Created by: Sofia Cabrera, Research Assistant

Date: November 12, 2025
Title: Gender Differences in Economic Perceptions and the Impact of the Federal Government Shutdown
Source: UMBC Poll (n=810 Maryland adults, MOE=+/-3.4%)
Field dates: October 21 to October 25, 2025

Please visit *politics.umbc.edu* to see the full results and methodology statement.

Question: How do men and women in Maryland differ in their perceptions of the federal government shutdown's impact on the state and their personal finances, as well as in their concerns about key economic issues?

UMBC Poll data analyzed:

Q: SD_ECON Next, I'd like to ask you a few questions about the federal government shutdown. Do you think that the federal government shutdown has or will eventually have a [major, minor, or no] impact on each of the following:

- **Q: ECON_STATE** The Maryland state economy
- **Q: ECON_SELF** Your personal financial situation

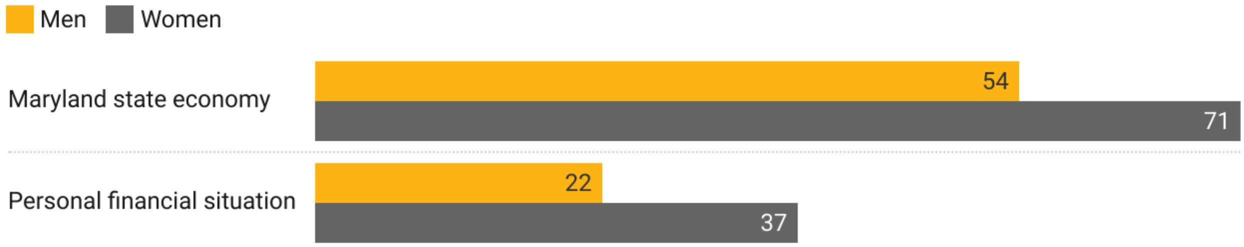
Q: EC_ISSUES Next, I'm going to read you a list of economic issues. For each one, please tell how concerned–[not at all, a little, somewhat, or very]–you are about each one…

- **Q: GOODS** The price of food and consumer goods
- **Q: EMPLOY** People being unable to find good paying jobs
- **Q: HOUSING** The cost and availability of housing
- **Q: STOCK** How the stock market is doing
- **Q: GAS** The price of gasoline
- **Q: UTILITY** The cost of household electricity
- **Q: HEALTH** The cost of healthcare and health insurance

Economic Impact of Federal Government Shutdown by Gender

Next, I'd like to ask you a few questions about the federal government shutdown. Do you think that the federal government shutdown has or will eventually have a major, minor, or no impact on each of the following:

Bars represent the percentage of respondents who said **major impact.**



Field dates: October 21 to October 25, 2025
n= 810, MOE +/-3.4%

Chart: Sofia Cabrera • Source: UMBC Poll • Created with Datawrapper

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Description of results:

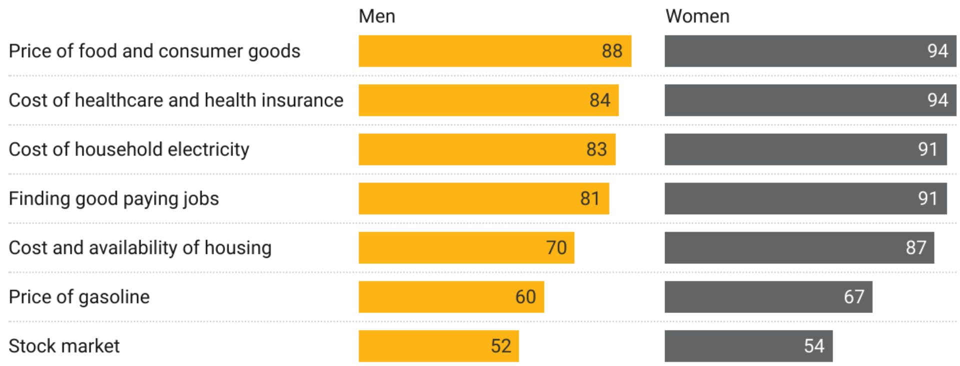
Women are more likely than men to believe the federal government shutdown has or will have a major impact on both the Maryland economy and their personal financial situation. **Seventy-one percent** of women say the shutdown has a "major impact" on the state economy, compared to **54%** of men.

The gender gap is similar, though smaller, when it comes to personal finances: **37%** of women believe that the shutdown will cause a "major" impact on their personal financial situation. In comparison, **22%** of men share the same view.

Concerns about Economic Issues by Gender

Next, I'm going to read you a list of economic issues. For each one, please tell how concerned–not at all, a little, somewhat, or very–you are about each one…

Bars represent the percentage of respondents who were **somewhat or very concerned.**



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Description of results:

Concern about economic issues is widespread among both men and women in Maryland, though the level of concern varies by topic. Across all categories, women consistently report higher levels of concern than men. The largest gender differences appear in concerns about the cost and availability of housing (**87%** of women compared to **70%** of men), as well as the cost of healthcare and health insurance (**94%** of women compared to **84%** of men).

High levels of concern are also expressed regarding the price of food and consumer goods (**94%** of women compared to **88%** of men), the difficulty in finding good-paying jobs (**91%** of women compared to **81%** of men), and the cost of household electricity (**91%** of women compared to **83%** of men). Concern is somewhat lower for the price of gasoline (**67%** of women compared to **60%** of men) and the stock market, where the gap between men (**52%**) and women (**54%**) is the smallest.