

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Obama maintains small Virginia lead**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Barack Obama leads by two points in Virginia, a result showing virtually no movement from PPP's June survey of the state.

Obama leads John McCain 46-44, after showing a 47-45 advantage last month.

The contest in Virginia stacks up pretty much as one would expect. Obama leads by large margins with African Americans, Hispanics, and younger voters. McCain has a strong edge with white and older voters. One surprising thing in the results is that there is no gender gap. Obama leads by a point with both men and women.

“In some states, like Ohio and Florida, it's really hard to know where the race stands right now because the polls are all over the place,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “In others, like Virginia and North Carolina, there is remarkable stability in the polls with all of them showing virtually the same thing. It seems safe to say that Virginia will be one of the most closely contested states in the country this fall.”

One race in Virginia that does not seem likely to be a tight one is for the US Senate. Mark Warner leads Jim Gilmore by an overwhelming 57-32 margin.

PPP also took a look at how Virginians view former Governor and Senator George Allen right now. 41% of voters view him favorably, while 36% view him unfavorably. Remarkably for a politician who attracted so much attention and controversy during the 2006 Senate election, 23% of respondents have no opinion.

If the 2006 election was done over again, it would still be close, with Jim Webb leading Allen 45-43.

PPP surveyed 1,327 likely voters from July 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>. The survey's margin of error is +/-2.7%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at [www.publicpolicypolling.com](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com).

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.



## Virginia Poll

**Q1** The candidates for President are Republican John McCain and Democrat Barack Obama. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*McCain*.....44% *Undecided*.....10%

*Obama*.....46%

**Q2** The candidates for US Senate are Republican Jim Gilmore and Democrat Mark Warner. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If Jim Gilmore, press 1. If Mark Warner, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Gilmore*.....32%

*Warner*.....57%

*Undecided*.....12%

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of former Republican Senator and Governor George Allen? If you have a favorable opinion, press 1. If you have an unfavorable opinion, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Favorable*.....41% *Not Sure*.....23%

*Unfavorable*.....36%

**Q4** If there was a do over of the 2006 US Senate election between Republican George Allen and Democrat Jim Webb today, who would you vote for? If George Allen, press 1. If Jim Webb, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Allen*.....43% *Not Sure*.....12%

*Webb*.....45%

**Q5** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman*.....52%

*Man*.....48%

**Q6** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

*Democrat*.....36%

*Republican*.....36%

*Other*.....28%

**Q7** If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

*White*.....73%

*African-American*.....20%

*Hispanic/Other*.....7%

**Q8** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

*18 to 29*.....16%

*30 to 45*.....28%

*46 to 65*.....40%

*Older than 65*.....16%





**Virginia**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>McCain/Obama</b>			
<b>McCain</b>	44%	44%	45%
<b>Obama</b>	46%	45%	46%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	11%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Senate</b>			
<b>Gilmore</b>	32%	32%	31%
<b>Warner</b>	57%	56%	57%
<b>Undecided</b>	12%	12%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Allen Opinion</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	41%	40%	43%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	36%	33%	39%
<b>Not Sure</b>	23%	27%	19%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Allen/Webb</b>			
<b>Allen</b>	43%	43%	43%
<b>Webb</b>	45%	42%	47%
<b>Not Sure</b>	12%	15%	9%





**Virginia**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>McCain/Obama</b>				
<b>McCain</b>	44%	10%	84%	38%
<b>Obama</b>	46%	83%	11%	42%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	7%	5%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Senate</b>				
<b>Gilmore</b>	32%	6%	65%	21%
<b>Warner</b>	57%	84%	25%	61%
<b>Undecided</b>	12%	9%	10%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Allen Opinion</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	41%	19%	68%	35%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	36%	55%	14%	39%
<b>Not Sure</b>	23%	26%	18%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Allen/Webb</b>				
<b>Allen</b>	43%	12%	79%	37%
<b>Webb</b>	45%	77%	13%	44%
<b>Not Sure</b>	12%	11%	8%	19%





**Virginia**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>McCain/Obama</b>				
<b>McCain</b>	<b>44%</b>	53%	16%	31%
<b>Obama</b>	<b>46%</b>	36%	77%	50%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10%</b>	10%	7%	19%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>Senate</b>				
<b>Gilmore</b>	<b>32%</b>	38%	11%	21%
<b>Warner</b>	<b>57%</b>	52%	72%	57%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>12%</b>	10%	17%	22%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>Allen Opinion</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>41%</b>	47%	25%	27%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>36%</b>	33%	46%	35%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>23%</b>	20%	29%	38%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>Allen/Webb</b>				
<b>Allen</b>	<b>43%</b>	50%	20%	33%
<b>Webb</b>	<b>45%</b>	39%	62%	53%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>12%</b>	11%	18%	14%





**Virginia**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>McCain/Obama</b>					
<b>McCain</b>	44%	38%	45%	44%	49%
<b>Obama</b>	46%	50%	46%	47%	38%
<b>Undecided</b>	10%	11%	10%	9%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Senate</b>					
<b>Gilmore</b>	32%	28%	34%	32%	31%
<b>Warner</b>	57%	54%	55%	59%	57%
<b>Undecided</b>	12%	19%	12%	9%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Allen Opinion</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	41%	35%	39%	43%	45%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	36%	32%	35%	39%	35%
<b>Not Sure</b>	23%	33%	26%	18%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Allen/Webb</b>					
<b>Allen</b>	43%	38%	41%	45%	47%
<b>Webb</b>	45%	41%	49%	46%	39%
<b>Not Sure</b>	12%	20%	10%	9%	15%

