

June 2023

## Gonzales Poll – Part 2: Maryland Statewide



Gonzales Poll

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## Background and Methodology

Patrick E. Gonzales graduated magna cum laude from the University of Baltimore with a degree in political science.

His career in the field of public opinion research began in the mid-1980s as an analyst with *Mason-Dixon Opinion Research*. During this time, Mr. Gonzales helped develop, craft and implement election surveys and exit polls for television and radio in the Baltimore-Washington D.C. metro area.

Mr. Gonzales has polled and analyzed well over a thousand elections in Maryland and across the country since that time. Furthermore, he and his associates have conducted numerous market research projects, crafting message development plans and generating strategy blueprints for businesses and organizations throughout the state.

Over his 35 years conducting public opinion polls, Patrick Gonzales has been widely recognized by his peers for his ability to conduct unbiased surveys, and analyze the results in an impartial, evenhanded manner.

Mr. Gonzales appears frequently on radio and television in the Baltimore-D.C. region as a guest commentator.

This poll was conducted by ***Gonzales Research & Media Services*** from May 30<sup>th</sup> through June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023. A total of 841 registered voters in Maryland, who indicated they are likely to vote in the 2024 general election, were queried by live telephone interviews, utilizing both landline and cell phone numbers. A cross-section of interviews was conducted throughout the state, reflecting Maryland general election voting patterns.

The margin of error (MOE), per accepted statistical standards, is a range of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. If the entire population was surveyed, there is a 95% probability that the true numbers would fall within this range.

## Synopsis

“In this corner, weighing 175 lbs., the undisputed ...”

In a rematch, Joe Biden bests Donald Trump, 52%-35%, with 13% undecided. In any poll match-up involving an incumbent, the undecided vote typically ends up breaking strong for the challenger. But, here, we kinda have 2 incumbents, which provides for some fascinating possibilities...not necessarily for the country, but certainly for us political junkies.

Against Ron DeSantis, Florida’s governor, Biden captures 51% of the vote, compared to 37% for DeSantis. Biden has 77% support among Democrats, while DeSantis snares 79% of the GOP vote. DeSantis, intriguingly, leads Biden at this point among independents, 48% to 41%.

A Republican in Maryland is not that different from, say, a Republican in Wyoming, but an “independent” in Maryland can be very different from an “independent” in other parts of the country. Why is Maryland’s unaffiliated voter bloc shying away from the president? President Biden’s campaign team should be concerned with these cautionary signs.

We did a hypothetical match-up for president between Joe Biden and Wes Moore among Democrats in Maryland. Statewide, 49% said they would vote for Joe Biden, 41% said they would vote for Wes Moore, and 10% provided no answer.

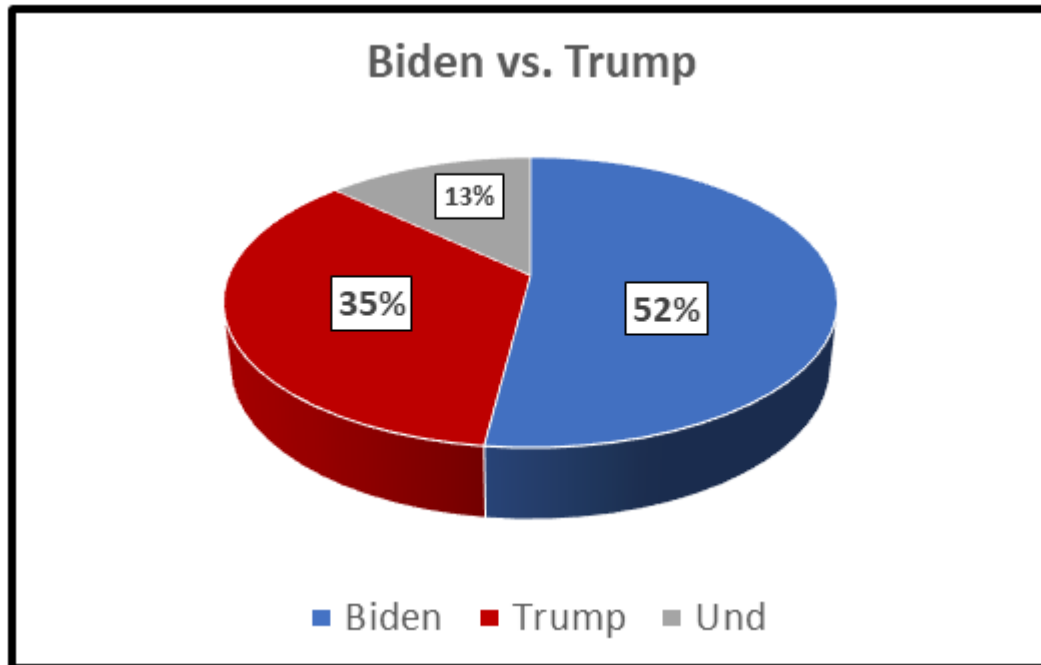
Biden has an authoritative 58%-30% lead over Moore among white Democrats in Maryland. But among African-Americans, Moore is up 12 points, 53%-41%. We have not a clue what will happen in November of 2024, but it cannot be a good sign for President Biden to be trailing amongst such a critical Dem voting bloc in this, albeit, hypothetical match-up.

In a Republican match-up between Trump and DeSantis, the former president leads 42% to 37%, with 21% giving no answer. Trump is up by 21 points among Republican women, and DeSantis leads by 9 points among Republican men.

## Gonzales Poll - Maryland Statewide Results

### President Joe Biden vs. Former President Donald Trump

Today in Maryland, 52% of voters say they would vote for Democrat Joe Biden, “if the 2024 election for president were held today,” 35% say they’d vote for Republican Trump, and 13% were undecided.



Biden vs. Trump	<u>Biden</u>	<u>Trump</u>
Statewide	52%	35%
Democrat	77%	11%
Republican	9%	79%
Independent	44%	41%
White	42%	46%
African-American	74%	10%
Other	45%	44%
Female	59%	28%
Male	44%	43%

## President Biden vs. Florida Governor Ron DeSantis

Against Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, Biden is up 51% to 37%. Biden's capturing 78% support among Democrats, while DeSantis garners 79% among Republicans.

Among independents, DeSantis leads 48% to 41%. The sluggish enthusiasm among independents for the president demonstrated here is not necessarily an irreparable trend, but it's a troublesome signal.

<b>Biden vs. DeSantis</b>	<b><u>Biden</u></b>	<b><u>DeSantis</u></b>
Statewide	51%	37%
Democrat	78%	11%
Republican	5%	79%
Independent	41%	48%
White	41%	48%
African-American	74%	11%
Other	45%	46%
Female	58%	30%
Male	43%	45%

	<b>Biden Vote</b>	<b>GOP Vote</b>	<b>Biden Margin</b>
<b>Biden vs. Trump</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>+17</b>
<b>Biden vs. DeSantis</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>+14</b>

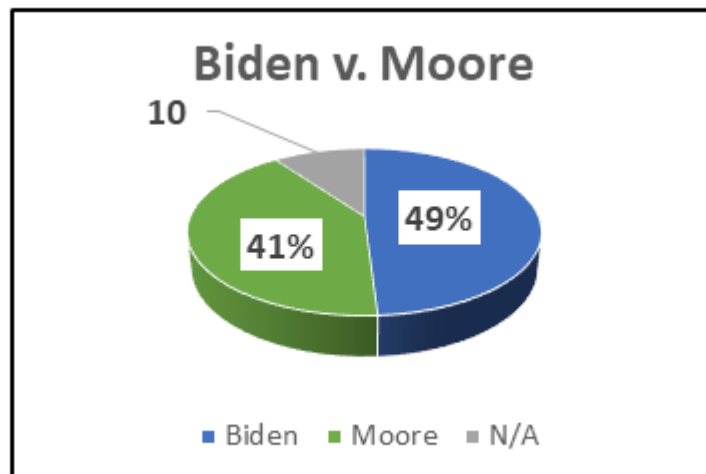
## President Biden vs. Governor Wes Moore (DEMOCRATS ONLY)

We asked Democrats in our poll the hypothetical question, “If you were voting in a Democratic primary for president, would you vote for Joe Biden or Wes Moore?”

Statewide, 49% said they would vote for Joe Biden, 41% said they would vote for Wes Moore, and 10% provided no answer.

Among white Democrats, Biden enjoys a commanding 58% to 30% lead. But among black Democrats, Moore is up 12 points. Fifty-three percent of African-American voters say they would support Governor Wes Moore over the incumbent, “if they were voting in a Democratic primary for president”...another worrisome marker for Biden.

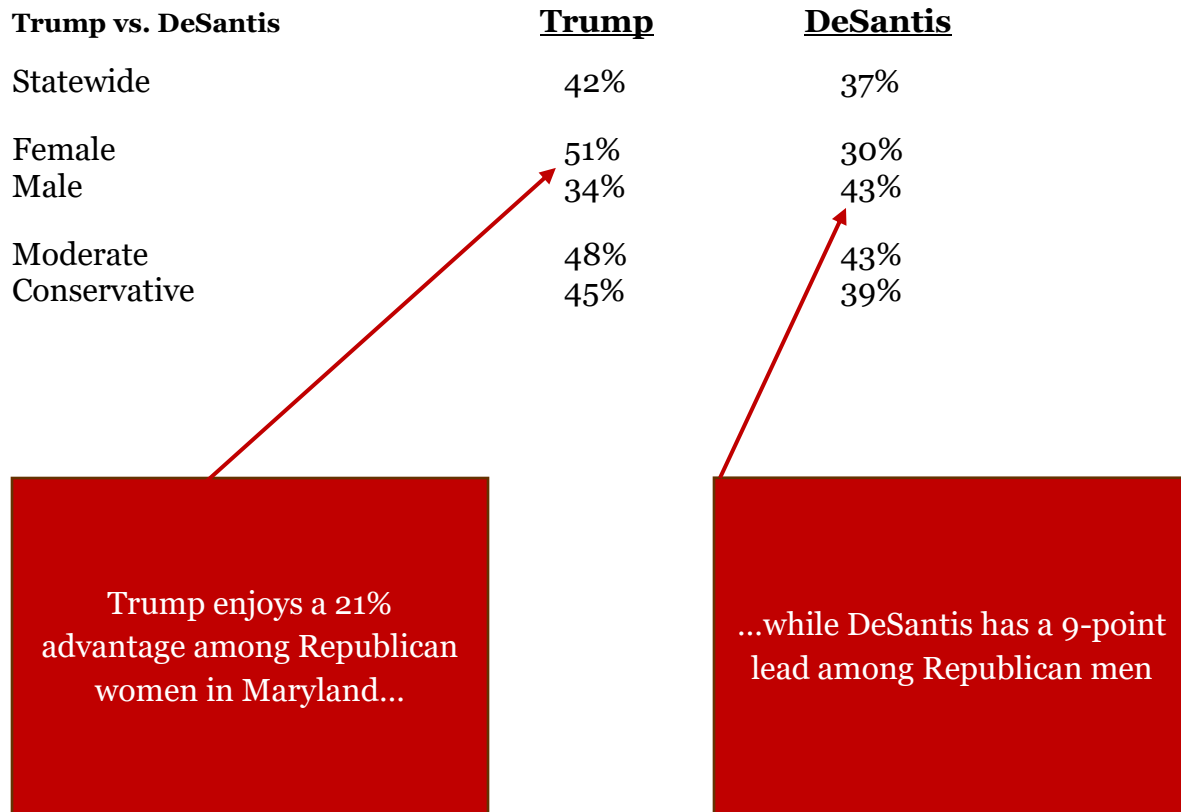
<b>Biden vs. Moore</b>	<b><u>Biden</u></b>	<b><u>Moore</u></b>
Statewide	49%	41%
White	58%	30%
African-American	41%	53%
Other	57%	28%
Female	50%	42%
Male	48%	40%
Progressive	51%	37%
Liberal	52%	41%
Moderate	48%	43%
Conservative	45%	39%



## Trump vs. DeSantis (REPUBLICANS ONLY)

We asked Republicans in our poll the hypothetical question, “If you were voting in a Republican primary for president, would you vote for Donald Trump or Ron DeSantis?” **NOTE: This is a hypothetical question because we did not include other announced Republican candidates, nor did we screen these likely general election voters for their likelihood of voting in next year’s primary.**

Statewide, 42% of Republicans say they would vote for Donald Trump, 37% say they would vote for Ron DeSantis, and 21% offered no response.





## Appendix A: Data Tables – Frequencies and Crosstabs

**QUESTION: Biden vs. Trump** *If the 2024 election for President were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Joe Biden, the Democrat and Donald Trump, the Republican?*

<u>BIDEN vs TRUMP</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Biden	438	52.1 %
Trump	295	35.1 %
Undecided	108	12.8 %
Total	841	100.0 %

N=841

<u>BIDEN vs TRUMP</u>		
<u>Biden</u>	<u>Trump</u>	<u>Undecided</u>

### RESULTS

Statewide	438 52.1%	295 35.1%	108 12.8%
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N=841

<u>BIDEN vs TRUMP</u>		
<u>Biden</u>	<u>Trump</u>	<u>Undecided</u>

### PARTY REGISTRATION

Democrat	341 77.0%	47 10.6%	55 12.4%
Republican	20 9.0%	175 79.2%	26 11.8%
Unaffiliated	77 43.5%	73 41.2%	27 15.3%

N=841	BIDEN vs TRUMP		
	Biden	Trump	Undecided

RACE/ETHNICITY

White	210 42.3%	230 46.3%	57 11.5%
African American	188 73.7%	26 10.2%	41 16.1%
Other/No answer	40 44.9%	39 43.8%	10 11.2%

N=841	BIDEN vs TRUMP		
	Biden	Trump	Undecided

GENDER

Female	265 58.8%	127 28.2%	59 13.1%
Male	173 44.4%	168 43.1%	49 12.6%

N=841	BIDEN vs TRUMP		
	Biden	Trump	Undecided

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Progressive	109 82.0%	5 3.8%	19 14.3%
Liberal	143 82.7%	11 6.4%	19 11.0%
Moderate	159 54.3%	91 31.1%	43 14.7%
Conservative	22 9.6%	182 79.1%	26 11.3%

N=841

## BIDEN vs TRUMP

Biden	Trump	Undecided
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AGE

18 to 34	88 62.0%	36 25.4%	18 12.7%
35 to 49	110 52.1%	69 32.7%	32 15.2%
50 to 64	108 44.6%	111 45.9%	23 9.5%
65 and older	132 53.7%	79 32.1%	35 14.2%

N=841

## BIDEN vs TRUMP

Biden	Trump	Undecided
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REGION

Eastern Shore	38 39.6%	44 45.8%	14 14.6%
Baltimore City	52 66.7%	13 16.7%	13 16.7%
Baltimore Suburbs	127 45.8%	107 38.6%	43 15.5%
Washington Suburbs	185 63.6%	76 26.1%	30 10.3%
Western Maryland	36 36.4%	55 55.6%	8 8.1%

**QUESTION: Biden vs. DeSantis** *If the 2024 election for President were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Joe Biden, the Democrat and Ron DeSantis, the Republican?*

BIDEN vs DESANTIS	Number	Percent
Biden	431	51.2 %
DeSantis	309	36.7 %
Undecided	101	12.0 %
Total	841	100.0 %

N=841

BIDEN vs DESANTIS		
Biden	DeSantis	Undecided

RESULTS

Statewide	431 51.2%	309 36.7%	101 12.0%
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N=841

BIDEN vs DESANTIS		
Biden	DeSantis	Undecided

PARTY REGISTRATION

Democrat	347 78.3%	49 11.1%	47 10.6%
Republican	11 5.0%	175 79.2%	35 15.8%
Unaffiliated	73 41.2%	85 48.0%	19 10.7%

N=841	BIDEN vs DESANTIS		
	Biden	DeSantis	Undecided

RACE/ETHNICITY

White	202 40.6%	239 48.1%	56 11.3%
African American	189 74.1%	29 11.4%	37 14.5%
Other/No answer	40 44.9%	41 46.1%	8 9.0%

N=841	BIDEN vs DESANTIS		
	Biden	DeSantis	Undecided

GENDER

Female	263 58.3%	133 29.5%	55 12.2%
Male	168 43.1%	176 45.1%	46 11.8%

N=841	BIDEN vs DESANTIS		
	Biden	DeSantis	Undecided

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Progressive	106 79.7%	12 9.0%	15 11.3%
Liberal	140 80.9%	11 6.4%	22 12.7%
Moderate	151 51.5%	113 38.6%	29 9.9%
Conservative	29 12.6%	167 72.6%	34 14.8%

N=841

## BIDEN vs DESANTIS

Biden	DeSantis	Undecided
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AGE

18 to 34	85 59.9%	39 27.5%	18 12.7%
35 to 49	110 52.1%	71 33.6%	30 14.2%
50 to 64	106 43.8%	115 47.5%	21 8.7%
65 and older	130 52.8%	84 34.1%	32 13.0%

N=841

## BIDEN vs DESANTIS

Biden	DeSantis	Undecided
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REGION

Eastern Shore	37 38.5%	48 50.0%	11 11.5%
Baltimore City	53 67.9%	14 17.9%	11 14.1%
Baltimore Suburbs	129 46.6%	115 41.5%	33 11.9%
Washington Suburbs	179 61.5%	83 28.5%	29 10.0%
Western Maryland	33 33.3%	49 49.5%	17 17.2%

**QUESTION: Biden vs. Moore** *If you were voting in a Democratic primary for president, would you vote for Joe Biden or Wes Moore?*

\*\*\*\*\*

**443 Democrats**

\*\*\*\*\*

<u>BIDEN vs MOORE</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Biden	219	49.4 %
Moore	182	41.1 %
<u>No answer</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>9.5 %</u>
Total	443	100.0 %

N=443

<u>BIDEN vs MOORE</u>		
<u>Biden</u>	<u>Moore</u>	<u>No answer</u>

RESULTS

Statewide	219 49.4%	182 41.1%	42 9.5%
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N=443

<u>BIDEN vs MOORE</u>		
<u>Biden</u>	<u>Moore</u>	<u>No answer</u>

RACE/ETHNICITY

White	105 57.7%	54 29.7%	23 12.6%
African American	91 41.2%	117 52.9%	13 5.9%
Other/No answer	23 57.5%	11 27.5%	6 15.0%

N=443	BIDEN vs MOORE		
	Biden	Moore	No answer
<u>GENDER</u>			
Female	139 50.2%	116 41.9%	22 7.9%
Male	80 48.2%	66 39.8%	20 12.0%

N=443	BIDEN vs MOORE		
	Biden	Moore	No answer
<u>POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY</u>			
Progressive	52 51.0%	38 37.3%	12 11.8%
Liberal	75 52.4%	59 41.3%	9 6.3%
Moderate	69 47.6%	63 43.4%	13 9.0%
Conservative	22 44.9%	19 38.8%	8 16.3%

N=443	BIDEN vs MOORE		
	Biden	Moore	No answer
<u>AGE</u>			
18 to 34	47 54.0%	31 35.6%	9 10.3%
35 to 49	59 50.4%	48 41.0%	10 8.5%
50 to 64	53 52.0%	41 40.2%	8 7.8%
65 and older	60 43.8%	62 45.3%	15 10.9%



N=443

BIDEN vs MOORE

	Biden	Moore	No answer
<u>REGION</u>			
Eastern Shore	21 58.3%	13 36.1%	2 5.6%
Baltimore City	31 46.3%	30 44.8%	6 9.0%
Baltimore Suburbs	64 51.2%	50 40.0%	11 8.8%
Washington Suburbs	90 48.1%	77 41.2%	20 10.7%
Western Maryland	13 46.4%	12 42.9%	3 10.7%

**QUESTION: Trump vs. DeSantis** *If you were voting in a Republican primary for president, would you vote for Donald Trump or Ron DeSantis?*

\*\*\*\*\*

**221 Republicans**

\*\*\*\*\*

<u>TRUMP vs DESANTIS</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Trump	93	42.1 %
DeSantis	82	37.1 %
No answer	46	20.8 %
Total	221	100.0 %

N=221

<u>TRUMP vs DESANTIS</u>		
Trump	DeSantis	No answer

RESULTS

Statewide	93 42.1%	82 37.1%	46 20.8%
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N=221

<u>TRUMP vs DESANTIS</u>		
Trump	DeSantis	No answer

GENDER

Female	52 51.0%	31 30.4%	19 18.6%
Male	41 34.5%	51 42.9%	27 22.7%

N=221

<u>TRUMP vs DESANTIS</u>		
Trump	DeSantis	No answer

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Moderate	23 39.7%	24 41.4%	11 19.0%
Conservative	68 44.2%	57 37.0%	29 18.8%

N=221

## TRUMP vs DESANTIS

Trump	DeSantis	No answer
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AGE

18 to 34	4 25.0%	8 50.0%	4 25.0%
35 to 49	22 51.2%	15 34.9%	6 14.0%
50 to 64	43 50.6%	23 27.1%	19 22.4%
65 and older	24 31.2%	36 46.8%	17 22.1%

N=221

## TRUMP vs DESANTIS

Trump	DeSantis	No answer
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REGION

Eastern Shore	14 33.3%	16 38.1%	12 28.6%
Baltimore Suburbs	35 44.3%	29 36.7%	15 19.0%
Washington Suburbs	15 35.7%	20 47.6%	7 16.7%
Western Maryland	27 50.9%	16 30.2%	10 18.9%

## Appendix B: Maryland Poll Sample Demographics

<u>RESULTS</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Statewide	841	100.0 %
Total	841	100.0 %

<u>PARTY REGISTRATION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Democrat	443	52.7 %
Republican	221	26.3 %
Unaffiliated	177	21.0 %
Total	841	100.0 %

<u>RACE/ETHNICITY</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
White	497	59.1 %
African American	255	30.3 %
Other/No answer	89	10.6 %
Total	841	100.0 %

<u>POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Progressive	133	15.8 %
Liberal	173	20.6 %
Moderate	293	34.8 %
Conservative	230	27.3 %
No answer	12	1.4 %
Total	841	100.0 %

<u>GENDER</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Female	451	53.6 %
Male	390	46.4 %
Total	841	100.0 %

<u>AGE</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
18 to 34	142	16.9 %
35 to 49	211	25.1 %
50 to 64	242	28.8 %
65 and older	246	29.3 %
Total	841	100.0 %

<u>REGION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Eastern Shore	96	11.4 %
Baltimore City	78	9.3 %
Baltimore Suburbs	277	32.9 %
Washington Suburbs	291	34.6 %
Western Maryland	99	11.8 %
Total	841	100.0 %

**Regional Groupings**

**Eastern Shore/Southern MD** – includes Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne’s, St. Mary’s, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester counties

**Baltimore City** – includes Baltimore City

**Baltimore Suburbs** – includes Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Harford, and Howard counties

**Washington Suburbs** – includes Charles, Frederick, Montgomery, and Prince George’s counties

**Western Maryland** – includes Allegany, Carroll, Garrett, and Washington counties

## Appendix C: Democrats Sample Demographics

<u>RESULTS</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Statewide	443	100.0 %
Total	443	100.0 %

<u>RACE/ETHNICITY</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
White	182	41.1 %
African American	221	49.9 %
Other/No answer	40	9.0 %
Total	443	100.0 %

<u>GENDER</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Female	277	62.5 %
Male	166	37.5 %
Total	443	100.0 %

<u>POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Progressive	102	23.0 %
Liberal	143	32.3 %
Moderate	145	32.7 %
Conservative	49	11.1 %
No answer	4	0.9 %
Total	443	100.0 %

<u>AGE</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
18 to 34	87	19.6 %
35 to 49	117	26.4 %
50 to 64	102	23.0 %
65 and older	137	30.9 %
Total	443	100.0 %

<u>REGION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Eastern Shore	36	8.1 %
Baltimore City	67	15.1 %
Baltimore Suburbs	125	28.2 %
Washington Suburbs	187	42.2 %
Western Maryland	28	6.3 %
Total	443	100.0 %

## Appendix D: Republicans Sample Demographics

<u>RESULTS</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Statewide	221	100.0 %
Total	221	100.0 %

<u>GENDER</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Female	102	46.2 %
Male	119	53.8 %
Total	221	100.0 %

<u>POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Progressive	4	1.8 %
Liberal	4	1.8 %
Moderate	58	26.2 %
Conservative	154	69.7 %
No answer	1	0.5 %
Total	221	100.0 %

<u>AGE</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
18 to 34	16	7.2 %
35 to 49	43	19.5 %
50 to 64	85	38.5 %
65 and older	77	34.8 %
Total	221	100.0 %

<u>REGION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Eastern Shore	42	19.0 %
Baltimore City	5	2.3 %
Baltimore Suburbs	79	35.7 %
Washington Suburbs	42	19.0 %
Western Maryland	53	24.0 %
Total	221	100.0 %