

Roanoke College Poll Topline
State and National Politics
November 26, 2019

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. 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
Nov. 2019	7%	29%	34%	26%	4%
Aug. 2019	10%	30%	31%	27%	3%

2. 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
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%

3. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President of the United States?

	Approve	Disapprove	Mixed	Refused
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%
Aug. 2017	27%	58%	13%	2%

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

	Approve	Disapprove	Mixed	Refused
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%

Last measurement for Gov. Terry McAuliffe:

Oct. 2017	43%	36%	14%	7%
Oct. 2017	48%	35%	11%	6%

In general, do you favor or oppose the following:

5. Requiring background checks for all firearms sales, including those between two private citizens?

Favor	84%
Oppose	10%
Unsure	4%
Refused	2%

6. Banning the sale of assault rifles?

Favor	57%
Oppose	30%
Unsure	11%
Refused	3%

7. Allowing a family member to seek a court order to temporarily take away guns if they feel a gun owner may harm themselves or others?

Favor	76%
Oppose	14%
Unsure	8%
Refused	2%

8. Raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour over several years?

Favor	66%
Oppose	24%
Unsure	9%
Refused	1%

9. Passing the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution?

Favor	73%
Oppose	10%
Unsure	10%
Refused	7%

10. Laws that would require workers to pay dues to a union if they work in a unionized workplace?

Favor	38%
Oppose	43%
Unsure	14%
Refused	5%

11. Regulations that may help slow the effects of climate change?

Favor	68%
Oppose	15%
Unsure	12%
Refused	5%

12. Laws that would reduce the prison population and reduce prison racial disparities?

Favor	59%
Oppose	16%
Unsure	20%
Refused	5%

13. Laws that would make it easier for a woman to obtain an abortion?

Favor	53%
Oppose	30%
Unsure	14%
Refused	3%

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 time	Sometimes	Never	Unsure/Refused
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
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
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
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
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
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%

20. Finally, which do you think is more important - to protect the right of Americans to own guns, OR to control gun ownership?

	Protect owners	Control guns	Unsure/Refused
Nov. 2019	47%	43%	10%
Feb. 2019	44%	47%	9%
Nov. 2018	44%	46%	10%
Aug. 2018	44%	48%	8%
May 2018	46%	44%	9%
Jan. 2016	50%	41%	9%
Jan. 2015	50%	42%	7%

21. Code respondent's sex [NOT ASKED]

Male	49%
Female	51%

22. Region

Southwest Virginia	12%
Southside	8%
Shenandoah Valley	9%
Central Virginia/Richmond	23%
Northern Virginia	27%
Tidewater	21%

23. 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	47%
Living with partner	6%
Divorced	7%
Separated	2%
Widowed	5%
Never married	33%
Refused	1%

24. How much education have you completed?

Less than high school	3%
High School	14%
Some college/technical school	28%
Associate's Degree	10%
Bachelor's Degree	25%
Advanced Degree	20%
Refused	0%

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

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

26. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?

Yes, Hispanic	10%
No, not Hispanic	88%
No answer	2%

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

White / Hispanic / Latino	74%
African-American	18%
Other/multi-racial	5%
Refused	4%

28. 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	5%
\$20,000-\$35,000	12%
\$35,000-\$50,000	13%
\$50,000-\$75,000	20%
\$75,000-\$100,000	18%
More than \$100,000	21%
Refused	11%

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

Liberal	26%
Moderate	28%
Conservative	35%
Other/Unsure	7%
Refused	4%

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

Democrat	30%
Republican	24%
Independent	19%
Other/None	21%
Refused	6%

30. 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	46%
Republican	35%
Neither/Refused	19%

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