

Tax Survey Questions

1. Thinking about the state of Maryland, do you feel that things are generally moving in the right direction, or have they gotten off on the wrong track?
2. I am going to read to you a list of issues facing the state of Maryland, please tell me which one you feel is most important to you? (Rotate choices)
 - Crime
 - Taxes
 - Education
 - Jobs/economy
 - Health Care
 - Environment
 - Government spending
 - Tobacco/Smoking

3. Do you believe the amount you pay to the state government in taxes is very fair, somewhat fair, somewhat unfair, or very unfair?
4. Approximately, what percentage of the money you pay in state taxes is wasted by the government?

Now, thinking about tax increases...

5. Would you favor or oppose legislation to increase revenue through a tax increase on tobacco products?
6. If your state representative voted to increase taxes, how confident are you that they will spend the revenue wisely?
7. In your mind is it fair to single out one segment of taxpayers to pay for statewide programs like education and health care?

Now I am going to read to you a list of statements dealing with state spending and tax increases. After I read the following statements, please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the statement. (Rotate questions 8-15)

8. "If the government wants to fund public programs, it would be better for politicians to eliminate wasteful spending and manage programs more efficiently than to raise the tax on tobacco products"?
9. "The state government needs to be more accountable for the revenue it currently takes in before a tax increase on cigarettes is proposed"?

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