

NBC News/Marist Poll  
Virginia Republican Presidential Primary State - 2012  
Questionnaire

March 2012

Screener

<Marist Poll Introduction> Are you 18 years of age or older?

Do you consider your permanent home address to be in Virginia?

HH SELECTION – LANDLINE FRAME ONLY

GENDER GUESS

PRIMRULE: STATE PRIMARY RULES.

- Open - enrollment - walk-up
- Open - enrollment - no walk-up
- Open - no enrollment - walk-up
- Open - no enrollment - no walk-up**
- Semi-open - enrollment - walk-up
- Semi-open - enrollment - no walk-up
- Closed - enrollment - walk-up
- Closed - enrollment - no walk-up

Residents: n=3019, MOE +/-1.8%

Have I reached you on your cell phone or on your regular home phone?

	Residents
Cell	28
Regular home phone	72
Total	100

Residents: n=3019, MOE +/-1.8%

Are you registered to vote at your current address?

	Residents
Yes	83
No	15
Not a U.S. Citizen	1
Unsure	0
Refused	0
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2)

Percent  
83

Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president?

	Registered Voters
Approve	51
Disapprove	39
Unsure	10
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVOTE=1,2): Split sample; n=1273, MOE +/-2.8%

If November's presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

	Registered Voters
Barack Obama, the Democrat	52
Mitt Romney, the Republican	35
Undecided	12
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVOTE=1,2): Split sample; n=1273, MOE +/-2.8%

If November's presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

	Registered Voters
Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats	51
Mitt Romney and Bob McDonnell, the Republicans	36
Undecided	13
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVOTE=1,2): Split sample; n=1273, MOE +/-2.8%

If November's presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

	Registered Voters
Barack Obama, the Democrat	57
Newt Gingrich, the Republican	31
Undecided	13
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVOTE=1,2): Split sample; n=1245, MOE +/-2.8%

If November's presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

	Registered Voters
Barack Obama, the Democrat	53
Ron Paul, the Republican	32
Undecided	15
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVOTE=1,2): Split sample; n=1245, MOE +/-2.8%

If November's presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

	Registered Voters
Barack Obama, the Democrat	54
Rick Santorum, the Republican	32
Undecided	15
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVOTE=1,2): Split sample; n=881, MOE +/-3.3%

If November's presidential election were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

	Registered Voters
Barack Obama and Joe Biden, the Democrats	51
Rick Santorum and Bob McDonnell, the Republicans	34
Undecided	14
Total	100

Residents: n=3019, MOE +/-1.8%; Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%

All in all, do you think things in the nation are generally headed in the right direction, or do you feel things are off on the wrong track?

	Residents	Registered Voters
Headed in the right direction	44	44
Off on the wrong track	49	49
Unsure	7	7
Total	100	100

Residents: n=3019, MOE +/-1.8%; Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%

When thinking about the U.S. economy, which statement comes closer to your view:

	Residents	Registered Voters
The worst is yet to come	41	39
The worst is behind us	51	53
Unsure	8	8
Total	100	100

Residents: n=3019, MOE +/-1.8%; Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%

During the next 12 months, do you think that the nation's economy will get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

	Residents	Registered Voters
Economy will get better	37	38
Economy will get worse	20	19
Economy will stay about the same	40	40
Unsure	4	3
Total	100	100

Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Bob McDonnell is doing as governor?

	Registered Voters
Approve	51
Disapprove	30
Unsure	19
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%

If November's election for U.S. Senate in Virginia were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are:

	Registered Voters
Tim Kaine, the Democrat	48
George Allen, the Republican	39
Undecided	14
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%

Do you plan to vote in the Virginia:

	Registered Voters
Republican primary	22
Democratic primary	24
Or do you plan to wait to vote in the general election	47
Not planning to vote	2
Unsure	5
Total	100

Residents: n=3019, MOE +/-1.8%

In which year were you born (recoded into age of respondent)?

	Residents
18 to 29	18
30 to 44	29
45 to 59	26
60 or older	28
Total	100

Residents: n=3019, MOE +/-1.8%

Are you white, black or African-American, Latino or Hispanic, Asian, or Native American? (If not Latino: Are you Hispanic or Latino background, such as Mexican, Dominican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Spanish background?)

	Residents
White	68
African American or Black	19
Latino or Hispanic	7
Other	6
Total	100

Residents: n=3019, MOE +/-1.8%

Which of the following includes your combined family income before taxes:

	Residents
Less than \$15,000 a year	11
\$15,000 to just under \$25,000	11
\$25,000 to just under \$50,000	20
\$50,000 to just under \$75,000	18
\$75,000 to just under \$100,000	12
\$100,000 or more	28
Total	100

Residents: n=3019, MOE +/-1.8%

Which county in Virginia do you live in (recoded into region of the state)?

	Residents
D.C. Suburbs	18
Northern Virginia Exurbs	16
Central/West	23
Richmond/East	23
Tidewater	20
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%; Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Do you consider yourself to be a Democrat, Republican, or an Independent, that is, not enrolled in any party? (Independent follow-up: Do you think of yourself as closer to the Democrat or Republican party?)

	Registered Voters	Likely Voters
Democrat	36	1
Democrat leaning Independent	14	1
Independent	14	5
Republican leaning Independent	11	27
Republican	24	64
Other	1	1
Total	100	100

Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%; Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

**Do you consider yourself to be a supporter of the Tea Party Movement?**

	Registered Voters	Likely Voters
Tea Party Supporters	21	46
No	71	47
Unsure	8	7
Total	100	100

**Tea Party supporters (TEAPARTY=1)**

**Would you say you strongly support the Tea Party Movement or just support it?**

	Registered Voters	Likely Voters
Strongly support Tea Party	6	16
Support Tea Party	15	30
Does not support Tea Party	71	47
Unsure	8	7
Total	100	100

POTREP=1

IF (REPSEL=1)

OR (PRIMRULE=1, 2, 3, 4, 7 AND PRIMPRF=1)

OR ((PRIMRULE=5, 6) AND (PARTYR=03 OR PRTDF=02, 03) AND (PRIMPRF=1))

POTREP: POTENTIAL REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ELECTORATE=1

**Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%**

**In the upcoming primary election for president next week, have you already voted early or by absentee, or not?**

	Likely Voters
Yes, already voted early or by absentee	3
No	97
Total	100

**Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%**

**Would you rate your chances of voting in the Republican presidential primary in Virginia as excellent, good, fair, or poor? If you have already voted early or by absentee, please say so.**

	Likely Voters
Excellent (including absentee voters)	62
Good	27
Fair	6
Poor	5
Total	100

**Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%**

**If next week's Republican presidential primary in Virginia were held today, whom would you support if the candidates are (Tossup including those who are undecided yet leaning toward a candidate or voted absentee):**

	Likely Voters
Mitt Romney	69
Ron Paul	26
Undecided	6
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Would you say you strongly support <candidate> somewhat support <candidate>, or do you think you might vote differently on primary day?

	Likely Voters
Strongly support	42
Somewhat support	40
Might vote differently	17
Unsure	2
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

And, how about if the candidates on the ballot were:

	Likely Voters
Mitt Romney	36
Rick Santorum	28
Newt Gingrich	15
Ron Paul	13
Undecided	8
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Using the numbers 1 to 5, with 1 meaning very interested and 5 meaning not interested at all, how interested are you in the Virginia Republican presidential primary?

	Likely Voters
1 - Very interested	49
2	22
3	17
4	6
5 - Not interested at all	6
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Have you ever voted before in the Virginia Republican presidential primary?

	Likely Voters
Yes	79
No	21
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Which one of the following qualities is most important to you in deciding whom to support for the Republican presidential nomination? A candidate who:

	Likely Voters
Shares your values	21
Is closest to you on the issues	26
Can beat President Obama in 2012	33
Has the experience to govern	18
Unsure	2
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Please tell me if you would find each of the following candidates acceptable, acceptable but with reservations, or not acceptable as the Republican nominee for president: Mitt Romney?

	Likely Voters
Acceptable	58
Acceptable but with reservations	29
Not acceptable	11
Unsure	2
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Please tell me if you would find each of the following candidates acceptable, acceptable but with reservations, or not acceptable as the Republican nominee for president: Newt Gingrich?

	Likely Voters
Acceptable	35
Acceptable but with reservations	31
Not acceptable	32
Unsure	2
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Please tell me if you would find each of the following candidates acceptable, acceptable but with reservations, or not acceptable as the Republican nominee for president: Ron Paul?

	Likely Voters
Acceptable	29
Acceptable but with reservations	29
Not acceptable	40
Unsure	3
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Please tell me if you would find each of the following candidates acceptable, acceptable but with reservations, or not acceptable as the Republican nominee for president: Rick Santorum?

	Likely Voters
Acceptable	49
Acceptable but with reservations	27
Not acceptable	20
Unsure	4
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Are you currently satisfied with the Republican candidates who are running for president or would you like to see someone else run?

	Likely Voters
Satisfied with current candidates	47
Like to see someone else run	50
Undecided	3
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Which one of the following candidates do you consider to be the true conservative:

	Likely Voters
Rick Santorum	36
Newt Gingrich	19
Ron Paul	17
Mitt Romney	14
None	4
Undecided	9
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Which one of the following candidates do you think has the best chance to beat President Obama:

	Likely Voters
Mitt Romney	65
Rick Santorum	14
Newt Gingrich	9
Ron Paul	4
None	3
Undecided	5
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Which is more important to you:

	Likely Voters
The Republican nominee for president is a true conservative	34
The Republican nominee for president has the best chance to beat President Obama	60
Unsure	6
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Which one of the following candidates best understands the problems of people like yourself:

	Likely Voters
Rick Santorum	26
Mitt Romney	25
Ron Paul	20
Newt Gingrich	15
None	7
Undecided	7
Total	100



Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Regardless of whom you support, who do you think will be the Republican nominee to run against President Obama:

	Likely Voters
Mitt Romney	78
Rick Santorum	9
Newt Gingrich	5
Ron Paul	3
None of the above	1
Undecided	5
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%

Did you vote in the 2008 presidential election, were you not eligible to vote at the time, or did you not get a chance to vote in the 2008 presidential election?

	Registered Voters
Yes, voted in 2008 presidential election	87
Not eligible in 2008	6
Did not get a chance to vote in 2008	7
Unsure	0
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%

How about in November of 2010...Did you vote in the 2010 congressional elections, were you not eligible to vote at the time, or did you not get a chance to vote in the 2010 congressional elections?

	Registered Voters
Yes, voted in 2010 congressional elections	68
Not eligible in 2010	5
Did not get a chance to vote in 2010	25
Unsure	3
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%; Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

On another topic, politically speaking, do you consider yourself to be very liberal, liberal, moderate, conservative, or very conservative?

	Registered Voters	Likely Voters
Very liberal	5	1
Liberal	17	3
Moderate	40	28
Conservative	28	47
Very conservative	10	21
Total	100	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Are you Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, or Muslim?

	Likely Voters
Protestant	66
Catholic	22
Jewish	1
Other	4
No Religion	6
Total	100

Likely voters & religion is Protestant, Other, None, or Refused

Would you describe yourself as a fundamentalist or an evangelical Christian, or would you not describe yourself that way?

	Likely Voters
Yes	34
No	66
Total	100

Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Do you consider a Mormon to be a Christian, or not?

	Likely Voters
Yes	56
No-Unsure	44
Total	100

Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%; Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

What is the highest level of school you completed or the highest degree you received (recoded)?

	Registered Voters	Likely Voters
Not college graduate	53	47
College graduate	47	53
Total	100	100

Registered voters (NRVVOTE=1,2): n=2518, MOE +/-2.0%; Likely voters: n=529, MOE +/- 4.3%

Are you male or female?

	Registered Voters	Likely Voters
Male	47	52
Female	53	48
Total	100	100