

N=801 active Maryland voters statewide; fielded December 11-15, 2011; weighted numbers

General Mood and Climate

On the subject of taxes, which of these comes closest to your own view? (*Read statements.*)

We may need to raise some taxes to address public priorities; OR

I do not want new taxes, but there might be a special case where a dedicated tax or fee could help solve an important public problem; OR

I am totally opposed to taxes. The government must be forced to live within its means.

(*Do not read*): Not sure/Refused to say

- Raise some taxes..... 19%
- Dedicated tax or fee 28%
- Must live within its means..... 49%
- Not sure/Refused 4%

As you look at your own household’s financial situation today, would you say money is something you worry about or not? (*If worried*): Do you worry about it every day or only sometimes?

- Worry every day 36%
- Worry sometimes/Unsure how worried..... 35%
- Do not worry 28%
- Not sure/Refused 1%

Perceptions of Waters

Teachers often give students the grades of A, B, C, D, or Fail. If I asked you to grade the Chesapeake Bay where “A” means it is extremely clean and healthy, and “F” means it is failing, what grade would you give it?

A (4)	B (3)	C (2)	D (1)	F (0)	Not sure	Mean
2%	9%	39%	21%	17%	13%	1.51

Thinking back, do you think the health of the Chesapeake Bay is generally (*randomize*): [getting better, getting worse, (or) staying about the same]?

- Better 21%
- Worse 22%
- Same 44%
- Not sure 14%

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What about local streams, creeks, or rivers in your area? How would you grade them on that A to F scale where “A” is extremely clean and healthy and F is failing?

A (4)	B (3)	C (2)	D (1)	F (0)	Not sure	Mean
<i>high</i> ←				→ <i>low</i>		
4%	17%	34%	18%	15%	12%	1.75

Do you think the health of local streams, creeks, or rivers in your area is generally (*randomize*): [getting better, getting worse, (or) staying about the same]?

- Better 13%
- Worse 21%
- Same 56%
- Not sure 10%

Would you be surprised to learn that experts are now saying we are halfway to the goal of cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay?

- Yes, surprised 52%
- No, not surprised..... 41%
- Not sure 8%

Does knowing that make you think (*rotate*): [we need to do even more for the Bay to finish the job, (or does it make you think) that maybe the Bay needs less help than we thought and we can ease up]?

- We need to do even more 77%
- We can ease up 11%
- Makes no difference to me/Doesn't influence me (*Volunteered*) 4%
- Not sure/Depends 8%

Public Will

How important is it to you personally to take the actions necessary to make the Chesapeake Bay and local streams clean and healthy? (*Read list.*)

- Extremely important 19%
- Very important..... 40%
- Somewhat important 32%
- Not too important 6%
- Not at all important 1%
- (*Do not read*): Not sure/Refused 2%

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If State leaders and scientists said more tax dollars were needed to make our waters (*split sample*): {safe/healthy} is that something you would be likely to support or oppose, if you thought the amount was reasonable? (*If support/oppose*): Is that strongly or just somewhat {support/oppose}?

	<u>Safe</u>	<u>Healthy</u>	<u>All</u>
Strongly support.....	24%	29%	26%
Somewhat support.....	39%	34%	36%
<i>Support (Total)</i>	62%	63%	63%
Not sure/Depends on amount (<i>Volunteered</i>).....	7%	9%	8%
Somewhat oppose.....	12%	12%	12%
Strongly oppose.....	17%	16%	17%
<i>Oppose (Total)</i>	30%	27%	29%
Refused to say.....	1%	1%	1%

Bay Restoration Fund

Maryland is making progress in cleaning up the Bay but needs to do more to meet its commitments. There is a proposal to increase the Bay Restoration Fund to finish upgrading major wastewater treatment plants and provide local governments with money to reduce polluted stormwater runoff and complete other water quality projects. If you thought the amount was fair, would you be likely to support or oppose this proposal? (*If support/oppose*): Is that strongly or just somewhat {support/oppose}?

Strongly support.....	26%
Somewhat support.....	38%
<i>Support (Total)</i>	64%
Neutral/No opinion (<i>Volunteered</i>).....	3%
Somewhat oppose.....	8%
Strongly oppose.....	19%
<i>Oppose (Total)</i>	27%
Depends on the amount (<i>Volunteered</i>).....	3%
Not sure/Refused.....	3%

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I would like to read you some facts about this proposal. Please rate each fact on its own using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means it would make you much more willing to support the fee, 3 means it makes no difference, and 1 means much less willing to support the fee. The first is...
(Read and randomize facts.)

- A. By law, this fee is dedicated and could not be diverted for other purposes.
- B. The fee would create jobs across the state to carry out water quality projects.
- C. An increased fee would significantly reduce the Bay’s two biggest pollutants, nitrogen and phosphorous.
- D. The state has a new “clean water plan” to clean up the Chesapeake Bay and local rivers and streams, and this fee would help that plan succeed.
- E. By 2025 the increased fee would mean you could wade and swim in local waters without worrying about getting sick after a rain storm.
- F. This fee would have a “sunset” provision and would end by the year 2030.
- G. The fund would have clear goals, deadlines and milestones so we can measure progress and ensure government accountability.

	5 <i>more willing</i>	4	3	2	1 <i>less willing</i>	Not Sure	Top 2 (4+5)	Mean
A. Dedicated fee	43%	11%	23%	4%	16%	3%	54%	3.63
G. Clear goals	37%	15%	29%	4%	13%	2%	52%	3.60
E. Wade and swim	35%	13%	31%	5%	13%	3%	48%	3.54
B. Create jobs	37%	13%	27%	6%	16%	2%	50%	3.51
D. New plan	29%	14%	33%	7%	13%	3%	44%	3.41
C. Reduce pollutants	29%	13%	31%	4%	18%	4%	43%	3.33
F. Sunset	19%	9%	37%	8%	23%	5%	28%	2.93

Knowing all of these facts, if you thought the amount was fair would you support or oppose an increase in the Bay Restoration Fund? (If support/oppose): Is that strongly or just somewhat {support/oppose}?

Strongly support.....	30%
Somewhat support	32%
<i>Support (Total)</i>	62%
Neutral/No opinion (<i>Volunteered</i>).....	4%
Somewhat oppose	9%
Strongly oppose	19%
<i>Oppose (Total)</i>	29%
Depends on the amount (<i>Volunteered</i>)	3%
Not sure/Refused	2%

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Smart Growth and Septics

How active do you think the state government should be in coordinating and managing growth across the state? *(Read categories.)*

Very active	40%
Somewhat active.....	40%
Not very active	7%
Not at all active.....	9%
Not sure	4%

“Smart growth” is an idea to help reduce pollution and improve communities. Instead of building new homes and businesses far from cities and towns, growth is directed to communities that already have services such as schools, hospitals, and transportation. Do you generally support or oppose this idea of smart growth?

(If support/oppose): Is that strongly or just somewhat {support/oppose}?

Strongly support.....	39%
Somewhat support	37%
<i>Support (Total)</i>	76%
Not sure/Depends (<i>Volunteered</i>).....	8%
Somewhat oppose	7%
Strongly oppose	8%
<i>Oppose (Total)</i>	15%
Refused to say	1%

I would like to read you several facts about growth in Maryland ask if they concern you a lot, a little, or not much at all. *(Read and randomize statements.)*

- A. New development is the fastest growing source of water pollution in Maryland.
- B. Development plans passed by local government will result in over 400,000 more acres of rural lands being developed for houses and commercial uses over the next 35 years.
- C. Maryland taxpayers will spend an extra \$30 billion in road construction costs at the current pace of development in rural areas.

	A lot	A little	Not much	Don't believe	Not Sure
A. Water pollution	57%	25%	12%	2%	4%
B. Acres being developed	50%	26%	18%	2%	4%
C. Road construction costs	46%	31%	18%	2%	4%

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Some homes and developments that do not have access to a wastewater treatment plant rely on their own on-site sewage disposal or “septic” systems to clean up their wastewater. Septic systems in Maryland are pumping thousands of pounds of harmful pollution into our groundwater every day, posing a public health risk. Would you support legislation that tightens regulations on septic systems to prevent water pollution? *(If support/oppose):* Is that strongly or just somewhat {support/oppose}?

Strongly support.....	53%
Somewhat support.....	19%
<i>Support (Total)</i>	72%
Not sure/Depends (<i>Volunteered</i>).....	6%
Somewhat oppose.....	7%
Strongly oppose.....	13%
<i>Oppose (Total)</i>	19%
Refused to say.....	2%

Knowing that a house with a septic system pollutes between 6 and 10 times more than a house served by a sewer system, would you support or oppose efforts to limit the number of houses that have septic systems in our rural areas to help achieve cleaner streams and the Bay? *(If support/oppose):* Is that strongly or just somewhat {support/oppose}?

Strongly support.....	45%
Somewhat support.....	25%
<i>Support (Total)</i>	69%
Not sure/Depends (<i>Volunteered</i>).....	7%
Somewhat oppose.....	6%
Strongly oppose.....	15%
<i>Oppose (Total)</i>	21%
Refused to say.....	3%

Classification

The last few questions are to classify the survey only. What is the last grade of school that you completed?

Did not finish high school.....	3%
High school degree.....	21%
Some college/Associate’s degree.....	20%
4-year college degree/Bachelor’s degree.....	34%
Post-graduate work.....	20%
Not sure/Refused.....	3%

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In what county do you live?

Allegany	1%
Anne Arundel	7%
Baltimore City.....	7%
Baltimore County.....	15%
Calvert.....	2%
Caroline.....	*%
Carroll	3%
Cecil.....	2%
Charles.....	4%
Dorchester	*%
Frederick.....	3%
Garrett.....	1%
Harford.....	4%
Howard.....	8%
Kent	*%
Montgomery	14%
Prince George's	15%
Queen Anne's	1%
St. Mary's	2%
Somerset.....	*%
Talbot.....	1%
Washington.....	2%
Wicomico	1%
Worcester	2%
Not sure/Refused	4%

Do you most closely identify your race or ethnic background as (randomize): [White, African-American, Hispanic, Asian, mixed race], or some other?

White	59%
African-American/Black.....	25%
Hispanic	1%
Asian.....	3%
Mixed race	2%
Other.....	3%
Not sure/Refused	7%

Gender (*by observation*)

Male	49%
Female.....	51%

That's all the questions I have for you. Thanks for your time. Goodbye.

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(Recorded from voter file):

Age (BirthDate)

< 35	10%
35 – 49	30%
50 – 64	34%
65 +	26%

Political party (Party)

Democratic (DEM).....	57%
Republican (REP)	26%
Ind/3rd (All others).....	17%

Congressional District (Congressional)

1.....	12%
2.....	10%
3.....	12%
4.....	14%
5.....	16%
6.....	12%
7.....	13%
8.....	11%