

**Roanoke College Poll  
2014 National Issues  
Joint Poll with Rutgers-Eagleton Poll (NJ) and Siena New York Poll**

Results below are from the Roanoke College Poll ONLY. The first percentage includes all respondents; the second includes only registered voters (RV.)

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, and no one will try to sell you anything. May I please speak to the youngest male in the household over the age of 18? [IF THERE IS NO MALE OR THEY ARE NOT HOME, ASK IF THE PERSON WHO ANSWERED THE PHONE WILL COMPLETE THE SURVEY]

1. Is the United States on the right track, or is it headed in the wrong direction?

	All	RV
Right direction	32%	32%
Wrong track	58%	59%
Don't know/Refused	10%	9%

2. Is Virginia on the right track, or is it headed in the wrong direction?

Right direction	46%	47%
Wrong track	39%	40%
Don't know/Refused	15%	13%

I'm going to read a series of names of people in public life and I'd like you to tell me whether you have a favorable opinion or an unfavorable opinion of each person I name.

3. President Barack Obama

Favorable	45%	45%
Unfavorable	49%	50%
Don't know/Refused	5%	5%

4. New Jersey Governor Chris Christie

Favorable	38%	40%
Unfavorable	37%	38%
Don't know/Refused	25%	23%

5. New York Governor Andrew Cuomo [QWO-mo]

Favorable	26%	27%
Unfavorable	31%	33%
Don't know/Refused	43%	40%

6. Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton

Favorable	56%	56%
Unfavorable	38%	40%
Don't know/Refused	5%	4%

7. Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe [ma-CALL-if]

Favorable	45%	47%
Unfavorable	33%	33%
Don't know/Refused	23%	20%

8. U.S. Senator Rand Paul

Favorable	32%	34%
Unfavorable	36%	37%
Don't know/Refused	32%	29%

9. U.S. Congressman Paul Ryan

Favorable	40%	43%
Unfavorable	32%	33%
Don't know/Refused	28%	25%

10. U.S. Senator Mark Warner

Favorable	59%	60%
Unfavorable	23%	25%
Don't know/Refused	18%	15%

11. U.S. Senator Tim Kaine

Favorable	49%	51%
Unfavorable	32%	33%
Don't know/Refused	19%	16%

In answering the following questions, imagine that you are a United States Senator and today you must cast a vote either in favor of or opposed to each of the following hypothetically proposed laws, policies or amendments.

12. Legalizing same-sex marriage in all 50 states

Favor	54%	53%
Opposed	40%	40%
Don't Know/Refused	7%	7%

13. Using nationally standardized tests to assess the quality of public schools

Favor	48%	46%
Opposed	46%	48%
Don't Know/Refused	7%	7%

14. Establishing a national gun registry

Favor	64%	63%
Opposed	34%	34%
Don't Know/Refused	3%	3%

15. Making abortion illegal 20 weeks after conception

Favor	42%	41%
Opposed	48%	49%
Don't Know/Refused	10%	10%

16. Using federal funds to make free Pre-Kindergarten education available to all children

Favor	68%	67%
Opposed	29%	29%
Don't Know/Refused	4%	4%

17. Approving the Keystone Pipeline to bring oil from Canada to the U.S.

Favor	67%	67%
Opposed	23%	23%
Don't Know/Refused	11%	10%

18. Raising the national minimum wage to \$10.10 [ten dollars and ten cents] per hour

Favor	66%	65%
Opposed	31%	32%
Don't Know/Refused	4%	4%

19. Legalizing the use of marijuana in all 50 states for medical purposes

Favor	69%	69%
Opposed	27%	28%

Don't Know/Refused	4%	4%
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20. Repealing the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare

Favor	53%	55%
Opposed	40%	40%
Don't Know/Refused	7%	6%

21. Approving a path to citizenship for people who are in the US. illegally, but who are working, have no criminal record, and pay taxes

Favor	65%	66%
Opposed	31%	31%
Don't Know/Refused	4%	4%

22. Reinstating unemployment benefits beyond the initial 26 weeks of coverage

Favor	48%	48%
Opposed	45%	46%
Don't Know/Refused	7%	6%

23. Allowing the National Security Agency, or NSA, to tap domestic phone lines in the interest of national security

Favor	29%	29%
Opposed	64%	64%
Don't Know/Refused	8%	6%

Now, for each of the proposals that you indicated you supported, please tell me how upset you would be if the law, policy or amendment was NOT passed. Would you be very upset, somewhat upset, not very upset or not at all upset? [ASKED IF FAVOR]

24. Legalizing same-sex marriage in all 50 states

Very upset	37%	37%
Somewhat upset	31%	31%
Not very upset	23%	25%
Not at all upset	8%	7%
Don't Know/Refused	2%	1%

25. Using nationally standardized tests to assess the quality of public schools

Very upset	24%	22%
Somewhat upset	40%	42%
Not very upset	22%	25%
Not at all upset	13%	11%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	0%

26. Establishing a national gun registry

Very upset	37%	39%
Somewhat upset	34%	32%
Not very upset	20%	21%
Not at all upset	8%	7%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

27. Making abortion illegal 20 weeks after conception

Very upset	47%	48%
Somewhat upset	33%	34%
Not very upset	12%	13%
Not at all upset	6%	4%
Don't Know/Refused	3%	2%

28. Using federal funds to make free Pre-Kindergarten education available to all children

Very upset	40%	39%
Somewhat upset	34%	35%
Not very upset	19%	19%
Not at all upset	7%	7%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

29. Approving the Keystone Pipeline to bring oil from Canada to the U.S.

Very upset	31%	33%
Somewhat upset	36%	34%
Not very upset	22%	24%
Not at all upset	10%	8%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

30. Raising the national minimum wage to \$10.10 [ten dollars and ten cents] per hour

Very upset	38%	38%
Somewhat upset	36%	37%
Not very upset	19%	19%
Not at all upset	7%	6%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	0%

31. Legalizing the use of marijuana in all 50 states for medical purposes

Very upset	24%	25%
Somewhat upset	30%	30%
Not very upset	33%	33%
Not at all upset	11%	11%
Don't Know/Refused	2%	1%

32. Repealing the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare

Very upset	53%	54%
Somewhat upset	25%	26%
Not very upset	13%	12%
Not at all upset	8%	8%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

33. Approving a path to citizenship for people who are in the US. illegally, but who are working, have no criminal record, and pay taxes

Very upset	28%	25%
Somewhat upset	39%	42%
Not very upset	22%	24%
Not at all upset	10%	8%
Don't Know/Refused	2%	1%

34. Reinstating unemployment benefits beyond the initial 26 weeks of coverage

Very upset	32%	32%
Somewhat upset	41%	41%
Not very upset	19%	19%
Not at all upset	8%	7%
Don't Know/Refused	2%	1%

35. Allowing the National Security Agency, or NSA, to tap domestic phone lines in the interest of national security

Very upset	16%	14%
Somewhat upset	42%	44%
Not very upset	25%	25%
Not at all upset	16%	16%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

And, for each of the proposals that you indicated you opposed, please tell me how upset you would be if the law, policy or amendment WAS passed. Would you be very upset, somewhat upset, not very upset or not upset at all? [ASKED IF OPPOSED]

36. Legalizing same-sex marriage in all 50 states

Very upset	53%	53%
Somewhat upset	24%	24%
Not very upset	15%	16%
Not at all upset	9%	7%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

37. Using nationally standardized tests to assess the quality of public schools

Very upset	34%	32%
Somewhat upset	42%	42%
Not very upset	17%	18%
Not at all upset	6%	6%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

38. Establishing a national gun registry

Very upset	50%	49%
Somewhat upset	29%	28%
Not very upset	13%	14%
Not at all upset	7%	7%
Don't Know/Refused	2%	2%

39. Making abortion illegal 20 weeks after conception

Very upset	43%	44%
Somewhat upset	36%	35%
Not very upset	13%	14%
Not at all upset	7%	7%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

40. Using federal funds to make free Pre-Kindergarten education available to all children

Very upset	23%	23%
Somewhat upset	40%	40%

Not very upset	24%	26%
Not at all upset	12%	10%
Don't Know/Refused	2%	2%

41. Approving the Keystone Pipeline to bring oil from Canada to the U.S.

Very upset	37%	38%
Somewhat upset	34%	33%
Not very upset	18%	18%
Not at all upset	10%	10%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

42. Raising the national minimum wage to \$10.10 [ten dollars and ten cents] per hour

Very upset	31%	31%
Somewhat upset	40%	41%
Not very upset	20%	19%
Not at all upset	8%	8%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

43. Legalizing the use of marijuana in all 50 states for medical purposes

Very upset	38%	36%
Somewhat upset	33%	33%
Not very upset	19%	20%
Not at all upset	10%	10%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

44. Repealing the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare

Very upset	54%	55%
Somewhat upset	26%	25%
Not very upset	10%	11%
Not at all upset	9%	9%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

45. Approving a path to citizenship for people who are in the US. illegally, but who are working, have no criminal record, and pay taxes

Very upset	49%	47%
Somewhat upset	37%	38%
Not very upset	10%	12%
Not at all upset	4%	3%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

46. Reinstating unemployment benefits beyond the initial 26 weeks of coverage

Very upset	29%	28%
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Somewhat upset	43%	44%
Not very upset	20%	20%
Not at all upset	7%	7%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

47. Allowing the National Security Agency, or NSA, to tap domestic phone lines in the interest of national security

Very upset	55%	54%
Somewhat upset	29%	31%
Not very upset	10%	11%
Not at all upset	5%	5%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

48. Now, on a few other issues... Who is the one eligible person that you would most like to see as the next President of the United States? [DO NOT READ LIST]

Joe Biden	1%	2%
Jeb Bush	1%	1%
Chris Christie	7%	7%
Hillary Clinton	28%	29%
Ted Cruz	1%	1%
Andrew Cuomo	0%	0%
Mike Huckabee	1%	1%
Bobby Jindal	0%	0%
Sarah Palin	1%	0%
Rand Paul	3%	3%
Mitt Romney	3%	3%
Marco Rubio	1%	1%
Paul Ryan	3%	3%
Mark Warner	3%	3%
Donald Trump	0%	0%
Elizabeth Warren	0%	0%
Condoleeza Rice	1%	1%
Scott Walker	0%	0%
Ron Paul	0%	0%
Barack Obama	0%	0%
Tim Kaine	1%	1%
Other (specify)	8%	9%
Don't Know/Refused	38%	36%

49. Do you think that politicians here in Virginia are more corrupt than those in other states, less corrupt, or is there really no difference?

More corrupt	6%	6%
Less corrupt	21%	21%
No difference	71%	70%
Don't Know/Refused	3%	3%

50. Do you think that the major storms that have hit the East Coast over the last two years are isolated weather events, or do you think that they are a result of global climate change?

Isolated weather events	42%	44%
Global climate change	50%	48%
Don't Know/Refused	8%	8%

51. Do you think the long-term solution to America's economic difficulties is more likely to be found: [READ LIST] [ROTATE]

In governmental programs that stimulate the economy and may involve increasing the national debt	34%	33%
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In governmental policies designed to curtail spending, balance the federal budget and lessen the national debt	56%	57%
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Don't Know/Refused	11%	10%
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52. Do you think that stricter gun control laws would make you personally more safe, less safe, or would they make no difference?

More safe	35%	36%
Less safe	16%	17%
No difference	47%	46%
Don't know/Refused	2%	2%

53. Which of the following do you think is MOST responsible for mass shootings like the school shootings in Newtown, Connecticut and Virginia Tech—[ROTATE]?

Weak gun laws	10%	10%
Poor enforcement of gun laws	7%	7%
Violent media	15%	15%
Mental illness	44%	45%
Can't stop killers	21%	21%
Don't know/Refused	4%	3%

54. Of the remaining, which of the following do you think is MOST responsible for mass shootings like the school shootings in Newtown, Connecticut and Virginia Tech—[ROTATE]?

Weak gun laws	12%	12%
Poor enforcement of gun laws	17%	16%

Violent media	16%	16%
Mental illness	24%	26%
Can't stop killers	23%	24%
Don't know/Refused	8%	7%

55. If you could live in one of the following three states, which state would you most like to live in? [ROTATE]

New Jersey	4%	3%
New York	7%	6%
Virginia	88%	90%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	1%

56. Forced to choose, which of the following do you think is the greater problem facing America today? [ROTATE]

Income inequality	45%	44%
Too much government	52%	53%
Don't Know/Refused	4%	3%

57. Are you registered to vote in Virginia?

Yes	86%
No [SKIP TO 66]	13%
Don't Know/Refused [SKIP TO 66]	1%

58. The 2016 presidential election is far away, but if the election for president were today, who would you vote for if the candidates were: [READ LIST] [IF NEEDED: "If you had to decide today?"]

Hillary Clinton on the Democratic line	48%
Chris Christie on the Republican line	40%
Don't Know/Refused	13%

59. The 2016 presidential election is far away, but if the election for president were today, who would you vote for if the candidates were: [READ LIST] [IF NEEDED: "If you had to decide today?"]

Hillary Clinton on the Democratic line	52%
Rand Paul on the Republican line	38%
Don't Know/Refused	9%

60. The 2016 presidential election is far away, but if the election for president were today, who would you vote for if the candidates were: [READ LIST] [IF NEEDED: "If you had to decide today?"]

Hillary Clinton on the Democratic line	51%
Paul Ryan on the Republican line	40%
Don't Know/Refused	9%

61. If the election for U.S. Senator from Virginia were held today and the candidates were Mark Warner, the Democrat and Ed Gillespie, the Republican, for whom would you vote? [ROTATE]

Ed Gillespie

Mark Warner

Uncertain

\* to be released Wed. March5

Someone else [VOL]

Refused

62. As you may know, Attorney General Mark Herring recently decided to join the plaintiffs who challenged Virginia's ban on gay marriage rather than defend that ban in court. The ban had been passed in 2006 by the General Assembly and had also passed a statewide referendum. Overall, do you agree or disagree with Herring's decision?

Agree

Disagree

\* to be released Wed. March5

Unsure

Refused

63. In general, do think the Attorney General should have the authority to decide that a law is unjust or unconstitutional and choose not to defend that law in court, or should she or he be required to defend every law of the state, regardless of the law and regardless of their own personal view?

Should have authority

Must defend laws

\* to be released Wed. March5

Unsure/Depends

Refused

And for statistical purposes, a couple of final questions.

64. In what year were you born? [RECODED TO AGE]

18-34	30%	25%
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35-49	27%	28%
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50-64	28%	30%
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65 or older	16%	17%
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65. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or something else?

Democrat	30%	29%
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Republican	23%	24%
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Independent	33%	34%
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Something else	14%	13%
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66. When it comes to most political issues, would you describe yourself as a [ROTATE]

Liberal	23%	21%
Moderate	44%	45%
Conservative	33%	34%

67. Please stop me when I say the highest educational level which you have completed?

Less than high school	2%	2%
High School	16%	13%
Some college or trade school	25%	25%
Associate's degree	11%	11%
Bachelor's degree	27%	29%
Graduate or professional degree	19%	20%

68. Which of the following categories best describes your current employment situation? [INTERVIEWER: If self employed, ask "Would that be full time or part time?" and code it as employed]

Employed full time	49%	49%
Employed part time	11%	11%
Unemployed and looking for a job	5%	5%
A student	6%	4%
A homemaker	5%	5%
Retired	22%	23%
Other (specify) _____	0%	0%
Disabled	3%	3%

69. Are there children under the age of 18 living in your household?

Yes	41%	38%
No	59%	62%

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

Yes	7%	5%
No	93%	95%

71. Would you consider yourself:

Caucasian/White	74%	76%
African-American/Black	19%	18%
Asian	5%	5%
Other/Something else (specify)	2%	1%

72. Do you consider yourself Catholic, Jewish, Protestant, Muslim, some other religion, or do you have no affiliation?

Catholic	16%	16%
Jewish	1%	1%
Protestant	56%	56%
Muslim	1%	1%
Some other religion (specify) _____	4%	3%
No affiliation	23%	23%

73. [IF CATHOLIC OR PROTESTANT] Would you describe yourself as a born again or evangelical Christian?

Yes	44%	43%
No	56%	57%

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

Yes	46%	49%
No	54%	51%

75. Do you or does someone else own the guns?

You	51%	53%
Someone else	32%	30%
Both you and someone else	17%	17%

76. Which of the following general income categories is your total household income before taxes? [IF NEEDED: "I just want to remind you that you are completely anonymous. We only use this information in aggregate form to ensure we have a representative group of Virginians."]

Less than \$20,000	10%	9%
\$20,001-\$35,000	11%	10%
\$35,001-\$50,000	17%	17%
\$50,001-\$75,000	15%	16%
\$75,001-\$100,000	15%	15%
\$100,001-\$150,000	17%	17%
More than \$150,000	15%	17%

77. Code respondent's sex

Male	49%	51%
Female	51%	49%

78. To be sure that we get a representative sample of Virginians, would you please tell me in what county do you live? [IF NOT IN COUNTY, THEN WHICH CITY. IF THERE IS A CITY AND COUNTY WITH THE SAME NAME, ASK IF THEY LIVE IN CITY OR COUNTY.] RECODED TO REGION

Southwest Virginia	10%	11%
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Southside	10%	9%
Shenandoah Valley	5%	5%
Central VA/Richmond	19%	20%
Northern VA	33%	31%
Tidewater	24%	23%

79. Type of phone line

Landline only	8%	8%
Landline and cell phone	68%	70%
Cell phone only	24%	21%

Thank you for your time and have a nice evening/day. If you have any questions about this survey, you may contact Dr. Harry Wilson at (540) 375-2415.