

Roanoke College Poll Topline
Politics and COVID
March 2, 2021

Hi, I'm _____ and I'm calling from Roanoke College. How are you today/this evening?
 We're conducting a survey of Virginia residents regarding important issues and your opinion is very important to us. Your responses are confidential.

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

	Yes	No	Refused
Feb. 2021	77%	23%	0%
Nov. 2020	61%	38%	1%
Aug. 2020	42%	58%	0%
May 2020	31%	70%	0%

1.a. [IF YES] How do you know this person? [TOTALS MORE THAN 100% IN NOVEMBER AND FEBRUARY DUE TO ALLOWING MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE]

	R Had It	Family Member	Friend/Relative	Co-worker	Other	Refused
Feb. 2021	10%	40%	43%	15%	6%	0%
Nov. 2020	7%	38%	56%	22%	5%	0%
Aug. 2020	4%	31%	42%	18%	4%	0%
May 2020	3%	25%	48%	11%	14%	0%

2. 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	Gone too far	Not far enough	Unsure	Refused
Feb. 2021	31%	13%	46%	9%	1%
Nov. 2020	32%	11%	52%	4%	1%
Aug. 2020	28%	10%	58%	3%	0%
May 2020	43%	8%	46%	3%	1%

3. 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	Gone too far	Not far enough	Unsure	Refused
Feb. 2021	46%	19%	31%	4%	1%
Nov. 2020	48%	21%	27%	4%	1%
Aug. 2020	49%	20%	26%	4%	0%
May 2020	62%	17%	18%	2%	0%

4. 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	Weeks	Months	Year	>Year	Never	Ref.
Feb. 2021	7%	0%	18%	40%	24%	8%	4%
Nov. 2020	4%	2%	14%	42%	27%	5%	7%
Aug. 2020	4%	2%	19%	42%	25%	5%	4%
May 2020	4%	6%	36%	28%	18%	3%	5%

5. Overall, would you say the actions taken by the federal government to distribute the vaccine have been very effective, somewhat effective, not very effective, or not effective at all?

Very effective	11%
Somewhat effective	53%
Not very effective	19%
Not effective at all	7%
DK/Refused	10%

6. And would you say the actions taken by the government of Virginia to distribute the vaccine have been very effective, somewhat effective, not very effective, or not effective at all?

Very effective	11%
Somewhat effective	48%
Not very effective	22%
Not effective at all	10%
DK/Refused	10%

7. Regarding the vaccine, have you already been vaccinated, do you plan to take the vaccine when you can, or do you not plan to take the vaccine?

Already vaccinated	18%
Will take it	54%
Won't take it	23%
DK/Refused	6%

8. In general, how much trust and confidence do you have in the mass media--such as newspapers, TV and radio--when it comes to reporting the news fully, accurately, and fairly? A great deal, a fair amount, not very much, or none at all?

	Great Deal	Fair amount	Not very much	None at all	Refused
Feb. 2021	7%	31%	34%	25%	3%
Nov. 2020	9%	35%	24%	30%	3%
Aug. 2020	7%	37%	29%	24%	2%
May 2020	10%	37%	32%	20%	2%
Feb. 2020	8%	27%	32%	28%	4%
Nov. 2019	7%	29%	34%	26%	4%
Aug. 2019	10%	30%	31%	27%	3%
Feb. 2017	11%	31%	30%	26%	3%

9. Do you think things in the COUNTRY are generally going in the right direction or do you think things have gotten off on the wrong track?

	Right direction	Wrong track	Unsure	Refused
Feb. 2021	39%	53%	8%	1%
Nov. 2020	28%	62%	9%	1%
Oct. 2020	30%	63%	6%	1%
Aug. 2020	16%	79%	4%	1%
May 2020	33%	61%	6%	0%
Feb. 2020	39%	53%	8%	0%
Nov. 2019	26%	65%	10%	0%
Aug. 2019	31%	61%	7%	1%
Feb. 2019	37%	56%	6%	1%
Nov. 2018	34%	58%	6%	2%
Aug. 2018	37%	56%	7%	1%
June 2018	30%	64%	6%	1%
Feb. 2018	31%	57%	10%	1%
Nov. 2017	24%	69%	7%	0%
Oct. 2017	30%	64%	6%	1%
Sept. 2017	30%	63%	7%	1%
Aug. 2017	29%	63%	8%	1%
Feb. 2017	31%	57%	10%	1%
Jan. 2017	32%	52%	16%	1%

10. Do you think things in the Commonwealth of Virginia are generally going in the right direction or do you think things have gotten off on the wrong track?

	Right direction	Wrong track	Unsure	Refused
Feb. 2021	52%	40%	8%	1%
Nov. 2020	53%	37%	8%	2%
Aug. 2020	45%	49%	6%	0%
May 2020	57%	37%	6%	0%
Feb. 2020	49%	44%	6%	2%
Aug. 2018	58%	30%	10%	2%
Oct. 2017	48%	40%	12%	1%
Sept. 2017	52%	37%	11%	1%
Aug. 2017	46%	41%	11%	2%
Jan. 2017	52%	29%	18%	1%

11. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Ralph Northam is handling his job as Governor of Virginia?

	Approve	Disapprove	Mixed	Refused
Feb. 2021	49%	33%	10%	8%
Nov. 2020	53%	33%	9%	5%
Aug. 2020	53%	41%	5%	2%
May 2020	59%	29%	6%	6%
Feb. 2020	40%	41%	11%	9%
Nov. 2019	35%	28%	23%	13%
Aug. 2019	37%	29%	21%	14%
Feb. 2019	32%	39%	16%	13%
Aug. 2018	54%	18%	13%	15%
June 2018	43%	36%	14%	7%
Feb. 2018	32%	50%	11%	7%

12. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump handled his job as President of the United States (past tense used only in Feb. 2021)?

	Approve	Disapprove	Mixed	Refused
Feb. 2021	24%	59%	15%	2%
Nov. 2020	35%	53%	9%	3%
Oct. 2020	41%	56%	3%	1%
Aug. 2020	37%	58%	4%	1%
May 2020	36%	54%	8%	2%
Feb. 2020	36%	52%	11%	1%
Nov. 2019	32%	51%	14%	3%
Aug. 2019	27%	53%	17%	3%
Feb. 2019	38%	48%	11%	3%
Aug. 2018	32%	53%	12%	3%
June 2018	36%	53%	9%	2%
Feb. 2018	32%	50%	11%	7%
Oct. 2017	36%	53%	9%	2%
Oct. 2017	35%	58%	6%	2%
Sept. 2017	36%	56%	8%	1%
Aug. 2017	27%	58%	13%	2%
Feb. 2017	32%	50%	11%	7%

13. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as President of the United States?

	Approve	Disapprove	Mixed	Refused
Feb. 2021	47%	30%	8%	15%

14. How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, only some of the time, or never?

	Always	Most of the time	Sometimes	Never	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2021	2%	16%	63%	16%	3%
Nov. 2020	1%	17%	60%	18%	4%
May 2020	0%	16%	64%	17%	2%
Nov. 2019	3%	13%	61%	20%	4%
Feb. 2019	1%	11%	70%	16%	2%
Nov. 2018	1%	13%	61%	22%	2%
May 2018	1%	11%	70%	18%	0%
Feb. 2018	2%	17%	62%	18%	2%
Nov. 2017	2%	14%	60%	24%	1%
Oct. 2017	1%	11%	72%	17%	0%
Aug. 2017	1%	14%	61%	23%	2%

15. Which of the following statements is closer to your view: Ordinary citizens can do a lot to influence the government in Washington if they are willing to make the effort OR There's not much ordinary citizens can do to influence the government in Washington?

	Citizens can influence govt.	Cannot	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2021	52%	45%	3%
Nov. 2020	61%	35%	4%
May 2020	47%	49%	4%
Nov. 2019	58%	38%	5%
Feb. 2019	56%	38%	6%
Nov. 2018	63%	30%	8%
May 2018	57%	41%	2%
Feb. 2018	65%	32%	4%
Nov. 2017	63%	34%	3%
Oct. 2017	57%	41%	2%
Aug. 2017	60%	37%	4%

16. Thinking about the way things are going in politics today ... on the issues that matter to you would you say your side has been winning more often than it's been losing, or losing more often than it's been winning?

	Winning	Losing	Both	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2021	26%	50%	11%	14%
Nov. 2020	33%	42%	10%	15%
May 2020	29%	50%	11%	10%
Nov. 2019	28%	43%	12%	18%
Feb. 2019	27%	44%	16%	14%
Nov. 2018	34%	42%	14%	10%
May 2018	23%	60%	11%	7%
Feb. 2018	29%	51%	11%	9%
Nov. 2017	27%	53%	10%	10%
Oct. 2017	23%	61%	10%	6%
Aug. 2017	22%	57%	13%	8%

17. Which comes closest to your feelings about how the federal government is working? Are you enthusiastic, satisfied, dissatisfied, or angry?

	Enthusiastic	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Angry	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2021	6%	32%	41%	14%	8%
Nov. 2020	2%	24%	49%	19%	6%
May 2020	3%	25%	49%	19%	5%
Nov. 2019	3%	21%	50%	19%	8%
Feb. 2019	1%	21%	49%	20%	8%
Nov. 2018	2%	25%	49%	18%	7%
May 2018	3%	15%	54%	26%	3%
Feb. 2018	3%	23%	45%	21%	8%
Nov. 2017	2%	19%	60%	14%	5%
Oct. 2017	3%	15%	55%	24%	3%
Aug. 2017	1%	15%	57%	22%	5%

18. When you think about the future of the United States, which do you agree with more: the country's best years are ahead of us or the country's best years are behind us?

	Best ahead	Best behind	Same/Unsure	Refused
Feb. 2021	59%	30%	9%	2%
Nov. 2020	62%	29%	8%	2%
May 2020	60%	31%	7%	1%
Nov. 2019	55%	32%	10%	3%
Feb. 2019	55%	35%	10%	0%
Nov. 2018	57%	33%	8%	2%
May 2018	56%	37%	7%	1%
Feb. 2018	56%	34%	10%	1%
Nov. 2017	57%	37%	6%	1%
Oct. 2017	57%	37%	6%	1%
Aug. 2017	56%	32%	11%	1%

19. Looking broadly at the important issues facing the United States, do you think that Americans are united in facing those challenges or is the nation divided?

	United	Divided	Both/Unsure	Refused
Feb. 2021	5%	91%	3%	1%
Nov. 2020	8%	88%	3%	1%
May 2020	10%	86%	4%	0%
Nov. 2019	7%	90%	4%	0%
Feb. 2019	8%	88%	4%	0%
Nov. 2018	6%	89%	3%	2%
May 2018	11%	87%	2%	0%
Feb. 2018	13%	84%	3%	0%
Nov. 2017	10%	86%	3%	1%
Oct. 2017	11%	88%	2%	0%
Aug. 2017	8%	88%	4%	0%

Please tell me if you have a generally favorable or unfavorable impression of the following people and organizations or if you don't know enough about them to have formed an opinion.

20. Donald Trump

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Mixed/Unsure	DK/Refused
Feb. 2021	24%	58%	14%	4%
Nov. 2020	33%	53%	10%	5%
Oct. 2020	41%	56%	3%	1%
Aug. 2020	37%	55%	7%	2%
May 2020	36%	49%	12%	4%
Feb. 2020	32%	54%	10%	4%
Sept. 2017	35%	54%	8%	3%
Aug. 2017	31%	53%	13%	3%
Feb. 2017	29%	49%	13%	9%
Jan. 2017	30%	48%	18%	4%
Jan. 2016	22%	63%	13%	2%
Nov. 2015	23%	55%	13%	9%

21. Joe Biden

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Mixed/Unsure	DK/Refused
Feb. 2021	47%	29%	14%	10%
Nov. 2020	46%	36%	9%	9%
Oct. 2020	53%	43%	3%	1%
Aug. 2020	51%	38%	7%	4%
May 2020	36%	39%	15%	10%
Feb. 2020	37%	37%	18%	8%

22. Ralph Northam

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Mixed/Unsure	DK/Refused
Feb. 2021	41%	31%	13%	15%
Nov. 2020	43%	31%	9%	17%
Aug. 2020	45%	38%	10%	8%
May 2020	46%	31%	11%	12%
Feb. 2020	27%	34%	14%	25%
Sept. 2017	32%	25%	9%	34%
Aug. 2017	25%	15%	8%	53%
Jan. 2017	8%	5%	3%	84%

23. Terry McAuliffe

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Mixed/Unsure	DK/Refused
Feb. 2021	21%	21%	14%	45%

24. Which of the following comes closest to how you feel about the impeachment charge? (A) Trump did nothing wrong; (B) Some of Trump's conduct was improper, but it did not rise to the level of impeachment; or (C) Trump's conduct was definitely grounds for impeachment?

Did nothing wrong	13%
Improper, but not impeachable	33%
Grounds for impeachment	50%
DK/Refused	4%

25. Do you think the U.S. Senate should have convicted Donald Trump on this impeachment charge?

Yes	50%
No	44%
DK/Refused	5%

26. Thinking about the November election, do you think that the counting of the votes across the country was very accurate, mostly accurately, or not very accurate?

	Feb. 2021	Nov. 2020
Very accurate	43%	39%
Mostly accurate	26%	25%
Not very accurate	27%	31%
Unsure/Refused	4%	5%

27. And do you think that all the candidates declared as winners truly won the election, most of them won, or only some of them truly won the election?

	Feb. 2021	Nov. 2020
All	52%	41%
Most	20%	24%
Some	22%	29%
Unsure/Refused	6%	7%

28. Thinking about the protest and riot at the Capitol building in Washington DC, do you think the ANGER that led to the protests was fully justified, partially justified, or not at all justified?

Fully justified	7%
Partially justified	21%
Not at all justified	68%
DK/Refused	5%

29. And do you think the majority of those protesting were peacefully exercising their rights or do you think they were mostly violent?

Peacefully exercising rights	38%
Mostly violent	53%
DK/Refused	9%

30. And do you think those who stormed and then entered the Capitol building itself were exercising their rights or do you think they are criminals?

Exercising rights	8%
Criminals	84%
DK/Refused	8%

31. Thinking about the protests across the country last summer, do you think the ANGER that led to the protests was fully justified, partially justified, or not at all justified?

Fully justified	35%
Partially justified	37%
Not at all justified	24%
DK/Refused	4%

32. And lastly, do you think the looting of businesses and destruction of property was fully justified, partially justified, or not at all justified?

Fully justified	1%
Partially justified	8%
Not at all justified	91%
DK/Refused	1%

33. Code respondent's sex [NOT ASKED]

Male	49%
Female	51%

34. Region

Southwest Virginia	12%
Southside	8%
Shenandoah Valley	7%
Central Virginia/Richmond	22%
Northern Virginia	31%
Tidewater	21%

35. 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	52%
Living with partner	7%
Divorced	6%
Separated	3%
Widowed	5%
Never married	27%
Refused	1%

36. How much education have you completed?

Less than high school	3%
High School	16%
Some college/technical school	24%
Associate's Degree	7%
Bachelor's Degree	30%
Advanced Degree	20%
Refused	1%

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

18-29	22%
30-44	27%
45-64	34%
65 or older	15%
Refused	1%

38. Are you of Hispanic origin or descent, such as Mexican, Dominican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Spanish background?

Yes, Hispanic	5%
No, not Hispanic	94%
Refused	1%

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

White / Hispanic / Latino	74%
African-American	18%
Asian/Other/multi-racial	5%
Refused	3%

40. 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	8%
\$35,000-\$50,000	10%
\$50,000-\$75,000	15%
\$75,000-\$100,000	15%
More than \$100,000	33%
Refused	13%

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

Liberal	20%
Moderate	41%
Conservative	28%
Other/Unsure	3%
Refused	7%

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

Democrat	32%
Republican	23%
Independent	19%
Other/None	22%
Refused	4%

42. 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. 42]

Democrat	47%
Republican	35%
Independent/Neither/Refused	18%

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

Party Crosstabs

	<i>Democrat Feb./Nov. If single entry, then from Feb. 2021</i>	<i>Republican Feb./Nov.</i>
COVID		
Fed response not enough	64% / 87%	29% / 17%
VA response not enough	40% / 37%	24% / 14%
COVID contained now	0% / 0%	12% / 9%
Contained in over a year	29% / 35%	21% / 17%
Already vaccinated	19%	20%
Will get vaccinated	68%	37%
Won't get vaccinated	11%	35%
Fed vaccine distribution not very/ at all effective	26%	29%
VA vaccine distribution not very/ at all effective	27%	43%
Politics		
Trust media great deal + fair amount	64% / 72%	14% / 15%
Country right direction	68% / 29%	9% / 25%
VA right track	78%	27%
Approve Trump	1% / 2%	66% / 78%
Approve Biden	84%	13%
Approve Northam	78%	18%
Trust D.C. always + most of the time	28% / 20%	14% / 17%
Citizens CAN influence Washington	65% / 72%	39% / 53%
Your side losing more than winning	36% / 42%	73% / 46%
Enthusiastic + satisfied with federal govt.	58% / 23%	18% / 30%
Angry with federal govt.	7% / 24%	22% / 14%
Nation's best years ahead	80% / 83%	33% / 41%
Nation divided	93% / 88%	96% / 91%
Vote counting in Nov. not very accurate	0% / 4%	67% / 76%
Declared winners truly won All + Most	96% / 90%	34% / 28%
Trump did nothing wrong	0%	36%
Grounds for impeachment	87%	9%
Should have been convicted	92%	8%
DC protest/riot anger not justified	86%	48%
Most protestors peaceful	17%	61%
Breachers exercised right	2%	11%
Social justice protest anger not justified	7%	43%