VIRGINIA POLITICS SURVEY FALL 2018
UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON

TOPLINE ONE
FOR RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 18, 2018

NOTE: SOME QUESTIONS ARE BEING WITHHELD FOR SUBSEQUENT RELEASE

Total Interviews: 801 Virginia adults, age 18 or older
                                     281 landline interviews
                                     520 cell phone interviews
Margins of error: ±4.6 percentage points for results based on Total [N=801]
     ±5.0 percentage points for results based on Registered voters [N=704]
     ±5.8 percentage points for results based on Likely voters [N=512]
Interviewing dates: September 4-9, 2018
Interviewing language: English only

Notes: Because percentages are rounded, they may not total 100%.
        An asterisk (*) indicates less than 0.5%.

TREND INFORMATION

September 2017 trends are from the University of Mary Washington's Virginia Survey Fall 2017, conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI) from September 5-12, 2017 among 1,000 Virginia adults age 18+, including 867 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

September 2016 trends are from the University of Mary Washington's Virginia Survey Fall 2016, conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI) from September 6-12, 2016 among 1,006 Virginia adults age 18+, including 852 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

November 2015 trends are from the University of Mary Washington's Virginia Survey Fall 2015, conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI) from November 4-9, 2015 among 1,006 Virginia adults age 18+, including 814 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

October 2014 trends are from the University of Mary Washington's Virginia Survey Fall 2014, conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI) from October 1-6, 2014 among 1,000 Virginia adults age 18+, including 819 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

(TREND INFORMATION CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE…)

September 2013 trends are from the University of Mary Washington's Virginia Survey Fall 2013, conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI) from September 25-29, 2013 among 1,001 Virginia adults age 18+, including 823 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

March 2013 trends are from the University of Mary Washington's Virginia Survey March 2013, conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI) from March 20-24, 2013 among 1,004 Virginia adults age 18+, including 840 registered voters, reached on either a landline or cell phone.

MAIN INTERVIEW

THOUGHT. How much thought have you given to the coming election for U.S. Senator from Virginia…
Quite a lot or only a little?

	QUITE A LOT	(VOL.) SOME	LITTLE	(VOL.) NONE	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
Sept 2018 Total: Election for senator	35	4	53	7	2	*
Sept 2017 Total: Election for governor	32	3	57	5	2	*
Sept 2016 Total: Election for president	77	2	18	3	*	*
Nov 2015 Total: Election for president	53	4	41	2	1	*
Oct 2014 Total: Election for senator	17	1	70	10	1	*
Sept 2013 Total: Election for governor	29	4	57	9	1	*
Sept 2018 RVs: Election for senator	41	3	49	5	2	*
Sept 2017 RVs: Election for governor	38	4	54	3	2	*
Sept 2016 RVs: Election for president	81	2	15	2	0	*
Nov 2015 RVs: Election for president	62	3	34	1	*	*
Oct 2014 RVs: Election for senator	20	1	69	9	1	*
Sept 2013 RVs: Election for governor	35	4	55	6	1	*
Sept 2018 LVs: Election for senator	58	2	38	1	1	0
Sept 2017 LVs: Election for governor	50	4	43	1	2	0
Sept 2016 LVs: Election for president	87	2	9	2	0	*
Nov 2015 LVs: Election for president	71	3	25	*	*	*
Oct 2014 LVs: Election for senator	35	2	57	7	0	0
Sept 2013 LVs: Election for governor	53	6	40	1	1	0

REG. Which of these statements best describes you? Are you ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN that you are registered to vote at your current address, are you PROBABLY registered but there is a chance your registration has lapsed, or are you NOT registered to vote at your current address?

	REGISTERED TO VOTE	CHANCE REGISTRATION HAS LAPSED	NOT REGISTERED	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
September 2018 Total	82	5	13	*	0
September 2017 Total	81	4	15	1	*
September 2016 Total	80	5	14	1	1
November 2015 Total	74	5	20	1	*
October 2014 Total	77	4	19	*	*
September 2013 Total	76	3	20	1	*
March 2013 Total	79	3	18	1	*

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Just in general...

OFTVOTE.   How often would you say you vote... [READ]

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

	ALWAYS	NEARLY ALWAYS	PART OF THE TIME	SELDOM	(VOL.) NEVER	(VOL.) OTHER	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
September 2018 RVs	61	24	9	4	1	1	0	*
September 2017 RVs	56	29	10	3	1	*	*	*
September 2016 RVs	65	21	8	4	2	*	*	*
November 2015 RVs	58	27	9	4	1	1	0	0
October 2014 RVs	59	27	9	3	1	1	0	*
September 2013 RVs	53	30	11	5	1	1	*	*

[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS:] Thinking about the elections this November...

PLANTO1.   Do you plan to vote in the 2018 election for U.S. Senator from Virginia?[1]

BASED ON ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

	YES	NO	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
September 2018 RVs	93	5	1	*
September 2017 RVs	92	7	2	0
September 2016 RVs	94	5	1	*
November 2015 RVs	96	2	2	0
October 2014 RVs	92	5	3	0
September 2013 RVs	88	7	4	*

PLANTO2.   How certain are you that you will vote? Are you [READ]

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS WHO PLAN TO VOTE

	ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN	FAIRLY CERTAIN	NOT CERTAIN	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
September 2018 RVs [N=667]	82	15	2	*	0
September 2017 RVs [N=821]	79	17	3	1	0
September 2016 RVs [N=813]	93	6	1	*	1
November 2015 RVs [N=791]	91	8	1	*	*
October 2014 RVs [N=768]	76	19	3	1	*
September 2013 RVs [N=745]	83	16	1	*	*

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[1]   2017 trend question was: "Do you plan to vote in the 2017 election for governor of Virginia?" 2015 and 2016 trend question was: "Do you plan to vote in the 2016 election for U.S. president?" 2013 and 2014 trend question was: "Do you plan to vote in the election this November?"

SEN1. Thinking about the 2018 election for U.S. Senator from Virginia... If the election were held today and the candidates were (Corey Stewart, the Republican,) (Tim Kaine, the Democrat,) or Matt Waters of the Libertarian Party, for whom would you vote? [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES]

SEPT 2018 TOTAL	SEPT 2018 RVS	SEPT 2018 LVS	
30	33	36	Stewart
49	51	52	Kaine
6	5	5	Waters (Libertarian Party)
1	1	*	(VOL.) Other candidate
4	2	1	(VOL.) None / Would not vote
9	7	4	(VOL.) Don't know
1	1	2	(VOL.) Refused

SEN3. How much of a factor will Donald Trump be in deciding your vote for U.S. Senator from Virginia – a major factor, a minor factor, or not a factor?

BASED ON THOSE WHO SELECTED A CANDIDATE FOR THE 2018 ELECTION FOR U.S. SENATOR

SEPT 2018 TOTAL	SEPT 2018 RVS	SEPT 2018 LVS	
33	35	34	Major factor
18	18	19	Minor factor
48	47	46	Not a factor
*	*	1	(VOL.) Don't know
0	0	0	(VOL.) Refused
[n=715]	[n=644]	[n=483]	

ISSUES. Next... Which ONE of the following do you think is the MOST important problem facing the U.S. today? [READ LIST] [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-8]

SEPT 2018 TOTAL	SEPT 2018 RVS	SEPT 2018 LVS	
22	22	22	Health Care
18	19	19	The economy and jobs
18	18	20	Immigration
12	14	15	Morality
7	7	7	The environment
7	6	7	Gun policy
7	6	3	Crime
3	3	2	Terrorism
3	3	3	(VOL.) Other (SPECIFY)
*	*	*	(VOL.) None
2	2	1	(VOL.) Don't know / Respondent unable to pick a single option
*	*	*	(VOL.) Refused

[READ TO ALL:] Now thinking back...

PVOTE16A. In the 2016 presidential election between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, did things come up that kept you from voting, or did you happen to vote?[2]

	VOTED	DID NOT VOTE (INCLUDES TOO YOUNG TO VOTE)	(VOL.) DON'T REMEMBER IF VOTED	(VOL.) REF
September 2018 Total	82	17	0	*
September 2017 Total	78	22	*	*
September 2016 Total	74	26	1	*
November 2015 Total	73	26	*	*
October 2014 Total	78	22	*	*
September 2013 Total	79	20	*	0
March 2013 Total	79	20	*	*
September 2018 RVs	93	7	0	*
September 2017 RVs	89	10	*	*
September 2016 RVs	86	14	1	*
November 2015 RVs	88	11	*	*
October 2014 RVs	92	8	*	0
September 2013 RVs	94	6	0	0
March 2013 RVs	93	7	*	*
September 2018 LVs	100	*	0	0

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[2] In the 2013-2016 polls, respondents were asked about the 2012 presidential election between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney. March 2013 trend question was: "Did you happen to vote in the 2012 presidential election?"

September 2017 LVs	100	*	0	0
September 2016 LVs	99	1	0	0
November 2015 LVs	99	1	0	*
October 2014 LVs	100	0	0	0
September 2013 LVs	99	1	0	0

PVOTE16B. Did you vote for Trump, Clinton or someone else?[3]

BASED ON THOSE WHO VOTED IN THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

	TRUMP (REP)	CLINTON (DEM)	SOMEONE ELSE/OTHER CANDIDATE	(VOL.) DON'T REMEMBER	(VOL.) REF
Sept 2018 Total [N=696]	40	42	12	*	5
Sept 2017 Total [N=853]	38	47	12	1	3
2012 ROMNEY/OBAMA TRENDS:					
Sept 2016 Total [N=820]	39	51	6	1	4
Nov 2015 Total [N=801]	36	48	9	2	5
Oct 2014 Total [N=826]	38	50	5	1	6
Sept 2013 Total [N=843]	35	53	6	1	5
March 2013 Total [N=848]	39	53	5	*	3
Sept 2018 RVs [N=661]	41	42	12	*	5
Sept 2017 RVs [N=804]	39	47	11	*	3
2012 ROMNEY/OBAMA TRENDS:					
Sept 2016 RVs [N=771]	40	50	6	*	4
Nov 2015 RVs [N=745]	38	47	8	2	5
Oct 2014 RVs [N=766]	40	49	4	1	6
Sept 2013 RVs [N=783]	38	52	6	1	4
March 2013 RVs [N=797]	40	52	5	*	4
Sept 2018 LVs [N=511]	40	44	10	1	5
Sept 2017 LVs [N=561]	39	47	10	*	4
2012 ROMNEY/OBAMA TRENDS:					
Sept 2016 LVs [N=682]	44	47	5	*	3
Nov 2015 LVs [N=649]	41	44	8	1	5
Oct 2014 LVs [N=444]	48	44	4	*	3
Sept 2013 LVs [N=555]	43	48	5	1	4

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[3] In the 2013-2016 polls, respondents were asked about the 2012 presidential election candidates: Barack Obama, Mitt Romney, or someone else. March 2013 trend question was: "For whom did you vote in the 2012 presidential election: Barack Obama, Mitt Romney or someone else?"

GVOTE17A. In the 2017 election for governor between Ralph Northam, Ed Gillespie, and Cliff Hyra, did
things come up that kept you from voting, or did you happen to vote?[4]

	VOTED	DID NOT VOTE (INCLUDES TOO YOUNG TO VOTE)	(VOL.) DK	(VOL.) REF
September 2018 Total	66	32	2	*
2013 GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION TRENDS:				
September 2017 Total	52	42	5	1
September 2016 Total	56	40	3	*
November 2015 Total	54	42	4	1
October 2014 Total	56	39	4	*
2009 GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION TRENDS:				
Sept 2013 Total	51	44	5	1
March 2013 Total	58	40	1	1
September 2018 RVs	77	21	2	*
2013 GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION TRENDS:				
September 2017 RVs	63	31	5	1
September 2016 RVs	68	28	4	*
November 2015 RVs	68	27	5	*
October 2014 RVs	69	26	5	0
2009 GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION TRENDS:				
Sept 2013 RVs	64	31	5	*
March 2013 RVs	70	28	2	*
September 2018 LVs	99	1	0	0
2013 GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION TRENDS:				
September 2017 LVs	98	1	1	0
September 2016 LVs	89	9	2	*
November 2015 LVs	87	10	2	1
October 2014 LVs	100	0	0	0
2009 GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION TRENDS:				
Sept 2013 LVs	88	10	2	0

GVOTE17B. Did you vote for Northam, Gillespie, Hyra, or someone else?

BASED ON THOSE WHO VOTED IN THE 2017 VIRGINIA GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION

	NORTHAM	GILLESPIE	HYRA	SOMEONE ELSE/OTHER CANDIDATE	(VOL.) DON'T REMEMBER	(VOL.) REF
Sept 2018 Total [N=597]	47	36	1	5	6	5
Sept 2018 RVs [N=583]	47	36	1	5	6	5
Sept 2018 LVs [N=508]	48	37	1	3	6	5

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[4] 2013 gubernatorial election candidates: Terry McAuliffe, Ken Cuccinelli, and Robert Sarvis. 2009 gubernatorial candidates: Bob McDonnell and Creigh Deeds.

[READ TO ALL:] Finally, just a few questions for statistical purposes only...

PARTY. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself (a Democrat), (a Republican), or an independent?[5] [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES]

SEPT 2018 TOTAL	SEPT 2018 RVS	SEPT 2018 LVS	
29	30	31	Democrat
28	31	29	Republican
36	33	35	Independent
1	1	1	(VOL.) Other (SPECIFY)
4	3	2	(VOL.) None/No party/No preference
1	*	0	(VOL.) Don't know
1	1	1	(VOL.) Refused

IDEO. In general, would you describe your political views as very liberal, liberal, moderate, conservative, or very conservative?

SEPT 2018 TOTAL	SEPT 2018 RVS	SEPT 2018 LVS	
6	5	5	Very Liberal
23	24	27	Liberal
32	30	30	Moderate
24	25	25	Conservative
11	12	12	Very Conservative
3	2	*	(VOL.) Don't know
1	1	1	(VOL.) Refused

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[5] In September 2018, unweighted party identification for Total respondents was: 29% Democrat, 30% Republican and 37% independent. Unweighted party ID for Likely Voters was: 31% Democrat, 30% Republican and 36% independent.