

DFM Research

St. Paul, Minnesota

**MARYLAND STATEWIDE
RAIL ISSUE SURVEY**

JANUARY 19-22, 2019

Topline

<u>Interviews:</u>	500 respondents by live caller
<u>Margin of Error:</u>	± 4.4 percentage points with a 95 percent confidence
<u>Interview Dates:</u>	January 19-22, 2019
<u>Sample:</u>	Landline and cell phone sample by live caller. Calls were stratified by four unique regions of Maryland. Final data weighted by gender, race, age, education and counties based on 2018 U.S. Census estimated demographics.
<u>Survey Sponsor:</u>	SMART Transportation Division's Maryland State Legislative Board

Q1: To start, do you think Maryland is moving in the right direction or is Maryland off on the wrong track?

Right Direction	65%
Wrong Track	21
(VOL) Unsure	14

Q2: I'm now going to read you some names of public figures and organizations. For each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion, and if you never heard of them before, just say so:

	<u>Favorable</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Neutral (VOL)</u>	<u>Never Heard Of</u>
a: Donald Trump	34%	61	4	0
b: Chris Van Hollen	41	20	14	26
c: Ben Cardin	51	24	12	13
d: Larry Hogan	78	12	5	5
e: Maryland General Assembly	49	21	19	11
f: Amtrak	56	9	31	5
g: D.C. Metro Subway	49	14	31	5
h: Labor Unions	56	25	15	3
i: Mike Locksley	7	3	9	81
j: University of Maryland	87	6	6	1

Q3: Generally speaking, do you approve or disapprove the overall job Donald Trump is doing as President of the United States?

Strongly approve	25%
Somewhat approve	12
Somewhat disapprove	4
Strongly disapprove	56
(VOL) Unsure / Neutral	4

Q4: Although it is a while away, suppose the election was today for President of the United States. Would you vote for Donald Trump the Republican or would you vote for the Democratic Party candidate?

Vote for Donald Trump	31%
Vote for the Democratic Party candidate	53
(VOL) Unsure / Other / Refused	16

Q5: Now thinking about Maryland’s transportation infrastructure – including roads, highways, bridges, rail, air, and public transportation – how would you rate it?

Excellent	4%
Good	34
Satisfactory	40
Poor	14
Failing	6
(VOL) Unsure	2

Q6: Based on what you know, how many people do you think operate a freight train that travels through Maryland?

One	7%
Two	14
Three	13
Four	8
Five or More	34
(VOL) Don’t know	24

Currently most freight trains in Maryland operate with a crew of two people; but there are efforts by some railroads to reduce train crew to just one person.

Q7: Let’s suppose freight trains in your area operated with only a crew of one; how worried would you be about a train derailling in your community?

Very Worried	49%
Fairly Worried	15
Just Somewhat Worried	20
Not that Worried	15

Q8: Some in Maryland want to enact a law, introduced as House Bill 66, which would require a crew of two individuals on all freight trains that operate in Maryland. Suppose you could vote on House Bill 66; would you vote YES to pass a two-person crew state law or would you vote NO and reject a two-person crew state law?

Yes, Pass	86%
No, Reject	7
(VOL) Unsure	7

Q9: I now want to read you a few reasons why some people oppose House Bill 66, which would requiring a crew of two individuals on all freight trains. For each reason, tell me if you find it a convincing reason or not that convincing reason to reject House Bill 66:

SURVEY NOTE - Each respondent received two reasons to oppose a House Bill 66 (question 9a,b,c,d) and two reason to support House Bill 66 (questions 10a,b,c). Questions 9 and 10 were rotated and randomized. The margin of error ranges from $\pm 5.4\%$ pts to $\pm 6.2\%$ pts.

Q9a: Railroads say that two-person crew legislation undermines the sanctity of collective bargaining between rail management and rail labor regarding train crew size.

Convincing	12%
Not That Convincing	86
(VOL) Unsure	3

Q9b: Commuter rail operates thousands of trains a day with one person in the locomotive, and the data going back to the 1970s shows an excellent safety record.

Convincing	33%
Not That Convincing	64
(VOL) Unsure	3

Q9c: If two-person train crew legislation passes, it will deter investment and implementation of safe, cost-saving technology like Positive Train Control, which is advanced technology designed to automatically stop a train before certain types of accidents.

Convincing	33%
Not That Convincing	62
(VOL) Unsure	5

Q9d: Crew size mandates would hinder rail efficiencies and divert traffic from rail to highway-using trucks, which are less fuel efficient, create congestion and damage the nation's highway system.

Convincing	23%
Not That Convincing	73
(VOL) Unsure	4

Q10: I now want to read you a few reasons why some people support House Bill 66, which would requiring a crew of two individuals on all freight trains. For each reason, tell me if you find it a convincing reason or not that convincing reason to pass House Bill 66:

Q10a: Having two crew members on a train provides better monitoring of traffic at public road crossings.

Convincing	81%
Not that convincing	19
(VOL) Unsure	1

Q10b: Having two people on a train allows the crew members to supervise and communicate with each other to help avoid mistakes that may contribute to an accident.

Convincing	89%
Not that convincing	10
(VOL) Unsure	1

Q10c: According to federal regulations, the engineer is not allowed to leave the locomotive cab while operating the train. A second crew member is necessary to investigate incidents such as derailment or a collision between a train and a motor vehicle at a crossing.

Convincing	79%
Not that convincing	19
(VOL) Unsure	2

Q11: When it comes to train crew size, rail safety and the latest rail technology, which option makes the most sense to you?

Only two-person crew, no advanced rail technology	2%
Two person crew, using advanced rail technology	68
Advanced rail technology as replacement of a train crew member .	4
Let railroads and rail unions decide which option is safest	21
(VOL) Unsure	5

Q12: Do you trust advanced rail technology as a replacement of a train crew member?

Yes	13%
No	79
(VOL) Unsure	8

Q13: Now considering everything you just heard about a House Bill 66 that would require a crew of two individuals on all freight trains. If you could vote again, would you vote YES to pass a two-person crew state law, or would you vote NO and reject a two-person crew state law?

Yes, Pass	88%
No, Reject	8
(VOL) Unsure	4