

Roanoke College Poll
2013 Gubernatorial Election
July 17, 2013

Hi, I'm _____, and I'm calling from the Institute for Policy and Opinion Research at Roanoke College. How are you today/this evening? We're conducting a survey regarding important issues in Virginia, and your opinion is very important to us. All of your responses are anonymous and confidential.

1. First, to be sure that we get a representative sample of Virginians, would you please tell me in what county do you live? RECODED TO REGION

Southwest Virginia	12%
Shenandoah Valley	7%
Southside	10%
Central VA/Richmond	20%
Northern VA	29%
Tidewater	22%

2. Are you registered to vote in Virginia?

Yes	100%
No [SKIP TO END]	

3. 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?

	July, 2013	April, 2013	Jan., 2013
Right direction	50%	46%	49%
Wrong track	33%	37%	35%
Unsure/mixed	15%	15%	16%
No answer	1%	2%	1%

4. 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?

	July, 2013	April, 2013	Jan., 2013
Right direction	30%	26%	30%
Wrong track	60%	63%	61%
Unsure/mixed	9%	10%	8%
No answer	1%	1%	1%

5. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Bob McDonnell is handling his job as Governor of Virginia?

	July, 2013	April, 2013	Jan., 2013
Approve	49%	49%	54%
Disapprove	26%	21%	19%
Mixed/unsure	12%	16%	15%
No answer	13%	14%	12%

6. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President of the United States?

	July, 2013	April, 2013	Jan., 2013
Approve	40%	44%	44%
Disapprove	50%	47%	46%
Mixed/unsure	8%	7%	9%
No answer	3%	2%	1%

7. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress is handling its job?

	July, 2013	April, 2013	Jan., 2013
Approve	11%	12%	10%
Disapprove	76%	77%	81%
Mixed/unsure	11%	8%	7%
No answer	2%	3%	3%

8. What is the most important issue facing Virginia?

Unemployment/Jobs	24%
Economy	20%
Transportation	12%
Education	8%
Health Care	4%
Taxes	3%
Government not helping poor/ Income inequality	3%
Guns/Violence/Gun Control	2%
Size/Scope of Government/ Government Spending	2%
Immigration	2%
Unsure	4%
Don't know/No answer	5%
Other	11%

9. If the election for governor of Virginia were held today would you vote for [ROTATE]

July, 2013	April, 2013	Jan., 2013
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Ken Cuccinelli, the Republican	37%	34%	33%
Terry McAuliffe, the Democrat	31%	29%	26%
Rob Sarvis, the Libertarian	5%	----	----
Undecided	27%	38%	41%

9(a). [IF UNDECIDED] Are you leaning toward voting for a particular candidate—Cuccinelli, McAuliffe, or Sarvis?

Cuccinelli	8%
McAuliffe	6%
Sarvis	2%
Undecided	72%
No answer	12%

9(b). [IF SARVIS] If the candidates were only Cuccinelli and McAuliffe, for whom would you vote?

Cuccinelli	31%
McAuliffe	36%
Unsure	23%
No answer	11%

10. From what you have heard or read, do you think that Terry McAuliffe is too liberal, too conservative or about right for Virginia or don't you know enough to have formed an opinion?

	July, 2013	April, 2013
Too liberal	15%	16%
Too conservative	3%	3%
About right	17%	14%
Don't know enough	65%	67%

11. From what you have heard or read, do you think that Ken Cuccinelli is too liberal, too conservative or about right for Virginia or don't you know enough to have formed an opinion?

	July, 2013	April, 2013
Too liberal	3%	3%
Too conservative	23%	23%
About right	26%	22%
Don't know enough	48%	52%

12. If the election for lieutenant governor of Virginia were held today would you vote for [ROTATE]

E. W. Jackson, the Republican	28%
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Ralph Northam, the Democrat	30%
Uncertain	41%
No answer	1%

13. If the election for attorney general were held today would you vote for [ROTATE]

Mark Obenshain, the Republican	33%
Mark Herring, the Democrat	29%
Uncertain	38%
No answer	0%

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

	July, 2013	April, 2013	Jan., 2013
14. Barack Obama			
Favorable	45%	48%	50%
Unfavorable	48%	43%	42%
Mixed/unsure	5%	5%	6%
No answer	2%	4%	3%
15. Bob McDonnell			
Favorable	46%	44%	48%
Unfavorable	24%	22%	17%
Mixed/unsure	12%	12%	17%
No answer	18%	22%	19%
16. Tim Kaine			
Favorable	44%	45%	44%
Unfavorable	32%	30%	31%
Mixed/unsure	8%	6%	10%
No answer	16%	19%	16%
17. Mark Warner			
Favorable	56%	49%	53%
Unfavorable	17%	22%	17%
Mixed/unsure	9%	8%	12%
No answer	18%	22%	18%
18. Ken Cuccinelli			
Favorable	33%	26%	22%
Unfavorable	26%	24%	24%

Mixed/unsure	7%	5%	8%
No answer	34%	45%	46%

19. Terry McAuliffe

Favorable	24%	12%	10%
Unfavorable	20%	18%	16%
Mixed/unsure	10%	9%	11%
No answer	45%	61%	62%

20. How much thought have you given to the November election for governor in Virginia. . . Quite a lot or only a little?

Quite a lot	14%
Some	22%
Only a little	42%
Not at all [VOL]	20%
No answer	1%

21. As you may know, this year Virginia adopted a plan that raises revenue for transportation by raising some taxes, like the sales tax on cars and trucks and takes some money from the general fund. In general, do you agree or disagree with this policy?

Agree	45%
Disagree	43%
Unsure	11%
Don't know/No answer	1%

22. Some people think that we sometimes need to raise tax rates to increase spending for things like education, transportation, and other services. Other people think that tax revenues increase as the economy expands and that government should find ways to provide services with the current tax rates. Which is closer to your view?

Raise taxes sometimes	50%
Never raise taxes	40%
Unsure	9%
Don't know/No answer	1%

23. Do you think abortion should be legal under any circumstances, legal only under certain circumstance, or illegal in all circumstances?

	July, 2013	Oct., 2012
Legal—all	30%	32%
Legal—some	46%	47%
Illegal all	18%	15%
Unsure	3%	----

No answer	2%	----
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24. Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally?

	July, 2013	April, 2013
Strongly favor	17%	20%
Favor	28%	25%
Oppose	22%	22%
Strongly oppose	21%	19%
Unsure	7%	9%
No answer	5%	4%

24(a). [IF FAVOR OR STRONGLY FAVOR] Have you always favored same-sex marriage, or have you changed your mind on this issue?

	July, 2013	April, 2013
Always favored	64%	69%
Changed mind	30%	25%
Don't recall/NA	6%	6%

24(b). [IF OPPOSE OR STRONGLY OPPOSE] Have you always opposed same-sex marriage, or have you changed your mind on this issue?

	July, 2013	April, 2013
Always opposed	93%	95%
Changed mind	4%	4%
Don't recall/NA	3%	1%

25. Which statement comes closest to your view about how the immigration system should deal with immigrants who are currently living in the U.S. illegally? The immigration system should allow them to become citizens provided they meet certain requirements; allow them to become permanent legal residents, but not citizens; or identify and deport them.

	July, 2013	April, 2013
Allow citizenship	48%	50%
Permanent resident	19%	21%
Deport	22%	21%
Unsure/No answer	11%	8%

26. Some people think that we should protect the environment even at the risk of limiting domestic energy supplies, such as oil, gas, and coal. Others think we should

emphasize domestic energy development even if the environment suffers to some extent. Which is closer to your view?

Protect environment	47%
Develop energy	27%
Balance [VOL]	20%
Unsure	5%
Don't know/No answer	1%

27. More specifically, some people think that we should toughen pollution standards on energy-producing plants to reduce carbon emissions that harm the environment. Others think that raising those standards quickly will increase energy costs and cause a loss of jobs, such as those related to coal production, so we should move more slowly and work to develop cleaner energy plants. Which is closer to your view--increase the standards now or move more slowly?

Toughen standards now	31%
Move more slowly	62%
Unsure	6%
Don't know/No answer	1%

28. In general, do you favor or oppose the following regulations on firearms? Requiring background checks for all firearms sales at gun shows including those guns sold by private citizens.

	July, 2013	April, 2013	Jan., 2013
Favor	84%	84%	86%
Oppose	11%	11%	10%
Unsure	2%	3%	3%
DK/NA	3%	2%	2%

29. Requiring background checks for all firearms sales including those between two private citizens.

	July, 2013	April, 2013	Jan., 2013
Favor	69%	73%	75%
Oppose	23%	22%	19%
Unsure	5%	3%	4%
DN/NA	3%	2%	2%

30. Thinking about how you decide how you will vote in an election, which issues are more important to you--a candidate's views on economic issues like unemployment, taxes, and governmental spending, OR a candidate's positions on social issues like same-sex marriage, abortion, immigration, and gun control?

Economic issues	61%
Social issues	17%
Both equal [VOL]	18%
Unsure	2%
No answer	2%

31. You may or may not have heard about gifts and political campaign contributions which were given to some Virginia lawmakers by Star Scientific, a Virginia company, and its owner, Jonnie Williams. Have you been following that particular news story very closely, somewhat closely, or not closely at all?

Very closely	9%
Somewhat closely	25%
Not closely at all	60%
No answer	6%

32. [IF FOLLOWED VERY OR SOMEWHAT CLOSELY] From what you have heard or read, do you know if each of the following people are involved in the story--please just tell me yes or no or if you haven't followed the story closely enough to know.

	Yes	No	Unsure	No answer
Mark Warner	4%	67%	28%	1%
Bob McDonnell	83%	6%	11%	1%
Ken Cuccinelli	54%	20%	26%	1%
Terry McAuliffe	8%	61%	30%	1%

We're almost finished. Thanks for your patience. Now, I just have a few questions about you for statistical purposes.

33. Code respondent's sex

Male	48%
Female	52%

34. And in what year were you born? [CODED INTO CATEGORIES]

18-29	10%
30-44	24%
45-64	48%
65+	18%

35. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?

Yes	4%
No	96%

36. What is your race? Are you White, African-American, or some other race?

White/Hispanic	76%
African-American	17%
Other	7%

37. How much education have you completed?

Less than high school	2%
High School	17%
Some college/tech school	21%
Associate's degree	10%
Bachelor's degree	30%
Advanced degree	21%

38. 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	6%
\$20,001-\$35,000	14%
\$35,001-\$50,000	11%
\$50,001-\$75,000	19%
\$75,001-\$100,000	18%
More than \$100,000	32%

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

Liberal	18%
Moderate	42%
Conservative	35%
Other	5%

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

Democrat	29%
Republican	28%
Independent	22%
Other/None	20%

41. Do you tend to agree or disagree with Tea Party movement or don't you know enough about them to have an opinion?

Agree	21%
Disagree	39%

Neutral	8%
Unsure	29%
DK/NA	3%

42. At the present time, are there any guns in your home or garage?

Yes	33%
No	55%
Unsure	2%
No answer	10%

43. Thank you for your time and have a nice evening/day.