



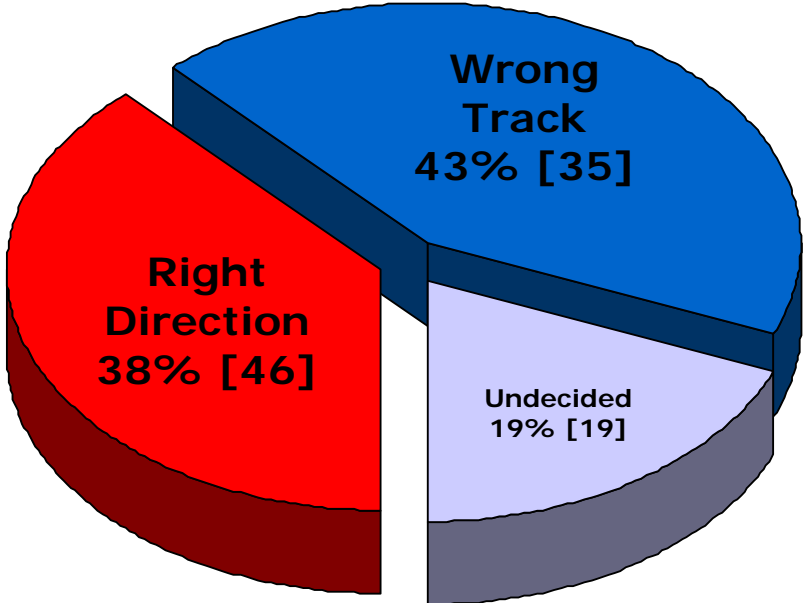
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**EASTERN SHORE LAND CONSERVANCY POLL OVERVIEW**

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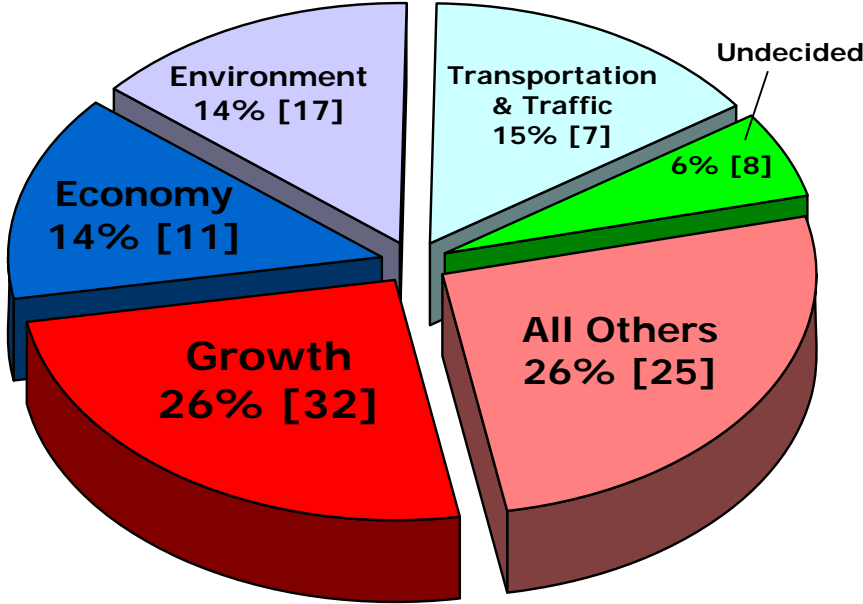
*The increase in the percent who think the Eastern Shore is on the “wrong track” – from 35% in 2004 to 43% in the current poll - means a higher level of anxiety exists than in the past. This is partly driven by an increase in economic and pocketbook concerns like jobs and taxes. However, concern about continued growth and development, including open space preservation, transportation and traffic issues – continue to be at the forefront of people’s minds since the level of concern is similar to, or slightly higher than it was in 2004. This means people don’t believe major progress has been made.*

Do you think things in the Eastern Shore are going in the right direction, or do you think things have gotten on the wrong track?



[ ] – denotes percentage in 2004

What would you say is the single most important problem facing the Eastern Shore today? That is, the one you would like to see resolved by your state or local elected officials?

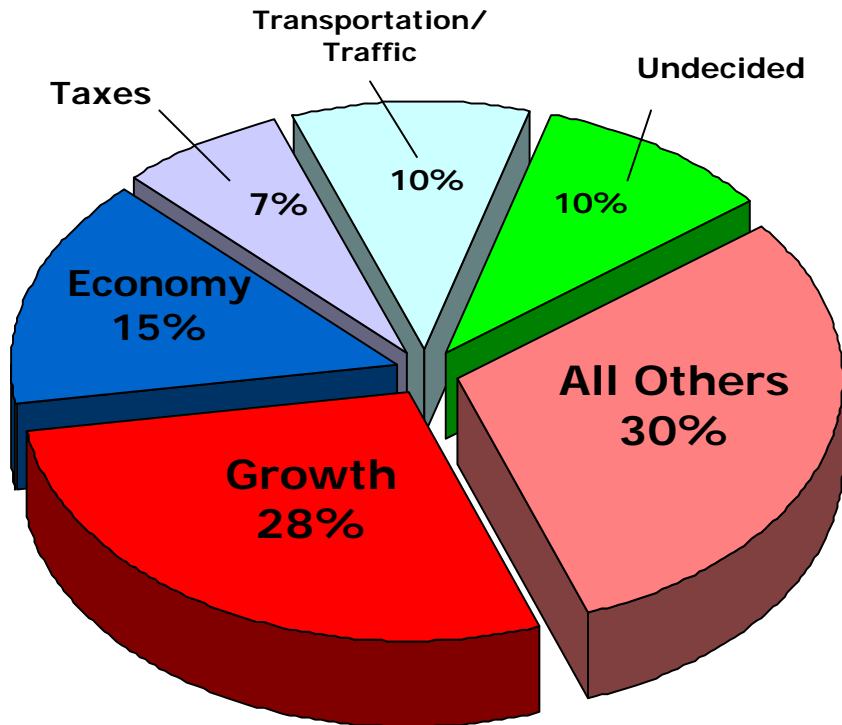


[ ] – denotes percentage in 2004

...In the current poll, total concern about growth and development, including open space preservation, traffic and transportation related issues is 41%, compared with 38% in 2004

*Consistent with 2004, concern about continued growth/development, including open space preservation, transportation and traffic issues – continue to be the most important problems facing people in their local areas. This again suggests people don't believe major progress has been made on the issue. However, concern varies by county, with concern peaking in Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties similar to the 2004 survey.*

What would you say is the single most important problem facing your LOCAL area today? That is, the one you would like to see resolved by your local elected officials?

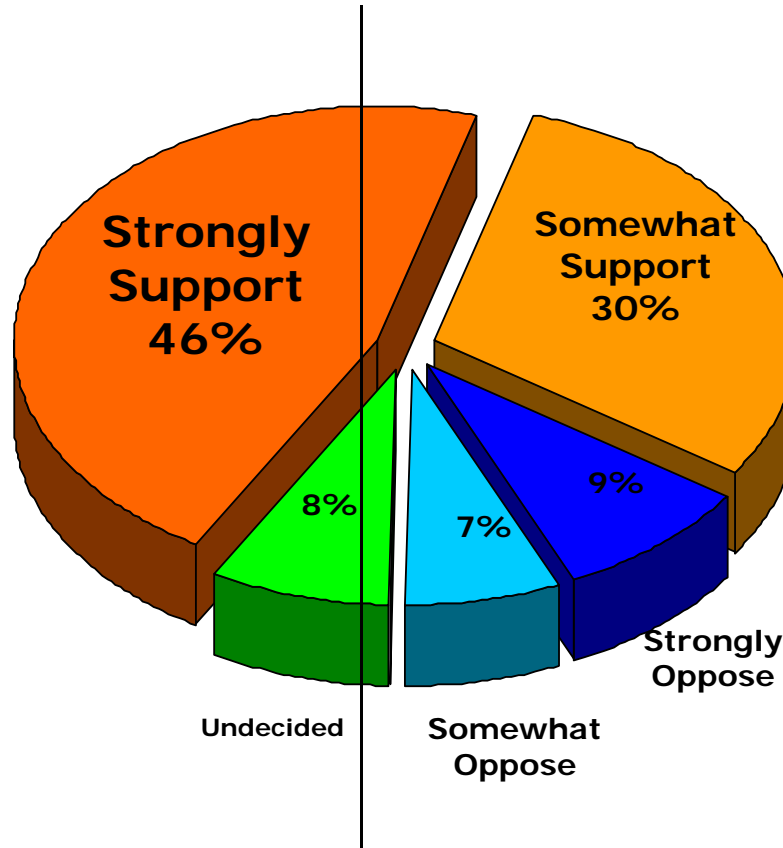


### All Growth/Transportation Issues

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2004</u>
Caroline	31%	26%
Cecil	32%	30%
Dorchester	15%	22%
Kent	32%	30%
Queen Anne's	60%	59%
Talbot	52%	52%

*An overwhelming majority continues to support their county's use of public funds for open space preservation, including the protection of wildlife habitats. This shows an increase in support from 2004.*

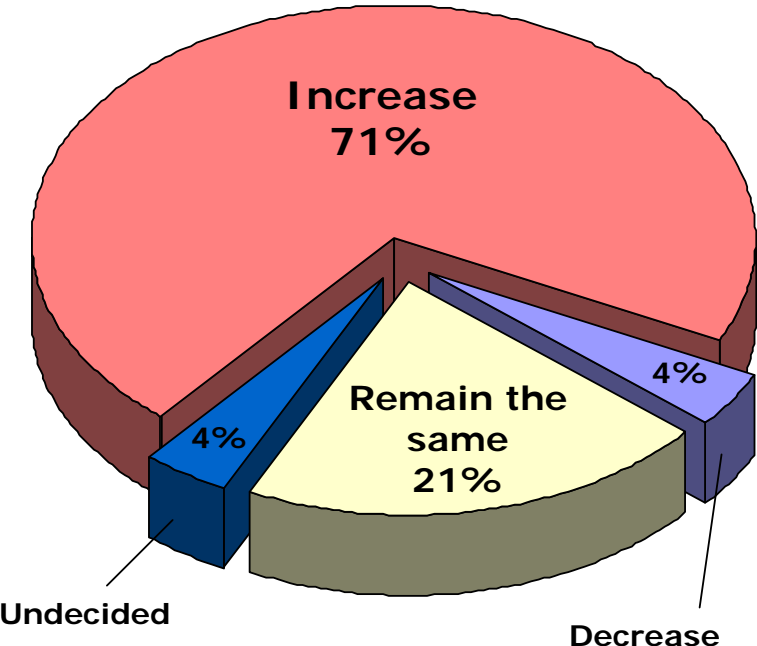
Do you support or oppose your county's use of public funds for open space preservation, habitat areas, etc?



	<u>2008</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
Total Support:	76%	61%	+15
Total Oppose:	16%	24%	-8

**Eastern Shore residents reaffirm the role both local and county governments play in open space preservation, including the protection of wildlife and habitat areas and the continued use of public funding for open space preservation. Residents also believe local elected officials should take a more proactive role in future efforts, and believe these efforts have a direct impact on quality of life. In addition, most want the ability to refuse additional growth even at the expense of the rest of the state, which shows how intense people feel about the issue.**

Should local elected officials increase or decrease their efforts to preserve open space such as farmland, habitat areas and parks, or should their role remain the same?

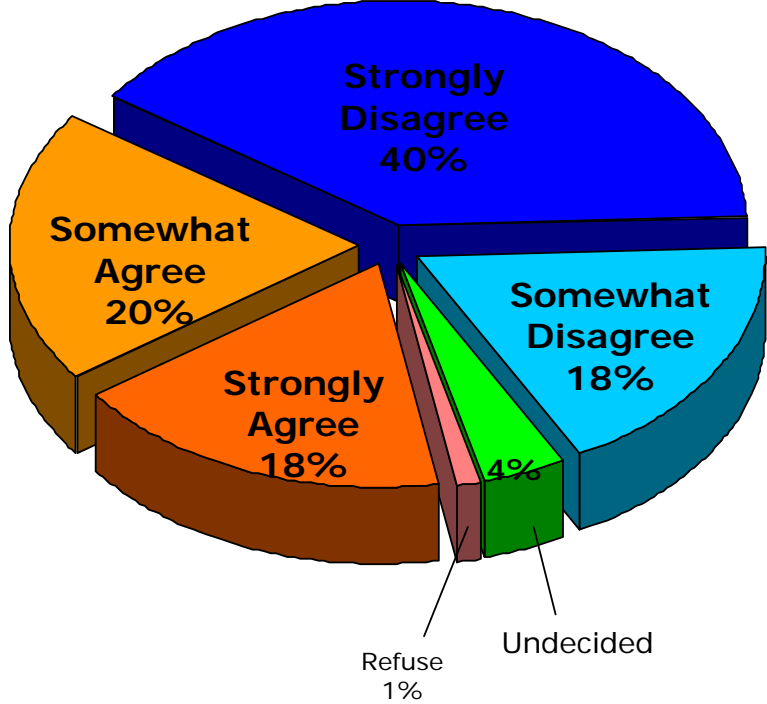
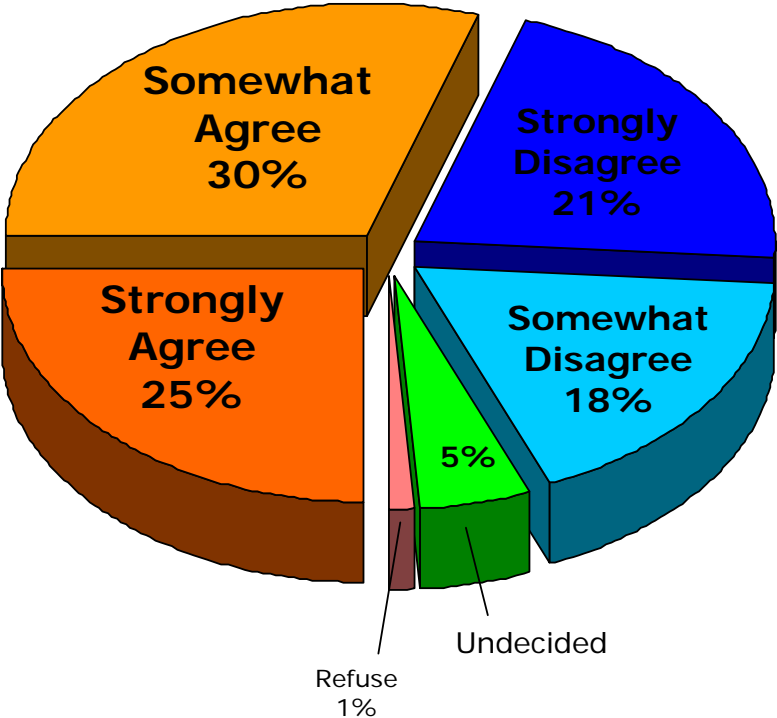


	<u>AGREE</u>	<u>DISAGREE</u>
Q19. Town and county governments should do more to provide public open space for people and to protect large tracts of rural land to keep this land from being developed.	78% [52%]	16%
Q21. Further preservation of additional farmland, habitat areas and additional public access to land and water will help improve the quality of life in the region.	83% [54%]	13%
* [ ] denotes % who "strongly" agree		
	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Q23. Should towns have the right to refuse to accommodate more growth and development, even if it means other parts of the state may then be expected to absorb the increase?	65%	24%

*Most continue to believe additional residential, commercial and retail development is necessary to keep both taxes down and the economy moving in the right direction, although agreement is down from 2004. However, most still disagree that developers have the same property rights as everyone else to develop their own land. This suggests that most believe developers should live to a higher standard..*

Agree/disagree: Additional residential, commercial and retail development is necessary in the Eastern Shore in order to keep both taxes down and the economy growing in the region?

Agree/disagree: Developers have the same private property rights as everyone else to develop the land they own. Therefore, government does not have the right to apply unreasonable restrictions on them?



	<u>2008</u>	<u>2004</u>
Total Agree:	55%	68%
Total Disagree:	39%	27%

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2004</u>
Total Agree:	38%	20%
Total Disagree:	58%	74%



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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION!**

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