

**Roanoke College Poll | February 9-16, 2026  
 Topline and Select Crosstabs**

Hi, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling from Roanoke College. We are surveying Virginia residents on important issues. Your responses are anonymous and confidential, and this call may be recorded for quality control purposes. Are you 18 years of age or older?

**Direction of US/VA and Approval Ratings**

1. 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
Feb. 2026	31%	65%	3%
Nov. 2025	26%	74%	1%
Aug. 2025	39%	60%	2%
May 2025	33%	66%	2%
Feb. 2025	31%	67%	1%
Nov. 2024	24%	73%	3%
Oct. 2024	25%	64%	10%
Aug. 2024	27%	71%	2%
May 2024	27%	70%	3%
Feb. 2024	24%	73%	3%
Nov. 2023	23%	74%	3%
Aug. 2023	24%	73%	3%
May 2023	25%	71%	4%
Feb. 2023	27%	69%	2%
Nov. 2022	28%	68%	5%
Aug. 2022	25%	72%	3%
May 2022	21%	77%	3%
Feb. 2022	29%	67%	4%
Nov. 2021	31%	66%	4%
Sept. 2021	35%	58%	8%
Aug. 2021	33%	58%	9%
May 2021	42%	53%	6%
Feb. 2021	39%	53%	9%
Nov. 2020	28%	62%	10%
Oct. 2020	30%	63%	7%
Aug. 2020	16%	79%	5%
May 2020	33%	61%	6%
Feb. 2020	39%	53%	8%
Nov. 2019	26%	65%	10%
Aug. 2019	31%	61%	8%
Feb. 2019	37%	56%	7%
Nov. 2018	34%	58%	8%
Aug. 2018	37%	56%	8%
June 2018	30%	64%	7%
Feb. 2018	31%	57%	11%

Nov. 2017	24%	69%	7%
Oct. 2017	30%	64%	7%
Sept. 2017	30%	63%	8%
Aug. 2017	29%	63%	9%
Feb. 2017	31%	57%	11%
Jan. 2017	32%	52%	17%

2. 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?

	Right direction	Wrong track	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2026	47%	51%	2%
Nov. 2025	50%	46%	4%
Aug. 2025	52%	45%	3%
May 2025	45%	51%	4%
Feb. 2025	51%	47%	2%
Nov. 2024	52%	43%	5%
Oct. 2024	46%	35%	20%
Aug. 2024	51%	46%	4%
May 2024	53%	42%	6%
Feb. 2024	53%	42%	5%
Nov. 2023	50%	43%	7%
Aug. 2023	49%	44%	7%
May 2023	48%	45%	7%
Feb. 2023	55%	39%	5%
Nov. 2022	47%	48%	5%
Aug. 2022	51%	45%	4%
May 2022	50%	44%	7%
Feb. 2022	47%	47%	6%
Sept. 2021	52%	43%	6%
Aug. 2021	52%	43%	5%
May 2021	50%	40%	10%
Feb. 2021	52%	40%	9%
Nov. 2020	53%	37%	10%
Aug. 2020	45%	49%	6%
May 2020	57%	37%	6%
Feb. 2020	49%	44%	8%
Aug. 2018	58%	30%	12%
Oct. 2017	48%	40%	13%
Sept. 2017	52%	37%	12%
Aug. 2017	46%	41%	13%
Jan. 2017	52%	29%	19%

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
Feb. 2026	35%	61%	2%	3%
Nov. 2025	34%	63%	1%	3%
Oct. 2025	40%	53%	6%	1%
Aug. 2025	41%	56%	1%	1%
May 2025	31%	65%	1%	3%
Feb. 2025	37%	59%	2%	2%
Oct. 2020	41%	56%	3%	1%
Aug. 2020	37%	58%	4%	1%
May 2020	36%	54%	8%	2%
Feb. 2020	36%	52%	11%	1%
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%
Sept. 2017	36%	56%	8%	1%
Aug. 2017	27%	58%	13%	2%
Feb. 2017	32%	50%	11%	7%

4. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Abigail Spanberger is handling her job as Governor of Virginia?

	Approve	Disapprove	Mixed	Refused
Feb. 2026	53%	39%	0%	8%

Approval for former Governor Glen Youngkin

	Approve	Disapprove	Mixed	Refused
Nov. 2025	54%	38%	3%	5%
Oct. 2025	50%	36%	10%	4%
Aug. 2025	50%	43%	2%	5%
May 2025	46%	48%	1%	4%
Feb. 2025	53%	39%	3%	5%
Nov. 2024	52%	39%	1%	8%
Aug. 2024	59%	36%	1%	4%
May 2024	52%	40%	3%	5%
Feb. 2024	53%	38%	3%	6%
Nov. 2023	52%	39%	3%	6%
Aug. 2023	51%	40%	3%	6%
May 2023	51%	40%	4%	5%
Feb. 2023	57%	35%	2%	4%

Nov. 2022	52%	41%	2%	5%
Aug. 2022	55%	35%	2%	7%
May 2022	53%	35%	2%	10%
Feb. 2022	50%	41%	3%	7%

### **Favorability Ratings of Political Figures and Organizations**

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

#### **5. Donald Trump**

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Mixed/Unsure	DK/Refused
Feb. 2026	33%	62%	2%	3%
Nov. 2025	34%	63%	1%	2%
Aug. 2025	41%	57%	1%	2%
May 2025	33%	64%	1%	2%
Feb. 2025	37%	58%	2%	4%
Nov. 2024	41%	55%	2%	3%
Oct. 2024	38%	54%	6%	2%
Aug. 2024	40%	57%	1%	1%
May 2024	36%	57%	3%	4%
Feb. 2024	34%	59%	2%	4%
Nov. 2023	33%	58%	5%	4%
Aug. 2023	30%	65%	3%	3%
May 2023	31%	63%	3%	3%
Feb. 2023	33%	58%	3%	4%
Nov. 2022	33%	60%	3%	3%
Aug. 2022	37%	58%	3%	3%
May 2022	34%	59%	4%	3%
Feb. 2022	37%	56%	3%	4%
Oct. 2021	37%	54%	6%	3%
Feb. 2021	24%	58%	14%	4%
Nov. 2020	33%	53%	10%	5%
Oct. 2020	41%	56%	3%	1%
Aug. 2020	37%	55%	7%	2%
May 2020	36%	49%	12%	4%
Feb. 2020	32%	54%	10%	4%
Sept. 2017	35%	54%	8%	3%
Aug. 2017	31%	53%	13%	3%
Feb. 2017	29%	49%	13%	9%
Jan. 2017	30%	48%	18%	4%
Jan. 2016	22%	63%	13%	2%
Nov. 2015	23%	55%	13%	9%

6. Abigail Spanberger

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Mixed/Unsure	DK/Refused
Feb. 2026	51%	39%	0%	9%
Nov. 2025	56%	33%	1%	11%
Oct. 2025	47%	42%	4%	7%
Aug. 2025	44%	38%	0%	17%
May 2025	41%	40%	0%	19%
Feb. 2025	37%	37%	1%	26%

7. Now, turning to the topic of congressional and state legislative district maps for Virginia elections. These maps are drawn by members of the General Assembly and Virginia citizens and need approval from the full General Assembly. Currently, these maps are drawn every 10 years after the census. Do you support or oppose this method of redistricting?

Support	62%
Oppose	30%
DK/Ref	8%

8. The General Assembly passed an amendment to the Virginia Constitution allowing them to do mid-decade redistricting and approved a new map which is thought to favor Democrats in 10 of the 11 congressional districts in Virginia. A special election must be held for voters to approve the amendment before any mid-decade redistricting can take effect. If you had to decide today, would you vote to approve the amendment to allow mid-decade redistricting, or keep the current process as it is now?

Vote to approve	44%
Keep as it is now	52%
DK/Ref	4%

*Note: For the results of a 2016 Roanoke College Poll on redistricting, please see pages 12-13.*

9. Switching gears, now I have some questions related to the issue of guns and gun control. 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
Feb. 2026	49%	48%	3%
Feb. 2020	48%	41%	11%
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%

10. Which do you think is more likely to reduce gun violence—better enforcement of existing gun laws OR tougher gun laws?

	Better enforcement	Tougher laws	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2026	56%	42%	3%
Jan. 2013	53%	38%	10%

11. Which of the following do you think is MOST responsible for mass shootings—weak gun laws, poor enforcement of gun laws, violent media such as movies and video games, poor policies to deal with mental illness, or that we simply cannot stop those who want to kill others? [ROTATE] (You may choose up to two.) [PERCENTAGES ADD OVER 100%]

	Weak laws	Enforcement	Violent media	Mental illness	Can't stop	Refuse
Feb. 2026	30%	29%	17%	52%	25%	2%
Jan. 2013	21%	26%	28%	56%	38%	7%

In general, do you favor or oppose the following regulations on firearms:

12. Registration of all guns with the government

	Favor	Oppose	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2026	67%	31%	2%
Jan. 2013	61%	34%	6%

13. Requiring all gun owners to get a license from the government

	Favor	Oppose	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2026	71%	27%	1%
Jan. 2013	59%	35%	6%

14. Do you favor or oppose banning the sale of the following: Semi-automatic rifles

	Favor	Oppose	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2026	57%	41%	2%
Jan. 2013	48%	46%	7%

15. Semi-automatic shotguns

	Favor	Oppose	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2026	52%	46%	2%
Jan. 2013	41%	50%	8%

16. Assault rifles

	Favor	Oppose	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2026	59%	39%	2%
Jan. 2013	58%	35%	7%

17. Semi-automatic handguns

	Favor	Oppose	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2026	50%	49%	2%
Jan. 2013	42%	50%	8%

18. All guns

	Favor	Oppose	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2026	19%	80%	1%
Jan. 2013	16%	78%	7%

19. Magazines that hold more than 10 bullets

	Favor	Oppose	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2026	53%	45%	2%
Jan. 2013	53%	40%	7%

20. Do you think that stricter gun control laws would make you personally more safe, less safe, or would they make no difference?

	More safe	Less safe	No difference	Unsure/Refused
Feb. 2026	49%	16%	35%	0%
Feb. 2020	34%	25%	37%	5%
Jan. 2013	34%	12%	50%	4%

21. Do you think that making it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to legally carry guns would make you personally more safe, less safe, or would it make no difference?

More safe	39%
Less safe	29%
No difference	32%
Unsure/Refused	1%

**Demographics**

22. Gender

Male	49%
Female	51%
Other/No answer	0%

23. Region

Central Virginia/Richmond	17%
Northern Virginia	35%
Shenandoah Valley	6%
Southside	9%
Southwest Virginia	10%
Tidewater	24%

24. Are you currently married, living with a partner, divorced, separated, widowed, or have you never been married?

Married	48%
Living with partner	10%
Divorced	8%
Separated	2%
Widowed	5%
Never married	27%

Refused	1%
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25. How much education have you completed?

Less than High School	1%
High School	17%
Some College/Technical School	23%
Associate's Degree	9%
Bachelor's Degree	28%
Advanced Degree	22%
Refused	0%

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

18-29	20%
30-44	27%
45-64	31%
65 or older	22%
Refused	0%

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

Yes, Hispanic	8%
No, not Hispanic	91%
Refused	1%

28. Would you consider yourself Caucasian or white, African-American or Black, Asian or some other race?

White / Caucasian	61%
African-American	18%
Asian/Other/multi-racial	20%
Refused	1%

29. What income group includes your annual family income?

Less than \$20,000	11%
\$20,000-\$35,000	10%
\$35,000-\$50,000	9%
\$50,000-\$75,000	15%
\$75,000-\$100,000	16%
More than \$100,000	37%
Refused	4%

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

Liberal	27%
Moderate	37%
Conservative	29%
Other/Unsure	5%
Don't know/Refused	2%

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

Democrat	31%
Republican	26%
Other/Independent	41%
Don't know/No answer	2%

31.a. [IF INDEPENDENT, OTHER OR REFUSED] As of today, do you lean more toward the Democratic Party or toward the Republican Party?

Democratic Party	38%
Republican Party	27%
Independent/Neither	31%
Don't know/No answer	4%

22. Have you ever fired a gun of any type?

Yes	66%
No	34%
Don't know/Refused	0%

23. How familiar are you with how guns actually work? Would you say you are very familiar, somewhat familiar, not very familiar or not at all familiar?

Very familiar	40%
Somewhat familiar	31%
Not very familiar	17%
Not at all familiar	12%
Don't know/Refused	0%

24. Would you describe the area in which you grew up as urban, rural or suburban?

Urban	23%
Rural	31%
Suburban	46%
Don't know/Refused	0%

25. Were there any guns in the household when you were a child?

Yes	48%
No	52%
Don't know/Refused	0%

26. How familiar are you with current gun laws? Would you say you are very familiar, somewhat familiar, not very familiar or not at all familiar?

Very familiar	25%
Somewhat familiar	49%
Not very familiar	21%
Not at all familiar	6%
Don't know/Refused	0%

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

Yes	39%
No	58%
Don't know/Refused	3%

27.a. [IF YES TO Q27] Do you personally own any of those firearms or do they belong to someone else or both?

Respondent owns	60%
Someone else owns	25%
Both own	14%
Don't know/Refused	0%

**Select Crosstabs**

	<i>Democrat</i>	<i>Republican</i>	<i>Independent</i>
USA Right Direction	6%	67%	31%
VA Right Direction	69%	29%	40%
Job Approval Spanberger	91%	25%	45%
Job Approval Trump	5%	81%	33%
Favorability Trump	5%	78%	29%
Favorability Spanberger	90%	23%	43%

	<i>Gun owner</i>	<i>Not owner</i>	<i>No gun in home</i>
More imp. to protect gun ownership	78%	40%	34%
Tough gun laws reduce violence	23%	40%	54%
Weak gun laws responsible for mass shootings	13%	27%	40%
Favor gun registration	48%	83%	77%
Favor owner licensing	45%	83%	85%
Favor ban semi-auto rifles	27%	61%	74%
Favor ban semi-auto shotguns	24%	58%	68%
Favor ban assault rifles	34%	58%	74%
Favor ban semi-auto handguns	20%	62%	64%
Favor ban all guns	7%	10%	28%
Favor ban >10 round magazines	29%	58%	67%
Stricter gun laws make you safer	22%	46%	65%
Stricter carry laws make you safer	19%	35%	50%

## January 2016 Roanoke College Poll

As you may know, political district boundaries for U.S. representatives and for state delegates and senators are drawn every 10 years after the census. Currently, districts are drawn by the General Assembly. Some people would like an independent commission to be in charge of drawing the districts to minimize the political advantage to the party in power. Others think that such a commission might not be truly independent and that the current system should be left alone. Which is closer to your view?

	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2015
Independent commission	47%	43%
Leave as is	38%	42%
Unsure	14%	14%
Refused	1%	1%

Regardless of who draws the boundaries, please tell me if you think they should consider the following factors: [ROTATED]

Ensuring appropriate representation between political parties

Yes	58%
No	29%
Unsure	12%
Refused	1%

Protecting current office holders

Yes	22%
No	61%
Unsure	16%
Refused	1%

Ensuring appropriate racial representation

Yes	66%
No	22%
Unsure	12%
Refused	1%

Advantaging the political party that currently holds power

Yes	12%
No	75%
Unsure	13%
Refused	1%

Keeping together communities of interest, that is, people who probably think alike

Yes	35%
No	50%
Unsure	14%
Refused	2%

Drawing the most compact district possible

Yes	41%
No	31%
Unsure	26%
Refused	2%

And which of those factors should be the most important?

Ensuring appropriate representation between political parties	17%
Protecting current office holders	3%
Ensuring appropriate racial representation	29%
Advantaging the political party that currently holds power	2%
Keeping together communities of interest, that is, people who probably think alike	15%
Drawing the most compact district possible	17%
Unsure	13%
Refused	4%