



Center for Public Policy : Polls

Where policy matters.

Survey of 750 Likely Voters - Virginia Statewide Survey – VA Governor's Election Poll – October 18-22, 2017

SSRS fielded a survey of likely voters in Virginia (persons living in the State who are registered to vote and said they are almost certain or very likely to vote in the next election). Sample was RDD LL and Cell, drawn in geographic proportion to the registered voter population in the state of Virginia. These data were weighted to reflect the voter registration population of Virginia ages 18 years of age and older. This weighting combined with rounding is responsible for percentages not always equaling exactly 100%; this phenomenon is most obvious in the allocation by county as the very large number of response categories provided a multitude of opportunities for rounding and resulted in totals of significantly less than 100% (89%) overall.

The weighting process takes into account the disproportionate probabilities of household and respondent selection due to the number of landlines or cellphones answered by respondents and their households. Following application of the above weights, the sample is post-stratified and balanced by key demographics such as age, race, sex, education, marital status, and party affiliation. The sample is also weighted to reflect the distribution of phone usage in Virginia, meaning the proportion of those who are cell phone only, landline only, and mixed users. A total of 750 interviews were conducted between October 18th and October 22nd, 2017; 400 using Landline sample and 350 using Cell sample. This topline is provided by SSRS.

The margin of error for the survey is +/- 4.2% for the full sample.

Q3. If the general election for Governor of Virginia were held today, for whom would you vote:

	Frequency	Percent
Ed Gillespie	304	41%
Ralph Norddam	245	33%
Don't know/Refused	201	27%
Total	750	100%

Q4. Please tell me which one issue on this list should be the top priority of the next Governor of Virginia, no matter who it is:

	Frequency	Percent
Working to improve the economy and create jobs	256	34%
Education	135	18%
Gun control	66	9%
Health care	175	23%
Improving transportation infrastructure such as bridges, tunnels, and road surfaces	95	13%
Don't Know/Refused	21	3%
Total	750	100%

Q5. How about Ed Gillespie (R)? (Do you have a very favorable, favorable, unfavorable or very unfavorable opinion of Ed Gillespie?)

	Frequency	Percent
Very Favorable	121	16%
Favorable	256	34%
Unfavorable	179	24%
Very unfavorable	73	10%
Heard of but no opinion	45	6%
Never heard of	15	2%
Don't Know/Refused	60	8%
Total	750	100%

Q6. How about Ralph Northam (D)? (Do you have a very favorable, favorable, unfavorable or very unfavorable opinion of Ralph Northam?)

	Frequency	Percent
Very Favorable	103	14%
Favorable	237	32%
Unfavorable	181	24%
Very unfavorable	89	12%
Heard of but no opinion	54	7%
Never heard of	26	3%
Don't Know/Refused	61	8%
Total	750	100%

Q7. How closely would you say you pay attention to political advertisements running on television or the radio? Would you say:

	Frequency	Percent
Not at all	177	24%
A little	192	26%
Somewhat	219	29%
Very closely	159	21%
Don't Know /Refused	3	*%
Total	750	100%

Q8. Does most political advertising on TV or radio promote the candidate who is paying for it or does it attack the opposing candidate?

	Frequency	Percent
Promote	136	18%
Attack	511	68%
Don't Know /Refused	103	14%
Total	750	100%

Q10. Do negative campaign ads make you more or LESS likely to vote for the candidate who produced the ad?

	Frequency	Percent
More likely	62	8%
Less likely	434	58%
No Impact	222	30%
Don't know/Refused	32	4%
Total	750	100%

Q11. Now on to some other topics. Do you favor or oppose removing statues and memorials of Confederate leaders from public spaces?

	Frequency	Percent
Favor removal	229	31%
Oppose removal	461	62%
Don't know/Refused	60	8%
Total	750	100%

Q12. The term "Sanctuary City" is not a legal term but a general term often used to describe 1 of about 300 jurisdictions which are cities that limit their cooperation with the national government's effort to enforce immigration law. People who favor Sanctuary Cities say they are safer because they promote a better relationship between undocumented immigrants and law enforcement while on the other hand, people who oppose Sanctuary Cities say they harbor criminals and create a dangerous environment for US citizens. What is your opinion? Do you favor or oppose the concept of Sanctuary Cities?

	Frequency	Percent
Favor Sanctuary Cities	273	36%
Oppose Sanctuary Cities	399	53%
Don't know/Refused	78	10%
Total	750	100%

Q13. And how would you feel about establishing a Sanctuary City in the Commonwealth of Virginia? Would you favor or oppose establishing a Sanctuary City in Virginia?

	Frequency	Percent
Favor Sanctuary City in VA	267	36%
Oppose Sanctuary City in VA	420	56%
Don't know/Refused	63	8%
Total	750	100%

Q14. And finally, how would you feel about your own city or municipality becoming an established Sanctuary City? Would you favor or oppose the area in which you live becoming a Sanctuary City?

	Frequency	Percent
Favor hometown Sanctuary City	256	96%
Oppose hometown Sanctuary	5	2%
Don't know/Refused	6	2%
Total	255	100%

Q15. Now, let's turn to a different topic. Overall, do you approve or do you disapprove of the job Donald Trump is doing as the President of the United States?

	Frequency	Percent
Approve	296	39%
Disapprove	419	56%
Don't know/Refused	35	5%
Total	750	100%

Q16. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the job Terry McAuliffe is doing as the current Governor of Virginia?

	Frequency	Percent
Approve	389	52%
Disapprove	286	38%
Don't know/Refused	75	10%
Total	750	100%

GENDER. Do you consider yourself to be:

	Frequency	Percent
Male	368	49%
Female	377	50%
Other (Vol.)	3	*%
Don't Know/Refused	2	*%
Total	750	100%

INS. Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan or do you not have any health insurance at this time?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes, covered	697	93%
No, not covered	50	7%
Don't Know/Refused	3	*%
Total	750	100%

COVERED. Which type of health insurance do you now have? Is it a plan through your employer, (a plan through your spouse's employer,) a plan you purchased yourself, are you covered by Medicare or Medicaid, CHAMPUS OR VA CARE, some other government program, or do you get your health insurance from somewhere else?

	Frequency	Percent
Plan through own employer	297	43%
Plan through spouse's employer	85	12%
Plan purchased yourself	72	10%
Medicare	141	20%
Medicaid	12	2%
Champus of VA Care	28	4%
Some other government program	24	3%
Somewhere else	35	5%
Don't know/Refused	3	*%
Total	712	100%

NOTCOVERED. There are many reasons why people do not have health insurance. Which of the following five reasons best describes the reason you do not currently have health insurance? Is it because:

	Frequency	Percent
Another family member has health insurance, but it does not cover you	4	9%
You can't get coverage or were refused insurance due to poor health, illness, or age	--	--%
It is too expensive	29	59%
You don't think you need it	4	7%
You don't know how to get insurance	4	8%
Some other reason I haven't mentioned	9	18%
Don't know/Refused	--	--%
Total	35	100%

Q17. Please tell me which of the following general categories best describes your age:

	Frequency	Percent
18 to 24	52	7%
25 to 34	106	14%
35 to 44	86	11%
45 to 54	176	23%
55 to 64	155	21%
65 to 74	101	13%
75 or Older	71	10%
Don't know/Refused	3	*%
Total	750	100%

Q18. What is the last grade in school you completed?

	Frequency	Percent
Grade school	6	1%
Some high school	19	2%
High school graduate	145	19%
Some college	163	22%
4-Year college degree	172	23%
Some graduate school	31	4%
Graduate degree	99	13%
Technical school	13	2%
Don't know/Refused	0	*%
Total	750	100%

Q19. What is your current marital status? Are you currently married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

	Frequency	Percent
Married	450	60%
Widowed	49	7%
Divorced	75	10%
Separated	12	2%
Never been married	158	21%
Don't know/Refused	4	1%
Total	750	100%

Q20. What is your current employment status? Are you currently:

	Frequency	Percent
Employed	450	60%
A homemaker	38	5%
A student	29	4%
Retired	165	22%
Unemployed	24	3%
Something else	45	6%
Don't know/Refused	0	*%
Total	750	100%

Q21. Please estimate your total household income for 2017. Which of the following general categories best represents your total family income from 2017:

	Frequency	Percent
Less than \$20,000	46	6%
\$20,000 to less than \$30,000	75	10%
\$30,000 to less than \$40,000	55	7%
\$40,000 to less than \$50,000	49	7%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	138	18%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	107	14%
More than \$100,000	194	26%
Don't know/Refused	86	12%
Total	750	100%

Q22. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or something else?

	Frequency	Percent
Democrat	219	29%
Republican	190	25%
Independent	244	33%
Something Else	91	12%
Don't Know /Refused	5	1%
Total	750	100%

Q22a. Would you say you generally lean more toward Democrat or more toward Republican?

	Frequency	Percent
Democrat	124	37%
Republican	163	49%
Don't Know /Refused	48	14%
Total	324	100%

Q23. Please tell me with which of the following races do you most closely identify:

	Frequency	Percent
African-American/Black	103	14%
Caucasian/White	498	66%
Hispanic/Latino	22	3%
Asian-American	31	4%
More than one race	72	10%
Other	6	1%
Don't know/Refused	18	2%
Total	750	100%

Q23a. Please tell me the races with which you identify: (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

	Frequency	Percent
African-American/Black	30	42%
Caucasian/White	47	65%
Hispanic/Latino	13	18%
Asian-American	14	19%
Other	31	43%
Don't know/Refused	3	5%
Total	65	100%
