



THE ROANOKE COLLEGE POLL

Conducted by *The Institute for Policy and Opinion Research*
 Roanoke College

For Immediate Release: April 7, 2011
 Contact: Dr. Harry L. Wilson, Director
 (540) 375-2415 (Office)
 (540) 992-1333 (Home)
 (540) 293-4206 (Cell)
wilson@roanoke.edu

Frequencies

Code respondent's sex			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Male	214	49.0
	Female	223	51.0
	Total	437	100.0

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?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Right direction	213	49.3
	Wrong track	154	35.6
	Unsure	65	15.1
	Total	431	100.0
Missing	No answer	6	
Total		437	

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?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Right direction	88	20.3
	Wrong track	307	71.3
	Unsure	36	8.4
	Total	431	100.0
Missing	No answer	6	
Total		437	

In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Bob McDonnell is handling his job as Governor of Virginia?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Approve	250	65.7
	Disapprove	93	24.3
	Mixed	38	10.0
	Total	380	100.0
Missing	No answer/Don't Know	57	
Total		437	

In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President of the United States?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Approve	144	33.6
	Disapprove	243	56.7
	Mixed	42	9.7
	Total	429	100.0
Missing	No answer/Don't Know	8	
Total		437	

As you know, the federal budget is an important issue in Washington right now and both the President and Congress agree that the deficit needs to be reduced. In general, would you prefer to see the deficit reduced through budget cuts alone, tax increases alone, or a combination of budget cuts and tax increases?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Budget cuts	150	37.1
	Tax increases	17	4.3
	Both	237	58.6
	Total	404	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	8	
	DK/NA	25	
	Total	33	
Total		437	

Do you think our government SHOULD or should NOT redistribute wealth by increasing taxes on the rich?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Govt. should redistribute	198	46.7
	Govt. should not redistribute	196	46.3
	Unsure	30	7.0
	Total	424	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	8	
	NA	5	
	Total	13	
Total		437	

As I read off some different groups, please tell me if you think they are paying their FAIR share in federal taxes, paying too MUCH, or paying too LITTLE.

Higher income people

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Fair Share	96	24.8
	Too Much	48	12.4
	Too Little	243	62.8
	Total	387	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	11	
	DK/NA	39	
	Total	50	
Total		437	

Medium income people

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Fair Share	210	52.8
	Too Much	155	39.0
	Too Little	33	8.2
	Total	397	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	11	
	DK/NA	29	
	Total	40	
Total		437	

Lower income people

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Fair Share	154	40.2
	Too Much	151	39.4
	Too Little	78	20.3
	Total	383	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	11	
	DK/NA	43	
	Total	54	
Total		437	

Corporations			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Fair Share	66	18.9
	Too Much	48	13.8
	Too Little	237	67.4
	Total	352	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	11	
	DK/NA	74	
	Total	85	
Total		437	

Last year about 40% of Americans did not pay any income tax, although they did pay Social Security and Medicare taxes. Do you think that all Americans should pay some amount in income taxes regardless of how much or little money they make?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes, all should pay	246	58.3
	No, all should NOT pay	150	35.5
	Unsure	26	6.2
	Total	422	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	14	
	NA	1	
	Total	15	
Total		437	

Do you regard the amount of income tax which you will have to pay this year as fair?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes, fair	272	69.3
	No, NOT fair	121	30.7
	Total	393	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	15	
	DK/NA	30	
	Total	44	
Total		437	

Some people support a Flat Tax in which everyone pays the same percentage of income in tax, but families would pay less than single people. Do you think the Flat Tax is a good idea?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes, good idea	181	43.4
	No, NOT good idea	184	44.1
	Unsure	52	12.4
	Total	417	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	16	
	NA	4	
	Total	20	
Total		437	

Other people like the so-called Fair Tax in that the federal income tax would be replaced with a national retail sales tax. No family below the poverty line would pay these taxes. Do you think the Fair Tax is a good idea?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes, good idea	169	40.5
	No, NOT good idea	171	41.0
	Unsure	78	18.6
	Total	419	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	16	
	NA	3	
	Total	18	
Total		437	

If you had to choose, would you prefer the current tax system, the flat tax, or the fair tax?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Current system	95	23.0
	Flat tax	128	30.7
	Fair tax	143	34.3
	Unsure	50	12.0
	Total	415	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	16	
	NA	6	
	Total	22	
Total		437	

How much money does someone have to make in a year before you think they are rich?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	\$100,000 or less	167	39.8
	\$100,001-\$250,000	108	25.8
	\$250,001-\$500,000	87	20.7
	\$500,001-\$1,000,000	45	10.7
	More than \$1,000,000	13	3.0
	Total	419	100.0
Missing	System	18	
Total		437	

The current federal tax brackets range from 15% to 35%. What percentage of their income should the rich pay in federal taxes?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	< 20%	28	9.0
	20%-29%	44	14.2
	30%-39%	164	53.4
	40%-49%	48	15.7
	50% or more	23	7.7
	Total	307	100.0
Missing	System	130	
Total		437	

What percentage of your income should you pay in federal taxes?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	< 20%	127	43.7
	20%-29%	101	34.9
	30%-39%	60	20.8
	40%-49%	1	.3
	50% or more	1	.3
	Total	290	100.0
Missing	System	147	
Total		437	

Some people think that we should protect the environment even at the risk of reducing economic growth. Others think we should promote economic growth even if the environment suffers to some extent. Which is closer to your view?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Protect environment	193	46.6
	Promote growth	129	31.2
	Balance [ONLY IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS]	75	18.1
	Unsure	17	4.0
	Total	414	100.0
	Missing	-9998.00	19
	NA	4	
	Total	23	
Total		437	

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?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Protect environment	160	38.9
	Develop energy	176	42.6
	Balance [ONLY IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS]	55	13.3
	Unsure	21	5.2
	Total	412	100.0
	Missing	-9998.00	19
	NA	5	
	Total	25	
Total		437	

Thinking about specific methods of energy production within the United States, please tell me if you think we should expand, limit, or ban the following: - Offshore drilling for oil			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Expand	221	55.5
	Limit	128	32.3
	Ban	48	12.2
	Total	397	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	21	
	DK/NA	18	
	Total	40	
Total		437	

Thinking about specific methods of energy production within the United States, please tell me if you think we should expand, limit, or ban the following: - Drilling for oil in Alaska			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Expand	266	66.7
	Limit	95	23.8
	Ban	38	9.5
	Total	398	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	21	
	DK/NA	17	
	Total	39	
Total		437	

Thinking about specific methods of energy production within the United States, please tell me if you think we should expand, limit, or ban the following: - Coal mining			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Expand	192	51.3
	Limit	143	38.2
	Ban	39	10.5
	Total	374	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	21	
	DK/NA	42	
	Total	63	
Total		437	

Thinking about specific methods of energy production within the United States, please tell me if you think we should expand, limit, or ban the following: - Drilling for natural gas			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Expand	297	77.1
	Limit	77	19.9
	Ban	12	3.0
	Total	386	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	21	
	DK/NA	30	
	Total	51	
Total		437	

Thinking about specific methods of energy production within the United States, please tell me if you think we should expand, limit, or ban the following: - Nuclear power			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Expand	179	48.1
	Limit	141	37.8
	Ban	53	14.1
	Total	372	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	21	
	DK/NA	43	
	Total	65	
Total		437	

Thinking about specific methods of energy production within the United States, please tell me if you think we should expand, limit, or ban the following: - Wind turbines			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Expand	341	87.1
	Limit	32	8.1
	Ban	19	4.8
	Total	392	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	21	
	DK/NA	23	
	Total	45	
Total		437	

Thinking about specific methods of energy production within the United States, please tell me if you think we should expand, limit, or ban the following: - Solar power			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Expand	377	94.1
	Limit	21	5.3
	Ban	2	.5
	Total	401	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	21	
	DK/NA	15	
	Total	36	
Total		437	

Thinking about specific methods of energy production within the United States, please tell me if you think we should expand, limit, or ban the following: - Hydroelectric power			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Expand	341	89.0
	Limit	34	8.9
	Ban	8	2.1
	Total	383	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	21	
	DK/NA	33	
	Total	54	
Total		437	

From what you've read and heard, is there solid evidence that the average temperature on earth has been getting warmer over the past few decades, or not?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes, solid evidence	232	56.1
	No, NOT solid evidence	147	35.5
	Unsure	35	8.4
	Total	414	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	21	
	NA	2	
	Total	23	
Total		437	

Do you believe that the earth is getting warmer mostly because of human activity such as burning fossil fuels or mostly because of the natural patterns in the earth's environment?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Human activity	94	40.4
	Natural causes	80	34.6
	Both [ONLY IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS]	43	18.4
	Unsure	15	6.5
	Total	232	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	205	
Total		437	

In your view, is global warming a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Very serious	108	27.2
	Somewhat serious	132	33.1
	Not too serious	69	17.3
	Not a problem	89	22.4
	Total	399	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	21	
	DK/NA	17	
	Total	38	
Total		437	

Which of the following do you think presents a greater threat for future generations-the national debt or damage to the environment?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	National debt	230	55.6
	Environment	116	28.0
	Unsure/Equal [ONLY IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS]	67	16.3
	Total	413	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	21	
	NA	3	
	Total	24	
Total		437	

How old are you?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	18-34	51	12.7
	35-49	101	25.2
	50-64	140	35.2
	65 or older	107	26.9
	Total	399	100.0
Missing	System	38	
Total		437	

How much education have you completed?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	High school or less	91	22.4
	Some College/Associate	127	31.5
	Bachelor's or more	186	46.1
	Total	403	100.0
Missing	System	33	
Total		437	

I'm going to read several income groups. When I come to the group that includes your annual family income, please stop me.			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Less than \$20,000	29	7.9
	\$20,000-\$35,000	37	10.3
	\$35,000-\$50,000	56	15.4
	\$50,000-\$75,000	66	18.2
	\$75,000-\$100,000	65	18.1
	More than \$100,000	109	30.0
	Total	361	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	23	
	No answer	53	
	Total	76	
Total		437	

What race are you?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	White	338	84.6
	African American	41	10.3
	Other	20	5.0
	Total	399	100.0
Missing	System	38	
Total		437	

Region			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	SW VA	67	16.2
	Southside	46	11.2
	Shen. Valley	48	11.6
	Central VA	78	18.9
	NOVA	88	21.4
	Tidewater	85	20.6
	Total	411	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	26	
Total		437	

Are you registered to vote in Virginia?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	368	89.9
	No	42	10.1
	Total	410	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	26	
	NA	1	
	Total	27	
Total		437	

If the election for U.S. Senate in Virginia in 2012 matched up former Republican Senator George Allen and former Democratic Governor Tim Kaine, would you vote for Allen or Kaine? (ASKED ONLY OF REGISTERED VOTERS)

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	George Allen	162	45.1
	Tim Kaine	117	32.4
	Undecided/Someone else	81	22.5
	Total	360	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	69	
	NA	8	
	Total	77	
Total		437	

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

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Liberal	60	15.4
	Moderate	145	36.8
	Conservative	174	44.3
	Other	14	3.5
	Total	393	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	27	
	DK/NA	18	
	Total	44	
Total		437	

And would you describe your political party affiliation as Democrat, Republican, Independent, some other party or no affiliation?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Democrat	92	25.6
	Republican	124	34.4
	Independent	124	34.3
	Other	21	5.7
	Total	360	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	27	
	DK/NA	50	
	Total	77	
Total		437	

From what you have heard about the Tea Party movement, do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with their views or don't you know enough to have an opinion either way?			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Strong agree	31	11.2
	Agree	108	39.8
	Disagree	71	26.0
	Strong disagree	63	23.0
	Total	273	100.0
Missing	-9998.00	27	
	DK/NA	138	
	Total	164	
Total		437	