

★ GONZALES ★  
*Polls, Inc.*



## GONZALES MARYLAND POLL

February 2024

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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. Further, 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 decades of 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 January 23<sup>rd</sup> through February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. A total of 815 registered voters in Maryland who vote regularly were queried by live telephone interviews, utilizing both landline and cell phone numbers. A cross-section of interviews was conducted throughout the state, reflecting 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.

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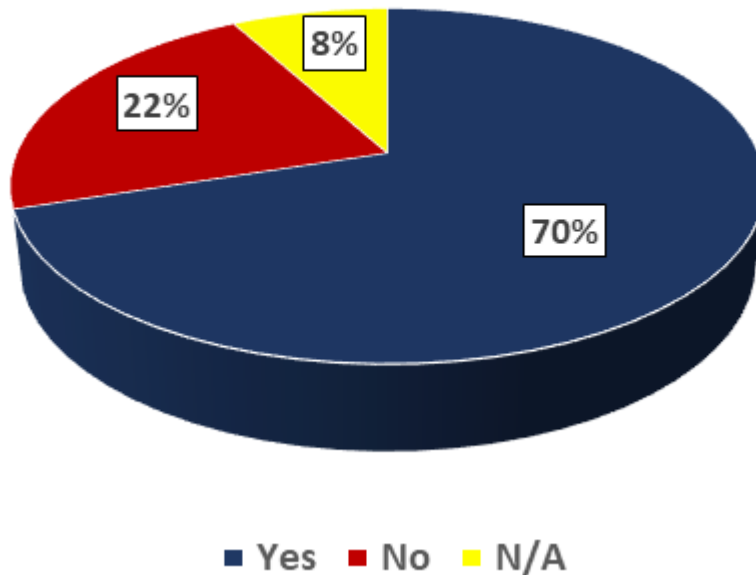
## Gonzales Poll – February 2024 Results

### Medical Aid In Dying

Among Maryland voters, 70% think that a mentally sound adult with an incurable, terminal illness, who only has six months or less to live, should have the legal option of medical aid in dying to get prescription medication they may take to pass peacefully in their sleep, while 22% do not think this should be an option, with 8% providing no response.

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#### Support Medical Aid In Dying as Legal Option



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Robust support for having the legal option of medical aid in dying for those with an incurable, terminal illness spans all demographic groups.

<b>Support Legal Option</b>	<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>
Democrat	72%	21%
Republican	69%	21%
Unaffiliated	65%	26%
White	74%	19%
African-American	66%	27%
Women	68%	25%
Men	72%	19%
18-34	70%	20%
35-49	72%	20%
50-64	73%	21%
65 and older	65%	26%
Eastern Shore	74%	16%
Baltimore City	71%	20%
Baltimore Suburbs	70%	22%
Washington Suburbs	70%	24%
Western Maryland	68%	24%

### **Medical Aid In Dying - Personal**

Fifty-nine percent of Free State voters think that they personally should have the legal option of medical aid in dying to get prescription medication they can take to pass peacefully in their sleep if they've been diagnosed with an incurable, terminal illness and have six months or less to live.

### **Self-Identified Disability**

Among Maryland's electorate, 20% identify as having a disability, defined as a *“physical or mental impairment that seriously limits life activities, such as conditions affecting a person’s vision, movement, thinking, remembering, learning, communicating, hearing, mental health, or social relationships.”*

Among those identifying as having a disability, 79% support Maryland having the legal option of medical aid in dying.

## Appendix A: Data Tables

**QUESTION: Medical Aid in Dying** *Do you think a mentally sound adult with an incurable, terminal illness, who only has six months or less to live, should have the legal option of medical aid in dying to get prescription medication they may take to pass peacefully in their sleep...yes or no?*

<u>MEDICAL AID IN DYING</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Yes	570	69.9 %
No	181	22.2 %
No answer	64	7.9 %
Total	815	100.0 %

N=815

### MEDICAL AID IN DYING

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>
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### PARTY REGISTRATION

Democrat	323 71.8%	96 21.3%	31 6.9%
Republican	150 69.4%	46 21.3%	20 9.3%
Unaffiliated	97 65.1%	39 26.2%	13 8.7%

N=815

### MEDICAL AID IN DYING

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>
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### RACE/ETHNICITY

White	349 73.8%	90 19.0%	34 7.2%
African American	162 66.4%	65 26.6%	17 7.0%
Other/No answer	59 60.2%	26 26.5%	13 13.3%

N=815	MEDICAL AID IN DYING		
	Yes	No	No answer
<u>GENDER</u>			
Female	302 68.0%	112 25.2%	30 6.8%
Male	268 72.2%	69 18.6%	34 9.2%

N=815	MEDICAL AID IN DYING		
	Yes	No	No answer
<u>AGE</u>			
18 to 34	91 69.5%	26 19.8%	14 10.7%
35 to 49	141 71.9%	40 20.4%	15 7.7%
50 to 64	185 73.1%	54 21.3%	14 5.5%
65 and older	153 65.1%	61 26.0%	21 8.9%

N=815	MEDICAL AID IN DYING		
	Yes	No	No answer
<u>REGION</u>			
Eastern Shore	71 74.0%	15 15.6%	10 10.4%
Baltimore City	46 70.8%	13 20.0%	6 9.2%
Baltimore Suburbs	192 69.6%	62 22.5%	22 8.0%
Washington Suburbs	194 69.5%	67 24.0%	18 6.5%
Western Maryland	67 67.7%	24 24.2%	8 8.1%

**QUESTION: Medical Aid in Dying - Personal** *If you had an incurable, terminal illness, still had a sound mind, had less than six months to live, and you met the legal requirements, would you want the option of medical aid in dying...yes or no?*

<u>MEDICAL AID IN DYING - PERSONAL</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Yes	483	59.3 %
No	259	31.8 %
No answer	73	9.0 %
Total	815	100.0 %

N=815

<u>MEDICAL AID IN DYING - PERSONAL</u>		
<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>

PARTY REGISTRATION

Democrat	284 63.1%	132 29.3%	34 7.6%
Republican	111 51.4%	84 38.9%	21 9.7%
Unaffiliated	88 59.1%	43 28.9%	18 12.1%

N=815

<u>MEDICAL AID IN DYING - PERSONAL</u>		
<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>

RACE/ETHNICITY

White	300 63.4%	135 28.5%	38 8.0%
African American	133 54.5%	92 37.7%	19 7.8%
Other/No answer	50 51.0%	32 32.7%	16 16.3%



N=815	<u>MEDICAL AID IN DYING - PERSONAL</u>		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>

GENDER

Female	258 58.1%	156 35.1%	30 6.8%
Male	225 60.6%	103 27.8%	43 11.6%

N=815	<u>MEDICAL AID IN DYING - PERSONAL</u>		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>

AGE

18 to 34	81 61.8%	38 29.0%	12 9.2%
35 to 49	114 58.2%	64 32.7%	18 9.2%
50 to 64	156 61.7%	80 31.6%	17 6.7%
65 and older	132 56.2%	77 32.8%	26 11.1%

N=815	<u>MEDICAL AID IN DYING - PERSONAL</u>		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>

REGION

Eastern Shore	57 59.4%	29 30.2%	10 10.4%
Baltimore City	42 64.6%	15 23.1%	8 12.3%
Baltimore Suburbs	162 58.7%	88 31.9%	26 9.4%
Washington Suburbs	158 56.6%	98 35.1%	23 8.2%
Western Maryland	64 64.6%	29 29.3%	6 6.1%

**QUESTION: Abortion Position** *Which of the following best describes your opinion on the issue of abortion:*

- Abortion should be legal in all cases,*
- Abortion should be legal in most cases,*
- Abortion should be illegal in most cases,*
- Abortion should be illegal in all cases?*

<u>ABORTION POSITION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Legal in all cases	270	33.1 %
Legal in most cases	301	36.9 %
Illegal in most cases	162	19.9 %
Illegal in all cases	46	5.6 %
No answer	36	4.4 %
Total	815	100.0 %

<u>ABORTION: PRO-CHOICE or PRO-LIFE</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Pro-Choice	571	70.1 %
Pro-Life	208	25.5 %
No answer	36	4.4 %
Total	815	100.0 %

N=815

<u>ABORTION: PRO-CHOICE or PRO-LIFE</u>		
<u>Pro-Choice</u>	<u>Pro-Life</u>	<u>No answer</u>

PARTY REGISTRATION

Democrat	374 83.1%	54 12.0%	22 4.9%
Republican	101 46.8%	106 49.1%	9 4.2%
Unaffiliated	96 64.4%	48 32.2%	5 3.4%

N=815	ABORTION: PRO-CHOICE or PRO-LIFE		
	Pro-Choice	Pro-Life	No answer

RACE/ETHNICITY

White	322 68.1%	126 26.6%	25 5.3%
African American	187 76.6%	47 19.3%	10 4.1%
Other/No answer	62 63.3%	35 35.7%	1 1.0%

N=815	ABORTION: PRO-CHOICE or PRO-LIFE		
	Pro-Choice	Pro-Life	No answer

GENDER

Female	323 72.7%	107 24.1%	14 3.2%
Male	248 66.8%	101 27.2%	22 5.9%

N=815	ABORTION: PRO-CHOICE or PRO-LIFE		
	Pro-Choice	Pro-Life	No answer

AGE

18 to 34	96 73.3%	32 24.4%	3 2.3%
35 to 49	137 69.9%	48 24.5%	11 5.6%
50 to 64	185 73.1%	58 22.9%	10 4.0%
65 and older	153 65.1%	70 29.8%	12 5.1%

N=815	ABORTION: PRO-CHOICE or PRO-LIFE		
	Pro-Choice	Pro-Life	No answer
<b><u>REGION</u></b>			
Eastern Shore	57 59.4%	34 35.4%	5 5.2%
Baltimore City	45 69.2%	17 26.2%	3 4.6%
Baltimore Suburbs	197 71.4%	72 26.1%	7 2.5%
Washington Suburbs	211 75.6%	52 18.6%	16 5.7%
Western Maryland	61 61.6%	33 33.3%	5 5.1%

### Medical Aid In Dying **by** Abortion Stance

N=815	MEDICAL AID IN DYING		
	Yes	No	No answer
<b><u>ABORTION STANCE</u></b>			
Pro-Choice	456 79.9%	81 14.2%	34 6.0%
Pro-Life	88 42.3%	95 45.7%	25 12.0%
No answer	26 72.2%	5 13.9%	5 13.9%

**QUESTION: Identify as Having Disability** *A disability is a physical or mental impairment that seriously limits life activities, such as conditions affecting a person’s vision, movement, thinking, remembering, learning, communicating, hearing, mental health, or social relationships. Do you identify as having a disability...yes or no?*

<u>DISABILITY - SELF DESCRIBED</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Yes	164	20.1 %
No	651	79.9 %
Total	815	100.0 %

N=815

<u>DISABILITY - SELF DESCRIBED</u>	
<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>

PARTY REGISTRATION

Democrat	94 20.9%	356 79.1%
Republican	40 18.5%	176 81.5%
Unaffiliated	30 20.1%	119 79.9%

N=815

<u>DISABILITY - SELF DESCRIBED</u>	
<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>

RACE/ETHNICITY

White	95 20.1%	378 79.9%
African American	51 20.9%	193 79.1%
Other/No answer	18 18.4%	80 81.6%

N=815	<u>DISABILITY - SELF DESCRIBED</u>	
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
<u>GENDER</u>		
Female	91 20.5%	353 79.5%
Male	73 19.7%	298 80.3%

N=815	<u>DISABILITY - SELF DESCRIBED</u>	
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
<u>AGE</u>		
18 to 34	25 19.1%	106 80.9%
35 to 49	38 19.4%	158 80.6%
50 to 64	57 22.5%	196 77.5%
65 and older	44 18.7%	191 81.3%

N=815	<u>DISABILITY - SELF DESCRIBED</u>	
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
<u>REGION</u>		
Eastern Shore	16 16.7%	80 83.3%
Baltimore City	15 23.1%	50 76.9%
Baltimore Suburbs	58 21.0%	218 79.0%
Washington Suburbs	58 20.8%	221 79.2%
Western Maryland	17 17.2%	82 82.8%

### Medical Aid In Dying **by** Self-Identified Disability

N=815

	MEDICAL AID IN DYING		
	Yes	No	No answer
<u>DISABILITY - SELF DESCRIBED</u>			
Yes	130 79.3%	27 16.5%	7 4.3%
No	440 67.6%	154 23.7%	57 8.8%



**79% of Marylanders who identify as having a disability support medical aid in dying.**

**QUESTION: Religious Affiliation** *What is your religious affiliation...are you: Protestant (Baptist, AME); Catholic; Jewish; another faith; or non-religious?*

<u>RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Protestant	375	46.0 %
Catholic	144	17.7 %
Jewish	21	2.6 %
Other	33	4.0 %
Non-religious	189	23.2 %
No answer	53	6.5 %
Total	815	100.0 %

**Medical Aid In Dying *by* Religious Affiliation**

N=815

MEDICAL AID IN DYING

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No answer</u>
<u>RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION</u>			
Protestant	264 70.4%	73 19.5%	38 10.1%
Catholic	89 61.8%	48 33.3%	7 4.9%
Jewish	13 61.9%	7 33.3%	1 4.8%
Other	18 54.5%	10 30.3%	5 15.2%
Non-religious	151 79.9%	29 15.3%	9 4.8%
No answer	35 66.0%	14 26.4%	4 7.5%



## Appendix B: Maryland Poll Sample Demographics

<u>PARTY REGISTRATION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Democrat	450	55.2 %
Republican	216	26.5 %
Unaffiliated	149	18.3 %
Total	815	100.0 %

<u>GENDER</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Female	444	54.5 %
Male	371	45.5 %
Total	815	100.0 %

<u>AGE</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
18 to 34	131	16.1 %
35 to 49	196	24.0 %
50 to 64	253	31.0 %
65 and older	235	28.8 %
Total	815	100.0 %

<u>RACE/ETHNICITY</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
White	473	58.0 %
African American	244	29.9 %
Other/No answer	98	12.0 %
Total	815	100.0 %

<u>REGION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Eastern Shore	96	11.8 %
Baltimore City	65	8.0 %
Baltimore Suburbs	276	33.9 %
Washington Suburbs	279	34.2 %
Western Maryland	99	12.1 %
Total	815	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, Montgomery, and Prince George’s counties.

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