BeHEARD BALTIMORE

Your source for what Baltimore thinks about important issues.

UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE

Survey Results
How Baltimore Should Use COVID-19 Aid

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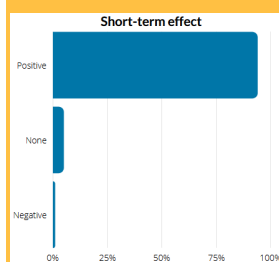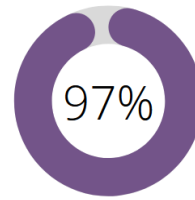Schaefer Center for Public Policy

Respondents Aware of Aid

Baltimore expects to receive $640 million in aid from the federal government this year as part of the economic recovery from COVID-19.

7 in 10 respondents knew that the city was supposed to receive this aid before they received the survey.

Almost All Respondents Said City's Economy Has Been Hurt by Pandemic and Response

77% of respondents said the city's economy has been hurt a lot by COVID-19 and the response to the pandemic, and another 20% said it has been hurt a little.
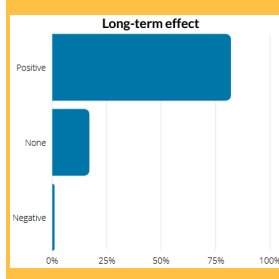
In total, 97% of respondents say the pandemic and response hurt the city's economy.

97%

Short-term effect

Long-term effect

Almost All Respondents Think Funding Will Have Positive Effect

63% of respondents said the federal funds will have a minor positive effect in the short term, while 65% said the funds will have a minor positive effect in the long term.

In addition, 31% thought there would be a major positive effect from the funding in the short term, while 17% thought there would be a major positive effect from the funding in the long term.

In total, 94% thought there would be a positive effect from the funding in the short term while only 82% thought there would be a positive effect from the funding in the long term.

The difference between the short and long term effects was because 5% of respondents thought there would be no short term effect of the funding while 17% of respondents thought there would be no long term effect.

Most Common Suggestion for Funds was Internet Access

Respondents were asked what programs they would like the City to use the funding to support.

The most common answer, supplied by 32 of the 97 respondents who offered ideas, related to internet access in the city. Suggestions included municipal broadband, less expensive access, and WiFi connections throughout the city.

The second most common policy area related to housing concerns, and included renter support, home ownership programs, and more affordable housing in general. The third most common suggestions were policies related to K-12 education and recreation, including expanding access to student access to technology, improvements to school facilities, and providing more after-school activities.

Note: Percentages are of all ideas suggested, not of respondents; many respondents provided suggestions in more than one policy area.

Other, 17%
Housing support, 14%
Jobs & job training, 9%
Public transportation, bikes & sidewalks, 8%
Internet access, 16%
K-12 education & recreation, 13%
Crime reduction, 7%
Support businesses & entreprenuers, 6%
Healthcare, 5%
Other infra-structure, 4%
Clean up trash, 4%

Thank you for being a member of BeHeard Baltimore™
The results of past BeHeard Baltimore™ surveys are on our website.

About this survey - This survey was open for responses from July 22-August 2, 2021. There were 100 respondents. The demographics of the BeHeard Baltimore™ panel do not match those of the City of Baltimore. This leads to skewed responses that likely do not reflect the views of city residents as a whole. The University of Baltimore, the administrators of the BeHeard project, are working to expand survey participation through media and organizational outreach. Due to concerns about the respondents' demographics, the survey results presented here should only be considered reflective of the survey respondents and not city residents as a whole.

About BeHeard Baltimore™: *The University of Baltimore launched BeHeard Baltimore™ to gather public opinion from city residents on the issues and events that are most important to them. The* Baltimore Sun *is the University's media partner for this project. The survey provides members of the community with the opportunity to help inform city leaders about their needs and views. All city residents over 18 years old are encouraged to participate. Interested residents can register to participate at http://beheardbaltimore.com/ or call 410-837-6188. There is no cost to participate. For more information, please contact us at BeHeardBaltimore@ubalt.edu or 410-837-6188.*

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