



## PollerCoaster 12: Virginia

1,653 Interviews in VA, August 17-21, 2021

### D1. Are you male or female?

47% Male  
53% Female

### D2. In what year were you born? [recoded to the following age buckets]

15% 18-34  
23% 35-49  
34% 50-64  
27% 65+

### D3. What is your race/ethnicity?

77% White / Caucasian  
14% Black or African American  
4% Hispanic or Latino/a  
1% Asian or Pacific Islander  
0% American Indian or Alaska Native  
4% Other

### D4. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

13% High school diploma or less  
27% Some college, but no degree  
13% Associate's degree, or two-year college degree  
25% Bachelor's degree, or four-year college degree  
21% Graduate degree

### D5. Political Region:

27% Central Virginia/Richmond  
35% Northern Virginia  
9% Shenandoah  
7% Southwest/Blue Ridge  
22% Tidewater/Hampton Roads/Eastern Shore

*Polling was conducted online from August 17-21, 2021. Using its Bias Correct Engine to attain a representative sample, Change Research polled 1,653 likely 2021 voters in Virginia. Post-stratification was performed on age, gender, race/ethnicity, education, region, and 2020 presidential vote.*



**D6. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a:**

- 32% Strong Democrat
- 7% Not so strong Democrat
- 9% Independent - lean Democrat
- 11% Independent
- 10% Independent - lean Republican
- 6% Not so strong Republican
- 24% Strong Republican

**Q1. Do you plan to vote in the November 2021 election for Governor and other offices?**

- 91% Yes, definitely
- 5% Yes, probably
- 3% Maybe (50-50)
- 1% No, probably not
- 1% No, definitely not

**Q2. How much attention have you paid to the race for Governor of Virginia?**

- 37% A lot
- 41% A decent amount
- 18% A little bit
- 4% None at all

**Q3. How motivated are you to vote in the November 2 election on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means you are not motivated at all and 10 means you are extremely motivated?**

- 1% 0 - Not motivated at all
- 1% 1
- 1% 2
- 1% 3
- 1% 4
- 3% 5
- 2% 6
- 5% 7
- 6% 8
- 5% 9
- 75% 10 - Extremely motivated



**Q4. What is the most important issue to you when choosing which candidates to vote for in the race for Governor?**

- 11% Getting COVID under control
- 9% Voting rights
- 8% Gun rights
- 8% Jobs and the economy
- 7% Ending corruption
- 6% Civil rights
- 6% Illegal immigration
- 5% K-12 education
- 5% Health care
- 5% Cost of living
- 4% Crime and public safety
- 3% Taxes
- 3% Environmental issues
- 3% Gun control
- 3% Roads and infrastructure
- 2% Reproductive rights
- 1% Ending abortion
- 1% Cost of housing
- 1% Cost of college
- 0% Drug and opioid abuse
- 10% Other (specified)

**Q5. How would you say things in Virginia are going? Are they going in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?**

- 49% Right direction
- 51% Wrong track



**Q6. How favorable are your feelings about each of the following public officials and organizations?**

	<u>Favorable</u>		<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Unfavorable</u>		Never heard	Total Fave	Total Unfave	Net Fave
	Very	Somewhat		Somewhat	Very				
Mark Warner	27	17	14	8	30	3	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>5</b>
Joe Biden	29	17	6	4	43	1	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>0</b>
Tim Kaine	28	14	12	7	36	3	<b>42</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>-1</b>
Terry McAuliffe	24	17	12	6	37	5	<b>41</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>-2</b>
The Democratic Party	22	23	8	6	41	1	<b>45</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>-2</b>
Glenn Youngkin	20	17	14	7	33	10	<b>37</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>-3</b>
Ralph Northam	23	19	9	5	41	2	<b>42</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>-4</b>
Kamala Harris	26	18	7	3	45	1	<b>43</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>-5</b>
Amanda Chase	9	11	21	5	23	31	<b>20</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>-8</b>
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	19	14	14	4	44	6	<b>32</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>-16</b>
Donald Trump	24	11	8	4	52	1	<b>36</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>-20</b>
The Republican Party	15	18	12	12	43	1	<b>33</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>-21</b>

**Q7a. If the general election for Governor were held today, who would you vote for?**

- 47% Terry McAuliffe, the Democrat
- 42% Glenn Youngkin, the Republican
- 2% Princess Blanding, the Liberation Party
- 8% Not sure

**Q7b. [UNDECIDEDS ONLY] If you had to choose, who would you vote for?**

- 15% Terry McAuliffe, the Democrat
- 14% Glenn Youngkin, the Republican
- 4% Princess Blanding, the Liberation Party
- 61% Not sure
- 5% Would not vote

**Q7c. Total including leaners:**

- 49% Terry McAuliffe, the Democrat
- 43% Glenn Youngkin, the Republican
- 3% Princess Blanding, the Liberation Party
- 5% Not sure
- 0% Would not vote

**Q8. [IF MCAULIFFE] Which of the following best explains why you are planning to vote for Terry McAuliffe?**

- 38% His record as Governor
- 27% His plans for the future
- 23% I'm mostly voting against Youngkin
- 12% He's a Democrat and I always vote for Democrats



**Q9. [IF YOUNGKIN] Which of the following best explains why you are planning to vote for Glenn Youngkin?**

- 46% His plans for the future
- 37% I'm mostly voting against McAuliffe
- 8% Because Trump endorsed him
- 7% He's a Republican and I always vote for Republicans
- 3% His record

**Q10. How would you rate the job that Ralph Northam is doing as Governor?**

- 27% Strongly approve
- 23% Somewhat approve
- 8% Somewhat disapprove
- 40% Strongly disapprove
- 2% Not sure

**50% Total Approve**  
**48% Total Disapprove**

**Q11. How would you rate the job that Terry McAuliffe did as Governor from 2014 to 2018?**

- 22% Strongly approve
- 24% Somewhat approve
- 10% Somewhat disapprove
- 35% Strongly disapprove
- 10% Not sure

**46% Total Approve**  
**44% Total Disapprove**

**Q12. How would you rate the job that Joe Biden is doing as President?**

- 26% Strongly approve
- 23% Somewhat approve
- 4% Somewhat disapprove
- 46% Strongly disapprove
- 1% Not sure

**49% Total Approve**  
**50% Total Disapprove**



**Q13. Who do you think would do a better job with the following issues?**

	<b>McAuliffe</b>		<b>Youngkin</b>		<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>Total McAuliffe</b>	<b>Total Youngkin</b>	<b>Net McAuliffe</b>
	<b>Much Better</b>	<b>Somewhat Better</b>	<b>Somewhat Better</b>	<b>Much Better</b>				
Climate change	38	11	9	21	21	<b>49</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>19</b>
Solving income inequality	33	15	11	24	17	<b>47</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>12</b>
Education	37	10	10	31	12	<b>47</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>7</b>
Abortion policy	36	9	7	31	17	<b>45</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>7</b>
Addressing rising housing costs	29	14	11	26	20	<b>43</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>6</b>
Helping businesses recover from the pandemic	32	13	8	36	11	<b>45</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>0</b>
Gun policy	34	9	6	40	11	<b>44</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>-2</b>
Addressing the needs of rural Virginians	26	13	9	36	16	<b>39</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>-6</b>

**Q14. How did you vote in the 2020 election for President, or for some reason were you unable to vote?**

- 52% Joe Biden, the Democrat
- 43% Donald Trump, the Republican
- 3% Jo Jorgensen, the Libertarian
- 2% Did not vote
- 0% Not registered/Too young/Ineligible

**Q15. Which of the following do you agree with more:**

- 52% We need to make it easier for people to vote
- 48% We need more restrictions to make it harder for people to commit voter fraud

**Q16. Do you think the Democratic Party is heading in the right direction or the wrong direction?**

- 19% Strongly in the right direction
- 28% Somewhat in the right direction
- 6% Somewhat in the wrong direction
- 45% Strongly in the wrong direction
- 2% Not sure

**47% Total Right Direction**

**51% Total Wrong Direction**



**Q17. Do you think the Republican Party is heading in the right direction or the wrong direction?**

- 10% Strongly in the right direction
- 27% Somewhat in the right direction
- 13% Somewhat in the wrong direction
- 47% Strongly in the wrong direction
- 2% Not sure

**37% Total Right Direction**  
**61% Total Wrong Direction**

**Q18. How big of a threat do you think each of the following pose to Virginia?**

	<b>Very Big Threat</b>	<b>Medium-Sized Threat</b>	<b>Small Threat</b>	<b>Not A Threat</b>	<b>Total Very Big/Medium Threat</b>
Violent crime	42	37	18	3	<b>79</b>
Climate change	42	19	18	21	<b>61</b>
White supremacy	42	14	17	28	<b>55</b>
Voter suppression	36	18	17	29	<b>54</b>
The teaching of critical race theory in schools	44	9	7	40	<b>53</b>
Illegal immigration	37	16	24	23	<b>53</b>
Socialism	40	11	10	39	<b>51</b>
Voter fraud	37	13	14	37	<b>50</b>

**Q19a. [50% saw version A] Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?**

**“Republicans want to ban our schools from teaching our children about difficult issues like slavery or racism. But denying the uglier parts of our history also denies the heroism of Americans of all races who fought to right those wrongs. America is a great country not because we’re perfect, but because each generation has fought to perfect it.”**

- 43% Strongly agree
- 16% Somewhat agree
- 11% Somewhat disagree
- 26% Strongly disagree
- 4% Not sure

**58% Total Agree**  
**37% Total Disagree**



**Q19b. [50% saw version A] [50% saw version B] Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?**

**“Republican politicians want the federal government to decide what’s being taught in local schools, but teachers should have the freedom to teach all of American history without Congress dictating lesson plans.”**

- 41% Strongly agree
- 23% Somewhat agree
- 12% Somewhat disagree
- 16% Strongly disagree
- 9% Not sure

**63% Total Agree**  
**28% Total Disagree**

**Q20. Which of the following statements comes closest to your position on abortion?**

- 30% Abortion should be legal in all cases
- 29% Abortion should be legal in most cases but with some restrictions
- 30% Abortion should not be legal except in limited cases, such as rape, incest and when the woman’s life is endangered
- 9% Abortion should be illegal in all cases
- 2% Not sure

**Q21. Would you support or oppose requiring masks to be worn in stores, workplaces, and other indoor public spaces in Virginia?**

- 46% Strongly support
- 12% Somewhat support
- 10% Somewhat oppose
- 31% Strongly oppose
- 2% Not sure

**58% Total Support**  
**41% Total Oppose**

**Q22. Which of the following do you agree with more, even if you don’t fully agree with either?**

- 59% We have to do everything we can to keep our children safe when they return to school in person, and that means following CDC guidelines, by wearing masks and getting vaccinated. It’s the only way we’re going to end this pandemic and keep our economy strong.
- 41% The new school mask mandate is an attempt to take away parents’ ability to decide what’s best for their kids. It’s the first step towards returning to a full shutdown of our economy.





*Next are some reasons people have given to support a candidate running for Governor.*

**Q23. “Thanks to the leadership of Terry McAuliffe, Ralph Northam, and the Democratic-controlled state legislature, Virginia’s economy has twice been ranked #1 in the country. We need another McAuliffe term to keep Virginia thriving.” Is this a:**

- 36% Very convincing reason to support this candidate
- 13% Somewhat convincing reason to support this candidate
- 13% Doesn’t make a difference
- 7% Somewhat unconvincing reason to support this candidate
- 31% Very unconvincing reason to support this candidate

**50% Total Convincing**

**Q24. “Joe Biden and Democrats passed the American Rescue Plan, which kept thousands of businesses and families afloat, cut child poverty in half, and delivered the COVID vaccine to millions of Americans remarkably quickly. Virginia needs to elect Terry McAuliffe to continue rebuilding a stronger, more equitable post-COVID economy.” Is this a:**

- 33% Very convincing reason to support this candidate
- 14% Somewhat convincing reason to support this candidate
- 11% Doesn’t make a difference
- 7% Somewhat unconvincing reason to support this candidate
- 35% Very unconvincing reason to support this candidate

**47% Total Convincing**

**Q25. “Terry McAuliffe will rebuild Virginia’s network of small businesses, especially Black and Brown-owned businesses, that have been hit the hardest. His plan will raise the minimum wage to \$15/hour by 2024, support caregivers, make childcare more affordable and ensure that every worker has access to paid sick, family and medical leave.” Is this a:**

- 36% Very convincing reason to support this candidate
- 14% Somewhat convincing reason to support this candidate
- 8% Doesn’t make a difference
- 8% Somewhat unconvincing reason to support this candidate
- 34% Very unconvincing reason to support this candidate

**50% Total Convincing**



**Q26. “Glenn Youngkin believes that the status quo is failing Virginia families and workers. His top priority is making Virginia the best place in America to live and work and raise a family, and as Governor he will be laser-focused on delivering real results for all Virginians.” Is this a:**

- 29% Very convincing reason to support this candidate
- 20% Somewhat convincing reason to support this candidate
- 17% Doesn't make a difference
- 9% Somewhat unconvincing reason to support this candidate
- 25% Very unconvincing reason to support this candidate

**49% Total Convincing**

**Q27. “Glenn Youngkin believes that our schools should teach children how to think, not what to think. Democrats like Terry McAuliffe want to teach children to be ashamed of America. Glenn Youngkin will not allow Critical Race Theory in our schools.” Is this a:**

- 39% Very convincing reason to support this candidate
- 9% Somewhat convincing reason to support this candidate
- 5% Doesn't make a difference
- 5% Somewhat unconvincing reason to support this candidate
- 41% Very unconvincing reason to support this candidate

**48% Total Convincing**

*Next are some reasons people have given to oppose a candidate running for Governor.*

**Q28. “In a leaked video, Glenn Youngkin admitted that he can't talk about his real plans for abortion, because they'd make him lose the election. Youngkin's plans to defund Planned Parenthood and ban abortion are out of step with Virginians, and we can't let his radical views be enacted in our commonwealth.” Is this a:**

- 44% Very convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 8% Somewhat convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 14% Doesn't make a difference
- 7% Somewhat unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 26% Very unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate

**53% Total Convincing**



**Q29. “Throughout the primary, Glenn Youngkin would not admit that the American people elected Joe Biden, and appeared at a rally held by someone who was at the Capitol on January 6. His support for Donald Trump’s Big Lie should be disqualifying.” Is this a:**

- 46% Very convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 5% Somewhat convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 12% Doesn’t make a difference
- 5% Somewhat unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 32% Very unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate

**51% Total Convincing**

**Q30. “As Governor, Terry McAuliffe failed to fight for our students and teachers, and a new report found that teacher pay is lower in Virginia than anywhere else in the country.” Is this a:**

- 31% Very convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 26% Somewhat convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 21% Doesn’t make a difference
- 12% Somewhat unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 11% Very unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate

**57% Total Convincing**

**Q31. “Terry McAuliffe recently said he was proud to be endorsed by a far left group that supports defunding police and abolishing prisons. These ideas are too radical for Virginia -- but they’re apparently not too radical for Terry McAuliffe.” Is this a:**

- 41% Very convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 13% Somewhat convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 16% Doesn’t make a difference
- 12% Somewhat unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 18% Very unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate

**54% Total Convincing**

**Q32. “The American Rescue Plan sent \$1400 checks to most Americans, funded COVID vaccines, and gave schools the resources they needed to reopen safely. And yet, Glenn Youngkin called the whole bill “unnecessary.” Youngkin seems to think the only “necessary” policies are the ones that make him and his wealthy friends even richer.” Is this a:**

- 39% Very convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 12% Somewhat convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 15% Doesn’t make a difference
- 9% Somewhat unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 26% Very unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate

**50% Total Convincing**



**Q33. “Glenn Youngkin wants to Trumpify Virginia. He spoke at a January 6 insurrectionist’s rally, and has supported Trump’s Big Lie about the election being stolen. Even Trump himself knows it -- he called Youngkin a “highly respected person” who would “truly make Virginia great again.”” Is this a:**

- 48% Very convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 6% Somewhat convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 12% Doesn’t make a difference
- 6% Somewhat unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 29% Very unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate

**54% Total Convincing**

**Q34. “Under Glenn Youngkin’s leadership, Carlyle Group bought private businesses, then outsourced the jobs from America to foreign countries, or simply laid off employees so that wealthy investors like him would profit. If he’s Governor, he’ll do the same thing: take care of himself and his wealthy friends at the expense of you and your family.” Is this a:**

- 43% Very convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 13% Somewhat convincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 16% Doesn’t make a difference
- 9% Somewhat unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate
- 19% Very unconvincing reason to oppose this candidate

**55% Total Convincing**

**Q35a. Once again, if the November 2 election for Governor were held today, who would you vote for?**

- 49% Terry McAuliffe, the Democrat
- 43% Glenn Youngkin, the Republican
- 3% Princess Blanding, the Liberation Party
- 5% Not sure

**Q35b. [UNDECIDEDS ONLY] If you had to choose, who would you vote for?**

- 8% Glenn Youngkin, the Republican
- 8% Terry McAuliffe, the Democrat
- 3% Princess Blanding, the Liberation Party
- 52% Not sure
- 28% Would not vote

**Q35c. Total including leaners:**

- 49% Terry McAuliffe, the Democrat
- 44% Glenn Youngkin, the Republican
- 3% Princess Blanding, the Liberation Party
- 3% Not sure
- 1% Would not vote



**Q36. Would you describe yourself as:**

- 16% Very liberal
- 20% Somewhat liberal
- 28% Moderate
- 19% Somewhat conservative
- 18% Very conservative

**Q37. In the 2020 race for US House of Representatives in your district, did you vote for:**

- 51% The Democratic candidate
- 43% The Republican candidate
- 4% Another candidate
- 3% Did not vote
- 0% Not registered/Too young/Ineligible

**Q38. In the 2017 race for Governor of Virginia, did you vote for:**

- 47% Ralph Northam, the Democrat
- 33% Ed Gillespie, the Republican
- 3% Cliff Hyra, the Libertarian
- 5% Don't remember
- 6% Did not vote
- 5% Not registered/Too young/Ineligible

**Q39. In the November 2016 election, did you vote for:**

- 46% Hillary Clinton, the Democrat
- 40% Donald Trump, the Republican
- 6% Gary Johnson, the Libertarian
- 1% Jill Stein, the Green Party
- 4% Did not vote
- 3% Not registered/Too young/Ineligible

**Q40. For statistical purposes, what is your household income?**

- 5% Less than \$20,000
- 9% \$20,000 to \$34,999
- 11% \$35,000 to \$49,999
- 17% \$50,000 to \$74,999
- 15% \$75,000 to \$99,999
- 27% \$100,000 to \$249,999
- 5% \$250,000 or more
- 10% Prefer not to say



**Q41. Which of the following are your main sources of news about politics and current events? Select up to three.**

- 48% Online news websites
- 33% Local television
- 31% Broadcast television news (CBS, NBC or ABC)
- 29% National newspapers (such as NYT, WSJ, or Washington Post)
- 25% CNN
- 24% MSNBC
- 22% Fox News
- 21% Radio
- 20% Local newspapers
- 18% Facebook
- 16% Newsmax
- 12% Podcasts
- 10% One America News Network (OAN)
- 9% YouTube
- 5% Twitter
- 4% Magazines

**Q42. Have you received or do you plan to receive the coronavirus vaccine?**

- 77% I have already been fully vaccinated
- 2% I am partially vaccinated or have an appointment to receive the vaccine
- 1% I definitely plan to receive the vaccine
- 2% I probably will receive the vaccine
- 5% I probably will not receive the vaccine
- 13% I definitely will not receive the vaccine

**Q43. Which of the following best matches your feelings on businesses requiring employees to get vaccinated if they're working in an office or other indoor workplace?**

- 36% All businesses should require their employees to be vaccinated if they're working together indoors
- 34% Businesses should not be allowed to require their employees to be vaccinated, even if they're working together indoors
- 28% Businesses should be allowed to require vaccinations if employees are working together indoors, but it's up to each business
- 2% Not sure



**Q44. Below are a few different approaches that some elected officials have taken regarding vaccinations. Please indicate whether you approve or disapprove of each:**

	<b>Approve</b>		<b>Disapprove</b>		<b>Total Approve</b>	<b>Total Disapprove</b>	<b>Net Approve</b>
	<b>Strongly</b>	<b>Somewhat</b>	<b>Somewhat</b>	<b>Strongly</b>			
A Governor who required all state workers and teachers to either provide proof of vaccination or be regularly tested for COVID-19	50	13	9	27	<b>63</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>27</b>
A Mayor who required proof of vaccination for indoor dining, indoor performances, and at gyms	41	12	8	38	<b>54</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>7</b>
A Governor who banned businesses, including cruise lines, from requiring proof of vaccination from their customers	28	10	10	53	<b>38</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>-25</b>

**Q45. How much blame do you think each of the following deserves for the rise in the Delta variant?**

	<b>All of the Blame</b>	<b>Most of the Blame</b>	<b>A Small Amount of the Blame</b>	<b>None of the Blame</b>
People who choose not to be vaccinated	26	30	14	30
Confusing directives from federal and state government	22	29	36	13
Political leaders who have not taken a hard stance on vaccination requirements	19	30	16	35
Reopening the economy too quickly	7	19	30	44

**Q46. If a school experienced a COVID-19 outbreak this fall, which of the following do you think would be the best course of action?**

- 3% Return to at-home learning for one week
- 18% Return to at-home learning for two weeks
- 34% Return to at-home learning until there are many fewer COVID cases in the community
- 28% Keep the school open, but with masks, social distancing, and other safety measures
- 17% Keep the school open without any additional safety measures



**Q47. If the FDA approves vaccinations for children under 12, would you support or oppose requiring students to be vaccinated in order to attend school in person?**

45% Strongly support  
12% Somewhat support  
8% Somewhat oppose  
30% Strongly oppose  
5% Not sure

**57% Total Support**

**38% Total Oppose**

**Q48. Do you support or oppose requiring unvaccinated students to wear masks in schools?**

54% Strongly support  
9% Somewhat support  
8% Somewhat oppose  
27% Strongly oppose  
3% Not sure

**63% Total Support**

**35% Total Oppose**