

**2023 ANNUAL FALL STATEWIDE VA QUESTIONNAIRE  
UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON**

**Topline 1 – For AM Release WED 9/27**

NOTE: Some questions are being held for subsequent release.

The University of Mary Washington’s Fall 2023 Virginia Survey was conducted by Research America Inc. during September 5 – 11, 2023. The total sample included 1,000 Virginia residents, including 833 registered voters and 771 likely voters. Part of the sample (600) was contacted by phone (80 percent cell and 20 percent landline), and part of the sample (400) was contacted online. All interviews were in English. Statistical results are weighted to correct known demographic discrepancies, including age, gender and race/ethnicity. The margin of error on the total sample is +/- 3.0%. The margin of error on the Likely Voters portion of the sample is +/- 3.5%.

Interviewing dates: Starting Tuesday, September 5, 2023 – Monday, September 11, 2023

Interviewing language: English only

**MAIN INTERVIEW**

**START SECTION TIMER**

**[ASK ALL:]**

SEX.

49% Male  
51% Female

**[ASK ALL:]**

USDIRECT. Overall, would you say that things in the U.S. are headed more in the right direction or the wrong direction?

12% Right  
30% Mixed  
53% Wrong  
4% Don't know  
Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

VADIRECT. Overall, would you say that things in the Commonwealth of Virginia are headed more in the right direction or the wrong direction?

20% Right  
44% Mixed  
29% Wrong  
7% Don't know  
Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

BIDEN. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as president?

35% Approve  
 52% Disapprove  
 12% Unsure/Don't know  
 1% Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

GOV. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Glenn Youngkin is handling his job as governor?

40% Approve  
 37% Disapprove  
 22% Unsure/Don't know  
 1% Refused

**END SECTION TIMER****START SECTION TIMER**

**[READ TO ALL:]** On a different subject...

**[ASK ALL:]**

VATHOUGHT. How much thought have you given to the coming 2023 Virginia legislative elections...  
 Quite a lot or only a little?

26% Quite a lot  
 36% Some  
 23% Little  
 12% None  
 2% Don't know  
 Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

REG. Which of these statements best describes you?

82% Are you ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN that you are registered to vote at your current address, OR  
 6% Are you PROBABLY registered, but there is a chance your registration has lapsed, OR  
 7% Are you NOT registered to vote at your current address?  
 4% Don't know  
 1% Refused

**[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REG=1):]** Just in general...

**[ASK IF REG=1; REGISTERED VOTERS]:**

OFTVOTE. How often would you say you vote...

62% Always  
 31% Nearly always  
 5% Part of the time, OR  
 1% Seldom?  
 Never vote  
 Other response  
 Don't know  
 Refused

**[READ TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REG=1):]** Thinking about the elections this November...**[ASK IF REG=1; REGISTERED VOTERS]:**

PLANTO1. Do you plan to vote in the 2023 Virginia legislative elections?

90% Yes  
 3% No  
 7% Don't know  
 Refused

**[ASK PLANTO1=1; IF PLAN TO VOTE]:**

PLANTO2. How certain are you that you will vote? Are you

85% Absolutely certain  
 14% Fairly certain, OR  
 1% Not certain?  
 Don't know  
 Refused

**END SECTION TIMER****START SECTION TIMER****[ASK ALL:]****[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS IN PARENS]**ELECT1. Thinking about the 2023 Virginia legislative elections, would you prefer to see **[RANDOMIZE** (a Republican) or (a Democratic)] majority in the Legislature next year?

37% Republican  
 40% Democratic  
 11% Other choice/write-in  
 4% None / Would not vote  
 6% Don't know

2% Refused

**[ASK IF ELECT1=1-7]**

ELECT3. How much of a factor will Glenn Youngkin be in deciding your vote in the Virginia legislative elections – a major factor, a minor factor, or not a factor?

43% Major factor

24% Minor factor

24% Not a factor

9% Don't know

1% Refused

**[ASK IF ELECT1=1-7]**

ABVOTE. How much of a factor will the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling last year regarding abortion be in deciding your vote in the Virginia legislative elections – a major factor, a minor factor, or not a factor?

53% Major factor

21% Minor factor

20% Not a factor

5% Don't know

1% Refused

EDVOTE. How much of a factor will Virginia public school policies be in deciding your vote in the Virginia legislative elections – a major factor, a minor factor, or not a factor?

64% Major factor

21% Minor factor

9% Not a factor

6% Don't know

Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

ISSUES. In your opinion, what is the most important problem facing the U.S. today?

**[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF OPTIONS]**

[If respondent picks more than one, ask: "Which one of those would be the MOST important problem facing the nation?"]

16% The economy and jobs

5% Health Care

10% Immigration

8% The Environment and Climate Change

6% Crime

21% Threats to Democracy

7% Gun policy

20% Inflation

- 4% Other
- 1% None
- 2% Don't know / Respondent won't pick a single option
- 1% Refused

**[READ TO ALL:]** Next, I'd like to get your views on some issues that are being discussed in the country today.

**[ASK ALL:]**

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

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

- 32% Much worse
- 24% Somewhat worse
- 10% Stayed the same
- 18% Somewhat better
- 12% Much better
- 4% Don't know
- Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

ABLEGAL. Do you think abortion should be...? **[RANDOMIZE DISPLAY OF OPTIONS - 1-4 AND 4-1]**

- 23% Legal in all cases
- 34% Legal in most cases
- 27% Illegal in most cases
- 8% Illegal in all cases
- 7% Don't know
- 2% Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

PVOTE20A. In the 2020 presidential election between Donald Trump and Joe Biden, did things come up that kept you from voting, or did you happen to vote?

- 81% Voted
- 13% Did not vote (includes too young to vote)
- 3% Don't remember if voted
- 3% Refused

**[ASK IF PVOTE20A=1; VOTED IN 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION]**

PVOTE20B. Did you vote for Trump, Biden or someone else?

- 42% Trump
- 52% Biden

- 4% Someone else/Other candidate
- Don't remember which candidate
- 3% Refused

### END SECTION TIMER

#### [ASK ALL:]

EDLEVEL. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

- 1% Less than high school (Grades 1-8 or no formal schooling)
- 3% High school incomplete (Grades 9-11 or Grade 12 with NO diploma)
- 18% High school graduate (Grade 12 with diploma or GED certificate)
- 21% Some college, no degree (includes some community college)
- 10% Two-year associate degree from a college or university
- 20% Four-year college or university degree/Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)
- 5% Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree
- 20% Postgraduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical or law degree (e.g., MA, MS, PhD, MD, JD)
- 1% Don't know
- 1% Refused

#### [ASK ALL:]

HISP. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or some other Spanish background?

- 9% Yes
- 88% No
- 2% Don't know
- 1% Refused

#### [ASK ALL:]

RACE. What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race? **[IF RESPONDENT SAYS HISPANIC OR LATINO, PROBE: Do you consider yourself a white (Hispanic/Latino) or a black (Hispanic/Latino)? IF RESPONDENT DOES NOT SAY WHITE, BLACK OR ONE OF THE RACE CATEGORIES LISTED, RECORD AS 'OTHER']**

- 69% White
- 19% Black or African-American
- 2% Asian or Pacific Islander
- 4% Mixed race
- 2% Native American/American Indian
- 2% Other (SPECIFY)
- 1% Don't know
- 2% Refused

#### [ASK ALL:]

**[PN: RANDOMIZE OPTIONS IN PARENS]**

PARTY. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself (a Democrat), (a Republican), or an independent?

- 32% Democrat
- 30% Republican
- 25% Independent
- 2% Other (SPECIFY)
- 7% None/No party/No preference
- 2% Don't know
- 1% Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

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

- 11% Very Liberal
- 15% Liberal
- 35% Moderate
- 23% Conservative
- 8% Very Conservative
- 6% Don't know
- 1% Refused

**[ASK ALL:]**

INCOME. Last year -- that is, in 2022 -- what was your total household income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category.

- 5% Less than \$10,000
- 5% 10 to under \$20,000
- 8% 20 to under \$30,000
- 8% 30 to under \$40,000
- 6% 40 to under \$50,000
- 15% 50 to under \$75,000
- 13% 75 to under \$100,000
- 16% 100 to under \$150,000, OR
- 15% \$150,000 or more?
- 3% Don't know
- 6% Refused

**END SECTION TIMER**