



**Roanoke College Poll
Released: Sept. 26, 2011**

Frequencies

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	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Right direction	291	48.5	48.7	48.7
	Wrong track	248	41.3	41.5	90.2
	Unsure	59	9.8	9.8	100.0
	Total	598	99.5	100.0	
Missing	No answer	3	.5		
Total		601	100.0		

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	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Right direction	89	14.8	14.8	14.8
	Wrong track	486	80.8	81.3	96.2
	Unsure	23	3.8	3.8	100.0
	Total	597	99.4	100.0	
Missing	No answer	4	.6		
Total		601	100.0		

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

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Approve	345	57.4	67.0	67.0

	Disapprove	125	20.7	24.2	91.2
	Mixed	45	7.5	8.8	100.0
	Total	515	85.7	100.0	
Missing	No answer/Don't Know	86	14.3		
Total		601	100.0		

**In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Mark Warner is handling his job as
Senator of Virginia?**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Approve	355	59.0	66.7	66.7
	Disapprove	127	21.1	23.9	90.6
	Mixed	50	8.3	9.4	100.0
	Total	532	88.5	100.0	
Missing	No answer/Don't Know	69	11.5		
Total		601	100.0		

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

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Approve	231	38.4	38.9	38.9
	Disapprove	318	53.0	53.7	92.6
	Mixed	44	7.3	7.4	100.0
	Total	593	98.6	100.0	
Missing	No answer/Don't Know	8	1.4		
Total		601	100.0		

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

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Approve	66	11.0	11.3	11.3
	Disapprove	469	78.0	80.2	91.5

	Mixed	50	8.3	8.5	100.0
	Total	585	97.4	100.0	
Missing	Don't know/No answer	16	2.6		
Total		601	100.0		

In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way your representative in the House of Representatives is handling his job?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Approve	241	40.0	40.7	40.7
	Disapprove	215	35.8	36.4	77.0
	Mixed	59	9.8	9.9	87.0
	Unsure/Don't know who representative is	77	12.8	13.0	100.0
	Total	592	98.5	100.0	
Missing	No answer	9	1.5		
Total		601	100.0		

As you know, both the budget deficit and unemployment are significant problems in the country right now. Which do you think is more important--increasing the number of jobs or reducing the budget deficit?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Increase jobs	385	64.0	64.6	64.6
	Reduce deficit	127	21.1	21.3	85.8
	Both equal (only if respondent offers this choice)	79	13.1	13.2	99.1
	Unsure	5	.9	.9	100.0
	Total	596	99.1	100.0	
Missing	No answer	5	.9		
Total		601	100.0		

Would you support governmental efforts to reduce the deficit even if it means that fewer jobs would be created in the next couple of years?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	129	21.4	64.1	64.1
	No	46	7.6	22.8	86.9
	Unsure	26	4.4	13.1	100.0
	Total	201	33.4	100.0	
Missing	-9998.00	395	65.8		
	No answer	5	.8		
	Total	400	66.6		
Total		601	100.0		

Would you support governmental efforts to create jobs even if it means that the deficit may increase in the next couple of years?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	324	53.9	70.7	70.7
	No	101	16.8	22.0	92.7
	Unsure	33	5.5	7.3	100.0
	Total	458	76.3	100.0	
Missing	-9998.00	137	22.9		
	No answer	5	.9		
	Total	143	23.7		
Total		601	100.0		

Almost everyone agrees that the current federal budget deficit is too high. Some people think the budget must be balanced, while others think government can safely run a deficit that is smaller than it is today. Which is closer to your view?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Budget must be balanced	205	34.1	35.0	35.0
	Smaller deficit OK	340	56.6	58.2	93.2
	Current deficit OK (ONLY IF THEY OFFER)	9	1.5	1.5	94.7

	Unsure	31	5.1	5.3	100.0
	Total	585	97.3	100.0	
Missing	Don't know/No answer	16	2.7		
Total		601	100.0		

As you know, 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	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Budget cuts	170	28.3	29.2	29.2
	Tax increases	25	4.2	4.4	33.6
	Combination	387	64.4	66.4	100.0
	Total	583	97.0	100.0	
Missing	Don't know/No answer	18	3.0		
Total		601	100.0		

Would you still support tax increases if they were taxes paid by you or your family?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	328	54.5	79.8	79.8
	No	71	11.8	17.3	97.1
	Unsure	12	2.0	2.9	100.0
	Total	410	68.3	100.0	
Missing	-9998.00	188	31.3		
	No answer	2	.4		
	Total	191	31.7		
Total		601	100.0		

Would you still support budget cuts if they were programs that benefit you or your family?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	451	75.1	81.8	81.8
	No	75	12.5	13.6	95.4
	Unsure	26	4.3	4.6	100.0
	Total	552	91.9	100.0	
Missing	-9998.00	43	7.2		
	No answer	5	.9		
	Total	49	8.1		
Total		601	100.0		

Do you think the deficit can be significantly reduced without raising taxes on most Americans?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	349	58.1	58.5	58.5
	No	229	38.1	38.4	97.0
	Unsure	18	3.0	3.0	100.0
	Total	596	99.2	100.0	
Missing	No answer	5	.8		
Total		601	100.0		

Do you think the deficit can be significantly reduced without cutting important programs?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	306	50.8	51.4	51.4
	No	256	42.6	43.0	94.4
	Unsure	33	5.6	5.6	100.0
	Total	595	99.0	100.0	
Missing	No answer	6	1.0		
Total		601	100.0		

Do you think the deficit can be significantly reduced without cutting entitlement programs such as Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	372	61.8	62.4	62.4
	No	202	33.7	34.0	96.3
	Unsure	22	3.6	3.7	100.0
	Total	596	99.2	100.0	
Missing	No answer	5	.8		
Total		601	100.0		

Do you think the deficit can be significantly reduced without cutting the Defense budget?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	259	43.1	43.6	43.6
	No	295	49.0	49.6	93.2
	Unsure	41	6.7	6.8	100.0
	Total	594	98.9	100.0	
Missing	No answer	7	1.1		
Total		601	100.0		

There is a lot of discussion right now about what is fair and who should pay more in taxes. Last year more than 40% of Americans did not pay any federal income tax, although they did pay Social Security and Medicare taxes. Do you think that all American

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes, all should pay	400	66.5	66.7	66.7
	No, all should NOT pay	178	29.6	29.7	96.4
	Unsure	22	3.6	3.6	100.0
	Total	599	99.7	100.0	
Missing	NA	2	.3		
Total		601	100.0		

Some people think that those who make more money should pay a higher percentage of their income in taxes because they can afford to pay more. Others think this is a penalty on people who have worked hard and are successful. Which is closer to your view?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Rich pay more	329	54.7	55.4	55.4
	Penalty for success	218	36.2	36.7	92.2
	Unsure	46	7.7	7.8	100.0
	Total	593	98.6	100.0	
Missing	No answer	8	1.4		
Total		601	100.0		

Who do you think is MOST responsible for the current economic conditions in the United States?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	George W. Bush	148	24.6	25.1	25.1
	Barack Obama	94	15.7	16.0	41.1
	Democrats in Congress	66	11.0	11.2	52.3
	Republicans in Congress	38	6.4	6.5	58.8
	Financial institutions	104	17.2	17.6	76.4
	Unsure/Someone else	139	23.1	23.6	100.0
	Total	588	97.9	100.0	
Missing	No answer	13	2.1		
Total		601	100.0		

There is a lot of talk these days about the proper role of elected officials. When you elect someone to serve in Washington, do you think that person should vote the way that people in the district would like them to vote or should they vote for what the

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Vote as people want	290	48.2	48.4	48.4
	Vote as they think best	290	48.2	48.4	96.9
	Unsure	19	3.1	3.1	100.0

Total	598	99.5	100.0
Missing No answer	3	.5	
Total	601	100.0	

In general, do you think that elected officials should hold firm to their beliefs even if it could lead to governmental gridlock, or should they compromise those principles in order to get things done?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Hold firm to principles	150	24.9	25.4	25.4
Compromise	402	66.9	68.1	93.4
Unsure	39	6.4	6.6	100.0
Total	590	98.2	100.0	
Missing No answer	11	1.8		
Total	601	100.0		

Would you be more likely to vote for a candidate who said they would hold to their principles, or a candidate who said they would compromise to prevent gridlock?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Principles	189	31.5	31.9	31.9
Compromise	332	55.3	56.0	87.9
Unsure/Depends	72	12.0	12.1	100.0
Total	593	98.7	100.0	
Missing No answer	8	1.3		
Total	601	100.0		

Many people think the government in Washington is having a difficult time getting things done. Do you think this gridlock is more the result of elected officials playing the political game or genuinely different views regarding what is best for the count

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Politics	421	70.0	70.6	70.6

	Different views	131	21.8	22.0	92.6
	Unsure/combination	44	7.3	7.4	100.0
	Total	596	99.2	100.0	
Missing	No answer	5	.8		
Total		601	100.0		

Are you registered to vote in Virginia?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	536	89.2	89.2	89.2
	No	65	10.8	10.8	100.0
	Total	601	100.0	100.0	

If the election for United States Senate were held today, would you vote for

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Tim Kaine, the Democrat	231	38.4	38.8	38.8
	George Allen, the Republican	249	41.4	41.9	80.6
	Undecided/Someone Else	115	19.2	19.4	100.0
	Total	595	99.0	100.0	
Missing	No answer	6	1.0		
Total		601	100.0		

And if the election for President were held today, and Barack Obama was the Democratic candidate, would you vote for Barack Obama or the Republican candidate?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Obama	195	32.4	32.9	32.9
	Republican	244	40.6	41.1	74.0
	Unsure/Someone Else	154	25.6	26.0	100.0
	Total	593	98.7	100.0	
Missing	No answer	8	1.3		

And if the election for President were held today, and Barack Obama was the Democratic candidate, would you vote for Barack Obama or the Republican candidate?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Obama	195	32.4	32.9	32.9
	Republican	244	40.6	41.1	74.0
	Unsure/Someone Else	154	25.6	26.0	100.0
	Total	593	98.7	100.0	
Missing	No answer	8	1.3		
Total		601	100.0		

Suppose the Republican Party nominated Mitt Romney for President. Would you vote for

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Obama	222	36.9	37.4	37.4
	Romney	268	44.7	45.2	82.6
	Unsure/Someone Else	103	17.2	17.4	100.0
	Total	594	98.8	100.0	
Missing	No answer	7	1.2		
Total		601	100.0		

If Rick Perry were the Republican nominee, would you vote for

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Obama	235	39.0	39.5	39.5
	Perry	251	41.8	42.2	81.7
	Unsure/Someone Else	109	18.1	18.3	100.0
	Total	595	98.9	100.0	
Missing	No answer	6	1.1		
Total		601	100.0		

If Michele Bachmann were the Republican nominee, would you vote for

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Obama	269	44.8	45.5	45.5
	Bachmann	205	34.1	34.6	80.1
	Unsure/Someone Else	118	19.6	19.9	100.0
	Total	592	98.5	100.0	
Missing	No answer	9	1.5		
Total		601	100.0		

If Ron Paul were the Republican candidate, would you vote for

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Obama	258	42.9	43.4	43.4
	Paul	196	32.7	33.1	76.5
	Unsure/Someone Else	140	23.3	23.5	100.0
	Total	594	98.9	100.0	
Missing	No answer	7	1.1		
Total		601	100.0		

If Sarah Palin were the Republican candidate, would you vote for

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Obama	296	49.2	49.9	49.9
	Palin	182	30.3	30.7	80.7
	Unsure/Someone Else	114	19.0	19.3	100.0
	Total	592	98.6	100.0	
Missing	No answer	8	1.4		
Total		601	100.0		

How old are you?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	18-29	59	9.8	10.0	10.0

	30-44	143	23.8	24.0	34.0
	45-64	279	46.4	47.0	81.0
	65 or older	113	18.8	19.0	100.0
	Total	594	98.8	100.0	
Missing	System	7	1.2		
Total		601	100.0		

Code respondent's sex

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	294	48.9	48.9	48.9
	Female	307	51.1	51.1	100.0
	Total	601	100.0	100.0	

How much education have you completed?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Less than high school	16	2.6	2.6	2.6
	High School	158	26.2	26.4	29.0
	Some college/technical school	119	19.9	20.0	49.0
	Associate's Degree	48	8.0	8.0	57.0
	Bachelor's Degree	130	21.6	21.8	78.8
	Advanced Degree	127	21.1	21.2	100.0
	Total	597	99.4	100.0	
Missing	DK/NA	4	.6		
Total		601	100.0		

I'm going to read several income groups. When I come to the group that includes your annual family income, please stop me.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Less than \$20,000	39	6.5	7.0	7.0

	\$20,000-\$35,000	85	14.2	15.4	22.4
	\$35,000-\$50,000	84	14.0	15.2	37.6
	\$50,000-\$75,000	98	16.3	17.7	55.4
	\$75,000-\$100,000	98	16.2	17.6	73.0
	More than \$100,000	150	24.9	27.0	100.0
	Total	553	92.1	100.0	
Missing	No answer	48	7.9		
Total		601	100.0		

What is your race?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	White	460	76.5	77.8	77.8
	African-American	93	15.4	15.7	93.5
	Hispanic/Latino	11	1.8	1.8	95.3
	Asian-American	15	2.5	2.6	97.8
	Other/multi-racial	13	2.1	2.2	100.0
	Total	591	98.3	100.0	
Missing	No answer	10	1.7		
Total		601	100.0		

REGION

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Southwest VA	103	17.1	17.1	17.1
	Southside	74	12.4	12.4	29.5
	Shen. Valley	29	4.8	4.8	34.3
	Central VA/Richmond	134	22.2	22.2	56.5
	NoVA	141	23.5	23.5	79.9
	Tidewater	120	20.1	20.1	100.0
	Total	601	100.0	100.0	

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

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Liberal	94	15.7	16.3	16.3
	Moderate	247	41.0	42.5	58.7
	Conservative	225	37.4	38.7	97.5
	Other	15	2.5	2.5	100.0
	Total	581	96.6	100.0	
Missing	DK/NA	20	3.4		
Total		601	100.0		

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

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Democrat	158	26.2	28.7	28.7
	Republican	175	29.0	31.8	60.5
	Independent	174	29.0	31.7	92.2
	Other	43	7.2	7.8	100.0
	Total	549	91.4	100.0	
Missing	DK/NA	52	8.6		
Total		601	100.0		

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	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strong agree	37	6.1	6.1	6.1
	Agree	136	22.6	22.6	28.7
	Neutral	40	6.7	6.7	35.4
	Disagree	94	15.6	15.6	51.0
	Strongly Disagree	128	21.2	21.2	72.2

Don't know/No Answer	167	27.8	27.8	100.0
Total	601	100.0	100.0	