



**VIRGINIA SURVEY FALL 2019  
UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON  
WEIGHTED TOPLINE – ANNOTATED QUESTIONNAIRE**

**TOPLINE 3  
FOR RELEASE SEPTEMBER 30, 2019**

**NOTE: Some questions are being held for subsequent release**

**For further information, or to schedule an interview, contact Professor Farnsworth at [sfarnswo@umw.edu](mailto:sfarnswo@umw.edu).**

Pretest: None  
Interviewing dates: September 3-15, 2019  
Interviewing language: English only  
Total Sample n=1009;  
Registered Voters n=882

**SURVEY INFORMATION**

The University of Mary Washington's Virginia Survey Fall 2019 obtained telephone interviews with a representative sample of 1009 adults, ages 18 or older, living in Virginia. Telephone interviews were conducted by landline (293) and cell phone (716). The survey was conducted by Research America Inc. Interviews were done in English from Sept. 3 to 15, 2019. Statistical results are weighted to correct known demographic discrepancies. The margin of sampling error for the complete set of weighted data is  $\pm 3.1$  percentage points (N=1009) and  $\pm 3.3$  percentage points for the subsample of registered voters (N=882).

Note: Because of rounding, results may not equal 100 percent.

**[ASK ALL:]**

USDIRECT. Overall, do you feel things in the *United States* are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten off on the wrong track?

33% Right  
7% **(DO NOT READ)** Mixed  
57% Wrong  
3% **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know  
00% **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

VADIRECT. Overall, do you feel things in the *Commonwealth of Virginia* are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten off on the wrong track?

- 48% Right
- 11% **(DO NOT READ)** Mixed
- 36% Wrong
- 4% **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 0% **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

TRUMP. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president? **[IF DEPENDS OR IF RESPONDENT IS UNSURE, PROBE ONCE WITH: "Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?" IF STILL DEPENDS OR UNSURE ENTER AS UNSURE/DK]**

- 39% Approve
- 54% Disapprove
- 7% **(DO NOT READ)** Unsure/Don't know
- 0% **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

NORTHAM. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ralph Northam is handling his job as governor? **[IF DEPENDS OR IF RESPONDENT IS UNSURE, PROBE ONCE WITH: "Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Ralph Northam is handling his job as governor?" IF STILL DEPENDS OR UNSURE ENTER AS UNSURE/DK]**

- 47% Approve
- 35% Disapprove
- 18% **(DO NOT READ)** Unsure/Don't know
- 1% **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

TRUSTUS. How much of the time do you think you can trust the FEDERAL government to do what is right – just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

- 5% Just about always
- 24% Most of the time
- 59% Some of the time
- 10% **(DO NOT READ)** Never
- 1% **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 0% **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

BIGINT. Would you say that government is pretty much run by a few big interests looking out for themselves or is it run for the benefit of all the people? **[IF R ASKS WHAT IS MEANT BY "GOVERNMENT," READ: Please think about the national government.]**

- 73% Big interests
- 19% All the people
- 7% **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 1% **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

**[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF OPTIONS IN PARENTHESES]**

**[ASK ALL:]**

ECONUS. Would you say that, over the past 12 months, the U.S. economy has (gotten worse), stayed the same, or (gotten better)?

**[IF BETTER/WORSE, PROBE: Would you say MUCH or SOMEWHAT (worse / better)?]**

- 8% Much worse
- 20% Somewhat worse
- 27% Stayed the same
- 21% Somewhat better
- 21% Much better
- 3% **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 0% **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

RACE1. Do you think race relations in the US are: **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS]**

- 36% Generally good
- 55% Generally bad
- 8% **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 1% **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

RACE2. Do you think race relations in the US are: **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 and 2]**

- 15% Getting better
- 50% Getting worse
- 31% Staying about the same
- 3% **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 0% **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

Q2020a. Turning now to the potential candidates for PRESIDENT in 2020... If the Virginia Democratic primary were today and the candidates were [RANDOMIZE: (Joe Biden), (Elizabeth Warren), (Bernie Sanders), (Kamala Harris), (Pete Buttigieg), (Cory Booker), (Amy Klobuchar), (Beto O'Rourke) and (Julian Castro)], for whom would you vote?

- 23% Joe Biden
- 10% Elizabeth Warren
- 10% Bernie Sanders
- 5% Kamala Harris
- 4% Pete Buttigieg
- 1% Cory Booker

2%	Amy Klobuchar
1%	Beto O'Rourke
1%	Julian Castro
3%	Andrew Yang
2%	(VOL.) Other
21%	(VOL.) None
5%	(VOL.) Would not vote in that primary
13%	(VOL.) Don't know
1%	(VOL.) Refused

**ASK IF SELECTED FIRST CHOICE IN PREVIOUS QUESTION (Q2020A=1-9):**

Q2020b. Who would be your second choice? [READ CATEGORIES IF NECESSARY] [PROGRAMMER: DO NOT INCLUDE SELECTED RESPONSE FROM Q2020A; LIST IN SAME RANDOMIZED ORDER AS Q2020A]

16%	Joe Biden
19%	Elizabeth Warren
14%	Bernie Sanders
11%	Kamala Harris
9%	Pete Buttigieg
5%	Cory Booker
3%	Amy Klobuchar
2%	Beto O'Rourke
2%	Julian Castro
4%	Andrew Yang
1%	(VOL.) Other
7%	(VOL.) None
0%	(VOL.) Would not vote in that primary
8%	(VOL.) Don't know
0%	(VOL.) Refused

**[RANDOMIZE Q2020f – Q2020i]**

**[ASK ALL:]**

Q2020f. Thinking about the 2020 election for US president... If the election were held today and the candidates were [RANDOMIZE: (Donald Trump, the Republican,) and (Joe Biden, the Democrat,)] for whom would you vote?

37%	Trump
55%	Biden
1%	(VOL.) Other candidate
3%	(VOL.) None / Would not vote
4%	(VOL.) Don't know
1%	(VOL.) Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

Q2020g. What if the candidates were [RANDOMIZE: (Donald Trump, the Republican,) and (Elizabeth Warren, the Democrat,)] for whom would you vote?

38% Trump  
 53% Warren  
 1% (VOL.) Other candidate  
 2% (VOL.) None / Would not vote  
 5% (VOL.) Don't know  
 1% (VOL.) Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

Q2020h. How about if the candidates were [RANDOMIZE: (Donald Trump, the Republican,) and (Bernie Sanders, the Democrat,)] for whom would you vote?

38% Trump  
 53% Sanders  
 2% (VOL.) Other candidate  
 3% (VOL.) None / Would not vote  
 4% (VOL.) Don't know  
 1% (VOL.) Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

Q2020i. How about if the candidates were [RANDOMIZE: (Donald Trump, the Republican,) and (Kamala Harris, the Democrat,)] for whom would you vote?

38% Trump  
 50% Harris  
 2% (VOL.) Other candidate  
 4% (VOL.) None / Would not vote  
 5% (VOL.) Don't know  
 1% (VOL.) Refused

**[READ TO ALL:]** Now turning to issues that are being discussed in Virginia...

**[ASK ALL:]**

**[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS IN PARENS]**

AMEND. Currently, the Virginia Constitution makes the state legislature responsible for drawing legislative district boundaries. Would you (favor) or (oppose) amending the state Constitution to transfer that power to an independent commission?

42% Favor  
 40% Oppose  
 17% **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know  
 1% **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

POT. Do you [randomize support or oppose] the legalization of marijuana for recreational use by adults in Virginia?

61% Support  
 34% Oppose  
 6% **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know

0% (DO NOT READ) Refused