



INSTITUTE OF POLITICS UMBC Poll

Results embargoed until 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 2025

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UMBC Poll (Part 1) Topics:

- Job approval rating of Gov. Wes Moore
- Views toward the direction of the state
- Rating of the Maryland economy
- Job approval rating of President Donald Trump
- Economic impact of and responsibility for the federal government shutdown

Tuesday, November 4 (Baltimore): The UMBC Poll surveyed **810** Maryland adults, including 757 registered voters, from Tuesday, October 21 to Saturday, October 25, 2025. Of the **810** Maryland adults surveyed (MOE= $\pm 3.4\%$), **757** indicated they were registered voters (MOE= $\pm 3.5\%$). Please refer to the methodology statement for information regarding data collection, sample demographics, and the topline results for the questions as worded in the order in which they were administered to respondents.

[Click here for results by demographics.](#)

The UMBC Institute of Politics will release Part 2 of this survey on Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 12:01 a.m. and Part 3 on Thursday, November 6.

Opinions toward Gov. Wes Moore and the direction of the state

Fifty-two percent of Maryland adults approve of the job Wes Moore is doing as governor, **44 percent** disapprove, and **4 percent** don't know.

- February 2025: 52 percent approved / 40 percent disapproved
- October 2024: 54 percent approved / 32 percent disapproved

Gov. Wes Moore's job approval remains sharply divided along party lines:

- Among Democratic voters: **78 percent** approve, **17 percent** disapprove
- Among Republican voters: **8 percent** approve, **89 percent** disapprove
- Among Unaffiliated/Independent voters: **42 percent** approve, **56 percent** disapprove

Forty-eight percent of Maryland adults say the state is on the wrong track, while **40 percent** believe it is heading in the right direction.

- February 2025: 49 percent wrong track / 42 percent right direction
- October 2024: 39 percent wrong track / 46 percent right direction

Attitudes toward state economic conditions

Sixty-nine percent of Marylanders rate the state's economic conditions over the past year as "poor" or "fair," while **30 percent** describe them as "good" or "excellent."

- February 2025: 31 percent "excellent" or "good" / 67 percent "poor" or "fair."
- October 2025: 32 percent "excellent" or "good" / 66 percent rate economic "poor" or "fair."

Looking ahead to next year, more than half of Marylanders (**55 percent**) think that economic conditions will be worse, **31 percent** say they will be "about the same," and **11 percent** expect them to be "better."

Marylanders were asked "*What is your biggest concern about the Maryland economy?*" This question was open-ended, and responses were coded by student research assistants at the UMBC Institute of Politics. The categorized results are as follows:

Taxes and government spending: **28 percent**

Federal government shutdown and national policy: **19 percent**

Cost of living and inflation: **13 percent**

Jobs and wages: **7 percent**

Housing costs and development: **3 percent**

Business climate and economic growth: **2 percent**

Marylanders were also asked how concerned they were about several key economic issues. The numbers below show the percent “very” or “somewhat” concerned:

- The price of food and consumer goods: **92 percent**
- The cost of health care and health insurance: **89 percent**
- The cost of household electricity: **88 percent**
- People being unable to find good-paying jobs: **86 percent**
- The cost and availability of housing: **79 percent**
- The price of gasoline: **64 percent**
- How the stock market is doing: **53 percent**

Views toward President Donald Trump and the federal government shutdown

The UMBC Poll was conducted about a month into the federal government shutdown.

Marylanders were first asked about the economic impact of the shutdown on both the state economy and their personal financial situation:

- **63 percent** believe the shutdown has had or will have a major impact on the state economy, **25 percent** expect a minor impact, and **7 percent** foresee no impact.
- **30 percent** say the shutdown has had or will have a major impact on their personal financial situation, **37 percent** expect a minor impact, and **29 percent** say the shutdown will have no impact on their household finances.

Next, Marylanders were asked the extent to which Republicans in Congress, Democrats in Congress, and President Trump are responsible federal government shutdown:

- **Sixty-one percent** say Republicans in Congress are either “very” or “completely” responsible for the shutdown.
- **Fifty-nine percent** say President Trump is either “very” or “completely” responsible.
- **Forty-one percent** say Democrats in Congress are either “very” or “completely” responsible.

Who Marylanders held responsible for the shutdown fell along party lines:

- **84 percent** of Democrats held President Trump and the Republicans in Congress “very” or “completely” responsible for the shutdown.
- **82 percent** of Republicans held Democrats in Congress Democrats in Congress “very” or “completely” responsible for the shutdown.

When asked about Pres. Donald Trump, **32 percent** of Marylanders approve of his job performance, and **67 percent** disapprove.

President Trump's job approval is sharply divided along party lines:

- Among Democratic voters: **8 percent** approve, **90 percent** disapprove
- Among Republican voters: **78 percent** approve, **19 percent** disapprove
- Among Unaffiliated voters: **34 percent** approve, **64 percent** disapprove

Marylanders are divided when it comes to their preferred approach to governing:

- **48 percent** say lawmakers who share their views should *stand by their principles even if it results in gridlock*
- **40 percent** say they should *compromise even if it means reaching a deal they disagree with.*

Methodology Statement

The UMBC Poll is conducted under the auspices of the UMBC Institute of Politics and is funded by the UMBC College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences.

The UMBC Poll surveyed **810** Maryland adults, including **757** registered voters, from Tuesday, October 21 to Saturday, October 25, 2025. The poll was conducted by live interviewers and text-to-web utilizing a dual-frame (landline and cell phone) random sample stratified by county.

- **13 percent** of interviews were conducted by landline telephone.
- **87 percent** of interviews were conducted by cellular telephone, including **49 percent** via text-to-web and **38 percent** by live caller.

Interviews were conducted from 1 to 8 p.m., and interviewers attempted to reach respondents with working phone numbers a maximum of five times. Braun Research provided the sample of telephone numbers and the data collection.

There is a 95 percent probability that the survey results have the following percentage point sampling error from the actual population distribution for any given survey question:

- MOE=**+/-3.4%** for the sample of **810** Maryland adults.
- MOE=**+/-3.5%** for the sample of **757** Maryland registered voters.

The margin of sampling error is higher for subgroups and is not adjusted for design effects. Like all public opinion polls, the UMBC Poll is also subject to sources of non-sampling error, such as non-response bias, question-order effects, and question-wording effects. The topline results include the questions as worded in the order in which they were administered to respondents.

Mileah Kromer, Director of the UMBC Institute of Politics, and Ian Anson, Associate Director, process the data collected by the UMBC Poll. Under Kromer and Anson's supervision, student research assistants help with various aspects of the UMBC Poll as part of UMBC's commitment to innovative teaching and learning, research across disciplines, and civic engagement.

The UMBC Poll is committed to methodological transparency. If you have questions about the poll's methodology, contact Mileah Kromer, Director, UMBC Institute of Politics (mkromer@umbc.edu).

Sample Demographics (in percent) and Weighting

The UMBC Poll data is weighted by gender, age, race, geography, and educational attainment to represent the Maryland adult population targets established by the most recent American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates provided by the U.S. Census. Results are in column percentages and may not add up to exactly 100 due to weighting and rounding.

		Maryland population parameter	Maryland Adults n=810 (+/-3.4%)	Registered Voters n=757 (+/-3.5%)
Gender	Male	48	48	49
	Female	52	52	51
Age	18-24	11	11	10
	25-34	17	17	17
	35-44	17	17	18
	45-54	16	17	17
	55-64	17	17	17
	65+	21	21	21
Race	White	50	51	52
	Black	29	29	29
	Hispanic/Latino	10	10	9
	Asian	7	7	6
	All other	4	3	4
Education	High school graduate/GED or less	34	33	32
	Some college or associate degree	26	26	27
	4 year college degree	22	20	20
	Advanced / post-grad degree	18	21	21
Geography	Montgomery County	17	17	16
	Prince George's County	15	15	15
	Baltimore County	14	14	13
	Anne Arundel County	10	10	10
	Baltimore City	9	9	9
	Central Region	13	13	13
	Western Region	9	9	9
	Eastern Shore Region	8	7	7
	Southern Region	6	6	6

Central region: Carroll, Harford, and Howard Counties

Western region: Allegany, Garrett, Frederick, and Washington Counties

Eastern Shore region: Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties

Southern region: Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties

Other sample demographics (in percent)

The data is not weighted by these characteristics.

		Maryland population parameter	Maryland Adults n=810 (+/-3.4%)	Registered Voters n=757 (+/-3.5%)
Party*	Democrat	52	--	51
	Republican	24	--	24
	Unaffiliated	22	--	24
	Other	2	--	1
Ideology	Conservative	--	27	26
	Moderate	--	49	49
	Progressive	--	24	24
Income	Under \$40,000	16	11	11
	\$40,00 to under \$75,000	18	18	18
	\$75,000 to under \$125,000	24	28	29
	\$125,000 or more	42	43	43

*The "party" population parameter established by the Maryland State Board of Elections Voter Registration Activity Report (September 2025).

Question design codes

- Bracketed items []: Items in brackets in the questions are administered in a randomized order.
- Probe (p): Response options that include a (p) indicate the use of a probe maneuver to determine a respondent's intensity of expressed opinion. Example: Do you have a [favorable or unfavorable] opinion of <item>? Would you say very favorable/unfavorable?
- Open-ended: Open-ended questions are those without a defined set of response options.
- Volunteer (v): Response options that include a (v) indicate that the respondent offered a response not read to them in the question.

Topline Results

The topline results below represent the sample of **810** Maryland adults (MOE=+/-**3.4%**). [Click here for results by demographics](#). Results are in column percentages and may not add up to exactly 100 due to weighting and rounding.

Q: TRACK	To get started, do you think that things in Maryland [are heading in the right direction or are off on the wrong track] ?	Percent
	Wrong track	48
	Right direction	40
	Don't know (v)	11
	Refused (v)	1
Q: MOOREJOB	Do you [approve or disapprove] of the way Wes Moore is handling his job as governor?	Percent
	Strongly Disapprove (p)	28
	Disapprove	16
	Approve	31
	Strongly Approve (p)	21
	Don't know (v)	4
	Refused (v)	0
Q: TRUMPJOB	Do you [approve or disapprove] of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?	Percent
	Strongly Disapprove (p)	57
	Disapprove	10
	Approve	13
	Strongly Approve (p)	19
	Don't know (v)	1
	Refused (v)	1

Q: SD_ECON	Next, I'd like to ask you a few questions about the federal government shutdown. Do you think that the federal government shutdown has or will eventually have a [major, minor, or no] impact on each of the following:	
<i>Q: ECON_STATE to Q: ECON_SELF were administered to respondents in a randomized order.</i>		
Q: ECON_STATE	<i>The Maryland state economy</i>	Percent
	No Impact	7
	Minor Impact	25
	Major Impact	63
	Don't know (v)	4
	Refused (v)	0
Q: ECON_SELF	<i>Your personal financial situation</i>	Percent
	No Impact	29
	Minor Impact	37
	Major Impact	30
	Don't know (v)	4
	Refused (v)	0
Q: RESPONSIBLE	I'd like to know the extent to which you think the [Democrats in Congress, Republicans in Congress, or President Trump] are responsible for the federal government shutdown.	
<i>Q: RES_R to Q: RES_T were administered to respondents in a randomized order</i>		
Q: RES_R	<i>Republicans in Congress</i>	Percent
	Not at all	17
	A little	9
	Somewhat	12
	Very	20
	Completely	41
	Don't know (v)	0
	Refused (v)	0
Q: RES_D	<i>Democrats in Congress</i>	Percent
	Not at all	20
	A little	14
	Somewhat	24
	Very	14
	Completely	27
	Don't know (v)	1
	Refused (v)	0

Q: RES_T	<i>President Trump</i>	Percent
	Not at all	22
	A little	7
	Somewhat	10
	Very	17
	Completely	42
	Don't know (v)	1
	Refused (v)	0
Q: COMPROMISE	Thinking about the lawmakers who share your views , when it comes to governing, do you prefer that they. . . [Items 1 and 2 in randomized order]	Percent
	1. Stand by their principles, even if it results in gridlock	48
	2. Compromise, even if that means they reach a deal you disagree with	40
	Some other opinion (v)	8
	Don't know (v)	3
	Refused (v)	1
Q: PAST	Changing topics to the state economy, how would you rate the economic conditions in Maryland over the past year: [poor, fair, good, or excellent] ?	Percent
	Poor	30
	Fair	39
	Good	28
	Excellent	2
	Don't know (v)	1
	Refused (v)	0
Q: AHEAD	Do you expect economic conditions in Maryland to be [better, worse, or about the same] a year from now?	Percent
	Worse	55
	About the same	31
	Better	11
	Don't know (v)	3
	Refused (v)	0

Q: ECON_OWN	What is your biggest concern about the Maryland economy? [open-ended]	Percent
	Taxes and government spending	28
	Federal government shutdown and national policy	19
	Cost of living and inflation	13
	Jobs and wages	7
	Housing costs and development	3
	Business climate and economic growth	2
	Other	17
	Don't know (v) / Refused (v)	12
Q: EC_ISSUES	Next, I'm going to read you a list of economic issues. For each one, please tell how concerned— [not at all, a little, somewhat, or very] —you are about each one. . .	
<i>Q: GOODS to Q: GAS were administered to respondents in a randomized order.</i>		
Q: GOODS	<i>The price of food and consumer goods</i>	Percent
	Not at all	3
	A little	6
	Somewhat	21
	Very	71
	Don't know (v)	0
	Refused (v)	0
Q: EMPLOY	<i>People being unable to find good paying jobs</i>	Percent
	Not at all	6
	A little	7
	Somewhat	25
	Very	61
	Don't know (v)	1
	Refused (v)	0
Q: HOUSING	<i>The cost and availability of housing</i>	Percent
	Not at all	10
	A little	10
	Somewhat	24
	Very	55
	Don't know (v)	1
	Refused (v)	0

Q: STOCK	<i>How the stock market is doing</i>	Percent
	Not at all	24
	A little	18
	Somewhat	34
	Very	19
	Don't know (v)	4
	Refused (v)	0
Q: GAS	<i>The price of gasoline</i>	Percent
	Not at all	18
	A little	18
	Somewhat	32
	Very	32
	Don't know (v)	1
	Refused (v)	0
Q: UTILITY	<i>The cost of household electricity</i>	Percent
	Not at all	4
	A little	8
	Somewhat	27
	Very	61
	Don't know (v)	1
	Refused (v)	0
Q: HEALTH	<i>The cost of healthcare and health insurance</i>	Percent
	Not at all	5
	A little	5
	Somewhat	18
	Very	71
	Don't know (v)	0
	Refused (v)	0



Our Mission

UMBC is a dynamic public research university integrating teaching, research and service to benefit the citizens of Maryland. As an Honors University, the campus offers academically talented students a strong undergraduate liberal arts foundation that prepares them for graduate and professional study, entry into the workforce, and community service and leadership.

UMBC emphasizes science, engineering, information technology, human services and public policy at the graduate level. UMBC contributes to the economic development of the State and the region through entrepreneurial initiatives, workforce training, K- 16 partnerships, and technology commercialization in collaboration with public agencies and the corporate community. UMBC is dedicated to cultural and ethnic diversity, social responsibility and lifelong learning.

Our Vision

Our UMBC community redefines excellence in higher education through an inclusive culture that connects innovative teaching and learning, research across disciplines, and civic engagement. We will advance knowledge, economic prosperity, and social justice by welcoming and inspiring inquisitive minds from all backgrounds.