that they reported the crime and it wasn’t resolved. An analysis of crime experience and resolution indicated that **African Americans** were much more likely to experience crime, with higher percentages saying that they weren’t satisfied with the resolution.

An **open-ended comment section** about “what could be done to best improve the safety and security of people living in Anne Arundel County” was **analyzed using ChatGPT** which categorized responses into these categories: Police, law enforcement, justice system (36%); community engagement and support (24%); addressing socioeconomic factors (17%); gun control and legislation (5%) and other suggestions (18%). The verbatim comments are in Appendix D. See pp. 57-64.

## **Plastic Bag Ban**

The public was divided about the ban imposed by county legislation upon the use of plastic bags and allowing stores to charge for paper bags. Just over one-third (36%) supported it completely, with another 22% supporting it “somewhat.” One-quarter opposed it completely. Another 15% offered another response – see Appendix E for verbatim comments. This topic is covered in p. 65.

## **General Development Plan – Awareness and Concerns, Use of Land Use/Rating Online Tools and Community Meetings**

When asked about their **awareness of the process of revising the General Development Plan**, only **27%** said that they had a **high** awareness of the process, with another 35% saying a “moderate” awareness. There was a large percentage (46%) saying that they were **highly concerned** “about how it might affect **you and your community**” or “how it might affect the county’s **quality of life**” (53%).

The survey mentioned “various **tools to keep the public** informed about **land use and zoning** issues. Awareness was highest for “**community land use meetings**” (43%). Other tools were **much lower awareness scores**: “land use navigator online tool” (23%; “development activity online tool” (20%) and zoning classification guide (26%). In most cases, only **half** of those who claimed to be aware of the tool had **actually used** it. Positive ratings were greater than negative ones, but most were “neutral.”

For details see pp. 66-68. For comments offered by respondents, see Appendix F.

## **Discrimination Against Certain Groups**

A section of the survey asked respondents to evaluate the **level of discrimination** (using a 100-point slider) experienced by certain groups such as African Americans (51%), transgendered and gender nonconforming people (50%), women (38%) and Hispanics (46%). See pp. 69-70 for a complete list of categories and results.

## **State Issues**

### **State Budget Approaches**

The survey focused on three approaches **to solving the budget shortfalls** anticipated in formulating the state budget for fiscal year 2024-25. The first approach mentioned **increasing some taxes and fees** to ensure program funding (22%); the second focused on **lowering the sales tax** but extending it to **services** (22%); the last choice advocated “**avoiding any increase in taxes** and reducing funding to transportation and education” 20%. There is an analysis by party registration in this section. See pp. 71-72. Appendix G contains the many verbatim comments contributed by respondents.

### **Collapse of Francis Scott Key Bridge**

The collapse of the bridge happened shortly before the spring survey was in the field, so three questions were added to the survey. The first asked whether “**you will be negatively affected economically** by this event” (25%, yes); the second asked whether “**you will be inconvenienced** by the loss of the bridge (41%, yes); the last asked “Do you have **confidence** that the bridge will be **rebuilt relatively quickly**?” (38%). See pp. 73-74 for details.

Appendix H contains open-ended comments about the bridge and any other state issues.

## **National Issues: Impact of Events in Positively Impacting Civil Rights for African Americans**

The survey listed **a set of events** that could be perceived in terms of having significant positive impact upon the **civil rights of African Americans**. Two events were judged as having a very significant impact: “The Supreme Court decision to end ‘**separate by equal**’ in schools in 1954” (74% said very significant) and “The passage of the **Voting Rights Act** in 1965” (78%). Much

smaller percentages felt the same about “The election of Barack **Obama** as president” (42%); “The emergence of the **Black Lives Movement**” (30%) and “The emergence of **diversity, equity and inclusion** programs in public institutions and private companies” (37%). A breakdown by party and race is offered – see pp.75-76 Appendix I includes open-ended comments.

## **Most Serious National Issue – Open vs. Closed-ended Question Formats/ChatGPT**

The survey asked an **open-ended** question about “what is **the most serious national issue** facing residents of the United States at the present time?” This was coupled with another section later in the survey that offered **closed ended choices**. Using ChatGPT, open-ended answers were grouped into four top categories: **border security** and immigration control (30%); **economic challenges** 26%); **political dysfunction** and partisanship (22%) and **national security** (18%). The **closed ended** choices offered **mostly similar priorities**: two highly rated choices were similar to political dysfunction (harm by having the other party’s candidate be elected 57%) and threats to democracy (44%), along with immigration (44%) and inflation/cost of living (45%). **ChatGPT did not identify abortion as a top issue among the comments, even though it was a leading issue among those choosing from close-ended choices (43%).** See pp. 108-116 details and Appendix J for the verbatim comments.

## **International Issues**

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

The spring 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” increased from 63% last fall to 67% this spring. Republicans were more likely to say very serious (71%) compared to Democrats 52%). Threats posed by **Russia** and **climate change** both received the same scores (55%), but the latter was much more **divisive** (83% Democrats, 19% Republicans) compared to Russia (65%, 51%). Other than for climate change, **younger people** were less likely to see most international situations as threatening as did older people. See details on pp. 77-83 for a detailed analysis.

### **Aid to Ukraine and Israel; Israel’s Military Strategy/Approach in Dealing with Palestinians**

The survey was in the field **prior** to the passage of legislation providing military assistance to Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan, so the agreement for providing aid was not contextualized by any recent success in a bipartisan effort to pass such legislation.

Aid to **Ukraine was much more favored** (47%, agree completely, 29% agree somewhat) **than** was **aid to Israel** (24%, 34%).

That aid to Israel would be somewhat less favored parallels the results for the next question which asked, “Which of the following best expresses your views of **Israel’s strategy and military operation in the Gaza Strip?**” The first choice was, “Israel has done what it needed to do to defeat Hamas (28%). The second choice received the greatest support (40%): “Israel has a right to defend itself but has caused too many civilian casualties in Gaza. The last choice was the least accommodating to Israel: “Israel should have more actively pursued a two-state solution for the Palestinian people, perhaps avoiding the attack by Hamas and the subsequent destruction of Gaza (33%).

See pp. 84-86 for the main analysis about aid, pp. 87-89 regarding Israel’s strategy and operation in Gaza. There are two open-ended options in this section, one for specific comments about Israel/Gaza/Hamas (Appendix K) and another for any question in the section of international affairs (see Appendix L).

## Politics, Sources of Information

The last major section of the survey focused on politics and elections. It first asked about **how people find out about news** dealing with government and politics. The top choices (percentage saying, “quite or very often”) were: “**Online, cable or broadcast sources of mainstream media** like CNN, MSNBC or Fox news” (44%) and “online or hard copy sources of **newspapers** like Washington Post or Baltimore Sun or Banner, Maryland Matters” (42%). Various **social media** options were also listed, with Facebook (18%), Instagram (16%) and YouTube (16%) being the most cited. Among **younger people** between 18-29, **Instagram (38%), TikTok (33%) and YouTube (27%)** were the most cited. Among those **70 or over**, newspapers (59%) and television news (57%) were much more likely to be cited compared to Facebook (12%) or TikTok (3%). See pp. 90-93 for details.

### “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. There has **not been much movement** in this percentage recently: it was 21% last fall and 18% this spring. The analysis of this variable shows that about **one-half of Republicans accept** the stolen election claim, but only 20% of unaffiliateds and a tiny percentage of Democrats. Some three-quarters of those who claim to be “**very conservative**” accept the stolen election argument compared to under one-third of those saying that they are “somewhat conservative.” Moderates are close to Democrats: 7% vs. 2%. See pp. 94-98.

## Goals of Trump’s Prosecution

A **majority** of respondents (57%) thought that the reason why Donald Trump was facing his various court challenges was “**to hold him accountable** for various crimes” rather than “**to disrupt his campaign** and prevent him from running effectively for president (36%). Nearly all Democrats favored the accountability argument (89%), while this was true for only a minority of Republicans (19%). See pp. 99.



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

The survey asked, “If the presidential elections were today, for whom would you vote?” **Biden had a 16-point lead over Trump**, a substantial increase from the 9-point lead last fall. See Appendix O for open-ended answers and pp. 99-101 for the main analysis.

## U.S. Senate

As with other polls previously referenced, the CSLI poll showed David **Trone** (34% likely voters) **leading** Angela **Alsobrooks** (28%) in the race to become the Democratic nominee for the Senate seat being vacated by incumbent Ben Cardin. About one-third of the voters were still undecided, leaving room for movement between the candidates.

When asking voters to choose between likely Republican nominee Larry **Hogan** and either of the two **Democratic opponents**, the latter was clearly **behind**: Trone was behind by 18 points. The results for Alsobrooks were nearly identical: behind by 17 points. There were more “unsure” Democrats and unaffiliateds, so the possibility that either of the two Democrats can pose a significant challenge will probably increase once a nominee is chosen.

A follow-up question tried to emphasize the implications of a Hogan win upon the balance of power in the Senate. The question was asked “What is your **preference for the outcome** of the U.S. **Senate** elections in November – the Senate **controlled** by **Democrats** or by **Republicans**.” The results were clear: the **sample preferred Democrats** (49%) over Republicans (33%). Following up, the question, asked whether they still favored Hogan over a generic Democratic candidate – the results **narrowed the gap from around 18 points to just 2 points**. See p. 102-104.

## Congressional District 3

As John Sarbanes is retiring from Congress, this opens the 3<sup>rd</sup> congressional district seat. Some **22 Democrats** have signed up, offering a challenge to effectively survey the public about their preferences. Moreover, that seat is divided between Anne Arundel, Howard and a part of Carroll counties; **our survey is limited only to Anne Arundel County** and thus cannot anticipate how voters’ views might differ in the other parts of that jurisdiction. In any case, it could be expected that candidates who are currently elected officials within the county would lead among voters, and that was largely the case. State Senator **Sarah Elfreth led the field with 29%** of the vote. Her two closest competitors were **Delegate Mark Chang (8%)** and retired Capitol policeman **Harry Dunn 7%**. A survey produced by Dunn’s own campaign showed the race as essentially between Elfreth and himself. Among **Republicans**, no candidate really stands out as they are all with 5% of the Republican vote or less, with 71% saying “unsure.” For details, see pp. 104-107.

## Issues and Candidates

This section uses just the **results for the closed-ended questions ranking issue saliency** and looks at a comparison of how **salient issues** were by **parties** and **candidates**. As mentioned, the top issue was “the **harm to the country** should the other party’s candidate win” with 57% citing

it. The **economy** was second (45%) followed by **immigration** (44%), January 6/**threats to democracy** (44%) and **abortion** (43%).

From a partisan perspective, **Republicans'** top issues were immigration (68%), inflation (55%), "harm to the country" if other candidate won (53%) and crime (46%). **Democrats'** top issues were "harm to the country" if other candidate won (68%), January 6/threats to democracy (62%), climate change (51%) and guns/healthcare (both 49%). See pp. 108-112.

The analysis then compared **issue saliency for some candidates**. Some discoveries were: **Alsobrooks'** voters were more likely to strongly favor Democrats' top priorities like abortion, guns, healthcare, and racism compared to **Trone's voters**. **Hogan** voters were likely to favor **Republican issues** like immigration, crime and the cost of living but with relatively low percentages in most cases. This implied that **Hogan supporters were less "issue voters"** and more attracted to the personality and image that Hogan has fostered over the years of being "moderate" and "not very partisan." The analysis of that race is on pp. 113-114.

Comparing Elfreth and Dunn also produced some interesting results. On average, Dunn's voters were more issue oriented than Elfreth's. They seemed especially animated by "threats to democracy" (86% vs. 39%) and "the harm to the country should the other party's candidate win" (94% vs. 81%). There were sizable saliency gaps on many other issues like health care (50%, 34%), foreign policy (54%, 31%), and racism (39%, 28%). The analysis of that race is on pp. 115-116. Appendix O includes comments about all voting choices considered in the survey.

## **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 (41% to 48%) (see p. 117-119). See Appendix P for open-ended comments about Biden's job approval.

**Governor Wes Moore** has had a formidable challenge in rising to 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%). However, **Moore's job approval has risen** steadily to the point where the gap is now just 16 points (59%). See pp. 120-122. See Appendix Q for open-ended comments about Moore's job approval.

**County Executive Steuart Pittman's** approval score was **essentially unchanged** from last fall – moving down one point from 46% to 45% (pp. 123-125). See Appendix R 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 44% approve); the Maryland General Assembly (unchanged at

42%); the Board of Education (nearly unchanged from last fall at 37% compared to 38% this spring); and Congress whose score improved modestly from 14% to 17%. The Supreme Court was unchanged from last fall – 36% approved. See pp. 126-130. See Appendix S for open-ended comments about other institutions' job approval.

**Trust in Political Parties:** Trust in Democrats was nearly unchanged this spring (41% vs. 40% last fall). Republicans dropped a couple of points from 30% to 28% – forming a 13-point gap with Democrats. The “neither” score rose three points from 22% to 25% (see pp. 131-132).

### **Special Sections: Use and Impact of Smartphones, Social Media, and Video Games**

This survey included a special look at the use of smartphones, social media and video games. It found that 35% claimed to check their smartphones at least once every 30 minutes, with 59% saying at least once every hour. Young people under 30 checked more often than older groups. When asked to characterize the impact of smartphones, social media and video games, the highest negative score was for social media (43%) compared to phones (19%) or video games (17%). When asked to state the impact on time management, again social media was identified as the likeliest to have negative impacts (54%) compared to phones (41%) or video games (41%). See pp.133-136. Appendix M lists the video games users claimed to use the most.

### **Special Sections: Group Identities and Ideology**

This section of the survey asked people to indicate the strength of group identities. Their strongest identity was as “family members” (66%) followed by “job/career” (50%), age group (46%), and gender (44%). Those identifying ideologically as “very conservative” were exceptionally likely to identify with religion (72%) and family (75%). Just on the religious identity, this percentage was much higher than it was for somewhat conservatives (35%), moderates (36%) or liberals (somewhat 20%, very 30%). This finding illustrates the usually strong attraction of religion in shaping the content of the ideological views of those claiming to be very conservative. See pp. 137-138.

**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 140.**

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## **Methodology**

The survey polled a random sample of 741 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 April 5 to 14. There was about a 3.5% 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 Spring '24)**

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

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.

One milestone reached in spring 2024 was the percentage citing “Coronavirus” – zero percent. As shown in Table 1, it had dropped from double digits one- and one-half years ago but this spring was the first time that it registered not even a single percentage point of concern.

Otherwise, the factors that dominated the public’s concern were well established: the economy (26%, up 3 points from fall 2023), housing costs (24%, up 7 pts.), crime (22%, down 14 pts.) and growth/overpopulation (20%, up 4 pts.).

Crime and education were those items to lose the most, while housing costs, growth, and transportation gained the most.

On average over the period since spring 2022, crime has been near or at the top of the list with the highest average score over the period (27%). The economy has had the second highest average score (24%), followed by growth/overpopulation and drugs – both at 19%.

A partner concern with crime was “drugs – the use or sale of illegal drugs...” which also dropped somewhat from 19% to 14%.

Bundling similar items together, crime/drugs combined for 36% of respondents’ top concerns; the economy and housing costs were 50%, while growth/overpopulation and transportation were 38% (more than 100% was possible given the option of choosing two top issues).

Other items of note were taxes (16%, down 3 pts.), healthcare (12%, up 4 pts.) and then environment (11%, up 2 pts.).

Graph 1 shows long-term patterns from spring 2012 to spring 2024.

Graph 1: Long-term Trends in Top Issues - Spring 2012 to Spring 2024

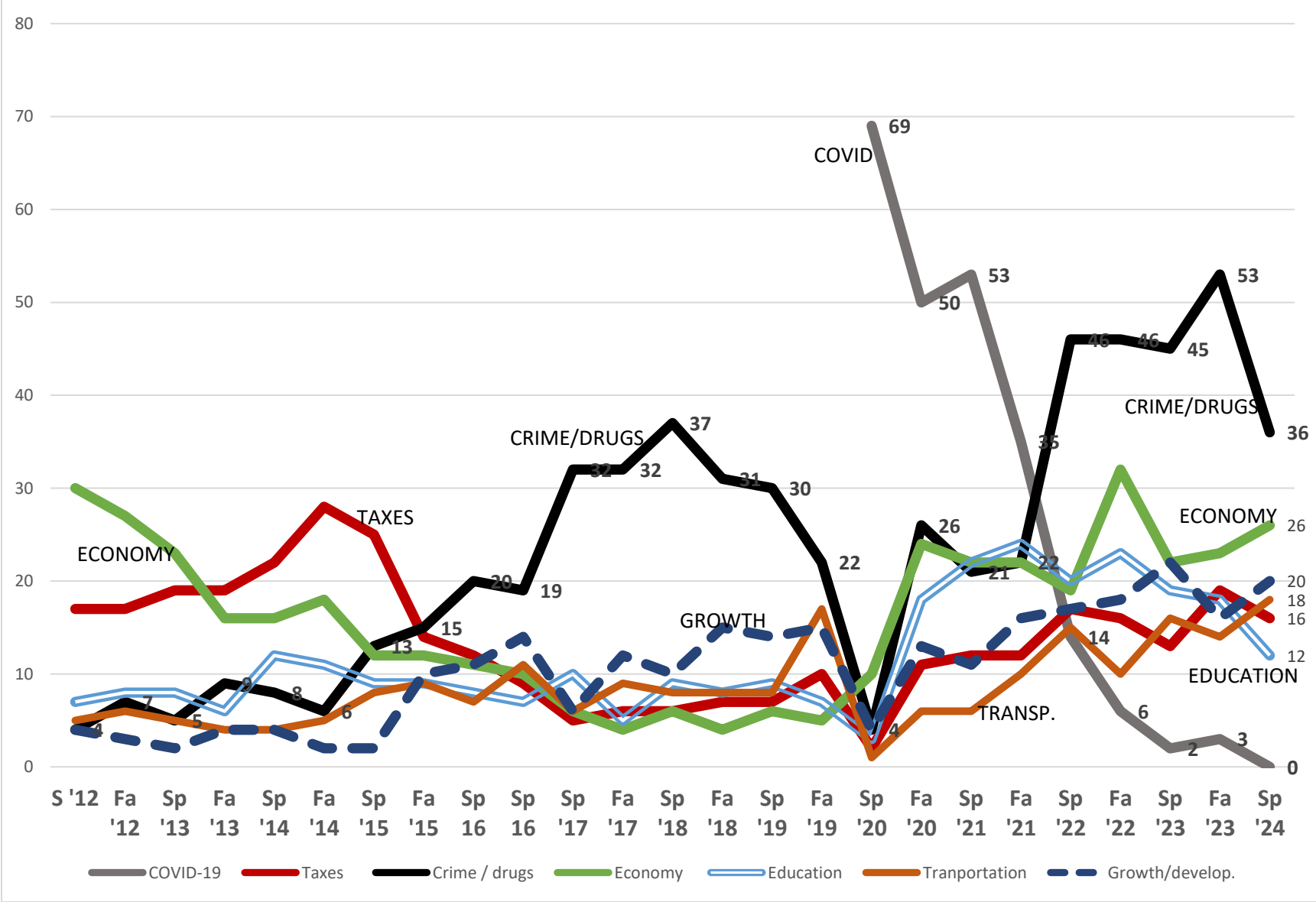




Table 2 lists all the items and ranks them by the percentage point difference between Democratic and Republican scores. For the most part and consistent with last fall, the largest differences varied along liberal/conservative lines, with Democrats much more likely to highlight issues like housing costs, transportation, the environment, healthcare, childcare, racism and the lack of government resources. By contrast, Republicans were more likely to focus on high taxes, crime, the prevalence of government waste, the economy, illegal drugs, and government ethics. The one area of congruence was about growth/overpopulation – 22% from both sides cited this as one of the most important problems.

**Table 2: Partisan Differences for “Most Important Problem” Spring 2024**

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Fall ‘23 D-R Gap</b>	<b>Sp. ‘24 D-R Gap</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Unaffil.</b>	<b>Sp. ‘24 Net Dem Gap</b>
<b>Taxes</b> – too high	-13	<b>-17</b>	10	27	10	17
<b>Crime</b> (other than drug related)	-6	<b>-16</b>	15	31	23	0
<b>Government waste</b> (inefficient, spends too much)	-13	<b>-15</b>	3	18	12	-3
<b>Economy</b> – (e.g., no jobs, high cost of living, business closing or losses)	4	<b>-8</b>	20	28	30	-8
<b>Government ethics</b> (corrupt, immoral)	-9	<b>-5</b>	4	9	7	-1
<b>Drugs</b> (use or sale of illegal drugs such as heroin, cocaine, or use of prescription pain killers for non-medical purposes.)	-10	<b>-5</b>	11	16	10	5
<b>Education</b> (problems with schools, quality, facilities, staff, discipline)	-9	<b>-4</b>	11	15	10	4
<b>Coronavirus</b> (spread, treatment, testing)	1	<b>0</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Growth/overpopulation</b> (too much development, poorly planned)	-4	<b>0</b>	22	22	16	0
<b>Racism</b> , hate crimes, discrimination	8	<b>4</b>	5	1	5	4
<b>Government lacks resources</b> (for roads, schools, services)	-1	<b>8</b>	9	1	2	-6
<b>Childcare service</b> – access, affordable	2	<b>9</b>	10	1	8	5
<b>Healthcare</b> (cost, access)	7	<b>10</b>	14	4	14	10
<b>Environment</b> (e.g., air or water pollution, saving the Bay)	10	<b>11</b>	15	4	10	1
<b>Transportation</b> (problems/traffic congestion, lack of public transit)	14	<b>14</b>	23	9	21	10
<b>Housing cost</b>	17	<b>22</b>	33	11	24	4

Judging from the differences in percentages between Democrats and those saying that they were unaffiliated but registered to vote (hereafter “unaffiliateds”), there were areas of congruence where the gap in percentages citing an item as the most important problem was smallest: transportation, healthcare, childcare, racism, education, drugs and especially taxes. By contrast, there were other areas where the congruence was closer between unaffiliateds and Republicans: government lacks resources, government ethics, the economy and government

waste. A generalization might be that unaffiliateds tend to prioritize mostly the same specific areas of concern as Democrats but are more conservative about the role and efficacy of government and the state of the economy. Crime was the one issue where unaffiliateds were equidistant from both Democrats and Republicans – 8 points either way.

Graph 1a shows the net gap between Democrats and unaffiliateds. The percentages shown are calculated by subtracting the unaffiliated percentage from the Democratic one, and then subtracting from that the difference between Republican and unaffiliateds scores. A positive value indicates a Democratic lean.

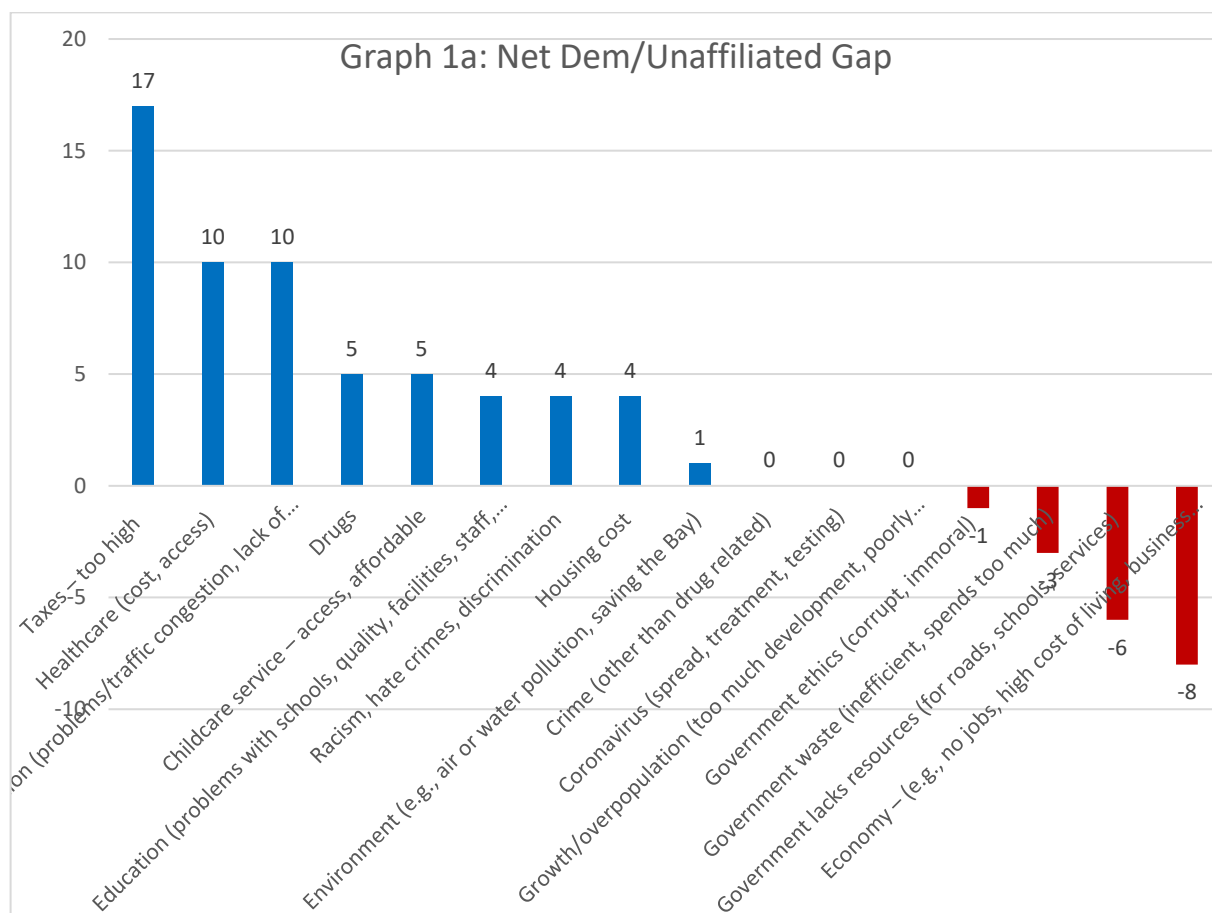


Table 3 shows the “most important problem” time-series in tabular format over an extended period of time (spring 2013 to spring 2024). Graph 2 highlights a subset of the same data visually. Graph 2 highlights the following elements:

- 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 with a small rise in spring 2024 from 23% to 26%.
- There has been some rise compared to the pre-pandemic period with concern about growth and development as well as transportation.
- 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 – culminating this spring with no concern.

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.

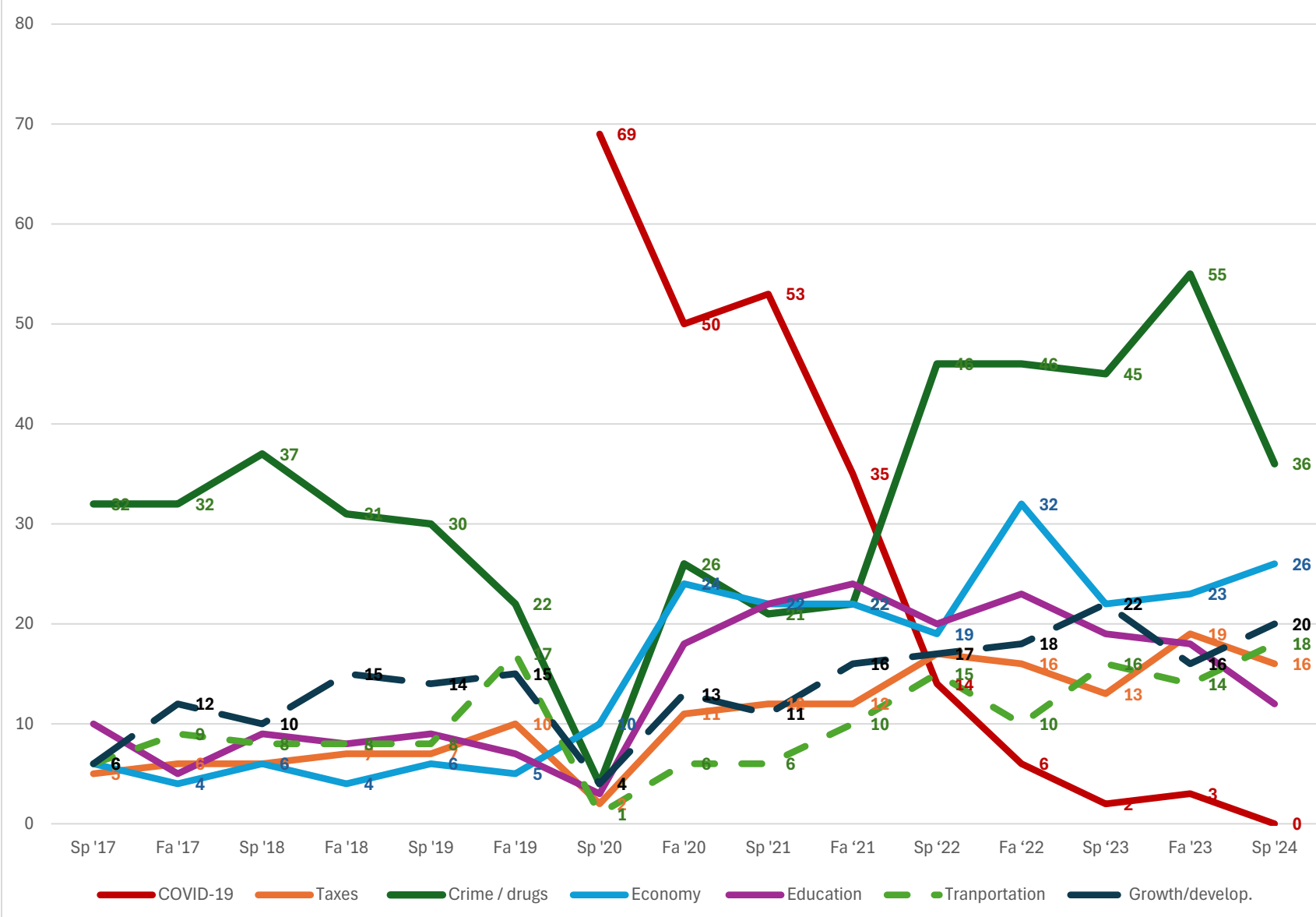
Some respondents mentioned other problems as their most important one – with immigration cited most often about the few who suggested an item. Open-ended comments about this can be found in Appendix B

**Table 3: “Most Important Problem Facing Residents” – Spring 2012 to Spring 2024<sup>2</sup>**

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

<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.

Graph 2: Selected Most Important Problems - Spring 2017 to Spring 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 4 and Graph 3 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 4, 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 zero, 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 – although this still seems small compared to gaps of 20-40 percentage points pre-pandemic.

Graph 3 is especially vivid in depicting the dramatic fall in “right direction” perceptions that accompanied the emergence of the coronavirus pandemic. The bright spot is a general trend of improvement in “right direction” scores since a low point in spring 2023.

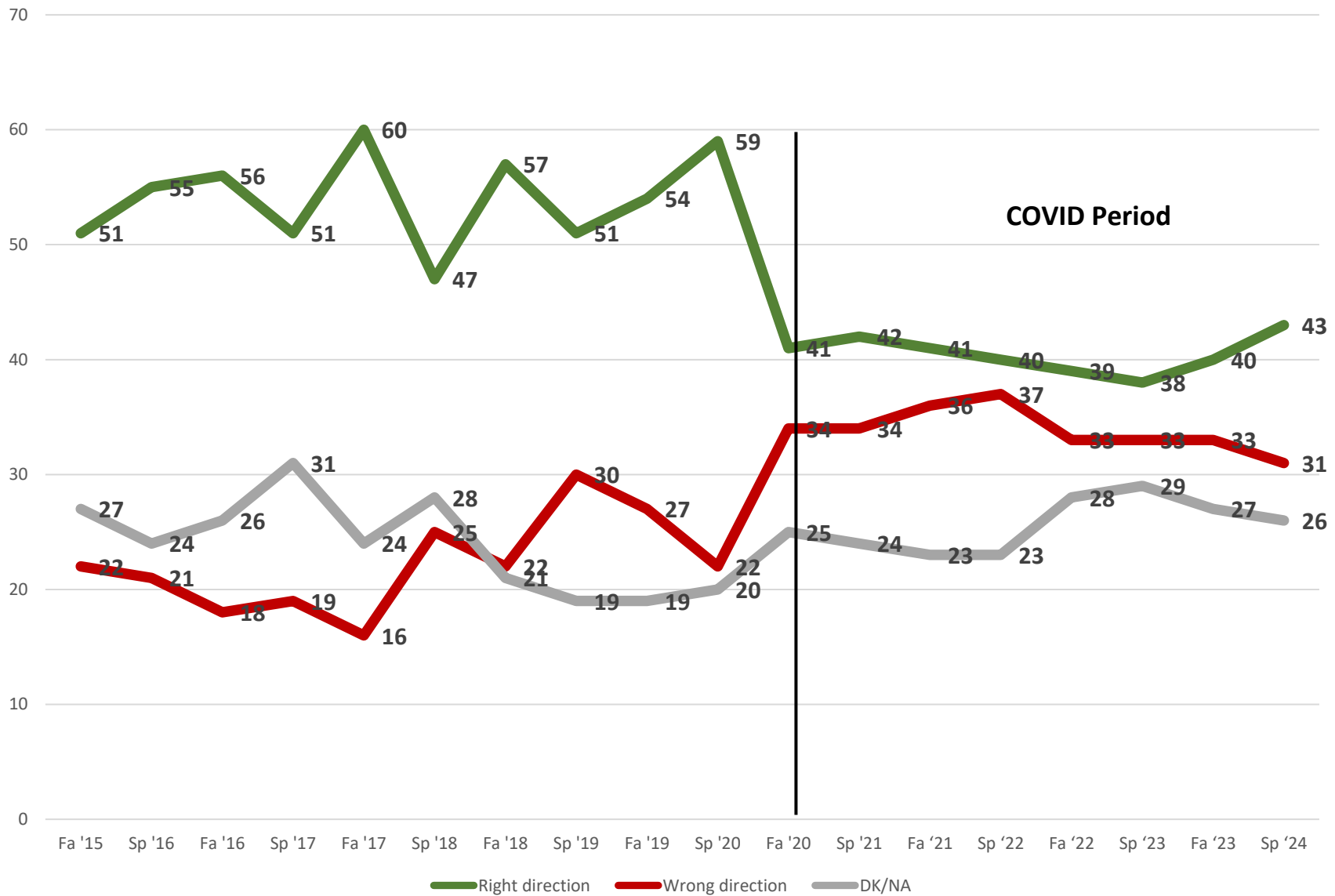
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<sup>3</sup> The Center for the Study of Local Issues (CSLI) has conducted these surveys from 1980 to 2024 – the text might make references to previous surveys refer to “CSLI surveys” before the AACC/CSLI moniker was adopted.

**Table 4: Anne Arundel County - Right vs. Wrong Direction Spring 2016 to Spring 2024**

	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	Avg.
Right direction	55	56	51	60	47	57	51	54	59	41	42	41	40	39	38	40	<b>43</b>	48
Wrong direction	21	18	19	16	25	22	30	27	22	34	34	36	37	33	33	33	<b>31</b>	28
DK/NA	24	26	31	24	28	21	19	19	20	25	24	23	23	28	29	27	<b>26</b>	24
Right-wrong	34	38	32	44	22	35	21	27	37	7	8	5	3	6	5	7	<b>12</b>	21
Total	100	100	101	100	100	100	100	100	101	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	<b>100</b>	100

Graph 3: County Right Direction - Fall 2015 to Spring 2024





Finally, looking at the relationship between party or ideology and the right direction scores for the county (Table 5) reveals what might be expected: Democrats (63%) – especially those who claimed to be “strong Democrats” (75%) – and very/somewhat liberals (74%, 58%) were much more inclined to say that the county was heading in the right direction than were Republicans (19%), with “strong Republicans (7%) and conservatives (very 19%, somewhat 21%) especially pessimistic about the county’s direction.

**Table 5: Party and Ideology with County Right Direction**

	Right %				Spring 2024
	Spring 2022	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	
Registered political party					
Democrat	58	50	57	56	<b>63</b>
Republican	20	26	28	21	<b>19</b>
Unaffiliated	24	38	16	35	<b>33</b>
Democrats (Strength of affiliation)					
Strong Democrat	72	76	68	68	<b>75</b>
Somewhat strong Democrat	50	38	58	54	<b>62</b>
Not strong Democrat	30	15	20	24	<b>27</b>
Republicans (Strength of affiliation)					
Strong Republican	9	14	6	10	<b>7</b>
Somewhat strong Republican	17	27	16	21	<b>18</b>
Not strong Republican	47	42	60	51	<b>43</b>
Ideology					
Very liberal	62	62	75	57	<b>74</b>
Somewhat liberal	57	56	57	67	<b>58</b>
<i>Moderate</i> (only a single “moderate” position)	44	43	38	43	<b>44</b>
Somewhat conservative	23	16	13	21	<b>21</b>
Very conservative	2	15	2	10	<b>19</b>

Table 6 shows the relationship between partisanship and the direction of the county for eight surveys: fall 2020, spring/fall 2021, spring/fall 2022, spring/fall 2023 and spring 2024. Looking first at the Democrats, in fall 2019 the party score was 64% (unshown); the score in spring 2024 was highest since then at 63%. Among Republicans, the pattern is similar – the highest score was also in fall 2019 (49%) with most scores since dropping to the high-teens, mid-20 percent levels which is consistent with the spring 2024 score of 19%.

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 county executive position 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 (Table 5) 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).

**Table 6: Party and County's Direction – Fall 2020 to Spring 2024**

Direction	Overall								Dem								Rep							
	F20	S21	F21	S22	F22	S23	F23	S24	F20	S21	F21	S22	F22	S23	F23	S24	F20	S21	F21	S22	F22	S23	F23	S24
Right direction	41	42	41	40	39	38	40	<b>43</b>	54	59	61	58	50	57	56	<b>63</b>	32	28	24	19	26	28	14	<b>19</b>
Wrong direction	34	34	36	37	33	33	33	<b>31</b>	18	16	18	19	19	19	8	<b>13</b>	46	53	56	64	55	47	59	<b>55</b>
Unsure	25	24	23	23	28	29	27	<b>26</b>	28	25	21	23	31	24	37	<b>23</b>	23	19	20	23	19	25	27	<b>26</b>

## Right Direction: Maryland and United States

Focusing next on the state and nation as shown in Table 7 (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.

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 spring, those values had moved a bit due to improvements in both county and national “right direction” scores, narrowing the gap from 29 to a 26-percentage point difference. The increase in the national scores from 11% to 17% was greater than the increase in state scores (40% to 42%) which resulted in a smaller gap – from 29 to 25 percentage points.

Table 7 and Graph 4 show that since a low point in spring 2023, scores have increased at all three levels.

**Table 7: Right/Wrong Direction for County, State and Nation,  
Spring 2020 to Spring 2024**

	Spring 2020	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021	Spring 2022	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024			
	Right	Right	Right	Right	Right	Right	Right	Right	Right	Wrong	Unsure/ D.K.	Total
County	59	41	42	41	40	39	38	40	43	31	26	100
State	70	50	45	50	49	44	36	40	42	39	19	100
Nation	32	30	35	22	20	15	10	11	17	68	16	99

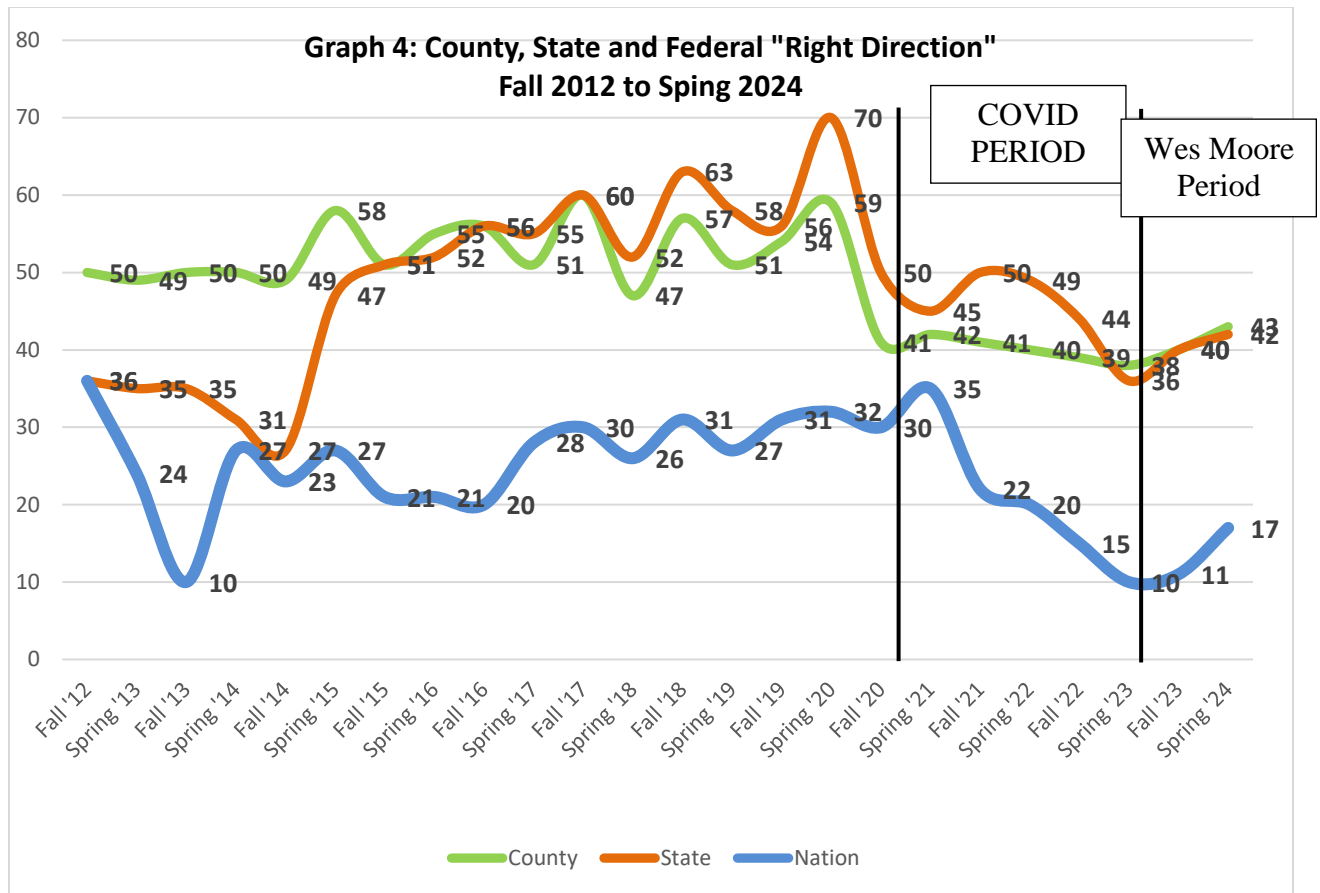
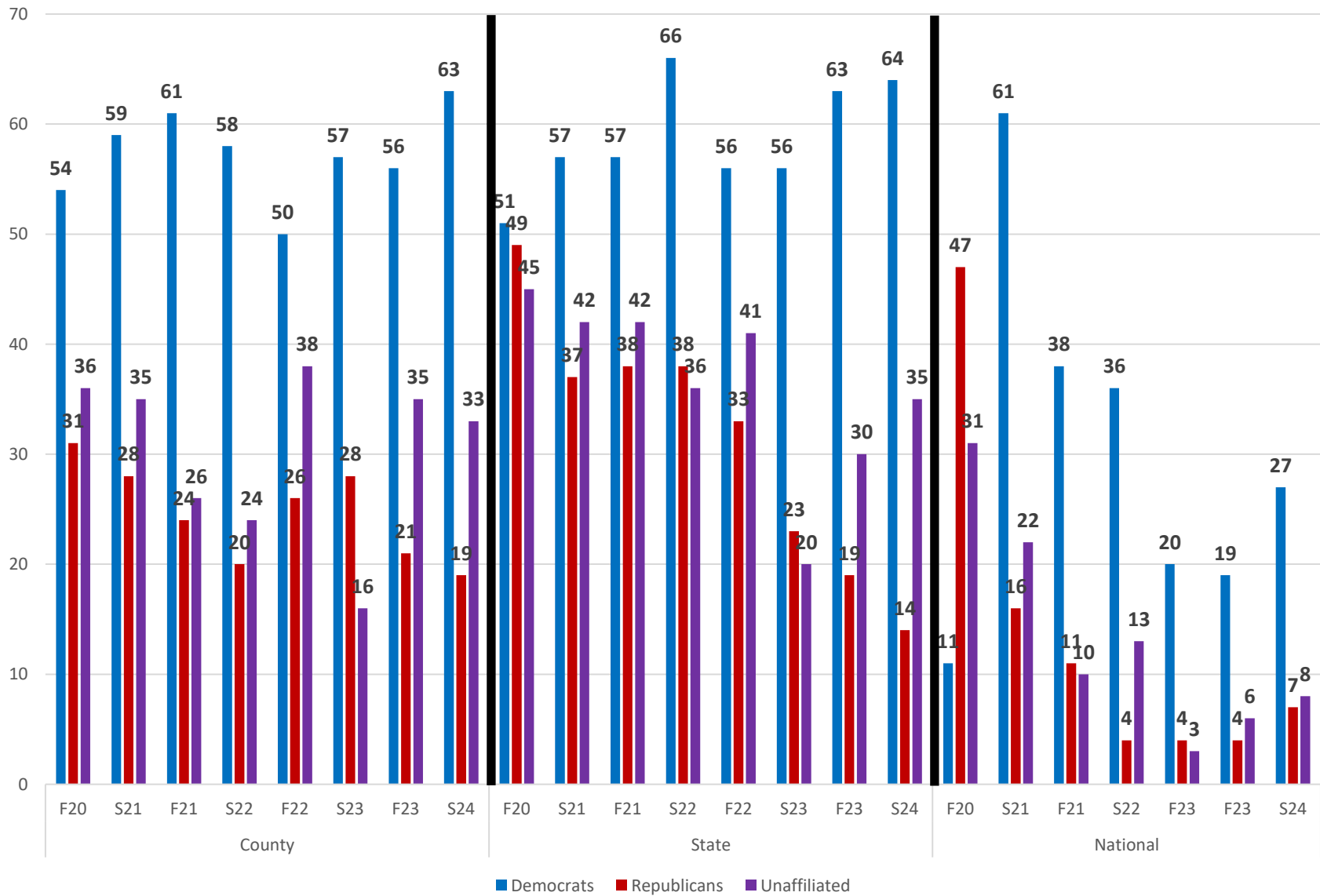


Table 8 and Graph 5 show that Democrats have remained more positive about the direction of all levels of government: the state (64% right direction) and the county (63%) as well as the nation (27%) than Republicans (14%, 19%, 4%) or unaffiliated voters (30%, 35%, 7%). Unaffiliated voters changed only slightly from last fall (35%, 33%, 8%). The impact of changing control over the executive was especially visible for Republicans after Trump's loss since their national right direction scores dropped from 47% in fall 2020 to just 16% in spring 2021. At the state level, Republicans had already expressed pessimism prior to the election of Democrat Wes Moore – having dipped from 49% right direction for Maryland in fall 2020 to just 37% in spring 2021. Trump's loss seemed to tarnish optimism about the state despite the continuance of Larry Hogan in power through 2022.

**Table 8: Right/Wrong Direction for County, State and Nation by Party Registration,  
Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021 to Spring 2024**

Right direction %=>	County								State								Country						
	F20	S21	F21	S22	F22	S23	F23	S24	F20	S21	F21	S22	F22	S23	F23	S24	F20	S21	F21	S22	F23	F23	S24
Democrats	54	59	61	58	50	57	56	63	51	57	57	66	56	56	63	64	11	61	38	36	20	19	27
Republicans	31	28	24	20	26	28	21	19	49	37	38	38	33	23	19	14	47	16	11	4	4	4	7
Unaffiliated	36	35	26	24	38	16	35	33	45	42	42	36	41	20	30	35	31	22	10	13	3	6	8

Graph 5: Right Direction Scores by Party, Fall 2020 to Spring 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 9a and Graph 6, 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 last fall (57%) to this spring (51%), but the spring percentage was similar to those found since spring 2022.

Part of the explanation for the drop in the percentage 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. 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.

Another explanation might point more to partisan divisions. It was already the case that “right direction” scores were affected by partisanship. As shown in Table 9, partisan differences were evident and had been growing over time – from a 4-point gap in spring 2021 to a 23-point gap in fall 2023 – which continued in spring 2024, but at a lower overall level of support (e.g., for Democrats, 70% in fall, 61% in spring). An overlap in perceived negative impact from the bridge’s collapse and partisanship was displayed as only 24% of Democrats perceived a negative impact for themselves compared to 29% of Republicans. This suggests that part of the difference between Democrats and Republicans could be explained by a somewhat greater negative impact of the bridge’s collapse upon the latter. The overall perceived negative impact of the collapse of the bridge might account for the general lowering of economic conditions, with the notable exception that unaffiliateds were unchanged since last fall.

**Table 9: Economy as Excellent+Good by Party Registration –  
Anne Arundel County, Fall 2019, Fall 2020-Spring 2024**

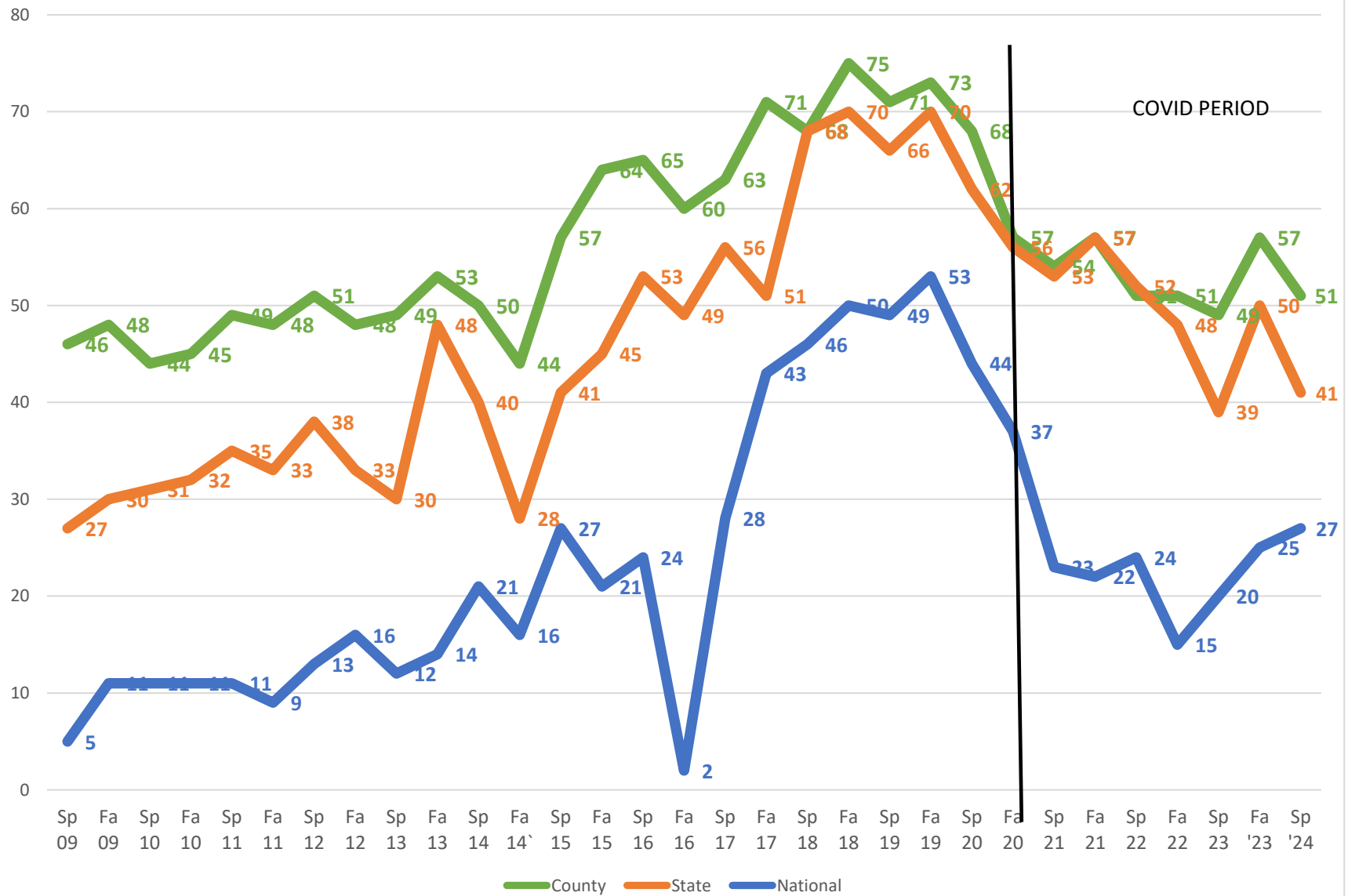
	<b>Excellent+Good</b>									
	Fa '19	Fa '20	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Spring 24 – Fall 2023
Democrats	71	55	59	63	60	59	62	70	61	-9
Republicans	79	62	55	52	42	38	47	47	38	-9
Unaffiliated	73	56	46	53	40	53	31	51	51	0

**Table 9a: Perceptions of Anne Arundel County's Economic Conditions – Spring 2013 to Spring 2024**

	Sp '13	Fa '13	Sp '14	Fa '14	Sp '15	Fa '15	Sp '16	Fa '16	Sp '17	Fa '17	Sp '18	Fa '18	Sp '19	Fa 19	Sp '20	Fa '20	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Avg .
Excel+Good	49	53	50	44	57	64	65	60	65	71	68	75	71	73	68	57	54	57	51	51	49	57	51	59
Excellent	3	6	8	4	5	7	8	8	5	9	10	15	12	14	11	7	6	7	7	8	4	6	8	8
Good	46	47	42	40	52	57	57	52	60	62	58	60	59	59	57	50	48	50	44	43	45	51	43	51
Fair	38	35	40	41	33	27	27	34	29	25	27	19	22	20	24	29	38	31	36	36	35	27	35	31
Poor	11	10	9	12	7	6	5	3	3	1	2	2	3	3	4	9	7	9	10	12	15	13	13	7
Don't know	3	3	3	2	4	3	4	4	3	3	3	4	4	3	4	5	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	3
Total	101	10	101	99	101	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	99	100	100	101	100	100	101	101	100	101	100



Graph 6: County, State, National - Excellent+Good Scores Spring 2009 to Spring 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 10, 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 spring, the percentage was down 9-points to 41% - on the low end since the start of the pandemic.

Table 11 shows 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). The Democratic and Republican scores were among the lowest since the start of the pandemic period and well below averages since fall 2019.

**Table 10: Perceptions of State Economic Conditions –Spring 2014 to Spring 2024**

	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	Avg.
Excellent+good	40	28	41	45	53	49	56	63	63	70	66	70	62	55	50	57	52	48	39	50	41	52
Excellent	4	1	3	2	5	5	3	4	6	11	9	10	10	6	3	6	7	3	4	4	6	5
Good	36	27	38	43	48	44	53	59	57	59	57	60	52	49	47	51	45	45	35	46	35	47
Fair	40	40	39	41	36	39	34	29	29	24	25	22	28	32	40	31	34	37	37	29	36	33
Poor	18	30	16	11	9	9	7	4	5	4	5	5	6	9	7	9	11	12	20	17	20	11
Don't know	2	2	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	2	3	4	3	3
Total	101	99	101	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	99	99	100	100	100	100	99	99	100	100	99

**Table 11: Maryland Economy as Excellent+Good by Party Registration – Fall 2019, Fall 2020 to Spring 2024**

	Excellent+Good										
	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021	Spring 2022	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Avg.	Spring 2024 - Fall 2023
Democrats	69	47	55	62	70	57	57	70	<b>54</b>	60	-16
Republicans	73	67	49	50	41	32	28	34	<b>26</b>	44	-8
Unaffiliated	68	45	48	42	36	50	25	43	<b>36</b>	44	-7

## Rating Economic Conditions –The National Economy

As shown on Graph 6, the appraisal of the *national* economy has always lagged significantly behind both the *county* and *state*. For this spring, Graph 7 and Table 13 show that there was a continuation of some positive change – a 2-point increase in excellent+good scores from 25% to 27%. The COVID period has essentially paralleled the situation prior to 2017 when economic perceptions hovered in a similar range as during the recent past.

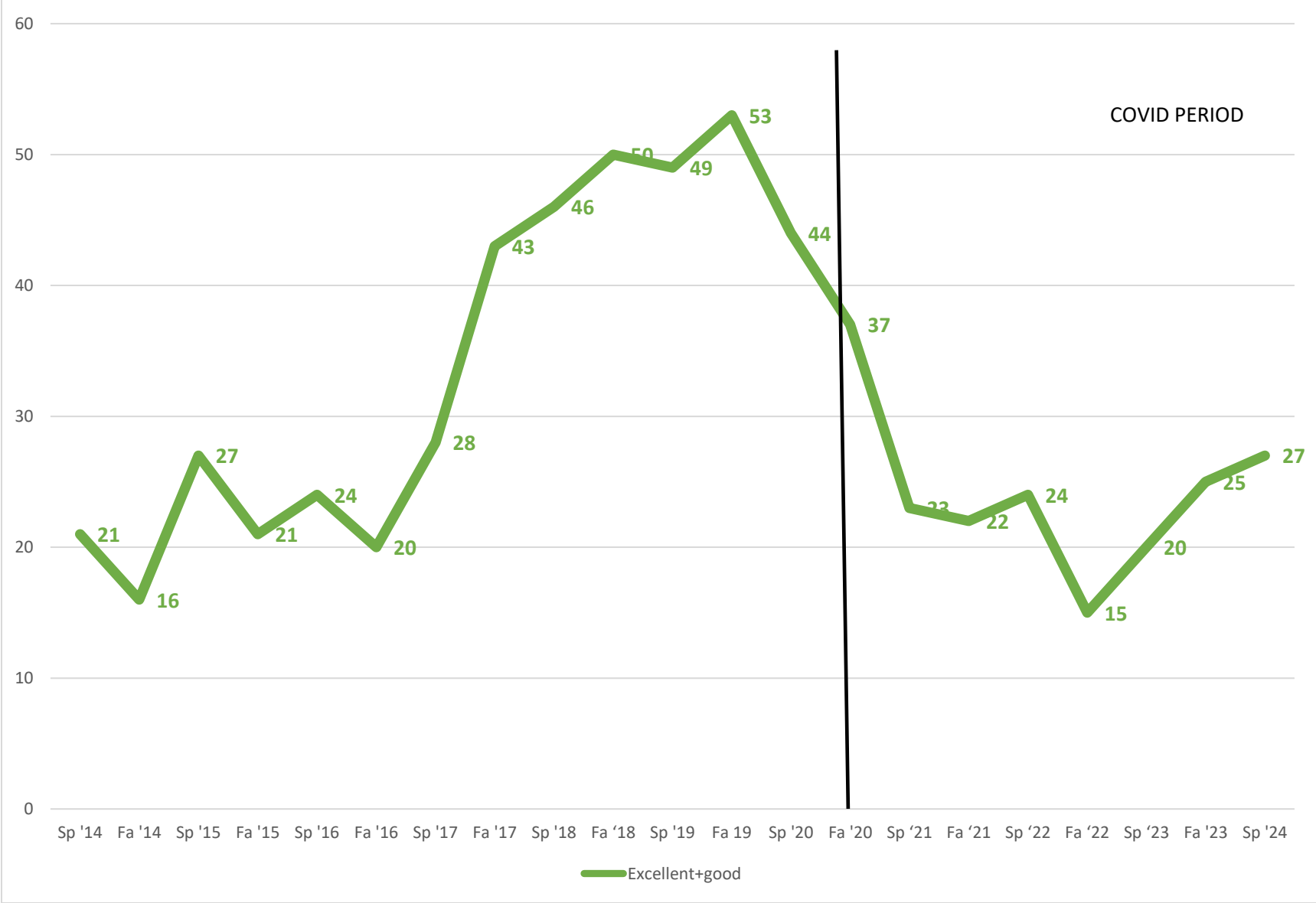
Looking at the results by party registration on Graph 8, Republicans enjoyed the economy as it performed under then President Trump – with fall 2019 gaining a score of 72%. One year later, the decline in percentages was already apparent, as the Republican score dipped to 59%. The first poll after President 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%. Marginal improvement among Republicans was seen this spring as the percentage rose to 15%. The percentage among unaffiliateds also rose from 13% to 19%.

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%.

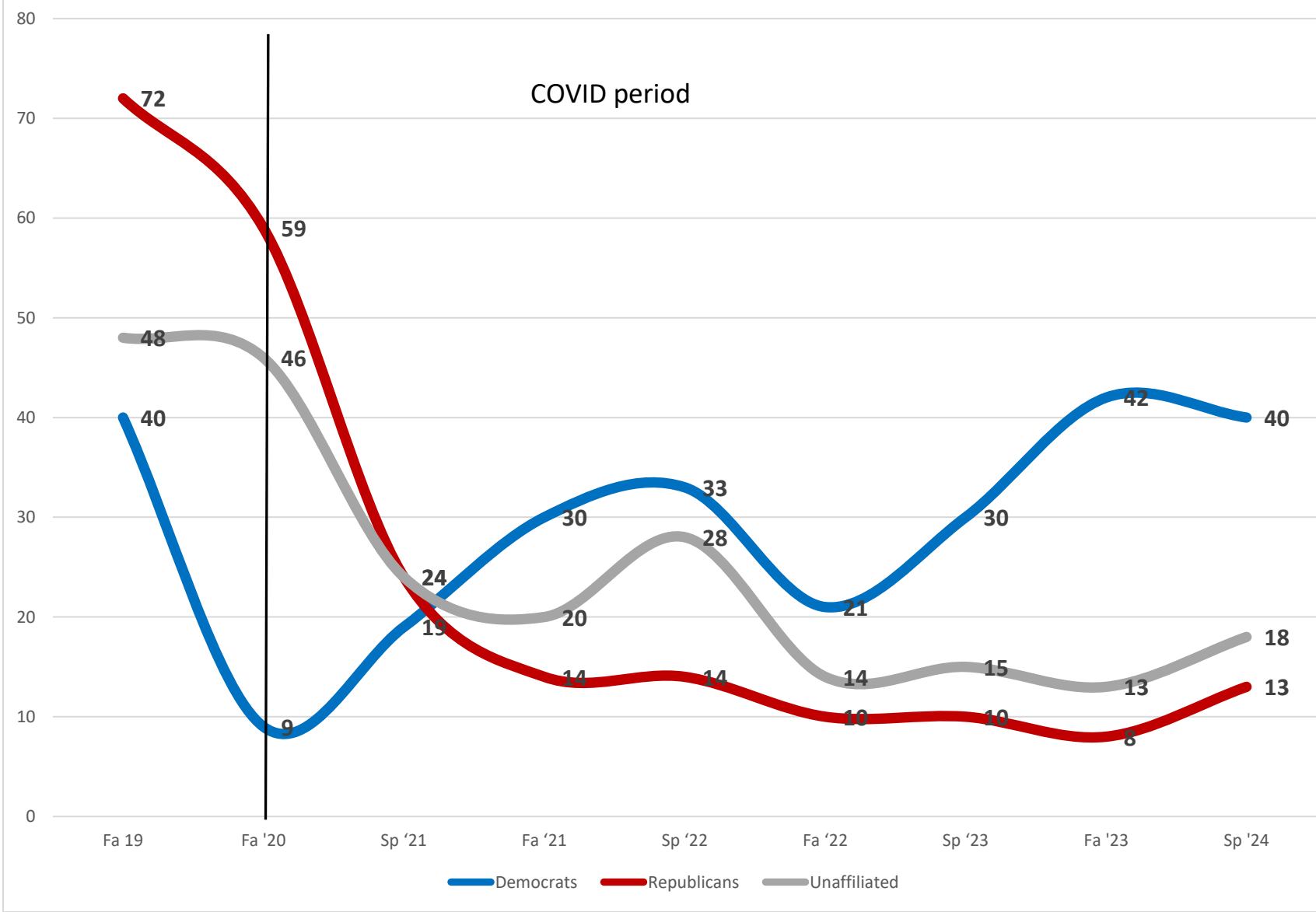
**Table 12: Economy as Excellent+Good by Party Registration –  
USA, Fall 2019 to Spring 2024**

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

Graph 7: National Economic Conditions - Excellent+Good, Spring 2014 to Spring 2024



Graph 8: National Economic "Excellent+Good" Score by Party - Fall 2019 to Spring 2024



**Table 13: Perceptions of National Economic Conditions– Spring 2015 to Spring 2024**

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

## 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 14, expectations for the national economy have been gradually improving, even if remaining low. In spring 2024, there was a 6-point rise in the “improve” score with other decreases in “stay the same” and “worse” scores. More people seemed unsure – up 7-points to 17%. Variance in this answer category has been quite notable over the years.

**Table 14: Expectations for National Economy – Spring 2020 to Spring 2024**

	Scores									
	Spring 2020	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Fall 2021	Spring 2022	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Sp '24-Fa '23
Improve	41	46	40	22	29	32	20	23	29	6
Stay the same	23	16	20	24	18	18	18	21	16	-5
Worse	27	17	34	49	54	50	55	46	39	-7
Unsure	9	21	6	6	0	0	7	10	17	7
Total	100	100	100	101	101	100	100	100	101	

As was shown in the discussion about *perceptions* of the national economy, no political category was especially optimistic; regarding national economic *expectations* Table 15 shows the same to be true – the highest “improve” score was among Democrats at only 36% - slightly changed from last fall (32%). Republicans scores rose somewhat from 14% to 22% as did scores among unaffiliateds (rising from 12% to 18%).

**Table 15: National Economic Expectations by Party - Fall 2022 to Spring 2024**

	Democrats				Republicans				Unaffiliated			
	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24
Improve	36	33	32	36	19	12	14	22	31	18	12	18
Stay the same	25	25	26	19	11	11	15	11	18	16	23	15
Worse	39	41	31	28	70	77	64	51	51	66	51	45
Unsure, DK	--	--	11	17	--	--	7	16	--	--	14	23
Total	100	99	100		100	100	100		100	100	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 16. Graph 10 displays results for the last five 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.

As Table 16 demonstrates, the concern for inflation remained high, even if down from 67% to 58% saying that they were "very concerned." Among the other items, federal debt/deficit was the second most cited item, with a very concerned score of 56% down 3 points from last fall.

Overall, there wasn't much change in scores for other items. Concern about unemployment remained the item with the lowest level of concern at 24%. All others hovered in the mid-30 percent range.

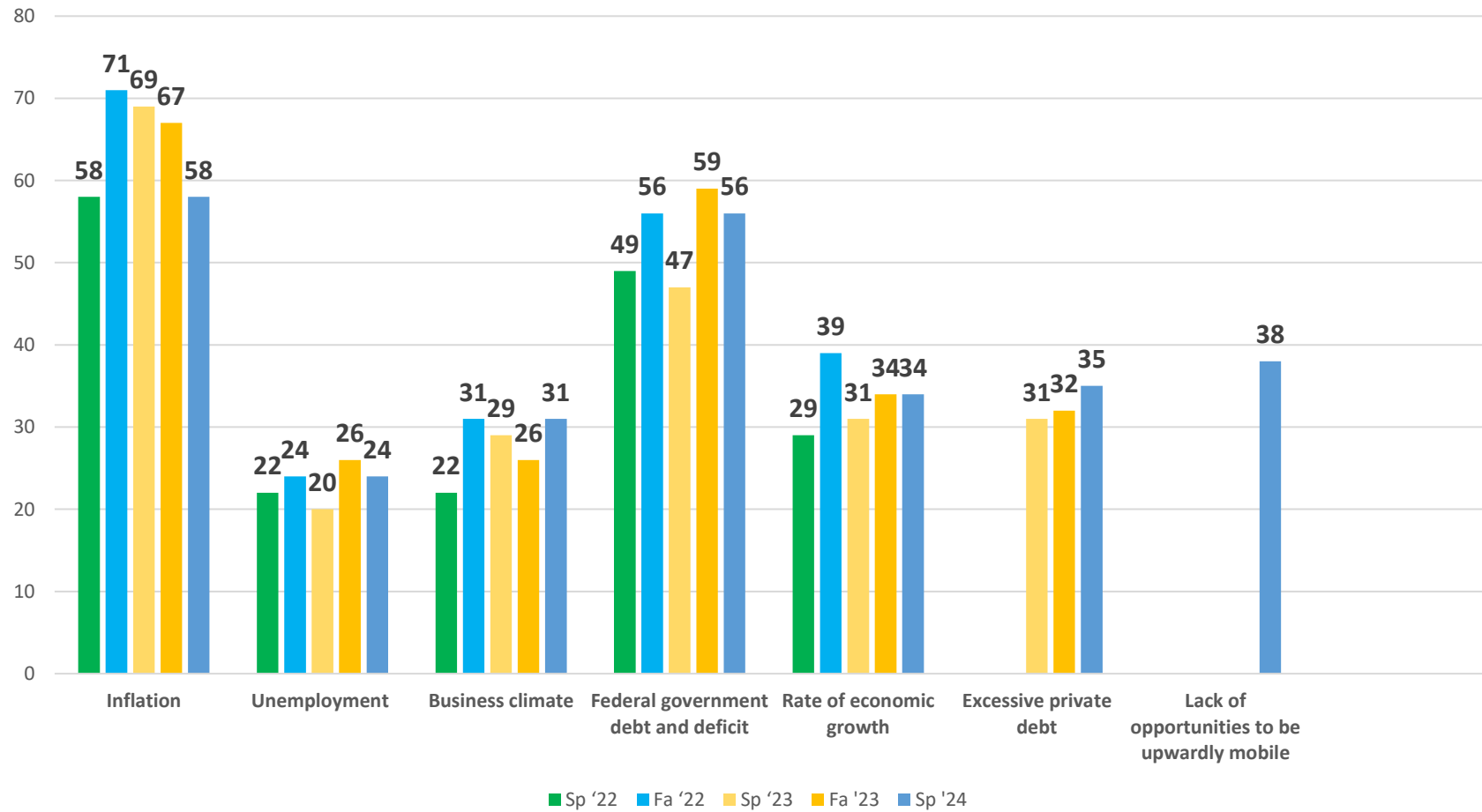
**Table 16: Concern About Economic Factors – Spring 2022 to Spring 2024**

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

**Table 17: Economic Expectations by Party “Very Concerned”  
Percentage Spring ’22 to Spring 2024**

	Democrats					Republicans					Unaffiliated				
	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24
Inflation	40	53	54	53	41	79	83	83	86	78	69	71	82	70	64
Unemployment	17	23	21	24	20	25	18	16	26	26	24	21	21	33	22
Business climate	14	24	22	15	21	32	30	29	39	46	26	29	40	29	31
Federal government debt and deficit	29	36	26	41	38	76	76	65	82	82	62	51	64	66	58
Rate of economic growth	14	31	15	17	20	42	45	50	52	50	44	30	52	45	35
Excessive private debt	N.A.	N.A.	25	28	32	N.A.	N.A.	32	31	35	N.A. .	N.A.	40	43	36
Lack of opportunities to be upwardly mobile	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	42	N.A.	N.A.	N. A.	N. A.	33	N.A. .	N.A.	N.A. .	N. A.	41
Average	23	33	27	30	31	51	50	46	53	50	45	40	50	48	41

Graph 10: "Very Concerned" About Various Economic Conditions -  
Spring 2022 to Spring 2024

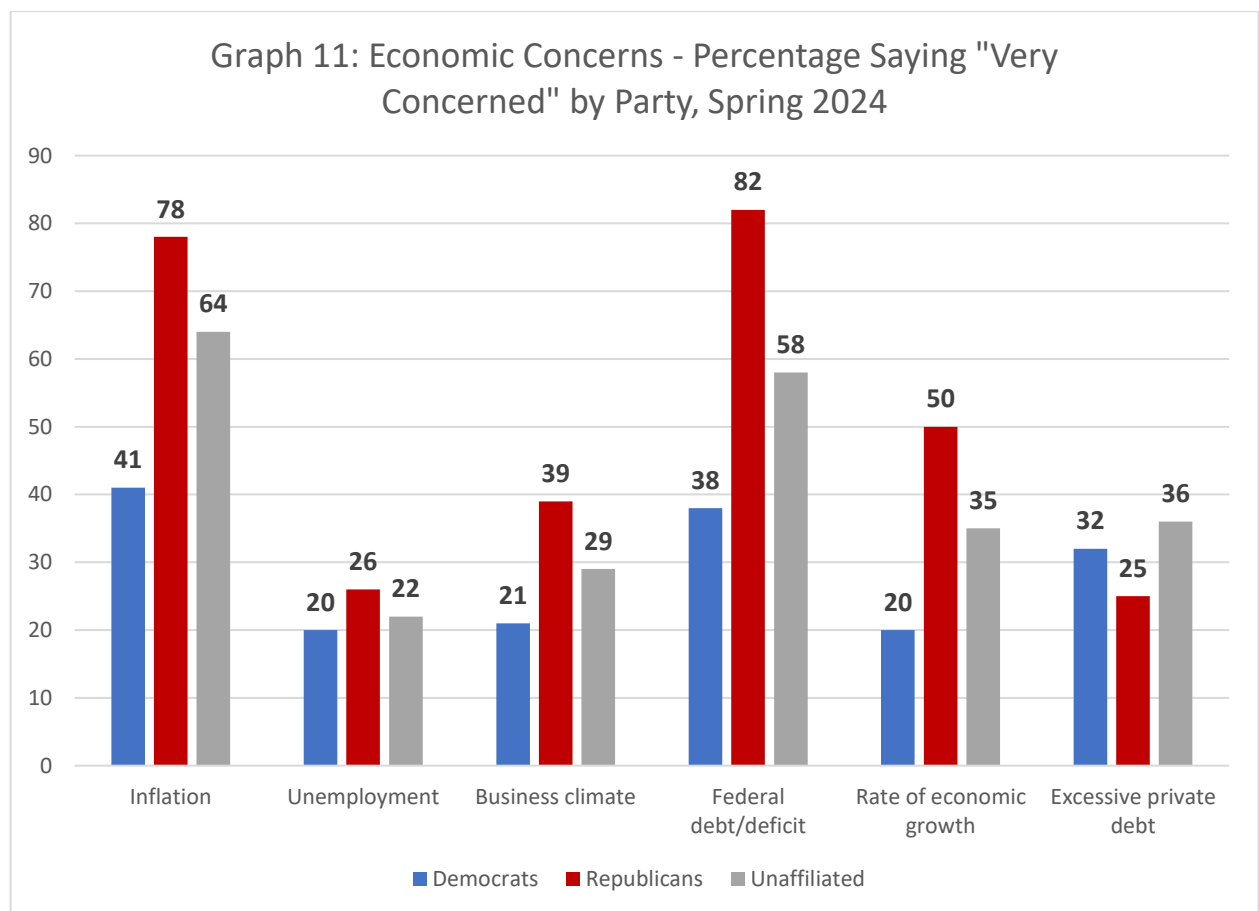


Looking at partisan divides on Table 17, among Democrats there was a sizable drop in the percentage saying that they were very concerned about inflation – from 53% to 41%. There was about an equal percentage of Democrats (42%) saying that they were very concerned about the “lack of opportunities to be upwardly mobile.” There were some other minor changes among Democrats as noted in the table, but many items had high concern scores between 20-30%. The jump in concern about federal debt and deficit seen last fall (from 26% in spring 2023 to 41% in fall 2023) was mostly sustained this spring (38%).

As shown in Table 17, for Republicans, levels of concern were consistently higher – average “very concerned” scores across all items were 19 percentage points higher for Republicans than Democrats. These differences were especially apparent for inflation (Republicans 78%; Democrats 41%) and federal government debt and deficit (82%, 38%), but were evident across the board. The one item for which Republican scores were lower was “lack of opportunities to be upwardly mobile (33%, 42%).

Among unaffiliated respondents, their average percentages across all items were about equidistant to Democrats and Republicans at 41%. Like Republicans, unaffiliateds had high concern for inflation (64%) as well as federal debt (58%) but their scores dropped somewhat from fall 2023. Their concern for upward mobility was about the same as for Democrats (41%).

Party differences are depicted on Graph 11 for spring 2024.



## 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 18 (as well as Graph 12) shows the results from recent surveys while Table 19 shows a longer time frame.<sup>4</sup>

Table 18 has been sorted by the size of the difference between the spring 2024 and fall 2023 surveys. All items – both positive and negative – received higher scores this spring. The sharpest rise was for the item “hard to afford the cost of food and groceries” which jumped 14 points to 51% - close to the range typical of the period spring 2022 to spring 2023 – with fall 2023 something of an outlier.

**Table 18: Economic Perceptions Spring 2020 to Spring 2024**  
(percent saying, “applies”)

	Sp '20	Fa '20	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp 24- Fa -23	Avg.
Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	19	19	22	32	48	52	53	37	<b>51</b>	14	31
Hard to afford the cost of education (from spring 2020 – “beyond high school”)	21	25	34	33	38	40	40	30	<b>39</b>	9	35
Found a new or better job recently	15	9	7	11	13	11	12	7	<b>13</b>	6	11
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	40	30	37	32	49	33	49	41	<b>46</b>	5	37
Facing the possibility of unemployment	15	11	12	15	11	13	12	9	<b>13</b>	4	11
Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive, or inadequate/	25	19	23	27	31	34	26	34	<b>37</b>	3	27
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	37	38	45	55	66	64	63	58	<b>59</b>	1	52
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	46	51	57	54	64	58	64	58	<b>59</b>	1	57
Hard to afford the cost of childcare	Not asked						10	6	<b>11</b>	5	9

<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.

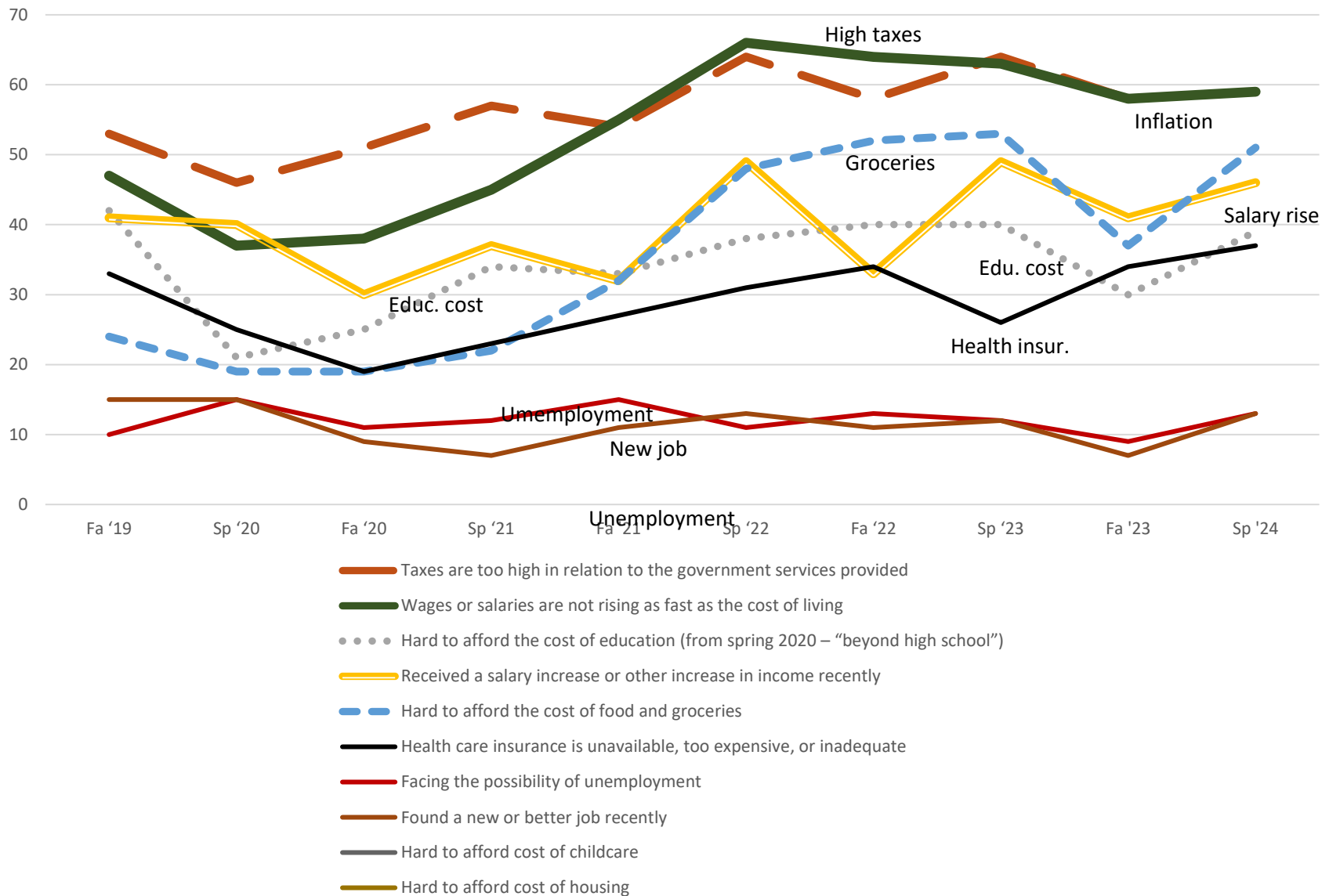
**Table 19: Economic Conditions Applying to Personal Circumstances –Fall 2015 to Spring 2024**

Condition	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	Avg
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	62	59	61	58	55	58	57	56	53	46	51	57	54	64	58	64	58	59	57
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	54	58	57	55	49	49	36	40	47	37	38	45	55	66	64	63	58	59	52
Hard to afford the cost of education (from spring 2020 – “beyond high school”)	39	39	40	38	33	32	32	37	42	21	25	34	33	38	40	40	30	39	35
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	34	32	29	31	26	41	36	45	41	40	30	37	32	49	33	49	41	46	37
Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	28	30	29	27	25	24	20	25	24	19	19	22	32	48	52	53	37	51	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)	33	38	14	16	18	18	35	32	33	25	19	23	27	31	34	26	34	37	27
Facing the possibility of unemployment	12	9	11	14	11	8	7	8	10	15	11	12	15	11	13	12	9	13	11
Found a new or better job recently	13	10	8	10	10	13	13	12	15	15	9	7	11	13	11	12	7	13	11

Party based differences were apparent among some of these measures (see Table 20). 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 spring the gap was 34 points, slightly up from fall 2023 when there was a 30-point gap. Republicans were more likely to say that it was “hard to afford the cost of food or groceries (17-point). Democrats were more likely to highlight the cost of education (12-point gap). Other items showed smaller gaps although in some cases, small absolute values (and thus apparently small differences between partisans) hid large differences such as the cost of childcare which was cited twice as often by Democrats (11%) than Republicans (6%) – and even more often by unaffiliateds (17%). These differences may point to age or lifecycle differences among party respondents.



Graph 12: Econ. Conds, Personal Experiences Fall 2019 to Spring 2024



**Table 20: Party and Economic Conditions/Experiences – Fall 2022 to Spring 2024**

	<b>Overall</b>				<b>Democrats</b>				<b>Republicans</b>				<b>Unaffiliated</b>				<b>Gap (D-R)</b>			
	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	58	64	58	<b>59</b>	44	53	44	<b>45</b>	44	77	74	<b>79</b>	56	75	62	<b>63</b>	-29	-24	-30	<b>-34</b>
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	64	63	58	<b>59</b>	68	56	49	<b>55</b>	68	60	63	<b>59</b>	65	74	68	<b>64</b>	5	-4	-14	<b>-4</b>
Hard to afford the cost of education beyond high school	40	40	30	<b>39</b>	41	34	28	<b>41</b>	41	35	28	<b>29</b>	42	53	34	<b>47</b>	8	-1	0	<b>12</b>
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	33	49	41	<b>46</b>	35	54	45	<b>48</b>	35	43	49	<b>46</b>	42	52	25	<b>43</b>	2	11	-4	<b>2</b>
Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	52	53	37	<b>51</b>	49	54	29	<b>43</b>	49	55	43	<b>60</b>	42	46	39	<b>53</b>	-3	-1	-14	<b>-17</b>
Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive, or inadequate	34	26	34	<b>37</b>	34	28	34	<b>33</b>	34	26	33	<b>42</b>	35	19	39	<b>34</b>	2	2	1	<b>-9</b>
Facing the possibility of unemployment	13	12	9	<b>13</b>	15	18	11	<b>13</b>	15	6	5	<b>13</b>	7	9	9	<b>9</b>	3	12	6	<b>0</b>
Found a new or better job recently	11	12	7	<b>13</b>	11	15	9	<b>13</b>	11	9	1	<b>9</b>	14	10	10	<b>15</b>	2	6	8	<b>4</b>
Cost of childcare	--	10	6	<b>11</b>	--	8	5	<b>11</b>	--	1	5	<b>6</b>	--	21	6	<b>17</b>	--	7	0	<b>5</b>
Hard to afford cost of housing	--	--	--	<b>42</b>	--	--	--	<b>43</b>	--	--	--	<b>39</b>	--	--	--	<b>42</b>				<b>4</b>

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

Table 21 shows the impact of income on the indicators of economic conditions applying to personal circumstances both for the current survey as well as the gap between higher and lower income groups over time.

Dividing the sample of respondents into those earning up to \$75,000 into one group and those earning at over \$75,000 into a second group, the pattern over the years has been consistent: most desirable outcomes favor the higher income group. For spring 2024, four items showed the largest differences: “Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries” (37-point gap, up from 20 last fall); “Hard to afford the cost of housing” (35-point gap, down from 44 last fall); “Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living” (29-point gap, up from 11 last fall); and “Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive, or inadequate” (26-point gap, up from 8 last fall).

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 and is less concerned with health care costs or availability. There was little difference between the two groups regarding the idea that “taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided” (6-point gap).

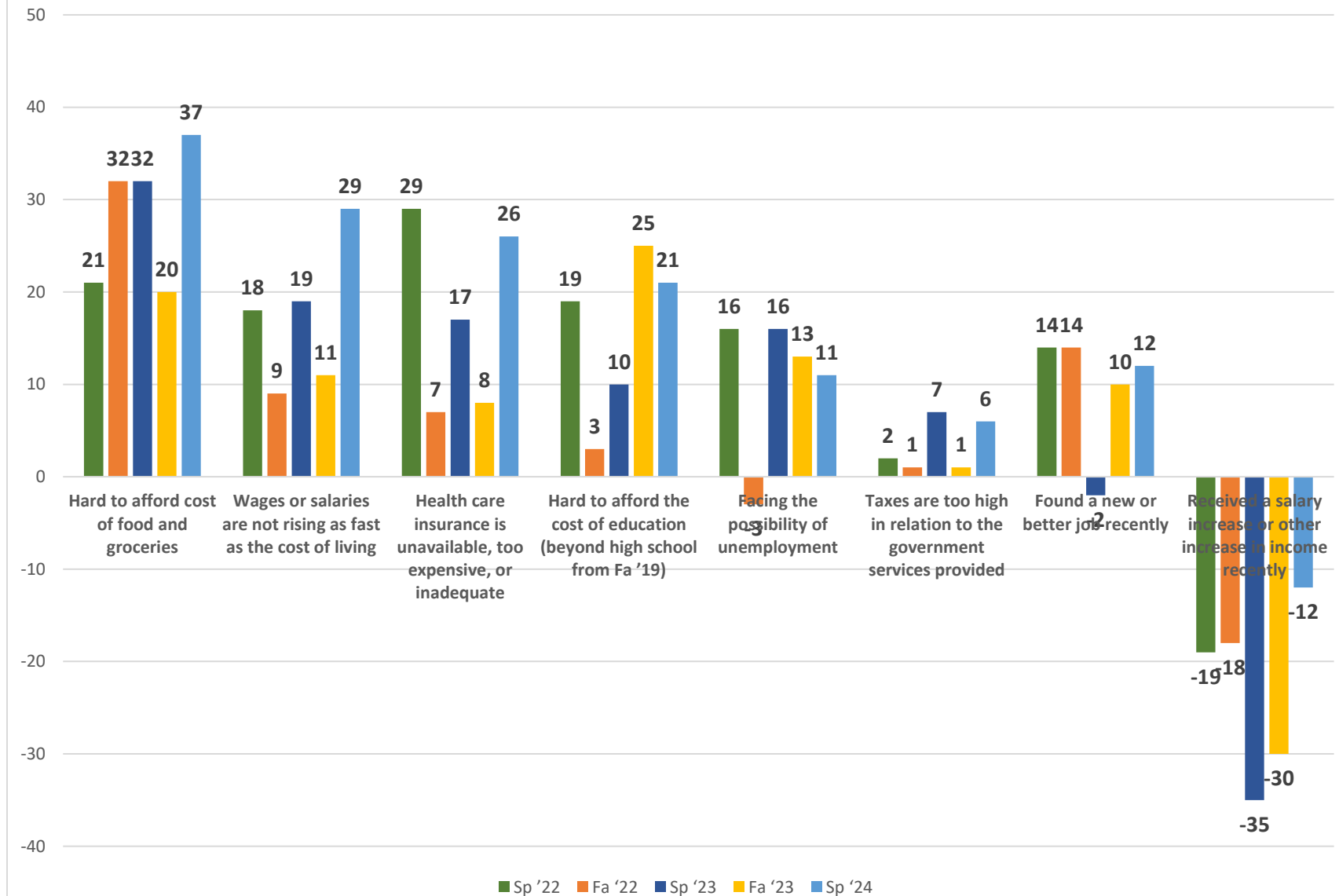
Graph 13 shows just the percentage point gaps between the lower and higher income groups for spring 2022, fall 2022, spring 2023, fall 2023 and spring 2024. The results show that inflationary pressures have been significant throughout the period – especially shown by the cost of food and groceries.

**Table 21: Income Groups and Economic Indicators Fall 2019 to Spring 2024**

	Spring 2024		Gap: Under \$75k-Over 75K									
	Under \$75,000	\$75,000+	Sp '20	Fa '20	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Avg
Hard to afford cost of food and groceries	77	40	28	29	14	23	21	32	32	20	37	27
Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	81	52	29	18	21	18	18	9	19	11	29	18
Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive, or inadequate	54	28	16	10	10	24	29	7	17	8	26	16
Hard to afford the cost of education (beyond high school from Fa '19)	55	34	15	14	17	10	19	3	10	25	21	12
Facing the possibility of unemployment	20	9	6	10	14	15	16	-3	16	13	11	9
Taxes are too high in relation to the government services provided	64	58	4	-7	-18	-8	2	1	7	1	6	-1
Found a new or better job recently	23	11	-7	-3	0	2	14	14	-2	10	12	3
Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	41	53	-13	-15	-13	-16	-19	-18	-35	-30	-12	-10
Childcare services – access, affordability	14	10	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6	4	5
Hard to afford cost of housing	69	34	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	44	35	40

Note: Desirable outcomes are bolded under income categories.

Graph 13: Gap Between Under \$75K and \$75K+



## Economic Prospects for Young People/Use of Artificial Intelligence

A new question was asked within the section dealing with the economy: “In your opinion, how hard is it for young people today to find a good job or career?”

Table 22 shows that the modal category for the overall sample was “somewhat hard” (52%). Age appears to affect the tendency to perceive challenges for young people since the “very hard” category was just 29% for those over 40, by 42% and 55% for those between 18-29 and 30-39 respectively. Moreover, those with lower incomes were nearly twice as likely as those with incomes of at least \$75,000 to say “very hard” (51%, 28%). These findings suggest that those more likely to be experiencing the actual challenges of finding job opportunities or selecting careers are perceiving significant challenges that those who are older or with higher incomes don’t perceive.

**Table 22: “How hard is it for young people to find a good job or career?”**  
**Overall, Age, Income**

Item	Overall	18-29	30-39	40+	Income<75k	>75k
Not hard	11	8	1	13	7	11
Somewhat hard	52	47	41	54	42	57
Very hard	34	42	55	29	51	28
Unsure, no opinion	3	3	3	3	0	4
Total	100	100	100	99	100	100

## Artificial Intelligence: Impact on Career Choices, Experiences

The last section dealing with economic factors broached the issue of artificial intelligence. The first question asked, “Do you feel that artificial intelligence will have a major, minor or no impact on your job or career choices over the next 20 years?”<sup>5</sup> Table 23 shows that a large majority of respondents (59%) felt that AI would have a major impact on their choices. Differences by age or income were not very large.

**Table 23: Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Job/Career Choices - Overall, Age, Income**

Item	Overall	18-29	30-39	40+	Income<75k	>75k
Major	59	52	53	60	62	58
Minor	23	26	37	22	16	25
No impact	12	11	3	14	12	12
Unsure, no opinion	6	11	8	4	9	5
Total	100	100	100	99	100	100

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<sup>5</sup> This question offered the answer choice “retired” for those who were already or soon to be retired and thus were least likely to be affected by artificial intelligence in careers. These respondents were excluded from the results in Table 23.

The survey also asked about people’s awareness of and actual experience with AI. Initially, the question asked was “Have you heard about the AI tool called “ChatGPT” or similar AI products?” Table 24 summarizes the results for the overall sample as well as by age and income. Only about a quarter (26%) claimed to have both knowledge and use of AI tools. This percentage was higher for younger people (18-29, 34%; 30-39, 42%) than for those over 40 (23%). Those with higher incomes were also more likely to have used it (31% vs. 20%). A majority across income and age groups had heard of AI but did not use it. A much larger percentage of those over 40 had not heard of it (14%) compared to younger people (2%, 0%).

**Table 24: Knowledge/Use of Artificial Intelligence - Overall, Age, Income**

Item	Overall	18-29	30-39	40+	Income<75k	>75k
Yes, and used it	26	34	42	23	20	31
Yes, but not used it	62	64	58	62	69	57
No	11	2	0	14	10	11
Unsure, no opinion	11	1	0	1	0	1
Total	100	100	100	99	100	100

The survey went on to ask just those who had used it to identify ways in which AI tools had been used. Table 25 shows the options and relevant percentages. Relatively small percentages had used AI tools in any way as the most cited “several times” percentage for “other uses” was only 23%. The process of conducting research was more likely to be never used (38%) than frequently used (16%). It appears that respondents are still tentatively approaching AI to explore ways in which these tools might be helpful. An open-ended section allowed individuals to offer ways in which they had used AI and included such uses as data verification, business document writing, generating coloring pages for my children, grammar and brainstorm creative projects, inspiration for college essays, legal issues, planning travel, recipes, to understand concepts in computer science, etc. These are found in Appendix C.

**Table 25: Use of Artificial Intelligence - Alternatives**

Item	Never	Somewhat, a bit	Several times, frequently	Total
To help you write reports, conduct research, write computer code	38	46	16	100
To help write fictional stories, poems, music, or artistic graphics	77	20	3	100
To research personal issues such as relationships, psychology, emotional questions	65	29	6	100
Other uses	35	42	23	100

## Coronavirus Section

The initial summary section of the press release covered some findings pertinent to the COVID-19 situation. The earlier discussion about the “most important problem facing residents” has already remarked that this is the first time since the start of the pandemic that the percentage claiming the coronavirus was zero. For this section, the number of questions has been reduced significantly from previous surveys and has concentrated on only two elements: years in which the respondent claims to have contracted the illness and a new 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?”

### 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). The most serious year for contracting the virus was apparently 2022 with 28% saying that they had contracted it that year. It is also the year with the highest average of people saying that they had COVID-19 (30%). Note also that regarding 2023, the percentages increased through the several surveys – moving from only 4% claiming to have come down with it during the spring 2023 survey, compared to 22% by the time of the spring 2024 survey.

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

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

That incidence of COVID-19 might be underestimated by the findings 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 (21%) affirmed that this was the case (75% no, 4% unsure).



## County as Level of Analysis: Crime

The survey next turned to matters more directly affecting the county itself, with its first major focus being crime. The survey asked respondents to indicate whether they had been a victim of crime “over the last year.” It followed up by asking whether the respondent thought that specific categories of crime were “not much,” “somewhat” or “a significant” problem. The first iteration of this question asked about “your neighborhood” with a second focus on “the county as a whole.” In both cases, it asked about the importance of various ways for coming to the crime assessment: personal experience; word of mouth from neighbors, friends, family; information online from social media or apps on your phone; and “other forms of crime reporting such as newspapers, newsletters, radio, TV.”

Table 27 looks at the reported incidence of crime divided into eight categories. It shows that the most common type of crime is categorized under “cybercrimes” such as identify theft, hacking, telephone scams as this was affirmed as a crime experience by 28% of the respondents. The second largest category was “theft” at 16%. All other categories were in the single digits, with “personal assault” (6%) being the most commonly cited.

**Table 27: Victim of Various Types of Crime?**

	Have you <b>personally</b> been a victim of this type of crime over the last year?		
	Yes	No	Total
Cybercrimes - identity theft, computer hacking, telephone scams	28	72	100
Theft - from the outside of your house, your car, just around the neighborhood	16	84	100
Burglary - breaking and entry into your house, garage, shed	4	96	100
Robbery	2	98	100
Personal assault - being attacked or threatened with violence, domestic abuse, sexual assault	6	94	100
Gunshots, shootings	4	96	100
Drug dealing	3	97	100
Illegal drug consumption	4	96	100

Looking next at the results by age, gender and income on Table 28, the identification of significant impacts of these traits upon the incidence of crimes seems mostly hard to pinpoint. Looking at the averages at the bottom of the table, the range is very small: 7-10%.

Differences are not typically pronounced, especially given the low incidence rates overall. Gunshots or shootings were only claimed by 4% but were most likely to be experienced by those who were men (6%) and between the ages of 30-39 (7%). Personal assault (6% overall) was an exception as it showed a clear tendency to be experienced predominantly by those under 18-29, 30-39 (18%, 11%), men (7%) and those with incomes under \$75,000 (6%). Personal assault was also disproportionately experienced by “Non-binary, third gender, trans male/female” (27%).

**Table 28: Victim of Crime by Age, Gender, Income**

	Overall	18-29	30-39	40-60	Over 60	Men	Women	Income <75k	>75k
Cybercrimes - identity theft, computer hacking, telephone scams	28	29	21	29	30	28	28	26	27
Theft - from the outside of your house, your car, just around the neighborhood	16	17	13	20	13	14	17	15	16
Burglary - breaking and entry into your house, garage, shed	4	2	7	4	4	6	2	7	2
Robbery	2	0	7	2	3	7	0	3	2
Personal assault - being attacked or threatened with violence, domestic abuse, sexual assault	6	18	11	4	2	7	5 <sup>6</sup>	6	3
Gunshots, shootings	4	1	7	6	3	6	2	3	5
Drug dealing	3	2	7	4	1	4	2	1	3
Illegal drug consumption	4	5	7	5	2	6	3	3	3
Average	8	9	10	9	7	10	8	8	8

<sup>6</sup> The category within “gender” called “Non-binary, third gender, trans male/female” did not have many respondents, but on the crime “personal assault” the total claiming to have experienced it was very high: 27% compared to 7% and 5% for men and women.

Table 29 looks at incidences of crime by race. The categories for Hispanic/Latino and Asian/Asian American or Pacific Islander are included, but have relatively small representation within the survey – so their percentages should be cautiously approached due to large margins of error.

Focusing mostly on the White/African American differences, the latter are consistent and pronounced for all categories other than cybercrimes. For the remainder of the crime categories, African Americans are typically at least twice as likely to say that they have experienced a given crime. For example, the percentage of White experiencing personal assault is just 4% while it is 12% for African Americans. The latter were four times more likely to be victims of robbery; far more likely to confront drug dealing (1% Whites, 12% African American) or illegal drug consumption (3%, 11%); three times more likely to have experienced burglary (3%, 12%) and twice as frequently theft (14%, 25%). Compared to the other demographic variables examined, the impact of race seems far more significant.

**Table 29: Victim of Various Types of Crime by Race/Ethnicity**

	Overall	White	African-American	Hispanic/Latino	Asian/Asian American or Pacific Islander
Cybercrimes - identity theft, computer hacking, telephone scams	28	27	23	27	20
Theft - from the outside of your house, your car, just around the neighborhood	16	14	25	10	15
Burglary - breaking and entry into your house, garage, shed	4	3	12	0	0
Robbery	2	2	8	0	0
Personal assault - being attacked or threatened with violence, domestic abuse, sexual assault	6	4	12	11	0
Gunshots, shootings	4	3	7	9	6
Drug dealing	3	1	12	3	0
Illegal drug consumption	4	3	11	11	0
Average	8	7	14	9	5

Continuing our focus on crime, the next section compares how significant of a problem respondents said crime was in their neighborhoods compared to the county overall. The results on Table 30 (right column subtracting county from neighborhood “significant” scores) show that cybercrimes are seen as much more of a neighborhood problem, while illegal drug consumption and dealing are more county level problems. Otherwise, respondents tended to evaluate other crimes evenly between neighborhoods and the county levels.

**Table 30: Significant of Crime at Neighborhood and County Levels**

How much of a problem is...	Not much		Somewhat		Significant		
	NBH	County	NBH	County	NBH	County	NBH-County
Cybercrimes - identity theft, computer hacking, telephone scams		12	41	43	52	34	18
Theft - from the outside of your house, your car, just around the neighborhood	20	9	41	45	36	40	-4
Burglary - breaking and entry into your house, garage, shed	24	16	39	49	26	27	-1
Robbery	23	16	36	43	29	32	-3
Personal assault - being attacked or threatened with violence, domestic abuse, sexual assault	21	14	30	42	37	34	3
Gunshots, shootings	20	19	30	38	39	35	4
Drug dealing	20	13	30	32	40	47	-7
Illegal drug consumption	20	11	27	28	42	51	-9
Average	21	14	34	40	38	38	

Note: HBH = Neighborhood. Percentages within the “Neighborhood” categories may not equal 100 percent due to the coding produced by the Qualtrics tool.

The final two areas of attention dealing with crime focused on how people formed their opinions about the severity of crime both at the neighborhood and county levels, and whether those who were victims of crime reported the crime and were satisfied with the criminal investigation and resolution.

**Table 31: Sources of Information About Crime**

How important were the following in forming your opinion about the crime situation...	Not important		Somewhat important		Very important		
	NBH	County	NBH	County	NBH	County	NBH-County
Personal experience	10	18	31	38	59	45	14
Word of mouth from neighbors, friends, family	10	12	57	59	34	30	4
Information online from social media or apps on your phone	27	24	51	52	23	24	-1
Other forms of crime reporting such as newspapers or newsletters, radio, TV	16	11	45	45	39	44	-5
Average	16	16	46	49	39	36	

Table 31 compares how respondents claimed they sourced information about crime at the neighborhood and county levels. Personal experience appeared to dominate their choice of sources for both the neighborhood and county levels, although the percentage for neighborhoods saying “very important” (59%) was 14 points higher than for the county (45%). For the latter, there was somewhat more reliance on media sources (39%, 44%) such as newspapers, radio or TV. While the propensity to rely on personal experience for both levels seems compelling, it does seem more likely that personal experiences would more easily inform individuals at the neighborhood level since crime is more easily understood as occurring there than in the county in general.

The final question focusing on crime asked about crime reporting and satisfaction with the resolution of the crime if reported. Respondents were asked, “If you were a victim of crime over the last twelve months, which of the following best describes your circumstances?” The options are shown in Table 32. The question offered the option “not a victim of crime” (80%) but these were extracted from the calculations of crime reporting/resolution to highlight the experiences of those who were actually crime victims. Given the discovery of high incidences of crime among African Americans, the results included a breakdown by race.

**Table 32: Crime Reporting and Resolution**

	Overall	White	African-American
I didn’t report the crime	44	45	35
I reported the crime, but there wasn’t any criminal investigation	34	36	40
I reported the crime and the criminal investigation was resolved to my satisfaction	9	9	8
I reported the crime but the criminal investigation was not resolved to my satisfaction	14	10	17
Total	101	100	100

Table 38 shows that nearly half (45%) of those experiencing some sort of crime did not report it, although this figure was lower among African Americans (35%) than for Whites (45%). Most reported crimes did not trigger a criminal investigation. There was some tendency for those who said that a criminal investigation was triggered by the crime to claim that the criminal investigation did not resolve the crime to their satisfaction (14%) compared to those who were satisfied (9%). Whites were less likely to be dissatisfied with the criminal investigation (10%) than were African Americans (17%).

An open-ended opportunity was presented to respondents to answer the question “What could be done to best improve the safety and security of people living in Anne Arundel County. The verbatim results are found in Appendix D. Table 32a uses results sorted by ChatGPT to categorize the comments.

**Table 32a: Percentages Citing a Safety/Security Suggestion**

Category	Percentage
Police, Law Enforcement, Justice System	36
Community Engagement and Support	24
Addressing Socioeconomic Factors	17
Gun Control and legislation	5
Other suggestions	18
Total	100

## Other County Issues: Plastic Bag Ban

A bill passed by the county council banned plastic bags and allowed stores to charge for paper bags.<sup>7</sup> The survey asked people to express their views about this law. Table 33 shows the choices and results. Two answer categories allowed respondents to express some level of support for this bill: combined the total was 58% in support. As shown in Table 33 there was a sharp polarization by party as 41% of Democrats supported it “completely” with another 23% supporting “somewhat” compared to only 15% and 25% for Republicans – thus 64% vs. 40% supporting by party. It was clearly not very popular with unaffiliated voters as only 37% of them supported the bill, although nearly one quarter (23%) chose “other response.” Those making this choice were offered the option of explaining their views (see Appendix E). Comments included “ban plastic but don’t charge for paper bags,” “I hate plastic bags, but waiting to see if this hurts businesses,” “utterly ridiculous and is only another burden on taxpayers.”

**Table 33: Plastic Bag Ban**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Unaffiliated</b>
I support it completely	36	41	15	20
I support it somewhat	22	23	25	17
I generally oppose it	25	21	42	29
Other response	15	15	18	23
Unsure	2	0	0	11
Total	10	100	100	100

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<sup>7</sup> See <https://www.capitalgazette.com/2024/01/02/plastic-bag-restrictions-take-effect-in-anne-arundel-county/> for details.



## Other County Issues: General Development Plan

This section of the survey asked about awareness and concern about changes in zoning or land use that might accompany the county's review of its development plan. Table 34 shows the results of asking about awareness and concern. Slightly above one quarter had a "high" level of awareness about the plan. Much higher percentages expressed concern about how the revision process could affect "you and your community" (46%) or "the county's quality of life" (53%).

**Table 34: Awareness and Concern About the General Development Plan**

	Low	Medium	High	Unsure
Awareness about the plan	33	35	27	5
Concern about how it might affect you and your community	15	32	46	7
Concern about it might affect the county's quality of life	11	29	53	7
Total	10	100	100	100

Looking at the percentages answering "high" by party registration (Table 34a), Republicans seemed to have more awareness (33%) than Democrats (24%) and much higher levels of concern about the impact of the revision effort upon "you and your community" (63%, 36%) or "the county's quality of life" (65%, 43%).

The results by council district for the combined "medium" plus "high" awareness scores showed a range of 51 (district 2) % to 72% - with district 3 having the highest total. For concern about, scores ranged from 62% (district 1) to 88% (district 3) for "you and your community." <sup>8</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Caution should be employed when looking at results by council district as the numbers of cases within each district are relatively small, resulting in a much higher margin of error than for the overall sample.

**Table 34a: General Development and Party (percentage saying “high”)**

	Overall	Democrats	Republicans	Unaffiliated
Awareness of the plan	27	24	33	27
Concern about how it might affect you and your community	46	36	63	35
Concern about it might affect the county’s quality of life	53	43	65	39
Total	10	100	100	100

### Other County Issues: General Development Plan Online Tools

The county [website](#) dealing with land use and development provides a range of tools that can assist individuals seeking information that is relevant to zoning, land use and development. The survey asked about four of them: community land use meetings; land use navigator; development activity online tool; and zoning classification online guide. Respondents were asked whether they were aware of the tool, had used it, and to rate it. Table 35 shows awareness and use; Table 36 indicates how the tool was rated.

**Table 35: Awareness and Actual Use of Land Use and Zoning Tools**

	Aware of tool		Used tool	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Community land use meetings	43	57	17	83
Land use navigator online tool	23	77	15	85
Development activity online tool	20	81	9	91
Zoning classification online guide	26	74	15	85

Based on the results shown in Table 35, the highest level of awareness applied to community land use meetings (43%). These meetings were apparently much more commonly known than any of the online tools and guides, whose range of “yes” answers ranged from 20% to 26% – or nearly one-half that of community land use meetings.

Regarding the helpfulness of these tools, only those who said that they had used a given tool (or attended a community meeting) were included in the assessment of helpfulness included on Table 36. The table shows that among actual users, each of the tools were generally helpful, although the relatively higher scores for the various online tools compared to the community meetings suggests that these are more highly valued. This might be due to the more exact and specific types of information that the online tools provide compared to the more general information provided at community meetings.

**Table 36: Helpfulness of Land Use and Zoning Tools**

	Helpful	Neutral	Not helpful
Community land use meetings	48	41	11
Land use navigator online tool	65	27	9
Development activity online tool	61	26	12
Zoning classification online guide	61	30	9

Appendix F provides open-ended responses to the question: “If you have any suggestions or comments about land use, zoning and the process by which the county tries to keep the public aware, please enter these below.”

## Other County Issues: Perceived Discrimination Against Certain Groups

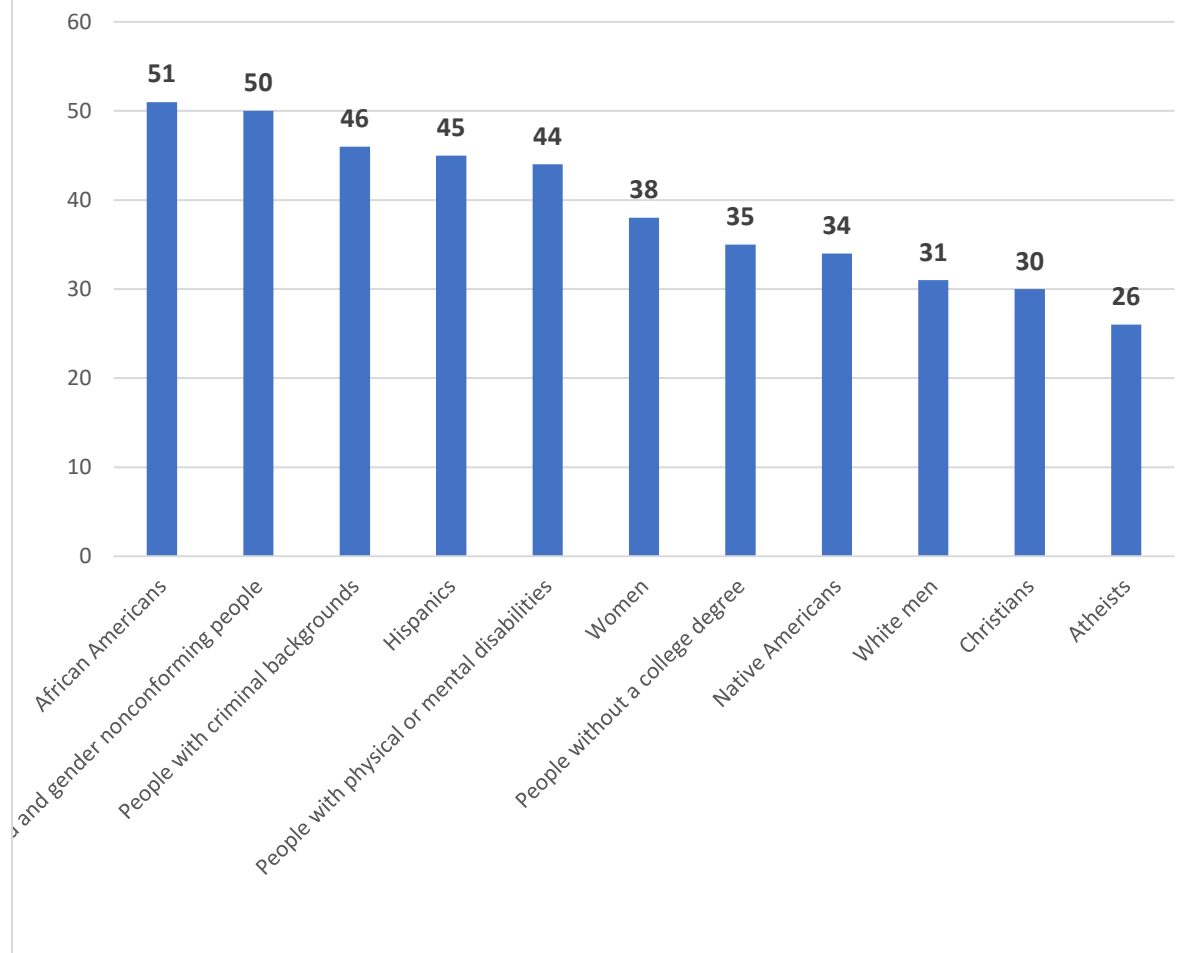
The survey included questions similar to those previously asked regarding the perception of discrimination against certain groups. This time, respondents were offered scales ranging from 0 to 100, with increments labelled “little or none,” “some,” “quite a bit,” and “a great deal.” Table 37 provides the results by showing the mean for each item along with the percentage of respondents choosing the top two increments.

**Table 37: Perceived Discrimination Against Certain Groups in Anne Arundel County**

	Mean	Combined Top 2 Total (80 or 100%)
African Americans	51	25
Transgendered and gender nonconforming people	50	26
People with criminal backgrounds	46	21
Hispanics	45	17
People with physical or mental disabilities	44	16
Women	38	8
People without a college degree	35	13
Native Americans	34	11
White men	31	11
Christians	30	12
Atheists	26	8

As shown in Table 37 and Graph 14, African Americans and “transgendered and gender nonconforming people” are virtually tied as groups perceived to suffer the most discrimination in the county. People with criminal backgrounds along with Hispanics and people with physical or mental disabilities were also highly placed, especially based on the mean scores. Given differences in the measurement tool used since the last time this question was asked, the results aren’t exactly comparable, but the ranking very closely emulates previous results.

Graph 14: Mean Scores for Groups - Perceived Discrimination



## State Policies – Budget/Tax Ideas

The survey was in the field during the conclusion of the 2024 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly. Competing ideas were floated about how to balance the budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year. The question combined some of these ideas by framing the issue as follows:

“During the legislative session this year, different approaches have been proposed to deal with shortfalls in the state government's budget for the coming 2024-25 fiscal year.

One approach would try to provide funding for transportation and education by expanding corporate taxes, legalizing Internet gaming and implementing new fees on ride-sharing, tolls and electric cars.

Another approach would increase state revenues by lowering the state sales tax from the current 6 percent to 5 percent, but extending it out to some services.

Governor Wes Moore and Senate President Bill Ferguson have rejected the idea of passing new taxes this year thus forcing cuts in anticipated spending. Which of the following do you favor?”

Respondents were offered four choices:

- Raising some taxes and fees to ensure program funding.
- Lowering the sales tax rate, but extending to some services
- Avoiding any increase in taxes and reducing funding to transportation and education
- None of the above.

Each of the answer choices included the option of adding comments. These can be found in Appendix G.

Table 38 and Graph 15 provide the percentages overall and by party registration. The results are demonstrative of the challenges of finding a fiscal formula that is broadly accepted and well understood. Overall, there are few differences between the three main alternatives, that collectively gather 64% of support. None of the above is favored by 17% and among a fifth say don't know/unsure (19%).

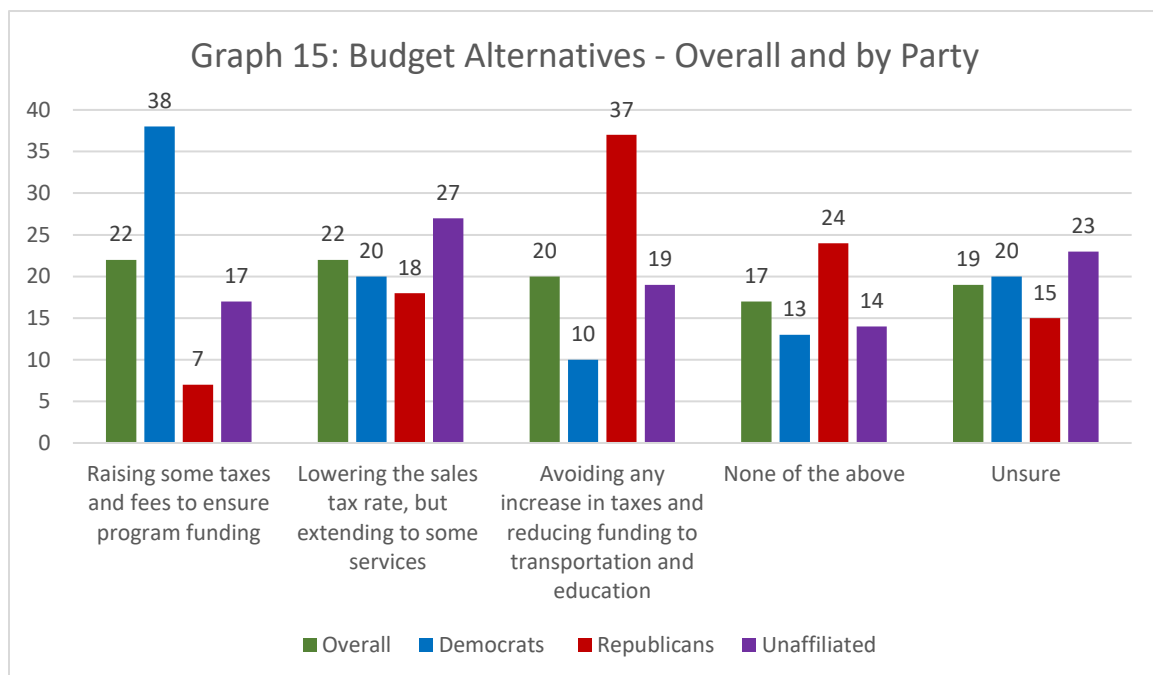
The partisan picture is somewhat clarifying: a plurality of Democrats (38%) favor raising some taxes and fees, but only 7% of Republicans agree, with unaffiliateds leaning closer to the Republican position (17%). Apparently, a plurality of unaffiliateds (27%) favor lowering the sales tax, but also extending to services not currently being taxed. A plurality of Republicans say that the best option is to avoid any tax increase and instead reduce funding to programs such as education and transportation. In the end, the budget included some increases in fees (on vehicles) and taxes on tobacco.

According to The Capital, “The plan includes a 75-cent fee on rideshares such as Uber and Lyft, a \$125 surcharge on electric vehicle registrations and various levels of fees for heavier vehicles that have an outsized impact on deteriorating roads.” “It will make a dent in, but not

solve, the budget deficits in the coming years.”<sup>9</sup> Effectively, the Maryland General Assembly and Governor Moore chose the approach favored by a plurality of Democrats: “Raising some taxes and fees to ensure program funding.” See Appendix G for verbatim comments.

**Table 38: Budget/Tax Preferences – Overall and by Party**

	Overall	Democrats	Republicans	Unaffiliated
Raising some taxes and fees to ensure program funding	22	38	7	17
Lowering the sales tax rate, but extending to some services	22	20	18	27
Avoiding any increase in taxes and reducing funding to transportation and education	20	10	37	19
None of the above	17	13	24	14
Unsure	19	20	15	23
Total	100	101	101	100



<sup>9</sup> See <https://www.capitalgazette.com/2024/04/03/63b-state-budget-compromise-reached-includes-increased-vehicle-fees-tobacco-taxes/>

## State of Maryland: Collapse of Francis Scott Key Bridge

The collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge occurred some days prior to the administration of this survey – specific policy responses were still unclear at the time that the survey was drafted. The survey did manage to include three questions relevant to the bridge collapse and its impact upon residents of Anne Arundel County.

The three questions asked were:

- Will you be negatively affected economically by this event?
- Will you be inconvenienced by the loss of the bridge?
- Do you have confidence that the bridge will be rebuilt relatively quickly?

Table 39 shows these questions and the percentages answering them using simple answer choices: yes, no, unsure.

**Table 39: Questions About Collapse of Key Bridge**

	Yes	No	Unsure	Total
Will you be negatively affected economically by this event?	25	56	19	100
Will you be inconvenienced by the loss of the bridge	41	51	8	100
Do you have confidence that the bridge will be rebuilt relatively quickly?	38	46	16	100

The results show that residents believe that they will be inconvenienced by the loss of access to the bridge (41%) more than they will be economically impacted (25%). The sample was closely divided regarding their confidence that the bridge will be rebuilt “relatively quickly.”

**Table 40: Key Bridge and Party – Percentage Saying Yes**

	Overall	Democrats	Republicans	Unaffiliated
Will you be negatively affected economically by this event?	25	24	29	24
Will you be inconvenienced by the loss of the bridge	41	40	46	40
Do you have confidence that the bridge will be rebuilt relatively quickly?	38	45	39	26

The results in Table 40 show an extremely muted partisan impact. Very few differences are found in terms of economic impact or inconvenience, which might be expected. Less obvious is the small difference between Democrats (45%) and Republicans (39%) regarding having confidence that the bridge will be rebuilt relatively quickly, which seemed surprising given the role of Democratic Governor Wes Moore and Democratic President Joe Biden in leading the



effort to have the bridge rebuilt. The most cynical among the party categories are the unaffiliateds (26%) who had the lowest score among the three categories (although their unsure score was also the highest accounting partly for the lower “yes” score).

Respondents were given the opportunity to comment upon state matters such as the collapse of the bridge – see Appendix H.

## National Focus: Historical Impact of Various Events Impacting the Civil Rights of African Americans

The survey advisory board included AACC history faculty members with an interest in understanding the public's views of the struggle of African Americans to gain civil rights and recognition in American society. A question was fashioned that asked: "How significant were each of the following events in positively impacting civil rights for African Americans?" The specific questions, answer choices and percentages are shown in Table 41.

**Table 41: Significance of Events Affecting Civil Rights for African Americans**

	Not very significant	Somewhat significant	Very significant	Unsure	Total
The Supreme Court decision to end "separate but equal" schooling in 1954	5	13	74	8	100
The passage of the Voting Rights Act 1965	3	13	78	6	100
The election of Barack Obama as President	23	31	42	5	101
The emergence of the Black Lives Matters movement	38	27	30	5	100
The emergence of diversity, equity and inclusion programs in public institutions and private companies	30	26	37	7	100

The results highlight the greater consensus on certain events from the 1950s and 1960s as key milestones in the achievement of civil rights. About three-quarters of the sample (74%) felt that the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision was a key event, about the same as those acknowledging the impact of the Voting Rights Act passed by Congress in 1965.

More recent events are much less clearly seen as consequential. Of the remaining choices, the election of Barack Obama as president was perceived as somewhat more impactful (42% "very significant") than the emergence of the Black Lives Matter movement (30%) or the emergence of diversity, equity and inclusion programs (37%).

Table 42 looks at the answers by party and race by highlighting only the percentages saying "very significant" for each question. The column in which Republican scores are subtracted from Democratic ones shows where the political consensus on key events dissolved. There is only a 19-point difference between Democrats and Republicans regarding the Supreme Court decision and the Voting Rights Act – and very solid majorities favor each of these in both parties. However, very small numbers of Republicans perceive more recent events as having a positive impact on civil rights, with the Black Lives Movement claiming the lowest score of only 9% - compared to 48% among Democrats. Majorities of Democrats feel that both the election of Barack Obama (59%) and the emergence of diversity programs (55%) are significant milestones; but few Republicans agree (16%, 12%). As usual, unaffiliateds are somewhere in the middle especially upon the more recent events. The results by race tell a similar story: long-past events are recalled very favorably by both Whites and African Americans. More recent events are less

clearly favored, with especially severe divisions on the question of the emergence of diversity programs (whites 33%, African Americans 66%). Interestingly, on four of the five questions, Democrats have higher very significant scores than African Americans – with diversity programs the only exception. There is an open-ended answer option included as Appendix I.

**Table 42: Significance of Events Affecting Civil Rights for African Americans by Party/Race (% “very significant”)**

	Democrats	Republicans	Dem-Rep	Unaffiliated	White	African American	Whites-Afr. Am
The Supreme Court decision to end "separate but equal" schooling in 1954	84	65	<b>19</b>	78	75	72	3
The passage of the Voting Rights Act 1965	89	70	<b>19</b>	79	80	77	3
The election of Barack Obama as President	59	16	<b>43</b>	42	40	51	-11
The emergence of the Black Lives Matters movement	48	9	<b>37</b>	25	27	47	-20
The emergence of diversity, equity and inclusion programs in public institutions and private companies	55	12	<b>43</b>	34	33	66	-27

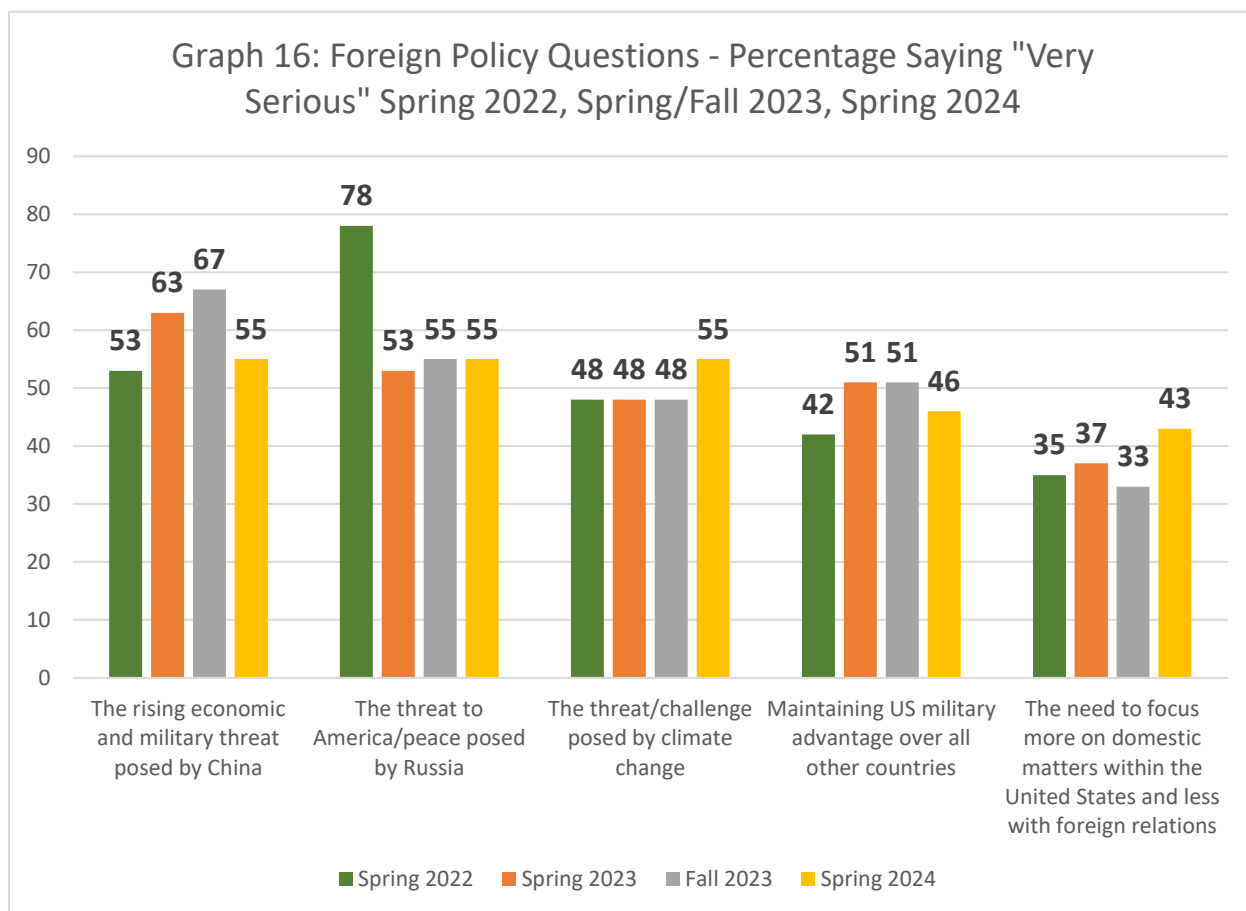
## International Issues

Three previous surveys have asked how serious respondents believed some specific “international affairs” situations are – very, somewhat, or not very serious. Table 43 shows the five questions that relate to foreign affairs and climate change. Two other questions not part of that table deal with U.S. support/aid to Ukraine. Finally, there are two questions dealing with the situation in the Middle East involving Israel and Hamas.

Table 43 and Graph 16 show the results for the first five questions for spring 2022, spring/fall 2023 and spring 2024.

**Table 43: International Issues – Spring 2022/2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024**

	Spring 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 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	53	63	67	55	32	8	5
The threat to America/peace posed by Russia	78	53	55	55	32	9	5
The threat/challenge posed by climate change	48	48	48	55	17	25	3
Maintaining US military advantage over all other countries	42	51	51	46	35	14	5
The need to focus more on domestic matters within the United States and less with foreign relations	35	37	33	43	33	18	6



Prior to spring 2024, the threat posed by China has 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%.

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 had changed such that scores have continued to fall in the mid-50 percent range, despite the ongoing war and the dependency of Ukraine on US military and humanitarian aid.

There was no change in the percentage saying “very serious” for climate change holding exactly constant over the first three surveys. The percentage increased by 7 points in spring 2024 to reach a high of 55%.

The percentage found for the question about “focus more on domestic matters within the United States and less with foreign relations” had stayed at around one-third of the sample for the first three surveys but rose this spring to 43%. There was a 5-point dip in the percentage favoring the idea that U.S. maintain military advantage over all other countries – dropping from 51% to 46%.

Table 44 shows differences in perceptions by political party; Table 45 shows it by ideology. Table 46 shows it by age.

**Table 44: “Very Serious” Percentages for Various National/International Issues by Party**

	Overall Very serious				Dems				Reps				Unaffil.			
	Sp '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24
The rising economic and military threat posed by China	53	63	67	55	37	51	61	52	73	84	82	71	58	62	59	48
The threat to America/peace posed by Russia	78	53	55	55	78	55	59	65	90	62	55	51	70	37	52	45
The threat/challenge posed by climate change	48	48	48	55	81	75	76	83	12	25	13	19	34	28	47	53
Maintaining US military advantage over all other countries	42	51	51	46	23	40	41	39	68	75	70	64	45	43	48	38
The need to focus more on domestic affairs within the United States and less with foreign relations	35	37	33	43	24	30	25	36	47	51	36	50	36	33	46	50

**Table 45: Serious Percentages for Various National/International Issues by Ideology – Fall 2023/Spring 2024**

	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Ideology Spring 2024				
	Overall	Overall	Very cons.	Somewhat cons.	Moderate	Somewhat lib	Very lib
The rising economic and military threat posed by China	67	55	68	67	59	54	32
The threat to America/peace posed by Russia	55	55	45	48	59	69	56
The threat/challenge posed by climate change	48	55	10	24	61	87	89
Maintaining US military advantage over all other countries	51	46	68	69	43	36	20
The need to focus more on domestic affairs within the United States and less with foreign relations	33	43	58	46	46	36	31

**Table 46: Serious Percentages for Various National/International Issues by Age, Spring 2024**

	Overall	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+
The rising economic and military threat posed by China	55	26	44	40	65	73	77
The threat to America/peace posed by Russia	55	30	51	44	55	66	75
The threat/challenge posed by climate change	55	68	70	59	48	47	51
Maintaining US military advantage over all other countries	46	17	40	45	43	60	63
The need to focus more on domestic affairs within the United States and less with foreign relations	43	52	44	59	36	48	26

Graph 17: Foreign Policy by Age Group

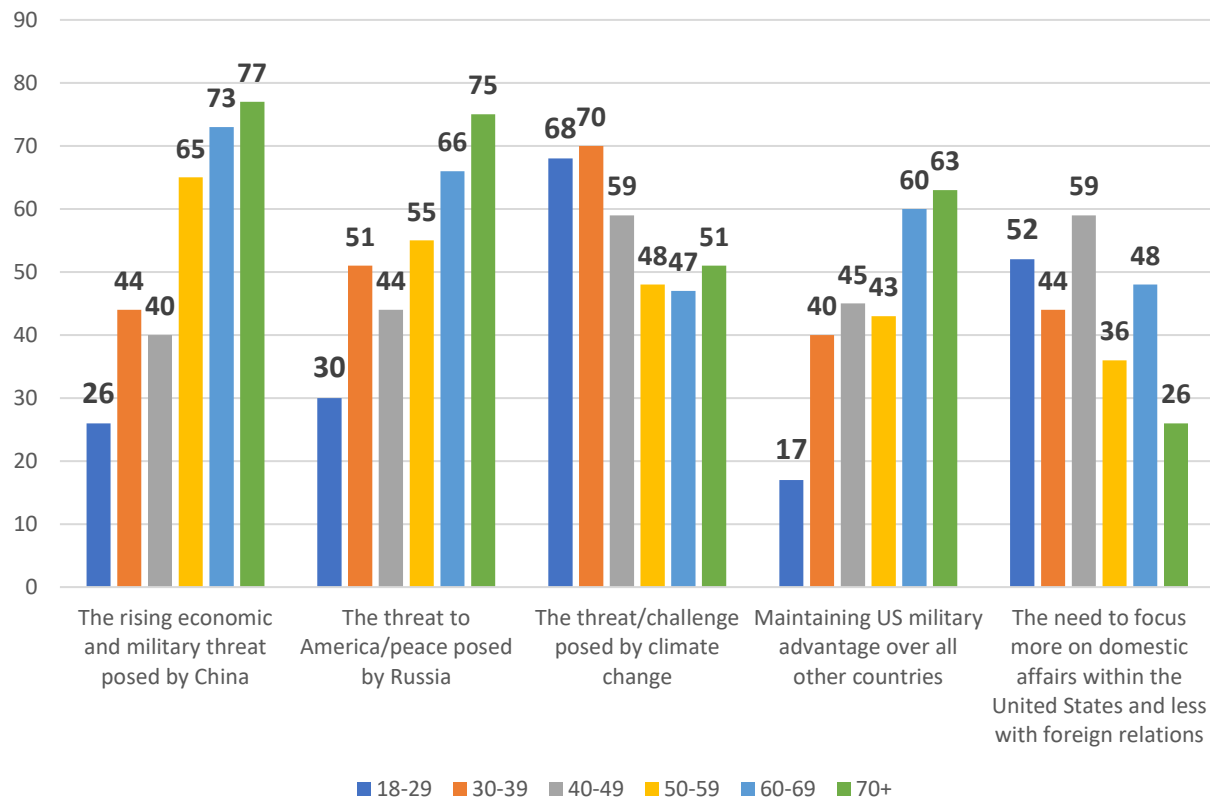




Table 44 shows some patterns regarding foreign affairs and party affiliation. First, the threat perception regarding China had risen quite a bit among Democrats, from 37% in spring 2022 to 61% in fall 2023 before falling to 55% this spring. Just looking at the last three surveys, the range of “very serious” responses by Democrats has stayed within a relatively narrow 10-point range (51-61%). For Republicans, concern levels have been higher generally (71-84%), but the spread (13 points) has been rather close to that of Democrats. Among unaffiliateds, the level of concern was similar to that of Democrats (48-62%) – generally highlighting the special attention that Republicans place in perceiving China as a threat.<sup>10</sup>

Second, compared to the initial level of concern regarding Russia expressed soon after the February 2022 invasion of Ukraine, there has been a fall in the threat perception across the board, but most steeply among Republicans as it dropped from 90% to 51% over the last two years. The most recent score for unaffiliateds was just 45% - down 35 points since spring 2022. Among Democrats, the fall has been much smaller – down just 13 points. Challenges in Congress for approving aid to Ukraine can be understood in light of these drops in concern levels among Republicans and unaffiliateds.<sup>11</sup>

Third, there was strong consistency in views about climate change with Democrats continuing to express high concern (81%, 75%, 76%, 83%) and Republicans generally having opposite views (12%, 25%, 13%, 19%). Compared to all the other foreign policy issues, the gap on climate change was vast (64 percentage points in spring 2024) compared to the gaps for other issues (ranging from 14 to 25 points). This gap has been found in national polling – for example, a study from 2023 from Pew Research asking the American public to evaluate the proposition, “Global climate change is a major threat to the country” found a 53-point gap between Democrats/leaners and Republican/leaners.<sup>12</sup>

Fourth, the concern about having the U.S. maintain a military advantage over all other countries was somewhat divisive (a 25-point gap between Democrats and Republicans) with unaffiliateds very similar to Democrats (in spring 2024, Democrats 39%, unaffiliateds 38%).

Fifth, the idea that there is a need to focus more on domestic rather than foreign affairs has shown a stronger tendency for Republicans to embrace this viewpoint than Democrats – perhaps linked to Trump’s nationalist and isolationist appeals.<sup>13</sup> The party gap in spring 2024 was 14 points. Opinion among unaffiliateds has varied quite a bit, but recently has been closer to the Republican scores (in spring 2024, identical at 50%).

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<sup>10</sup> Other polls have confirmed this finding. For example, a poll conducted by Economist/YouGov that “more Republicans than Democrats perceived serious threats from China.” See <https://today.yougov.com/international/articles/45840-more-republicans-democrats-perceive-china-threat>

<sup>11</sup> For recent news about these struggles among Republicans in the House of Representatives, see <https://apnews.com/article/ukraine-israel-taiwan-congress-aid-house-speaker-21cc09d310a33d1d8ca88eadea896a36>

<sup>12</sup> See for details, <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-read/2023/08/09/what-the-data-says-about-americans-views-of-climate-change/>

<sup>13</sup> As Reuters has reported, “While domestic concerns have long dominated U.S. politics, isolationism has grown in recent years - particularly within the Republican Party - as Trump and other leaders have criticized U.S. aid to help Ukraine fight off Russia’s 2022 invasion, while Trump has warned America could become ensnarled in a world war.” See <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/trumps-rise-sparks-isolationist-worries-among-us-allies-americans-focus-home-2024-01-17/> In another poll - the Chicago Council Survey - found “a majority of Republicans in 2023 said it would be best for the future of the United States to stay out of—rather than take an active part in—in world affairs. This reflects a [major shift in public opinion since 2015](#), when GOP supporters were more likely than Democrats to favor an active role abroad.” See <https://globalaffairs.org/research/public-opinion-survey/majority-trump-republicans-prefer-united-states-stay-out-world>

Table 45 illustrates the impact of ideology on foreign policy stances in spring 2024. Taking each issue individually, the first deals with China. Conservatives – both “very” and “somewhat” – expressed similar levels of concern (68%, 67%). Conversely, among “very” liberals, not even one third (32%) consider this threat to be very serious – a 36-point spread between the two extremes. Those who were “somewhat liberal” (54%) were closer to moderates (59%) and conservatives than the more progressive liberals to their left.

The second point focuses on Russia and yields no consistent pattern. Among very conservatives, 45% (down from 53% last fall) said that the threat was very serious; among very liberals, the percentage was not much higher – 56%. Moderates were closer (59%) to very liberals. Clearly, this is a very hard issue to process ideologically.

Third, the greatest scope of ideological disagreement concerns climate change. Among very conservatives, it hardly exists as an issue (10%) and even somewhat conservatives dismiss it (24%). Conversely, among very liberals it is the most highly rated foreign policy issue listed (89%) – thus a 79-point gap between very conservatives and very liberals.

Fourth, the idea of maintaining U.S. military advantage over all other countries features a left-right polarization, but in this case, it is a bit less extreme than climate change as very conservatives prioritize it (68%) while very liberals don’t (36%) – a 42-point difference. Moderates (43%) were closer to “somewhat liberals” (36% compared to “somewhat conservatives” (69%). This issue is also hard to process well along left-right lines since last fall the swing of the moderates they were closer to the conservatives (57%, 59%) compared to the 26 points that then separated moderates from somewhat liberals.

Regarding the focus on domestic vs. foreign affairs, last fall, there was a 22-point difference between very conservatives (43%) and very liberals (21%). This spring, very conservatives again found a 22-point difference between themselves (58%) and very liberals (36%) although both were more favorable to this idea than in fall 2023. Moderates (46%) were again closest to the somewhat conservatives on this issue (46%).

Generational differences regarding international affairs have been noted by other prominent pollsters. In a recent presentation by Public Opinion Strategies, younger people (18-34) were much more likely to say that the government wasn’t doing enough about climate change (64%) compared to Boomers over 65 (39%). They were also more likely to favor cuts to the defense budget (48%, 24%).<sup>14</sup>

Graph 17 and Table 46 show similar patterns. On the China issue, 26% of those 18-29 said “very serious” compared to 77% of those at least 70. Regarding the threat to peace posed by Russia the percentages were 30%, 75%. On climate change the figures were 68% and 51%. Regarding the idea of heavy defense spending that would be needed to maintain “U.S. military advantage over all other countries, the percentages were 17% and 63%. The notion that we should focus more on domestic affairs and less on foreign relations also saw a large gap: 52%, 26%. While part of this gap is due to a larger percentage of young people saying “unsure” and thus lowering percentages for other categories, the overall pattern seems clear and consistent with other findings.

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<sup>14</sup> <https://pos.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Generations-deck-2024-d1g.pdf>

## Aid to Ukraine and Israel

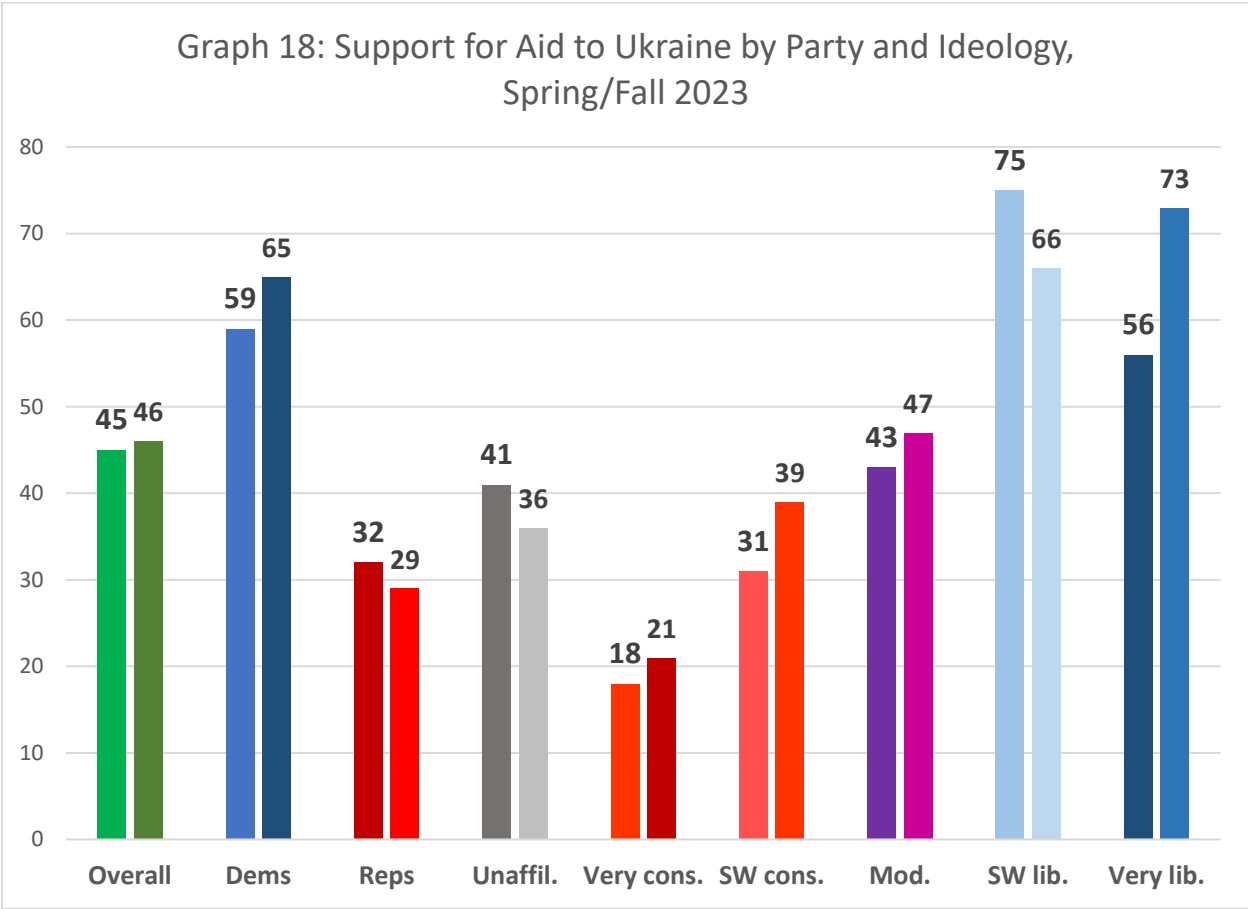
Considering the small majority (55%) considering Russia as a threat to peace identified in the previous question, the issue of respondents' receptivity to aid to the embattled country of Ukraine becomes especially salient.

By way of background, last fall the survey included the question, “**Regarding the response of the Biden administration to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, would you say that it is providing about the right amount of financial and military support, too much or too little?**”

Table 47 shows the results for spring 2023 as well as fall 2023 both for the overall samples as well as by party and ideology. The overall level of support remained unchanged – around 45% saying “right amount” or “too little.” That was higher than those saying “too much” – between 35% and 39%. There is an obvious left-right aspect to this issue, with those on the left about twice as likely to support funding the Ukrainians. The very conservatives (18%) were very reluctant to provide aid; the very liberals were about equally enthusiastic (73%) for a 55-point gap. Graph 18 illustrates the levels of support by party and ideology across the two surveys.

**Table 47: Support for U.S. Providing Aid to Ukraine (Spring 2023, Fall 2023)**

	Overall		Dems		Reps		Unaffil.		Very cons.		SW cons.		Mod.		SW lib.		Very lib.	
	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '23	Fa '23
Right amount	30	30	45	44	15	15	25	26	1	5	16	19	29	36	56	45	40	45
Too little	15	16	14	21	17	14	16	10	17	16	15	13	14	11	19	21	16	27
<b>Right+too little</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>73</b>
Too much	39	35	30	21	59	55	30	40	81	64	46	49	47	37	4	14	29	12
Unsure, no opinion	16	19	11	14	9	16	29	25	2	15	23	20	10	17	21	20	16	15
Total	100	100	100		100		100		101		100		100		100		101	



For spring 2024, the format for inquiring about U.S. support to Ukraine changed by integrating the idea of aid for both countries into a similar scale. Specifically, the question asked: “The Biden administration has advocated providing significant military aid to Ukraine and Israel. Which of the following best expresses your views about such aid?” The choices were: “Agree completely with providing aid”; “Agree somewhat with providing aid;” and, “Don’t agree with providing aid.”

**Table 48: Agreement with Providing Aid to Ukraine and Israel – Spring 2024**

	Agree completely with providing aid	Agree somewhat with providing aid	Don’t agree with providing aid	Unsure	Total
Ukraine	47	29	18	5	99
Israel	24	34	33	9	100

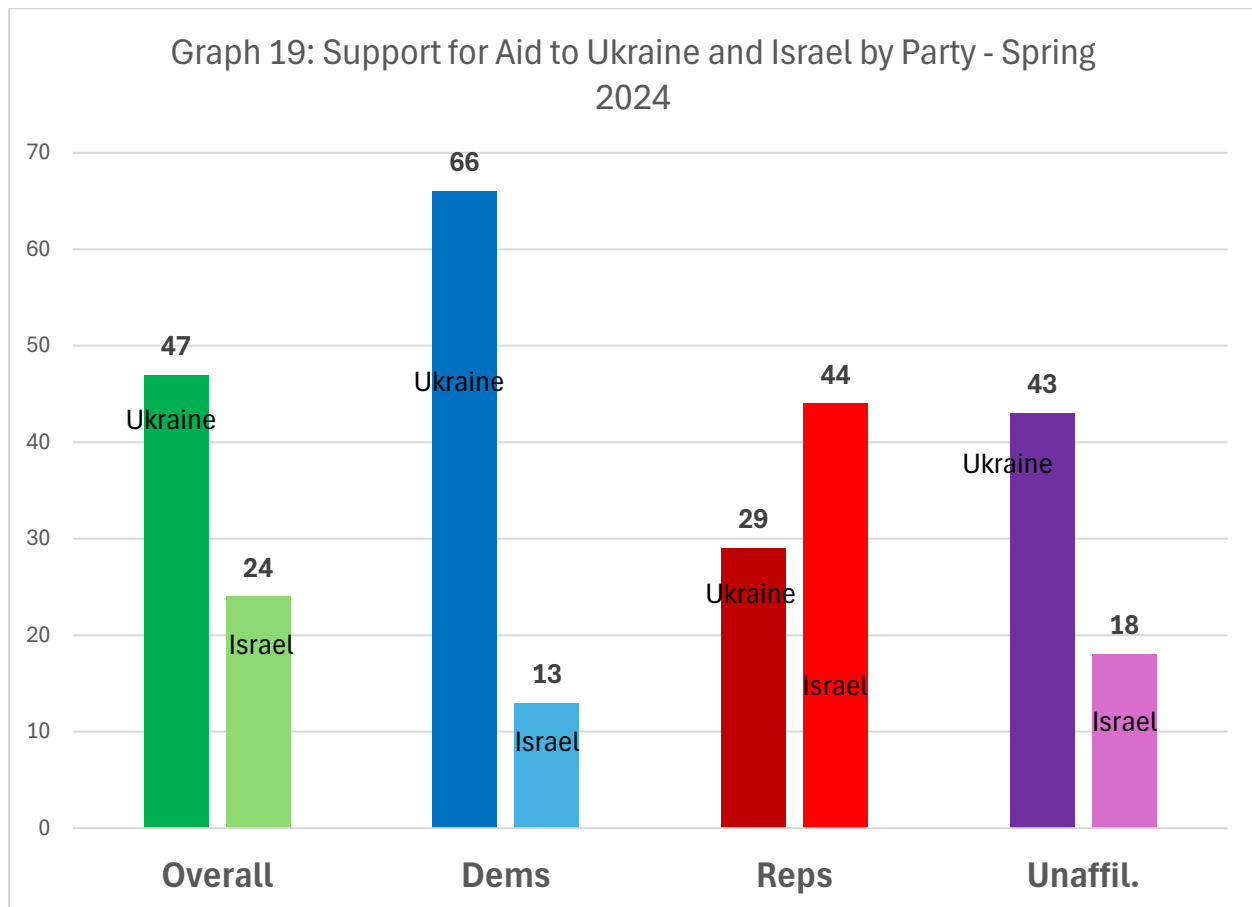
Table 48 shows a much higher level of support for providing aid to Ukraine (agree completely, 47, somewhat 29% - 76% overall) than for Israel (24%, 34% - 58% overall). There was an 18-point gap overall, with a 23-point gap for the “agree completely” category.

Table 49 shows how party and ideology affected the “agree completely” scores.

**Table 49: “Agree Completely” Scores for Aid to Ukraine and Israel  
by Party and Ideology, Spring 2024**

	Party				Ideology				
Item	Overall	Dems	Reps	Unaffil.	Very cons.	SW cons.	Mod.	SW lib.	Very lib.
Ukraine	47	66	29	43	14	32	50	69	73
Israel	24	13	44	18	59	43	17	11	4

Graph 19 vividly illustrates partisan differences. While Democrats are very favorable to aiding Ukraine (66%) only a small minority of Republicans agree (29%). By contrast, a tiny percentage of Democrats favor “completely” aid to Israel (13%), a much larger percentage (44%) favor aid to Israel among Republicans (44%). Unaffiliateds side closer to Republicans regarding Ukraine (14-point gap) than Democrats (23-point gap), but the situation is reversed for Israel (5-point gap with Democrats, 26-point gap with Republicans).



## Israel and Gaza/Hamas

Last fall, the conflict involving Israel and Hamas had just started at the time of the fall 2023 AACC/CSLI survey. At that time, the focus in the poll was trying to determine the public’s perception of blame, with the specific question being: “How much do you blame the escalation of violence in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict upon the following: Israel, Hamas, Palestinians as a whole, or Iran?” The answer choices were “none or very little,” “some,” and “quite a bit.” Table 50 shows the results. Hamas received the highest percentage of “quite a bit” scores (75%), followed by Iran (53%). While Palestinians as a whole received more of the perceived blame than Israel, the difference for the combined “some+quite a bit” category was only 9 percentage points.

**Table 50: Blame for Escalation of Violence, Israel-Palestine Conflict, Fall 2023**

Item	None or very little	Some	Quite a bit	Some+Quite a bit
Israel	38	39	23	62
Hamas	5	20	75	95
Palestinians as a whole	29	52	19	71
Iran	10	34	53	87

By April 2024, Israel had proceeded to conduct its counter-offensive against Hamas, resulting in widespread loss of life and property in Gaza. The question that was asked in spring 2024 was not focused on the assessment of blame, but rather approval of the Israeli approach itself.

To try and get at that issue, the question asked: “On October 7, Israel was attacked by Hamas causing the deaths of over 1200 of its citizens. Since then, Israel has pursued a strategy meant to make Hamas unable to attack Israel in the future. Which of the following best expresses your views of Israel's strategy and military operation in the Gaza Strip?” Some early testing of this question conveyed the idea that respondents might agree with more than one of the possible three closed-ended options – as a result, the question gave the option for respondents to agree *with more than a single choice* and to offer a response not provided among the choices.

**Table 51: Perceptions of Israel’s Action – Both Short and Long-term, Spring 2024**

(Overall and by Party)

Item	Overall	Dem	Rep	Unaffil.
Israel has done what it needed to do to defeat Hamas	28	13	68	15
Israel has a right to defend itself, but has caused too many civilian casualties in Gaza	40	60	21	16
Israel should have more actively pursued a two-state solution for the Palestinian people, perhaps avoiding the attack by Hamas and the subsequent destruction in Gaza	33	65	13	18
Other response	11	47	34	16
Unsure, no opinion	11	35	23	19

The results show that support for Israel has probably declined over the last six months. Previously, 38% has said that Israel had “none or very little” blame for the escalation of violence; this spring that sentiment would have been best conveyed by agreeing that “Israel has done what it needed to do to defeat Hamas” – the overall percentage agree with that position was only 28%. Among those who last fall said that Israel had “some” blame (39%) are probably found among the 40% who said “Israel has a right to defend itself but has caused too many civilian casualties in Gaza.” Last fall, only 23% said that Israel had “quite a bit” of blame; this spring the percentage saying that “Israel should have more actively pursued a two-state solution” was 33%. The percentages are not exactly comparable since this spring, respondents could choose more than a single answer option, meaning that any given option could have a higher score than was the case last spring when only a single answer was possible.

Looking at the results by party, the same pattern found with aid to Israel was echoed in Table 51. Democrats were much less likely to say (13%) that “Israel has done what it needed to do to defeat Hamas” than did Republicans (68%) – a 55-point gap. Unaffiliateds were much less likely to choose any option.

Appendix K includes open-ended comments about Israel/Gaza, while Appendix L includes comments about this and other issues relevant to international affairs.



## How People Find out About News About Government and Politics

This section anticipates the focus in the next section on issues, elections and candidates by asking respondents how they obtain news/information about government and politics. This question focused on various specific social media sources as well as other general modes. Table 52 shows the answer options and percentages for the overall sample.

**Table 52: Sources of News About Government and Politics – Overall and by Party**

Sources	Rarely	Sometimes	Quite or very often
TikTok	81	8	11
Facebook	54	28	18
Instagram	66	18	16
Snapchat	92	7	2
YouTube	52	32	16
X/Twitter	70	20	11
Podcasts on, e.g., Spotify, Google, etc.	60	27	13
Online or hard copy sources of newspapers like Washington Post or Baltimore Sun or Banner, Maryland Matters	30	29	42
Online, cable or broadcast sources of mainstream media like CNN, MSNBC or Foxnews	22	34	44
Other television news and politics programming	31	37	33
Radio	43	33	24
Non-fiction books	53	36	12

Based on the percentage choosing “Quite or very often,” Table 52 shows that mainstream media sources continue as typical ways for people to acquire news, with “online or hardcopy sources of newspapers” gathering 42% and “online, cable or broadcast sources” a similar percentage (44%). The third highest source was “other television news and politics programming” (33%) followed by radio (24%).

Social media was much less likely to be a source of news, with Facebook (18%), Instagram (16%) and YouTube (16%) leading. Podcasts (13%) and non-fiction books along with X/Twitter and TikTok were closer to the bottom of the list.

This picture was strongly affected by age. Table 53 shows the “quite or very often” scores by age group.

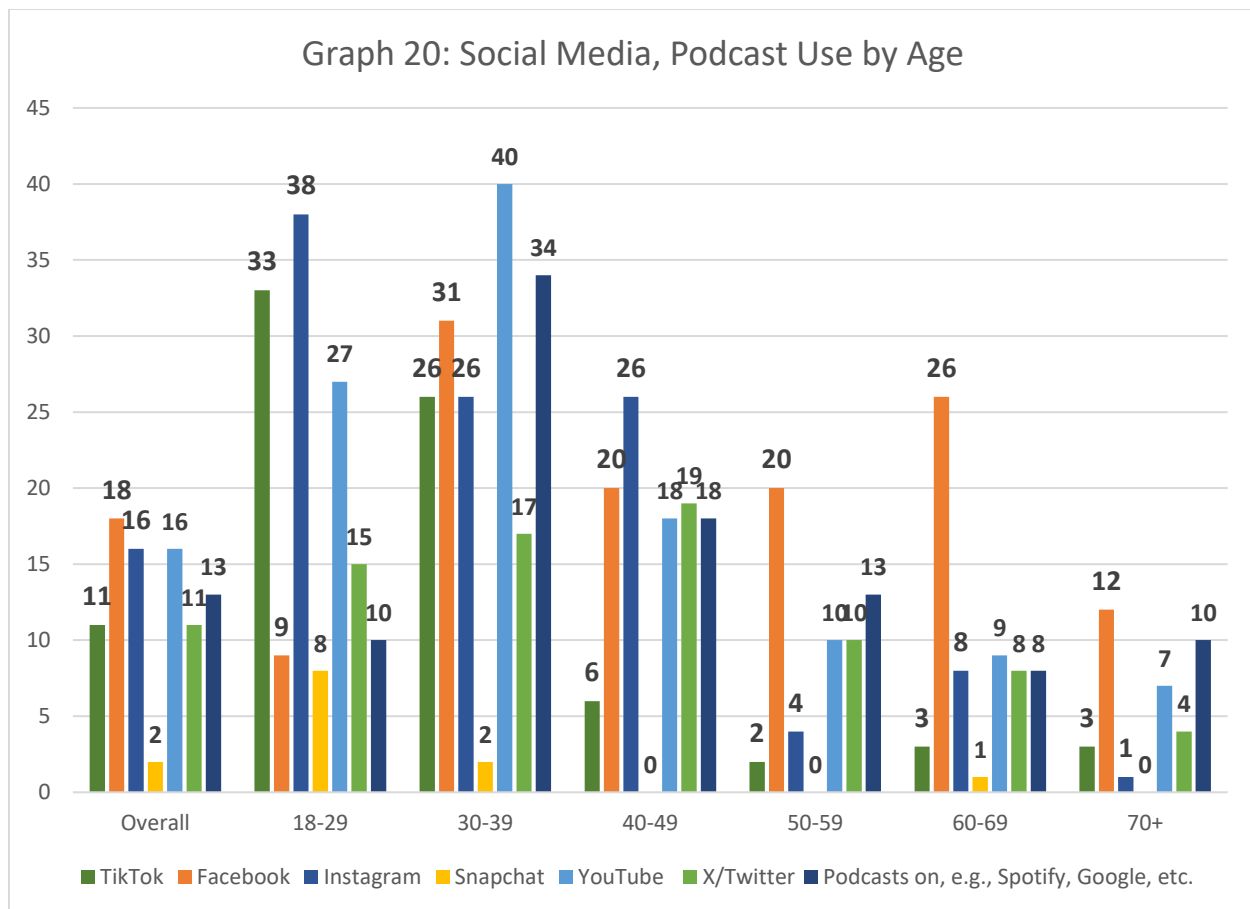
**Table 53: Sources of News “Quite or very often” by Age, Spring 2024**

	Overall	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+
TikTok	11	33	26	6	2	3	3
Facebook	18	9	31	20	20	26	12
Instagram	16	38	26	26	4	8	1
Snapchat	2	8	2	0	0	1	0
YouTube	16	27	40	18	10	9	7
X/Twitter	11	15	17	19	10	8	4
Podcasts on, e.g., Spotify, Google, etc.	13	10	34	18	13	8	10
Online or hard copy sources of newspapers like Washington Post or Baltimore Sun or Banner, Maryland Matters	42	19	43	35	41	46	59
Online, cable or broadcast sources of mainstream media like CNN, MSNBC or Foxnews	44	25	45	38	40	47	57
Other television news and politics programming	33	13	27	18	23	37	54
Radio	24	7	22	19	26	39	24
Non-fiction books	12	5	8	13	8	9	18

Table 53 shows the percentages saying “quite or very often” for each of the categories offered. Graph 20 shows the results just for the social media/podcast options; Graph 21 focuses on the other categories.

Several conclusions seem justified by the data.

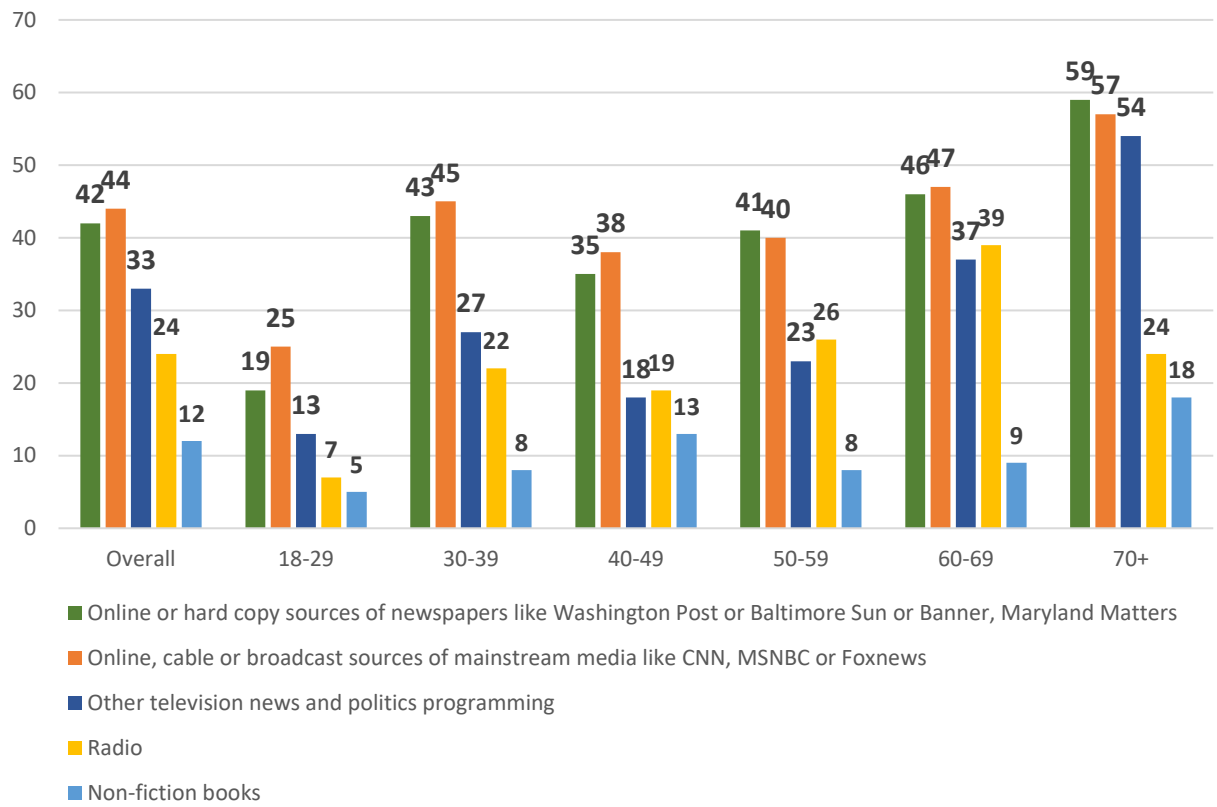
- Younger people are much more likely to use social media to acquire news.
- Facebook seems the most likely to be used across all the age groups, with YouTube and X/Twitter being rather similar (although tailing off more for those 50+).
- The social media most used by young people but least used by older people are TikTok, Snapchat and to some extent Instagram (especially for those 50+).
- Legacy media sources are more likely to be used by older age groups, but not without some substantial attention from younger people.
- Radio is not often used by the youngest age group (18-29) but is generally used by those older – if not as often as other legacy mainstream news sources.
- Podcasts are especially appealing to those 30-39, but are also quite used by those 40-49, while tailing among the youngest and oldest respondents.
- Non-fiction books are rarely used among almost all age groups, with the possible exception of those over 70.



Graph 20 highlights just social media/podcasts among the age groups. The bars are clearly tallest among those 18-39, dipping quite a bit around 50 and dropped even more for those above 70.

Graph 21 shows legacy media by age groups. The age group most attracted to these sources are those 60 and over. What is impressive is the extent that newspapers (hardcopy or online) or major television news programming (cable, online, broadcast) is consistently around the 40 percent level for all the age groups, except for those 70+ where it rises to the 50 percent level.

Graph 21: Legacy Media by Age Group



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

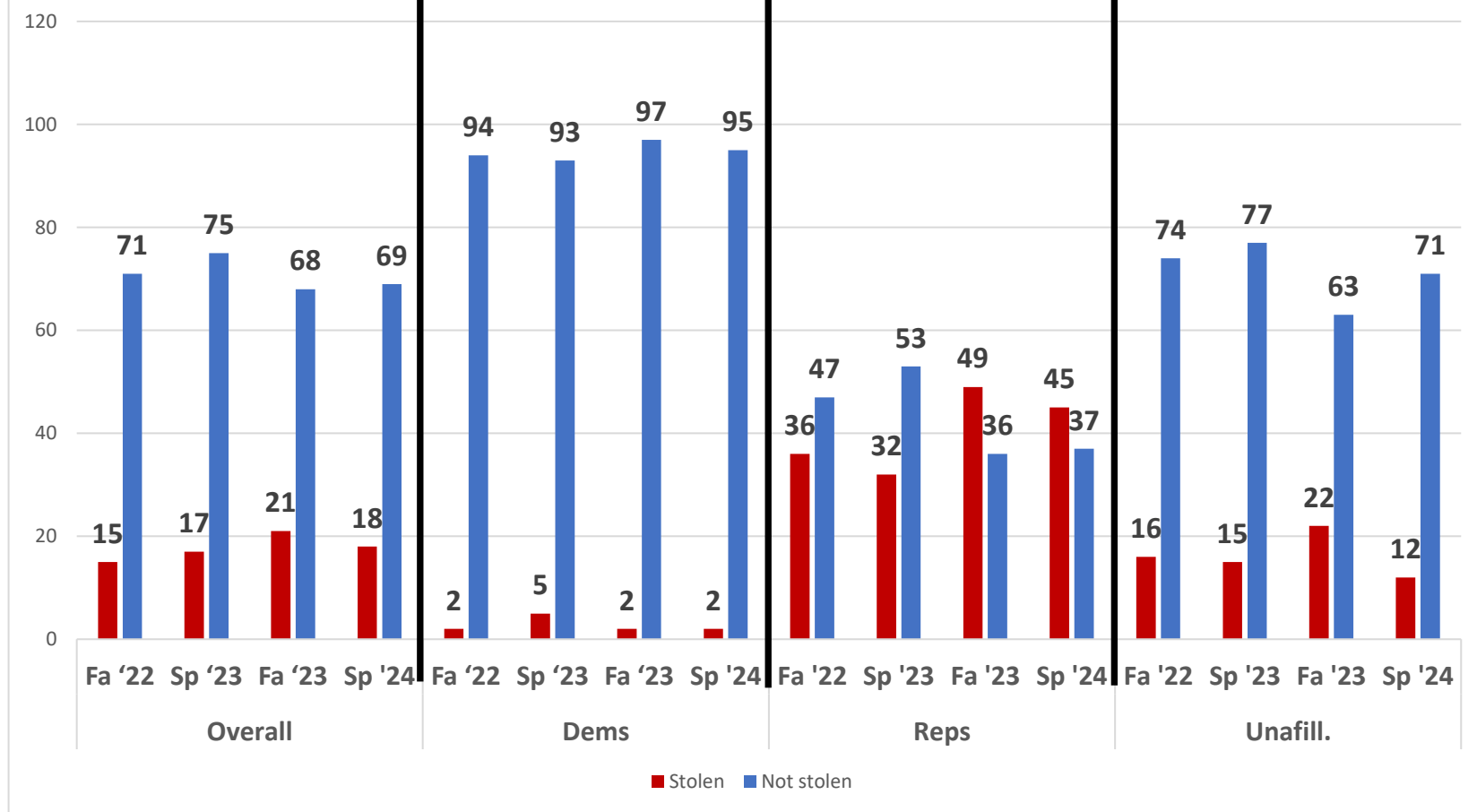
The politics part of the press release starts with the 2020 presidential election and the idea that the election was “stolen” from former President Trump. Specifically, the question asked was: **“Do you agree with the former President Trump that he actually won the last election and that it was “stolen” from him?”** This question has been asked since spring 2021. Table 54 shows the results over time, listing only the “stolen” and “not stolen” categories. Table 55 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 54 as well as in Graph 22 that visualizes the results shown in Table 54.

Table 55 shows that there hasn’t been much change in respondents’ views about the 2020 election in these terms:

- (1) Around 20% of the overall sample accepts the stolen election claim at least somewhat.
- (2) Around half of the Republican respondents accept the claim, with a rise in fall 2023 that was sustained in spring 2024.
- (3) Around 20% or fewer of unaffiliated voters accept the claim.
- (4) Under 5% of Democrats accept the claim.

While the range of responses has varied by party category, there is no clear pattern showing that the stolen election claim is less accepted now than it was in 2021.

Graph 22: Beliefs About Trump's Stolen Election Claim, Overall and by Party



**Table 54: Election Stolen, Overall and by Party, Spring 2021 to Spring 2024**

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

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 56. The “Not stolen” percentage excludes respondents who said “Unsure, no opinion” and therefore the columns do not equal 100 percent.

**Table 55: Overall Results for Stolen Election Claim – Fall 2022 to Spring 2024**

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

It remains evident party identification continues to structure people's perceptions of the "stolen election" claim. Table 56 shows that ideological categories tell a clear story: those who say that they are very conservative are strongly inclined to support the stolen election claim (69%); those who are only "somewhat conservative" are inclined to reject the claim (30% agree). The percentage of "moderates" that believe the claim has varied somewhat over the various surveys – last fall the percentage was 13%; this spring it has dropped to 7%. Among even "somewhat liberals" there is a very small propensity to believe it (2%), dropping to zero among very liberal respondents. As mentioned earlier, there is no clear pattern of diminution in acceptance of the stolen election claim – the most enduring feature is the strength with which party and especially ideology structure people's perception of the truth value of the claim.



**Table 56: Ideology and Stolen Election Claim, Spring 2021 to Spring 2024**

	Very conservative							Somewhat conservative							Moderate						
	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	<b>Sp '24</b>	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	<b>Sp '24</b>	Sp '21	Fa '21	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	<b>Sp '24</b>
Stolen	82	79	78	74	77	69	<b>74</b>	41	30	38	31	31	29	<b>30</b>	23	15	21	5	9	13	<b>7</b>
Not stolen	18	21	19	14	15	15	<b>15</b>	59	70	43	50	59	56	<b>49</b>	77	85	67	73	80	76	<b>75</b>

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

## Trump's Prosecution - Motives

The survey also asked respondents to decide whether “efforts to prosecute former President Donald Trump” were mainly (1) meant to hold him accountable for various crimes, or (2) meant to disrupt his campaign and prevent him from running effectively for president. A majority said, “hold him accountable” (57%) compared to “disrupt his campaign” (36%) while another six percent had no opinion. Partisanship played a decisive role in shaping respondents’ conclusions: 89% of Democrats favored the “hold accountable” position (compared to only 19% of Republicans and 53% of unaffiliates), while 79% of Republicans supported the “disrupt his campaign” stances (Democrats 8%, unaffiliates 36%).

## 2024 Elections – Biden, Trump or ?

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 and Donald Trump, but the question offered the choice of “3<sup>rd</sup> party candidate” and “probably wouldn’t vote.”

**Table 57: Candidates for 2024 Presidential Elections – Fall 2023 and Spring 2024**

	Overall		Dems		Reps		Unaffil.	
	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24
Joe Biden	42	48	78	<b>84</b>	7	13	32	<b>29</b>
Donald Trump	33	32	6	<b>5</b>	72	72	26	<b>28</b>
A 3rd Party candidate	17	14	12	<b>9</b>	17	11	25	<b>31</b>
Probably wouldn't vote	8	7	4	<b>3</b>	5	4	17	<b>12</b>

Table 57 shows that Joe Biden has apparently widened his lead over Donald Trump from 9 points last fall to 16 points this spring which is about the same percentage (15%) reported by the Maryland Board of Elections of the Biden margin of victory in the county over Trump in 2020.<sup>15</sup> When asked by the survey to indicate for whom they voted in 2020, the gap was a bit larger than reported by Maryland official: 48% Biden, 27% Trump – a 21-point gap. This means that among these respondents, there was a decline in relative enthusiasm for Biden. However, it is also possible that the difference is made up by new voters – those who didn’t vote in 2020.<sup>16</sup>

This spring, more Democrats (84%) were likely to vote for Biden than Republicans (72%) were to vote for Trump. Last fall, the defection rate of Democrats to Trump and Republicans to Biden was almost identical (6%, 7%); this spring the defection among Republicans was much higher (13% voting Biden) compared to Democrats voting for Trump (5%). Last fall, there was a notable willingness for Democrats (12%) and Republicans (17%) to vote for a 3<sup>rd</sup> party

<sup>15</sup> As reported by the Maryland Board of elections, the actual 2020 results were Biden 56%, Trump 41% - a 15-point gap.

<sup>16</sup> This hypothesis is reinforced by the fact that among those who didn’t vote in 2020, the intended vote for 2024 was evenly split between Biden and Trump (both at 28%), with another 24% saying they would vote for a 3rd party candidate (24%) or not vote at all (21%). Explanation by respondents about why they “definitely won’t vote” are found in Appendix N.

candidate” rather than either of the two likely nominees. By this spring, there was more consolidation around the party nominees, especially for Biden (9% 3<sup>rd</sup> party vote) compared to Trump (11%). More Republicans (5%) said that they would probably not vote compared to Democrats (3%). What remains to be seen is whether there will be more consolidation of unaffiliated support around a major party candidate since 31% say that they would vote for a 3<sup>rd</sup> party candidate with another 12% probably not voting at all.

Table 60 shows how including the strength of party affiliation affects the outcome. Clearly the problem for both sides is that as the strength of party affiliation decreases, defections away from the likely nominees increase. As shown in both the fall 2023 and spring 2024 surveys, nearly all “strong” (97%, 92%) Democrats are ready to vote for Biden. The pattern is similar for strong Republicans voting for Trump (93%, 96%). However, among “somewhat strong” partisans, the pattern of support for the top candidates stays quite robust but drops more sharply for Trump (77%) than for Biden (87%). For those with the weakest partisan affiliation (“not very strong”), the spring survey showed that among Democrats only 48% would commit to voting for Biden – and 28% would favor Trump. Among Republicans, only 19% would vote for Trump and 49% for Biden. Table 58 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 more “not very strong” Republicans (20%) than Democrats (15%) and far fewer “strong” Republicans (39%) compared to Democrats (51%).

**Table 58: Strength of Party Affiliation**

	Dems		Reps	
	Fa ‘23	Sp ‘24	Fa ‘23	Sp ‘24
Strong	46	<b>51</b>	44	<b>39</b>
Somewhat strong	41	<b>34</b>	36	<b>41</b>
Not very strong	13	<b>15</b>	19	<b>20</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 (55%) claimed to vote for the candidate, with slightly more of the others saying Democrat (23%) than Republican (19%).

Table 59 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 – 77% of Democratic leaners for Biden and 87% of Republican leaners for Trump. In both cases, this was a consolidation of support for both candidates, although this seemed more profound for Trump due to the decline of support for a 3<sup>rd</sup> party candidate among his leaners (from 33% last fall to only 10% this spring).

Those who said that they were voting not for the party but for the candidate seemed to move away from the main party candidates and to 3<sup>rd</sup> party options (whose score went from 26% to 42%). A much larger share of those who voted for the candidate said that they probably wouldn’t vote at all.

**Table 590: Unaffiliated Voters – Party Lean**

	Dem		Rep		Vote for Candidate	
	Fa '23	<b>Sp '24</b>	Fa '23	<b>Sp '24</b>	Fa '23	<b>Sp '24</b>
Biden	62	<b>77</b>	0	<b>3</b>	26	<b>21</b>
Trump	0	<b>8</b>	62	<b>87</b>	29	<b>18</b>
3rd Party	17	<b>16</b>	33	<b>10</b>	26	<b>42</b>
Wouldn't vote	21	<b>0</b>	6	<b>0</b>	19	<b>19</b>

Appendix O includes open ended comments about presidential selections as well as other voting choices.

**Table 60: 2024 Presidential Candidates by Strength of Affiliation**

	Dem		Strong Dem		Somewhat strong Dem		Not strong Dem		Rep		Strong Rep		Somewhat strong Rep		Not strong Rep	
	Fa '23	<b>Sp '24</b>	Fa '23	<b>Sp '24</b>	Fa '23	<b>Sp '24</b>	Fa '23	<b>Sp '24</b>	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	<b>Sp '24</b>	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	<b>Sp '24</b>
Joe Biden	78	<b>84</b>	97	<b>92</b>	70	<b>87</b>	43	<b>48</b>	7	13	0	<b>0</b>	4	5	29	<b>49</b>
Donald Trump	6	<b>5</b>	1	<b>1</b>	5	<b>1</b>	24	<b>28</b>	72	72	93	<b>96</b>	65	77	33	<b>19</b>
A 3rd Party candidate	12	<b>9</b>	1	<b>7</b>	16	<b>8</b>	31	<b>16</b>	17	11	2	<b>2</b>	28	10	28	<b>31</b>
Probably wouldn't vote	4	<b>3</b>	1	<b>0</b>	9	<b>5</b>	2	<b>8</b>	5	4	5	<b>2</b>	3	8	10	<b>2</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.

### U.S. Senate

There are two prominent candidates among Democrats running for the U.S. Senate: Prince George’s County Executive Angela Alsobrooks and current Representative David Trone. Among Republicans, the dominant candidate is former Maryland Governor Larry Hogan.

The survey first asked Democrats to express a choice between Alsobrooks and Trone. Table 61 shows the results for all Democrats as well as only those who said that they were very likely to vote. David Trone is ahead of Angela Alsobrooks by 6 or 7 points depending on whether all Democrats or just “likely voters” are chosen.

**Table 61: Voting Intentions of Democrats for U.S. Senate**

	All Democrats	Democratic Likely Voters
Angela Alsobrooks	26	28
David Trone	33	34
Unsure but will probably vote	35	33
Unsure, probably won’t vote	7	5
Total	99	100

The survey also offered voters the choice of voting for each of the Democratic candidates as well as Larry Hogan in the general election. Table 62 shows the results (includes both “all voters” and “likely voters”).

**Table 62: Voting Intentions for U.S. Senate**

	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 63 shows that Hogan has 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>17</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

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.baltimoresun.com/2024/04/16/poll-trone-alsobrooks-senate-hogan/>

find Trone leading Alsobrooks in a head-to-head matchup of just the two Democratic candidates. The Sun poll found Trone leading by 19 points, far more than the single digit lead discovered just among Anne Arundel County voters.

Table 63 shows the partisan breakdown of the vote pitting Larry Hogan against David Trone. It shows that the defection rate for Democrats was very high: 25%. Republicans were essentially unified behind Larry Hogan (5% defection to Trone), while unaffiliated voters were lopsidedly in favor of Hogan (51%, 18%) with nearly a third undecided (31%). The picture was hardly changed for Alsobrooks (Table 64).

**Table 63: Vote for Senate – Hogan vs. Trone by Party**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Unaffiliated</b>
David Trone	31	59	5	18
Larry Hogan	49	25	84	51
Unsure	20	16	11	31
Total	100	100	100	101

**Table 64: Vote for Senate – Hogan vs. Alsobrooks by Party**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Unaffiliated</b>
Angela Alsobrooks	31	57	5	19
Larry Hogan	48	24	85	50
Unsure	21	19	10	33
Total	100	100	100	101

The AACC/CSLI 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 65 shows the results by party and overall. Voters preferred Democratic control by 16 percentage points, with some greater defection of Republicans than Democrats and unaffiliateds evenly divided.

**Table 65: Party Control Preference for U.S. Senate**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Unaffiliated</b>
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

The next question offered 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 66: 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 in Table 66, the prompt tightened the race considerably, especially among Democrats who in the hypothetical Trone vs. Hogan matchup were 59% Trone and 25% Hogan switched to 76% “Democratic candidate” and only 16% Hogan. The “undecideds” dropped from 16% to 8%. Among unaffiliateds, the pro-Hogan vote dropped from 51% to 45%, the Democratic candidate vote increased from 18% to 30% and the undecideds dropped from 31% to 25%. The Republican vote was, unsurprisingly, essentially unchanged.

The main takeaway from this exercise is to show that Larry Hogan’s significant lead over either Democratic opponent is based upon his familiarity with voters and image as an “anti-Trump” and “independent” moderate who would not necessarily bolster the MAGA wing of the Republican Party in Congress. However, when presented with the background included in the prompt, the partisan and ideological impact of tipping the Senate into Republican hands resurrected the underlying antipathy that many voters have for the prospect of a unified government under MAGA-Republican rule. This reshaped their thinking to the point of making the race for the Senate competitive.



## 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>18</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 complicates 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 will ultimately be elected to Congress. The spring survey used the results of a previous survey to highlight just some of the names of candidates, with the option for respondents to write in the name of someone else.<sup>19</sup>

Table 67 shows the results offered by voters when asked, **“This question is just for Democrats living in the 3rd Congressional District who currently have retiring Congressman John Sarbanes as your representative. Many candidates are running to replace Congressman John Sarbanes. Looking at just some of the Democratic candidates, which of the following are you most likely to support when the primaries are held in May?”** Respondents were offered a link to the Maryland Board of Elections list of candidates who had filed by the time of the survey. Likely voters were used to calculate the percentages. Table 67 also lists the findings of two other surveys conducted within the 3<sup>rd</sup> congressional district.

**Table 67: Percentages Favoring a Candidate for Congress in Maryland's 3<sup>rd</sup> District**

	<b>CSLI Overall (likely voters, Anne Arundel only)</b>	<b>Banner Survey</b>	<b>Dunn Survey</b>
Mark Chang	8	2	1
Juan Dominquez	1	3	?
Harry Dunn	7	7	22
Sarah Elfreth	29	9	18
Terri Hill	3	1	?
Clarence Lam	1	2	8
John Morse	2	1	3
Mike Rogers	1	6	?
Someone else (write last name	1	13	4
Unsure	49	51	44

Since the AACC/CSLI survey does not extend beyond Anne Arundel County, it is not possible to know to what degree results within this county continue through Howard and Carroll counties. The poll from last March carried in the Baltimore Banner found these results for the overall district: “State Sen. Sarah Elfreth had the most support, at 9%. She was followed by former Capitol Police officer Harry Dunn (7%); state Del. Mike Rogers (6%); businessman

<sup>18</sup> The 2020 redistricting resulted in John Sarbanes no longer living in the district, perhaps a factor in his retirement decision.

<sup>19</sup> This was based on reporting in the Baltimore Banner: <https://www.thebaltimorebanner.com/politics-power/national-politics/2nd-3rd-congressional-poll-YBRFSNKOX5DGLIQIXBKNI7LDI/>

Dominguez and lawyer Michael Coburn (both at 3%); State Sen. Clarence Lam and Del. Mark Chang (both at 2%); and Del. Terri Hill and lawyer John Morse (both at 1%). And 13% said they would vote for “someone else” if the primary election were held now.”

The AACC/CSLI spring poll differed a bit from this listing of candidates. Both polls put State Senator Sarah Elfreth in the lead although the absolute values were quite different: 29% vs. 9%. Both polls put Harry Dunn with 7 percent. Both showed Dominquez, Hill, Lam and Morse with 3 percent or less. Differences were found concerning Mark Chang’s vote percentage: 8% vs. 2% as well as the percentage saying “Someone else” – 1% vs. 13%.<sup>20</sup> The percentage saying undecided/unsure was very similar: 49%, 51%.

Another poll conducted by Harry Dunn’s campaign and conducted April 7-10 showed a much tighter race between himself and Sarah Elfreth. Summarizing the results in an article in MarylandMatters.org: “Dunn’s poll, conducted April 7-10, found the political neophyte, who gained notoriety for battling with insurrectionists on Jan. 6, 2021, and writing a best-seller about it, was the preference of 22% of the voters in the initial matchup, while Elfreth, who has served in the Senate for five years, took 18%. State Sen. Clarence K. Lam (D-Howard and Anne Arundel) was next with 8%.”

The listing of the top two candidates parallels the fundraising amounts since Dunn and Elfreth have collected the greatest in contributions.<sup>21</sup> The key finding of Dunn’s survey is the image that the race has consolidated into a two-person event, with a lot of undecided voters still in the picture as “likely but currently uncommitted voters.”

Dunn benefits from a giant financial advantage and notable endorsements such as Congressperson Nancy Pelosi and former Majority Whip Jim Clyburn.<sup>22</sup> Such endorsements probably are consequential among the large percentage of those who remain likely voters but are undecided. Elfreth relies 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>23</sup>

Dunn’s website lists only two Maryland figures on its endorsement page (former Democratic Party Chair Susan Turnbull and Montgomery County Councilmember Will Jawando) and few interest groups - only “Moms Demand Action” and “Vote Vets” were mentioned. That Dunn could not find any current officials living within the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional district may not be surprising given his lack of residency within the district and absence of any

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<sup>20</sup> This might be due to the placement of an option to write the name of the candidate included on the CSLI poll that might have discouraged respondents from just using the “throwaway” idea of “someone else” – and instead opting for “unsure.”

<sup>21</sup> See <https://www.marylandmatters.org/2024/04/17/on-eve-of-candidate-forum-dunn-poll-shows-2-way-race-with-elfreth-as-he-swamps-all-foes-in-fundraising/>

<sup>22</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>23</sup> See <https://elfrethformaryland.com/endorsements/>

political experience in Maryland. Dunn is clearly the “celebrity candidate” in the race, well known only for his stand during the January 6, 2021, insurrection rather than any experience with legislation and policy. Evidently any effort to dethrone him as a possible frontrunner would focus on his lack of legislative experience and unfamiliarity with voters in the district.

Among **Republicans**, the field was even more poorly defined, with 68% saying “unsure.” Two candidates seemed to gain the most attention – Thomas Harris (5%) and Berney Flowers (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.”

## Issues, Party and Candidates

### Open-ended Comments Organized by ChatGPT

The survey used two formats to assess the key issues in the mind of respondents. The first was an open-ended question: **“What is the most serious issue facing residents of the United States at the present time.”** The second format asked voters to “use sliders to indicate the level of importance for issues that are most “top of mind” when you consider voting in May and November.”

The open-ended comments were organized by ChatGPT and are presented in Table 68. They are not used for any subsequent analysis by party or candidate. The second group of closed-ended questions will be presented and used for a more detailed analysis by party and candidate starting with Table 69.

Table 68 shows that three issues were the most cited: border security/immigration (30%), economic challenges (26%) and political dysfunction and partisanship (22%). This ranking parallels quite closely the results shown on Table 69 where political polarization/threat to democracy, inflation and immigration are top issues. The open-ended comments clearly underrepresented the seriousness of abortion – perhaps showing the limits of relying only on volunteered comments and/or the use of AI to organize such complex material.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> Thanks go to AACC philosophy professor Kevin Murphy for helping convert the open-ended comments using ChatGPT.

**Table 68: Serious Issues Ranking – Open-ended/Volunteered Comments**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Border Security and Immigration Control:</b> Many respondents express concerns about illegal immigration, border security, and the potential threats posed by unchecked migration.	30
<b>Economic Challenges:</b> There is widespread concern about economic issues such as inflation, rising costs of living, economic instability, unemployment, and the impact of government spending on the economy.	26
<b>Political Dysfunction and Partisanship:</b> The political divide between parties, dysfunction in government institutions, lack of trust in leadership, and partisan gridlock are significant concerns among respondents.	22
<b>National Security:</b> Issues related to national security, including threats from open border policies, terrorism, and risks to democracy and sovereignty, are highlighted by many respondents.	18
<b>Leadership and Governance:</b> Criticisms of current leadership, calls for new leadership, and concerns about the trustworthiness of government institutions are prevalent themes.	15
<b>Global Affairs and Geopolitics:</b> Respondents are worried about international conflicts, relations with countries like Russia and China, and the potential for war, particularly in regions like the Middle East.	12
<b>Social and Cultural Issues:</b> Concerns about erosion of personal rights, societal polarization, racism and discrimination, and social welfare are mentioned by some respondents.	9
<b>Misinformation and Media Bias:</b> Many respondents express worries about manipulation and censorship by government or politicians, as well as the impact of biased journalism on public discourse.	9
<b>Healthcare and Education:</b> Issues related to healthcare access, affordability, decline in education quality, and critical thinking skills are raised by some respondents.	4
<b>Environmental and Climate Concerns:</b> Climate change and ecological collapse are mentioned as significant challenges facing the country.	2

## Issues: Closed-ended Results

Tables 69 and 70 show the results for the closed-ended questions by listing the percentage that gave the item a score of “5” on a scale of 1 to 5.

**Table 69: “5” Score for Issues – Overall, Party, Candidates**

Issue	Overall	Dems	Reps	Unaffil.	Biden	Trump
The harm to the country should the other party's candidate win	57	68	53	44	71	52
Inflation/cost of living	45	40	55	39	30	61
Immigration	44	30	68	37	25	78
January 6 events, threats to democracy	44	62	16	32	64	7
Abortion	43	58	19	40	59	17
Guns	38	49	25	26	48	23
Health care	36	49	26	24	40	27
Climate change	36	51	8	30	49	7
Crime	34	27	46	24	21	53
Right to privacy	34	34	40	28	27	44
Foreign policy - Ukraine, Israel/Gaza	33	38	27	32	34	28
High taxes	33	26	47	30	16	52
Affordable housing	31	41	18	25	33	18
Racism	26	40	4	19	35	5
Cost of college	22	27	18	14	21	18
Inequality - lack of social mobility	21	29	3	20	27	3

Overall, the top issues were “harm to the country should the other party’s candidate win” (57%), inflation (45%), immigration (44%), the January 6 events/threats to democracy (44%), and abortion (43%).

There were significant differences between the parties regarding the top issues. For Democrats, the top concerns are the harm to the country should the other party’s candidate win (68%), the January 6 events/threats to democracy (62%), followed by abortion (58%) and climate change (51%).

For Republicans, the top issues were immigration (68%), inflation (55%) and the harm to the country should the other party’s candidate win (53%).

Among unaffiliateds, the key issues were the harm to the country should the other party’s candidate win (44%), abortion (40%), inflation (39%) and immigration (37%). This group of voters had lower issue intensity overall when compared to voters registered with a party.

Parties face the complex task of both trying to mobilize their own registered voters by focusing on issues of decisive importance to them, while also appealing to the unaffiliated voters who tend to vote by issues and candidates in a less predictable ideological and partisan manner.

Graph 23 shows the results of subtracting the level of high concern expressed by unaffiliated voters from the level of concern shown by Democratic and Republican registered voters. The goal was to show those areas where the parties’ members were about equally concerned with certain issues, and where their levels of concern greatly exceeded that of unaffiliated voters.

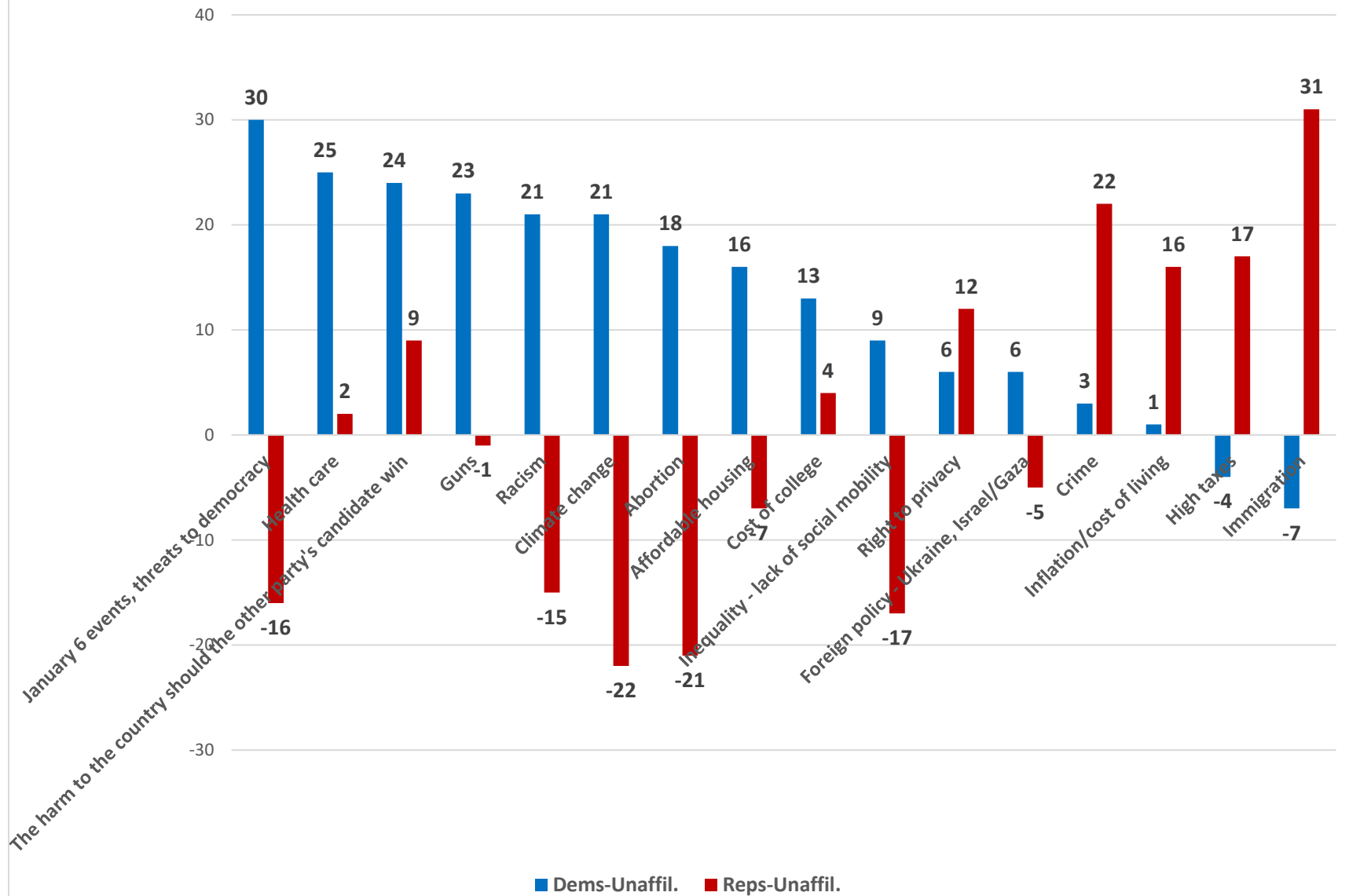
What Graph 23 reveals is that Democrats probably overemphasize certain issues such as threats to democracy, health care, harm to the country should the other party’s candidate win,

guns and racism. By contrast, they seem closer to unaffiliated voters on issues such as inflation, foreign policy, high taxes, immigration, the right to privacy and crime.

Republicans overemphasize immigration, crime, and inflation while also underemphasizing abortion, climate change, threats to democracy as well as racism and inequality. They seemed closer to unaffiliateds on guns, health care, cost of college and foreign policy.

These findings show that both parties tend to focus on their party members' core issues to the point that these depart from the concerns of less partisan and ideologically coherent voters. Swing voters might wish that Democrats had better approaches to inflation or gun regulation, while hoping that Republicans held different positions on abortion and climate change. In the end, unaffiliated voters will need to decide which combination of positions offered by each party presents the most satisfying cluster – aside from the specific pros and cons of individual candidates. Thus, unaffiliated voters will need to know more about Larry Hogan's stance on abortion or immigration (where unaffiliateds are more liberal than core Republicans) while also better understanding Trone or Alsobrooks stance on guns and inflation.

Graph 23: Democrats and Republicans Minus Unaffiliated on Issues





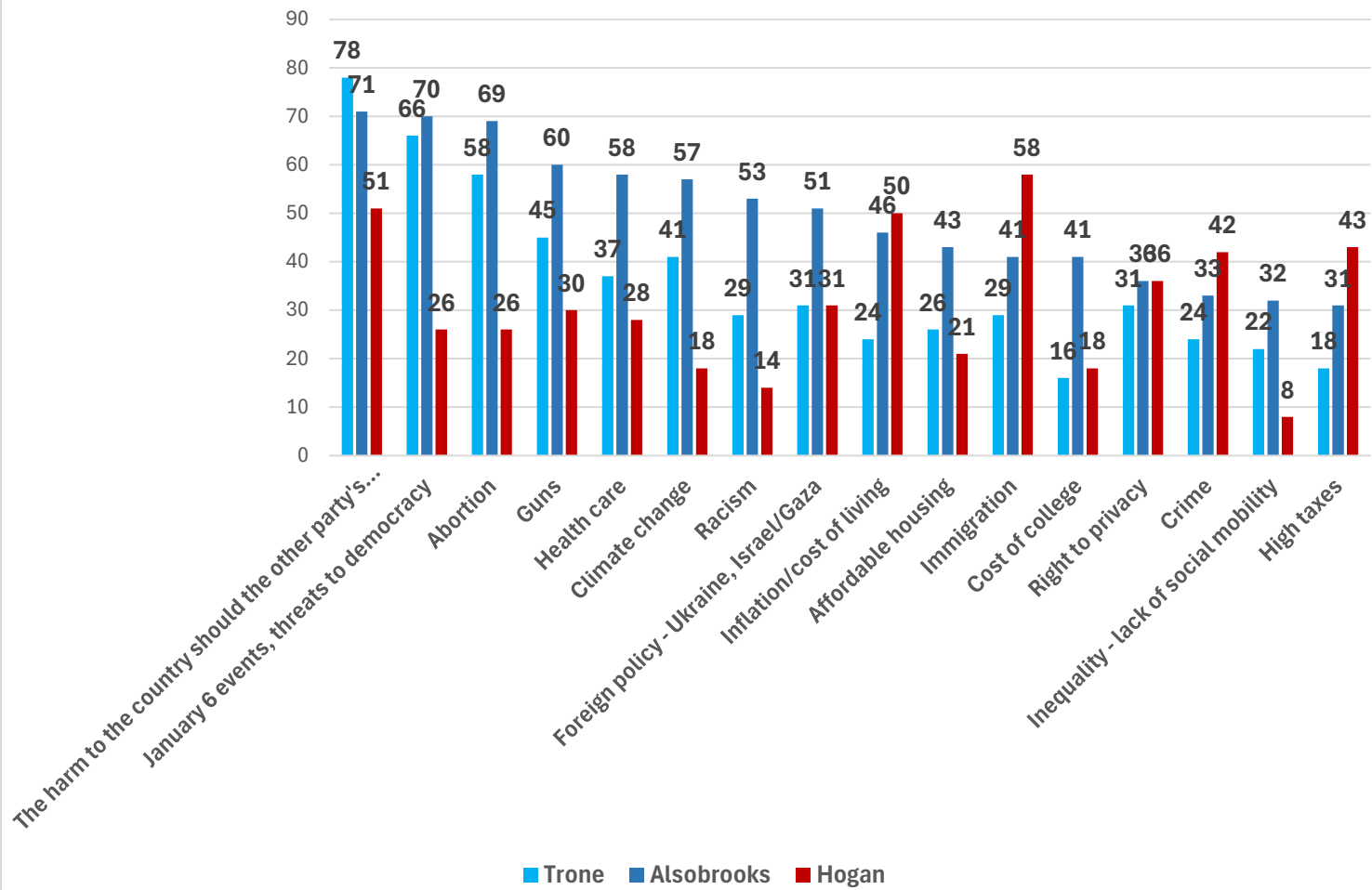
Looking next at the importance of issues in the race for Senate, Graph 24 shows how the voters for Alsobrooks, Trone and Hogan compare.

Table 70 expands on the data in Table 69 but including the relevant percentages of a candidate's supporters who gave each issue a score of "5." Information on the graphs below is derived from the data on Table 70.

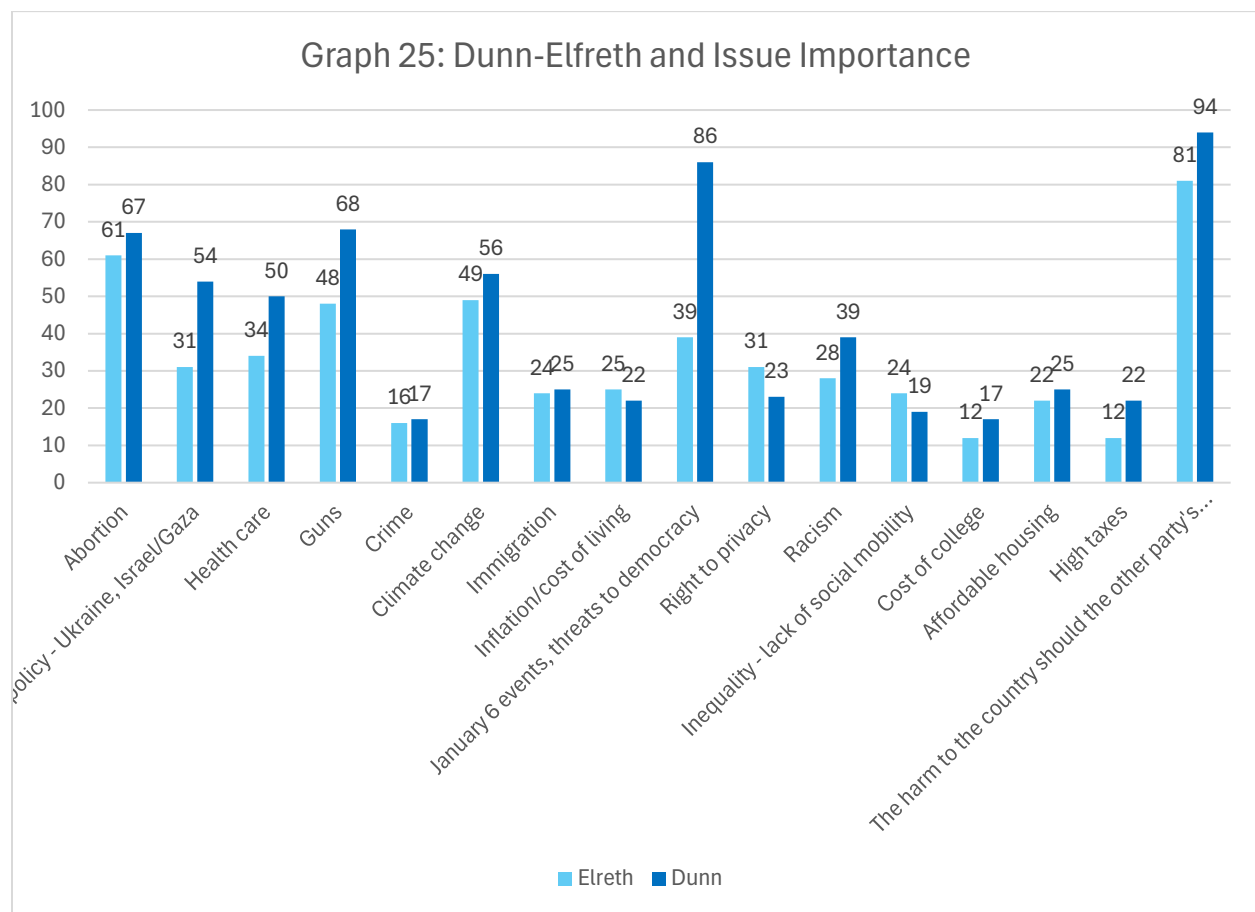
Graph 24 reveals that while Trone and Alsobrooks have voters who generally prioritize the same issues, Trone voters were much less issue focused than were Alsobrooks' voters. Thus, the majority of their supporters highlight the importance of abortion, but the score was 11 points lower for Trone than for Alsobrooks. Issues that showed the greatest gaps were racism (24 pp), cost of college (25 pp), inflation (22 pp), health care (21 pp), and foreign policy (20 pp). Overall, the average concern for policy was much higher for Alsobrooks voters (50%) than for Trone's (36%).

Impressively, this lack of concern for issues was also typical of Hogan voters whose average "issue score" was only 31%. These findings suggest that while Trone would be able to appeal on policy to Democrats with high (but lower than Alsobrooks) scores on abortion, threats to democracy and climate change, he would be less polarizing to potential moderates and unaffiliateds who might swing between Hogan and a Democratic candidate.

Graph 24: Alsobrooks, Trone and Hogan - Issue Importance



Finally, looking at just the Elfreth-Dunn matchup in the 3<sup>rd</sup> congressional district, there was some similarity to the Trone-Alsobrooks comparison made above: Elfreth's supporters were less issue motivated (average issue score was 34%) than were Dunn's (43%). The latter's signature issue was his role on January 6, 2021, and this seems clearly acknowledged by his voters 86% of whom gave this a score of "5" on the issue scale, compared to only 39% of Elfreth's voters having done so. Clearly, for all those whose singular focus was the threat to democracy that the insurrection posed, Dunn is their symbolic leader. As a secondary generalization, it also appears that Dunn's voters are more liberal and ideologically motivated, with higher scores than Elfreth's on a variety of issues including abortion, foreign policy, health care, guns, climate change, racism and even "high taxes." Elfreth's career has been focused on state issues and the push/pull of legislative politics with the Maryland General Assembly. That experience leads itself less easily to the national stage where polarization and partisan mobilization appear more decisive than the nuances of policy.



**Table 70: “5” Score for Issues – Overall, Party, Candidates**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Dems</b>	<b>Reps</b>	<b>Unaffil.</b>	<b>Trone</b>	<b>Alsobrooks</b>	<b>Hogan</b>	<b>Elfreth</b>	<b>Dunn</b>
Abortion	43	58	19	40	58	69	26	61	67
Foreign policy - Ukraine, Israel/Gaza	33	38	27	32	31	51	31	31	54
Health care	36	49	26	24	37	58	28	34	50
Guns	38	49	25	26	45	60	30	48	68
Crime	34	27	46	24	24	33	42	16	17
Climate change	36	51	8	30	41	57	18	49	56
Immigration	44	30	68	37	29	41	58	24	25
Inflation/cost of living	45	40	55	39	24	46	50	25	22
January 6 events, threats to democracy	44	62	16	32	66	70	26	39	86
Right to privacy	34	34	40	28	31	36	36	31	23
Racism	26	40	4	19	29	53	14	28	39
Inequality - lack of social mobility	21	29	3	20	22	32	8	24	19
Cost of college	22	27	18	14	16	41	18	12	17
Affordable housing	31	41	18	25	26	43	21	22	25
High taxes	33	26	47	30	18	31	43	12	22
The harm to the country should the other party's candidate win	57	68	53	44	78	71	51	81	94

## 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. Graph 26 shows the percentages saying, “approve” for the county executive, the governor and the president.<sup>25</sup> There are open-ended comments associated with each office – see Appendices P through S.

### 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%.

One year later, in fall 2021, Joe Biden’s job approval registered 54% – combining “strong” with “somewhat approve. By spring 2022, Biden’s job approval had dropped to 46% echoing a generally declining job approval score in national polls which reached 41% according to [realclearpolitics.com](https://www.realclearpolitics.com) (RCP) in the same period as the spring 2022 poll (see Table 71). The spring 2023 survey showed Biden as having reached a new low in job approval (41%); the spring 2024 survey found a **rise** in Biden’s job approval numbers from 44% to 48%. This was considerably higher than the average of polls shown on [realclearpolitics.com](https://www.realclearpolitics.com) – 40%.<sup>26</sup> Given that the margin of Biden’s election win in 2020 was much higher than Trump’s that year, it isn’t surprising that Biden remains a bit more popular in the county than nationally, but 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>27</sup>

Graph 26 shows the pattern for both poll sources –AACC/CSLI as well as Gallup/RCP. Table 71 shows the overall job approval score over the period spring 2015 to spring 2024. Table 72 shows presidential job approval from spring 2022 to spring 2024 by party as well as overall.

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<sup>25</sup> A coding error in combining the online with the telephone samples made the results problematic for Fall 2018. Those results are excluded from Graph 20. For the fall 2018 survey, a change was made in how the question was asked: rather than simply asking the respondent to choose between “approve” and “disapprove,” more choices were offered: strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove and strongly disapprove. To make the results consistent with prior results, the four categories were collapsed into just two in some elements such as graphs: approve, disapprove.

<sup>26</sup> For the RCP’s job approval scores see <https://www.realclearpolling.com/polls/approval/joe-biden/approval-rating>

<sup>27</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.

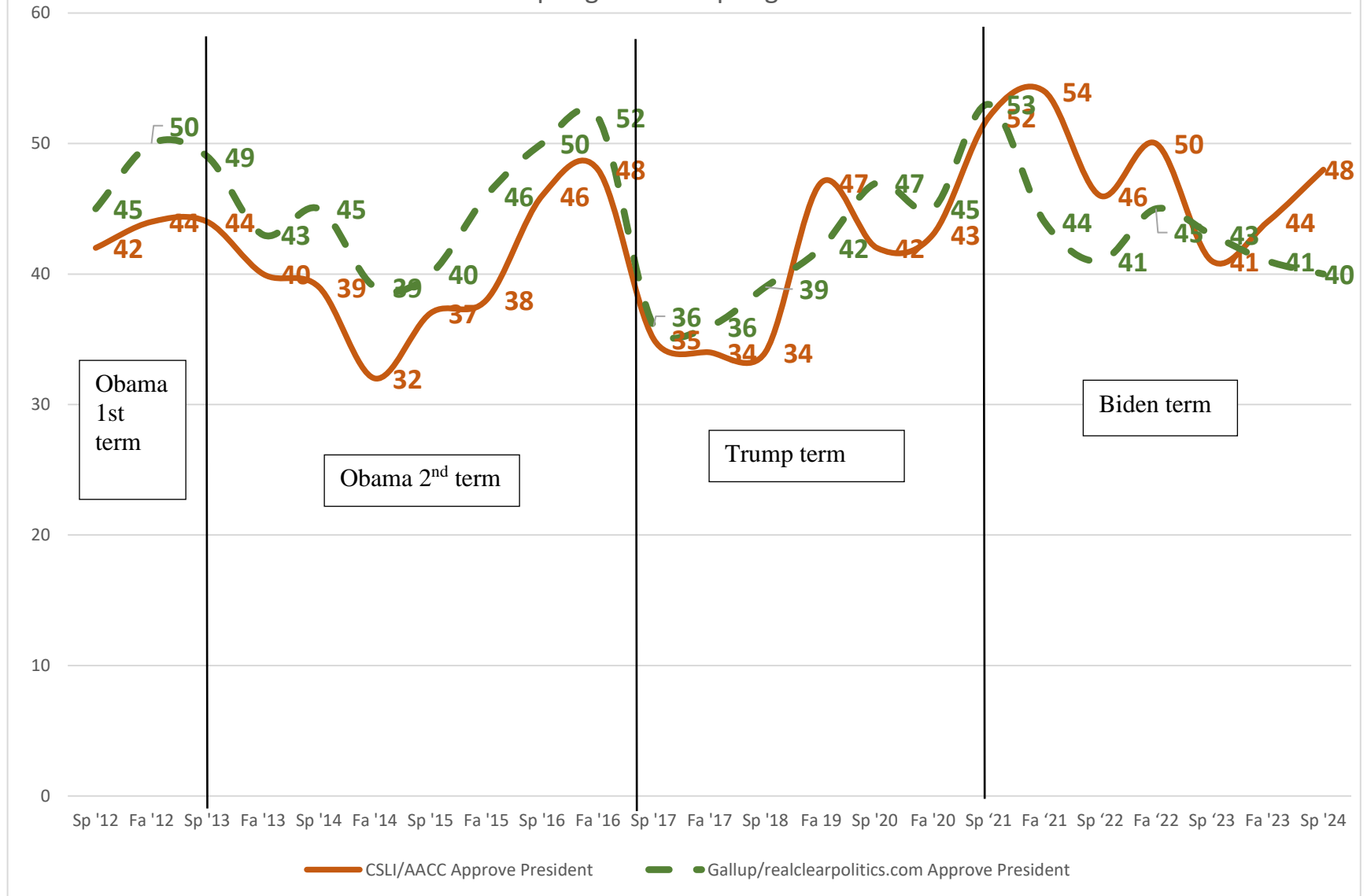
**Table 71: AACC/CSLI Presidential Job Approval Fall 2015 to Spring 2024**

	Fa '15	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
Approve	38	46	48	35	34	34	40	47	42	43	52	54	46	50	41	44	49
Disapprove	52	47	46	54	55	56	56	56	58	56	42	44	50	42	54	49	50
No answer	10	7	6	11	11	11	4	3	0	1	5	3	5	7	6	4	2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	101	101	99	100	100	99	101	101	99	101	100	101

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

	Overall					Dems					Reps					Unaffiliated				
	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24
Strongly+somewhat	46	50	41	44	48	79	71	72	79	75	11	18	9	8	12	32	51	27	30	34
Strongly approve	17	18	15	21	21	34	34	31	42	36	3	4	2	4	3	7	18	3	6	10
Somewhat approve	29	32	26	23	27	45	39	41	37	39	8	14	7	4	9	25	33	24	24	24
Somewhat disapprove	10	8	13	9	11	10	8	9	8	11	6	7	9	7	11	19	15	26	18	16
Strongly disapprove	40	34	41	43	39	7	10	16	11	11	83	73	80	85	77	43	25	41	45	41
Unsure, don't know	5	7	6	4	2	5	9	4	3	4	0	2	3	0	0	6	9	6	8	8
Total	101	99	101	101	100	101	101	101	101	100	100	100	101	100	100	100	100	100	101	99

Graph 26: Presidential Job Approval - AACC/CSLI Survey, Gallup/Realclearpolitics.com  
Spring 2012 to Spring 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 most of the Republican Party, implying that his job approval will ultimately depend mostly on Democrats as well as liberal or moderate unaffiliateds. The results are shown on Tables 73 and 74, as well as Graph 27.

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

- (1) While 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 by spring 2024.
- (2) Moore's job approval improvement has been based on maintaining a high score among Democrats and continuing improvement in scores among unaffiliateds.
- (3) Republicans' support has varied from 37% to 25% to 33% this spring – showing that at least for now, there is a plateau in support in the mid-30s.
- (4) It seems unlikely that there will be much room for further enhancement of Moore's job approval unless the Republican plateau is overcome or there is a significant jump in approval scores among unaffiliateds.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> While there isn't a way of testing this hypothesis using the data in the survey, it is possible that both Biden's and Moore's approval scores 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/>

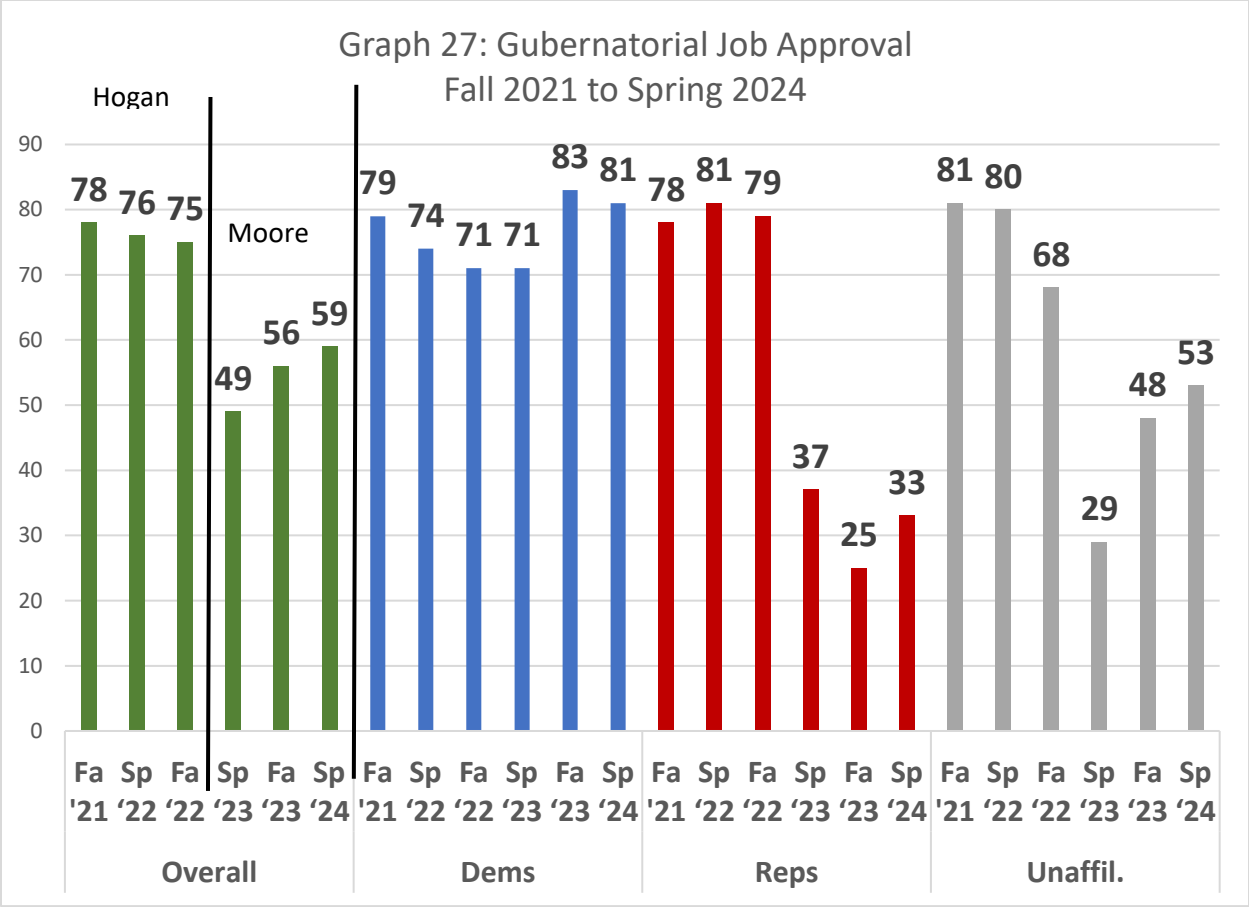


**Table 73: Gubernatorial Job Approval – Overall and by Party Registration, Spring 2022 through Spring 2024**

	Overall					Dems					Reps					Unaffiliated				
	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24
Strongly+somewhat	76	75	49	56	<b>59</b>	74	71	71	83	<b>81</b>	81	79	37	25	<b>33</b>	80	68	29	48	<b>53</b>
Strongly approve	36	36	23	27	<b>28</b>	31	35	35	48	<b>47</b>	51	48	18	7	<b>7</b>	35	28	11	15	<b>26</b>
Somewhat approve	40	39	26	29	<b>31</b>	43	36	36	35	<b>34</b>	30	31	19	18	<b>26</b>	45	40	19	33	<b>27</b>
Somewhat disapprove	13	13	14	13	<b>16</b>	15	17	9	5	<b>6</b>	15	15	20	24	<b>30</b>	9	8	20	11	<b>19</b>
Strongly disapprove	5	3	10	18	<b>13</b>	6	1	2	4	<b>3</b>	5	4	25	40	<b>30</b>	7	8	6	15	<b>11</b>
Unsure, don't know	6	10	27	14	<b>12</b>	5	11	19	7	<b>10</b>	0	2	19	11	<b>7</b>	4	17	44	27	<b>18</b>
Total	100	101	100	101	<b>100</b>	100	100	101	99	<b>100</b>	101	100	101	100	<b>100</b>	100	99	100	101	<b>101</b>

**Table 74: Gubernatorial Job Approval by Ideology, Spring 2023-Spring 2024**

	Overall			Very cons.			SW cons.			Mod.			SW lib.			Very lib.		
	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24
Strongly+Somewhat approve	49	57	<b>59</b>	17	17	<b>13</b>	16	31	<b>39</b>	48	66	<b>68</b>	88	83	<b>80</b>	78	88	<b>86</b>
Strongly approve	23	27	<b>28</b>	0	0	<b>6</b>	3	8	<b>9</b>	25	29	<b>31</b>	46	52	<b>42</b>	36	49	<b>53</b>
Somewhat approve	26	29	<b>31</b>	17	17	<b>7</b>	13	23	<b>30</b>	23	37	<b>37</b>	42	31	<b>38</b>	42	39	<b>33</b>
Somewhat disapprove	14	13	<b>16</b>	15	23	<b>37</b>	40	27	<b>30</b>	8	9	<b>14</b>	2	2	<b>3</b>	9	2	<b>3</b>
Strongly disapprove	10	18	<b>13</b>	50	53	<b>35</b>	14	31	<b>25</b>	8	12	<b>9</b>	0	1	<b>1</b>	0	0	<b>0</b>
Unsure, no opinion	27	14	<b>12</b>	18	7	<b>15</b>	31	12	<b>6</b>	37	12	<b>10</b>	10	14	<b>16</b>	14	10	<b>11</b>
Total	100	101	<b>100</b>	101	100	<b>100</b>	100	101	<b>100</b>	100	99	<b>101</b>	100	100	<b>100</b>	101	100	<b>100</b>



## 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 75 – for this spring, 45%. 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 75: County Executive Job Approval – Overall**

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

According to the scores in Table 75, Pittman has essentially maintained a similar net approval score for the last two surveys – last fall it was 15%, this spring it was 14% and was based mostly on an improved score among unaffiliateds (from 2% to 13%) – see Table 75a. Table 75 shows that there wasn't much change among ideological categories. Graph 28 shows job approval scores for the president, governor and county executive from spring 2014 to spring 2024.

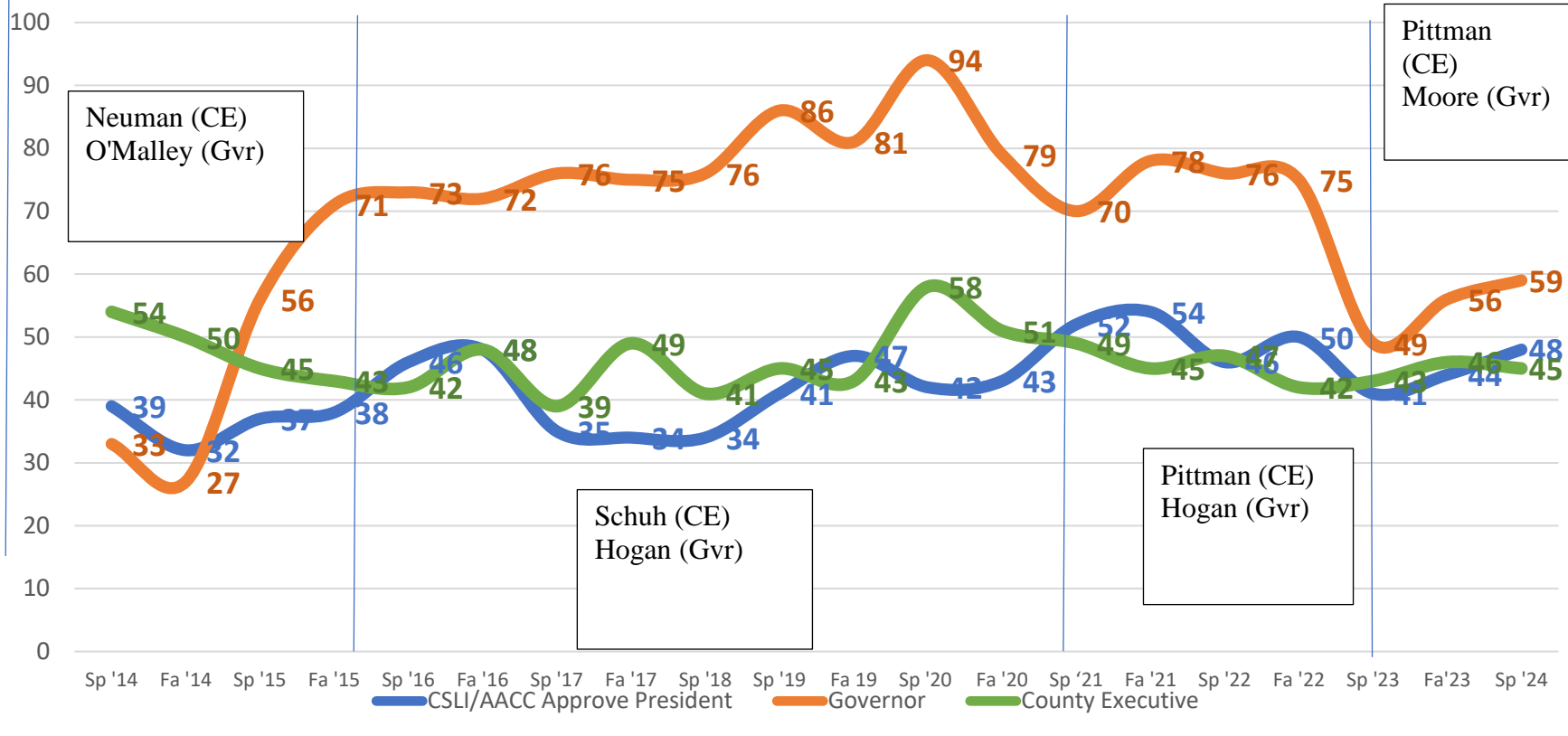
**Table 75a: County Executive Job Approval – Overall and  
by Party Registration, Spring 2022 to Spring 2024**

	Overall					Dems					Reps					Unaffiliated				
	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24
Net approval	15	8	8	15	14	57	54	47	59	51	-39	-41	-20	-36	-38	17	-1	-28	2	13
Strongly+somewhat	47	42	43	46	45	68	64	62	70	64	24	22	31	28	25	48	34	31	31	39
Strongly approve	20	18	16	19	18	41	34	32	37	30	4	5	3	5	6	8	9	6	6	11
Somewhat approve	27	24	27	27	27	28	30	30	33	34	20	16	29	23	19	40	25	25	25	28
Somewhat disapprove	11	15	13	12	14	5	4	7	6	9	20	25	20	23	24	8	22	21	13	13
Strongly disapprove	21	19	22	19	17	6	6	8	5	4	43	38	31	41	39	23	13	38	16	13
Unsure, don't know	21	24	22	22	24	20	27	24	19	23	13	16	17	9	12	20	32	11	40	34
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	101	100	100	101	100	100	101	101	99	99	101	100	99

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

	Overall			Very cons.			SW cons.			Mod.			SW lib.			Very lib.		
	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24
Net approval	8	15	14	-68	-53	-45	-46	-23	-31	18	28	22	62	56	57	42	60	59
Strongly+somewhat	43	46	45	6	20	19	21	33	28	50	56	48	73	60	67	52	68	65
Strongly approve	16	19	<b>18</b>	0	4	<b>8</b>	3	3	<b>6</b>	13	19	<b>15</b>	31	33	<b>26</b>	36	43	<b>40</b>
Somewhat approve	27	27	<b>27</b>	6	16	<b>11</b>	18	30	<b>22</b>	37	37	<b>33</b>	42	27	<b>41</b>	16	25	<b>25</b>
Somewhat disapprove	13	12	<b>14</b>	13	15	<b>15</b>	27	26	<b>27</b>	12	13	<b>12</b>	6	2	<b>8</b>	10	7	<b>4</b>
Strongly disapprove	22	19	<b>17</b>	61	57	<b>49</b>	40	29	<b>31</b>	20	15	<b>14</b>	5	2	<b>2</b>	0	1	<b>2</b>
Unsure, no opinion	22	22	<b>24</b>	21	8	<b>17</b>	12	12	<b>14</b>	19	17	<b>27</b>	17	36	<b>22</b>	38	23	<b>30</b>
Total	100	100	<b>100</b>	101	100	<b>100</b>	100	100	<b>100</b>	101	101	<b>101</b>	101	100	<b>99</b>	100	99	<b>101</b>

**Graph 28: Job Approval for President, Governor, County Executive -  
Spring 2014 to Spring 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 29. Overall, there were no notable changes from last fall.

As in the past, none of the state and local institutions have had particularly impressive “strongly approve” percentages (from 6 to 9 percent); all the local institutions had very high “unsure” scores (from 23 to 27 percent). The “don’t know” scores were very high for these items (23% to 27%).

In Table 79 (and Graph 30) are the scores for each institution by party registration from spring 2022 to spring 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 or the Maryland General Assembly than do Republicans given Democratic majorities in each. Conversely, it might be expected that Republicans would have a high job approval score for the Supreme Court (65%) compared to Democrats (12%).

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 44-point gap between Democrats (12%) and Republicans (65%) 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 Spring 2024**

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

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

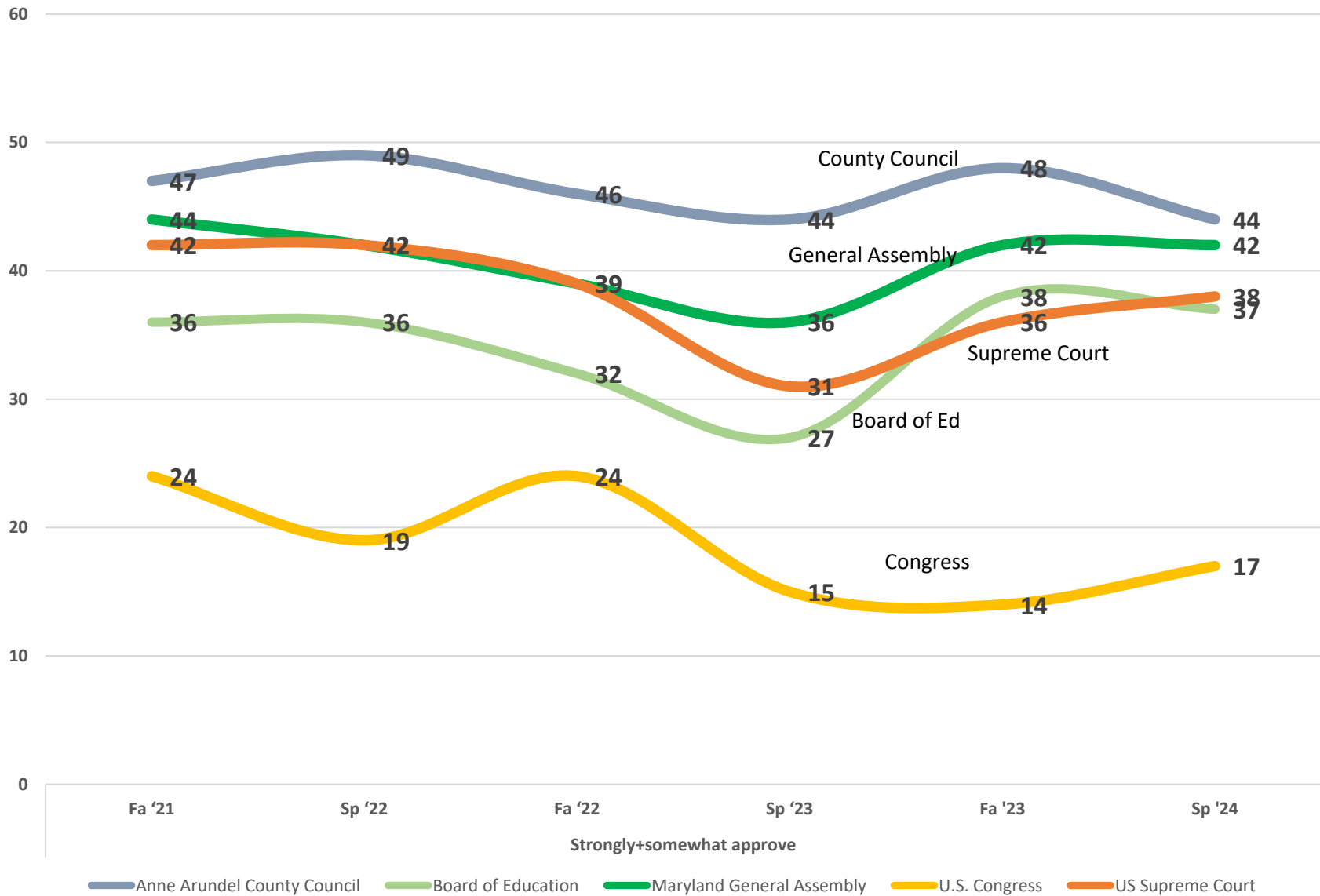
	Strongly approve					Somewhat approve					Somewhat disapprove					Strongly disapprove					Unsure, no opinion				
	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24
Anne Arundel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

**Table 79: Legislatures and Supreme Court – Job Approval by Party (Strongly+Somewhat), Spring 2022 to Spring 2024**

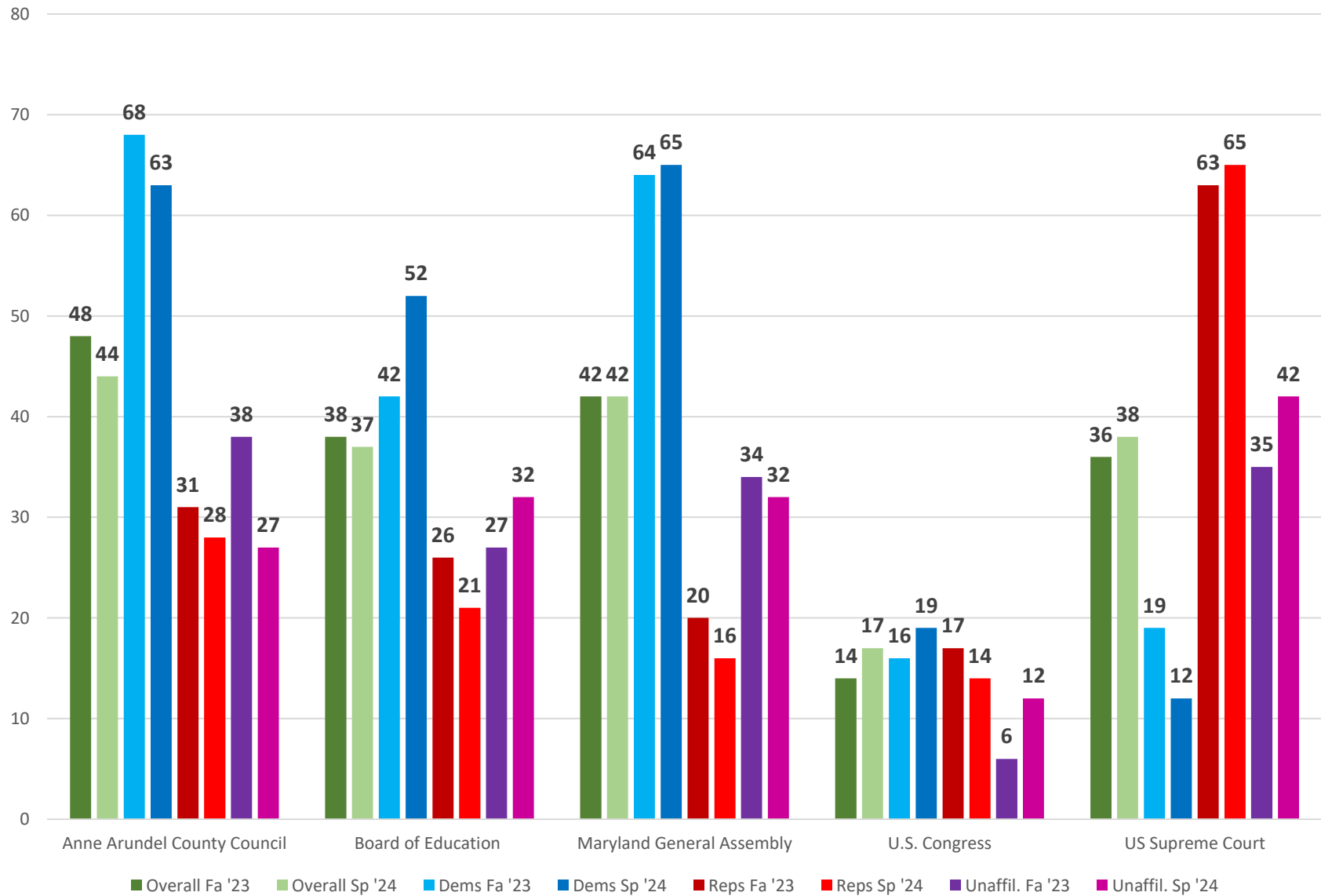
	Overall					Dems					Reps					Unaffil.				
	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24	Sp '22	Fa '22	Sp '23	Fa '23	Sp '24
Anne Arundel County Council	49	46	44	48	44	61	55	59	68	63	41	31	32	31	28	33	34	50	38	27
Board of Education	36	32	27	38	37	41	40	39	53	52	26	21	17	26	21	28	40	26	27	32
Maryland General Assembly	42	39	36	42	42	62	49	57	64	65	23	25	19	20	16	35	40	23	34	32
U.S. Congress	19	24	15	14	17	24	31	18	16	19	5	12	20	17	14	26	24	10	6	12
US Supreme Court	42	39	31	36	38	29	16	13	19	12	58	61	58	63	65	49	28	45	35	42



Graph 29: Job Approval: Other Legislative Units + Supreme Court, Fall 2021 to Spring 2024



Graph 30: Legislatures and Supreme Court by Party (Fall 2023, Spring 2024)



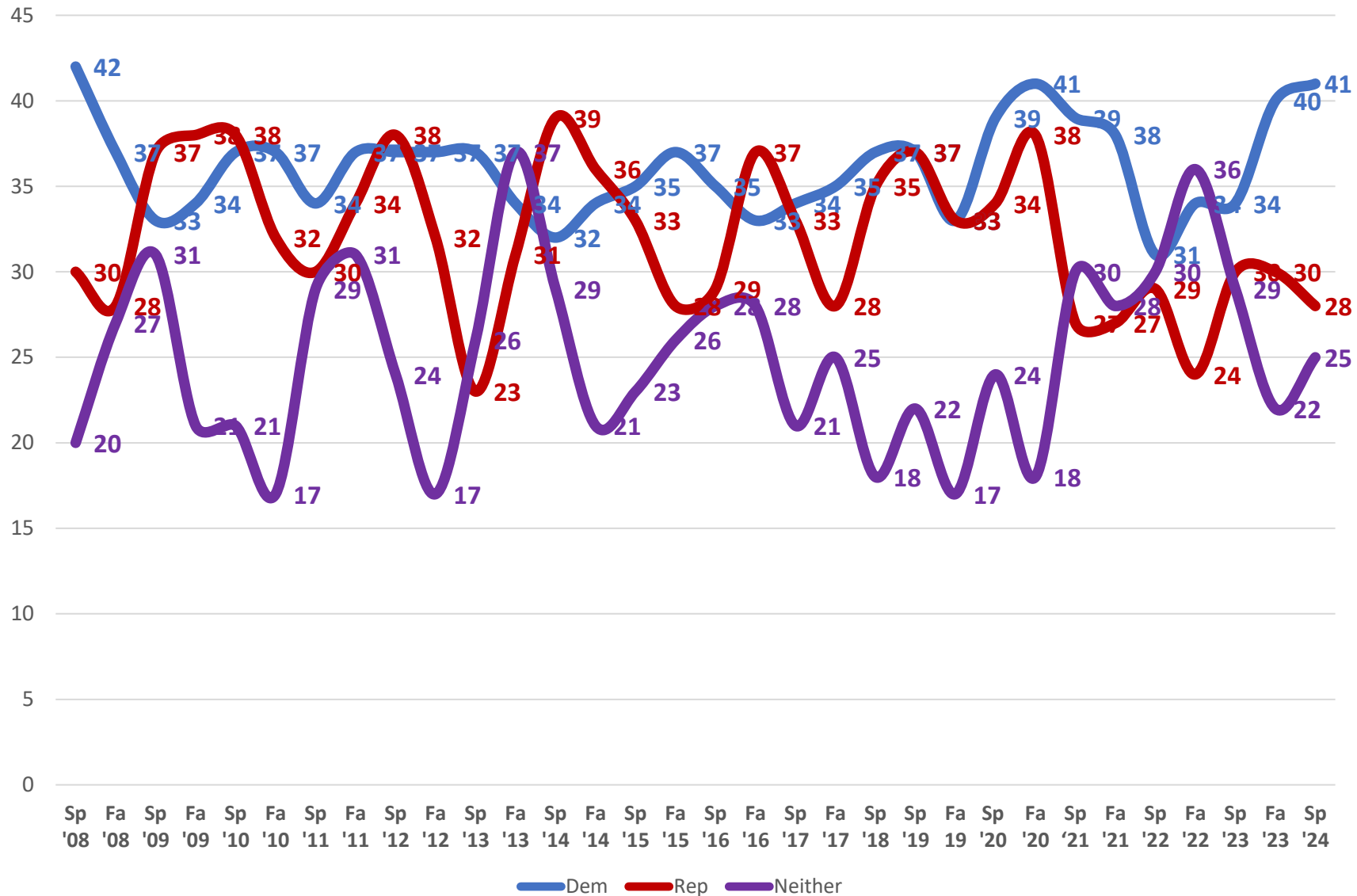
## **Trust in Political Parties**

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 31 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 – 28% - is near that party’s typical score 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.

Democrats have shown less variation in trust levels, ranging from 32 to 42%. The current score is 41% a 1-point improvement from last fall and continues the wide gap between itself and the Republicans over the last year.

Those saying “neither” have varied the most, from a low of 17% to a high of 37%. The rebound in the Democrats’ score diminished the value of the “neither” score, dropping from 29% to only 22% last fall, but rebounding 3 points since then for a total of 25% this spring. The rise in the Democrats’ score was mainly based on the decrease in the Republican score.

Graph 31: % Trust in Political Parties Spring 2008 to Spring 2024



## Special Section: Smartphone Use, Social Media, Video Games

The spring survey included a special section that focused on cell phone usage. A follow-up asked about the impact of the use of smartphones, social media and video games upon mental health and time management.

The first question asked, “On a typical day during waking hours, about how often do you check your smartphone for text messages, emails, notifications, news, or other information on social media?” Table 80 shows that 57% check their phones at least once an hour. Table 81 and Graph 31 shows that men are more likely to check their phones at least once every 30 minutes compared to women. The latter are concentrated in the 1-3 hour range. Among age groups, younger people were the most likely to check their phones frequency – 61% at least once an hour. Among those 50-59 that percentage dropped to 28% - for those over 70 it was just 15%.

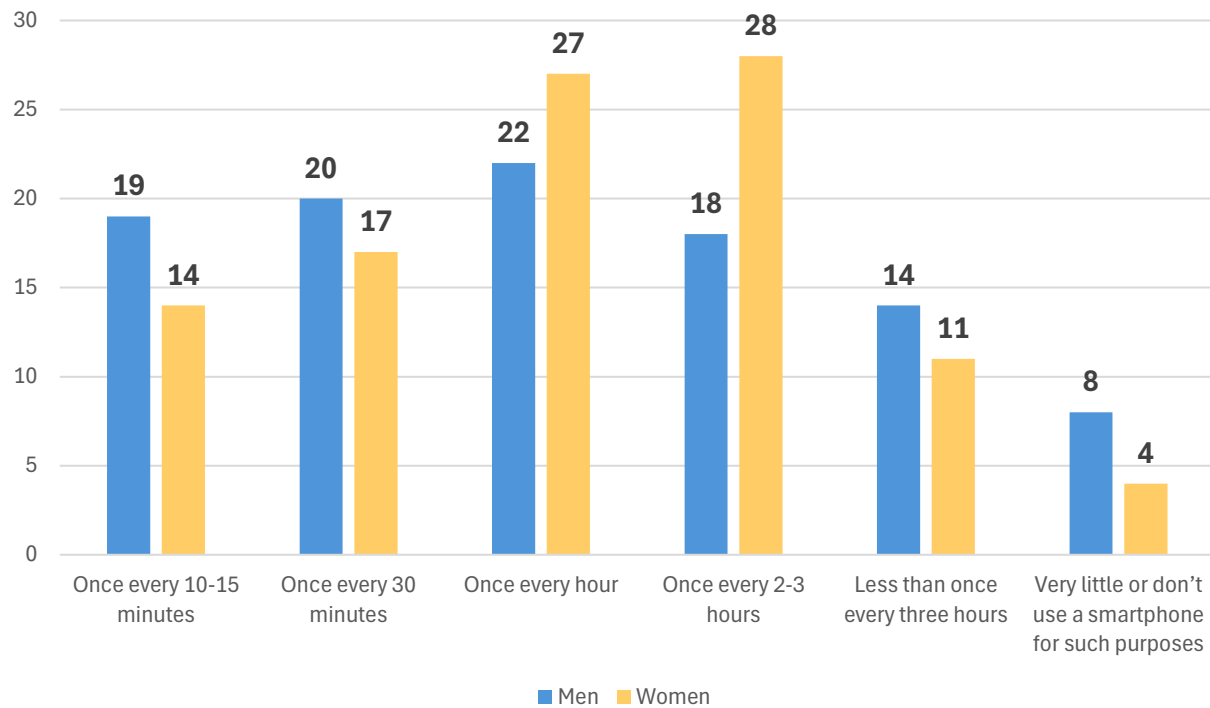
**Table 80: Frequency of Checking Smartphones**

Time Interval	Percentage
Once every 10-15 minutes	16
Once every 30 minutes	19
Once every hour	24
Once every 2-3 hours	23
Less than once every three hours	13
Very little or don't use a smartphone for such purposes	6
Total	101

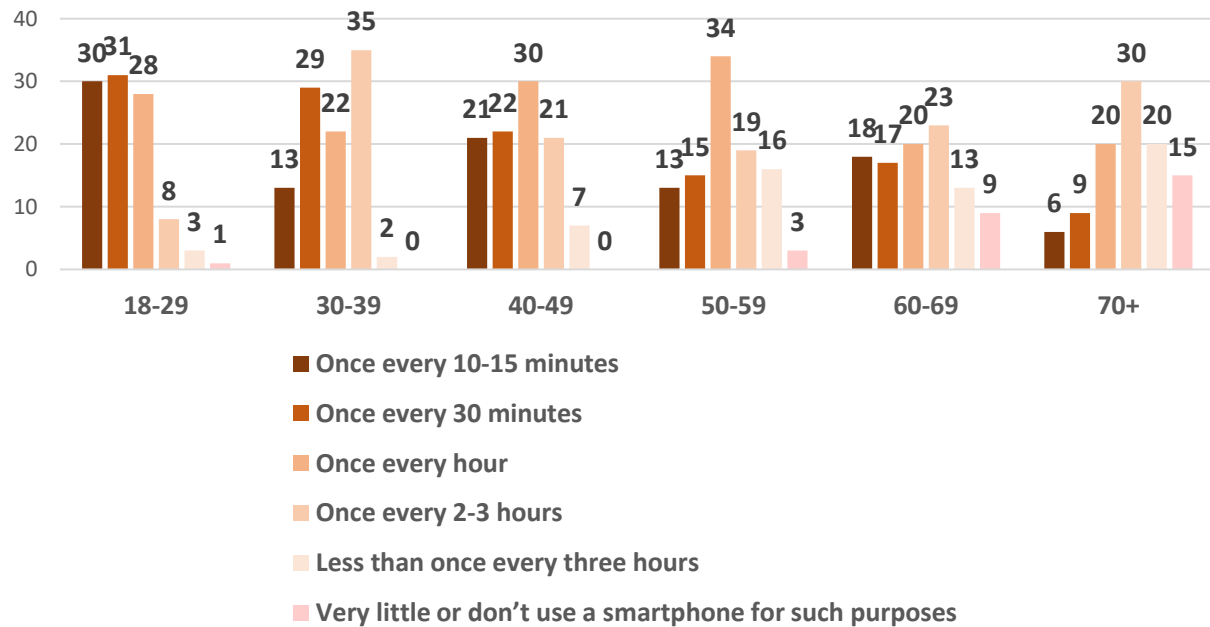
**Table 81: Frequency of Checking Smartphones by Age and Gender**

Time Interval	Overall	Men	Women	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+
Once every 10-15 minutes	16	19	14	30	13	21	13	18	6
Once every 30 minutes	19	20	17	31	29	22	15	17	9
Once every hour	24	22	27	28	22	30	34	20	20
Once every 2-3 hours	23	18	28	8	35	21	19	23	30
Less than once every three hours	13	14	11	3	2	7	16	13	20
Very little or don't use a smartphone for such purposes	6	8	4	1	0	0	3	9	15
Total	101	101	101	101	101	101	100	100	100

Graph 31: Frequency of Checking Smartphone



Graph 32: Frequency of Checking Smartphone by Age Group



The survey then asked whether the use of smartphones, social media, and video games had:

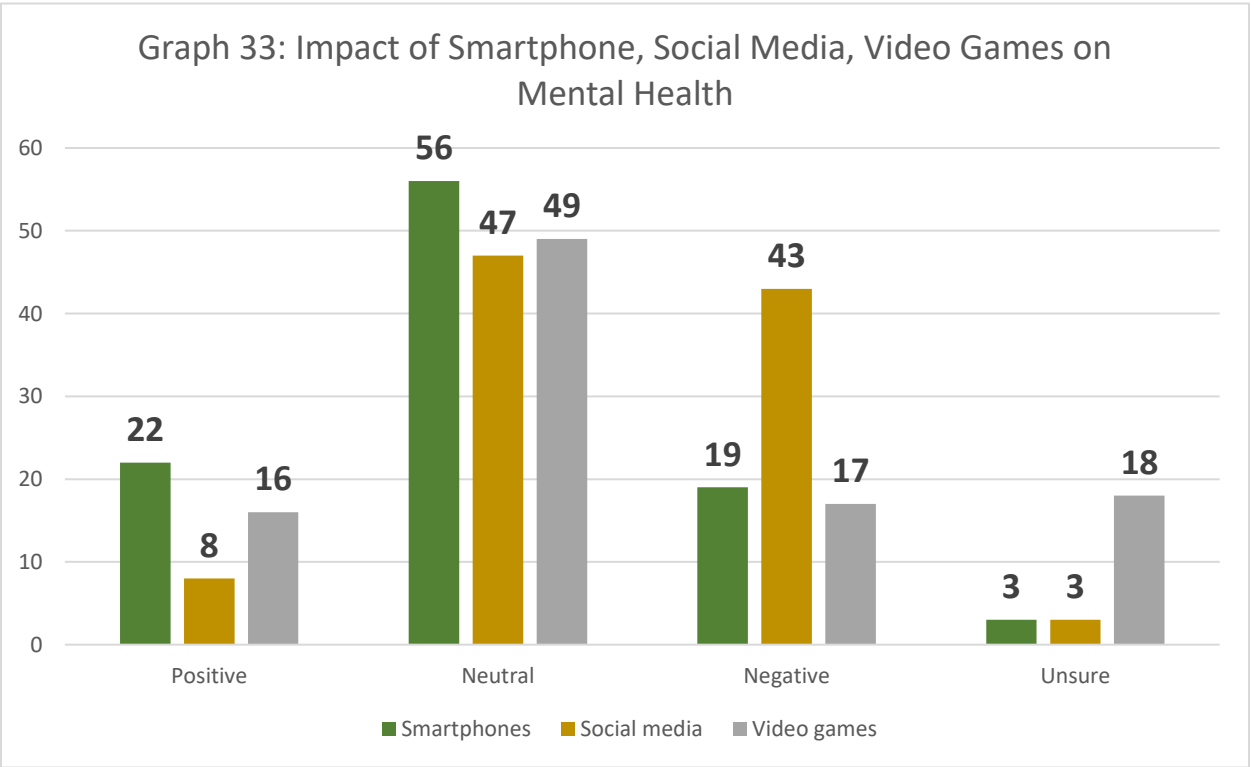
- (1) Impacted you in a positive or negative way regarding your mental health (anxiety, depression, loss of self-esteem)
- (2) Affected your ability to effectively manage your time (keep appointments, get tasks accomplished, meet deadlines).

Table 82 shows how answers were organized and the relevant percentages.

**Table 82: Impact of Smartphones, Social Media and Video Games**

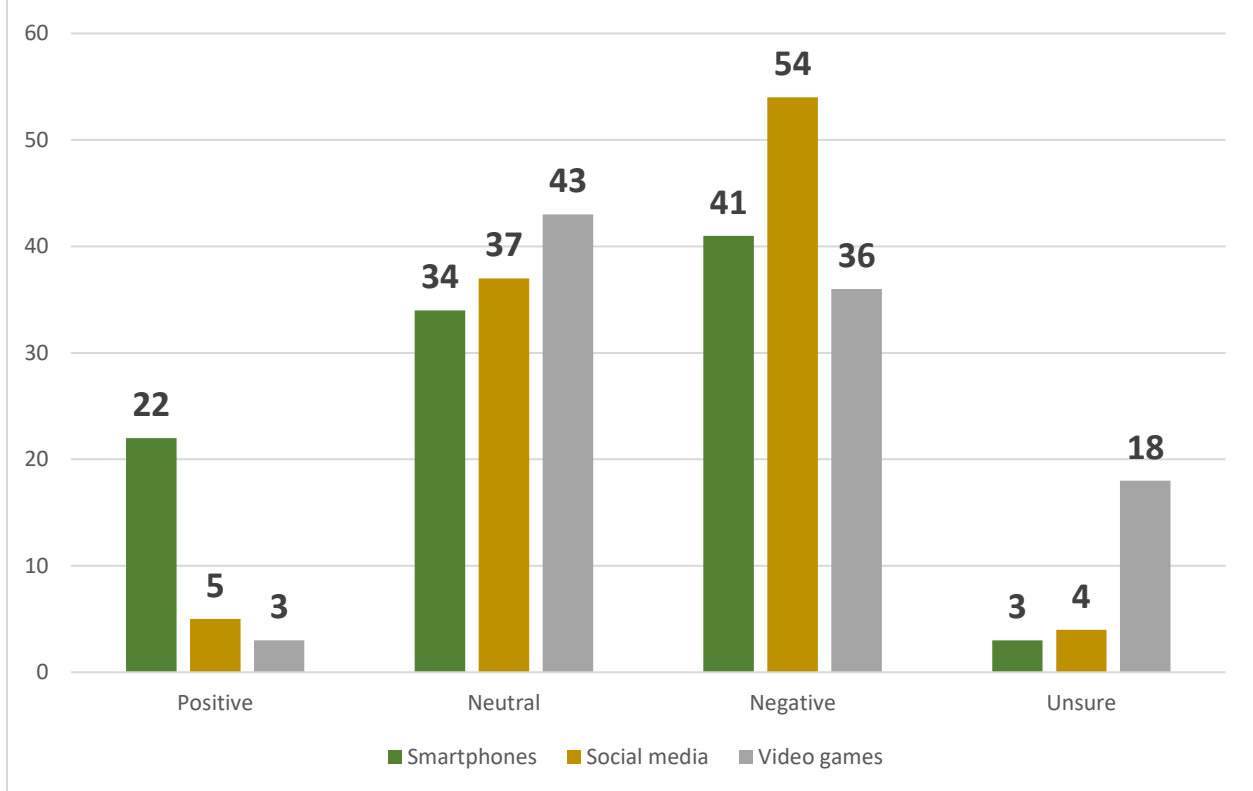
	Impact on Mental Health				Impact on Time Management			
	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unsure	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unsure
Smartphones	22	56	19	3	22	34	41	3
Social media	8	47	43	3	45	37	54	4
Video games	16	49	17	18	3	43	36	18

Graph 33 depicts results, highlighting especially the high negative impact on mental health scores received for social media at least compared to smartphones or video games.



The story wasn’t much different for time management. Graph 34 shows that a majority (54%) felt that social media had a negative impact on time management – compared to only 5% claiming that the impact was positive. Overall, the negative scores for time management were considerably higher than for the impact on mental health.

Graph 34: Impact of Smartphones, Social Media and Video Games on Time Management





## Special Section: Group Identities

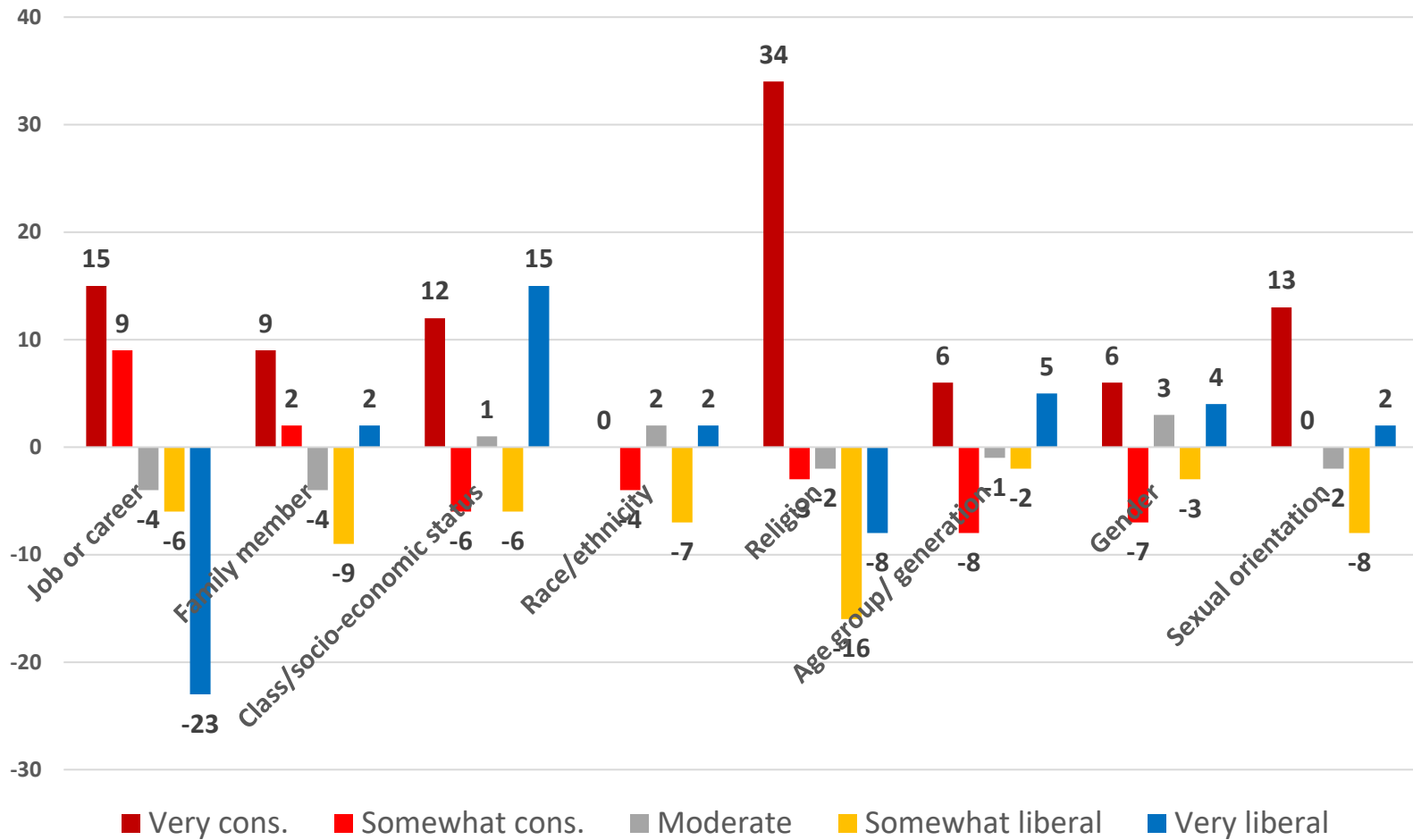
The last new section to be discussed here focuses on the strength of group identities. The survey asked respondents to indicate how strongly “do each of these traits shape your identity?” Table 83 shows the percentage that used the slider to offer a score of at least 75%. Also shown on that table are the scores received for each ideological group.

**Table 83: Strength of Group Identities, Overall and by Ideology**

	Overall	Very cons.	Somewhat cons.	Mod.	Somewhat liberal	Very liberal
Job or career	50	65	59	46	44	27
Family member	66	75	68	62	57	68
Class/socio-economic status	32	44	26	33	26	47
Race/ethnicity	36	36	32	38	29	38
Religion	38	72	35	36	22	30
Age group/ generation	46	52	38	45	44	51
Gender	44	50	37	47	41	48
Sexual orientation	34	47	34	32	26	36

Graph 35 highlights the distance percentages are from the mean in each of the five ideological categories. The ideological category least likely to waver from the mean are “moderates” followed by the somewhat liberal/conservative categories. Those who were “very conservative” seemed to stand out for their religious identity – which was 34 points over the mean value. This was the most extreme group association found for any of the ideological categories. The second most extreme group association was between “very liberals” and “job or career” – in this case, very liberals were 23 points *below* the mean. Very conservatives also stood out regarding class/socio economic status (+12), job/career (+15), and sexual orientation (+13). Very liberals seemed to stand out for class/socio-economic status (+15), while somewhat liberals were below average regarding religious identity (-16).

Table 35: Group Identities and Ideology - Points Away from Mean



## Methodology

The survey polled a random sample of 741 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 April 5 to 14. There was about a 3.5% 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-Spring-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 – Spring, 2024

(with selected percentages from fall 2020-fall 2023)

**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	Fall '20	Spring '21	Fall '21	Spring '22	Fall '22	Spring '23	Fall '23	Spring '24
Childcare services (access, affordable)						8	3	<b>6</b>
Coronavirus (spread, treatment, testing)	50	53	35	14	6	2	3	<b>0</b>
Crime (other than drug related)	11	10	13	26	27	24	36	<b>22</b>
Drugs (use or sale of illegal drugs such as heroin, cocaine, or use of prescription pain killers for non-medical purposes.)	15	11	9	20	19	21	19	<b>14</b>
Economy – (e.g., no jobs, high cost of living, business closing or losses)	24	22	22	19	32	22	23	<b>26</b>
Education (problems with schools, quality, facilities, staff, discipline)	18	22	24	20	23	18	18	<b>12</b>
Environment (e.g., air or water pollution, saving the Bay, climate change)	8	11	13	10	7	13	9	<b>11</b>
Government ethics (corrupt, immoral)	7	9	5	8	4	4	7	<b>6</b>
Government waste (inefficient, spends too much)	7	12	7	9	9	8	9	<b>9</b>
Government lacks resources (for roads, schools, services)	4	3	4	6	6	3	5	<b>5</b>
Growth/overpopulation (too much development, poorly planned)	13	11	16	17	18	22	16	<b>20</b>
Healthcare (cost, access)	3	4	7	6	7	10	8	<b>12</b>
Housing cost	6	7	11	16	13	20	17	<b>24</b>
Racism (hate crimes, discrimination)	6	6	6	7	5	4	5	<b>4</b>
Taxes – too high	11	12	12	17	16	13	19	<b>16</b>
Transportation (problems/traffic congestion, lack of public transit)	6	6	10	15	10	16	14	<b>18</b>
No answer, don't know	2	0	1	2	2	2	3	<b>1</b>
Other answer - write in: (See Appendix B)	9	5	0	3	3	2	2	<b>4</b>

Note: Bolded percentages are for the spring 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	
	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24
2.1 Anne Arundel County	40	<b>43</b>	33	<b>31</b>	27	<b>26</b>
2.2 Maryland	40	<b>42</b>	37	<b>39</b>	23	<b>19</b>
2.3 US	11	<b>17</b>	76	<b>68</b>	13	<b>16</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	
	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24
3.1 Anne Arundel County	6	<b>8</b>	51	<b>43</b>	27	<b>35</b>	13	<b>13</b>	3	<b>2</b>
3.2 Maryland	4	<b>6</b>	46	<b>35</b>	29	<b>36</b>	17	<b>20</b>	4	<b>3</b>
3.3 US	3	<b>5</b>	22	<b>22</b>	32	<b>29</b>	40	<b>40</b>	3	<b>4</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 is bolded)**

(1) Improve	23%	<b>29%</b>
(2) stay same	21%	<b>16%</b>
(3) get worse	46%	<b>39%</b>
(0) no answer/unsure	10%	<b>17%</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		Unsure/don't know	
	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24
5.1 Rate of economic growth	34	<b>35</b>	46	<b>39</b>	15	<b>22</b>	5	<b>5</b>
5.1 Inflation	67	<b>58</b>	28	<b>34</b>	4	<b>6</b>	0	<b>1</b>
5.2 Unemployment	26	<b>24</b>	37	<b>35</b>	35	<b>40</b>	2	<b>2</b>
5.3 Business climate	26	<b>31</b>	49	<b>41</b>	16	<b>22</b>	9	<b>7</b>
5.4 Federal government debt and deficit	59	<b>56</b>	28	<b>28</b>	10	<b>14</b>	3	<b>2</b>
5.6 Private debt (excessive)	32	<b>34</b>	41	<b>42</b>	20	<b>20</b>	7	<b>4</b>
5.7 Lack of opportunities for upward mobility	--	<b>38</b>	--	<b>40</b>	--	<b>16</b>	--	<b>7</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
	Fa '23	Spring 2024		
6.1 Wages or salaries are not rising as fast as the cost of living	58	<b>59</b>	38	3
6.2 Received a salary increase or other increase in income recently	41	<b>46</b>	52	2
6.3 Facing the possibility of unemployment	9	<b>13</b>	81	6
6.4 Found a new or better job recently	7	<b>13</b>	84	3
6.5 Hard to afford the cost of food and groceries	37	<b>51</b>	46	3
6.6 Hard to afford the cost of childcare	6	<b>11</b>	85	4
6.7 Hard to afford the cost of housing	--	<b>42</b>	54	4
6.8 Hard to afford the cost of education beyond high school	30	<b>39</b>	58	3
6.9 Health care insurance is unavailable, too expensive or inadequate	34	<b>37</b>	58	5
6.10 Taxes are too high in relation to government services provided	58	<b>59</b>	31	10

**7. In your opinion, how hard is it for young people today to find a good job or career?**

Not hard            **11%**

Somewhat hard: **52%**

Very hard:        **33%**

Unsure:            **4%**

**8. The next three questions focus on artificial intelligence (AI). Have you heard about the AI tool called "ChatGPT" or other similar AI products?**

Yes, and used it:	<b>26%</b>
Yes, but not used it:	<b>62%</b>
No:	<b>11%</b>
Unsure:	<b>1%</b>

**8.1 You said that you have heard about AI tools and used them – to what extent have you used them?**

Item	Never	Somewhat, a bit	Several times, frequently	Total
To help you write reports, conduct research, write computer code	38	46	16	100
To help write fictional stories, poems, music, or artistic graphics	77	20	3	100
To research personal issues such as relationships, psychology, emotional questions	65	29	6	100
Other uses	35	42	23	100

**8.2 Do you feel that artificial intelligence will have a major, minor or no impact on your job or career choices over the next 20 years?**

Item	Overall
Major	59
Minor	23
No impact	12
Unsure, no opinion	6
Total	100

## COVID QUESTIONS

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

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

Yes, at least once	<b>21</b>
No	<b>75</b>
Unsure	<b>4</b>



**11. The next set of questions focuses on crime both within your neighborhood and within the county as a whole.**

**This first group of questions focuses only on your neighborhood.**

**It first asks you whether you have been a victim of a given type of crime.**

	Have you <b>personally</b> been a victim of this type of crime over the last year?		
	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Total</b>
Cybercrimes - identity theft, computer hacking, telephone scams	28	72	100
Theft - from the outside of your house, your car, just around the neighborhood	16	84	100
Burglary - breaking and entry into your house, garage, shed	4	96	100
Robbery	2	98	100
Personal assault - being attacked or threatened with violence, domestic abuse, sexual assault	6	94	100
Gunshots, shootings	4	96	100
Drug dealing	3	97	100
Illegal drug consumption	4	96	100

**11.1 It then asks for you to "agree" with one of three crime evaluations judging the seriousness of the type of crime: not much of a problem, somewhat or a very significant problem.**

How much of a problem is...	Not much		Somewhat		Significant		
	NBH	County	NBH	County	NBH	County	NBH-County
Cybercrimes - identity theft, computer hacking, telephone scams	16	12	41	43	52	34	18
Theft - from the outside of your house, your car, just around the neighborhood	20	9	41	45	36	40	-4
Burglary - breaking and entry into your house, garage, shed	24	16	39	49	26	27	-1
Robbery	23	16	36	43	29	32	-3
Personal assault - being attacked or threatened with violence, domestic abuse, sexual assault	21	14	30	42	37	34	3
Gunshots, shootings	20	19	30	38	39	35	4
Drug dealing	20	13	30	32	40	47	-7
Illegal drug consumption	20	11	27	28	42	51	-9
Average	21	14	34	40	38	38	

Note: NBH=Neighborhood

**11.2 When answering these questions about your neighborhood/the county, how important were the following to forming your opinion?**

How important were the following in forming your opinion about the crime situation...	Not important		Somewhat important		Very important		
	NBH	County	NBH	County	NBH	County	NBH-County
Personal experience	10	18	31	38	59	45	14
Word of mouth from neighbors, friends, family	10	12	57	59	34	30	4
Information online from social media or apps on your phone	27	24	51	52	23	24	-1
Other forms of crime reporting such as newspapers or newsletters, radio, TV	16	11	45	45	39	44	-5
Average	16	16	46	49	39	36	

**11.3 If you were a victim of a crime over the last twelve months - which of the following best describes your circumstances?**

	Overall
I didn't report the crime	44
I reported the crime, but there wasn't any criminal investigation	34
I reported the crime and the criminal investigation was resolved to my satisfaction	9
I reported the crime but the criminal investigation was not resolved to my satisfaction	14
Total	101

**11.4 What could be done to best improve the safety and security of people living in Anne Arundel County?** \_\_\_\_\_

Category	Percentage
Police, Law Enforcement, Justice System	36
Community Engagement and Support	24
Addressing Socioeconomic Factors	17
Gun Control and legislation	5
Other suggestions	18
Total	100

**12. The county recently passed a law that bans plastic bags and allows stores to charge for paper bags. Which of the following best expresses your views about this law?**

	Overall
I support it completely	36
I support it somewhat	22
I generally oppose it	25
Other response	15
Unsure	2
Total	10

**13. Anne Arundel County is currently working on the comprehensive rezoning process, which considers whether current land use and zoning designations should be changed or maintained to guide future growth and development. Which of the following best expresses your awareness and concern regarding this process?**

	Low	Medium	High	Unsure
Awareness about the plan	33	35	27	5
Concern about how it might affect you and your community	15	32	46	7
Concern about it might affect the county's quality of life	11	29	53	7
Total	10	100	100	100

**14. Keeping our focus on land use and zoning, the county has various tools to keep the public informed about land use and zoning issues. Below are some of these tools - please let us know whether you were aware of them, have used them, and find the tools helpful.**

14.1 Awareness, used	Aware of tool		Used tool	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Community land use meetings	43	57	17	83
Land use navigator online tool	23	77	15	85
Development activity online tool	20	81	9	91
Zoning classification online guide	26	74	15	85

14.2 Rating Tools	Helpful	Neutral	Not helpful
Community land use meetings	48	41	11
Land use navigator online tool	65	27	9
Development activity online tool	61	26	12
Zoning classification online guide	61	30	9

**14.3 If you have any suggestions or comments about land use, zoning and the process by which the county tries to keep the public aware, please enter these below.**

**Appendix F** \_\_\_\_\_

**15. Do you feel that the following groups are subject to no, some, quite a bit or a great deal of discrimination in Anne Arundel County?**

	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Combined Top 2 Total (80 or 100%)</b>
African Americans	51	25
Transgendered and gender-nonconforming people	50	26
People with criminal backgrounds	46	21
Hispanics	45	17
People with physical or mental disabilities	44	16
Women	38	8
People without a college degree	35	13
Native Americans	34	11
White men	31	11
Christians	30	12
Atheists	26	8

**16. “During the legislative session this year, different approaches have been proposed to deal with shortfalls in the state government's budget for the coming 2024-25 fiscal year.**

**One approach would try to provide funding for transportation and education by expanding corporate taxes, legalizing Internet gaming and implementing new fees on ride-sharing, tolls and electric cars.**

**Another approach would increase state revenues by lowering the state sales tax from the current 6 percent to 5 percent, but extending it out to some services.**

**Governor Wes Moore and Senate President Bill Ferguson have rejected the idea of passing new taxes this year thus forcing cuts in anticipated spending. Which of the following do you favor?”**

	Overall
Raising some taxes and fees to ensure program funding	22
Lowering the sales tax rate, but extending to some services	22
Avoiding any increase in taxes and reducing funding to transportation and education	20
None of the above	17
Unsure	19
Total	100

**Option to comment about these choices: Appendix G**

**17. Francis Scott Key Bridge – 3 questions**

	Yes	No	Unsure	Total
Will you be negatively affected economically by this event?	25	56	19	100
Will you be inconvenienced by the loss of the bridge	41	51	8	100
Do you have confidence that the bridge will be rebuilt relatively quickly?	38	46	16	100

**18. Option to explain your views on any of the Maryland state questions or other issues involving the Maryland state government.\_\_\_\_\_Appendix H\_\_\_\_\_**

**This question was contributed by faculty members:**

**19. How significant were each of the following events in positively impacting civil rights for African Americans?**

	<b>Not very significant</b>	<b>Somewhat significant</b>	<b>Very significant</b>	<b>Unsure</b>	<b>Total</b>
The Supreme Court decision to end "separate but equal" schooling in 1954	5	13	74	8	100
The passage of the Voting Rights Act 1965	3	13	78	6	100
The election of Barack Obama as President	23	31	42	5	101
The emergence of the Black Lives Matters movement	38	27	30	5	100
The emergence of diversity, equity and inclusion programs in public institutions and private companies	30	26	37	7	100

**19.1 Option to comment about this question: See Appendix I**



**20. In your opinion, what is the most serious national issue facing residents of the United States at the present time? (If unsure, just skip - another question with specific choices will be offered later in the survey) \_\_\_\_\_ Appendix J\_\_\_\_\_**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Border Security and Immigration Control:</b> Many respondents express concerns about illegal immigration, border security, and the potential threats posed by unchecked migration.	30
<b>Economic Challenges:</b> There is widespread concern about economic issues such as inflation, rising costs of living, economic instability, unemployment, and the impact of government spending on the economy.	26
<b>Political Dysfunction and Partisanship:</b> The political divide between parties, dysfunction in government institutions, lack of trust in leadership, and partisan gridlock are significant concerns among respondents.	22
<b>National Security:</b> Issues related to national security, including threats from open border policies, terrorism, and risks to democracy and sovereignty, are highlighted by many respondents.	18
<b>Leadership and Governance:</b> Criticisms of current leadership, calls for new leadership, and concerns about the trustworthiness of government institutions are prevalent themes.	15
<b>Global Affairs and Geopolitics:</b> Respondents are worried about international conflicts, relations with countries like Russia and China, and the potential for war, particularly in regions like the Middle East.	12
<b>Social and Cultural Issues:</b> Concerns about erosion of personal rights, societal polarization, racism and discrimination, and social welfare are mentioned by some respondents.	9
<b>Misinformation and Media Bias:</b> Many respondents express worries about manipulation and censorship by government or politicians, as well as the impact of biased journalism on public discourse.	9
<b>Healthcare and Education:</b> Issues related to healthcare access, affordability, decline in education quality, and critical thinking skills are raised by some respondents.	4
<b>Environmental and Climate Concerns:</b> Climate change and ecological collapse are mentioned as significant challenges facing the country.	2

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

	Spring 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 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	53	63	67	55	32	8	5
The threat to America/peace posed by Russia	78	53	55	55	32	9	5
The threat/challenge posed by climate change	48	48	48	55	17	25	3
Maintaining US military advantage over all other countries	42	51	51	46	35	14	5
The need to focus more on domestic matters within the United States and less with foreign relations	35	37	33	43	33	18	6

**22. 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	Agree somewhat with providing aid	Don't agree with providing aid	Unsure	Total
Ukraine	47	29	18	5	99
Israel	24	34	33	9	100

**23. On October 7, Israel was attacked by Hamas causing the deaths of over 1200 of its citizens. Since then, Israel has pursued a strategy meant to make Hamas unable to attack Israel in the future. Which of the following best expresses your views of Israel's strategy and military operation in the Gaza Strip?**

*(Check all that apply – won't equal 100%.)*

Item	Overall
Israel has done what it needed to do to defeat Hamas	28
Israel has a right to defend itself, but has caused too many civilian casualties in Gaza	40
Israel should have more actively pursued a two-state solution for the Palestinian people, perhaps avoiding the attack by Hamas and the subsequent destruction in Gaza	33
Other response <u>Appendix K</u>	11
Unsure, no opinion	11

**24. Option to comment on questions in this section. Appendix L**

**25. Please indicate how often you use various sources for news about government and politics: (Think about how you learned about the destruction of the Key Bridge, legislation pursued by the Governor or Maryland General Assembly, or updates about Trump or Biden and their campaigns.)**

Sources	Rarely	Sometimes	Quite or very often
TikTok	81	8	11
Facebook	54	28	18
Instagram	66	18	16
Snapchat	92	7	2
YouTube	52	32	16
X/Twitter	70	20	11
Podcasts on, e.g., Spotify, Google, etc.	60	27	13
Online or hard copy sources of newspapers like Washington Post or Baltimore Sun or Banner, Maryland Matters	30	29	42
Online, cable or broadcast sources of mainstream media like CNN, MSNBC or Foxnews	22	34	44
Other television news and politics programming	31	37	33
Radio	43	33	24
Non-fiction books	53	36	12

**26. On a typical day during waking hours, about how often do you check your smartphone for text messages, emails, notifications, news, or other information on social media?**

<b>Time Interval</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Once every 10-15 minutes	16
Once every 30 minutes	19
Once every hour	24
Once every 2-3 hours	23
Less than once every three hours	13
Very little or don't use a smartphone for such purposes	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>

**27. Thinking about your use of smartphones, social media, video games, indicate whether they have:**

**(1) Impacted you in a positive or negative way regarding your mental health (anxiety, depression, loss of self-esteem)**

**(2) Affected your ability to effectively manage your time (keep appointments, get tasks accomplished, meet deadlines):**

	<b>Impact on Mental Health</b>				<b>Impact on Time Management</b>			
	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Negative</b>	<b>Unsure</b>	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Negative</b>	<b>Unsure</b>
Smartphones	22	56	19	3	22	34	41	3
Social media	8	47	43	3	45	37	54	4
Video games	16	49	17	18	3	43	36	18

**27.1 If you use video games, with which do you spend most of your time (if any)? (Skip if you don't use video games.)** See Appendix M for verbatim comments.

## Parties and Elections

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

#### 1. 44% **Democratic** => ASK: 32.1. Do you consider yourself a

- |                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. Strong                | 51% |
| 2. Somewhat strong       | 34% |
| 3. Not a strong Democrat | 15% |

#### 2. 32% **Republican** => ASK: 32.2. Do you consider yourself a

- |                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| a. Strong                  | 39% |
| b. Somewhat strong         | 41% |
| c. Not a strong Republican | 20% |

#### 3. 18% **Unaffiliated** (or “independent”)=> ASK: 32.3. 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                             | 23% |
| 2. Republican                             | 19% |
| 3. Third party                            | 4%  |
| 4. Vote for candidate regardless of party | 55% |

#### 4 Other registration options:

- |                                  |    |
|----------------------------------|----|
| 1. Other/Third party             | 2% |
| 2. None (not registered to vote) | 4% |

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

- |                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. Democrats          | 41% |
| 2. Republicans        | 28% |
| 3. Neither            | 25% |
| 4. Other party        | 1%  |
| 5. Unsure, don't know | 5%  |

**30. We are in a presidential election year, with primaries coming in May and the general election in November. 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 in May and November.**

Issue	Overall
The harm to the country should the other party's candidate win	57
Inflation/cost of living	45
Immigration	44
January 6 events, threats to democracy	44
Abortion	43
Guns	38
Health care	36
Climate change	36
Crime	34
Right to privacy	34
Foreign policy - Ukraine, Israel/Gaza	33
High taxes	33
Affordable housing	31
Racism	26
Cost of college	22
Inequality - lack of social mobility	21

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

	Overall
Joe Biden	48
Donald Trump	27
A 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party candidate	7
Didn't vote	18
Total	100

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

	Overall
Yes, fully agree	8
Yes, somewhat agree	10
No, don't agree	69
Unsure/don't know	12
Total	99

**33. Do you think that efforts to prosecute former President Donald Trump are mainly...**

	Overall
Hold him account for various crimes	57
Meant to disrupt his campaign and prevent him from running effectively for president	36
Unsure/don't know	6
Total	99

**34. Republicans only:** *Donald Trump seems certain to be the nominee for the Republican Party. Which best expresses your view of this?*

	Overall
I enthusiastically support Donald Trump as the Republican nominee	21
I somewhat support Donald Trump as the Republican nominee	23
I do not support Donald Trump as the Republican nominee	36
Unsure/don't know	20
Total	100

**35. How likely are you to vote in the general elections in November?**

	Overall
Very likely	86
Somewhat likely	9
Not very likely	2
Definitely won't vote (option to comment – Appendix N)	4
Total	101

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

	Overall	
	Fa '23	Sp '24
Joe Biden	42	48
Donald Trump	33	32
A 3rd Party candidate	17	14
Probably wouldn't vote	8	7
Total	100	101

**37. Democrats only - others please skip this question:**

**Just looking at the two Democratic candidates for Senate, for whom are you most likely to vote in the May primaries?**

	All Democrats	Democratic Likely Voters
Angela Alsobrooks	26	28
David Trone	33	34
Unsure but will probably vote	35	33
Unsure, probably won't vote	7	5
Total	99	100

**38. Former governor Larry Hogan is the likely nominee for the Republican Party for the U.S. Senate. If the Democratic candidate was Congressman David Trone/County Executive Angela Alsobrooks, for whom would you vote in November?**

	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



**39. What is your preference for the outcome of the U.S. Senate elections in November - the Senate controlled by Democrats or by Republicans?**

	Overall
Democrats	49
Republicans	33
No preference	9
Unsure	9
Total	100

**40. 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?**

	Overall
I would vote for Larry Hogan	44
I would vote for the Democratic candidate for Senate in Maryland	42
I don't know what I would do	14
Total	100

**41. This question is just for Democrats living in the 3rd Congressional District who currently have retiring Congressman John Sarbanes as your representative.**

**Many candidates are running to replace Congressman John Sarbanes.**

**Looking at just some of the Democratic candidates, which of the following are you most likely to support when the primaries are held in May?**

	Overall (likely voters, Anne Arundel only)
Mark Chang	8
Juan Dominguez	1
Harry Dunn	7
Sarah Elfleth	29
Terri Hill	3
Clarence Lam	1
John Morse	2
Mike Rogers	1
Someone else (write last name)	1
Unsure	49
Total	102

**42. This question is just for Republicans living in the 3rd Congressional district:**

**There are many Republican candidates running for the 3rd Congressional District. If you have a preference, please indicate for whom you would vote when the primaries are held in May:**

	Overall
Anthony Baker Jr	2
Ray Bly	4
Berney Flowers)	5
Thomas Harris	1
Jordan Mayo	0
Naveed Mian	0
Joshua Morales	0
John Rea	0
Robert Steinberger	0
Unsure	71
Probably won't vote in May primaries	18
Total	101

**43. Option to comment about voting choices for president, Senate or House of Representatives.      See Appendix O**

**44. 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	
	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24	Fa '23	Sp '24
44.1 County Executive Steuart Pittman	19	<b>18</b>	27	<b>17</b>	12	<b>14</b>	19	<b>17</b>	22	<b>24</b>
44.2 Governor Wes Moore	27	<b>28</b>	29	<b>31</b>	13	<b>16</b>	18	<b>13</b>	14	<b>12</b>
44.3 President Joe Biden	21	<b>21</b>	23	<b>27</b>	9	<b>11</b>	43	<b>39</b>	4	<b>2</b>
44.4 The Anne Arundel County Council	7	<b>8</b>	41	<b>36</b>	13	<b>23</b>	15	<b>8</b>	24	<b>26</b>
44.5 The Board of Education	4	<b>6</b>	34	<b>31</b>	19	<b>21</b>	18	<b>15</b>	25	<b>27</b>
44.6 Maryland General Assembly	9	<b>9</b>	33	<b>33</b>	13	<b>19</b>	21	<b>16</b>	25	<b>23</b>
44.7 US Congress	1	<b>2</b>	13	<b>15</b>	30	<b>32</b>	46	<b>43</b>	9	<b>9</b>
44.8 <u>US</u> Supreme Court	9	<b>11</b>	27	<b>25</b>	20	<b>18</b>	35	<b>38</b>	9	<b>9</b>

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

\_\_\_\_\_Appendix R\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_Appendix Q\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_Appendix P\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_Appendix S\_\_\_\_\_

## Demographics

### 46. Which of the following best describes your political beliefs?

- |    |                                 |     |
|----|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Very conservative               | 11% |
| 2. | Somewhat conservative           | 24% |
| 3. | Moderate                        | 26% |
| 4. | Somewhat liberal                | 19% |
| 5. | Very liberal (or “progressive”) | 17% |
| 6. | Unsure/don’t know               | 4%  |

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

- |    |  |     |
|----|--|-----|
| 1. | Social conservative, fiscal conservative | 24% |
| 2. | Social conservative, fiscal liberal      | 3%  |
| 3. | Social liberal, fiscal conservative      | 29% |
| 4. | Social liberal, fiscal liberal           | 19% |
| 5. | None of these                            | 10% |
| 6. | Unsure, no opinion                       | 14% |

### 48. What is your current age in years? \_\_\_\_\_(weighted)\_\_\_\_\_

- |       |     |
|-------|-----|
| 18-39 | 30% |
| 40-49 | 12% |
| 50-59 | 14% |
| 60-69 | 21% |
| 70+   | 22% |

### 49. Regarding race or ethnicity, how would you describe yourself? (weighted)

- |     |                           |     |
|-----|---------------------------|-----|
| (1) | White or Caucasian        | 71% |
| (2) | Black or African American | 13% |
| (3) | Hispanic or Latino        | 4%  |
| (4) | Asian or Asian American   | 3%  |
| (5) | Mixed                     | 1%  |
| (6) | Other                     | 2%  |
| (7) | No answer/decline         | 7%  |

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

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. None or “nothing in particular”   | 14% |
| 2. Non-practicing  | 12% |
| 3. Evangelical or born-again Christian (possibly Baptist, Pentecostal)               | 11% |
| 4. Catholic  | 22% |
| 5. Protestant (possibly Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterian, Anglican, Episcopalian) | 19% |
| 6. Some other Christian (e.g., possibly Mormon)                                      | 2%  |
| 7. Jewish  | 2%  |
| 8. A ‘spiritual person’ not associated with an organized religion                    | 9%  |
| 9. Something else (e.g., Muslim, Hindu)  | 5%  |
| 10. No Answer  | 4%  |

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

- |                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. Single             | 27% |
| 2. Married            | 53% |
| 3. Separated/divorced | 9%  |
| 4. Widowed            | 6%  |
| 5. Living together    | 3%  |
| 6. Other              | 1%  |
| 7. Decline to say     | 3%  |

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

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. No children in either public or private schools | 83% |
| 2. Children in public schools                      | 13% |
| 3. Children in private schools                     | 2%  |
| 4. Children in both public and private schools     | 2%  |

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

(1) less than a high school diploma	2%	(5) completed a 4-year bachelor’s degree	21%
(2) a high school diploma	9%	(6) post-graduate work	24%
(3) some college	24%	(7) No Answer, decline	2%
(4) completed a 2-year associate college degree	19%		

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

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. Less than \$30,000   | 8%  |
| 2. \$30,000 to \$50,000 | 5%  |
| 3. \$50,001 to \$75,000 | 10% |
| 4. \$75,001-\$100,000   | 11% |
| 5. \$100,001-\$150,000  | 17% |
| 6. \$150,001-\$250,000  | 17% |
| 7. Over \$250,000       | 11% |
| 8. No Answer            | 22% |

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

1. Student (mostly or full-time)	19
2. Fully or semi-retired	37
3. Self-employed or consultant	5
4. Employed part-time	13
5. Employed full-time	33
7. Unemployed and seeking a job	3
8. Caregiver/parent	4
10. Employed in the private sector	4
11. Federal government (non-defense)	5
12. Federal, State, local government	7
13. Non-profit organization	2
14. No answer/decline to say	3

**56. Are you a military veteran?** 1. Yes 17% 2. No 83%

**57. How strongly do each of these traits shape your identity?** (Percent 75% or 100%)

Identity	Overall
Job or career	50
Family member	66
Class/socio-economic status	32
Race/ethnicity	36
Religion	38
Age group/ generation	46
Gender	44
Sexual orientation	34

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

- 1. Gay or lesbian 4%
- 2. Bisexual 6%
- 3. Transgender 1%
- 4. Queer 2%

**59. Group Identities: % Saying 100%**

	Overall
Job or career	50
Family member	66
Class/socio-economic status	32
Race/ethnicity	36
Religion	38
Age group/ generation	46
Gender	44
Sexual orientation	34

**60. Gender (weighted)**

- (1) Male 46%
- (2) Female 50%
- (3) Non-binary/3<sup>rd</sup> gender/trans male/female 1%
- (4) Prefer not to say 2%

## 61. Zip code

Zip code	%
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



**62.** Finally, if you know your **district/representative in the county council**, please choose it...

<b>District</b>	<b>%</b>
District 1, <b>Pete Smith</b>	12
District 2, <b>Allison Pickard</b>	14
District 3, <b>Nathan Volke</b>	15
District 4, <b>Julie Hummer</b>	13
District 5, <b>Amanda Fiedler</b>	17
District 6, <b>Lisa Rodvien</b>	16
District 7, <b>Shannon Leadbetter</b>	14

## **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.)

availability of housing

General cost of living for senior citizens

Government overreach and abuse of power.

Gun violence

guns

illegal immigration

Immigration

Immigration costs and school pressures

Inflation

Inflation impact on cost of living

Influx of illegals

just 2 is impossible- everything from hate to transportation especially for older people

Nicotine

NO GOOD RESOURCES FOR THE DISABLED.. NOTHING ON TRANSPORTATION!! AND I DON'T WANNA HEAR ABOUT THE MTA MOBILITY SERVICE WHICH IS A JOKE. HOMES THAT THEY CAN LIVE IN & NOT THROWING THEM IN A PLACE THAT PEOPLE ABUSE & TAKE ADVANTAGE

our public transportation system is a travesty. The fact that there's no efficient way to get to BWI is unfathomable for a capital city!

Poverty

Some much litter on sides on roads

Support for the mentally or physically ill

The state is taking away the prescription plan for retirees effective 2025. This is a benefit we worked for and was promised to have.

## Appendix C: Other Uses for AI

Answer random questions (ex. How many chickens are on the earth?"

Application materials (job, grant, etc.)

ask for information

Basic questions

Business document writing

classroom AI exercise

create a routine

curiosity

data verification

Draft email response

Draft emails and letters

Draft emails; ask questions

Edit writing

Email

Examples

explaining the process of how to do something

Explore use

Factual research

Fun

General Information

Generate coloring pages for my children

Government research

grammar and brainstorm creative projects

Help daughter with homework I was unfamiliar with

Help write email and respond to letters

Helped me draft a writing

I used it to do color analysis to figure out my skin tone and what colors look best on me

I've also used it to help write letters, and emails, and as an autocorrect tool

Inspiration for college essays

just marking time

just to try it out

Learning how it works

legal issues

looking up definitions and synonyms of words

math - it usually gets the answers wrong but its thought process is oftentimes helpful to look at

Names for a business

One experiment to see what it would generate for a retirement speech.

Organize images

Personal writing

Plan travel

play around

Practice

Produce Audio books

Random knowledge, trip planning  
Random short questions.  
recipes  
Research a topic of interest...AI has often provided incorrect information  
School essay  
school lesson planning  
Sort language samples for analysis  
Study tool  
Studying  
Summarizing definitions, concepts, etc.  
Take notes  
Telling/asking for jokes to/from the AI  
Thematic comment analysis  
To help understand concepts in compsci, such as providing examples.  
To research how to prepare for a visit with a new doctor; to draft training scenarios for a class that I teach; to do  
some administrative tasks related to the course I teach  
To research something I'm about to buy  
To write parts of texts for a newsletter and social media promotion of my husband's business and my non-profit.  
travel itineraries  
Travel planning  
Trying to find out the exact tone of Trump's face bronzer.  
Used for curiosity or for personal projects  
Work  
Work related writing  
Write an article  
Write articles for newsletter  
write personal notes  
Writing articles

## Appendix D: Comments about Crime/Approach to Enhance Safety and Security

neighbors

IN THE OLD DAYS POLICE WALKED A BEAT. OR YOU SAW A PRESENCE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

better education, bringing police numbers up, address poverty

fixing the roads

Hold juveniles and their parents responsible for illegal behavior.

punishment for people who commit crime not ignore them

More patrolling of Police car.

Unsure

STOP GIVING GUNS TO ANY IDIOT!! DON'T CARE ABOUT THE CONSTITUTION. THOSE PEOPLE DON'T LIVE IN THESE DAYS

not sure

To take this opportunity to clarify on the previous question (for crime in my neighborhood), I was unaware that I was unable to change my answers. Please mark all answers given for said question minus those relating to drug related offenses as unsure/don't know. Whereas for those two particular questions, to my knowledge it is not much of an issue. As for how safety could be improved, I feel greater levels of honesty from law enforcement may serve to better their standing within our communities.

better training for cops

more police

Unsure. I'm not familiar enough with the topic to have a good course of action in mind.

Its hard to find a good improvement to the safety because more police isnt really the answer I believe a lot of crime stems from issues of poverty. The best thing that could be done is more economic opportunities and economic help.

People should be ever vigilant. Government can only do so much.

Reporting crimes when they are committed so that they can be prevented in the future.

Funding education to stop crime from developing at the source.

Gun laws

I don't know.

Have more police officers on patrol

Stepped up coordination between county police and sheriffs office to boost eye's in community.

Improve people's economic security

More money into drug diversion programs

More community involvement and youth Programs

neighborhood watch

More police and stronger courts

More police on patrol.

I think most crime is a product of desperation. If we better provide resources to our community than less people would feel the need to commit crime in the first place. Additionally, I think too many things are criminalized; if we streamlined our laws and focused our enforcement resources on violent crimes, things would improve over all. Cyber crime is distinct in that I believe it requires a federal response to be effectively mitigated.

Improved recreational and educational/vocational opportunities for young people

Redevelopment of public housing; cameras in high crime areas; increased police presence

Expanded community-based policing and improved police training. I believe one reason my

neighborhood is as safe as it is because two county police officers live on the corner of our block.  
 better enforcement, stronger courts  
 More and accurate information about gang activity and their control across the state.  
 More police officers  
 More community involvement.  
 Wider distribution of the GOOD news (less crime).  
 Police actually do their jobs  
 Employment and activity opportunities for teens and young adults  
 Enforce applicable laws  
 Better funding for police. More police.  
 Programs for teens after school.  
 More surveillance cameras  
 Focus fewer resources on traffic control more efforts on getting homeless people into drug rehab and harm reduction programs  
 Neighborhood/community policing.  
 Better parenting.  
 Increased community policing  
 Public education on available personal security measures.  
 More attention given to criminal activity regardless of the age of the perpetrator.  
 Gun control.  
 Give more resources to law enforcement, the demands of our time require more intensive investigation and reporting but understand the same time constraints two decades ago. They are required to do more with less, thus reducing their effectiveness.  
 curfews in crime areas  
 programs to address poverty and to find youth jobs  
 Better awareness since newspapers are scarce and social media is iffy  
 increase police presence in high crime areas  
 Aid youth in educational attainment to a level that allows for meaningful employment  
 Improve employment opportunities for minimally educated citizens and create more affordable housing  
 More cameras, more focus on repeat criminals, more patrols in major crime areas.  
 More professional police and less corrupt political class  
 Greater training for police and emergency services; Greater pay for exemplary safety personnel.  
 Improve education programs about drugs; focus on programs to reduce or eliminate poverty; make mental help programs accessible and affordable; use more casino \$\$ to fund school construction, pay teachers and provide \$\$ for books and supplies, and raise first responder salaries; use more casino \$\$ to build parks and recreation areas similar to what exists in Howard county. Use more casino \$\$ to fund public area maintenance, like grass cutting, litter collections along roadways, and eliminate weeds along roadsides and sidewalks. Make affordable healthcare more available by raising the ceiling on eligibility.  
 Let the police do their job.  
 More police to control the county  
 Expand the police forces  
 Improve the training of those working in those areas  
 remove illegal aliens; make parents responsible for their children's actions, especially in school;  
 prosecute criminals  
 enhanced police quantity and quality (training, motivation, pay, methods)

I'm not sure

Cyber crimes seems to me to be my biggest concern. I don't know enough about the topic though to offer suggestions.

More policr

Increase the size of the County police force.

More cops

An improved 'safety net', free daycare for all families, more public transportation,...

Improve socioeconomic circumstances for poor.

Better cameras in crime-prone neighborhoods, prompt police response

Hire more police

Hire more police and let them do their job.

More cops on the street, install cameras around the harbor house, Eastport Terrace communities that I live two blocks from where most of the crime occurs.

More police - tougher laws

Improve police salaries, increase patrols, reduce tolerance of crime

Increase salaried and affordable housing for public safety employees

Provide better childcare for young children and interesting activities for teens.

The enforcement of the I.D. policy for any shop with smoke products, as well as cameras inside of portable classrooms. Somebody stole my Fitbit watch last year in a portable classroom at school, and no effort was put into an investigation when I reported it to my teachers.

Make the enviornemnt for victums coming forward with a crime safer.

More police patrols and cameras

There are people whose careers are dedicated to figuring this out...

Actually listen to people when they go to the police to get a protective order

Quicker response time for incidents

put up more cameras

A larger out reach program and a greater sense of community.

Actually listen to the victims that come forward and work with them

gated communities

I don't know, but what we're doing now isn't working.

Job training progarms for young people that put them into high paying jobs that will let them afford staying here and not resort to theft

Holding criminals accountable for their actions. Also, enforcing the laws we do have.

Better communications. I don't get the Capital Newspaper anymore. Too expensive. Need another outlet.

More police in neighborhoods

More information on how to not become a victim through print and seminars, meetings not just media.

Provide more resources, including opportunities for affordable housing.

I do not have the answer.

More police hired to serval the county especially in lower Anne Arundel County where it is much more rural than the city of Annapolis. We feel that Southern AA is considered to be the step-children of AA county.

Actually solving crimes and murder cases, and giving harsher sentences to child murders. A girl I knew was shot in the head at Brooklyn Day and only one person was arrested. I know a lot of people who have been shot and killed and nothing has been done about their crime.

Making people feel more comfortable to report the crime and reduce judgement surrounding it especially

when it comes to crimes that involve sexual abuse and violence

I don't know

Harsher penalties. Stop poo pooing crime and make people accountable.

Increase police presence and really enforce laws already on the books as well as pass legislation to tighten up gun control laws. Guns are a major problem all over the US.

Harsher penalties for repeat offenders as well as locking them up for longer periods. The parents of juveniles committing crimes need to be held accountable for their child's crimes.

Holding people responsible for their actions. Do the crime do the time. Stop letting children get away with murder. Stop holding everyone but the person committing the crime responsible.

Public campaign against distracted driving

Visible police presence

Fill open positions in AACPD

More presence on streets

More eyes on the street

no comment

Effective policing with community outreach while also ensuring those who commit serious crimes such as robbery, assault, theft, and gun violence do not go unpunished

Unsure.

More police & community resources

Gun safety course similar to hunters ed for all gun owners

Raise the wages for police officers to attract more to the position. And online and in person safety classes to inform the public how to be diligent and stay safe.

Not sure. The gunshots we hear are frequent enough, but outside our neighborhood. They come from a minority community that is probably over policed, but if those cops actually made an effort to build a relationship with community leaders it could help to have a bigger presence.

Gun sense legislation!

Improving awareness about ways to be safe in public.

Better enforcement of online crime

Stiffer penalties for crimes.

more neighborhood policing

Continued intentional presence of police in community. We see officers in vehicles throughout our community

Education

More security cameras in public places.

More officers on patrol.

Adding more police

I think helping people enter the workforce and having a decent place to live as to improving

Cops on the sidewalks

Arrest gangs and drug dealers. Provide support programs to prevent recidivism.

Prosecute and mandatory sentencing

most important neighborhood should be aware of crimes and not have them hidden I have a Kia and just found out a neighbor's was stolen

Do not know

Neighborhood watch, cameras, alarms

Better opportunities to get out of poverty

Strict gun laws !!!!! Holding perpetrators and their parents responsible with prison time



Stronger police force, educating people on ways to be safe, secure.

Police presence at schools during arrival and dismissals.

Improve walkability

Defund the police and invest in emergency aid resources. Police chief is the highest county paid employee with an almost 250k a year salary. If someone is bridge jumping police should not be involved. Yet this is what I've seen on the bay bridge, a jumper walked off in handcuffs. Police are overdeployed and should only be for specific circumstances as they're not trained for mental health crises.

Economic opportunities for unemployed or underemployed individuals

Common sense gun reform (e.g., red flag laws) and drug treatment programs

Provide affordable housing, make sure kids aren't going hungry, address basic needs and reduce poverty.

Make sure kids are getting the educational support they need, including identification of learning disabilities they might have and implementation of IEPs if needed.

Increase the number of highly trained police officers

Find ways for the police to do their jobs more effectively. Not sure if that means changes at the top, hiring more officers, giving them better training/tools, or a combination.

visible presence of AAPD in the community: shopping areas, public events

Opportunities for all, especially the marginalized

More vigilance by the residents.

juvenile crime reform and funding schools

Enforce existing laws

Focus on the problems creating the crimes

Funding for social services

Improve income inequality.

Add police presence in business districts

Ensuring that people have jobs, proper housing, good childcare, and good health care would decrease crime and improve safety and security in AA County.

Support for education and recreational activities for young people. Support for community conflict resolution programs (e.g., community mediation).

Improving education in schools and better jobs

more activities that promote a sense of local community, people belonging to their neighborhood and community

Police surveillance through neighborhoods

additional police resources

I think Drug use/Alcohol use drives a lot of the community crime (thefts etc)...more oversight for teenagers that may not have the support they need at home

More police presence and community engagement in the high crime areas

Gun control

People need to be smarter about locking up. Also, more patrols in high crime areas.

Tougher sentencing, especially for juveniles

more reporting by community members and better response by police or crisis response

Address overcrowding

Banning gun ownership

More police presence; higher salaries w greater incentives to become police officer. Also more security cameras in public places. Incentives for citizens to install cameras.

more mental health assistance on first response and for long term treatment

Raise the minimum wage, provide mental health services and counseling for middle school students, free

parenting classes and advice for parents of children experiencing difficulties in school.problems.

NEED CCTV LIKE THEY HAVE IN THE UK.

More visible police patrols

More security in schools. Neighborhood police

More police presence

More police in a variety of neighborhoods

cyber-security & mail security task forces; increased police presence...I appreciate seeing the very clearly marked Police cars parked in and patrolling my neighborhood and driving on the highways.

Strengthen the connections between first responders and communities. Educate the public regarding personal safety. Educate police about people they may encounter on the job, ie diabetics who present as drunks, people with seizure disorders or who are on the autism spectrum. Communication and education are key.

get guns off the streets

Making sure people have jobs so that they don't feel the need to resort to crime, improve availability of drug and mental health treatment

Gun controls

Police presence in affected areas. Easy reporting system.

Provide more affordable housing and change zoning to encourage that

Think quite safe

Hire more police officers

More and better police

Blue Laws

Have the funds necessary to put more law enforcement officers to work

more police presents

Focus on improving employment opportunities, education and drug control for young people

Improved gun control

More visible police presence

give all the police and fireman more money for their jobs,and the respect that that deserve to do there job...Also the healthcare and childcare,and the school teachers....They all serve our community for our well being

broader scope for law enforcement with enhanced enforcement, consequences and better rehabilitation.

Less cops

lock people up

lock people up! Use the laws we have to keep control of our safety.

Im not sure.

Cops

For the city of Annapolis, the police and elected officials need to care for more then just the rich areas.

Police visibility

Exforce the laws

Stop taking away 2nd Ammendment rights, stiffen and enforce laws and penalties, stop drug use.

Keep criminals in jail

Lock up repeat offenders. Lock up parents of juvenile offenders

Longer jail time

Get rid of the Soros funded legal personnel, Give the police the power to arrest, hold and transfer illegals to the Federal Authorities.

More police and Law enforcement in the county budget

police presence

Replace weak County Executive.

Make laws that people are accountable or if minors the parents

More highly visible police patrols of neighborhoods

Increase funding for law enforcement, more officers on the street

More police presence at shopping centers

Stronger sentencing for minors

Significant penalties for criminal and parents if the criminal is under 18

More arrests and prosecution. Stiffer sentences. Deport non-citizen criminals

Getting Republicans in charge of County Executive, County Council, and prosecutor positions

more police patrols and community action

Prosecution of criminals

Stronger enforcement of all laws with few non-prosecution.

More police and more cameras

Informing people of high risk areas and having police presence increased in those areas

Strong support of the law enforcement personnel and solving juvenile crime problem.

Police patrolled streets

Better parenting

community support for law enforcement.

more law enforcement & longer sentences

better K-12 education, job opportunities, better crime accountability

Hire more police.

Improve police training and hire more teachable people

Respect the police; fund to increase staff levels

Do away with the community policing units, police cooking hot dogs at community events, Police collecting toys, etc and get them in cruisers parked in visible areas. Too often they are parked next to each other behind shopping centers, in garages, hiding at the Davidsonville county garage instead of being visible. It's not rocket science.

Reduce illegal drug activity and better enforce traffic laws -- reckless driving is out of control.

More police with stronger penalties

Get real about arresting and prosecuting, and not be the cleanup crew afterwards... also reward and back cops who really push to make their community safer, while punishing the bad cops that make the rest look bad

Not sure.

Better supported law enforcement

Police presence. Right for every citizen to conceal carry a firearm. Enforcement of current laws. New juvenile laws.

Quit overdevelopment. Crime comes with more people, particularly from lower economic status

increase police presence

Parental involvement; teaching RESPECT to fellow humans; bring back pray and discussions of morals to the schools; teach self respect is required, everyone must be involved in their community to make the world a better place

more surveillanc cameras and better (not just more) police presence

Follow up of minor crimes

Stiffer sentences; more early intervention

Prosecute crime. Hold criminals accountable.  
 Criminal prosecution  
 More police. Better accounting for illegals  
 Greater police presence in higher crime areas.  
 Tougher Prosecutions & Sentencing of serious Crime.  
 Crack down on open-air drug markets in Annapolis; more police on the street.  
 Improve job prospects and better pay for unemployed and underemployed. Lower the divisiveness and hate speech from primarily right wing politicians, particularly Tump and his supporters.  
 Better Education and more law enforcement  
 Fix the registration process at AACC  
 Laws in place re people trying to live in your house  
 Thorough investigation and charges on a timely basis. All perpetrators should be charged and tried. Teenagers should not be exempted from charges and incarceration .  
 Strictly in force existing laws  
 Enforce laws. Start with greater discipline in schools.  
 better state governing  
 Allocate more resources to improve community safety  
 Put criminals in jail and increase penalties for crimes.  
 Better enforcement of rules.  
 better policing  
 Hire more police. Let police know we stand behind them.  
 Replace the officers that were released during the demand for reforming the police department!  
 More police. Tougher penalties.  
 More accountability and stronger punishment  
 More police!!  
 More support for police. More enforcement of laws in the justice system.  
 Handle the crimes being committed by children/teens with consequences  
 More police offices, better street lighting, more neighborhood patrol. There was a crime in Linthicum where it was reported on social media by AA first alert that a body was found in Benton Park . I have yet to see or hear anymore about it not on Local news or social media.  
 Respect law enforcement  
 Allow the police to arrest, detain possible criminals and pressure judges to uphold the law  
 Tougher laws on criminals  
 Police efforts in high crime areas.  
 More police patrols. Notifications of crimes by police on social media daily.  
 Hire more police and assign them to areas where highest levels of crime occur  
 Enforced consequences for committing crimes  
 Stop the growth and means of transporting people from other counties. The police need to be able to do their job regardless of the race of the criminal and the judicial system needs to be harsher with penalties.  
 More police and prosecute criminals  
 Improve the job experience of being a cop and hire more cops to do the job  
 Creating more of a sense of community rather than everyone for himself.  
 hire a Republican governor and mayor  
 lock up repeat criminals  
 Removal of the illegal immigrants and respect for law enforcement.

Stop the revolving door policy of letting perpetrators loose on the streets.  
 Charge guilty parties. Regain respect of police. Stop letting bad guys go unpunished.  
 Making police more visible to the community, and light streets and neighborhoods more.  
 Deal with illegal guns and drugs  
 More police presence in bad neighborhoods. Better public education.  
 More police and support for the police; enforcing laws.  
 Gun control, community programs for children & teens, school programs for children & teens to include education and tutoring for those that need it. More Police Officers in the vulnerable areas. Public support of Police efforts.  
 Better parenting of juveniles. Adequate punishment for all crime by all age groups.  
 More police, use of security cameras, possibly neighborhood watch groups  
**VISIBLE PRESENCE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**  
 Tougher consequences for those who break the law.  
 More policing and more convictions of crime  
 Social services - pathway out of poverty, drug courts, education  
 Increase patrols  
 increased police presence, charge people with crimes, no bail  
 Increase Police presence, pay a good salary and train personnel in current updated and appropriate training  
 Cracking down on illegal drug use and juvenile crime  
 Arrest and prosecute criminals  
 Let police do their jobs  
 Enforce laws on the books  
 Im not sure  
 Owning a gun legally  
 Not very sure  
 More police officers to insure less crimes in the area.  
 I would say I don't know  
 Increased police presence, better living conditions for residents, reducing COL  
 Longer sentences and drug rehabilitation  
 We need to hault illegal immigration IMMEDIATELY. We need to get rid of the Democrat's soft on crime legislation.  
 Higher more police officers & fire department personnel. Give them more resources.  
 That is for people in office to decide.  
 Sidewalks and street crossings, fewer hyper aggressive boomer drivers  
 Break up rental monopolies, lowers cost of housing (via competition) putting more \$\$\$ in people's pockets, which means they can afford their bills  
 jail the offenders.  
 Liberalize Gun Carry Laws  
 Identify ways to empower citizens with the ability to address crime (e.g. improved reporting and response)  
 Reduce availability of fentanyl and similar drugs  
 More enforcement of unsafe driving, especially on RTE 50 and 97.  
 Hire more police personnel  
 Not much; it's pretty good

Increased focus on keeping gangs and illegal aliens out of our county.  
 Community policing; tougher judges  
 Better general education, more mentoring, financial education.  
 Improve economic conditions for the underprivileged.  
 more cameras and police officers  
 Greater police presence and swift sentencing  
 small stipend for cameras for every house (rings)  
 Making neighborhoods more secure  
 Stronger punishment directed towards the perpetrators.  
 n/a  
 So much needs to be done, I wouldn't even know where to start. More police presence may help.  
 Being able to charge juveniles with the crimes they commit.  
 Additional police support  
 Additional police presence  
 More visible police and stronger sentences for violent offenders  
 Increase the salary of police; stronger enforcement of existing laws  
 more police officers and more funding for them  
 Prosecute criminals and put them in jail with significant jail time.  
 More police presence and punishment for crimes.  
 Gun laws. Tougher juvenile laws  
 educate people beginning at an early age; provide mentors; enforce laws; facilitate parolee's return to life outside prison with shelter, job opportunities, and more education.  
 Keep criminals in jail.  
 Tougher laws and punishments - jail terms  
 More visible police officers.  
 This county needs to crack down on the gun violence. The people performing these crimes are coming into our neighborhoods and causing trouble. Stricter policies need to be in place and we need more police presence. Pay our police.  
 Fund Law enforcement better  
 Continue to have police presence in communities. Thank you for all you already do.  
 Community policing - police are part of the fabric of the neighborhood, not enemies.  
 More police presence  
 I was subject to credit card fraud. My credit card company took care of it. I don't know if they did a criminal investigation. My number was stolen when making a purchase, not a stolen card.  
 Perhaps increased police presence in store parking lots....  
 Invest in civic education and activities for young people.  
 I don't know  
 It feels like there are not any repercussions for crime anymore. No one cares and it is putting lives at risk.  
 try and lower availability to firearms, give public ability to increase home security  
 more social services and safety meets for people who otherwise need to turn to crime  
 Better rehabilitation of criminals and youth counseling for the impoverished.  
 No Idea  
 Reducing the amount of drug use and nicotine in school systems  
 A larger police presence and better support for police officers.  
 appropriate punishment, especially for repeat offenders

Better educate faily and students in crime infested areas such as Annapolis, Glen Burnie, Brooklyn etc  
 get rid of drugs...hahaha Accountability of offenders  
 More Police on the Street.  
 Get rid of liberal government  
 Criminals need to be held accountable.  
 With updated training, add local police departments to work in conjunction with County Police  
 Add more video cameras in areas of repeated crime. Subsidize video door bells for low income residents.  
 Address juvenile crime  
 get rid of all the guns - legal or not  
 Better County Executive.  
 I would like to see more patrolling to reduce drug activity and more safe driving enforcement  
 More mental health care  
 Not sure It seems ok from my perspective  
 Improve material conditions of living in the county. Less poverty, less crime.  
 More community involvement and more accountability from members of the community.  
 I live in a neighborhood that sit between 2 bad areas and it seem like AAC and the State of MD are doing nothing. hire more cops build more stations and respond faster to calls.  
 Juvenile offenders  
 Move away  
 at this point i do not know- must thing i can think of i have seen implemented in other states and have failed  
 Less Politising of issues as a Right or Left Issue  
 More affordable housing and jobs. Open more rec areas for age to 21. Teach trades at these rec  
 The police making better choices of prosecuting criminals and offenders of the law  
 My area has had cops patrol around in the evening, and some of those officers will station themselves at locations that have recently been suspected of drug dealing/trafficking.  
 More police patrolling  
 Police more visible  
 Get rid of drug dealing.  
 For Annapolis, police presence in all the affordable housing areas. For AA County, more cohesiveness in the county so that we are aware of what is happening in other parts of the county, besides Glen Burnie, whose crime rate is up there with Baltimore.  
 Presence of the police, more activities for the children to get out the house and do something with their time.  
 If you see something say something.  
 Increase police patrols in neighborhoods, hire more cops & increase their pay, harsher punishments for juveniles  
 Programs and job opportunities for young people.  
 Stop juvenile crime  
 Arming law abiding citizens  
 Break the law do the time  
 An increase in social programs to give those in need, help. Drugs and violence are only symptoms of the ongoing problems, but by giving greater access to public assistance people will be less likely to turn to crime.  
 Police visibility in neighborhoods.  
 Tougher sentencing laws. Make the judges accountable for the felons they release and then commit

violent crimes.

I was a victim of a racial hate crime in my neighborhood. The police said it wasn't a crime, and did nothing. You tell me what the county could do.

cracking down on the underage drinking, smoking, vaping, and overall drug use. Take racial disputes seriously. Take cases of adults taking advantage of minors seriously.

It is important to tell people what is occurring allow them to know what they should be doing to prevent things from happening. Offer more counseling and resources for those with drug addictions and take more action to stop drug dealers especially to children apps such as Snapchat and others offer easy access to drugs to all ages. Just overall provide more care and access and have group community conversations at schools or other areas to discuss what is occurring and how to do better.

Reintroduce teaching morals and ethics into schools earlier.

Check up on residents

Anne Arundel County already safe. Some many cops on the road at all times.

I don't live in Anne Arundel County.

Stronger police, ambulance, fire services, more regulation, more severe rules and consequences for crimes

Programs instead of prison

Being vigilant and not leaving cars and homes unlocked.

Community policing

Focus on the real issues like education, crime, etc. and forget about riding bicycles and other woke causes.

Increase mental health service delivery

maybe make an app that warns other women of a potential danger in the area

Listen to people's concerns.

Provide services to those living in crime ridden areas to help the community thrive

dissolution of the government on a global level

Increase police presence and arrests

well, I Wouldn't know where to begin because I was never a victim of a crime, but if I was or know anyone who was a victim, I would report to the police and start from there

Crackdown on crime

More funding towards mental health centers, more emphasis on proper counseling in schools, better resources for rehabilitation, not relying too heavily on the police (as in more community engagement)

These issues should be focused on directly.

More security

Be stricter on vaping.

Better protection laws

I can't think of anything in particular being that I do not live in an area where crime is something that I expect to happen. To my knowledge no one in my neighborhood has ever been a victim to a crime

Improve the effectiveness of police

Know your neighbors better

more police, change in policy that lets people steal without being stopped by store for fear of retaliation and knowing the perpetrator will be released without being charged

Harsher punishment for repeat offenders

Raising children in nuclear families

Accountability for minors who commit crimes which means the parents or guardian.

always take precautionary measures



Hire More Officers or rearrange structure to have more officers on the street to deter crime  
 Cybercrime education  
 more present of police and neighborhoods watch  
 making sure that everyone has the proper resources to ask for help  
 Keep people who live in AAC, updated on current issues going on. Such as car theft in a specific area, etc.  
 Reduce poverty and the concentration of poverty in certain areas  
 Tougher laws for prosecuting minors.  
 Greater police presence  
 Continue to work with the police and elected officials to deter crimes in our community.  
 More conservative leadership. Hard on crime police approach. Consequences to breaking the law.  
 Increased police presence, holding people responsible for their actions, holding parents responsible for the actions of their children  
 Better monitoring of people coming from Baltimore City  
 Police need to arrest anyone committing a crime.  
 Gun laws, Improvements in Mental Health, More and better training for police officers  
 Cyber crime police  
 Prosecute and incarcerate more criminals.  
 Better access to resources.  
 More police officers to cover more areas especially neighborhood officers  
 Support your police force as needed in passing new laws  
 Get honest and stop the narratives and hypocrisy.  
 Incarcerate criminals  
 Community policing, social programs, neighborhood watch, and better lighting can all work together to make Anne Arundel County safer.  
 stop financing low income housing and areas  
 Proper policing, policies to encourage nuclear families and fathers in the homes.  
 Not much  
 Actively providing and advocating Community resources to all groups including low SES. Resources in school, providing learning seminars  
 Better police training and keep up with the cost of living. We can't afford to pay bills and feed ourselves  
 Awareness of what is going on around your area. Focus resources in high crime areas.  
 Hold criminals more accountable by arresting them and sending them to prison, especially repeat offenders.  
 I honestly don't know. More police training, more police presence in the community, more discussion in schools???  
 Visible patrolling  
 Better roadways, most road ways are old and beaten down causing lots of accidents.  
 More police, better pay for police  
 put the criminals in jail and better punishment  
 more police county and state More parents involved with kids and respect.  
 Improve the economy so people feel less desperate; increase enforcement of existing drug laws.  
 Empower the police.  
 We live close to the highest number of calls for police service, however, our neighborhood has not been affected so far.  
 Appoint qualified police chief and staff in mayors office. Vote in qualified, objective County executive and

mayor. Investigate inside dealing.

Greater police presence & keeping criminals behind bars

Start prosecuting everyone including minors.

More police, stricter drug laws

Improve mental health evaluations and services. Stop allowing convicted criminals release to the streets until they have served their PROPER sentences according to established laws.

I force the laws we have and hold all ages of law breaking And deport illegals when breaking the law

Stronger sentences

more law enforcement and enforcement of convictions-penalties

Empower law enforcement to do their job. Support law enforcement and assure them they are supported by the community and lawmakers.

hire more police and allow them to arrest and then prosecute

probably more information on how to prevent sexual assault

Hold criminals accountable

Hire more police and give them all the training that they need.

punish criminals and and enforce laws including shoplifting, which I have personally witnessed multiple times

More patrols in the neighborhood. Maybe?

Enforce the laws already on the books

Vet illegal aliens and stop being a sanctuary county

## Appendix E: Comments About Plastic Bags

NOW WE ARE CUTTING DOWN TREES AGAIN

I don't think it makes a difference

very inconvenient

DUMB. PLASTIC IS NOT THE PROBLEM

Hate it

Not effective. Lawmaking should be directed at large oil conglomerates or other massive producers of pollution.

Depends if I'm paying more for the paper bag

The law is ineffective. This is not reducing plastic consumption at all.

Financial incentives to encourage paper bag use would have been a better option.

I oppose it namely because it has more to do with virtue signaling than with actual effect on the environment

The law is ridiculous

i like the paper bags for environmental purposes but do not believe you should be charged for them

Do not like it

Ban plastic and don't charge for paper bags.

I support somewhat though paying for bags with delivery is ridiculous. I bring bags but there is no option there & I already pay more for grocery delivery

There should be an option for purchasing a plastic bag for a small price rather than outright banning

I don't care

Should be stricter and higher charge. City of Annapolis does not have that ban, and it should.

I am over-run with paper bags because I need home delivery of food

support the plastic bag ban but not the charging for paper

I support the plastic bag ban, but do not think stores should be allowed to charge for paper bags. Some people cannot afford them.

Elderly on a fixed income, I can't always afford the bag fee. Store employees over pack the bags and they rip. I understand and support the principle behind it. It's just very inconvenient right now.

N/A, but my county has enacted a similar law

everything we get is sealed in plastic, we should recycle more. in plastic

One of the dumbest laws, why not do real work instead of wasting time on this, plus I'm sure theft will increase.

Nothing but a feel good tax

I HATE It Dumb Idea !

it's completely ridiculous

Why can't businesses choose whether or not to charge for bags? Who is the government to say different?

Meaningless in effect

i hate plastic bags but waiting to see if this hurts businesses

I ardently oppose it.

Completely oppose. Inconveniencing and adding expense to consumer for non-existent ecological goals.

A silly approach that costs everyone for no gain.

Oppose it. Ban plastic go with paper but at no cost.

meaningless band-aid on a massive wound.

I agree with the ban of plastic bags but not charging for paper ones groceries are already expensive enough.

I vehemently oppose this idea!!

I'm old enough to remember having paper bags banned. Guess someone goofed? Or are they making the mistake now? Perhaps they just like being in charge and controlling other people's lives.

If it is a county law then we should not have to pay for bags.

Have paper bags at no cost. Grocery stores have plastic bags for fruits and veggies and meats still

I somewhat support the ban but the fee should go to the county, not the retailers. Prefer that to raising my taxes

Mixed, because it is a pain. I recycle plastic so think this is overkill.

Stupid law

I completely oppose it

Everything you buy is in plastic so not really going to help

I don't care too much, barely affects me negatively but there are much bigger issues to focus on

Strongly oppose, there are far more significant factors contributing to climate issues and to take it out on consumers has been an extreme inconvenience

I don't use the bags so it doesn't effect me

Dumbest law! I 100% oppose it. They need to worry about real issues and not plastic bags. It's shameful.

Pain in the neck !

Inconsistent application

I support it, but stores should not be charging extra for bags

Completely oppose

I support ban on plastic bags but not supporting charging for paper ones.

I'm ok with it, but figure people are now buying plastic bags for their trash instead of using the ones we used to get at the store.

It depends on how bad the issue of plastic has gotten. For now, most people can't afford that change

I support it but feel they need to find a way to make the paper bags more durable, so that way we don't have to use as many of them

Too late for the environment

I oppose it completely what a stupid law when the entire store is packed with plastic. I reuse my plastic bags over and over.

Do not understand stores who gave Paper Bags are now charging, who gets the MONEY.

Stores should provide bags at no cost to the customer.

Support banning plastic, but not fees on paper bags

oppose and they are still using plastic and charging

It's just a money grab because people who litter are going to do so regardless of a bag fee. And those of us who don't litter are stuck with yet another price to pay in inflationary times.

support ban on plastics but ridiculous to charge for paper bags

I approve the change I think shopping is slower because I have to bag my own things

what about the increase in pay? Most people can barely afford to pay their bills now you add this expense as well

It's the dumbest thing I've ever heard of

Ridiculous, I'll order online before spending my money in a store and have to carry purchased items out of the store in my hands. NEVER

This is by far one of the dumbest things that I have ever seen, but not surprising for this county.

I love the ban on plastic bags but having to pay 80 cents to a dollar for a paper bag every time i shop is very expensive

I understand why paper bags are a thing, but it's still annoying

I understand it saves from pollution, but i still don't like paying for it

It's ridiculous

Shouldn't dump the cost of paper bags on to consumers.

you ban plastic bag, the store does not provide any bag and then over charge for a use of a bag, I oppose to this law.

It's fine, doesn't solve more critical issues

I am not happy about the personal inconvenience this ban has caused me, but I am ambivalent about it as a policy matter

Will not solve the problem

I hate it

It's beyond stupid. We were saving trees last ban go round.

It was STUPID.

I think this is a ridiculous form over substance law. Does it help the environment if I have my groceries delivered daily from Amazon rather than going to my local store and getting a plastic bag that I would recycle?

I don't think its fair to be charged for something your forced to get, plastic was always free and only changed for envirnontal issues not for money reasons therefore paper should also be free.

stupid idea

i really oppose it

its ridiculous how much they charge, not everyone can afford that. but i understand why they abolished plastics, they just suck at implementing it properly!

Dumbest law to date, I have to pay for a paper bag to put my purchased products in when a large number of those products are in plastic containers or wrapped in plastic! I have as yet to run into any person who thinks this is a good law!

I'm doing but it is a joke in dealing w the cause

I support the law, however, there are so many items packed in plastic it seems ineffective. The law feels like it's just a virtue signal.

Utterly ridiculous and is only another burden on taxpayers.

Good for food stores only

it is the biggest ripoff ever!!

## **Appendix F: Comments about Land Use, General Development Plan**

I am 18 and i can promise you absolutely none of us know what you're even talking about, and yet we are voting soon.

NEED TO TAKE OUT THE BIKE LANES. THERE'S NOTHING PLEASANT ABOUT MARYLAND DRIVER'S. AND THE LANES MAKE NO SENSE AT ALL & DANGEROUS, UNLESS THE BIKER WANTS TO DIE

have none

None. I am completely unfamiliar with this topic.

I think there just needs to be more awareness of these resources and more encouragement to the community to explore and use them

Don't grant special exceptions

I believe that the public should be better informed about these resources.

This is a terrible process...scores of public meetings creates a process that is so open it is in the dark as average citizens do not have the time to attend and have a meaningful voice.

silence is not consent. notification period and requirements are lacking in a significant way. again, silence is not consent.

We need more mixed use zoning; I believe that ideally all areas should be zoned as mixed use and held to the highest environmental standard. Additionally, we need to eliminate parking minimums. We also need to disallow all future development within 100 yards of the water front.

Impact on traffic intensity, balanced by concern for what's left of forested areas.

Increasing available land for affordable housing is very important.

Development should happen in the city of Annapolis, Glen Burnie and their surrounding areas. Do not allow NIMBYs in Eastport to dictate land use.

Way too much development in the County.

Need publicity. I have no insight at all into this process.

Need to be more transparent, no more development!!! Enough

I get county executive email. include this in that

Fire staff who are going beyond their legal responsibilities. We have too many firms who don't want to build in the county.

From an uninformed perspective, development is out of control in my area (Severn, Arundel Mills area). It just keeps going, seeming unabated. Every open spot seems to eventually get overdeveloped not with single family homes or parks, but with huge townhome complexes that put thousands more cars on the road, thousands more in the few grocery stores, and generally creates more congestion, pollution, and possibility of crime.

The County could care less for my opinion.

stop trying to increase section 8 housing!

Too Manny. Surprises. Too far along before notices.

I support policies that foster compact urban/village areas, without allowing sprawl taking over farms, woods, and other natural areas.

Why does the city halt the development of an apartment complex in Eastport on Bay Ridge Avenue because of its potential impact on city services, yet approves the doubling of residential units at a harbor house and Eastport Terrace well any consideration on the impact of city services? Seems to be double faced to me.

The basis on which the County makes decisions iOS not transparent, and the County administration has a

bias in favor of higher density near Annapolis.

The County Executive's newsletter is an important tool to keep citizens advised of zoning information.

All aaco. residents water access

n/a

I remember getting postcards in the past about things in my immediate vicinity but it would be nice to know what's happening elsewhere as our communities are very connected

Publish a daily communication from city to residents that comes in email form.

Letters must be mailed to the residents. Many do not use FB or social media.

Zoning code is a mess. Planning efforts to concentrate density, such as Annapolis Towne Centre in Parole is a good move. Must improve public transportation and roads.

Many meetings are just window dressing with decisions already made... also, scheduled times are not very convenient and they should all be available via Zoom.

Stop screwing with the zoning and leave them the way they are.

I was unaware.

I always heard talk to slow building 50+ communities as our schools became over crowded but builders seem to win & overcrowding & traffic has exploded. It's sad & dangerous. Living on the Broadneck Peninsula as I get older means I am trapped at home Fri-Mon all summer. We will see what happens in the future but I am not hopeful, sadly money talks & people just have to deal. This was a beautiful place growing up hopefully we take care of our land/environment or we will all be gone.

Better volume when meeting is taking place I can't hear everything and everyone

no comment

Transparency from the county to its residents

Save the trees

It seems every patch of land not occupied is now being developed with housing. My concern is our schools are already at capacity (Annapolis) and aren't great to begin with. SO where are all this new kids going to go?

Anne Arundel County is overgrowing way to fast. Please stop building all these oversized condos and apartments. We did not need a sixth (or seventh) convenience store on Veteran's Hwy. Going from North County to Annapolis is difficult because of the traffic. The quality of life has gone down in this county because of the overgrowth and traffic.

20711

Lots of outreach efforts underway

Development in the Broadneck area has overwhelmed infrastructure.

County doesn't want public informed.

Not enough community knowledge or input on absolute mess on Riva Road

I'm not sure if this is the place to mention this issue, but I feel very strongly that there is a huge lack of public access for public beach and waterfront access in Anne Arundel County. This needs to be an area of focus.

You need to send out a mailer about these resources. I did not know they exist and I'm guessing most residents don't feel as though they have any say in land use matters.

Social media should be used to inform people that do not read the limited, local paper. Anne Arundel County is not big enough to have this type of information reported on the local news

Stop building.

More media coverage both traditional and social

I really appreciated the online survey residents could use to express which assets they would like potential future parks to have (walking trails, game fields, etc.).

I found it challenging to identify which zone I live in. It would be helpful to highlight this information in materials promoting the various meetings. A simple link to a map or, as I saw recently, a verbal description of the contours of the zone or region would be useful.

I had no idea this website existed, so obviously there's a lot that needs to be done to keep the public aware.

I was unaware of this tool.

I think there is so much political hanky panky going on behind the scenes, that these tools don't really help. I am especially concerned about the Recreational and Parks work - it appears they have little use for passive park areas, and just want more and more ballfields and parking lots. I want some trees, quiet areas for walks and contemplation - they are quickly disappearing.

My only concern about land use relates to parking in the historic district and overall traffic in general. The need for housing and business development should include realistic traffic management otherwise it negatively impacts quality of life. Regarding the historic district, there needs to be a balance of residential, business, tourism parking. If parking becomes unmanageable, people will no longer live in the historic district and employees will not take jobs downtown.

I like the Town Meeting format

More/bigger signage. News coverage in The Capital

I wish that the City and County collaborated more closely on zoning issues.

Water access for regular citizens is pathetically poor and unavailable

THERE NEEDS TO BE ZONING FOR SMALL SENIORS HOMES/NEIGHBORHOODS, THERE IS NO PLAN FOR PEOPLE LIKE ME AT 62 WHO WANT TO BUY BUT THERE ARE NO SENIOR/RETIREE AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN THE ANNAPOLIS AREA. GREAT FOR SUPER RICH AND SUPER POOR, NOT FOR THE MIDDLE, THANKS TRUMP

I appreciate the information & links to the above information my County Council member Amanda Fiedler regularly e-mails to me.

It's time to expand the county's Adequate Public Facility equations. Right now, only school population is considered. I must confess I have a slightly more informed insight into this issue having covered it in Baltimore, Howard, Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties as a local print reporter. PG county declared a moratorium in the rural southern sector when emergency responses exceeded certain levels. Development stopped for months until the problem was resolved. In the city of Bowie in PG county, surveys of wildlife are conducted to determine how many will be displaced by a given development. In this county, sewage spills are common. That has to stop and must be part of the APF equations.

Baltimore county zoning officials were worried about clean water availability. Aquifers are being drained if developments are too big. There's much more but enough for now.

they need to give the public time to react - not spring the info so close to enactment

Stop ignoring the concerns of the local residents - it appears that the county is still favoring big developers over poor locals

zoning should be changed to allow at least 2 homes on now-zoned single family lots

Environmental concerns and increasing affordable housing for young people instead of approving McMansions on acres of land and on the water for wealthy people.

City Facebook and neighbor posts

The loss of local newspapers reduces opportunity for community knowledge on every front

We should all be receiving detailed emails with information regarding rezoning in understandable language with clearly listed ramifications for each project.

I live on Mountain Rd. in Lakeshore, traffic is out of control. The adding of the Firehouse has added to the problem!!! near me. I have been hear for 50 years, the out of control growth is killing the area.

They need to stop rezoning and not allow so many houses to be built.



No more construction our roads are already jamed  
 Have the county PUBLISH the facts about what they are screwing up!!!!  
 Stop low income development  
 The County needs to stop pushing UN Agenda 2030 15-minute cities tyranny.  
 Surveys like this one would be the best idea !  
 Very opposed to county trying to rezone Open Space to residential - it appears to be only for getting additional tax revenue.  
 I don't have the time to explore and learn to use the tools.  
 The politicians and press should do a better job of publicizing meetings and these tools  
 Mass distribution of newsletter to all citizens well in advance of any decision.  
 enforce existing zoning codes  
 Awareness of impact of any changes on traffic flow patterns and wildlife refuges  
 na  
 Use The Capitol Newspaper...  
 Inform earlier, follow up  
 A lot of distrust for agenda of planners, at least here in Annapolis seems to be a desire to destroy existing zoning to allow more infill housing -- so my suggestion is to be clear about next steps and not sound dismissive  
 None at this time.  
 How about a new development freeze until we establish a consensus on the need or lack thereof for further growth.  
 how do you get access to this tool?  
 Too much development is destroying the best parts of the county. I voted for Pittman because he said he was going to control development but it has gotten much worse since he became county executive  
 Keep South County rural.  
 No  
 More info in local papers.  
 County Admin. actually act on Feedback, especially too much Density of Growth.  
 Slow development  
 More needs to be done to assure the public that decisions are not weighted more to the political side than the greater good.  
 the county DID NOT inform the pubic of the massive development of Riva Road!  
 I think the politicians are going to do whatever they want regardless of how the public feels which is obvious with the driving range on Mtn Rd. at Rt.100 where they plan to build LOTS of low-income housing. Development is out of control in Anne Arundel with no though given to those already living in areas, roads in the area, and schools. Mountain Road being an example.  
 Seems to me the county and state side with the developers more than the current neighbors that are affected by decisions. Case in point, Arundel Hills The traffic impact alone at the intersection of Maple and B&A is going by to be a nightmare. The disruption to people property and homes and lives in Arundel Hills is another concern. The county should have purchased the land a made a peaceful Park.  
 The public should have adequate time to plan attendance to meetings and it would be nice if they were streamed online for those of us who find it difficult to attend evening meetings. I read the notices from the AA county executive but I don't often see information on land use and zoning.  
 How about the county should just say "NO" to any further development.  
 Too cumbersome and wordy to use  
 I feel like AACO has allowed certain areas to become trashy, like the route 2 corridor. Why can't we make

Arnold more like a quaint town atmosphere? It's all about what businesses want.

I wish we had local press so we could read about this.

Capital Gazette to keep us aware. Infrastructure is not keeping up with growth. Look at Riva Road.

The major problems of adequate schools, services and traffic conditions are my concern.

Stop the overbuilding...traffic, schools, services cannot handle any more

The county needs to set aside more land for open space, including water act for kayaks and canoes.

Buildings are getting too tall and ruining the skyline of Annapolis and the county.

Provide updates on the televised news, in newspaper and to community associations so they can inform neighborhoods

Listen to the public not developers!!

The online tools are generally confusing to use, incomplete information and one has to look practically every day for update which may not be posted.

Potential gentrification phrased under positive language like "re-zoning to guide development" and would be against my interests as a citizen. The implementation of unsustainable costs of living for long-standing, potentially vulnerable residents, especially elderly residents on a fixed income, would be devastating to me as an avid opponent of gentrification.

The county should put another moratorium on the Mayo Peninsula and worry about more important things

im not sure

I have none

Not really

Ability to lookup a particular address much like SDAT

They are drifting away from single family dwellings because of GREED. Our county would be better off with less apartments and condos and townhouses...and more single family homes. There would be less crowding and it would be better for the environment. We know greedy politicians only care about stacking people on top of each other just to increase tax revenue.

Earlier notification of zoning changes, appeals, new developments, new or changes to land use, etc.

I have literally never received any information so I assume the committee is brazenly corrupt

Limit development permanent green space

mail the neighbors

Impacted areas should allow citizens to vote re zoning changes,

Helping to understand that a moderate amount of growth and development is necessary for a vibrant and healthy community.

Make more/better use of radio/tv ads or announcements. Too much emphasis on social media.

I think it is especially important to have zoning that will allow people to have/rent/build small homes/rooms for elderly relatives on their family's property. Giving the elderly some level of privacy and independence while still allowing them to receive what help they may need (without having to move to and pay for a nursing home) is an under-implemented resource that could be invaluable to a multitude of families in this area.

Fort Misery construction firm seems to be circumventing the law and developing on slopes that are dangerous for rescue vehicles and personnel.

Zoning is something that needs to be addressed. The Millersville school complex was far better for the planet when it was Schillinger's Farms.

Keep south county rural. Notify ALL land use, zoning, decisions, etc. fully public via newspapers, "Patch" online timely updates, and any other online/media to notify public and keep everything regarding land use, zoning, etc. completely transparent.

Need to speed up the process; need to provide for zoning that meets today's and the future needs of the

county rather than being out of date.

Unknown

PLEASE slow or stop development in the area.

I have no idea what is going, yet am concerned about the traffic impact. Example: all the construction on Riva Road!

Keep more of our limited nature. Nobody likes a concrete forest.

this information should be emailed to all residents of the county

N/A not informed

Unsure

Use social media to provide updates

Zoning for multi family meaning no single home ownership

Be sure there is infrastructure to access development.

I did not know about the tool before, but glad I do now.

concern for loss of of open space/agricultural land

No Suggestions

Get an email list and have resident opt in for news emails

need to be active advertisement- i was unaware of all this

Please be considerate of cemetery and farm land

I'm unfamiliar with it

Let people know more than just online outlets.

not sure

Email me to alert me of such meetings

Vote out Pitman!

I have no suggestions

Provide more access and acknowledgement about resources we as community have access to as I did not realize I had access to most of these resources.

I don't know enough about this topic to give my opinion.

Be careful not to destroy what is good or works in hopes of improving what doesn't.

No need for growth

I don't really feel like the county does much to keep the younger people (teens-ish, young adults) informed and what options are available to be involved

Limit development where ever possible. Especially near water or flood plains. Over 55 proposed development in flood plain between pike ridge rd and 214. Really a bad idea. Lots of people must have been paid off.

I'd like to know more about how zoning affects me

Reduce single family home zoning to create more space for affordable housing, including apartments, condos, and small housing on one's single family house property

Send an informational newsletter in the mail

Developers don't follow current zoning requirements. The county doesn't enforce the current zoning requirements. It causes flooding problems for waterfront houses.

Ridgley Ave should NOT become a commercial corridor. Very unfair to residents there.

Add this to agenda of other meetings. Highlight it in the papers and social media

Allow for neighbors to vote on development.

I honestly do not know enough on the subject.

Clear monthly updates via email.

we don't need high density housing in my area.

Have more public meets at times when people can attend them. More publicizing of the meets and not just in the area they affect.

More articles in news media rather than relying so heavily on the county's website and weekly letters from County Exec. I subscribe to the latter but not everyone does.

No further concerns

Do not over-zone for low income housing - Let the market decide

My feelings are we are trying to increase housing, business growth with empty offices. No one seems concerned about how this affects your community and increased traffic on over crowded roads. Mr. Pittman supports increased growth for south and western county, BUT NOT below his line.

More meetings face to face with residents should be provided.

Be transparent.

Stop the corruption and incompetence.

idk man

Have conservative news interviews

Have the county stop giving there friends special treatment

Developers should have to publish the preliminary plans to neighbors that are within a mile of said development. I was told by a developer that they only had to give notice to people who lived within 300 feet of said development. In rural areas, this is not adequate.

The areasa around parole is being overdeveloped and is likely to adversely affect the quality of life here.

The "Arts District" is a bogus attempt to make West Street seem more lucrative for businesses and raise rent priced. It is already too expensive to live here.

## Appendix G: Comments About State Budget

on rich people and business'

I don't care if corporate entities lose more money and it benefits everyone else.

Funding education and transportation is fundamental.

Raise corporate/wealthy taxes

Cars and fuel should be taxed enough to pay for roadways.

Use taxes should be considered first

I support raising corporate taxes, particularly in progressive fashion

Sooner or later

I think Transportation and education are the two most important yet under funded tools available to our state that could elevate the standard of living. Expanding corporate taxes is a great idea. I don't like internet gambling but I think the black market surrounding criminalized activities is more dangerous than legalizing and regulating it. I completely disagree with implementing new fees on ride-sharing, tolls, and electric cars. We need to incentivize these tasks as much as possible. A robust and diverse public transit infrastructure is the most effective way to induce productive growth.

on higher income earners

Progress takes money

Progressive approach

Income tax on high earners, close corp tax loopholes, hwy user taxes, sales tax on services

Increase taxes based on income

I support the Fair Share Maryland plan - tax the wealthy and corporations first, regressive taxes last!

Tax companies that insist workers who could easily work from home work instead in an office. That creates pollution and traffic. Make them pay extra.

Raise corporate taxes and taxes on wealth

I still think there are things that could be cut; but some minimal increases on discretionary things is okay.

Property taxes are hard on retirees.

on rich people and corporations over a certain size.

Raising the rates on higher levels of income for State Income tax

Raise corporate taxes

Taxes needed to keep schools and colleges properly funded. BUT make sure taxes earmarked for specific uses are not Bait and Switched to other uses.

Raise corporate taxes; do NOT legalize internet gaming if it's gambling; raise tolls, but don't put fees on electric cars (aren't we encouraging them?) or ride-sharing.

Depends on which taxes are raised

Study possible revenue increases between General Assembly sessions.

A graduated income tax might help.

But need to show that we are prudent in spending and that we deliver great value to the entire state and its population.

Depends on which taxes, shouldn't be regressive

I think they should expand corporate taxes, and legalize Internet gaming

Raise corporate taxes only

Tax the rich

Raise sales taxes

Corporate — decisions have been made.

do not reduce education spending/support

To affect high income earners  
 would not raise fees on ride-sharing and EV's  
 You pay for what you get  
 We need funding for Eviction Prevention and Rapid Rehousing programs, as well as programs for increasing affordable housing stock, for middle-class as well as lower-income households.  
 MD is one of the wealthiest states in the country, we do this by funding programs that promotes every Marylander a chance to succeed  
 Corporate and higher income tax payers duh!  
 Education is extremely important, it's already underfunded.  
 Have people coming from other states pay tolls when entering Maryland. When I have gone to other state such as Florida or New Jersey, I have paid tolls. People are coming from other states including from Pennsylvania to come to our Ocean using our roads. Have them pay to use our roads!  
 education is most important  
 increase tolls  
 Raise taxes in highest tax brackets, raise gambling taxes  
 High income taxes and tolls.  
 Only if the raised taxes affect the most wealthy  
 We should NOT do fees on electric cars. We need them for decarbonization. I like the other suggestions in your first approach  
 Taxes are the dues we pay for a high functioning society  
 Tax the megarich  
 expand corporate taxes  
 Cigarette/tobacco tax increase is favored. Also putting Gambling revenues to use in schools as originally pledged but then later not endorsed by the PSC  
 I know raising taxes is unpopular. But, if it has to be done in order to maintain services, it has to be done. The things that contribute to quality of life for all aren't free. I am willing to pay for them through my taxes..  
 We should fully fund education, including support for trades-related programs. Corporations should pay amounts proportional to their profits; mental health services should be funded and used to divert appropriate people away from the criminal justice system. I don't mind paying more taxes if they're used to provide a strong social safety net and care for the most vulnerable people in the state.  
 but I wouldn't want to see new fees on electric cars, which we need  
 Expand corp taxes & taxes, & taxes on rich.  
 Make sure the money gets to intended recipients and that it is in addition to current funds not in lieu of current funds.  
 we need to hire good teachers  
**CORPORATE TAXES SHOULD BE A FLAT TAX SO THEY CAN'T WIGGLE THEIR WAY OUT LEAVING ALL OF THE TAXES TO US WORKERS!**  
 But not extra on things that help with climate change  
 tax corporations who have avoided taxes by combining with out of state entities, raise tax on uber wealthy  
 taxes need to be increased to maintain good level of service  
 Fully funding 4t3 Blueprint for Education critical  
 expansion of corporate tax  
 But don't allow online gaming  
 If the tax raises are spread out across a variety of things, it won't hit people as hard. It could also be done by taxing some people, i.e., the very wealthy, more  
 Tax Electric cars

Increase transport fuel tax to increase transportation funding.

increase taxes on all gambling, marijuana , alcohol and tobacco

Corporations should be paying taxes at a higher rate. Gambling organizations should be paying more to provide services to those in need and especially schools and pay teachers much more. We need to educate our children and schools are too important and must be fully funded.

Definitely raise taxes on corporations, gaming

Maybe but would need more details.

Need to be careful where you raise taxes - don't penalize people for doing the right thing, like why would you want to penalize folks moving to electric cars when that's what you want them to do? Why not put a toll on those who continue to own gas vehicles? Need to strategize and think about the tax issue - short term and long term. If you keep taxing retirees for example, they will continue to leave the state, or maybe that's the plan...?

corporate

If the programs are of benefit to the state and community, then taxes are the proper means to fund them especially on higher incomes

inevitable, but fairest

Not all programs need to be continued. Look for sunset opportunities.

tax out of state users of our highways via tolls; why tax EVs? they are helping fix the climate issue. raise tax on cigarettes and other items with negative health consequences.

Do NOT legalize online gambling please

We get what we pay for.

Focus taxes on use - activity based fees

electric cars should compensate for lack of taxes paid at the pump for road maintenance; 2% tax on services;

need to pay for what's needed

raise taxes on corporations and high earners

Raise them on the rich

raise tax on corporations and millionaires- not on middle class or below

only don't raise toll prices

Tax on internet shopping to help pay for road maintenance. Raise taxes on licenses for recreational boats and marinas and use for education.

Maryland is what I consider to be a welfare state, meaning that the government sits by and complains about anything that they can get federal government funding for. The local people need to pay more taxes at the local level and much less at the federal. In exchange local services should be a focus of the government.

As long as the money really is going to transportation and education, this seems reasonable.

Increase corp taxes

corporate taxes could do with an increase, or more proactively, corporate tax exemptions should be heavily reigned in.

Taxes on EV should be raised, taxes on gambling and crypto trading, but ridesharing, tolls, and personal taxes (of those making less than 200k a year) should not be touched. Sales tax reduction would be nice, as long as our paychecks aren't further affected.

From the information present, this seems the most appealing

Progressive tax on those large and profitable companies and wealthy individuals to pay a little more

Do not legalize internet gambling!

Ensure there are not fraudulent claims to services

We need better public transportation.



## Appendix H: Comments about Maryland State Issues

I think it is wrong that the county/state takes my personal private road to allow a connection to a new subdivision. It's wrong.

I'm impressed by the rapid response from all levels of government and the emphasis on the victims and their families and respect paid to them as immigrants

Blue print for education is an albatross around the neck of Maryland

YOU KNOW THE SAYING -YOU BREAK YOU BUY?! THAT'S SINGAPORE'S PROBLEM

Why isn't the container ship's company paying for the new bridge and to compensate the loss of the road construction workers?

None

Maryland seems well run for a mid-sized state in population...yet it seems to have an anti-corporate attitude which it could find costly in the long run.

Still and will be paying for all those short term solutions by former Gov Hogan

Seems to be no direction for the future

I support Gov Moore's initiative: 2024, Year of the Veteran and Military Family

While I agree with increasing corporate taxes generally, that shouldn't be done at the state level. It's far too easy for Maryland corporations to leave for one of the nearby Republican-dominated states.

Need to move quickly to open channel and rebuild. Look at Minnesota for how it QUICKLY rebuilt its collapsed bridge.

It seems clear that there is lots of fraud, waste and abuse of state funds given the quality of the services rendered. Allocating more funding incentivises more waste and abuse. Kerwin is a great example.

I have a colleague who lives in Dundalk. She's my officemate. I'm very impressed how the Gov. has handled this unprecedented event.

Pay for transportation by taxing miles driven, and with moderately increased gas tax. Provide more opportunities for public transit to remove personal vehicles from the road.

Gerrymandering is a huge problem. Closed primaries are a problem. But, Democrats won't change the system.

Ensure the new Key bridge replacement will be built to improved standards for cost effectiveness, environmental concerns, and low maintenance costs.

In general I applaud Maryland's approach to addressing topics that affect women's rights, reproductive freedoms, gun control, and other more forwarding-leaning topics like the environment. I am still irritated though at some of the more micro-issues that affect my community and the surround area as I mentioned related to maintenance, overdevelopment, and crime. I've been living in AAC for 46 years as active/retired military, fed gov employee, and retired. AAC has made progress during that time but overdevelopment has taken us from fields and orchards to back-to-back-to-back townhomes, mall, and casino with barely enough room to move. more traffic, and crime. and I don't like it. AAC is till not as pleasant a place to live as much of Howard county.

I am happy with the current government. My concerns are contextual - Maryland policies/taxes can't get too far away from other states. Stability and good governance at the national level is critical. Nihilist elements in our society threaten both stability and good governance.

Design of new bridge needs expanded criteria to guarantee safety

Infrastructure safety is not given significant priority when expanding the capacity of the port. Bridge piers have proven to be the single point of failure. More protective measures should have been in place to guard against the impact of longer and greater capacity ships transiting the harbors. Warnings were ignored in pursuit of increased commerce. "Penny wise and dollar foolish" decision making. ....and now

we know the price. It has come with immeasurable costs and the tragic loss of four lives.

n/a

We had a state revenue with a surplus. We are now giving away not only the state surplus but scratching around where to find more. The administration needs to live within its means and balance the budget. Love Maryland but along with many friends and neighbors moving to Delaware asap, MD too expensive for retirees

Offer affordable housing, stop new programs costing money. Start taking better care of seniors who have worked hard. Not given freebies .

One approach would try to provide funding for transportation and education by expanding corporate taxes, legalizing Internet gaming and implementing new fees on ride-sharing, tolls and electric cars. This approach is a huge mistake!! This state is contributing to a sickness known as gamboling. Implementing new fees for ride-share and additional tolls for electric cars will not produce enough funds to make a difference. You want to lower money for transportation and education, two of our most important line items on the budget and have it paid for by gaming and tolls from ride-sharing, and tolls for electric cars. Electric cars are for the birds, they use more electricity than a home uses and therefore electricity is going through the roof. I think ride-shares are not good due to COVID-19 and therefore, folks would rather drive themselves or take public transportation, i.e. busses are cleaner than other people's cars. Also, in my opinion, ride-shares are not dependable. Internet gaming is dangerous as children can play just by checking the box that they are over 18 years of age. Internet gaming is always an advertisement between games that I play online and I see how easy it is to play. This is the Democratic way of thinking and it seems to be a popular way to think here in Maryland. Borrow from Peter to pay Paul. Hopefully, we will see this way of thinking in the next election!

Everyone will be affected. Some more than others. Prices will go up. Items will take longer to get here. Some things may be gone Others will sit in traffic. People will blame the Gov't but people have to realize this will cost us all. It was an accident & we need to deal with it

Blueprint for education needs to be revisited - never had sound funding source

I am not out in a lot of public spaces, nor deal with any specific groups to my knowledge in your questions on different groups

MD is a great state! We need to work so that everyone gets a fair shake. We need to work on crime, infrastructure and providing jobs and housing in Baltimore

Tax the rich and big profiting corporations; no gaming, gambling, or tax on services; make biking safe and encourage carpooling, electric cars

I feel that Governor Moore will handle this well! When legislators from other states don't want to pay for the bridge, remind them that we have been paying our taxes to help with their hurricanes!

I've lived in other states, and overall, Maryland provides good services to the residents of the state. I hope they are able to rebuild the Key bridge quickly, as it affects anyone who drives anywhere near Baltimore.

Happy with Moore's leadership

Crime: study new approaches to preventing crime. Housing: options to lower housing cost. General: keep citizens informed in multiple, easily understood manner.

Democrats are tax and spend. Can't relate to working class. No accountability for spending education increases are without accountability

Climate Control problems like flooding

I have been very disappointed and dismayed by the legislature and the Governor's approach to juvenile justice this session. They have ignored evidence and input from experts and relied only on anecdotes and complaints by law enforcement and prosecutors, who are coming from a biased perspective because the reform laws that they take issue with reduced some of their power, which they believe they are entitled to. It has been offensive to watch our elected representatives bow down to the smallest political pressure

and rush to put more poor, Black children behind bars.

Stop taxing the people that work hard. Start using the casino funds. If higher taxes are needed, raise taxes on things like alcohol, tobacco and marijuana.

Biden will fund it

I like Gov Moore's initiatives. I am concerned that they, along with the implementation of the Blueprint for Education, exceed an achievable and reasonable state budget. I am concerned that even though the federal government has pledged to pay much if not all of the Key Bridge rebuilding that state resources are insignificant to hand the financial impact the lack of bridge will have on the state's economy, especially when combined with the other large expense items I mentioned above. Supporting these issues primarily through individual income taxes is not sustainable for our residents.

MD state government needs to fund transportation and education (including community colleges).

The environment and especially the effects of climate change remain critical issues that are having more and more impacts on our state. These effects are widespread—transportation, housing, education, jobs, immigration, and so much more are tied directly to climate impacts and policies. Do not ignore this crucial issue; it won't be long before we are unable to correct the problems.

Unsure that Congress will approve the funding necessary for prompt rebuilding of new bridge.

I would like to see it rebuilt relatively quickly, we do use that bridge frequently, as do our patients.

However I have no faith in the Republican passing a bill to provide the funding needed.

My no. 1 concern is climate change, it will affect us in so many ways. No. 2 is clean environment/air/water, we have nothing.

I totally disagree with this push for electric cars. Plus the idea that the state would now add extra taxes on electric cars makes it ridiculous to convince people that we have to buy them.

I believe and will always believe that corporations avoid paying taxes and the 1% get away with not paying their fair share. Change that and everything changes.

Funding is likely to be an issue. Even though the Ravens and Orioles have pledged funds, it will likely cost far more to rebuild.

The part of the survey about discrimination of various groups needs to be revised to include the option of "Unsure". It is hard to know if Native Americans are being discriminated against since I do not know any Native Americans personally. The current survey format only provides the option of 0 to 100.

Why did Maryland suddenly have such a huge budget shortfall?

IT IS WELL PAST TIME THAT THE MEDICAL AID IN DYING BILL MADE IT TO THE FLOOR TO BE PASSED. WE NEED EVERYONE TO HAVE FULL BODILY AUTONOMY, EVEN THOSE TRYING TO DIE WITH DIGNITY.

Rebuilding efforts will take a long time

must fund the Blueprint

rebuilt as soon as possible and practical

Don't live near Key Bridge or use it often but closure of the port affects everyone in the state if not the country.

We are so lucky to have Wes Moore as our Governor - without him Maryland will be in much worse shape

In addition to raising money the state needs to make MD more business friendly

well satisfied

The State has approved a very expensive program for education that should be subject to serious re-evaluation of its affordability in the light of a lack in current State and Local Government resources without causing serious damage to other equally important programs. Improving education is very important and the extent of this support increased when State and Local economies can afford the cost.

taxes too high for retirees

Wes Moore is doing a great job!

I am glad to be living in a progressive state like Maryland.

I believe MD needs to reduce taxes on seniors living in their own homes if you want to keep them in the state. I can't afford any of the senior living communities so I must stay in my home or leave the state which I don't want to do.

I know that years ago a new casino was built in Arundel Mills, and that it was supposed to help pay for teachers and education, but from what I've heard, that hasn't exactly happened. Perhaps if the taxes from the casino were given directly to schools, that would help, but I understand that there is an inherent issue in connect education with gambling. I think the Key Bridge will be rebuilt relatively quickly, although not because of the impact on the people, but due to the impact it would have on the economy.

I feel your wording for questions is biased.

Stop wasting my tax money!

The current elected officials are a bunch of WIMPS!!! They lie through their teeth and only do things that funnel money into their pockets!!!!

State of Maryland should have never let the scammers take over unemployment benefits. Where they could be used now for workers at the Port of Baltimore

Why can't we balance the budget like we did under Hogan instead of constantly raising taxes & fees. Live within our means ! Dems never met a tax increase they didn't like !

Crime in Baltimore, and the lack of prosecution of people committing serious crimes ( car jacking with guns, murders, and assaults) ruin Maryland' image - based on what I see in the news everyday I will never go to Baltimore again.

Why do you think retirees leave the state if they can afford it?

Legislators need to stop expanding social programs when they do not have funding to pay for the ineffective, inefficient programs they already have. The education system is broken, and crime is expanding from the cities into the suburbs; especially crimes by young teenagers who know they will not be punished. The state is a haven for illegals who take entry jobs away from citizens because they are willing to work for substandard wages in substandard conditions. They are also driving up state costs as they need to be educated house and treated medically. The press is in league with the Democrats rather than using its constitutional duty to explain issues factually to the public so we can decide how to vote on issues or let us know what issues are coming up for a vote in time for us to send our representatives input

I feel Annapolis and Baltimore City are a big drain on Maryland Government Budget

Informing citizens of impending issues and locations of information on those issues so we can stay informed. The best way to help us to stay involved as necessary.

na

Driving extra to go through eastern shore to Go north to jersey

I am opposed to raising taxes. It indicates a failure of government to live within its means and it hurts our citizens.

I think federal as well as state political fights will slow the new bridge... and one-party rule here will prevent any budget realism

Voters are disenfranchised in this state by a one party system that is harming education, public safety and the economy.

I am worried that Maryland will follow other solid blue states into disfunction based on stupid notions, such as treating crime and criminals as social ills that can be solved with kindness, treating education system as a woke indoctrination platform, spending trillions on mass transit, forcing us to buy electric vehicles (to the detriment of African enslaved children and the Chinese proletariat), favoring members of "specified" minorities over actual competence, District Attorneys who won't prosecute "minor" crimes, encouraging homelessness and drug use by friendly policies towards members or that "misunderstood demographic" etc., etc.

I have little faith in our State, County, and local government to do anything quickly!

The governor and general assembly are not responsibly spending our taxes and we are headed right back to where we were 10 years ago.

Against adding right to abortion in state constitution

Far too much emphasis by the State & especially Anne Arundel County on increasing the Density of building, etc. & crowding of existing Residential Communities !

Governor has been superb in his handling of the tragedy.

Again, taxes too high and too many state, local government employees.

Fully fund education but maintain close accountability of appropriated funds

The politicians pushed electric vehicles and now that people don't go to the gas pump where there are so many taxes on gas, now they want to tax electric cars. Democrats are famous for Tax-N-Spend. Control that wasteful spending. Re the Key Bridge, didn't that shipping company have insurance? Why do the American people have to pay for that?! Here comes MORE taxes our way.

I am watching retirees leaving Maryland in droves because it is so expensive. And the MD government thinks raising taxes is a good idea. They also think expanding legalized gambling is a good idea. And just how much money is Maryland spending on folks with gambling addiction or on the family that the addict no longer supports?

The bridge only had a "fair" rating and unfortunately the government tends to wait until something breaks to fix it. Consider all the bridges and roadways that are ignored and lighting that does not work on highways.

Need to cut spending and taxes

Enforce existing laws against criminals. Regain respect of police.

Re the bridge. Rename it for Francis Scott Key. Enough with removing names of past figures who had slaves. Everyone had indentured or slaves 200 years ago.

Too much wasteful spending.

For the most part our state government functions well but revenue should be increased by expanding corporate taxes and gaming fees. Online and sports gambling was a bad idea and has a terrible effect on individuals in particular. Not well controlled.

Q23 is poorly written - for some there may be no basis to know how a group of people are treated, there is no option to check a "don't know" response. Seems any data collect in Q23 response is worse than a guess from respondents, not even an opinion nor a belief.

The state government is too expensive to maintain at the current level of employees and programs that are unnecessary. The failure to maintain our roads and educate our children is not due to lack of money, but lack of good management.

Baltimore, PG & Montgomery County are disasters. Corrupt politics & politicians. No overlook or auditing. I think we need to prioritize holding those responsible, and focusing on the lives lost before all the political BS

im not sure

Stuff happens and I believe that another bridge will replace the broken bridge.

I believe the Problems within the state can be resolved with more ease but may take more time than needed

Don't raise taxes on those who can't afford it.

Government and educational spending are out of control.

The question about rebuilding the bridge is poorly constructed: what is "relatively quickly"? Better to have said; (eg: 3-4 yrs; 5-6 yrs, etc)

Maryland government needs to be able to rationalize any tax increases since the states that compete with Maryland (neighbors and states following the coast to Florida), have lower taxes. We can't continue the arrogance of taxing the higher net worth families without somehow convincing them that Maryland is

really their home worthy of continued investments for the future.

It has taken like 10 years to "repair the harbor tunnel."... they definitely aren't completing the building of an entire bridge anytime soon.

Investigating the cause and intentions of the cargo ship, what are the short and long term effects on Maryland and the East Coast for the port being closed so long. The economic effect of the bridge collapse I think will be significant.

It would be good to have MD be a place that retirees could live comfortably.

The Key Bridge needs to be rebuilt asap as it impacts Maryland and the US and cargo vessels from around the world as well as our economy and livelihood for many people.

The closure of the port impacts us indirectly

It's a tragedy and will affect residents and workers in the area of the bridge. From what the federal and state governments are proposing, all will be resolved quickly. I'm mostly concerned about the Republicans making it political.

There's no world in which this bridge is repaired any time soon

None at this time.

it was very sad

State spending is out of control. The gov Moore is funding too many of his own projects at the expense of necessary ones. (see previous question regarding education and transportation)

Closing costs for housing very high especially paying transfer tax on a refinance. Multi family (apartment bldgs) will be like Russia.

high taxes, growth out of control, too liberal, tax dollars spent on too many social issues, fix the roads first We should NOT be imposing additional fees or taxes on residents that are helping our environment by ride sharing or buying electric cars.

I hope the bridge will be built in a timely manner, but safety and improved stability are more important.

Lack of economic growth in the state is my number 1 concern. The state is too reliant on federal government jobs but must make business climate friendlier in order for the economy to grow.

I am against any cuts in education. Money spent there has the highest return.

thank you for keeping abortion legal in Maryland

Dire need of repair and a reset in the economy

MD is slow at everything, its 2024 not 1950's. Its sad the way things take forever to be done example getting more toll roads will increase revenue for the state but we are not doing that and Northern VA is. This is sad.

cut the economical and political red tape and create incentives to quickly fix the bridge in a way it doesn't hurt environment any further

Maryland need to invest in affordable housing and affordable health care for all. Stop putting low income families in deserts

The state of Maryland has been doing a poor job to ensure its counties and communities have been safe. Living conditions, Wages and Crime has significantly improved in some areas but decrease in some of the more less better parts of Maryland.

The bridge will take years and I'm concerned about how our port workers will make a living.

Recreational boats are very polluting and require resources such as drawbridges that are not paid for by current fees and taxes on boating. Maryland should reevaluate the use of sailboats and powerboats and charge to mitigate the environmental degradation they cause.

Maryland will get involved to Make sure that DEI contractors are involved and delay, delay, delay until the costs get out of hand. Hire the best and fire the rest.

Mandatory expungement of criminal records

There is enough resources in MD to satisfy those that want to do positive things. Don't waste it on what is

not positive just for political gain.

I believe the Maryland governing bodies are doing some of the best in the nation progressively, but I believe public services like education, public transportation, or emergency food/housing is being overlooked in this progress. Better support networks for the citizens of the state would go a long way.

No to allowing leniency for youths arrested for crimes. That's ridiculous and it'll just get worse.

I think Maryland itself is great as a state but just like another state, a state revolves around the wealthy part of the state where "the rich gets richer" but when it comes to the poor or serious issues that could affect a majority of the pop., no government is around to actually help.

I think that the bridge will affect all of us economically, but it won't be rebuilt any time soon.

The Maryland state government, compared to other states I've visited for just short periods of time, has done nothing to prove its activeness in the community thus far, to me personally.

The Maryland state government can do literally anything to benefit the masses but they all would rather get million dollar checks for sitting around and doing NOTHING.

I can't afford to purchase property in my hometown and my income is average for the state, but higher than national average. I know affordable housing is global issue affecting every developed nation right now. Maryland can't do too much about that. What Maryland can do is make its communities better so that maybe those bad parts of the state no one wants to live in are better places to live in. However, Maryland will not do that, because things would be getting better, not worse. Just look at property values, not so much the value, but the value compared to other areas.

The state government seldom considers ways to increase efficiency and decrease cost.

The leadership in this state is focused on all the wrong issues. I have zero faith in current Maryland leadership.

The increase in crime and taxes will force people to leave here to friendlier states

I am a republican and find little representation with the present local government since it so heavily democratic.

The State spends money like a bunch of drunk sailors. They have no respect for working families who struggle to make ends meet. Too much "gold plating" in State programs.

When the President of The United States of America can send billions of dollars to other Countries, then they have the money to build our bridges back up and more durable and secure this time around. There should have been some padding and blockages around the pillars structure to prevent ships from hitting them.

Why do people from other country come over to America and get in to schools and get snap (foodstamps) and do not have to provide information but America who have been born and raised in America have to provide so much information to get snap, get in to schools and apply for insurance. Illegal immigrants approved right away why America people get denied for everything America people are being push to the side to help the immigrants that come here when will the government help the people of America some of us still need help but can not get it. because all America and the government is worried about is the immigrants why hard working America is going with out the government help this country is sad

I think that the port of Baltimore should be the main priority. It is one of the most if not the most important port on the entire eastern seaboard and the longer it is shut down or not in use our local economies will struggle as it will be harder to get anything imported to the state of Maryland raising costs.

Maryland asks citizens only one question: What's in your wallet? ALSO — MD MUST decouple from the California auto standards, which are another artificial standard that will bankrupt the state. And this one we didn't even pass on our own. MD has to LEARN the lessons of California and Illinois and avoid the same fate.

We need to start to make people work for a living and not giving so many free rides. If you don't earn it you

don't appreciate what you have and destroy what others provide for them ie: renters, schools, parks and open spaces. People want everything for free and not work for it. I was brought up poor, but worked hard to get to middle class with no Federal or State money.

My sense is that the government can do a better job with the budget. I am also frustrated with the language the government uses to obfuscate what is really happening.

Bay Bridge afternoon traffic is already seeing an increase after the Key Bridge collapse. 95 N is also a parking lot for miles in the afternoon. It's not gonna be good for a long time.

Wrong actions taken by legislature on juvenile crime and crime in general. Total loss of money surplus left by Gov Hogan

I have no confidence in Wes Moore.

Stop penalizing & placing restrictions on legal gun owners. The gun violence & crimes are from criminals who are not being held accountable & not being prosecuted & incarcerated

Maryland is losing so many retirees to bordering states due to taxes. This has to stop.

Government is focused on adding things to this Just fix the lanes and the bridge and don't make it any thing else

Stop focusing so much attention on how everyone is different and start focusing on the commonalities that make the population a community.

too quick to create yet another program without regard to cost

Stop wasting our money on frivolous projects that no one wants except for the politicians

Md govt. is in need of oversight to improve efficiency and reduce cost.

Should take five years, but will probably take 15.

The mayor of Baltimore is useless, and the governor is simply a talking head who tells everyone what they want to hear. That doesn't mean that the issues are resolved.

Need to go back to basics rather than cater to woke ideas



## Appendix I: Civil Rights for African Americans

Stop talking about it. There won't be issues.

Much progress and a long way to go...

I think this question is best answered by an African American?

ALL LIVES MATTER

I taught DEI at the US State Department and elsewhere for 23 years

DEI appears most often to amount to little more than progressive gloss on a public relations campaign. People exist today under the false belief that everything was hunky-dory before these practices were implemented and that they were implemented by corrupt political actors to pick favorites and curry political favor in the general population. This is absolutely not true and is an idea that must be fought at all costs.

Obama's election would have been a very significant positive moment if it were not for the reactionary backlash it caused among white supremacists and the MAGA fascists.

Need new leadership and voices to lead this movement

Obama was unduly circumspect in regard to race.

DEI programs are not particularly effective at what they set out to do (making people less racist), but the idea that we should get rid of them because DEI discriminates against whites is ridiculous. It is good to interrogate our practices to make sure we are putting white people and people of color on an equal playing field. The system doesn't do that on its own!

While each of these were positive developments, they carried a backlash of increasing latent racism among rural and less-educated whites. I love Barack Obama but his election broke some white folks' brains.

Tangible outcomes matter; need to better protect the Voting Rights act. Some efforts don't seem linked to outcomes and progress like people having access to good education, jobs, etc.

A small number of people should not be able to challenge DEI programs in public institutions.

Unfortunately, many of the above are being rolled by, primarily by today's Republican party.

Unfortunately much of the measures taken since the Johnson administration have done more to keep A-A in social bondage rather than advancement. Our major urban areas are examples of this.

we still have a long way to go... but DEI is generally not a very effective tool...

what faculty members?

There needs to be more mentoring by successful African Americans in the education system, rather than promoting equity and inclusion without showing the value of active participation in own educational success.

Focus needs to be on teenage Blacks, Whites, and Hispanics having babies with no hope of breaking the cycle of poverty and crime.

Too subjective

There seems to be a rising pushback to landmark decisions concerning inequality of minority civil rights. Some even think that the civil rights problem has been fixed and no more fixes need to be addressed.

Yet now we have a supreme court and state legislatures hell-bent on taking us back to the 19th century when it comes to voting rights, equality, and personal freedoms; and they're not done yet. Shame on those of us who made it possible for this to happen because of their electoral choices. Pandora's box has been opened, now we're suffering the consequences. This must be stopped.

DEI programs have the reverse impact on AA's, but do put lots of money in the pocket of left wing politicians.

All important, not sure properly enforced

History is important

Racism is real, and we're not even close to curing it.

Having programs causes more careful consideration which improves outcomes for various groups

I think we need to focus on ensuring freedom and civil rights for all Americans. Also, immigration is the big issue in the US.

As they are being implemented, DEI programs in public institutions, esp. high ed, lead to bias against those groups disfavored by the programs.

We have made progress, but so much is yet to be done. The current social climate and political division is undermining that progress.

n/a

I think the deeply racist among us resented the election of Obama and thing BLM is a terrorist organization, these events negatively impacted the community by enhancing the racist beliefs they already held

Many of the equality programs have lead to reverse equality. They have also played a role if causing more division and exclusion.

Discrimination within this country is reversing and that is NOT how we change discrimination in this country. It's all or nothing!

I think the right to an abortion was significant for women's rights but you know. People trying to take that away again.

We are still no doing enough. I feel we have gone backwards with civil rights once Trump became President.

We need to realize we are all humans & we need to stop hating & get along. We are equal no matter who we are- women,black, Asian, Native American,whatever your religious or spiritual beliefs, trans,gay it doesn't matter. Let's get along. Be kind & accept others.

I do not mind the Black Lives Matter groups, but it is not only black lives that matter.

We need to remember ALL men and WOMEN are equal.

When African Americans succeed, so does the county, state and country.

White males don't get accepted to college park anymore.

I say somewhat significant because these were positive events. However, the reaction to the positive event creates a negative reaction. Such as having Obama become president the negative reaction was to have djt run for the office.

The oppression of African Americans is so ingrained in this country that it makes it very difficult to make progress in civil rights. I think we have gone backwards in the past 7 years instead of forward.

Troubled by the increase in abusive language and negative perception of DEI from some individuals and groups. These programs are important!

While the intent was significant the impact on African Americans has not been as beneficial and equitable as it should be.

DEI was an extreme left wing elitist concept that has now been exposed as harmful

So grateful for this question! As a Caucasian, I know that others' experiences add to the fabric of our society, and when our whole population is lifted up, so is the country.

DEI is making difference

I think the vehemence of right-wing voters and rise of the alt right after President Obama left office is a sad reflection on how far as a country we still need to go. It is amazing and wonderful that we have had our first Black president. It will be even more incredible when he stops being the first and only.

Legal decisions that protect rights seem to me to be the most significant events because they establish what MUST be done. While Obama's two terms as President were important for lots of reasons, I can't think of any way his presence affected people's civil rights. I think BLM may have helped civil rights by

increasing police accountability and I think DEI programs are generally helpful.  
 Unfortunately I feel like some of the protests and equity requirements cause a backlash. There are still many factions that hold racist views, unfortunately  
 I think Black Lives Matter and DEI have ultimately negatively impacted African Americans.  
 Laws were passed but not consistently enforced. Laws don't change personal attitudes.  
 The backlash against diversity, equity, and inclusion programs is stunning and sad.  
 The survey should have included the programs from the 70s and 80s that required companies, government employers, and colleges to recruit more African Americans to work in management positions or to attend university.  
 UNFORTUNATELY, MAGA FOOLS HAVE DIMINISHED THE WORK WE DID FOR DECADES. WE NEED SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE.  
 Government intervention is important for this issue  
 DEI programs should be supported  
 To assume that the US is past the need to legislate equal rights is wrong and needs to continue to be supported.  
 Thank you for this!...  
 No doubt that this SCOTUS will further gut the Civil Rights and Voting Rights acts which breaks my heart. Since the Voting Rights Act is being watered down by Court decisions \_ I fear that conditions will revert to pre Act discrimination  
 Republican pressure to reduce access to voting, to eliminate DEI programs and staff, and to disparage the BLM movement are very discouraging and frightening for the future.  
 Unsure about the diversity, equity, and inclusion programs because they feel as if they are a double-edged sword, both helping and hurting African Americans. From what I've heard and seen, many of them tend not to do much, except act as an arm for a Human Resources department.  
 The more you talk about people being different, the more different it makes them. Stop talking about it.  
 Seems like all the government does hurts rather than helps.  
 Again -- the elected officials only did what they would benefit from --- They don't care about the results.  
 DEI and ESG are harmful and are wrecking America.  
 Black Lives Matters is a Terrorist Organization!! Why you supporting this ???  
 BLM corruption & DEI implosion have forever tainted those 2 movements. People should advance in school & our society based on merit !  
 DEI is a big waste of money and makes black people think they are stupid and can not advance without help  
 The playing field is level - there are only perceived barriers now. Parent' lack of involvement is a problem. With good parenting and well supported teachers is key. Maryland has one of the highest per student funding. Wes Moore with the support of his mother made a childhood correction - now he is governor  
 DEI is a stalking horse for Marxist totalitarianism. Much worse than Affirmative Action.  
 DEI is a scourge to race relations as it fosters the idea that Blacks cannot succeed without these programs because Whites are inherently racists  
 The only significant positive impact on any person is good, valuable education and jobs.  
 DEI is divisive and a form of racial discrimination. Any discrimination of any kind is unacceptable. Haven't we learned this yet?  
 DEI needs to be removed !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!  
 DEI has become a cult reducing and undermining the good things intended.  
 End DEI; Black Lives Matter-evidence of corruption by leadership  
 Emergence of some of these events have had negative impacts.

President Obama set race relations back by about 50 years. His impact was very negative. Today it is symbolism over substance... getting equivalent schooling and being able to exercise voting sure was substance!

Not sure I understand the first question. "Separate but equal" had a significantly negative impact on civil rights for African Americans.

The latter two items are negatively impacting the civil rights of African Americans. Whenever faculty members submit questions that affect only one racial group they have negatively impacted the character of their school and the idea of true diversity.

Diversity equity and inclusion has done more to disunify the American people. Minority members are taught to resent their situation rather than aspire to better. Majority members, particularly men, are blamed for all evil and are routinely disparaged and discriminated against. We are more divided than we have ever been since Martin Luther King pulled us all in the right direction.

I have grown very opposed to the DEI programs as tarnishing merit-based programs too heavily. BLM has proven to be a futile organization, the BLM executives have profited from this organization. Obama failed to diversify and include all races. He failed as a leader. He had opportunities to stand up to ISLAM and HAMAS but showed weakness. Obama negotiated with terrorist which weakened this country.

To often people with "privilege" (white or highly educated or having power) THINK they know what is best for others, but it is not always the case and there is often backlash. The rise of Trump is just one example of "progressives" trying to solve other peoples issues because they believe they know how others should live.

The process is NOT complete.

There needed to be an option to indicate negatively impacting the civil rights for African Americans. U.S. becoming more divided by BLM, DEI, etc.

Typical issues from liberal college professors.

Years ago committed to working hard to treat all people the same, it seems that progress in equal treatment has slowed since 2010.

Reverse discrimination is not a positive step forward.

Obama did not help black citizens. BLM is/was a corrupt scheme. DEI is racist.

BLM is a Marxist group. Obama liked Saul Alinsky who was a Marxist. DEI goes against all that MLK stood for. Why are schools pushing DEI? Equity is NOT equality!

Black Lives Matter did a lot to enrich the leaders of the movement but little else. DEI has had a tremendously negative impact on African American communities. It is insulting to assume that any one group of people cannot succeed unless they are given an edge or extra advantage.

I truly believe that we all are created equal but as long as we keep having division there is no point. Why do we need a Black Lives Matter. All lives Matter. Why should there be NAACP, why should schools that receive government funding be allowed to have separate graduation for different ethnic groups. Our government is the cause of all this stuff and it needs to stop.

Black lives matter and DEI have caused great harm to this country.

The Black Lives Matter Movement has had a negative impact on people of color since that movement fleeced businesses and never lifted a finger for anyone except their leaders. The DEI is racist since it assumes that people other than white are not competent to succeed without the help of well meaning guilty whites. It is out and out discrimination which is illegal. White men in particular are treated with no respect.

DEI might have good intentions but it will harm students especially in grading practices as I understand it. BLM is a racist group who collected money for themselves and not for the good of people. They are like white supremacists. They incited riots and fires and never prosecuted.

I think the black lives matter movement had a negative effect. It led to more pushback against DEI programs which should have a positive impact.

Tired of seeing Black Lives Matter BS. Only racists see color.

Obama's election was a watershed event for African Americans. Black Lives Matter has a negative perception problem with citizens. DEI is being crammed down people's throats and there is a rebellion to it.

School curriculum should go back to basics: reading, writing, arithmetic.

Educate children at an early age about equality for all, no matter what race, religion or identity.

The toxic effect of personal racism has not been diminished by any of the above.

I think that these most recent historical events are divisive instead of healing. All lives are equal and no one group should be allowed to segregate themselves from others because of their ethnicity, religious beliefs or preferences.

Diversity and inclusion are important - you need all voices at the table. Mandated equity is not possible, unless you mandate poverty.

Another portion of the above question could have been: "Changes in the past 2-3 years to voting rights and re-districting of the voting maps." (Responses may have shown a reverse in responses)

Black Lives Matters and DEI have done more harm to the black community than good. In fact I would say those movements have taken back race relations 50 years. BLM promoted violence and stole money from those they were supposed to be helping, and DEI teaches black students they are not equal in IQ to their white counterparts.

Very significant in bad ways

Stop letting our government & media dividing all people. 98 percent of people live in harmony. The old saying divide and conquer is our government motto. Shame on the media & our government for this. Also hire people on Merit, not color.

The recent federal attack on affirmative action in the college admissions process has been disturbing to me as a citizen. I know how important affirmative action is to securing equity in opportunity in this country

Me being a white man don't have any idea really, but I feel DEI is not going to help people of any color

I think those behind the black lives matter movement are to not be trusted, though the message is respectable. I'll always stand behind an organization against hate to some extent at least.

its good for everyone to be equal and we should keep pushing for it

I have no comments

Nope

Barack made race relations worse. He is a complete fraud. Black Lives Matter is a horrible and corrupt organization. They are also making things worse and that's how they make money. They WANT chaos as does Barack. He was horrible.

too many DEI topics

Civil rights for African Americans have improved significantly and should continue to make more progress for all Americans.

DEI is an important concept, but clearly there is a significant portion of our population that needs a lot of education and understanding about these concepts. DEI cannot be legislated or forced without creating a strong response - as we are seeing today with MAGA.

Some companies, institutions, et cetera use their DEI programs to appear as if they care, but only really to feel good about themselves or get a better diversity rating. However, even they have these programs begrudgingly, I think they still have the potential to make an impact.

BLM did not oversee its finances and did not really help. DEI programs are not helpful. I like MLK idea that we should judge people on their character not their skin color. Who cares what a person's color is. Be kind and work hard.

All people need to be treated equally regardless of their race, ethnicity, sex, heritage, color, etc.  
 I think the last two events more negatively than positively impacted civil rights for all.  
 Things have steadily improved over my lifetime. Currently, I worry about disenfranchising voters around the country.  
 These are my answers as a white man, obviously I don't have the same perspective and I'm willing to say I could be wrong  
 Nothing to say.  
 Prejudice now rampant.  
 All lives matter, BLM racist. Meritocracy not DEI  
 The DEI programs at the workplace just made things worse. Same bad behavior, different day. And this was black on white aggression.  
 we've gone forward, but there's been some back stepping with efforts to reduce voting rights  
 As a black american this resonates with me and I support the improvement of my people  
 Everyone needs to stop racism. Blacks need some kind of restitution to even come near the income whites have  
 Although some of these acts and past events had a negative impact in other ways in the black community, they absolutely gave and continue to give the black community confidence and resources to succeed in the same way as their peers.  
 Getting rid of the vestiges of redlining and housing inequity is the next step.  
 It is a shame that we have to legislate human equality and respect for diversity, but what has to happen has to happen.  
 African Americans have been disadvantaged ever since they were brought to this country. They are still being disadvantaged even with the success of some. This country needs to do some kind of reparation to rectify the wrong imposed on African Americans.  
 BLM and DEI were reactionary to what was already occurring in America at the time. There was nothing revolutionary about protests and in a lot of cases change has yet to be made. If anything the two just exposed the true feeling of many Americans, just like the election of Barack Obama.  
 DEI is crumbling as we see it today. George Floyd was let down by the penal system. Years of incarceration with no skills to show except illegal drug use. He should have been rehabilitated in order to become a productive citizen. I feel bad for his demise as the system failed him.  
 This question should be on a likert scale: How significant were the following event on impacting the civil rights of African Americans? 1-7.  
 Even though the "separate but equal" schooling has ended, students of color have remained targets of unnecessary disciplinary actions, over the top consequences, unfair treatment, and just flat out racism. Mainly in middle school and high schools in Anne Arundel County.  
 Equal opportunities for jobs, education, and life in general was enough. The whole point was to give everyone a level playing field.  
 Given where the country is, eliminating affirmative action for higher education and minimizing DEI suggests that whatever progress was made is slowly being reversed. These cuts seem to impact black people directly. It makes you wonder why there is such an effort to eliminate advancements that attempt to make the playing field more level.  
 We were making slow but positive progress and have gone backwards.  
 As a Hispanic resident I feel we are not addressing the culture of Black poverty specific to the folks that live in Annapolis and Baltimore. This is a separate problem from the institutionalized racism in this country.  
 This is not what this country needs, it's out of control and is causing strife everywhere.  
 The fact that we need to tell grown adults how to be nice to other people and be inclusive, and respect

diversity should speak for itself

Black Lives Matter and DEI have caused more harm than good. Country is more divided today.

These are loaded questions and to what end other than to promote discontent.

Obama set us back 75 years in race relations, he was the great divider.

Obama's policies, race baiting organizations like BLM and DEI programs in general have done more damage to race relations than the KKK and white supremacists.

All people are created equal-stop dividing us and treating some that they cannot achieve success and excellence

DEI is unfair and steals the rights of some in order to hand privileges to others. UNFAIR!

Any policy program that attempts to advance people based on anything other than meritocracy eventually will end up causing harm to society in general.

The emergence of Black lives Matter, was not fully understood and the whole point was for people to understand that Black lives matter as much as any other race. A lot of great invention have come from power black minds and successful black people. But we still don't get the respect that we deserve just like everyone else.

Why the focus on this one ethnic group? How about we focus on merit?

The above mentioned were/are attempts at making progress for African-Americans. Considering the oppression that many have been exposed to in the past and currently. African-Americans are owed reparations and should be made whole.

WRT the issue of DEI programs, again, I honestly don't know how this will settle but clearly it's touching a nerve in many many people, both for and against and thus deserves the awareness of the public — perhaps more opportunities to learn either public forums, coverage by the local media (including the new Baltimore Banner) and by local radio and tv stations, including NPR & WMPT.

I think Black Lives Matter was a good cause but the website being a scam and the money being lost kind of took away from the meaning of it, I wish that there was more control over the movement and that it was done more about spreading positivity rather than showing the hate.

the insignificant responses are on positive impact. BLM and DEI damage their civil rights and society The racism claims today are a propaganda farce. I have lived through the progress that people on the political left are claiming never happened, and I call BS. The only thing these claims will do is further divide the country and lead to a bad outcome.

DEI means injustice to someone. Need to be equal to everyone.

Black Lives Matters are lead by foreign/socialist groups not your average Black person. Obama stirs up things with his announcements after killing in Florida. Young people in schools should not be made to hear about gender change, sexual activity and have to make a choice as sex they want to be. I'm a nurse and the surgeries are dangerous and there are many suicides afterworth. Ages should be over 18 years as you can serve in military, so should you make your choices then. Adolescence is hard to deal with on it's own without pressure from schools and so called counselors.

BLM and DEI are so militant that they're having a negative affect on people.

Everyone just needs to get along. I'm sick & tired of people playing the race & gender card to get something for nothing. Everyone should work hard to get an education & make a life for themselves & stop placing blame on others for their failures

America was less divided before Obama and all this dei is causing more division

DEI is not being effectively applied. It's a political movement that has spun out of control. Interview everyone, but hire the best candidate. The most qualified candidate.

DEI has a negative impact when people perceive that people are hired only because of physical characteristics. This does more harm than good.

You cannot change historical facts....

BLM is a scam

Unfortunately the Blacklives matter movement led to defunding the police and elimination of cash bail, both of which seem to have increased crime and recidivism in criminal justice

I was assuming the question implies that all the impacts have been positive, with I disagree with. Offering "significantly positive" or "significantly negative" would have cleared this up.

ALL LIVES MATTER !

DEI is coddling - diversity comes in all forms not just visible.

Obama divided us, black lives matter was a bunch of people enriching themselves, a shame for the majority of responsible people of color



## Appendix J: National Issues – Most Serious

(1) Rampant denial of objective ground truth is widespread and extremely dangerous to our society. (2) The huge wealth disparity we have 'achieved'; is politically and socially destabilizing. (3) To a slightly lesser(relative) extent, I am also concerned about the dangers of rising isolationism.

A country without borders  
A non functioning legislative branch  
A President who is not able to run this country because of his cognitive disorder and who has political puppets running the country  
A weak President, which may result in safety for citizens  
Ability of the federal government to function at all, or to function effectively, due to problems in Congress from extremists or near-extremists.  
Abortion rights  
Acrimony and the inability to find national consensus  
affordable and regular access to healthcare, full healthcare rights for women  
Affordable housing. We keep hearing inflation is down, but in my experience, my lease is being renewed at a 35% rent increase. Quite frankly, there is no where less expensive to go.  
Allowing illegal aliens into our country by the thousands is causing major problems. We now have millions of illegal aliens from many countries entering our southern borders illegally and we are again borrowing from Peter to Pay Paul and in that respect the different groups that are having funds taken away to buy these illegals apple phones and \$1,000 gift cards, putting them up in public schools with our children staying home AGAIN to learn.  
There are not enough police that can keep the peace in our country or keep crime down as we do not know who is crossing our boarders at this point. Again, these above things are democratically implemented and I and the majority of the US is tired of it.  
Allowing people of ignorance, lies, fraud be in power in the federal government - similar to when Hitler devastated the Jewish population or when the U.S. Army eradicated Native populations, not to mention the psychological, emotional, and possible irreversible damage done when the ones in power show cowardice, disrespect, and 5th grade mentality and emotionality.  
an open border that is OUT of CONTROL and all of the crime due to it. but we are SO worried about other countries borders, just not our own.

Anti-intellectualism and the subsequent rise of nationalism/facism.  
 Because of ex-president Donald Trump, hatred is now acceptable and encouraged.  
 Being mislead by false / fake news  
 Biden's open borders is THE most disgraceful and detrimental issue that affects Americans with loss of jobs to  
 illegals and the criminals coming in and killing & raping Americans.  
 Border control  
 Border INSECURITY  
 Border needs to be closed we are being invaded  
 border patrol and letting in illegal immigrants; offering illegal immigrants food, shelter, ability to vote.  
 Border protection. Impacts crime, disease, overpopulation, tax increases to handle mass amount of new citizens.  
 Border security  
 Border security.  
 Brain Rot  
 Capitalism.  
 Chance of world war  
 China  
 China and Russia  
 China overtaking the USA as the #1 superpower in the world  
 China, Russia and not closing our borders!  
 China, Russia, North Korea and middle eastern countries relationships. Threaten democracy  
 Citizens often have to work more in order to make a living due to the ever rising costs of living and prices of  
 products such as food. Some people are able to just make ends meet but that leaves almost no time to focus on  
 themselves.  
 Civil society. Can't we get along without threatening each other? Discuss things, don't be violent.

climate and threat to democracy  
 climate change  
 Climate change and ALL players in DC.  
 Climate change and ecological collapse  
 Consistency in foreign policy  
 Corporate lobbying, everything is expensive and not up to standard compared to the rest of the world because of  
 lobbying to keep people beneath the rich and powerful, examples include car dependent infrastructure because of  
 oil companies, pharma companies making insulin 50x more expensive then it costs to make, gun control because  
 the NRA benefits from loose gun laws, religious authorities denying abortions rights (not a corporation but it acts  
 like one) , denial/downplay of climate change.  
 Corporate profits skyrocketing, concentration of wealth, and slow income earnings increases.

Corrupt members of congress  
corruption  
cost of living  
cost of living  
Cost of living and the cost of upward mobility  
cost of living crisis  
Cost of living.  
crime  
Crime and lack of prosecution of criminals  
Crime, Drugs  
Cyber attacks  
Dealing with China to keep it from weakening the American economy.  
debt  
Declining school scores (which existed before covid but are always blamed on covid) and the economy.  
Decreased quality of life  
Deep divisions within the American culture that are deepened by the push for DEI.  
Deliberate interference by Russia and other foreign actors to divide us and elect a dictator to destroy our  
democracy  
Democracy  
Democracy and voter access  
DEMOCRACY is at stake! The issue that a man who has been indicted of 91 counts of crimes is the Republican  
nominee for President. This is the scariest thing for the entire world.  
Democrats and Republicans not working together.  
Destruction of our system of government by Republicans  
Destruction of Western civilization from within our own country  
Discrimination  
Discrimination of people who are immigrants based on what one party says and believes  
disfunction of national government  
Disinformation and divisiveness  
Disinformation that leads to a divided nation.  
Divided Congress  
divided nation  
Division among Americans, Poor teacher educator pipeline, American involvement in multiple conflicts abroad.  
Division and certain news outlets spreading falsities  
Division and hate  
Division and hatred  
  
Division and racial tensions  
Division between political parties  
Division in government...inability to work together for positive issues such as infrastructure, education, economic growth.

divisive influences tearing us apart and reducing civility between people  
Divisive political views, crime, term limits for congress and senate  
Divisiveness  
Divisiveness - Each party, group, and ethnicity, demonizing groups who have differing views.  
The retaliations for  
people expressing their thoughts on either side of an issue.  
Divisiveness and Party over nation  
DJT  
Domestic terrorism  
Donald J Trump and Christian nationalism  
Donald Trump  
Donald Trump - the election  
Donald Trump and extremists in the House and Senate.  
Donald trump and his followers!  
Donald Trump and MAGA  
Donald Trump and the MAGA movement  
Donald Trump being reelected  
Donald Trump is running for President again  
Donald Trump running for President and the demise of moderate Republicans  
Donald Trump, his followers and those who perpetrate their divisiveness...  
Drugs  
Dysfunction in Congress and its inability, or lack of will, to actually lead and govern.  
Immigration is a prime  
example.  
Economic damage  
Economic instability  
Economic issues  
Economic stability for one's self and loved ones  
economic standings  
Economics and security  
Economy  
economy and giving money to other countries  
Economy and illegal immigration  
Educational policy and effectuation shortcomings  
Electing a President that understands how words and rhetoric DO matter. We are members of  
NATO and should  
stay in this organization. Diplomacy is 24/7 for politicians and those that seek high office.  
Election of legislators that do not seek ways to solve problems, that lie and are not able to  
function as policy  
makers because they are unqualified.  
Election of the President of the U.S.  
Electoral College  
Environmental Issues and Protecting US Borders  
Equal access to reproductive care  
Erosion of personal rights including voting rights  
Erosion of rights

Even thinking about voting for Donald Trump!

#### EXISTENTIAL THREATS TO DEMOCRACY.

Extreme partisanship and selfishness

Extreme partisanship making any attempt at addressing major problems impossible.

Extreme polarization of voters and inhumane treatment of immigrants seeking asylum.

Extreme views on issues with no listening and compromise tolerated.

Facts are no longer facts. Science is demeaned. Lying is rampant. And intolerance rules.

Failed border Biden policies. Crime. Fentanyl killing Americans.

failed leadership in congress - the political divide between republicans and democrats must be fixed before this

nation can move forward on anything. Trump and Biden have both proven they are not the one to bring the parties

together. We need a new leader!

Failing to support Ukraine and Israel war funding, failure will impact America with more terror attacks and possible

WWIII by Russian and Iran's aggression.

Failure of the Republican Party to disavow Trump and be a true Conservative Party as opposed to a cult that

threatens to undo our democracy

Failure to teach and support critical thinking in school

Fascism

fascism being embraced by GQP and evangelicals.

Federal debt

Financial instability, as someone apart of Gen Z, I cannot find a job and ive applied to over 156 in the last month.

Rent is ridiculously high. Inflation has crippled me and limited my growth as an adult.

Financial instability.

Financial stability and Mental Health

Flux of illegal immigrants

Funding foreign conflicts that needlessly puts the nation in further debt

Funding to Ukraine

Funding wars that are not ours

Future Women's Rights

Geo-political tensions domestically and abroad  
germandering

Gerrymandering, corporate citizenship, super PACs, House and Senate, ethics, violations,  
extreme conservative,

right wing opinion

#### GIVING GENOCIDE MONEY TO ISRAEL

Global competition of American goods and services

Governance at the national level (particularly Congress) and the lack of trust (not all of which is warranted or us

based on mis-/disinformation) in government employees and institutions.

government and individual debt

Government corruption and incompetence.

greed

Growing influence of right-wing Christian involvement in schools, courts, women's healthcare needs

gun violence

Handling of illegal immigrants.

Hate, discrimination of others no matter who they are, their religion, spirituality, nationality, gender. Whatever. We

need to find kindness & acceptance. You don't need to be someone else just let them be who they are. Next to that

is our environment if we don't save it we all die.

Hatred/lies spread by Trump and MAGA supporters

Having a rapist, and want-to-be dictator as a possible president. How is this possible?

That's the problem that needs to be fixed.

Health

Healthcare

Healthcare and housing, i think? Public transportation is pretty poor in more areas as well, until you reach dense

cities.

Healthcare and Wages

high number of ILLEGAL immigrants entering U.S. (not vetting IMMEDIATELY!) and potential danger of some of

them with criminal backgrounds causing all kinds of "attacks" on innocent residents of the U.S.

Higher taxes

Home ownership

Homelessness

Housing costs and accessibility

Hugh invasion by Illegal Aliens.

I am horrified by the percentage of citizens who have fallen for the ex-president's claims of vote fraud in the 2020

election and dread what he'll do in this election cycle.

I believe that the more foreign refugees that are allowed to enter the country under this safe sanctuary policy.

Hurts the everyday American citizen that has to work for everything they have and pay taxes on top of that. Not

saying that I don't support helping people, at the end of the day everything that goes into their pockets has to

come out of ours and our children's.

I think a lot of us citizens are facing the "unknown" because many residents are unaware of what is going around

them and how the government isn't being completely honest with us

I would say the fact that as a 20 year old I am already preparing to live with my parents until my late adulthood

because I will NEVER be able to afford to live on my own (Many other people my age also feel this way)

Identity politics and culture clash.

If Trump elected

If Trump gets reelected.

Ignorance of our Youth will lead to decline in innovation and more acceptance of conspiracy theories and other

non-fact based issues that will further divide the country.

illegal aliens and the impact of the invasion on basic services and government spending

Illegal boarder crossings

Illegal immigration

Illegal immigrants

Illegal immigrants committing heinous crime after receiving 10,000 debit cards freebies and free housing.

Ridiculous.

Illegal immigrants taking over our schools Hunger in America

illegal immigration

Illegal immigration , Border Security

Illegal immigration and its eroding of labor unions. Ever hear of the carpenter's union anymore? Painter's union?

Gone forever as greed searches out those willing to work for less in order to maximize profits for those that employ

these illegals.

illegal immigration and lack of government transparency

Illegal immigration and our open border!

illegal immigration and total lack of enforcement of current laws

Illegal Immigration crisis

Illegal Immigration which effects available jobs to legal immigrants and citizens

illegal immigration, moral decline, excess government spending

illegal immigration, open borders

illegal immigration, which has impacted increase of crime, increase of overtaxing existing systems, taking away

benefits from legal residents to help millions of others who have broken our law, increased inflation, taking away

jobs from legal citizens who already are already having a hard time getting jobs, burdening our school systems,

taking away resources from citizens like schools, hotels. It has become an unbudgeted mandate that will financially

bankrupt our country if it continues.

Illegal immigration.

Illegal immigration. Unserious border control policies.

Illegal migrants entering the country

Illegals crossing our borders the current President is making it dangerous for everyone

Illegals crossing the border unchecked

Immigrants coming into this country and being catered to. Homeless, cost of living verses pay

immigration  
immigration , taxation  
Immigration (Rule of Law)  
Immigration and border on drugs and national security  
Immigration crisis  
immigration Enforce the Laws of these United States  
Immigration-the need to protect our borders  
Immigration, allowing illegal immigrants to work in the US and providing them social services.  
Immigration, terrorism, weak president  
Immoral narcissist known as Trump.  
Impeach Biden asap  
Inability of government to work together to improve our nation  
Inability of the two parties to work together to improve our country  
Income inequality  
Income inequality, high cost of living/housing, especially for younger generations  
Incompetent Congress  
Increasing income/wealth inequity  
Increasing likelihood of war on several fronts  
Incredible percentage of electorate stubbornly holding opinions that are not backed by facts or common sense  
resulting in a real and severe threat to our democracy.  
Inept Congress and imbalanced Supreme Court  
Ineptitude of Congress to govern  
inflation  
inflation and cost of living, houseless persons  
inflation and cost of living, the value of the dollar.. etc.  
Inflation and higher taxes  
Inflation and its impact on food prices  
Inflation and lack of education  
inflation and the economy  
Inflation as it is causing homelessness to increase, loss of jobs as many do not pay enough to support expenses,  
hunger as food costs has increased, and overall satisfaction of life as lowered as it has become harder to live  
especially with families.  
inflation due to increased government spending and printing of dollars, thus devaluing consumer purchasing power  
and confidence  
Inflation of food, utilities, rent, taxes  
Inflation rate  
Inflation, cost of living  
Influence of foreign governments on the election  
Insane "progressive" policies and ideologies.  
Intentional failure of federal government to properly enforce laws (eg. border immigration) or the willing abuse of  
law enforcement and courts to target political opponents (lawfare)



Isolation

Israel Palestine

It is too expensive to live. Careers do not exist anymore. It's nearly impossible to find a job, afford groceries,

medical bills, childcare, and housing.

Joe Biden

Joe Biden - and hiring people on color vs who can do the job. Color does not matter, job performance does. We

also need voter ID.

keeping our republic

Keeping Trump out of office

Keeping Trump out of office.

Keeping Trump out of the White House.

Lack of bipartisanship and rigid political divisions in society.

Lack of charging and locking up criminals.

Lack of compromise

Lack of critical thinking which is causing division

Lack of cultural cohesion and trust in any information

Lack of good education and healthcare

Lack of immediate support for Ukraine. If the US does not support Ukraine, the next step will be for China to

attempt to take over Taiwan. China will use the Ukraine analogy that the US doesn't want to get involved and will

not attempt to stop China.

Lack of leadership

Lack of security of southern border. Illegal immigration must be eliminated so legal immigration can be reformed.

Land taxes. they keep going up and I work 2 jobs and still can't save money!

Lawmakers imposing their religious beliefs on everyone.

Lawmakers who do not care about the people, but only about their own agenda, or remaining in office.

Liberals/Socialists

limitations on abortion, family planning

Loss of democracy

MAGA supporters.

MAGA, Donald Trump, MTG, Lauren Bobert, etc.....

Magas. The combination of ignorance and hate they have.

Maintaining democracy

Manipulation and censorship of the people by government or by politicians. AI will make it even harder to discern

the truth. The influx of government dependent migrants will strain everything - economically and socially. The

propped up stock market will ultimately crash. Hyperinflation is also a concern. Very serious.

media influencers pushing anger and violence against others

Middle East issues

misinformation

Misinformation propagated by China and Russia

MONEY, NOT HAVING ENOUGH! We can barely survive with this cost of living. I will never move out unless

something changes

most current Federal policies are bad and need to be replaced ASAP

movement to make US a "Christian" nation with extreme Christian values imposed on everyone

N/A

national debt

National debt and inflation, the economy is struggling

National security

National security due to our open border policy by executive orders and not following our laws.

national security/border security

nationalism and the desire for isolation by many

nationalists.

Need to build up our Military.

NO COMMON SENSE

No trust in government, and poor programs that weaken our country

Not assisting Ukraine in their pushback against Russia and not removing Israel's Prime minister

Not enough gun control.

November's election

Oligarchical control of our political system.

Open border

Open border migration

Open borders

Open borders with no knowledge of who is coming into our country.

Opened borders

Our crooked government and the invasion across the southern border.

Our democracy is at stake with the upcoming elections. Donald Trump is a menace to the future democracy of

America. Joe Biden is just too old to do the job effectively, and he has not been able to bring the type of experts

into the White House so they can deal with our current challenges.

Our dysfunctional Congress and hyper partisanship

Our economy & having 2 incompetent men running for President

Our lack of funding Ukraine and our support of Israel when they have gone too far

our mounting national debt is extremely serious and will negatively effect our future economy and generations.

Our open border!!!!

Our political system has been hijacked by corporate and political interests both inside and outside the United

States for the explicit purpose of destabilizing our admittedly fragile (by design) democracy.

They are doing this by

buying seats in our governing bodies and defunding our institutions, starting largely with education, transportation, and affordable housing. We must rout these bad actors from their positions of power and expose their origins. We must also refortify our institutions and the public trust which keeps them robust. Our two largest parties are not in line with the views of most residents. Too far left and too far right. Having a person convicted of fraud running for office is a sad representation of America. out of control illegal immigration  
 Overall, economic access; thr impact of the border on outlr national security; the goal to raise LBGTQ+ “rights”  
 whije destroyoying our children. Nothing good will develop ftom neglect ing their mental health. . Parents of children who commit crimes.....Parents need to be held responsible.  
 Partisanship that keeps Congress from doing anything worthwhile  
 Partisanship within the Congress  
 Patriotism  
 peace in the world  
 Poisoned political environment. Trump and followers  
 Polarization in politics  
 polarization of the political process  
 Political corruption  
 political corruption and corporate greed.  
 Political disfunction and polarization, election lies  
 Political divide  
 Political divide.  
 political division  
 Political Divisions  
 Political divisions and hate  
 Political divisiveness preventing progress in solving problems.  
  
 Political divisivness.  
 Political dysfunction in the executive and legislative branches.  
 Political extremism and the fact that two broken political parties 1) are the only real options for voters and b) have encouraged political tribalism.  
 Political maturity (or lack thereof)  
 political polarization and lack of willingness of both political parties to collaborate with one another.  
 Political polarization and the radicalism of the Republican Party  
 Political polarization, degradation of truth  
 Politicians  
 Politicians who seek to divide so they may gain power rather than work together on common interests.  
 Possibility of another Trump presidency  
 Possible dictatorship if Republicans win the presidential election  
 Possible election of Donald Trump

possible election of Trump in 2024  
 Possible re-election of donald trump.  
 Possible re-election of Trump, a traitor  
 Possible reelection of Donald Trump and the end of democracy and rule of law  
 Possibly Gas Prices  
 Potential election of Donald Trump as president  
 Potential loss of democracy to an authoritarian country  
 Potential re-election of Donald Trump  
 Poverty and lack of social mobility - which leads to crime and social unrest  
 preservation of democracy and respecting our democratic institutions  
 preservation of our democracy  
 Preserving and protecting our republic from fascism from within.  
 presidential election  
 Price gouging by corporations  
 Probably the control of corporations, which leads to a million more problems  
 Proliferation of Russia's fake news actions  
 propaganda  
 Protecting Democracy and choice  
 Protecting our democracy  
 Providing aid and funding to Ukraine and our Allies in fighting Russian aggression and terrorism organizations  
 Putin  
 Putin and Netanyahu's escalation of violence  
 Putin and Russia. Idiot has nukes and is dumb enough to use them.  
 racial division, ideological hard lines, intolerance to each others, Donald Trump and his cronies,  
 environmental  
 disasters& bad policies, bad balance of power in supreme court, bad immigration policies,  
 and lack of firearms  
 controls and bans. education has fallen way behind other countries. health care system is broken.  
 racism  
 Racism and discrimination  
 Racism and discrimination against conservatives and non-blacks  
 re-election of Donald Trump could lead to economic challenges for middle class, increased  
 political violence &  
 oppression of minority groups  
 Reelection of Trump would be a disaster  
 religion in government  
 Republicans  
  
 Reversal of Roe v Wade leading to other right's removals, dangerous and gut-wrenching for  
 women and other  
 minorities.  
 Right wing conservatives making bad decisions  
 Rise of populism.  
 Rise of the rabidly reactive conservative movement promoted by Trump, that promotes  
 ignorance, distrusts

government, education, and treats minorities as threats to their jobs and ways of life.  
 Rising costs of living in this country and the increasing wealth and power of the 1% and their corporations. Many  
 Americans struggle to make ends meet and the constant increase in rent, food, and utilities while  
 having  
 stagnating wages is going to cause economic disaster, eventually.  
 Rising gasoline prices  
 Russia and China--various activities.  
 safety  
 Saving democracy  
 Saving democracy, the country, as we have known it  
 shootings  
 Shortsightedness about climate change  
 Some of the most serious issues are economic problems and Minority rights and discrimination  
 Staying in NATO. Not elected Trump to alienate other Democratic Countries. Staying together  
 and united to help  
 other NATO countries always.  
 Support for Ukraine  
 Taxes too high and too many government employees who cant get stuff done! Bureaucracy does  
 not solve issues.  
 Terrorism  
 that a traitor is running for president  
 The army of illegal aliens Biden has helped into this country. Can't take care of the  
 homeless here and he adds 10  
 million more.  
 The Boarder, illegals entering the U,S.  
 The border  
 The border crisis  
 The border.  
 The border. illegals. The government only enforcing the laws it wants too, and bypassing law it  
 willnot enforce  
 the corrupt national government  
 The cost of living  
 The cultural divide leading to lack of trust and belief in conspiracies.  
 The current idiot in the White House is really screwing things up -- but HE has no idea what his  
 "support staff" is  
 doing to us!!!!  
 The current President - Biden  
 The current state of our electoral system is one of disrepair. The extent to which the average  
 citizen can afford  
 even the opportunity cost to vote in even the general election (let alone primaries) is a grave  
 abhorrence. It is my  
 firm opinion that voting reform is needed inline with that seen in Alaska, people need to have the  
 opportunity to  
 vote and feel a part of society. Because disillusionment therein does nobody any favors.  
 The danger of Donald Trump

The disappearance of middle-class people. The gap between the very poor and the very rich is ever-widening.

The division of Americans caused by Trump  
the divisiveness between groups in the country.

The election in November

The election of Donald Trump

The election of Donald Trump and its negative effect on our democracy!

The election of the next President

The emergence of fascism, racism, weaponized religion, and stochastic terrorism as promoted and openly

accepted. Rule of Law no longer applies, checks and balances have been obliterated, and accountability for

corruption at the highest levels remain unaddressed.

The environmental crisis

The erosion of democracy by MAGA, Trump and his supporters and allies

The existential threat to our country as we know it, posed by the potential election of Donald Trump.

The fact that half of this country wants Donald Trump to lead them.

The fact that the middle class is disappearing, people are getting poorer while the richer get richer, nobody is doing

anything to help homeless people, they are only trying to get rid of their sleeping places and hide them, from the public streets.

The fact that the upcoming election could destroy our democracy as we know it. We are in danger of losing many

freedoms that we currently hold.

The false info being circulated everywhere, which is causing a strongly divided nation.

The future of the United States as a free and sovereign democratic nation.

the growing militaristic hatred fanned by popular right-wing figures. this is hurting people in the short term and

separating a conscious working class

The immense divide among our citizens.

The inability for people with differing beliefs to work together on an issue.

The ineptness of both the Senate and HOR with respect to timely positive legislation aimed at real problems

The injury to our democracy represented by the hate-mongering, power-hungry narcissism of Donald Trump.

The lack of gun control laws is the most serious national issue facing U.S. residents currently.

The lack of inexpensive energy.

The lack of trust in our government. The current administration has created a very dangerous precedent in the way

it has gone about leading this country.

The lack of unity we have

The massive invasion of military age males entering our country daily, coming for the free stuff and perhaps for

nefarious reasons.

The most serious issue is the possibility that this nation will re-elect Trump, who would be a very dangerous choice

on many levels

the most serious issue is the possible election of Donald Trump

The most serious national issue by far is the potential for Donald Trump to win the 2024 Presidential Election. I

believe he will destroy the civil service bedrock of our federal government, eliminate voting rights, and join with our

international enemies in ways that benefit him personally and harm the US.

The most serious national issue defeating Trump so that democracy remains in place.

The multi-faceted crisis at the U.S. southern border

The national debt

The near blind obsession with MAGA and its de facto leader, who is acting as a shadow president pulling

Congress's strings. The cult of that despicable man may doom the American Experiment.

The negative impact of biased journalism on the civility of people. All of the political lies tear people apart. Every

political party lies. Journalists are biased and uninformed.

The negative impact of Trump and fostering of violence and dissension as a political tool

The next presidential election

The open border is inviting chaos and allowing bad actors from enemy countries and organizations a free pass to wreak havoc upon our nation.

The Open Southern boarder. This will hurt US financially and criminally for decades to come.

The partisanship and lack of civil discourse.

The pervasive presence of anger and violence

The possibility a dictator and criminal may be elected

The possibility of another Trump presidency

The possibility of Donald Trump getting a second term as president. I think that would break us as a nation.

The possibility of Trump being re-elected; and the republican party moving so far right that they are now attacking

their own for being to liberal. own

The possibility that Donald Trump will be elected as President

The possibility that Trump could be elected president

The possible election of Donald Trump

The possible election of Trump

The potential presidency of Trump

The potential re-election of Donald Trump.

the president of the unites states (yes, he is the most serious national issue)

the prevalence of guns; the immorality of our previous president T with the anything goes that came along with his

presidency

The re-election of Trump if it happens

the reduction of trust in our institutions  
 The Republican Party and their views  
 The Republican Party trending towards fascism  
 The rise of "Christian" politics  
 the rise of authoritarianism related to Donald Trump  
 The rise of Christian nationalism into the mainstream of conservative politics  
 The rise of extreme conservatism/fascism  
 the rise of fascism  
 The rise of right wing nationalism, fascism, racism, homophobia, disregard for science  
 The rise of undemocratic attitudes toward government and its institutions  
 The risk to national security in the form of terrorists and foreign agents using illegal immigration as a way to gain entry to the US.  
 The security of our Border, Crime, inflation  
 The state of the economy (national debt and inflation)  
 The survival of democracy in the face of the Trump-led rise of authoritarianism and the resultant election to Congress of active enemies of the Constitution.  
 The threat from immigrants illegally entering the United States. Some people entering illegally have the potential to cause destruction, attacks, and worsening of the economy. The economy is already significantly difficult for some families to deal with and could use the funding that is given to illegal immigrants.  
 The threat of Christian nationalism and far right against our democracy.  
 The threat of Donald Trump  
 The threat of terrorism in our country and the President of the United States is letting them in free of will. The threat of nuclear war from other countries like Russia and China, because our government can't stay focused on the corruption that going on. The corruption of all News Media's telling false and positive lies so that no one knows what the hell is going on truthfully.  
 The threat of WW3 and the demise of our basic human rights, the funding of genocides around the world, and collapse of our entire economic system country wide. Let's not forget, the options for idiots in government and as our president. We are screwed.  
 The threat to American democracy and the post-WWII order  
 The threat to democracy  
 The toxic political environment  
 The Trump run for President.  
 The U.S. becoming a Franco-like (Spain 1939-1975) dictatorship if fascist Donald Trump is elected President in 2024. This will increase violence, negatively impact the U.S. and global economy, and would be difficult to rebuild democratic institutions that Trump and his allies have promised to demolish.



The unsecure border is extremely dangerous for our citizens and our future !  
The unsecure borders that are allowing illegals to enter the country. This is increasing crime because of gangs fighting over drugs, and sex trade. Also, males of military age from countries that oppose us (China, Muslims, etc) are entering who could commit terrorist acts. Even those who are just seeking a better life are draining our resources as many need shelter, welfare, and education.  
The upcoming election is the most serious. If djt wins, I don't think the world or our country will recover from the damage he will do.

the upcoming presidential election  
The war in Israel and international relations with China.  
threat of fascist takeover by the Republican party  
Threat of trump  
Threat of war  
Threat to democracy, existential threat posed by Russia  
Threat to our democracy in upcoming election if Trump wins  
Threats to democracy  
Threats to democracy and civil rights  
threats to democracy and polarized populations  
Threats to Democracy by Donald Trump and his supporters  
Threats to democracy; keeping elections fair in ways that maximize voter participation  
Threats to our democracy by radical groups and politicians at all levels.  
too many to pick just one!!!  
Trump  
Trump and his allies  
Trump and MAGA  
Trump and the Republican party taking our country backwards and threatening our democracy.  
Trump becoming president again  
Trump being re-elected  
Trump!!!!!!!!!!  
Trump.  
Trumpist contempt for democratic process  
Ultra conservative nationalism.  
Unbalanced trade  
unchecked immigration - naive policies, costs, health concerns, and increase crime as a result  
Uncontrolled immigration  
Unemployment  
Unemployment and high price of living  
Unemployment not because there are no jobs but because there isn't enough trade training or any actual work ethic left.  
Unity  
Unsecured border

unstable world with wars and non state actors causing terrorism  
Unsure  
Untrustworthy government  
Voting for the next President.  
voting rights  
Voting rights, access to health care (abortion is health care).  
Wannabe dictator. Loss of rights. Democracy threatened.  
War in Middle East  
War,inflation,division  
Weak leadership in government and corporate interests  
Wealth inequality  
White population pushback on immigration and what is seen as black entitlement.  
Who will be the next President.  
Woke-ism  
Wokeism  
Womans rights, body autonomy, the economic crisis, trans rights and the poor education quality  
Women's Rights  
Womens Rights - (Passing the Equal Rights Amendment - Equal pay for equal work for women),  
abortion rights

## Appendix K: Comments on Israel/Gaza

No matter what Israel does, it will be blamed and attacked .

The world needs to end Hamas

Idiots killing kids in the name of an imaginary friend is an atrocity no matter the backstory.

Israel's existence as an ethnostate is untenable without committing further crimes against humanity.

be more careful with precision ordinance use.

The Israeli government is currently led by authoritarians who see violence as the solution to problems rather than a problem in itself. Until the Israeli electorate corrects that problem, there is little hope for peace in the region.

Actively pursue two-state solution AND enlist Palestinian people in eliminating terrorist groups.

Israel should never have attacked Gaza. It should have negotiated for the release of the hostages... and then decide

Lately, the image that comes to mind is Guernica.

this question is absurd FREE GAZA STOP ASKING FOR OPINIONS

Israel is using its military operation to genocide residents of the Gaza Strip.

genocide is genocide

Israel has engaged in criminal acts of war against too many civilians under the guise of fighting against Hamas. This fight has been a long time coming, but Israel's choices have been absolutely abhorrent and their inability to recognize that they are the problem right now is alarming.

The Israeli Defense Forces need to improve their vaunted discipline and preparedness. They've completely failed their country and imperiled its existence by taking their superiority for granted. Also, Netanyahu needs to go.

Israel needs to finish the job or it will only recur

Hamas are terrorists that have ruled the Gaza strip for more than 20 years without allowing fair voting of other people or other forms of elections to vote Hamas out.

They are committing genocide.

Netanyahu needs to resign. He's been poking the PA in the eye with increasing settlements in the West Bank.

it's complicated!

Israel is committing Genocide. The western world is complicit, and America in particular is at fault for our shipments of weapons to a state complicit in genocide.

Cease fire is needed

It's not our fight.

The two state solution has been proposed by Israel many times, since its foundation. Rejection continues to be from the Palestinian side

This is a generations d conflict which has been reduced to sound bites.

Israel has pursued a strategy that has caused incredible suffering and is immoral and awful

US should stop the killing of non-military in Gaza. 30,000? dead

ISRAEL NEEDS TO BE STOPPED NOW

Israel is a colonial entity committing genocide and should be stopped

B and C apply. What began as a justified response to an horrific attack has turned into a barbaric rampage, pulverizing people and infrastructure. The systematic starvation of Gazans is a war crime.

The killing of the aid workers in clearly marked vehicles I find to be untenable and weakens my long held beliefs in favor of Israel protecting itself

Protect the people of Gaza. Work for a 2-state solution. Stop building more settlements for Israel  
Israel has killed so many Gazans, driven so many of them out of their homes, and destroyed so many of their homes, schools, hospitals, etc that they are very close to having committed ethnic cleansing, if not genocide. I am upset that the U.S. is still providing them with military aid, particularly bombs that they use indiscriminately.

It's war. It would have been better if they were able to provide humanitarian aid to civilians, women and children, but hindsight is 20/20.

Hamas and Palestinians who support them should be wiped off the map forever, no matter the cost  
Having lived in a Mid-east country for 18 months -- the Muslims want to eliminate anyone not of their faith.

dont like either

Israel created Hamas and stood down for 7 hours. The truth of what is actually going on needs to be investigated.

Don't understand why Israel needed US funding - they have plenty of money.

Israel needs to completely and permanently defeat Hamas.

The response is too harsh

Israel needs to treat native palestinians better, improve their conditions

None of the above apply as written, Israel has the right to defend itself and defeat Hamas completely.

Hamas has refused the 2-state solution 5 times. Giving them more land will create a larger enemy for Israel.

Hamas should be destroyed completely

Israel should accept all types of people. War in Gaza is genocide

You can't have peace with someone who desperately wants to kill you.

Hamas is a terrorist group and must be destroyed. Hamas sacrifices the civilians readily and blames Israel for it. Israel gave funds and considerable aid to the Palestinians in the past and the Hamas rulers used the money to make tunnels into Israel and make war.

their current actions amount to genocide

Israel has a right to defend itself. It needs to render Hamas unable to attack Israel in the future

Though October 7 was a horrible event, Israel has taken the opportunity to purge Palestinians of their native land after centuries of Israeli-led, unprovoked attacks on Palestinian civilians and children. I am not impressed with their colonialist, self victimizing rhetoric after psychologically torturing palestinian citizens for years; shutting off utilities, withholding resources, etc. These murders will not go unnoticed in the eyes of the world. Israel's narratives keep changing and I've found it exhausting to try and keep up with the lies.

Israel has been committing genocide for decades

They are doing what they can do given the situation they are in

The current ISR gov't should step down and hold early elections to replace the government, hold trials for war crimes and human rights violations, and end the Palestinian apartheid.

Israel must strike back as hard as they can. War is Hell.

When attacked, fight hard

Israel has a right to defend itself. Unfortunately the insidious nature of the Hamas and others like has complete disregard for others including the population they purport to serve,

Israel has right to defend itself but should have allowed more aid into Gaza earlier.

Hot take but killing people is bad

Gaza and West Bank ruled by Hamas.

Should have done it sooner

Israel has pursued potential solutions on multiple occasions since 1947. While you would certainly seek to minimize civilian casualties when Hamas uses civilians and critical infrastructure as shields from behind which they engage the Israelis the tragic loss of human life is overwhelming.

There should be a one state solution with reparations for the Palestinians.

At this point- I feel Israel is committing crimes against humanity. they should be ashamed and we need to stop funding them asap. they have right to defend themselves but not the right to eradicate a whole country. that is genocide not justice.

They should give the Palestinians their land back

Israel took the situation too far and has taken advantage of the situation.

Most Palestinians are indoctrinated as children to hate and kill Jews thus if Israel stop attacking then Hamas or an organization like it will attack Israel again the future. Therefore, civilians may not be apart of Hamas but support their actions and help them carry out their goals. Furthermore, Hamas uses Palestinians as human shields and manipulatively broadcast their death to the world.

After 9/11 the US did what was necessary to secure and protect against another such attack, RIGHT!  
ISRAEL WILL DO THE SAME.

We shouldn't be giving money to countries for war

Free Palestine.

Israel should have never been occupying Palestine in the first place and should have left them alone. Israel has been staging a genocidal war against Palestine that has been framed as self-defence but has rather been a killing of civilians for over 6 decades

Palestine has the right to exist, Israel has claimed many more lives.

Hamas actually went into Israel and murdered and raped women and children THAT is why Israel started attacking the Gaza Strip, in order to 'weed out' members of Hamas, HOWEVER Israel should have given all of the citizens a fair warning that they were about to destroy everything they have ever known. Plus fighting over land is getting old, the holy land isn't even holy anymore at this point

I think Israeli gov't provoked the bear for far too long because of the occupation of the west bank and bombing Gaza and actively making Palestinian lives worse. I do not agree with Hamas's methods but when you have been beaten to the ground for so long, it's hard to see any other option.

Israel is creating a genocide on the people of Palestine. Shame on them, of all people. The women and children are the true victim in Gaza.

Palestine has a right to defend itself against colonizers.

free Palestine stop funding Israel

Palestinians could have left

Israel is not a good neighbor and has discriminated against Palestinians

they need to finish destroying Hamas

Torn on this issue. Not really sure the best response. It is so complicated! There is no easy answer. I feel so much for the families in Gaza but also the families of hostages.

Israel is being hampered in their efforts to eliminate Hamas

I do not care.

FREE PALESTINE!

## Appendix L: Comments About Any International Issues

The real blame should be with Hamas. Israel under Netanyahu is a bad actor but it has been under attack by Hamas for many years, regardless of what Israel does or does not do. The idea of a Palestinian state is pretty much...DEAD.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE HATE OR THE KILLING OF JEWISH PEOPLE

Israel was blindsided and needed a tough response...now it needs to find a more moderate long term solution.

It's a tricky situation. To put it lightly, Israel has been ham-fisted in their approach to the situation. On the one hand our historical ties in the region lie with Israel and in the defense of the Jewish people; on the other, bebe has got to go. There is no easy solution and our approach (whatever it might be) needs to be handled delicately with cooperation from local partners who are not Israel or Palestine.

This question is much more detailed than the actual responses allowed. I know there are other responses, but it's very complicated to answer here.

No one answered the one question why was Israel having others countries pay Hamas before these attacks and why did it take hours for the military to respond after the attacks started.

Excessive retaliation has failed to compensate for lapses in Israeli intelligence.

The Israeli government's brutal tactics are shameful and disgusting. Israel is supposed to be better than it's enemies.

Palestinian people have been victims since 1919, Treaty of Versailles

Israeli and Jewish people at large have no desire to commit genocide in Gaza but the fanatical right-wing zealot leaders of Israel absolutely do. Ben-Gvir, Smotrich, Netanyahu, and others explicitly desire the destruction of Palestinians and allowing them to continue with their massacre makes us complicit in war crimes. As long as Israel continues to build settlements in the West Bank and operate separate legal systems for Israelis and Palestinians, and refuse to acknowledge or offer reparations for the mass displacement of Palestinians in '48, it is not making a serious attempt at peace. I say this as someone who proudly supports Israel's right to exist.

Neither Hamas nor Netanyahu really want a solution to this problem. Peace is bad for business.

Shameful that the United States is supporting mass indiscriminate slaughter of innocents in Gaza.

More needs to be done to make sure Hamas understands that attacking Israel was a bad decision that resulted in devastating consequences for all involved.

I support Israel's right to exist, but I also support the Palestinian's right to exist. They should not be fighting simply to eradicate the other.

The Palestinian focus is the complete annihilating of Israel and the Jews. Any conciliatory efforts are naive at best.

Israel has played into Hamas' hands by making them relevant when they were going to be made irrelevant by pacts with Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries.

People need to understand that helping other countries makes the world and the US safer.

It is not anti-semitic to not want U.S. aid go to an undemocratic Israeli government whose current leaders want the U.S. to have an undemocratic president (Trump).

Israel has now engaged in war crimes in its pursuit to eliminate Hamas. Our support should be reduced accordingly.

The 2-state solution will fail until the Palestinians become willing to live alongside the Israelis. Right now, their charter calls for the destruction of Israel.

The absurdity of simultaneously dropping bombs and food packages on people (Gaza) shows our longterm Middle East policy needs serious rethinking.

Videos Achilles heel

After over 50 years of occupation, it's way past time to give Palestinians full rights, including to vote, either in a separated Palestine territory, or within a fully integrated Israel. I'm ok with either, but current Israeli government policies look to deny both, which just sets the stage for more October 7th events. Ethnic cleansing by making lives so untenable that 'undesirable' minorities emigrate is still ethnic cleansing.

US aid should be conditioned on humanitarian relief for Gazans.

The plight of the Palestinians must be solved if there is to be a path to stability.

Well, the attack on Israeli citizens by Hamas is deplorable, there is absolutely no excuse for Israel to retaliate by its genocidal actions on the poor people of Gaza. We need to stop Israel by any means necessary.

The war has brought antisemitism out of the woodwork.

Every nation has the right to self defense. But war motivated by vengeance and retribution has too great a cost and is tragically marred with unintended consequences. Human life, all human life, is far too precious. We must strive to protect lives and resolve transgression with peace as the priority.

Israel is acting in self interest and does not truly seek peace. I think we should stop supporting Israel until they address the Palestinian crisis

n/a

Of course Israel has the right to defend themselves given they were attacked first, but that doesn't justify a genocide of the Hamas

Israel's government is committing genocide. This should have been stopped earlier. This isn't just about 10/7/2023 but goes back decades where the world has continually allowed Israel to commit these atrocities and it is long past time for it to end.

The amount of innocent civilians being killed is unacceptable and horrible. Nothing justifies it.

The students in the colleges in this country are being brain washed by social media. They are being fed propaganda regarding the Holocausts not really happening. They are being recruited by "The Squad" that are shamefully passing on their propaganda to young impressionable students. Hamas are terrorist's like Iran and must be stopped from further victimizing Israel and the world.

They are taking their power over Gaza. They are using police power to brutalize civilians and they are killing them inhumanly. I would never support this terrible thing that calls itself a country.

Israel need to stop slaughtering civilians & those trying to help. This is why I am unsure about just helping them now. They have no excuse for slaughtering so many innocents.

This is a biased question. How do I know Israel is at fault for off putting 2 state solution. All of them kill too many people.

Netanyahu defended Israel after being attacked - now he is committing genocide

Israel needs to stop taking other lands with their settlements.

Peace is the answer not war

The American public should not be "blaming President Biden" for not calling for an immediate ceasefire. Israel is its own nation.

This issue is too complex for an easy, pat answer. Israel has a right to exist. The placement of the Israeli state was antagonistic at best. Hamas needs to be eradicated, but not at the expense of the civilians who are caught in the middle. Again, there is no easy answer since Hamas uses the civilians as cover. Anyone who thinks there is an easy answer has not spent any time learning about the history of the area.

It is a very complex issue

Palestinians not Israelis have turned down peace plans

Israel's hard right has capitalized upon the horrendous attack as an opportunity to both wipe out Hamas and grab land. This latter should be condemned

Netanyahu needs to be removed, is fighting intensively to keep his job and stay out of prison. US should

limit support unless he agrees to cease fire.

The options available on this question possess a heavy bias in Israel's favor, despite their iniquitous behavior.

What Israel is currently doing to the people of Gaza is unconscionable. A ceasefire is the only solution. Hamas exists because of an ideology. You cannot wipe out an ideology with bombs.

Stop sending funds to Israel. Keep the money in the US to help the people here.

The civilian losses are tragic, but all Hamas need to do is turn over the hostages to end this. Pretty simple really.

I appreciate the wisdom of a two-state solution. However Israel should never be asked to support the existence of a country that fails to recognize Israel's right to exist and to exist in peace.

Regardless of whether Israel could have avoided the attack, the Israeli response to it has far surpassed any rational or moral justification. The ongoing harm to civilians is completely out of bounds now, and it should be stopped.

Hoping that Israel removes Netanyahu from office. I am worried that scorched earth response will fuel a big rise in anti-semitism, which is already rising. This frightens me. He has done huge damage to the Jewish people, many of whom do not support him

The deaths of the WCK workers showed a complete lack of concern for aid workers and civilians

Israel is at fault for the attack because they were aware it was coming and ignored the warnings.

US SHOULD SANCTION ISRAEL NOW

Israel is committing genocide on the Palestinian people and severely limiting the ability of humanitarian aid workers to reduce the impact on Gaza

Israel must allow more humanitarian aide in to Gaza and avoid killing civilians

I don't know the solution to the Israel/Hamas conflict but what is happening now is not it.

Cease fire to negotiate hostage release

We support Israel but decry Bibi Netanyahu who has become too Old Testament for anyone's good.

Israel has played too great a role in directing US foreign policy for way too long

US should provide aid for defensive purposes. Should no longer provide offensive weapons and should condition any further aid with cease fire and greater humanitarian aid

I believe that Netanyahu was glad to have an excuse to destroy Gaza thinking it will cement his political power

The US should not send weapons to Israel until there is a complete ceasefire and withdrawal of settlers from the West Bank

I have seen first-hand what Israeli governmental policies have done to the lives of Palestinians and find it abhorrent. We need to eliminate support for Israel until it agrees to a 2-state solution and treats the Palestinians the way the Israeli's want to be treated.

I really dont care

Unsure why so many Americans are against Israel defending itself.

Get the NEWS media to start telling the truth about what is happening in the Mid-East, and to stop their "re-working" the facts.

They were attacked. They have a right to defend themselves

Israel will never be safe until Hamas is destroyed. Terrorist organizations must be targeted for eradication as a top priority

This situation is sad, but it is not a US problem - US people who feel so strong (on either side) should feel free to move back there and help correct or impact the situation

The main problem with unlimited and poorly monitored aid to Ukraine is the corruption of the military industrial complex both domestic and most certainly in Ukraine.

Hamas is winning the public relations battle by continuing to place its citizens in jeopardy. It is counting



on the liberals in the US and in Western Europe to be appalled by the civilian deaths (with counts supplied only by Hamas and unverified) and force Israel to cease its military advantage before it can win. We may have ceased our bombings of Germany and Japan during World War II if that war had been fought in the current climate with world wide access to the carnage on a daily basis. Their civilians were just as "innocent" as the Gaza civilians, yet all of these "victims" supported their leaders' actions when the war/attacks began and to some degree should suffer the consequences.

Israel is sowing the seeds of hate in future generations by creating more terrorists in the future than they are extinguishing now.

You phasing is mild, "Causing the deaths," should read, "murdering over 1200 women, children and men." You phrase it as if it was an accident. Sadly, many other questions in this survey avoid use of the hard but true words.

Israel needs to finish the job.

Israel needs to pull out of Gaza immediately. Too many lives have been lost in Gaza.

Should have been a discrimination question about Jewish residents

Even if Israel has not handled the fight correctly (I don't think so), the brutal savage attack by monsters invited a strong response that the US certainly would have exercised if it had been us. Also, the world sent millions of \$\$ to Gaza funding terrorist tunnels and proxies for Iran, so I have only the desire to see this battle fought right to the end.

I am confident Israel did not target civilians and limited its targeting choices to military objectives. Hamas combatants are just as responsible for civilian deaths because they hid among non-combatant civilians. That said, Israel may not have balanced the risk to civilians against military objectives the same way we would have under the same circumstances. In other words, when deciding which military targets were important enough to attack, they likely were willing to accept more risk of civilian casualties than we would have been. It is too easy for our population to criticize Israel's decisions with the extremely limited facts we have available.

Read the Bible about how God chose the children of Iresaet and why along with promissess He made with them and with those wgo would support them.

Why don't you suggest that Muslim neighboring countries do more to provide aid and refuge to Gaza residents. No muslim neighbor is letting them come into their country because they remember when Jordan allowed extremists of Hamas' ilk into their country. They caused chaos and nearly overthrew the legitimate Jordanian government. Israel must relentlessly hunt and destroy the Hamas terror network, just as the US destroyed Japan after the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor.

The two-state solution should never be considered until Hamas, Palestinians agree Israel has a right to exist - that's a LONG way away

unfortunately, civilian casualties are part of war.

Our military aid should come with conditions.

Stop killing and starving innocents

Peace will only be possible when Hamas relinquishes it's desire/intent to kill all Jews.

The current Administration is shamefully opposed to Israel in Defending itself.

The US showed extraordinary weakness regarding 10/07 and has continued to vacillate to the point of contributing to the deaths of Americans even though we have significant military forces in the region - we show weakness at every opportunity.

One way or another we, the United States will need to deal with Iran and China.

Israel needs to destroy Hamas.

Why are our universities allowing antisemitism? Why are politicians like Tailib not censured or removed when she is obviously antisemitic? Why is the entire world NOT backing Israel? By not doing so, they are empowering Hamas. Hamas should be made to return ALL hostages and surrender immediately with NO

release of any of their prisoners. Israel did NOT start this war and what Hamas did to civilians was DISGUSTING!!!!

I cannot think of any other war/conflict where the world expected one side to provide humanitarian aid to the other. Yet Israel is doing just that. Fighting arab terrorists while feeding arabs and being surrounded by arab counties who offer Israel no assistance whatsoever. That is unprecedented!

Ukraine has a reputation for corruption. I don't necessarily trust where the money we provide is going. Whose pockets are being lined including Americans, CIA, etc?. Also it looks like it is a proxy war for USA vs. Russia. We see how all the money in Afghanistan was a waste. We no longer trust our government. I think these questions are slanted to provide a result that only supports the end of violence now.

US need arrange some kind of repayment for our military support overseas.

Why aren't citizens of Gaza attacking Hamas?

Hopefully a two state solution will become reality. The death of the Gaza citizens and starving of the population is wrong.

Israel has created a disaster for civilians and no longer has my support and had damaged our country in the process. Netanyahu has become a terrorist. He did not have the intelligence to target Hamas and has done irreparable damage to Gaza which will take decades to repair.

If Hamas lays down its weapons, there will be peace. If Israel lays down its weapons, it will cease to exist. Israel is well aware of the intent of Hamas against Jews. It is fighting an aggressor who will not back down until all Jews are wiped off the planet. The supporters of Hamas in the United States would be well advised to see the writing on the wall for American Jews.

People should focus more on the humanitarian crisis than the politics

There is no point putting anything in here as the powers that be have already decided what direction all this stuff is going to go.

A 2 state solution is what we would all like to see but it feels very far from possible. genocide cannot be tolerated.

its right to defend when your own civilians were hurt in the attack

I have no opinion.

Biden has betrayed Israel. I am ashamed of Biden and his corrupt administration.

Ukraine is defending its national sovereignty from foreign aggression. Israel has been systematically eliminating Palestinians since the country was founded based on ethnic differences.

Hamas is a criminal organization and should be destroyed.

Hamas is a terrorist organization that needs to be destroyed once and for all.

Without an "endgame," the war will drag on. The efforts of Israel to completely quash Hamas will only result in creating many more recruits for Hamas. Devising a two-state solution is critical to peace in the Middle East, something the current leadership in Israel does NOT support. Continuing the path the Israel is currently following will only serve Iran's and Russia's long-term interests.

None of this is black and white, so I appreciate the nuanced answer options. Israel, like everywhere, has a right to defend itself... but that defense can easily turn too brutal for justification.

I do not support the Israeli government or militia in any way.

I wish the wars would end to prevent people from dying. Having disagreements is fine but stop killing people.

President Biden is double sided on this issue and he needs to fully support Israel the way that President Truman did.

Israel has used excessive and force that is too broad

A 2 state solution is really the only viable solution. However, government by Hamas is not an option as Hamas wants the destruction of Israel.

The above questions are not nuanced enough. Hamas is thoroughly integrated into Gazan society. They

will not stop attacking Israel so I sympathize with Israel on that point. More aid should have been let into Gaza sooner. Also, I do not see the same world outrage expressed about Russia destroying and killing civilians in Ukraine; particularly when Ukraine did not attack Russia as Hamas attacked Israel.

The middle east has been a mess my entire life. Both sides are at fault. It won't get better until all parties decide to cooperate to attain peace.

This is a genocide and Israel needs to be stopped.

Israel did what it needed to do, and then went far beyond it. From actively destroying lives to unspeakable acts

Any justified response to the attack has been used to justify the murder of tens of thousands of non combatants, including thousands of children. What they've done is despicable, and the US should immediately cease all aid to Israel

Nothing to say.

I find it interesting you don't talk about the hostages, they need to be released before any talk about a cease fire.

America and allies end up killing civilians, but Israel only country that cannot in war!

Hamas and all islamic terrorists need to be destroyed. They are a huge threat to world peace. Biden administration needs to stand up to Iran

Simplistic political tropes with no understanding of the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict or the complexity of the situation nor the players on field both seen and unseen.

The world is a very scary place right now.

Israel has gone too far. Palestinians have suffered, and Hamas is to blame not the Palestinian people. Israel's bombardment and starvation of civilians in Gaza will only strengthen resistance by groups like Hamas in the Middle East, and also alienate the rest of the world. A self-defeating policy.

The U.S. media has proven time and time again to be biased. For some odd reason, there has only been coverage portraying Israel as this helpless nation under constant attack from Hamas and the citizens of Palestine as these aggressors in terror. When all of the world media that's been shown contradicts that. Israel's military and civilian population are being shown slaughtering innocent children and civilians with no accountability for their crimes.

good fair questions.

Honestly, Israel had no right to cause this many casualties due their xenophobia of Palestinian people. It's 2024! You can literally live on the land of the enemy and still not attack each other. You can defend your own resources because you share the same land! If if their wasn't the enough resources, trade is available and used to move good around and many people can turn that into profit which can make the economy better and stronger. They all receive the same opportunities from the government unless you know of course you don't stay on your land.

Israel's continued destruction of innocent civilians and their continued refusal to obey international law to allow food and aid to the suffering people of Palestine is unacceptable.

Israel must review it's domestic policy of the treatment of Palestinians and the of Muslim Arabs if they want to see any real change in the region. Hamas only exists as an organization due to the actions and the policies of the IDF and the Israeli government. The illegal settlements in the West Bank and the subsequent treatment of Palestinians as second-class citizens must be addressed before they can claim to have "won" their war with Hamas. In addition, the indiscriminate bombing of Gaza and its people is reckless and irresponsible, possibly causing a new generation of Hamas fighters to be radicalized by their actions.

It's war and it's ugly. Have to eradicate Hamas and it is their mode of operation to hide amongst the innocent.

The United States should never take sides. You never know on which side of history you'll wind up.

Stop all funding to Israel

it is truly a shame that people are supporting the one side while condemning the other side, even though the only condemnation should be of governing bodies and militaristic leaders. Not the citizens, these are just people that became stuck in a brutal conflict

Let Israel take care of what needs to be done against Hamas.

Palestine has been attacked for years

I completely and wholeheartedly am against including civilians in fights such as these. The targetting and destruction of innocent families is something that cannot be looked upon. If a murderer is able to be prosecuted for the death of an innocent being, an entire government should be held to that same standard.

This question seems to promote response without proper education on issues.

This is a super complex topic that requires options beyond my knowledge. I am not in support of Israel's prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu. I am not sure what can be done about Hamas. It appears to be a no win situation there.

Israel needs to utterly destroy Hamas both for its own safety and to make the world a better place.

i think with the continued fighting the issue of Hamas attacking first and the huge number of casualties have been forgotten. The taking of hostages is being overlooked, Israel didn't start this conflict.

Israel needs to completely destroy Hamas

Hamas got what they asked for.

Way too many innocent lives have been taken and it needs to stop immediately!

I don't know enough about the issue to have a fair opinion on it.

Where is the outrage over the hostages held by Hamas? That still includes 6 Americans. The only hope Israel has of peace is the total destruction of the underground infrastructure in Gaza and the decimation insofar as possible of Hamas. The US is acting with typical hypocrisy in imposing delays and undue restraints.

Safety and food for civilians and volunteers for help should be taken as a necessity, not an apology.

It is not easy to answer these questions because there is nuance. I feel that we need to have strength militarily in the world, but we should have more secure borders domestically. I believe we should welcome immigrants, but there is a process in place, and it needs to be controlled better. The number of those illegally entering AND released into the country from February 2021 to October 2023 is said to be about 4.2 million. (factcheck.org) That number is mind-boggling!

I don't feel like this is my business

What did we do after 9/11?

America must stop interfering and care for her people

Let's focus on fixing the mess we have in this country and take a step back from trying to control international outcomes. While that may seem risky, we can have influence by stepping back. If countries are aware that we won't finance the war, maybe they will change their tactics.

Hamas is to blame for civilian casualties because they hide behind civilians and make it impossible to distinguish between terrorists and armed combatants. They do this as a ploy to provoke sympathy and do not value the lives of the innocent civilians they victimize, as civilized western cultures do.

I think us, has to stay out of othe country business.

## Appendix M: Which Video Games Do You Use Most?

aaa titles like Spider-Man 2

AARP online games

Animal Crossing New Horizons

Any free time

Any game, all games take forever if you want to finish the whole game in one day.

Any multiplayer

Apple Arcade

Assetto Corsa Competizione, iRacing, X-Plane 11/12, and Microsoft Flight Simulator

at first thought, probably video games, but that's consecutive time spent, I don't know how it compares to phone usage give a comparable time period.

Bad design — no option above if you don't use choices — this design flaw and bias is dominant throughout the survey so far

Baldurs Gate 3, Rainbow 6 and Madden

Beat Saber, mobile games

Block games

Blockbuster

Blockudoku

Bridge playing

Bridge V+

Candy Crush

Candy Crush Words with Friends and Solitaire

Card games

Cellphones, computers, tablets and the like are tools. Often very useful and necessary tools. But tools nonetheless. When tools are controlling our lives and absorbing so much of our time and attention, it is imperative that we reprioritize the real costs of these devices.

Classic arcade games mostly

computer

Computer, Diablo 3

Console games

Cooperative games played with my wife on the Nintendo Switch, but we play sparingly.

do not play video games

Do not use

Does not apply

don't use

Don't have video games or social media.

Don't play video games.

don't understand the question exactly. I play games for less than an hour a day, and not every day

Dont use my phone for such

Don't use them.

Fallout, World of Warcraft

Fifa

Fortnite

fortnite!!

Fortnite, Elden Ring, Pokemon GO

Freecell

games on my phone like tetris

Games to keep my mind sharp

God of War

Grand strategy games.

Halo, golf

Helldivers 2, Tom Clancys Rainbow Six Siege (god help me), BeamNG.drive

I do not play video games on my smartphone, tablet, or computer

I do not use social media nor video games

I don't use video games

i gave it up as it is not adding value to my life

i have put 78.2 hours of my time into stardew valley in the last two weeks, so i guess that?

I never play video games

I play mahjong, solitaire, five-roll and word searches

I play puzzle games. I'd like to think they are helping my mind stay nimble, but I definitely spend too much time playing them.

I play single player strategy games mostly, as well as some role playing games and some multiplayer shooters with friends. Currently, I'm playing imperator: rome, elden ring, helldivers 2, and war of rights

I play single-player, story driven games. Or 4X "empire-building" games like Civilization or Stellaris where I create narratives

I play Zelda every once in a while. When the new Animal Crossing comes out I'm sure I will be back on it a lot

i spend 2 to four hours on video games

I spend a lot of time playing farming, Pokémon, and survival games. I also play a lot of shooter games.

I spend a lot of time playing games. If I have time I use them more but usually I can't due to being busy

I typically spend my time playing constructive games which require some depth of creativity, or in lieu of that action-RPGs (e.g. the Fallout Series of Games from Bethesda).

I used to spend lots of time on Xbox.

I'll spend my time playing Black Ops 1

Idk, I jump between a few games and find new ones every now and then

It depends, recently I've been playing a lot of Skyrim, Oblivion, and Stardew Valley.

It ranges, I like cuphead, skate 3, etc

It varies, currently I've been playing Hollow knight and Lethal company

Junes Journey and Gardenscapes

lately it has been Baldur's Gate 3

League of Legends

lots

Madden

Madden NFL

MarioKart Tour

Match 3 Games

Microsoft Solitaire collection and Microsoft Ultimate Word Games.

Minecraft

Minecraft, Call of Duty, etc

Mlb

Mostly computer games so I can play with my friends.

Mostly rpg like games, PC, PS5

mostly word and number puzzles on various apps

My xbox, all of my high school friends we get on to play together since we all go to different colleges.

N/A

Never play games

Never play these

Never play video games

Nintendo switch

None

NY Times and Rummikub

NYT games exclusively

NYT Wordle, Sudoku.

Occasionally the Sims 4

Online mahjong, solitaire or puzzles

Overwatch

Overwatch, fictional shooter games (no gore/graphic imagery)

PC (sim racing)

PC games

PC-Based Video Games

Pogo.com

rainbow 6 seige, minecraft, and partys games

Rainbow six

Rainbow Six Siege

Really any That I decide to play. Platform Games Like Mario to more Open exploration sandboxes Like  
minecraft

rocket league

RPGs

Simcity is the only game I play.

sims

Sims, Minecraft

Skip

Skyrim

Solitaire

Solitaire game, mahjong, spider solitaire, hidden objects and word scape

solitaire, mah john

Solitaire, Matching, Bingo

Spelling bee, wordle, tiles, letter box, connections

SPIDER

Sports and RPG games.

Sports Games

Star Wars Lego Game

Stardew Valley

Stardew Valley &lt;3

stardew valley, roblox, animal crossing, call of duty, gta.

Sudoku, Wordscape

Super Smash Brothers Ultimate

Team Fortress 2

To relieve stress, I play Scrabble on my cell phone. It challenges my thinking.

Unclear Question, but mostly PC simulation or 4X Games

Valorant

Various memory enhancement type games on my phone,

Video games are generally a waste of time for most people although I have enjoyed them in the past!

Warhammer 40K (I can only use one hand so I'm very limited - no more World of Warcraft!

whatever my friends are playing

Wii

Wii sport games and wii exercise program

word crush

Word games

Word puzzles, solitaire, mahjong

Words With Friends, Wordscapes

WSOP

WWF and scrabble

Zen Word



## Appendix N: No Vote – Why?

DOESN'T MATTER WHO WIN. IT'S ALL THE SAME. MY LIFE WON'T CHANGE. EVERYONE IS FOR THEMSELVES. NOBODY'S GOING COME TO ASK ME HOW THEY CAN HELP.

While I am registered with the Democratic Party I had recently received a notice rom the AA County Board of Elections that I will be unable to vote due to not meeting the age requirements. A partial irony is that by the time the individual takes office I will have been old enough for over a month.

Third party never wins, it's the same two guys as 2020 and I hate them both.

Shitty Candidates

Indepentdent/unaffiliated

Independent, do not know if I can

Not eligible

Not a citizen, only a legal resident alien who is not allowed to vote

Literally can't.

Both sides are very corrupt and don't help the country as much only foreign issues.

Not eligible. Not a US citizen

The electoral college votes on who they want to be President, there's no point in just being a static of a number

## Appendix O: Voting Choices

Lesser of two evils, is the name of the game

THEY JUST WANT TO WIN & GET ELECTED. THEY NEED A JOB. ONCE THEY'RE ELECTED THEY'RE NOWHERE TO BE FOUND.

Biden's age is very concerning. If you had multiple questions asking if Trump was suitable to run, you should've asked if Biden was too.

both trump and biden are not good presidents, I'm only voting biden because I believe he has less capacity to cause harm to the U.S.

I really wish we didn't live in a binary system that rewards parties for being the lesser evil, rather than trying to do good

I am a democrat and under the current voting laws, will always vote blue as I feel that third parties are rendered incapable of being more than vote splitters and that the current republican agenda will result in the destruction of our democracy. We need ranked choice voting and we need to require that our voting districts be redrawn to reflect their citizenry most equitably.

Larry Hogan understands the importance of working with all people to enhance the standard of living for all

Possibility of a second Trump term is an existential threat to our democracy

While Larry Hogan is one of the few remaining rational Republicans, I disagreed with his policies as Governor and would be reluctant to vote for him for Senate. Frankly, I would have problems supporting anyone who has remained a Republican in light of the near-complete MAGA/fascist takeover of that party.

Rank-choice options would make sense, given the proliferation of candidates.

Character counts...lying and disregard for the law must be held accountable

No Elfreth after she accepted support from AIPAC

Trump would be the end of democracy, Hogan would curtail women's reproductive rights.

The main political parties are not providing good candidates for voters to choose from.

Vote Blue, no matter who. Election deniers and those looking for a new king need to be defeated.

Dear God help us if it's Trump...

Very concerned if Trump were to win that Republicans have majorities in the house and senate

I would have preferred a younger candidate than Uncle Joe, but faced with the potential Trump reelection, I'll take Joe over the orange bafoon

Wish we had better choices for President, but we have to keep our democracy safe and keep Trump out of office. I was a Republican, but switched to Democrat because of Trump.

Joe Biden MUST win the presidency. I voted for Larry Hogan twice for governor to have control of Maryland because of O'Malley's record. But I will not vote for Hogan for Senator because that would give him input into national politics and I don't trust him, as a Republican, to do the right thing.

May the most honest person for the good of Maryland come out ahead.

Trump is an existential threat to our democracy

I wish the rest of the Republican party nationally were as good as Larry Hogan, but since they are not, I must vote against him.

All Dems

At a simplistic level, I see the country as seriously divided into four camps, some of which overlap: Urban/Rural and Uber-Wealthy/everyone else. Neither party seem overtly to be addressing these divides, but clearly one party's presumptive leader looks to be making the problem much worse. Larry Hogan is saddled with that party's leader and policies, and trying to replace a Mitt Romney seems pointless..

Democrats have a bad choice, that is, no choice for president.

Trump would be a catastrophe for the country and the world. All he cares about is himself.

In spite of public criticism, President Biden has pushed for bipartisan consensus on issues. This approach has proven successful on significant legislation. It should be the norm and not the exception. Maryland, and many other state legislatures are similar examples. Budgets are completed, abundant legislation is passed. Issues are resolved, often with high emotion and occasional rancor. No one ever gets everything they want but the people's business is done. Citizens benefit from the process, not always, but frequently. Getting elected so that your goals are to get more time on social media and the evening news is not the job of a responsible public official. Whether you run for dog catcher or President of the Nation, your only objective must be to serve all of your constituents...not just those who voted for you.

Unsure, but am going to do more research so I can vote.

I would love to see Democrats win back the House of Representatives. I would love even more to have a government that works together and is less divisive.

Must keep Senate Democrats

I just need to learn more about the candidates

Donald Trump will turn this country around and undue what Joe Biden did in the last four years. He is not physically or mentally capable of running or protecting our country.

I had considered Hogan even being Democrat but because of the state of the Republican party my votes have to be all Democrats. I just feel Trump & his followers are too dangerous & many too filled with hate for others who don't agree. It is about democracy but I did like Larry Hogan in many ways.

I wish both parties would offer younger, well vetted politicians

The Republicans can't seem to get anything constructive done, and when they almost do, it gets scuttled by the far right Trumpites, because it seems Trump doesn't want anyone else to get credit for achieving things. In the bi-partisan border bill that almost passed, then he called out to nix it because he wanted to use the border as a big campaign issue. Hurts our country.

Vote Blue.

Democrats all the way

This year is a crucial year in Maryland and national politics. We need to elect Joe Biden back to the White House in order to protect our democracy and ensure that our country is moving forward on the right track and not backwards. For the Senate race, we need to maintain a Democratic majority, which makes it crucial that we vote for the Democratic nominee, whether that be David Trone or Angela Alsobrooks (I prefer Angela, but will vote for whoever is on the ticket come November). Additionally, we need to elect a leader such as Harry Dunn to Maryland's 3rd Congressional District. He will uphold our democracy as he did on January 6th and ensure that Maryland is represented by someone who is not a career politician and just going to Congress as a next step in their career (which it is clear some state representatives are doing). I also support someone such as Harry who has taken a strong stance against pressing issues such as not accepting corporate PAC money and not playing it safe/moderate. Some candidates cannot say the same.

I vote for leaders with good environmental stewardship

both Biden and Trump are too old

I think Gov Hogan was a great governor balanced with a democratic assembly BUT my interest in having the Democrats as the majority in both the House & Senate is critically important, and will vote democratic.

Steny Hoyer needs to retire

I can't even fathom the tragedy of another Trump presidency

Hogan

I voted for Larry Hogan in the gubernatorial elections and think he did a good job as governor. I won't vote

for him in the Senate race for two main reasons: The margin between Democrats and Republicans is too small and as good as he was as governor, he would be drowned out by the extremists and rendered completely ineffective in the current Senate.

Under no circumstances would I support a Republican candidate for federal or local office

I'm absolutely terrified of a Trump presidency.

I wish we had an open election in the MD primaries, & I wish we had better candidates for president!

I feel that trump should be ineligible for any public office

How can any patriotic American support Trump?

WOULD PREFER TO VOTE BUTTIGEG

I'm voting a straight Democratic ticket because they are effective at governing

Too much attention given Trump in the media- it's constant!

Donald Trump is a misogynistic, narcissistic, pathological liar with no moral compass

I will vote for Trone in the primary because I think he has a better chance of winning against Hogan. I

would love to vote for Harry Dunn for the Sarbanes seat but the Maryland delegation has lacked a female representative for too long which is why I will vote for Elfreth. As far as POTUS, the Republic may crumble if Biden is not reelected.

get rid of the crazy Republicans who want to take our country back to the 19th C

If I had the option to vote "None of the above" I would do so if it brought a better candidate to the forefront!

Trump would be disastrous

A vote for Trump is a vote for the end of democracy. A vote for Hogan is a vote for the same chaos agenda that currently exists in the U.S. House of Representatives.

It's a difficult choice between Dunn and Elfirth

The election of Donald Trump would be utterly disastrous for Americans.

Donald Trump is a serious danger to our system of government and a danger to the stability of world democracies. I don't know how to convince Republicans that it is in their best interests to abandon him but I fear it is impossible.

I would like a 3rd party candidate to win, but voting for a third party just feels like throwing my vote away at this point. And, honestly, I would rather have a nicer old man (Biden) as president than a meaner old man (Trump). Especially since Trump was a shit president. Sorry for the language

We need better candidates.

Will decide in November

Have to find a candidate who cares for his/her country --- not their pockets.

Trump will restore the economy and control inflation, stop illegal immigrants and bring back respect for our country that is now lost.

No mail in voting on for overseas military

Biden's age & mental acuity make him Totally unqualified to be President

Republican party needs to be burned to the ground

Only because I have no other choice of Republican, I will hold my nose and vote for Larry Hogan. We need new GOP leadership of the US Senate.

If Hogan wins the Senate primary, I will vote for him in the general election. HOWEVER, I will not vote for him in the primary even though it may cost the Republican party control of the Senate. I am still unsure which of Hogan's opponents I will vote for. Hogan destroyed the Maryland republican party while he was Governor. He claims he is a Reagan Republican, but he continues to violate Reagan's directive not to run down other Republican candidates. His behavior in the 2022 election was appalling and he should not be rewarded by being elected Senator. Although it is inconsistent, I will vote for him if he wins the primary as

I just cannot vote for either of his Democrat opponents.

Have to vote for either Biden or Trump by weighing each issue that is important to me, realizing that Biden does enact harmful regulations and laws while Trump claims he will do things but usually does not so I am able to ignore much of Trump's BS and focus on what he is most likely to do, which is put a stop to the far left climate, tax, and regulations.

Republicans - hoping they get their heads out of their butts!! Ya gotta wish!

I think it is Arthur Baker not Anthony Baker?? Anyway, my vote is still fluid for HofR, but despite some qulams I still would support Hogan. Have NO idea what to do about President, issues with both principals, not voting for 3rd party, simply can I stomach Trump?

This country badly needs to leave woke-ism behind. Republicans are more likely to be able to move us in the right direction.

Hogan stands on his own & even if Trump wins, he'll do the right thing

none

the question on voting for Hogan and the potential republican majority seemed a little biased against Hogan.

Registered republican but they are not capable of governing anymore

Teddy Roosevelt

Would prefer Niki Haley

Really like Hogan - wish he wasn't a republican and therefore associated with Trump

Anybody but Trump

Nov. Elections very Important to U.S.

Hobson's choice

Trump is my only choice given the poor performance of Biden. Hogan will be a great senator for Maryoand and the USA.

Biden is clearly compromised, but if he was not I would still vote for the Republicans

Dems are doing everything they can think of to keep Trump off ballots, to bankrupt him with multiple law suits. Hogan is a RINO! I have NO faith in his ability to vote with Republicans. He refused to vote for Trump and made it known that he voted for his dead father instead! If Trump wins but if the Dems control the House AND the Senate, they will impeach AND remove Trump this time on any excuse they can come up with. Biden is crooked and compromised by SO many countries he and his son have taken money from. Why else would Biden allow that Chinese spy balloon to travel across the USA, over military facilities and then decide to shoot it down after the Chinese collected the info they needed!

Wish both parties had better candidates.

Just wondering why you felt the need to "warn" democrats not to vote for Mr Hogan because it might flip the Senate.

Over the last 3 years, the Biden administration has used weaponized the DOJ and the FBI to attack Christians, conservatives and the smear everyone who dares have a differing opinion. It is time to investigate how this has impacted innocent victims.

I used to be a democrat but the party does not represent my views. The political process is all about raising money to stay in power. It is corrupt. Biden's DOJ is politically motivated. I am concerned we only have an illusion of a democracy regardless of which party is in control. I am concerned with the coming of digital ID and currency we are headed for a communist system of control. Very scary.

Democrats have harmed this country. From Covid to oil to climate change and China

Presidential candidate options are terrible! Hogan is the only decent candidate on the ballot.

I changed from Democrat to Republican because Joe Biden and his policies disgust me. This year is the first time I have been Republican.

All voters should show US ID to vote.

Donald Trump is not worthy of being the President nor is he qualified. I fear he would cause unnecessary harm to the United States and our allies.

I could never vote for Trump or any of his supporters. He has created divisions in the country that will be difficult to ever reverse. He is a terrible human being.

If we can't get term limits, can we get an age limit?

Why can't we help develop young people who have a servant leadership focus who want to go into politics and help our communities so we have good candidates who aren't just out to benefit themselves?

I don't trust Larry Hogan to support any Republican issues especially if Trump wins the presidency again.

I think many people feel restless with the two choices for US presidency

NOT Joe Biden!!!!!! He belongs in a nursing home!

I am more likely to write in my deceased dog than vote for the candidates for president

It breaks my heart at just how unrepresented the people really are by any party.

We need to abolish political parties, and root our politics in humanism as opposed to the laws and rules we set hundreds of years ago. I'm also extremely tired of politicians using countless fallacies to sway us.  
no

I have no opinion

We need term limits for congress

I am still undecided on who I will vote for for President. Even if Republicans take the Senate, I believe Hogan would vote his conscious like Manchin and Sinema and not be an automatic vote for Trump. I

President : Unfortunately both are old , lousy choices !

I prefer divided gov't and will probably vote Biden-Hogan

I support term limits and maximum age to serve

First, we really should have open primaries so that all registered voters can participate. Sadly, primaries are mostly decided by the wings of our two major parties making our choices problematic.

n/a

Sad about Nikki Haley :(

I don't prefer either presidential candidate. they're both bad

This election as well as the last two do not give me a strong candidate who I agree with. I feel I vote for the lesser of the two evils. Our two main parties are too polarized.

Larry Hogan was a great governor. Always a businessman is needed in politics and he has garnered approval of democrats in MD government with his common sense, fairly non-partisan type of governing.

Neither Trump nor any follower of Trump should be elected.

I love Larry Hogan. However, the prospect of a Republican controlled Senate is appalling. The Republican Party is doing its best to strip civil rights from citizens and return to government by old white men for old white men. Women and minorities would be made to suffer in silence. Republicans would love to have the USA turn into the Republic of Gilead.

I would still vote for Hogan even though he is a Republican. He was not a big supporter of Trump when he was Maryland governor and I expect that he would continue with those same policies if he became a Senator.

Although I'm an independent who has voted both R and D for President I am terrified as to what would become of our democracy if Trump were elected. I never worried about a Republican in the White House before as I knew whomever was elected wanted the best for the USA. In my opinion, I believe Trump and his cronies want to destroy America.

I can't vote in the primaries, but am very concerned about the future of the country with Trump or the Republicans running it. I've never felt this concerned.

I haven't researched the candidates yet but plan to do so before the primary

I like Larry Hogan

Voting for Trump is voting for capitalism and democracy, voting for Biden is voting for Marxism

I am sick and tired of my lackluster government. It seems they are self-oriented and biased and most are just self-serving liars.

I have been a resident of MD for 70 years and Anne Arundel County for 50. I have watched the quality of life in both deteriorate slowly at first but much more rapidly of late. The decline in the US in the past three years is hard to comprehend. Through gerrymandering our county has gone from being represented by a single congressman to four and with it higher taxes and uncontrolled growth. Our state is controlled by a few counties and Baltimore City. Our tax dollars are spent unequally to these jurisdictions. Due to gerrymandering the western part of the state and the eastern shore are represented by people who have nothing in common with them. Nationally, under the current administration, we face wars world wide, invasion of our borders by illegal aliens, serious crime, drugs, overspending of our tax dollars and general decline in our country's moral fiber to just mention a few of our problems. The State of Maryland, through our liberal representation, just follows along. What was once right and good is now wrong and bad..

If Trump is elected, I believe it could be the end of our Democracy.

Donald Trump has eventually destroyed everything he has touched including airlines, for-profit schools and real estate. He will do the same to the nation. Further, the current crop of Republicans in the House and Senate with a few exceptions will be the subject of a book on the "Profiles in Cowardice" of the politicians who sold their principles to curry favor with Trump.

If Trump wins, it will be catastrophic for our nation.

Never Trump

Both candidates for president are TOO old!

Senate

I'm not super enthusiastic with choices but will take anyone over Trump or Kennedy

No Trust the Republicans will do the best for people or the Nation vs their political party

We need a strong leader not afraid to step outside of his comfort zone. Stop being racist with the policy and laws passed

ANYBODY but a war-monger, disrespecter, and flagrant liar - anybody other than Trump

I will vote Down ballot Democratic

If you know history, then you would realize that democracy is on the ballot. Trump is using some of the tactics that Hitler used.

I don't care who wins the Senate or House.

There needs to be younger and fresher candidates to vote for. Recycling the same 10 candidates is getting old and so are they. A refresh in our political line-up would do well to motivate new voters.

We have had democrats in charge for a few election cycles.....except the current House.....they have gone off the rails and abandoned the true blue collar worker and embrace the far leftist programs. Lost their credibility with the working people of Maryland. This needs a change.

I do not support Donald Trump as I do not see him as pro democracy his actions have led to many bad things in multiple areas and he also presents a lot of information based on hate but in a shadowy way to hide the true nature of things. He lies straightforwardly to the countries face on things he has said and done with evidence yet he continues to do so. I do not trust Donald Trump as the countries best interest rather I believe it is a selfish reason within himself that he does things and in the end it can cause more harm than good to the country entirely so I disapprove based on the evidence and things we have seen with our own eyes.

Someone who has the country's best interests at heart. Also not likely to have Alzheimers during their term. unsure

It is upsetting to see that Larry Hogan would tip the scales in favor of Donald Trump.

I prefer democratic women in office

Juan D. has an amazing bit on his platform about embracing senatorial term limits.

Whoever can help

I have a very poor education on government and politics. I have never heard half of those peoples names

It honestly sounds like no one likes Trump, no one likes Biden, yet they are the two choices again, why?

Elected candidate needs to put people over party.

Your questions seem somewhat biased

anyone but Lockdown Larry. PRESIDENT DONALD J TRUMP ALL THE WAY YES

Can someone please care about the country ahead of their own ambition?

Trump has stated he will be a dictator, release the terror it's from 1/6. He's rhetoric reminds me of Hitler.

He praises Putin. We can NOT vote him in as president.

In the State of Maryland Kinki Haley is still on the ballot, that is who I will vote for in protest of our terrible choices.

This survey completely disregards independent voters.

Lesser of two evils

I prefer republicans in charge of national politics because they are more fiscally responsible and are tougher on crime and illegal immigration. Those issues are must important to me and gave a tangible impact on our day to day lives.

President: we need a change .. maybe an age limit. We will really be voting for Vice President

The choice sucks. It is a sign of the failure of both parties.

I wish a better Republican was running for president. I don't like Trump (but I don't like Biden either!)

Trump is incompetent, Biden is even worse. We need better nominees, I wanted DeSantis but unfortunately he dropped.

Annoyed by these questions because seems to have strayed beyond what I understood this survey was about- LOCAL ISSUES. The survey should have allowed "prefer not to answer" for the National and US Senate election choices.

I can't decide who will be the best candidate

The democrats need to reprioritize their whole party.

I will not vote

Why won't the really good people run for public office?



## Appendix P: Joe Biden Job Approval Comments

3.8 unemployment rate Gas less than 3.50 per gallon

A lot of stupid mistakes. Withdrawal from Afghanistan. Knee-jerk cancellation of Trump changes like the Paris Accord. His lack of international respect caused Putin to invade Ukraine.

A lying dirtbag.

A president with a heart for service and people

A threat to this country. Emptying govt coffers making himself rich. Too high taxes. Too much spending. Illegal immigration is a joke.

Almost ALL his Socialism, Immigration, Crime, etc. Policies.

Am I upset that prices of milk and eggs keep climbing? Do I cringe at seeing gasoline creeping ever closer to four dollars a gallon? Of course. Yet President Biden has championed bipartisan legislation that is infusing the US economy. His policies have kept inflation in check and are bringing middle-class jobs back to American soil. These changes don't often reap immediate benefits for many citizens. I take a longer view. My children and grandchildren will have a better future.

As a Republican, I may not approve of all of Joe Biden's policies, but I believe he is a good man. Trump is a totally evil and vile human being. He does not care about our country; he only cares about himself.

As president, he should be firmer on Ukraine and Israel (more aid to the first, stop aid to the second until they pay attention to us.) In general, he should be more decisive and realize his and our real strengths.

Best of 2 bad choices

Better economy, better foreign relations & policy, lower unemployment, lower taxes for middle class.

He's a moral, rational man unlike Trump who internationally is not respected except by Russia, China & possibly Korea.

Better than alternatives

better than any Republican

Better, much better, than the alternative.

Biden has been an extremely effective President, especially under the circumstances in Congress. I do react to how often he looks old, feeble although I think his mind is good. I trust his moral compass and political instincts.

Biden is a senile old fool who cannot even talk without a teleprompter & is shielded from reporters by his staff. Worst President ever ! Reversing Trump immigration policies was a major mistake. All of his funding bills caused inflation .

Biden is the only candidate with the international experience to handle world issues. I do wish he would engage more nationally recognized democrats in his campaign.

Biden policies impact me every time I grocery shop, etc. He has made us less safe internationally as well as domestically.

Biden rarely does interviews and only with those who generally hold his own views. Whenever he responds to questions from those who disagree with him, he responds angrily and scolds them for their questions rather than answering or explaining his views. - Also the whole Hunter business situation is a bad myopic. Whether or not he did anything wrong, it looks a lot like Trump's NY loan stuff.

Border policy is terrible. I'm worried about his cognition. We need a leader who can think clearly.

Bringing a pathway to citizenship for immigrants was a major part of his campaign yet he doesn't seem to have taken up on his promise yet.

Continues to help the middle class

Corruption and not holding up his oath of office.

Dear Joe, God bless him (and I'm agnostic!). He ain't great, but he's all we got! He should be retired but

he's standing up against Trump - seems he is doing the best he can.

Dementia, crook, the whole family should be jailed.

Democrats are destroying our country

Destroying America through his immigration policy. Not doing enough to lower inflation by controlling spending. Horrible foreign policy and selling out of Israel

Destroying our country prices are up and never going down he is letting criminals in the country from Mexico and letting them run free to murder and commit many crimes

disappointed on his stance for abortion

Ditto

Do I even need to explain? Falls asleep during speeches, horrible policies, threatens the constitution etc.

I pity the democrats cause I know they aren't all like him but he gives them a God awful name.

does all the things I care about and is doing what he needs to to get re-elected

Does he even know where he is presently ?

Does not get enough credit for the strength of the economy nor work with our allies in response to Ukraine invasion.

Does so much for the people that we don't know. Zero cost AACC for high school students. Lower drug prices, etc.

does some things I don't approve of, but given what he has to contend with, he's doing a pretty good job.

Haven't seen much in the way of his campaign ads yet.

Doesn't enforce national laws

Doing a great job cares about this country

Doing a lot for US

Doing the best he can given the Congress and international issues he is facing.

Done phenomenal economy recovery

don't approve

Dreadful president who has ignored border problems and their effect on the country. He is too old for the job.

Economics

Embarassing

Excellent job learning nation overall, but I disagree with some of his choices regarding support of Israel.

Excellent management of foreign relations, improved the economy

Experienced, politically savvy, healthy understanding of foreign policy, polite and dignified as a world leader should be.

Focus less on partisan politics

Gets the job done!

good job but needs to retire

government at a high federal level is failing this country

Grade C-

Grateful for did strong leadership on pandemic, foreign issues, women's rights, domestic policy- infrastructure- job growth....steady strong solid

Great President

Has had a difficult choice with the congress that he has.

has no idea how much worse his policies are making everything worse and too stubborn to go a different path.

He could be better, he could be worse, it's time to get old people out of the white house. Bring in young people from our generation to represent our generation

He could screw up and still do a better job than the ignorant and malevolent Trump administration, which seriously damaged US Government, democracy, and foreign policy/international relations.

He has abdicated his responsibilities to others

He has been wrong on his Israel policy. I support him in most of his decisions.

He has dementia, is corrupt and destroying the country with help from the people he chose to run the government.

He has done a great job under incredibly difficult circumstances

He has funded climate resiliency and renewable energy initiatives, forgiven student loans, and gotten money to deal with the collapse of the Key Bridge.

He has kept the economy strong and worked on social issues that are important to me.

He has lied about almost everything, brought the USA into supporting regional wars, dictated environmental rules, ruined the economy, sold the middle class down the river and has committed criminal acts with regards to the border and illegal aliens.

HE HAS NO STRONG BELIEFS EXCEPT TO GET REELECTED. TOO OLD AND FEEBLE FOR THE JOB.

He is a racist, anti-semiter, pervert and senile prevaricator who will do anything his handlers decree to help the Democrats retain power

He is awful -- physically, mentally, verbally, and policy wise.

He is destroying our country by opening the borders, putting too many restrictions on industries and unrealistic climate policies

He is doing a good job thus far.

He is doing his best to keep the country on an even keel after the disaster of the Trump administration and the do-nothing House of Representatives.

He is doing the best he can with the House blocking him at every turn.

He is not making the decisions --- someone is controlling him like a PUPPET!!!

He is not physically or mentally capable of running this country. We need someone to get back to where we were before Joe Biden's fraudulent election. The Dems were going to do anything and everything they could do in order to get Donald Trump voted out of office. Just my opinion

He is old and senile; a puppet to Dem party

He is sane. He has been able to get a lot done in spite of great opposition. Inflation is falling, lowest unemployment rate in decades, Good job growth. Best recovery from Covid in the world. Ability to interface productively with our Allies. Able to gain a coalition with our allies on issues of national and international security. Experience matters. He's normal. I can sleep at night.

He is senile and incompetent. His situational awareness is poor. His priorities are wrong.

He is smart and experienced and works quietly to accomplish important goals for the country. He may be aging but he is intelligent and right minded. HE IS NOT TRUMP WHO IS A DISGRACE TO THE COUNTRY.

He is too old and doesn't seem cognitively capable of doing his job. Plus he panders to the far left and proposes illegal and unfair policies (such as student loan forgiveness) right before elections to get votes.

He is too old and needs to step down.

He is what the country needs and has done far more to rebuild than people realize.

He just needs to retire already. I really don't think he is cognitively able to be president.

He maintains a positive attitude and builds a record of successfully helping US citizens.

He ran on the fact that he would bring the country together, but has only divided the country more. He could reverse the executive orders that he canceled when he took office; The border was under control before he took office.

He should never have gotten into office. He's a career politician who has become a millionaire on a salary that doesn't add up to his wealth. Do the numbers they don't add up!

He stands up to Trump.

He the leader we need to deal with these crazy MAGA people

He won't be a dictator

He's doing the best he can with what he has to work with.

He's senile

He's supporting a genocide.

He's accomplished so much in a short time in spite of the opposition of Republicans who only seem concerned with impeaching Alejandro Mayorkas and sending Hunter Biden to jail. Jeez!!!

He's been incompetent his whole presidential term

He's been weak on a number of issues to the point where many Americans have lost faith in his ability to govern. I also believe that he and his image are too polarizing for many Americans that any attempt to get things done is be overshadowed by the fact that he isn't Trump. The Biden/Harris Admin has too much work to do and not enough time, I think its right for us to move on to something else.

He's done exactly what I expected him to do and more, CHIPs, inflation reduction act, infrastructure, and support for human rights. I don't agree with him handling of some immigration issues or his continued support for Israel.

He's just a puppet, his whole presidency has just been just undoing Trump's work instead of thoughtfully planning out steps to improve the country.

He's not as bad as Donald Trump but hasn't done much in his 4 years

He's not only senile but mean. I mean purposefully mean and nasty. And his relationship with Ukraine oligarchs is criminal, as is his son's. His hatred of the American people who do not agree with him is a disgrace to the Office of the Presidency. His lack of support for our police, his refusal to prevent the violence during the "Summer of Love" - the summer of 2020 - is nothing short of impeachment material in my opinion. His sloppy and disgraceful exit from Afghanistan is another reason he should be held accountable for multiple deaths. End of rant.

He's not Trump and has loads of government experience. And he appears to be a nice, well adjusted man.

He's sending support for the genocide of innocent Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. (Hamas is bad I don't like them, killing people is bad)

He's senile and should not be in office.

He's too old, and seeing him in this state is sad.

He's very effective at managing critical issues at the national level; he's pro-union and cares about issues that affect the lower and middle class population

His behavior shows him to be a mean spirited traitor who has sold out our country for money to the Chinese, Russia and Ukraine. He is a puppet of Obama and totally incompetent of making major decisions for the good of our country. He sold himself as a president to bring our country together and he has done everything he can to divide us and smear those who have different opinions. He has defied the Supreme Court with trying to buy votes by paying student loans. He has made the USA a mockery in other countries. He has made our country extremely dangerous with criminals pouring across our borders; he has been complicit in the Fentanyl trade and has supported the criminal gangs who are controlling our border! He is complicit in the exploitation of minors in the workforce and as sex slaves. Thousands of under age children have been released to unknown criminal elements. Pres. Biden is incapable of speaking in public and never answers questions but insults people. He refuses to debate Donald Trump because he is in a latter stage of Dementia.

His cognitive skills are in disarrar. He is an ineffective leader. His changes in policy have negatively affectrd our. Country

his failure to deliver what he claimed he would is par for the course, but his continuing refusal to stop sending aid to israel is certainly a poor choice

His handlers should be charged with elder abuse. He is clearly incompetent. Add to that that even when he was younger and in command of his faculties he was a dishonest, racist, plagiarizing, career politician who was out only for himself and the enrichment of his family.

His inability to lead or speak reasonably

his policies across the board are destroying America, from inflation to immigration, and lot of other things  
His policies support the good of the country and its people. His policies do not discriminate.

His record on inflation, job growth, erasing student debt - his diverse staff, stance on crime and education

His support for the genocide of Palestinians makes me feel uneasy about voting for him.

I agree with most, but not all, of the things that Joe Biden has done in office.

I am out of time - survey to long

I am somewhat concerned he may not be full term if he wins.

I am very much against college debt forgiveness programs. There are plenty of alternatives to racking up huge debt such as going to AACC! This is not fair to people who sacrificed and paid their debts and went to more inexpensive schools.

I believe in a strong USA and a strong democracy.

I don't like how the county, the state or the country are being run. Politics overrides everything else. We are spending ourselves into oblivion. He and his wife seems to be trying to destroy the united states. He's a dementia ridden, corrupt head of a crime family

I have never been an overwhelming supporter of Biden, but he is doing an okay job. I wish the Democratic party would have a younger candidate.

I have no opinion.

I mean it needs no explanation.

I think despite all odds, President Biden has proved himself to be a strong leader and even though he does have some faults (as any President does), he always does what is in best interest of the entire country and not just one party (unlike the other party).

I think he is doing the best he can facing the pandemic, multiple tragedies like the Key Bridge, wars ect. Prices aren't up from him but from wars & pandemics. He is also fighting a conservative biased supreme court & a Republican party that is looking like it is in total disarray & turning to an authoritarian Government & I hope to continue a democracy as that is who we are.

I think he is not mentally fit to continue in office.

I think his accomplishments have been incredibly good, despite having to deal with an increasingly dysfunctional congress.

I think that Biden is doing an alright job as president, even though I feel like he should be in retirement, like most other presidential candidates.

I thought Biden would be more moderate. Also hated withdrawal from Afghanistan. Really dislike focus on education debt relief. I paid all my education responsibly. Wish would come up with a real plan to transition to EV instead of edicts.

I wish he was younger. I approve of his policies, but he seems a bit tentative.

If he were 100 % I would still not vote for him.

im not sure

I'm not sure who is running the country, but clearly he's too old to even be able to communicate. His policies are horrible. He's corrupt.

Immigration policy is a mess; slow to react to that issue and many others

Incompetent

Incompetent.

Inherited an absolute dumpster fire of a country after Trump, has done a remarkable job to keeping us out

of war, strengthening the economy, addressing COVID, improving infrastructure, fighting climate change, and making Ray Bans cool for 80 year old men.

IRA, tried to get debt forgiven, attempted to get legislation passed about inflation

Is a puppet destroying American values both financially and sociologically.

Is mentally unfit for his office. Again, all lies and has caused more division. Opened the borders to terrorists. Does nothing about anything except throw our money to students that can't pay their loans.

Disgrace

Is unfit to hold this office

jobs, climate, economy, labor... I like what he's done--except for his support of Israel. I find this insupportable and very shocking

Joe Biden seems to struggle hear and there, especially when looking at some of his foreign policy decisions but I believe the in spite of how the MSM reports on him, when you look at his record he has done some amazing things for our country.

Joe Biden's policies re illegal immigration and foreign policy are ineffective; and causing our country to be weak domestically and internationally.

Joe doesn't know where he is. People are controlling that hateful, senile fella.

Joe is a sick man who has Dementia. Dementia can cause impairments that affect: memory reasoning and problem-solving abilities language skills communication focus

Joe is steady and reliable and smart and is good to reach across party lines to get the job done. Will vote for him!

Lacks mental capacity to be president

Lesser of two evils, disapprove of both

My confidence in the Democrat Party has fallen to a new low since the Party thinks that President Joe Biden is a good representative for President of the United States.

n/a

Needs to be committed. Anybody who has had a relative having early dementia, knows the eyes and the shuffle. We are denying the science. Remember that.....follow the science.

Needs to go, and fast.

Needs to retire.

Never had real job always been in politics. He should no more be in office than my husband who has Alzheimer

no

No real disasters!

Not a criminal

Not everything is perfect but he has the experience to keep our country going.

Obamanation is destroying America.

old and senile

Only reason I'm voting for him is because he is the only option that somewhat agrees with my views. I do not think he is suitable to be president.

Open borders, really to much to list

Open border, racism, crime, inflation, etc.

Out damn spot!!

Out to lunch

Overall he done a good job with different groups women's right,lgbt,people of color etc

POLICY IS STRONG ( EVEN THOUGH STILL CLINTON ERA), NEEDS STRONGER VP UNFORTUNATELY

Poor performance on US Leadership of global affairs, unwise use of taxpayer money for debt-forgiveness

President Biden has made big mistakes that are apparent to Democrats. He could have made better decisions on foreign policy and granting access to protected land for drilling for example.

President Biden has the experience of being in the Senate for many years. He knows how to work with both sides of the aisle. Plus he is a diplomat when it comes to our allies. I trust his judgment and his ability to make sound decisions. I prefer him 100% compared to his likely opponent.

President Biden stepped into a mess and has successfully cleaned up quite a bit. We need to let him finish the job and get things in place that support women and voting rights.

President is a hard job, he's not the worst and at this time that's all that's needed

President Joe Biden has done nothing for this country and has continuously not done his job.

Puppet. I think he is a real risk to national security. Can't make decision on his own

Really? Border. Inflation. Ukraine policy. Iran policy. Unconstitutional student loan forgiveness. Too old.

Reasonable policies

Record of accomplishment in passing major legislation...state of economy supreme

Record speaks for itself.

Reservations about prolonged support of the slaughter in Gaza otherwise doing an excellent job except for finding a strong successor

Sane and competent

see Moore answer

Senile and crooked as they come.

Should be impeached for multiple high crimes and misdemeanors.

Should not be in office....has ruined this country !

So much better than his predecessor.

Strong international leader and statesman

Strongly support

Strongly supports democracy. Knows how to get things done. Open minded. Looking out for the little guy.

terrible respectfully

The economy is actually doing pretty well, and his leadership style is welcome after the disaster of his predecessor. That said, he really needs to do something about the border, even if that just means explaining why "the other side" has made it impossible for him to do so.

The list of bad things is too long. Bad economy. Open borders, Crime. Inflation. Weak mentally=should be in a nursing home! Bad mouths Israel for mistakenly killing aid workers but he used a drone and killed a father and his 9 children. He is compromised by taking money from foreign countries. He took official White House documents when he was Senator AND VP when he was not allowed and is letting his ghost writer see classified info for which he should be prosecuted but no Dem seems to ever get prosecuted; only Republicans.

The man is mentally unfit for the job. I don't know who is running the country, but it's not him. And Obama was right — he's not suitable. Every decision is wrong.

The man is personally and outwardly morally corrupt.

The most effective president we have had in decades.

This crooked, senile, serial liar makes Warren Harding and even Jimmy Carter look like great statesmen in comparison. The worst president in US history period.

Too much baggage of things that have come forward.

Too much support for Israel, isn't holding Trump accountable enough, but is solid on many other matters

Too old and incompetent

Too old and too demented!

Too old, too senile.

Tough job, but foreign policy has weakened while domestic priorities hold firm.

Tries to work across the aisle, which has become nearly impossible.

Truly cares about his country. Did badly with Afghanistan. Does well for children, climate change and those with disabilities.

Under President Biden we have become the late great USA

Understanding of most foreign policy. Bad choices in Israel.

Villainized/Decent

weak

Weak international profile; inexplicably allowing open borders.

Whenever he speaks its like i am hearing a seizer happening in real time. He seems to have Alzheimers, he can't think or speak straight. The economy has gone down when he's in power, and the pollution has gotten worse. At this point, he is too old to be in office.

Works for middle guy and fights the Healthcare lobby and big pharmaceuticals

Worse President in my life time. More concerned about bashing Trump then doing his job, too many untruths and he is not competent to be President.

Worst president ever! Obamas 3rd term! Put America in the dark ages.

Worst president ever! Still don't believe he was legally elected.

Worst president ever. Traitor to his country. Very corrupt.

Worst President in US history

Worst president to never fill the office. His rainbow selected filled department heads are ruining this country. The best and brightest do not head any of the departments running our country right now.

SHAMEFUL and we're all living the results of Joe Biden's failure to honor the oath he took on Jan. 21, 2020.

Worst president. Destroying this country. Pandering to the left to win votes.

Years of experience, able to compromise if necessary

zero

Zero approval



## Appendix Q: Wes Moore Job Approval Comments

Zero approval

WHAT HAS HE FIXED?

Strongly support

Like the way he handled everything going on I'm MD

Exceptional leader...strong future

good man

So far so good

Gov. Moore seems to be doing a great job.

Good response to FSK Bridge disaster, needs to articulate a strategy going forward for budget deficit, Blueprint spending, Climate plan. Likes to say it is not a choice that we can do it all. How?

Do something instead of being on tv

Being tested finally by the Baltimore bridge debacle

Also, effectively dealing with many difficult issues - and, advocating for military veterans and their families

No impact in my life

Larry Hogan did a moderate tap dance but supported transportation funding that favored white suburban voters over minority urban voters and vetoed measures intended to secure access to reproductive services. Wes Moore is committed to moving the state forward for all Marylanders and protecting individual rights.

It seems that he is only using office of Governor of Maryland for a run for President of the United States.

He did little to instill Maryland pride in me until the Key Bridge collapse.

Excellent work on bridge collapse. Young, charismatic and full of energy. Good government orientation.

He's doing what he said he'd do, despite strong headwinds

All Ego and running for President now. Stop the silly smile.

Although I believe he has the right mindset, I don't see much improvement yet. Also, when I see him on national TV, he behaves just like any other politician, phone and doesn't directly answer questions. Jury's still out.

I read his books, he is not the man he claims to be.

Ditto

He generally is pursuing policies that I support and he seems to be a decent human being.

Very positive and active, present in the state, especially related to the bridge collapse.

Governor Moore is an inspirational leader. He has proven to be successful in many areas of his professional career. We honor him for his service to our Nation. He is a dynamic and effective campaigner. He has so far shown to be passionate in pursuit of implementation of his campaign legislative agenda. He is a rising star in political circles. It will be telling to determine whether the national spotlight deters him from continuing to focus on Maryland's challenges. The recent tragic collapse of the Key Bridge will demand a Governor who is faced with addressing an unimaginable path of decisions. Governor Moore's legacy may well lie in his future actions to rebuild the bridge.

Strong leader

i like his commercials

I think he has done an exceptional job leading Maryland.

Even my republican Aunt loves Wes Moore.

Givin\* the farm away. Good hearted.

No impact

Think he may be a viable candidate for future President of USA, great job!

He seems to care about issues. He needs to keep taxes low else people will move to other states

Motor concerned with running for higher office

So far he seems to be a collaborator, to work with both parties for the common good, to manage the recent bridge disaster well.

Not focused on us.

I voted for him but now I am hearing of cutting funding of community colleges

Watching his growth - takes a while with a non profit background

Very concerned with this state and trying hard to improve

I really like Governor Moore. I think he would be a great presidential nominee one day! The way he has handled tragedy, hardship, and a tough situation overall with the Key Bridge with grace has solidified my support for him. He is a great governor and truly a representative of the people.

Intelligent

He seems to genuinely care about the residents of Maryland and gives thoughtful answers to questions. new to job but doing well

He has done a good job with the Key Bridge collapse. He is very charismatic.

He seems to be doing well, time will tell

Same as Pittman comment

Doesn't care about Matyland, Running for higher office

So fa, so good.

don't really know what he has done

He's too new to the job for me to have any real opinion.

I like his enthusiasm and concern for Baltimore. A bit naive!

I am generally happy with him but disapprove of his actions around juvenile justice

He has strongly led the state of Maryland with fair policies and to help the majority of Marylanders

Outstanding and empathetic leadership in response to the Key Bridge collapse.

I have high hopes for Governor Moore. I'm not as familiar with his individual actions since election, but there are none I'm aware of that that run counter to my thoughts on what should be done.

It's early days, but I appreciate his attempts to improve Baltimore. His goals are good.

Ok so far, too early to tell really.

I think he's intelligent, fair, and well suited for the position.

He isn't taking stronger positions on issues that are important to me.

I don't know enough about the Governor's decisions to understand whether he could have made better decisions.

EXCELLENT JOB, GREAT ENERGY, SMART AND FOCUSED

Management of the Key Bridge accident has been very effective. He's working closely with the Maryland Assembly to get laws passed

Sound leadership

The Comptroller's Office is a shambles and apparently unable to handle problems with people's past taxes. Gov. Moore needs to become better at public speaking. He seems nervous all the time.

has good ideas

He's the best thing that has happened to Maryland in years - I hope he runs for President in 2028

Seems more important to promote himself than do things for MD residents

Has a good agenda to improve the lives of Marylanders.

I am impressed with Moore's handling of the Key Bridge crisis and find him intelligent and thoughtful  
Wes Moore has been doing a lot to help the state of Maryland, and I really enjoy him being governor.  
Doesn't seem to do what I would.

He is hiring too many friends and wasting our tax surplus

Posturing for presidential run

He has no idea what he is talking about or doing.

Moore taxes, Moore regulations, Moore bureaucracy, Moore crime and Moore tyranny!

Not Hogan

Baltimore needs to be cleaned up

Publicity hound without real substance. Appointed a DEI hire to the Port Commission without any maritime experience months before the bridge collapsed.

ALL HAT NO CATTLE.

He is a smiling, pleasant do-nothing liberal who will take whatever popular position exists to avoid upsetting his base while he is being groomed to be the next Barrack Obama

I like how he is handling the bridge crisis, and how he helped with the Orioles sale.

Somewhat okay

He's a fake. He lied during his campaign and has the biggest fake smile ever. He's a horrible leader. For example - last week he took photos while smiling at receiving a jacket from transportation authority meanwhile dead people are still in the water right next to him. That's disgraceful and shows his lack of empathy and leadership.

His underfunding of transportation and education are inexcusable.

he seems to go with the liberal flow, waiting to see him step up

The brakes are off for Maryland's democrat legislators. Look for higher taxes, more intrusive government and ever greater levels of disfunction.

smartly governs

none

He is full of promises and doesn't seem to care about the higher income taxpayers who are needed to fund the giveaways.

Generally follows Democrat tax hikes

Pleasantly surprised that he seems to get the pulse of electorate on taxes and trying to improve business development

Grade A

To much for Sanctuary State, High-Density Growth, Socialism.

Eyes on higher office

It has been up and down, but he has earned an A+ for his approach to education and handling of the Key bridge incident.

So far so good.

His support of Maryland becoming an abortion state

Too much about himself although seems to do good with the bridge collapse.

Don't see much of him or see what he's done for MD.

Havent really seen any real accomplishments yet

Hasn't been in long but I feel that he is not as bipartisan as he could be.

He acts like a dictator

Too new; has yet to prove himself

So far he has represented well on crime and response to key bridge.

anti-business attitude is a problem

He's pretty new. I don't know much about him yet  
 He spends too much money  
 no real commitment to anything as of yet  
 I don't have a good reason. I certainly think he's a dynamo. But all he really has to do is rubber stamp  
 democratic legislation.  
 He is a positive force who has not made too many mistakes. I wish him well.  
 I'm hoping for the best.  
 He has integrity and works hard for the state. Very much a diplomat.  
 He is certainly very intelligent and looks for long term solutions and works well with other politicians.  
 Stop decreasing the skill level for specific types of jobs in Maryland. It is worth it to pay a higher salary to  
 people who understand how something works vs a lower salary and not have a clue about their program.  
 The "fluff" politician. He'll do and say anything for sound bites. No substance or commitment, just  
 ambition for his next position. He's the first governor who isn't a Marylander but that didn't matter to the  
 Democrats who backed him.  
 Objective/strong  
 He is OK!  
 He doesn't represent us very well.  
 im not sure  
 I have no opinion.  
 He just wants to get to higher office. He's completely fake.

10%

Proposed budget gaps and raiding rainy day fund  
 Still early in his administration...so far positive leadership.  
 High energy, strong intelligence, charismatic, and willing to do what he says he is going to do.  
 n/a  
 Early to be sure, but looks excellent.  
 Seems to be doing at least as well as Hogan.  
 I'm impressed by his leadership.  
 He declared Maryland a Trans Sanctuary State and as a trans woman I feel safer in my state.  
 Not terrible  
 He's a hypocrite, cut the funding for underprivileged students to attend a private school when he boosted  
 that attending one made him who he is.  
 Moore said he is a progressive=socialism  
 He is energetic and positive in his approach to Maryland's problems and has been very proactive in  
 dealing with the Key Bridge disaster.  
 He does what makes sense.  
 Reproductive Health Laws  
 he has done a lot for the community  
 Plans to achieve good things while in office  
 Pushing for education and has been a real leader in response to the Key Bridge collapse.  
 He gets the job done without calling anyone out of their name, or denigrating anyone, he does not even  
 denigrate those who are offensive.  
 Nothing they have done has negatively affected me.  
 Didn't vote for him.  
 Governor Less is Moore. More taxes so less for you even during these times of skyrocketing inflation.

doesn't do much, should do more.

I don't know what exactly he's doing but I have heard many good things

Too soon to tell

It hasn't even been a year and he's put the state into a financial deficit. Spend first, finance later.

Focus less on partisan politics

He still is untested.

Why does he care about criminals more than their victims?

Where could you even start?

Big smile Empty suit.

He is doing a good job thus far.

Seems mainly focused on photo opps and using the governorship as a stepping stone to other political positions. I don't like that his campaign was funded by outsiders. What unique ideas or policies has he come up with? He also seems very divisive and makes a point to bash republicans rather than trying to work with them and hear their ideas.

Getting to know him.

he's fine

I don't like how the county, the state or the country are being run. Politics overrides everything else. We are spending ourselves into oblivion.

Too early to form a strong impression.

never vote for someone involved in non profits

Perception is that Larry Hogan did a great job fiscally, and Wes Moore came in & has promised too much and now needs to "find" more money.

Spending all the surplus and now state needs to tax us more. And fees are taxes. Won't fight the liberals in his party for common sense solutions to crime. All talk.

He is another O'Malley with taxes

An inexperienced plant.

idk this man

Who? The last time I heard anything from the governor was when he took credit for building the Hillman garage.

Just a yes man !

Disagree with his policies

## Appendix R: Steuart Pittman Job Approval Comments

Zero approval

WHAT HAS HE FIXED?

Strongly support

Doing a good job

Solid, focused, clear on where he stands

best executive in over over twenty years

Still can't figure out what he stands for on any subject

I have not tracked his career closely enough to give a fair assesment.

Has been a visible, responsive elected official.

Stop passing the buck

Communicative, level-headed

He's effectively dealing with many difficult issues - balancing and making good decisons

Fair minded politician

Has dramatically improved environmental regulation and DEI in county government. A decent, thoughtful open minded politician with deep local roots.

Very engaged. Supports smart growth.

he's amazing, brave, smart, doing a fantastic job

He means well and generally does well.

Generally I like his approach and outlook for the country; I do not like the fact that, even though he campaigned on reducing development, I don't see evidence of that. In my area development continues unabated.

Has not listen to the community.

Interested in trying to promote a good life for all people, and decreasing the gap between the very wealthy and the very poor

He generally is pursuing policies that I support and he seems to be a decent human being.

I'm still unhappy he kept Wegman's out of Annapolis

The County Executive came into office with a very ambitious agenda. Many voters, myself included, felt that it was overly ambitious for an inexperienced politician. I have had the benefit of working with many of the members of his administration. There have been and will continue to be challenges, but on the whole, County Executive Pittman has exceeded in accomplishing many of his campaign promises. He is a capable administrator who hires exceptional staff and empowers them to do their best. He has formed strategic relationships with both a Republican and Democratic governors. This has all been to the benefit of the citizens of Anne Arundel County.

Fair minded, concerned for citizens

idk this man

Unsure

Too much focused on looking politically correct.

County overdevelopment

We have a AAA bond rating. Great job!

I have sent emails to him on community problems and have always got a response

Too much development not quite on top of all the issues

He doesn't hesitate to change out people in his administration. I'm unsure if that is good or disrupts continuity. He's on this 4th P&Z officer, immigration Affairs Commission is rudderless. New Chief of Staff

etc.

He's an idiot.

CE Pittman is very transparent and keeps the residents informed. I think he is doing a great job.

Has no awareness of north county issues

Seems to be doing a fair equal job

I enjoy County Executive Pittman's weekly newsletters and feel that it offers a glimpse into what he is thinking. It is also very personal and I appreciate his transparency on that. However, I do think he is a very traditional politician who falls in line with the establishment, which isn't always a good thing.

Ancient, entitled, white, privileged, male.

Good environmental steward

too much growth

He has been very good for the County

Like his policies and his leadership style

Socialist democrat

He was not transparent Chesapeake Conserancy attampt to build an office building in Quiet Waters Park.

He didn't think that issue out at all.

he sure likes publicity

I can't seem to connect with Pittman. He doesn't come across as someone who really cares about the community.

Best politician around! Sincere, honest and truly cares!

He has supported policies that would benefit the majority of Marylanders

I appreciate Pittman's weekly communication emails. They show his moral compass aligns with mine even if I don't agree with every decision he makes.

He's thoughtful, makes choices in alignment with my values

I voted for Steuart Pittman thinking he was pro-environment, but then I saw how he was operating behind the scenes and see he is not good for the environment.

I like how he interacts with the public

He has been transparent and hard working and has kept his word on many issues important to me

I don't have easy access to information about Pittman's policies and activity.

DONT EVER HEAR OF OF FROM THIS PERSON, NO IDEA WHAT IS BEING DONE

Effective management of county resources, good at communicating what he's doing, county seems to be thriving

Communicative, environmentally focused

His focus on climate change, good fiscal policies, saving farm land

Works with all constituencies, but too prone to raise taxes.

hasn't done anything permenantly harmful

Strong on environmental conservation and affordable housing.

Sold out to developers just look at Riva Road

I don't know much about his policies or practices.

Not what he even does.

He said he would not raise taxes and he lied

What has he done to make our life easier????

He wants too many feel good programs and doesn't focus on what's really needed. Law Enforcement Officers need more funding a support ie: the Sherrif department is very understaffed with 8000 unserved open warrents and not enough staff to serve them!

Pittman is a tax and spend socialist who is harming the working class and elderly on fixed incomes with

too much taxes.

Lies & raises taxes

Showed his true colors during the COVID 19 pandemic. Used that for political gain and too gain national attention. Could care less about us

Typical Democratic Party Hack. Poor on Covid & vaccinations for seniors

He is a radical marxist who wants to push the UN Agenda for ending suburban and rural life as we know it by eliminating single family housing, restricting gasoline engine car usage, increasing section 8 housing and increasing multi-family dwellings all in the name of defeating climate change

seems to be looking out for our county

Need more info

taxes-taxes-taxes

He's horrible. He's a community organizer not a leader or executive. Hes more worried about tax relief for his wine farm and pension and free healthcare after leaving office.

Making the county a sanctuary county was very harmful.

Pittman has never seen an intrusion into private economy that he doesn't like. Favor over development and has given us less bang for more bucks.

he cares, honest, down to earth, communicates

none

His handling of the COVID crisis was very bad for the citizens of Anne Arundel County

Gives away too much Federal money based on view of illegal aliens.

Very unfriendly to business development and typical tax Democrat

Grade B+

To much FOR Sanctuary County, High-Density Growth, Socialism.

Grandstanding hypocrite

Too often Mr. Pittman seems to look first at government for solutions and expects the middle class to carry the weight of solution cost..

Not bad

Fair and balanced government

Never around.....trying to raise taxes.....plastic bag ban

He's for high taxes and cramming in low-income housing wherever he can.

Weak on crime strong on taxing

Feel as v if he is doing his best to advance his political career and not as much for county residents.

He has good intentions however, he likes to spend tax dollars and it was very upsetting to see the dense housing developments on Riva Rd.

He does nothing to bring people together: he has no idea what the average person is going through.

I'm not a fan of the plastic bag mandate. Where is the data supporting its effectiveness? Or its need? Plus the City of Annapolis is exempt. Seems like bags in the harbor could be a problem.

needs to get a handle on over-development

His edicts during Covid were ridiculous

He says he is for the environment and smart growth but development is crazy and infrastructure isn't keeping up.

way too much development has happened under someone that said he was for the environment

I feel that he is responsive to his constituents.

No vision or goals. You won't got anything done without a roadmap

His half-assed job with the Preserve at Eisenhower golf course and not funding a club house, while spending on other recreational venues.



So far so good.

He has made strong efforts to act in accordance with what county residents want and need. He spends a lot of time in communities.

Pittman is a liar and hypocrite. He ran on less development and is in fact pushing high density growth in all areas of Anne Arundel County except his own "back yard". He plays the races against one another instead of instilling a desire for harmony and cooperation.

He stole the election!!!

He screwed the Mayo Peninsula over  
im not sure

I have no opinion.

Worry about real issues and NOT plastic bags and gender pronouns. Get real Stu.

30%

Seems to waste time on non-essential issues

Needs to focus more on reducing taxes.

The County is being run well with an agreed upon vision that Pittman is able to articulate.

n/a

Experienced and fair-minded.

Well, the county isn't falling apart.

Nothing specific.

Not awful

He said no new development! Riva Road?????

Pittman seems to be working well with the various elements of our community and is concerned about climate issues. He publishes an excellent weekly newsletter to keep us informed about his activities and concerns.

His office keeps the county residents very informed

Bond rating etc

Don't know him

Has made county departments much more responsive to residents needs, inquiries, suggestions, and complaints.

Clown

Nothing they have done has negatively affected me.

Didn't vote for him.

Steu Pittman.....a total weather vane always pointing towards the politically accepted position by the masses. Always looking for the votes and not taking care of the people.

not enough information on him

He has done an excellent job for our county. From affordable housing to services for those in need. He is an advocate for all. His stance on education, inclusion and doing whatever he can to address and eradicate racism.

I meant to say unsure

Allowing too much development especially in wet areas

Focus less on partisan politics.

With the exception of the ridiculous plastic bag band, he seems to be trying to improve the life of the County residents.

He lied about protecting environment

Squander county resources on unneeded programs.

Tax and spend

He has done a good job thus far.

Not fiscally responsible and focuses on unimportant issues like plastic bags.

Listens, conservation,

no

I don't like how the county, the state or the country are being run. Politics overrides everything else. We are spending ourselves into oblivion.

Stop squandering our money on your pet projects.

never vote for someone who never had to earn a living and was involved with nonprofits

Don't like some of his zoning decisions. Mealy-mouthed.

Hoped he'd stop development.

Concerned for all the wrong topics for this county

Corrupt and secretive.

Too focused on DEI.

Fiscally irresponsible and raised taxes. Botched handling of Covid.

He has no idea what the majority of the people of AA county genuinely want in terms of best interests.

Dishonest

## Appendix S: Other Institutions Job Approval Comments

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Republican Party members have lost their ability / willingness to THINK beyond DJT and to support the national good. The Supreme Court is slow and disruptive to American society.

The Supreme Court Should never have reversed U.S. abortion policy.

America's judiciary is in shambles and I don't know what to do about it other than continue to vote and make sure we have the right people in the right places.

Anne Arundel County Council has become more representative of all of the people.

B of Ed is more concerned with marginalized groups then the education of all students

Between CHUCK Schumer and the House Freedom Caucus, we are in the hands of idiots at a time of great danger and NO presidential leadership.

Biden worst president EVER

Both the supreme court and congress ate out of touch with the realities of most Americans. The supreme court is mistly guided by their personal religious beliefs rather than the likely intentions of the original framers of the US Constitution. Too many members of congress are too busy keeping their jobs to actually do their jobs. I feel there should be term limits for both.

Congress in worthless

Congress inaction, Socialism, weak on Immigration, Crime, Economy.

Congress is by too divided. They need to remember they are working for the American people. They should be getting the same health benefits for B health that we get.

Congress is a mess since they just keep spending money that we do not have and driving us farther and farther into unimaginable debt. Both parties are at fault! Note that they have exempted themselves from the health care plans they forced everyone else to accept. Health care has become an arm of the US Drug industry with the congress greedily accepting bribes to look the other way. Follow the money to see why the congress stood by while the drug companies aligned themselves with big tech and big government in order to line their pockets with Covid cash, shoving an experimental drug on an unsuspecting population. Look how much the Dr. Fauci benefited from the lies he peddled! He should be in jail.

Congress is a total waste of taxpayer dollars

Congress is at a standstill and not governing.

Congress is historically inept and ineffective The Supreme Court's decisions have reflected the conservative agenda too often and should have an actual, enforced Code of Ethics

Congress is totally dysfunctional. The SCOTUS has become far too political. Justices Thomas and Kavanaugh in particular should never have been confirmed.

Congress mired in stupid thanks to policy lacking uniformed republicans- no backbones to defy Trump

Congress needs to be time-limited in office. They seem more about being in the news than passing legislation.

Congress needs to legislate and quit relying on executive orders

Congress. We have too many politicians and not enough statesmen.

county council is not working well with the executive on land use excesses and is biased towards developers wants

County council is weak...very prone to respond to developer interests

Doesn't the law matter any more?

Dont pay attention

Every Congressional vote should be reported in real-time and on news stations so voters see how their reps voted for every issue.

Focus less on partisan politics.

House is completely broken and unable to govern.held hostage to a small minority. Electoral college also obsolete

House isn't dealing with real issues, is dictated by the crazies

House of Representatives is broken and ineffective due to extreme right wing group

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I am out of time - survey to long

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I approve of the education and county boards so long as they continue to support and protect queer youth and literature in schools.

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I have no opinion.

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I prefer when government is lead by politicians from different political parties to provide checks and balances. Situations like we have now in MD where the governor and both houses of the MGA are controlled by one party leads to abuse. Absolute power corrupts absolutely.

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I think the County Exec should run for Congress next. He is an earnest, ethical, and steadfast leader who does what he believes and says he means to do.

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I think we need to go back to rules of founding fathers. Terms should be for every office in government and they should not be able to keep all benefits they receive after term. They have everything and get to vote whether retirees can continue to get benefits they paid for.

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I was a lot better off financially under Trump's policies. We had a peace treaty in Middle East. There were less illegal crossings at the border.

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I wish we could include the City of Annapolis in these surveys.

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I'm 80 years old; I've voted for both democrats and republicans over the years; I've worked on Capitol Hill, White House, Defense Dept and others. But what has happened to democracy since 2016 is unimaginable. Gutting voting rights has set back the country. Core values of religious groups controlling policies for institutions and systems—no separation of church and state. Not certifying the ERA as the 28th constitutional amendment is a set back for women and others. Treating immigrants as less than human is a setback for humanity. Congress is a mess. Supreme Court deciding women's issues based on religious beliefs. Sorry I will not live long enough to see the country on better times.

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If the government had not gone after Tump at every level and did what the people elected them to do we would be in a much better place

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im not sure

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In my opinion, both the Supreme Court and Congress are failing in their leadership roles in our government. So, even if they have done a few things right, the have few bases for approval.

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Larry Hogan should be voted into the Senate. He has the experience and is a very partial individual. He will not allow what is happening to this country by his vote.

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Mayor Gavin Buckley brings positive actions and initiatives to Annapolis.

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Mayorkas should be tried by jury.

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Most of the board of education has never walked into a classroom in their life, no experience.

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My biggest concern is the rate if inflation then the wars we are supporting The tuition re imburement is good but what about all of us wha paid their school loans . Of course I paid the off but would be nice to get my money back Also I don't think any administration focus on the seniors enough .

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My dissatisfaction with U.S. Congress is the fascist Republican Party which is anti-U.S.A. As a retired veteran (20+ years) it makes me sick to see these Republicans try to wrap themselves up in the flag when all they are doing is spitting on it.

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n/a

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NA

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Neither party is on the people or country's side, they only worry about re-election and how to get more money.

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no

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No one is doing anything of value.

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Nothing they have done has negatively affected me.

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Office of the Mayor of Annapolis disgraceful

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Once in office, serve all the people of your state / country. Regardless of the party to which you belong. This countruy remains split and Joe Biden having claimed tobe a unifier has done nothing in these past three plus years to unite us as Americans. Name one thing that he has done, just one. I'm still waiting! SHAMEFUL, Political partisanship should not be allowed to play a part in the Supreme Court and threatens our democratic values.

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Relegalize abortion.

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Republican House completely dysfunctional

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Republican House is the worst ever in out history.

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Republicans in Congress do not know how to govern. It is disgracefully that GOP continues to support Trump. Terrible that Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade.

Republicans in the US House of Representatives are an anti-democratic, Russian propaganda fueled clown car of ineptitude, more interested in viral video moments than actual governing.

SCOTUS = rule of law

SCOTUS has become politically conservative, Congress is deadlocked due to those who block improvements at any cost rather than a bipartisan approach

Senators Cardin and Van Hollen - both are thoughtful, productive legislators.

Supreme Court is protector of Constitution

Spending too much money. All need a budget and trim wasteful spending

State Legislature hog-tied by special interests.

Supreme Court corrupted by major donors, politics, religious beliefs and 1800#;thinking

Supreme court decisions have moved closer to being aligned with the Constitution.

Supreme court: they overturned Roe V. Wade invading women's rights of to have bodily autonomy.

Supreme Court's reversal of abortion rights is a disgrace

the congress and supreme court of the US are hellbent on making sure every citizen in the united states suffers. enabling the ur-fascistic torment of those in power is the very worst thing they could be doing, so obviously they love doing it...

The Congress can't seem to get out of it's own way, wastes time not addressing big stuff. Supreme Court has ethics issues, politics issues, seems full of self importance

The County Council gets it right most of the time.

The current makeup of the Supreme Court is a travesty and is wreaking havoc with had fought battles in the past

The democrats seem to be trying really hard in the face of some seriously corrupt and disgusting opposition from their colleagues across the aisle.

The House is a real mess! The Supreme Court is disappointing and has become very political.

The House of Representatives should be fired immediately

The less government, the better. Most candidates are awful.

The Maryland General Assembly is all about Baltimore and black people. No consideration for other residence in Md

The Maryland legislature works well to deal with important matters for citizens of the state and does not appear to be mired in partisan politics like the disgraced US Congress.

The media covers their actions and lies through their teeth... When we get all media reporting the TRUTH -- then maybe my score will change.

The Republican congress is a joke! They have done absolutely nothing. All they care about is trying to muddy the waters with ridiculous impeachment hearings with no evidence to try and please their leader Trump.

The senate is filled with brainless sheep

The Supreme Court has abandoned the values and principles of the Constitution and the rule of law.

The Supreme Court has been compromised by conflicts of interest, political appointees to achieve an agenda, and lacks accountability. Justices should be non-partisan, non-sectarian, accountable, and replaceable. Term limits should apply to Congress, and mandatory retirement caps applicable to all government positions. If there's a minimum age for appointment, we can apply a maximum age. Retirees can become consultants for the next generations.

The Supreme Court has been fair even though people can disagree with some decisions. Some problems need to be fixed by Congress, not the court.

The Supreme Court has the potential to endanger more than just a few aspects of our society. Trump's appointments need to be curbed in some fashion and soon.

The Supreme Court in its role of interpreting the Constitution must necessarily be conservative, not activist.

Congress needs to do their job and pass a responsible and timely budget, not continuing resolutions.

The Supreme Court is an ethical disaster.

The Supreme Court is an institution that should never be politicized and yet it has been by the media and the far left Democrats. The fact that conservative justices have been harassed, threatened and their families put in harms way ....AND the police were not permitted to do their job to protect, is unfathomable. I give them credit for making decisions that uphold the Constitution - as far as I can tell.

The Supreme Court is forcing the country backwards. And, how can Clarence Thomas get away with taking vacations, etc from people who have business before the court? And, his wife was involved in the planning for Jan 6th. He doesn't belong on the court.

The Supreme Court is the only branch of the top tier of government that must base its opinions and decisions on precedent. That makes the Supreme Court inherently more reliable than Congress and the President.

The Supreme Court needs a code of ethics and needs to be held accountable.

The Supreme Court will likely not prosecute Trump for committing treason in front of everyone and this is seriously negative for the health of the republic

The Supreme Court with its rational majority is for now the only bright spot in the life of a nation that has lost its morals, moorings, and minds. Imagine a country where the military is absorbed with questions of gender rather than war-fighting.

THE SUPREME COURT, ORANGE JESUS AND MOSES MIKE JOHNSON WILL CONTINUE TO RUIN THIS COUNTRY IF WE CONTINUE TO DO NOTHING

The U.S. Congress has been too racked by partisan bickering to effectively govern; the even greater factional strife within the Republican ranks in both houses has made the problem even worse than the rift between the Democrats and the Republicans. Insofar as the Supreme Court is concerned, the ever-more apparent partisan leanings of the "conservative" majority has devastated the Court's respect among the populace. The past year's exposure of ethical issues with some of the Justices, and the Court's weak-to-nonexistent response to those issues has exacerbated that fading of respect for the Court.

The U.S. House Republicans are holding up so much for the rest of us. They're nonfunctional and I can't believe that the many Republicans who I assume are there operating in good faith cannot stand up to the Boebert, Greene, Gaetz, Tuberville etc. insanity. The Republicans in the US Senate -- particularly Mitch McConnell -- also have not operated in good faith especially by refusing to allow Obama to replace people on the Supreme Court. I'm appalled by our current court. While I know he predates McConnell's refusal, Clarence Thomas seems to me to be unworthy of his position given his years of not even asking a single question at trials, Ginnie Thomas's involvement in January 6th, and the millions in gifts and trips and favors he's pocketed from wealthy Republican businessmen.

The unpredictability of the Supreme Court actually makes them interesting

The US Congress is dysfunctional due to Republican chaos, disorganization and total inability to govern.

The US House of Representative's has been the worst I have observed in my entire life. I think that the SC majority is ethically compromised.

The US Supreme Court is a bunch of partisan hacks, 3 of whom were appointed by a madman.

There are 2 kinds of leaders: those who continue with the status quo and those with a vision and goal. It looks like Gavin is the latter. Well done

They need to get their stuff together. Do more research on things instead of assume they are right. They need to actually learn more about technology, put in more effort with the education system and actually listen to the people instead of businesspeople.

too much is being decided based on political "wins" and not what is best for the citizens.

Too much politics, not enough bipartisanship. We need term limits in congress.

Trump is a traitor and criminal

Unsure - haven't heard any opinions yet

US Congress beholden only to wealthy donors and lobbyists

US Senate is OK, House isn't.

Way too much politics and personal agendas involved.

We need term limits for congress and senate. Their only goal is to be re-elected for a job for life and insider info their spouses cash in on.

While I do believe they are doing a decent job overall, I think the Maryland General Assembly could do a better job of being more representative of the people they serve. Raising taxes without batting an eye and redistricting their own areas for their own personal and political gain is NOT what I want out of my representatives on the state level. (Looking at you Senator Elfreth...)

With a lifetime career in science and engineering, I cringe at the current wave of alternate facts and self-serving made-up 'truths'. I have voted for Republican office-holders/-seekers in the past but looking at the current GOP cult leader, I can't see doing that again for quite a while.