

**Roanoke College Poll Topline and Select Party Crosstabs  
March 2023 Virginia Politics, 2024 Presidential Election, and Issues in Education Policy  
March 2, 2023**

Hi, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling from Roanoke College. How are you? We're conducting a survey of Virginia residents regarding important issues and your opinion is very important to us; we're not selling anything and won't ask for any money. Your responses are anonymous and confidential. Are you 18 or older and a resident of Virginia?

**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. 2023	27%	69%	2%	0%
Nov. 2022	28%	68%	4%	1%
Aug. 2022	25%	72%	3%	0%
May 2022	21%	77%	3%	0%
Feb. 2022	29%	67%	3%	1%
Nov. 2021	31%	66%	4%	0%
Sept. 2021	35%	58%	7%	1%
Aug. 2021	33%	58%	7%	2%
May 2021	42%	53%	5%	1%
Feb. 2021	39%	53%	8%	1%
Nov. 2020	28%	62%	9%	1%
Oct. 2020	30%	63%	6%	1%
Aug. 2020	16%	79%	4%	1%
May 2020	33%	61%	6%	0%
Feb. 2020	39%	53%	8%	0%
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%
Sept. 2017	30%	63%	7%	1%
Aug. 2017	29%	63%	8%	1%
Feb. 2017	31%	57%	10%	1%
Jan. 2017	32%	52%	16%	1%

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. 2023	55%	39%	5%	0%
Nov. 2022	47%	48%	4%	1%
Aug. 2022	51%	45%	4%	0%
May 2022	50%	44%	5%	2%
Feb. 2022	47%	47%	5%	1%
Sept. 2021	52%	43%	5%	1%
Aug. 2021	52%	43%	4%	1%
May 2021	50%	40%	8%	2%
Feb. 2021	52%	40%	8%	1%
Nov. 2020	53%	37%	8%	2%
Aug. 2020	45%	49%	6%	0%
May 2020	57%	37%	6%	0%
Feb. 2020	49%	44%	6%	2%
Aug. 2018	58%	30%	10%	2%
Oct. 2017	48%	40%	12%	1%
Sept. 2017	52%	37%	11%	1%
Aug. 2017	46%	41%	11%	2%
Jan. 2017	52%	29%	18%	1%

3. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Glenn Youngkin is handling his job as Governor of Virginia?

	Approve	Disapprove	Mixed	Refused
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%

4. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as President of the United States?

	Approve	Disapprove	Mixed	Refused
Feb. 2023	38%	56%	2%	1%
Nov. 2022	41%	55%	3%	2%
Aug. 2022	39%	57%	3%	1%
May 2022	37%	57%	4%	2%
Feb. 2022	41%	53%	4%	3%
Oct. 2021	44%	50%	4%	2%
Sept. 2021	50%	45%	3%	2%
Aug. 2021	48%	43%	7%	2%
May 2021	47%	39%	9%	5%
Feb. 2021	47%	30%	8%	15%

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

	Approve	Disapprove	Mixed	Refused
Feb. 2023	23%	69%	4%	2%

Nov. 2022	27%	68%	2%	2%
Aug. 2022	23%	68%	5%	4%
Feb. 2022	21%	72%	3%	4%
Aug. 2021	17%	71%	7%	5%
May 2020	20%	63%	13%	5%
Feb. 2020	20%	60%	16%	4%
Oct. 2017	10%	80%	8%	3%
Sept. 2017	11%	76%	10%	3%
Aug. 2017	7%	79%	10%	4%
Feb. 2017	20%	62%	12%	6%
Jan. 2017	19%	64%	12%	6%

6. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way the Virginia General Assembly is handling its job?

	Approve	Disapprove	Mixed	Refused
Feb. 2023	48%	37%	4%	9%
Feb. 2022	44%	37%	5%	14%
Aug. 2021	41%	35%	7%	16%

## Favorability Ratings of Political Figures

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.  
[ROTATED]

### 7. Glenn Youngkin

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Mixed/Unsure	DK/Refused
Feb. 2023	52%	35%	2%	9%
Nov. 2022	50%	40%	1%	9%
Aug. 2022	51%	37%	3%	10%
May 2022	46%	37%	3%	15%
Feb. 2022	46%	42%	1%	12%
Oct. 2021	45%	37%	16%	1%
Sept. 2021	40%	41%	17%	3%
Aug. 2021	27%	21%	3%	50%

### 8. Joe Biden

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Mixed/Unsure	DK/Refused
Feb. 2023	40%	55%	1%	2%
Nov. 2022	44%	51%	2%	3%
Aug. 2022	41%	55%	3%	2%
May 2022	38%	56%	3%	3%
Feb. 2022	43%	52%	2%	3%
Sept. 2021	51%	46%	2%	1%
Aug. 2021	48%	43%	5%	4%
Feb. 2021	47%	29%	14%	10%
Nov. 2020	46%	36%	9%	9%
Oct. 2020	53%	43%	3%	1%
Aug. 2020	51%	38%	7%	4%

May 2020	36%	39%	15%	10%
Feb. 2020	37%	37%	18%	8%

## 9. Donald Trump

	Favorable	Unfavorable	Mixed/Unsure	DK/Refused
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%

**2024 Republican Nomination and Presidential Election Match-Ups**

10. You may have heard from the news speculation that Governor Youngkin may seek the Republican nomination for President of the U.S. in 2024. Do you think that he should do so?

	Yes	No	Unsure	Refused
Feb. 2023	34%	54%	7%	3%
Nov. 2022	34%	52%	1%	9%
Aug. 2022	36%	54%	6%	4%

11. If you had to choose, who would you most prefer to be the Republican nominee for president in 2024?<sup>1</sup>

Among Republican respondents:	
Donald Trump	39%
Ron DeSantis	28%
Donald Trump, Jr.	3%
Mike Pence	3%
Ted Cruz	2%
Nikki Haley	5%
Marco Rubio	1%
Glenn Youngkin	6%
Someone else	5%
Not sure	4%

12. If you had to choose, who would be your second choice to be the Republican nominee for president in 2024?<sup>2</sup>

Among Republican respondents:

Donald Trump	18%
Ron DeSantis	21%
Donald Trump, Jr.	6%
Mike Pence	5%
Ted Cruz	5%
Nikki Haley	6%
Marco Rubio	5%
Glenn Youngkin	25%
Someone else	1%
Not sure	3%

13. Are you registered to vote in Virginia

Yes	86%
No	13%

13a. If no, how likely is it that you will register to vote in Virginia for the November 2024 election?

Very Likely	20%
Somewhat Likely	25%
Not Very Likely	17%
Not Likely at All	37%

14. The 2024 presidential election is far away, but if the election for president were today, who would you vote for if the candidates were:

	Joe Biden	Donald Trump	Unsure/Refused
All respondents:	47%	45%	6%
Registered voters:	47%	46%	6%

15. The 2024 presidential election is far away, but if the election for president were today, who would you vote for if the candidates were:

	Joe Biden	Ron DeSantis	Unsure/Refused
All respondents:	44%	47%	8%
Registered voters:	43%	48%	8%

16. The 2024 presidential election is far away, but if the election for president were today, who would you vote for if the candidates were:

	Joe Biden	Glenn Youngkin	Unsure/Refused
All respondents:	39%	54%	5%
Registered voters:	39%	55%	5%

## Most Important Issue in Virginia

17. Which of the following do you feel is the most important issue facing Virginia today?  
[PERMUTED]

	Feb. 2023	Dec. 2022
Economy / Jobs	24%	23%
Inflation	22%	27%
Abortion	5%	9%
Gun Policy	10%	10%
COVID-19	1%	1%
Race Issues	4%	5%
Voting / Election Issues	5%	4%
Climate Change	4%	8%
Immigration	4%	2%
Crime	13%	8%
Other / No Answer	3%	3%

## Issues in Education

18. Are you a parent of a child or children 0-18 years of age?

Yes	29%
No	70%
Refused	0%

18a. If yes, how many of your children attend K-12 public schools?

1	42%
2	34%
3+	23%

The next question deals with public education. For each of the following groups, please tell me how much control you think they should have over what is taught in K-12 public schools—a great deal, some, not very much, or no control at all. [ROTATE]

	Great Deal	Some	Not Very Much	No Control
19. Teachers				
Feb. 2023	45%	38%	8%	5%
Oct. 2021	43%	44%	7%	4%
20. Parents				
Feb. 2023	42%	36%	14%	6%
Oct. 2021	41%	41%	13%	4%
21. Local school board				
Feb. 2023	30%	51%	10%	6%
Oct. 2021	27%	54%	9%	7%
22. Principals and school superintendents				
Feb. 2023	34%	46%	11%	6%
Oct. 2021	29%	51%	10%	7%
23. Federal government				
Feb. 2023	14%	40%	21%	22%

	Oct. 2021	6%	44%	20%	11%
24. State government					
	Feb. 2023	16%	55%	17%	8%
	Oct. 2021	15%	56%	16%	11%
25. Local government					
	Feb. 2023	15%	50%	20%	12%
	Oct. 2021	12%	54%	19%	12%

26. Would you support or oppose efforts to remove books from **public schools** because some people find them offensive or inappropriate?<sup>3</sup>

Support	21%
Oppose	73%
Unsure/Refused	5%

27. Would you support or oppose efforts to remove books from **local public libraries** because some people find them offensive or inappropriate?<sup>4</sup>

Support	14%
Oppose	81%
Unsure/Refused	4%

28. How much confidence would you say you have in public schools to act in the best interest of children?<sup>5</sup>

A Great Deal	17%
A Fair Amount	41%
Not Too Much	28%
Not At All	11%
Unsure/Refused	1%

29. Would you say that K-12 public schools are having a positive or negative effect on the way things are going in **the country**?<sup>6</sup>

Positive	41%
Negative	47%
Mixed/ Unsure/Refused	11%

30. Would you say that K-12 public schools are having a positive or negative effect on the way things are going in **Virginia**?<sup>7</sup>

Positive	49%
Negative	39%
Mixed/ Unsure/Refused	10%

## Demographics

31. Gender

Male	48%
Female	50%

32. Region

Southwest Virginia	13%
Southside	8%

Shenandoah Valley	5%
Central Virginia/Richmond	19%
Northern Virginia	30%
Tidewater	22%

33. 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	42%
Living with partner	11%
Divorced	9%
Separated	2%
Widowed	5%
Never married	29%
Refused	0%

34. How much education have you completed?

Less than high school	2%
High School	17%
Some college/technical school	29%
Associate's Degree	8%
Bachelor's Degree	26%
Advanced Degree	16%
Refused	0%

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

18-29	20%
30-44	26%
45-64	32%
65 or older	20%
Refused	0%

36. 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	90%
Refused	1%

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

White / Hispanic / Latino	61%
African-American	17%
Asian/Other/multi-racial	18%
No response	2%

38. 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	8%
\$20,000-\$35,000	13%
\$35,000-\$50,000	12%
\$50,000-\$75,000	15%

\$75,000-\$100,000	15%
More than \$100,000	28%
Refused	6%

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

Liberal	23%
Moderate	33%
Conservative	31%
Other/Unsure	7%
Refused	4%

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

Democrat	30%
Republican	25%
Independent	24%
Other/None	17%
Refused	2%

40a. [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. 34]

Democrat	29%
Republican	31%
Independent/Neither/Refused	33%
Don't Know/No Answer	5%

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

**Party Crosstabs**

	<i>Democrat</i>	<i>Republican</i>	<i>Independent</i>
USA Right Direction	50%	6%	24%
VA Right Direction	48%	63%	56%
Job Approval Youngkin	35%	87%	54%
Job Approval Biden	73%	5%	34%
Job Approval U.S. Congress	36%	21%	16%
Job Approval VA General Assembly	57%	46%	43%
Favorability Youngkin	29%	85%	50%
Favorability Biden	79%	4%	33%
Favorability Trump	10%	70%	28%
Youngkin Should Run for President	28%	42%	35%
<u>First Choice for Republican Nomination</u>			
<i>Republican respondents only:</i>			
Trump		39%	
DeSantis		28%	
Other candidates (combined)		27%	
2024 Presidential Election Match-Ups (all respondents)			
Biden / Trump	88% / 10%	6% / 90%	44% / 44%
Biden / DeSantis	85% / 11%	6% / 87%	40% / 48%
Biden / Youngkin	79% / 19%	2% / 94%	35% / 54%
Great Deal/Some control over what is taught in K-12 schools			
Teachers	85%	82%	85%
Parents	67%	85%	81%
Local school board	85%	79%	80%
Principals and school superintendents	84%	76%	79%
Federal government	68%	42%	54%
State government	72%	73%	71%
Local government	68%	63%	67%
Oppose removing offensive/inappropriate books from:			
Public schools	85%	61%	73%
Local public libraries	86%	73%	82%
Great Deal/Fair Amount confidence in public schools	79%	44%	53%
K-12 schools have positive effect on:			
The country	58%	28%	37%
Virginia	65%	39%	47%

## Notes

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<sup>1</sup> Kathy Frankovic and Taylor Orth, "Whom do Republicans want as their 2024 nominee?", YouGovAmerica, last modified December 1, 2022, <https://today.yougov.com/topics/politics/articles-reports/2022/12/01/who-republicans-want-as-2024-presidential-nominee>.

<sup>2</sup> UNH Survey Center, "DeSantis Opens Lead Over Trump in New Hampshire in Race for 2024 GOP Nomination 1/26/2023" (2023). *All UNH Survey Center Polls*. 727, [https://scholars.unh.edu/survey\\_center\\_polls/727](https://scholars.unh.edu/survey_center_polls/727).

<sup>3</sup> "Voters Oppose Book Bans in Libraries", American Library Association, last modified March 21, 2022, <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/voters-oppose-book-bans-libraries>.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> John Gramlich, "Republicans' confidence in K-12 principals has fallen sharply during the pandemic", Pew Research Center, last modified February 24, 2022, <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2022/02/24/republicans-confidence-in-k-12-principals-has-fallen-sharply-during-the-pandemic/>.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.