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Conducted for:

**Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association
&
Maryland Motor Truck Association**

September 2011

Methodology

Patrick E. Gonzales graduated from the University of Baltimore in 1981 with a degree in political science. He began his career as an analyst with *Mason-Dixon Opinion Research* and is the former president of *Mason-Dixon Campaign Polling*.

Mr. Gonzales has polled and analyzed hundreds of elections in Maryland since the mid 1980's. Additionally, he and his associates have conducted numerous market research projects and crafted message development programs for businesses and organizations throughout the state.

Hilary Duff Gonzales is Director of Sales and Marketing for *Gonzales Research & Marketing Strategies*. Mrs. Gonzales has over 20 years experience promoting the state of Maryland, particularly in the tour and travel industry.

This survey was conducted by *Gonzales Research & Marketing Strategies* from September 19th through September 27th, 2011. A total of 805 registered voters in Maryland who vote regularly were interviewed by telephone. A cross-section of interviews was conducted in each jurisdiction within the state to reflect general election voting patterns.

The margin of error (MOE), according to customary statistical standards, is no more than plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. There is a 95 percent probability that the "true" figures would fall within this range if the entire survey universe were sampled. The margin for error is higher for any demographic subgroup, such as gender or race.

Maryland Statewide Poll Sample Demographics

<u>PARTY AFFILIATION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Democrat	452	56.1 %
Republican	252	31.3 %
Independent	101	12.5 %
Total	805	100.0 %

<u>RACE</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
White	596	74.0 %
African-American	189	23.5 %
Other/Refused	20	2.5 %
Total	805	100.0 %

<u>GENDER</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Male	383	47.6 %
Female	422	52.4 %
Total	805	100.0 %

<u>REGION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Eastern Sh/So MD	117	14.5 %
Baltimore City	72	8.9 %
Baltimore Suburbs	291	36.1 %
Washington Suburbs	234	29.1 %
Western MD	91	11.3 %
Total	805	100.0 %

Regional Groupings are as follows:

Eastern Shore/ Southern Md	Baltimore City	Baltimore Suburbs	Washington Suburbs	Western Maryland
Calvert Co.	Baltimore City	Anne Arundel Co.	Montgomery Co.	Allegany Co.
Caroline Co.		Baltimore Co.	Prince George's Co.	Carroll Co.
Cecil Co.		Harford Co.		Frederick Co.
Charles Co.		Howard Co.		Garrett Co.
Dorchester Co.				Washington Co.
Kent Co.				
Queen Anne's Co.				
Somerset Co.				
St. Mary's Co.				
Talbot Co.				
Wicomico Co.				
Worcester Co.				

QUESTION: *Would you favor or oppose a 5 cents per gallon increase in Maryland's gas tax rate to be used for transportation projects?*

<u>5 CENTS INCREASE IN GAS TAX</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Favor	313	38.9 %
Oppose	476	59.1 %
No answer	16	2.0 %
Total	805	100.0 %

<u>5 CENTS INCREASE IN GAS TAX</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Strongly favor	136	16.9 %
Somewhat favor	177	22.0 %
Somewhat oppose	85	10.6 %
Strongly oppose	391	48.6 %
No answer	16	2.0 %
Total	805	100.0 %

The political "will" might allow a nickel increase, but, in our opinion, that's likely as good as it's going to get in this economy

N=805

	<u>5 CENTS INCREASE IN GAS TAX</u>				
	<u>Strongly favor</u>	<u>Somewhat favor</u>	<u>Somewhat oppose</u>	<u>Strongly oppose</u>	<u>No answer</u>
<u>PARTY AFFILIATION</u>					
Democrat	93 20.6%	120 26.5%	49 10.8%	181 40.0%	9 2.0%
Republican	24 9.5%	34 13.5%	25 9.9%	164 65.1%	5 2.0%
Independent	19 18.8%	23 22.8%	11 10.9%	46 45.5%	2 2.0%

N=805

	<u>5 CENTS INCREASE IN GAS TAX</u>				
	<u>Strongly favor</u>	<u>Somewhat favor</u>	<u>Somewhat oppose</u>	<u>Strongly oppose</u>	<u>No answer</u>
<u>RACE</u>					
White	84 14.1%	114 19.1%	67 11.2%	317 53.2%	14 2.3%
African-American	48 25.4%	58 30.7%	14 7.4%	68 36.0%	1 0.5%

N=805

5 CENTS INCREASE IN GAS TAX

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	No answer
<u>GENDER</u>					
Male	64 16.7%	76 19.8%	34 8.9%	203 53.0%	6 1.6%
Female	72 17.1%	101 23.9%	51 12.1%	188 44.5%	10 2.4%

N=805

5 CENTS INCREASE IN GAS TAX

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	No answer
<u>REGION</u>					
Eastern Sh/So MD	22 18.8%	20 17.1%	11 9.4%	62 53.0%	2 1.7%
Baltimore City	23 31.9%	21 29.2%	7 9.7%	19 26.4%	2 2.8%
Baltimore Suburbs	40 13.7%	58 19.9%	29 10.0%	162 55.7%	2 0.7%
Washington Suburbs	41 17.5%	68 29.1%	25 10.7%	93 39.7%	7 3.0%
Western MD	10 11.0%	10 11.0%	13 14.3%	55 60.4%	3 3.3%

QUESTION: *Would you favor or oppose a 10 cents per gallon increase in Maryland's gas tax rate to be used for transportation projects?*

Going from a nickel to a dime cuts support nearly in half and drives up opposition 19 points

<u>10 CENTS INCREASE IN GAS TAX</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Favor	175	21.7 %
Oppose	625	77.6 %
No answer	5	0.6 %
Total	805	100.0 %

<u>10 CENTS INCREASE IN GAS TAX</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Strongly favor	51	6.3 %
Somewhat favor	124	15.4 %
Somewhat oppose	91	11.3 %
Strongly oppose	534	66.3 %
No answer	5	0.6 %
Total	805	100.0 %

N=805

	<u>10 CENTS INCREASE IN GAS TAX</u>				
	<u>Strongly favor</u>	<u>Somewhat favor</u>	<u>Somewhat oppose</u>	<u>Strongly oppose</u>	<u>No answer</u>
<u>PARTY AFFILIATION</u>					
Democrat	37 8.2%	78 17.3%	62 13.7%	272 60.2%	3 0.7%
Republican	7 2.8%	27 10.7%	16 6.3%	201 79.8%	1 0.4%
Independent	7 6.9%	19 18.8%	13 12.9%	61 60.4%	1 1.0%

N=805

	<u>10 CENTS INCREASE IN GAS TAX</u>				
	<u>Strongly favor</u>	<u>Somewhat favor</u>	<u>Somewhat oppose</u>	<u>Strongly oppose</u>	<u>No answer</u>
<u>RACE</u>					
White	30 5.0%	81 13.6%	59 9.9%	423 71.0%	3 0.5%
African-American	19 10.1%	38 20.1%	30 15.9%	100 52.9%	2 1.1%

N=805

10 CENTS INCREASE IN GAS TAX

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	No answer
<u>GENDER</u>					
Male	18 4.7%	63 16.4%	41 10.7%	259 67.6%	2 0.5%
Female	33 7.8%	61 14.5%	50 11.8%	275 65.2%	3 0.7%

N=805

10 CENTS INCREASE IN GAS TAX

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	No answer
<u>REGION</u>					
Eastern Sh/So MD	6 5.1%	18 15.4%	11 9.4%	81 69.2%	1 0.9%
Baltimore City	11 15.3%	17 23.6%	15 20.8%	28 38.9%	1 1.4%
Baltimore Suburbs	11 3.8%	47 16.2%	23 7.9%	209 71.8%	1 0.3%
Washington Suburbs	19 8.1%	33 14.1%	35 15.0%	145 62.0%	2 0.9%
Western MD	4 4.4%	9 9.9%	7 7.7%	71 78.0%	0 0.0%

QUESTION: *Would you favor or oppose an increase in Maryland's gas tax rate if some of the revenue generated was used for purposes other than transportation projects?*

INCREASE IN GAS TAX FOR NON-TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES	Number	Percent
Favor	100	12.4 %
Oppose	646	80.2 %
No answer	59	7.3 %
Total	805	100.0 %

INCREASE IN GAS TAX FOR NON-TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES	Number	Percent
Strongly favor	36	4.5 %
Somewhat favor	64	8.0 %
Somewhat oppose	157	19.5 %
Strongly oppose	489	60.7 %
No answer	59	7.3 %
Total	805	100.0 %

N=805

INCREASE IN GAS TAX FOR NON-TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	No answer
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PARTY AFFILIATION

Democrat	33 7.3%	41 9.1%	105 23.2%	228 50.4%	45 10.0%
Republican	2 0.8%	1 0.4%	47 18.7%	191 75.8%	11 4.4%
Independent	1 1.0%	22 21.8%	5 5.0%	70 69.3%	3 3.0%

N=805

INCREASE IN GAS TAX FOR NON-TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	No answer
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RACE

White	16 2.7%	36 6.0%	111 18.6%	388 65.1%	45 7.6%
African-American	19 10.1%	26 13.8%	40 21.2%	93 49.2%	11 5.8%

N=805

INCREASE IN GAS TAX FOR NON-TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	No answer
<u>GENDER</u>					
Male	11 2.9%	34 8.9%	67 17.5%	245 64.0%	26 6.8%
Female	25 5.9%	30 7.1%	90 21.3%	244 57.8%	33 7.8%

N=805

INCREASE IN GAS TAX FOR NON-TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	No answer
<u>REGION</u>					
Eastern Sh/So MD	6 5.1%	4 3.4%	23 19.7%	77 65.8%	7 6.0%
Baltimore City	9 12.5%	11 15.3%	13 18.1%	37 51.4%	2 2.8%
Baltimore Suburbs	7 2.4%	24 8.2%	56 19.2%	180 61.9%	24 8.2%
Washington Suburbs	14 6.0%	24 10.3%	43 18.4%	132 56.4%	21 9.0%
Western MD	0 0.0%	1 1.1%	22 24.2%	63 69.2%	5 5.5%

Majorities in every region across the state “strongly oppose” a gas tax that would be used for purposes other than transportation