

Roanoke College Poll Topline
Politics and COVID
May 26, 2021

Hi, I'm _____ and I'm calling from Roanoke College. How are you today/this evening? We're conducting a survey of Virginia residents regarding important issues and your opinion is very important to us. Your responses are confidential.

The next few questions relate to the COVID-19 virus. With declining numbers of infections, increased vaccinations, and economies reopening, we may be turning the tide of the COVID-19 virus. For the following, please tell us if the group deserves a great deal of credit for that, some credit, or not much credit at all. [ROTATED]

1. The Biden Administration

A great deal	26%
Some	38%
Not much	33%
Unsure/Refused	3%

2. The Trump Administration

A great deal	24%
Some	41%
Not much	32%
Unsure/Refused	3%

3. Pharmaceutical Companies

A great deal	50%
Some	35%
Not much	13%
Unsure/Refused	2%

4. Regarding the vaccine, have you already been vaccinated, do you plan to take the vaccine when you can, or do you not plan to take the vaccine?

	May 2021	Feb. 2021
Already vaccinated	62%	18%
Will take it	14%	54%
Won't take it	19%	23%
Unsure/Refused	6%	6%

4.a. [IF WON'T BE VACCINATED] And why aren't you planning to be vaccinated?

Safety concerns	46%
Had COVID	9%
Not afraid of getting it	2%
COVID isn't real	2%

Other	39%
Refused	2%

5. In general, how much trust and confidence do you have in the mass media--such as newspapers, TV and radio--when it comes to reporting the news fully, accurately, and fairly? A great deal, a fair amount, not very much, or none at all?

	Great Deal	Fair amount	Not very much	None at all	Refused
May 2021	5%	31%	30%	31%	3%
Feb. 2021	7%	31%	34%	25%	3%
Nov. 2020	9%	35%	24%	30%	3%
Aug. 2020	7%	37%	29%	24%	2%
May 2020	10%	37%	32%	20%	2%
Feb. 2020	8%	27%	32%	28%	4%
Nov. 2019	7%	29%	34%	26%	4%
Aug. 2019	10%	30%	31%	27%	3%
Feb. 2017	11%	31%	30%	26%	3%

6. 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
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%

7. 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
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%

8. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way Ralph Northam is handling his job as Governor of Virginia?

	Approve	Disapprove	Mixed	Refused
May 2021	47%	35%	6%	12%
Feb. 2021	49%	33%	10%	8%
Nov. 2020	53%	33%	9%	5%
Aug. 2020	53%	41%	5%	2%
May 2020	59%	29%	6%	6%
Feb. 2020	40%	41%	11%	9%
Nov. 2019	35%	28%	23%	13%
Aug. 2019	37%	29%	21%	14%
Feb. 2019	32%	39%	16%	13%
Aug. 2018	54%	18%	13%	15%
June 2018	43%	36%	14%	7%
Feb. 2018	32%	50%	11%	7%

9. 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
May 2021	47%	39%	9%	5%
Feb. 2021	47%	30%	8%	15%

For each of the following statements, tell us if you agree or disagree. [ROTATED]

10. The Republican Party is too extreme.

Agree	49%
Disagree	41%

Unsure/Refused	11%
11. I feel included in Biden's America.	
Agree	55%
Disagree	37%
Unsure/Refused	8%
12. The Democratic Party is too extreme.	
Agree	49%
Disagree	44%
Unsure/Refused	7%
13. I felt included in Trump's America.	
Agree	45%
Disagree	46%
Unsure/Refused	9%
14. Despite our challenges, I would rather live in America than any other place.	
Agree	89%
Disagree	10%
Unsure/Refused	2%
15. I feel like the government does not represent the American I love.	
Agree	61%
Disagree	30%
Unsure/Refused	9%
16. Qualified minorities should be given special preferences in hiring and education.	
Agree	30%
Disagree	61%
Unsure/Refused	9%
17. The U.S. is a racist country.	
Agree	35%
Disagree	59%
Unsure/Refused	6%
18. The American people are racist	
Agree	31%
Disagree	60%
Unsure/Refused	9%
19. People generally do better when the government leaves them alone.	
Agree	63%
Disagree	30%
Unsure/Refused	7%

20. As you may know, Congress recently passed, and President Biden signed a bill that would provide \$1.9 trillion in economic aid to businesses, individuals and state and local governments. In general, do you favor or oppose this bill?

Favor	56%
Oppose	35%
Unsure/Refused	8%

21. Biden has also proposed spending \$2.3 trillion over eight years for upgrades for transportation, expanding broadband coverage, home care for senior citizens, and technology research and development. In general, do you favor or oppose this bill?

Favor	66%
Oppose	26%
Unsure/Refused	8%

22. In his recent address to Congress, Biden announced a \$1.8 trillion childcare and education plan. In general, do you favor or oppose this bill?

Favor	61%
Oppose	28%
Unsure/Refused	12%

[IF FAVOR ANY OF Q 18, Q19, OR Q 20] How can we best pay for these initiatives? Do you favor or oppose:

22.a. Increasing taxes for everyone?

Favor	26%
Oppose	70%
Unsure/Refused	4%

22.b. Increasing taxes for those making more than \$400,000 a year?

Favor	81%
Oppose	17%
Unsure/Refused	2%

22.c. Increasing taxes for corporations?

Favor	79%
Oppose	14%
Unsure/Refused	6%

22.d. Increasing the gas tax?

Favor	22%
Oppose	73%
Unsure/Refused	5%

22.e. Borrowing money to be repaid later?

Favor	29%
Oppose	66%

Unsure/Refused	5%
----------------	----

23. How concerned are you about the deficit and national debt? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not concerned at all?

Very concerned	41%
Somewhat concerned	30%
Not too concerned	16%
Not concerned at all	13%
Unsure/Refused	1%

24. Which of the following do you think is a bigger problem with elections in the United States? That the rules around voting make it too difficult for eligible citizens who want to vote to cast a ballot OR that the rules around voting are not strict enough to prevent illegal votes from being cast? Or do you think neither is a problem in the United States?

Rules too difficult	27%
Rules not strict enough	44%
Neither	26%
Unsure/Refused	4%

25. Code respondent's sex [NOT ASKED]

Male	49%
Female	51%

26. Region

Southwest Virginia	10%
Southside	9%
Shenandoah Valley	6%
Central Virginia/Richmond	23%
Northern Virginia	28%
Tidewater	24%

27. 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	49%
Living with partner	4%
Divorced	8%
Separated	2%
Widowed	6%
Never married	31%
Refused	1%

28. How much education have you completed?

Less than high school	3%
High School	20%
Some college/technical school	24%
Associate's Degree	7%
Bachelor's Degree	25%
Advanced Degree	19%
Refused	1%

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

18-29	22%
30-44	27%
45-64	34%
65 or older	15%
Refused	1%

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

Yes, Hispanic	6%
No, not Hispanic	93%
Refused	2%

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

White / Hispanic / Latino	73%
African-American	18%
Asian/Other/multi-racial	5%
Refused	4%

32. 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	12%
\$20,000-\$35,000	9%
\$35,000-\$50,000	15%
\$50,000-\$75,000	15%
\$75,000-\$100,000	13%
More than \$100,000	27%
Refused	9%

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

Liberal	20%
Moderate	36%
Conservative	30%
Other/Unsure	4%
Refused	10%

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

Democrat	26%
Republican	27%
Independent	21%
Other/None	22%
Refused	5%

34. a. [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. 42]

Democrat	40%
Republican	43%
Independent/Neither/Refused	17%

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

Party Crosstabs

	<i>Democrat</i>	<i>Republican</i>
COVID		
Biden Admin. Credit—a great deal	49%	5%
Trump Admin. Credit—a great deal	1%	49%
Pharma companies' credit—a great deal	52%	51%
Already vaccinated	80%	48%
Won't get vaccinated	6%	30%
Politics		
Trust media great deal + fair amount	65%	12%
Country right direction	75%	11%
VA right direction	84%	20%
Approve Biden	82%	12%
Approve Northam	84%	18%
Republican party too extreme	76%	28%
Democratic party too extreme	15%	84%
R feels included in Biden's America	88%	24%
R felt included in Trump's America	16%	75%
R prefers to live in U.S.	84%	98%
R feels govt. doesn't represent their U.S.	47%	76%
Minorities should get preferences	47%	14%
U.S. is racist country	60%	12%
American people are racist	50%	14%
People do better when govt. leaves alone	36%	86%
Favors COVID relief bill	88%	21%
Favors infrastructure, etc. bill	92%	37%
Favors childcare/education proposal	86%	32%
Raise taxes for everyone	23%	28%
Raise taxes for \$400,000 or more annually	94%	64%
Raise taxes for corporations	93%	65%
Raise gas tax	32%	12%
Borrow funds	41%	14%
Very concerned w/ deficit and debt	20%	63%
Voting rules too strict	55%	4%
Voting rules not strict enough	8%	78%