

Roanoke College Poll Topline
COVID-19
September 1, 2020

Now I'd like to ask you some questions about the coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, and the response to the virus.

1. Have you or anyone you know gotten the coronavirus?

	Aug 2020	May 2020
Yes	42%	31%
No	58%	70%
Refused	0%	0%

1.a. [IF YES] How do you know this person?

I have/had it [SKIP TO 3. a]	4%	3%
Family member [SKIP TO 3]	31%	25%
Friend/relative	42%	48%
Co-worker	18%	11%
Other	4%	14%
Refused	0%	0%

2. How concerned are you about you or someone in your household catching the coronavirus?

Very concerned	39%	34%
Somewhat concerned	32%	33%
Not very concerned	19%	25%
Not concerned at all	10%	8%
Refused	0%	0%

3. If you personally were infected with the virus, do you think you would have no symptoms, be slightly ill, be very ill, or be extremely sick and perhaps die?

No symptoms	10%	10%
Slightly ill	46%	49%
Very ill	14%	14%
Extremely sick and perhaps die	12%	14%
Unsure/Don't Know	17%	12%
Refused	0%	1%

3.a. [IF R HAD THE VIRUS] I hope that you are feeling better now. How sick were you? Did you have no symptoms, were you slightly ill, very ill, or extremely sick? (N=10)

No symptoms	0%	0%
Slightly ill	70%	20%
Very ill	20%	80%
Extremely sick	0%	0%

Unsure/Don't Know	0%	0%
Refused	10%	0%

4. Have the measures taken by the federal government to slow the spread of the virus been appropriate, have they gone too far, or have they not gone far enough?

Appropriate	28%	43%
Gone too far	10%	8%
Not gone far enough	58%	46%
Unsure	3%	3%
Refused	0%	1%

5. Have the measures taken by the government of Virginia to slow the spread of the virus been appropriate, have they gone too far, or have they not gone far enough?

Appropriate	49%	62%
Gone too far	20%	17%
Not gone far enough	26%	18%
Unsure	4%	2%
Refused	0%	0%

6. Have you had any of the following happen because of the coronavirus outbreak?

a. Started to work from home for the first time

Yes	31%	34%
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b. Someone in your household is now working from home

Yes	43%	49%
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c. Have you or anyone in the household been laid off

Yes	20%	21%
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d. Have you or anyone there lost income due to fewer hours or lost business

Yes	42%	43%
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e. Have you struggled to pay your bills?

Yes	22%	18%
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7.a. [IF SOMEONE WORKING FROM HOME] Would you or they prefer to continue working from home in the future or would you prefer to be in the workplace?

Home	44%	31%
Workplace	43%	57%
Combination [VOL]	9%	12%
Unsure	3%	0%
Refused	0%	0%

7.b. [IF NO ONE LAID OFF] How concerned are you that you or someone in your household will lose their job because of the coronavirus outbreak? Are you

Very concerned	9%	8%
Somewhat concerned	20%	17%
Not very concerned	24%	25%
Not concerned at all	47%	49%
Refused	1%	1%

8. Which concerns you more—that you or a family member will become seriously ill due to the coronavirus or that you or a family member will be hurt financially by the restrictions due to the virus?

Illness	57%	62%
Finances	28%	26%
Both equal [VOL]	9%	7%
Unsure	4%	4%
Refused	3%	1%

9. When do you think the coronavirus will be contained in the United States to the point that the economy can return to normal and businesses can re-open and people can go back to work? It has already has, in the next few weeks, in the next few months, in the next year, longer than the next year, or never?

Already has	4%	4%
Weeks	2%	6%
Months	19%	36%
Next year	42%	28%
More than a year	25%	18%
Never	5%	3%
Refused	4%	5%

10. Which of the following concerns you more? That the federal government will spend too much money to try to boost the economy and as a result will drive up the budget deficit, OR That the federal government will spend too little money to try to boost the economy and as a result the recession will be longer?

Spend too much	38%	40%
Spend too little	49%	46%
Unsure	13%	13%
Refused	1%	1%

11. And how often do you wear a mask when you are indoors in a public space such as a store or restaurant? Always, most of the time, sometimes, almost never, or never?

Always	84%
Most of the time	9%
Sometimes	2%

Almost never	3%
Never	1%
Refused	1%

As part of a lengthy and “not upbeat” questionnaire, we decide to ask two irrelevant questions we hope would both lighten the mood and keep respondents engaged.

12. Do you choose a face mask because of how it looks or compliments your fashion, OR do you choose a mask to wear without thinking about how it looks?

How it looks	9%
Without thinking	91%
Refused	0%

13. Do you think your mask makes you look sexy?

Yes	12%
No	80%
Refused	8%

14. In general, do you think the news media coverage of the coronavirus has been accurate, made things seem better than they really are, or worse than they really are?

Accurate	28%	28%
Better than things are	10%	10%
Worse than things are	49%	49%
Unsure	13%	12%
Refused	1%	0%

15. Code respondent's sex [NOT ASKED]

Male	49%
Female	51%

16. Region

Southwest Virginia	10%
Southside	6%
Shenandoah Valley	7%
Central Virginia/Richmond	23%
Northern Virginia	32%
Tidewater	24%

17. Thanks so much for your patience. I have a few questions about you for statistical purposes. Are you currently married, living with a partner, divorced, separated, widowed, or have you never been married?

Married	49%
Living with partner	5%

Divorced	9%
Separated	3%
Widowed	6%
Never married	28%
Refused	1%

18. How much education have you completed?

Less than high school	3%
High School	17%
Some college/technical school	25%
Associate's Degree	7%
Bachelor's Degree	26%
Advanced Degree	23%
Refused	0%

19. In what year were you born? [CODED INTO CATEGORIES]

18-29	22%
30-44	27%
45-64	35%
65 or older	16%
Refused	0%

20. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?

Yes, Hispanic	3%
No, not Hispanic	95%
No answer	2%

21. Would you consider yourself Caucasian or White, African-American or Black, or Asian or some other race?

White / Hispanic / Latino	73%
African-American	18%
Other/multi-racial	5%
Refused	4%

22. I'm going to read several income groups. When I come to the group that includes your annual family income, please stop me.

Less than \$20,000	7%
\$20,000-\$35,000	9%
\$35,000-\$50,000	10%
\$50,000-\$75,000	16%
\$75,000-\$100,000	13%
More than \$100,000	36%
Refused	10%

23. Politically speaking, do you consider yourself to be liberal, moderate or conservative?

Liberal	23%
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Moderate	31%
Conservative	36%
Other/Unsure	5%
Refused	5%

24. And would you describe your political party affiliation as Democrat, Republican, Independent, some other party or no affiliation?

Democrat	28%
Republican	30%
Independent	22%
Other/None	18%
Refused	3%

24.a. [IF INDEPENDENT, OTHER OR REFUSED] As of today, do you lean more toward the Democratic party or toward the Republican party? [RESULTS ARE COMBINED WITH THOSE IN Q. 22]

Democrat	44%
Republican	41%
Neither/Refused	15%

Thank you for your time and have a nice <HOUR1>.

Partisan Divide

August/May

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Republican</u>
Very concerned R or family will contract virus	57% / 48%	19% / 16%
If R contracted disease, would be asymptomatic	7% / 8%	17% / 15%
Would be extremely sick, perhaps die	16% / 19%	10% / 9%
Federal government response insufficient	89% / 77%	19% / 11%
State government response insufficient	38% / 25%	16% / 12%
More concerned R or family member will become ill	70% / 70%	41% / 46%
More concerned about financial impact of lockdown	12% / 17%	48% / 40%
More concerned federal govt. will spend too little	70% / 62%	24% / 26%

Media coverage accurate	52% / 45%	5% / 11%
Media coverage makes it seem worse than reality	15% / 24%	85% / 81%
Return to normal next year	51% / 29%	29% / 21%
Return to normal in more than a year	34% / 19%	12% / 9%