



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Obama holds slight lead in Virginia**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Barack Obama begins the general election in Virginia with a slight lead, according to the newest survey from Public Policy Polling.

Obama has 47% to McCain's 45%. 8% are undecided. The survey also tested the possible impact that Obama choosing Hillary Clinton, Tim Kaine, Jim Webb, or Mark Warner as his running mate would have on the ticket in Virginia. Although it does not appear that picking Kaine, Webb, or Clinton would have much of an impact on Obama's prospects one way or the other, 18% of respondents said choosing Warner would make them more likely to vote for Obama with just 9% saying it would make them less likely to vote for him.

On a related note, the poll found Warner leading Jim Gilmore 59-28 in his Senate race.

“One poll after another is showing that Virginia will be a close state this fall,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Although Mark Warner has sworn off consideration as Barack Obama's running mate, we all know that in politics no doesn't always mean no forever. It certainly looks like he could help put Obama over the top in his home state.”

Although it doesn't appear Kaine or Webb would necessarily do a lot for Obama as VP choices, they do enjoy high approval ratings from their constituents. Kaine's is 46/30, while Webb's is 44/33.

The survey also took a very early look at the 2009 race for Governor in Virginia, finding that Attorney General Bob McDonnell leads possible Democratic opponents Creigh Deeds and Brian Moran 32-27 and 33-27 respectively.

PPP surveyed 893 likely voters on June 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The survey's margin of error is +/- 3.3%. 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.

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## 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*.....45% *Undecided*..... 8%

*Obama*.....47%

**Q2** What impact would Barack Obama choosing Hillary Clinton as his running mate have on your vote for President? Would it not matter because you're voting for Obama no matter what, not matter because you're voting for John McCain no matter what, make you more likely to vote for Obama, or make you less likely to vote for Obama? If it wouldn't matter because you're voting for Obama no matter what, press 1. If it wouldn't matter because you're voting for McCain no matter what, press 2. If choosing Clinton would make you more likely to vote for Obama, press 3. If it would make you less likely to vote for Obama, press 4. If you're not sure, press 5.

*Voting for Obama regardless*.....34% *More likely to vote for Obama*.....14%

*Voting for McCain regardless*.....35% *Less likely to vote for Obama*.....13%

*Not sure* ..... 3%

**Q3** 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* ..... 28%

*Warner*.....59%

*Undecided*..... 13%

**Q4** If the candidates for Governor next year were Democrat Creigh Deeds and Republican Bob McDonnell, who would you vote for? If Creigh Deeds, press 1. If Bob McDonnell, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Deeds*.....27% *Undecided*..... 40%

*McDonnell*..... 32%

**Q5** If the candidates for Governor next year were Republican Bob McDonnell and Democrat Brian Moran, who would you vote for? If Bob McDonnell, press 1. If Brian Moran, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*McDonnell*..... 33% *Undecided*..... 39%

*Moran*..... 27%

**Q6** Do you approve or disapprove of Democratic Governor Tim Kaine's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve* .....46% *Not sure* .....24%

*Disapprove*.....30%





**Q7** What impact would Barack Obama choosing Tim Kaine as his running mate have on your vote for President? Would it not matter because you're voting for Obama no matter what, not matter because you're voting for John McCain no matter what, make you more likely to vote for Obama, or make you less likely to vote for Obama? If it wouldn't matter because you're voting for Obama no matter what, press 1. If it wouldn't matter because you're voting for McCain no matter what, press 2. If choosing Kaine would make you more likely to vote for Obama, press 3. If it would make you less likely to vote for Obama, press 4. If you're not sure, press 5.

*Voting for Obama regardless* ..... 37%  
*Voting for McCain regardless*..... 34%  
*More likely to vote for Obama*..... 11%  
*Less likely to vote for Obama*..... 12%  
*Not sure*..... 6%

**Q8** Do you approve or disapprove of Democratic Senator Jim Webb's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

*Approve* .....44% *Not sure* .....23%  
*Disapprove*.....33%

**Q9** What impact would Barack Obama choosing Jim Webb as his running mate have on your vote for President? Would it not matter because you're voting for Obama no matter what, not matter because you're voting for John McCain no matter what, make you more likely to vote for Obama, or make you less likely to vote for Obama? If it wouldn't matter because you're voting for Obama no matter what, press 1. If it wouldn't matter because you're voting for McCain no matter what, press 2. If choosing Webb would make you more likely to vote for Obama, press 3. If it would make you less likely to vote for Obama, press 4. If you're not sure, press 5.

*Voting for Obama regardless*.....36% *More likely to vote for Obama*.....12%  
*Voting for McCain regardless*.....34% *Less likely to vote for Obama*.....12%  
*Not sure* ..... 5%

**Q10** What impact would Barack Obama choosing Mark Warner as his running mate have on your vote for President? Would it not matter because you're voting for Obama no matter what, not matter because you're voting for John McCain no matter what, make you more likely to vote for Obama, or make you less likely to vote for Obama? If it wouldn't matter because you're voting for Obama no matter what, press 1. If it wouldn't matter because you're voting for McCain no matter what, press 2. If choosing Warner would make you more likely to vote for Obama, press 3. If it would make you less likely to vote for Obama, press 4. If you're not sure, press 5.

*Voting for Obama regardless*.....35% *More likely to vote for Obama*.....18%  
*Voting for McCain regardless*.....34% *Less likely to vote for Obama*..... 9%  
*Not sure* ..... 4%

**Q11** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman* .....53%  
*Man*.....47%





**Q12** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

*Democrat* ..... 45%  
*Republican* ..... 30%  
*Other* ..... 25%

**Q13** If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

*White* ..... 72%  
*African-American* ..... 20%  
*Hispanic/Other* ..... 8%

**Q14** 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* ..... 15%  
*30 to 45* ..... 30%  
*46 to 65* ..... 43%  
*Older than 65* ..... 12%





**Virginia**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>McCain/Obama</b>			
<b>McCain</b>	45%	41%	50%
<b>Obama</b>	47%	51%	42%
<b>Undecided</b>	8%	8%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Clinton on Ticket</b>			
<b>Voting for Obama regardless</b>	34%	36%	33%
<b>Voting for McCain regardless</b>	35%	32%	39%
<b>More likely to vote for Obama</b>	14%	17%	11%
<b>Less likely to vote for Obama</b>	13%	11%	14%
<b>Not sure</b>	3%	3%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Senate</b>			
<b>Gilmore</b>	28%	24%	32%
<b>Warner</b>	59%	63%	54%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	13%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Deeds/McDonnell</b>			
<b>Deeds</b>	27%	28%	27%
<b>McDonnell</b>	32%	29%	36%
<b>Undecided</b>	40%	43%	37%





**Virginia**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>McDonnell/Moran</b>			
<b>McDonnell</b>	33%	29%	38%
<b>Moran</b>	27%	29%	26%
<b>Undecided</b>	39%	42%	36%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Kaine Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	46%	48%	43%
<b>Disapprove</b>	30%	25%	35%
<b>Not sure</b>	24%	27%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Kaine on Ticket</b>			
<b>Voting for Obama regardless</b>	37%	38%	36%
<b>Voting for McCain regardless</b>	34%	32%	37%
<b>More likely to vote for Obama</b>	11%	12%	10%
<b>Less likely to vote for Obama</b>	12%	11%	13%
<b>Not sure</b>	6%	6%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Webb Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	44%	47%	41%
<b>Disapprove</b>	33%	26%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	27%	18%





**Virginia**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Webb on Ticket</b>			
Voting for Obama regardless	36%	39%	34%
Voting for McCain regardless	34%	32%	36%
More likely to vote for Obama	12%	11%	12%
Less likely to vote for Obama	12%	11%	14%
Not sure	5%	7%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Warner on Ticket</b>			
Voting for Obama regardless	35%	37%	32%
Voting for McCain regardless	34%	33%	36%
More likely to vote for Obama	18%	17%	19%
Less likely to vote for Obama	9%	8%	10%
Not sure	4%	5%	2%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>McCain/Obama</b>				
McCain	45%	17%	88%	45%
Obama	47%	78%	8%	37%
Undecided	8%	5%	4%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Clinton on Ticket</b>				
Voting for Obama regardless	34%	59%	4%	26%
Voting for McCain regardless	35%	13%	77%	25%
More likely to vote for Obama	14%	18%	5%	18%
Less likely to vote for Obama	13%	7%	11%	25%
Not sure	3%	3%	2%	7%





**Virginia**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Senate</b>				
<b>Gilmore</b>	28%	10%	59%	23%
<b>Warner</b>	59%	81%	29%	54%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	8%	11%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Deeds/McDonnell</b>				
<b>Deeds</b>	27%	49%	6%	13%
<b>McDonnell</b>	32%	14%	69%	22%
<b>Undecided</b>	40%	37%	25%	64%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>McDonnell/Moran</b>				
<b>McDonnell</b>	33%	15%	70%	23%
<b>Moran</b>	27%	50%	3%	16%
<b>Undecided</b>	39%	35%	27%	61%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Kaine Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	46%	63%	23%	43%
<b>Disapprove</b>	30%	15%	53%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	24%	22%	24%	28%







**Virginia**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Kaine on Ticket</b>				
Voting for Obama regardless	37%	64%	5%	28%
Voting for McCain regardless	34%	11%	78%	24%
More likely to vote for Obama	11%	11%	5%	18%
Less likely to vote for Obama	12%	10%	9%	18%
Not sure	6%	4%	3%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Webb Approval</b>				
Approve	44%	69%	13%	36%
Disapprove	33%	13%	64%	32%
Not sure	23%	18%	23%	32%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Webb on Ticket</b>				
Voting for Obama regardless	36%	62%	5%	28%
Voting for McCain regardless	34%	11%	76%	26%
More likely to vote for Obama	12%	15%	3%	15%
Less likely to vote for Obama	12%	9%	13%	17%
Not sure	5%	3%	2%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Warner on Ticket</b>				
Voting for Obama regardless	35%	61%	3%	26%
Voting for McCain regardless	34%	11%	78%	24%
More likely to vote for Obama	18%	19%	10%	24%
Less likely to vote for Obama	9%	7%	6%	16%
Not sure	4%	2%	2%	10%





**Virginia**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>McCain/Obama</b>				
<b>McCain</b>	45%	50%	32%	36%
<b>Obama</b>	47%	41%	67%	47%
<b>Undecided</b>	8%	9%	1%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>Clinton on Ticket</b>				
<b>Voting for Obama regardless</b>	34%	27%	60%	34%
<b>Voting for McCain regardless</b>	35%	41%	21%	19%
<b>More likely to vote for Obama</b>	14%	15%	11%	19%
<b>Less likely to vote for Obama</b>	13%	14%	5%	22%
<b>Not sure</b>	3%	3%	3%	5%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>Senate</b>				
<b>Gilmore</b>	28%	30%	23%	26%
<b>Warner</b>	59%	57%	66%	60%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	13%	12%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>Deeds/McDonnell</b>				
<b>Deeds</b>	27%	26%	34%	17%
<b>McDonnell</b>	32%	35%	29%	19%
<b>Undecided</b>	40%	39%	37%	64%





**Virginia**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>McDonnell/Moran</b>				
<b>McDonnell</b>	<b>33%</b>	36%	30%	16%
<b>Moran</b>	<b>27%</b>	25%	34%	32%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>39%</b>	39%	36%	52%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>Kaine Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>46%</b>	48%	40%	46%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>30%</b>	30%	32%	26%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>24%</b>	23%	28%	28%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>Kaine on Ticket</b>				
<b>Voting for Obama regardless</b>	<b>37%</b>	30%	66%	35%
<b>Voting for McCain regardless</b>	<b>34%</b>	40%	20%	20%
<b>More likely to vote for Obama</b>	<b>11%</b>	13%	6%	4%
<b>Less likely to vote for Obama</b>	<b>12%</b>	12%	7%	27%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>6%</b>	6%	2%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>Webb Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>44%</b>	42%	55%	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>33%</b>	35%	26%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>23%</b>	23%	19%	29%





**Virginia**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>Webb on Ticket</b>				
Voting for Obama regardless	36%	29%	65%	36%
Voting for McCain regardless	34%	39%	24%	13%
More likely to vote for Obama	12%	13%	6%	13%
Less likely to vote for Obama	12%	13%	5%	26%
Not sure	5%	6%	-	13%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Hispanic/Other
<b>Warner on Ticket</b>				
Voting for Obama regardless	35%	27%	64%	34%
Voting for McCain regardless	34%	39%	24%	16%
More likely to vote for Obama	18%	20%	6%	20%
Less likely to vote for Obama	9%	9%	5%	20%
Not sure	4%	4%	-	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>McCain/Obama</b>					
McCain	45%	47%	44%	43%	55%
Obama	47%	44%	48%	50%	36%
Undecided	8%	9%	8%	8%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Clinton on Ticket</b>					
Voting for Obama regardless	34%	32%	35%	36%	32%
Voting for McCain regardless	35%	29%	35%	36%	43%
More likely to vote for Obama	14%	18%	13%	13%	15%
Less likely to vote for Obama	13%	19%	14%	11%	7%
Not sure	3%	2%	3%	4%	3%





**Virginia**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Senate</b>					
<b>Gilmore</b>	28%	32%	29%	25%	34%
<b>Warner</b>	59%	50%	56%	64%	61%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	18%	15%	12%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Deeds/McDonnell</b>					
<b>Deeds</b>	27%	24%	26%	30%	24%
<b>McDonnell</b>	32%	34%	33%	30%	36%
<b>Undecided</b>	40%	42%	40%	40%	40%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>McDonnell/Moran</b>					
<b>McDonnell</b>	33%	36%	33%	32%	37%
<b>Moran</b>	27%	25%	24%	30%	29%
<b>Undecided</b>	39%	40%	43%	38%	34%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Kaine Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	46%	42%	43%	48%	50%
<b>Disapprove</b>	30%	33%	31%	28%	30%
<b>Not sure</b>	24%	25%	26%	24%	19%





**Virginia**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Kaine on Ticket</b>					
Voting for Obama regardless	37%	37%	36%	40%	33%
Voting for McCain regardless	34%	31%	34%	33%	43%
More likely to vote for Obama	11%	11%	11%	12%	7%
Less likely to vote for Obama	12%	19%	13%	10%	9%
Not sure	6%	2%	6%	5%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Webb Approval</b>					
Approve	44%	28%	44%	49%	44%
Disapprove	33%	40%	29%	33%	35%
Not sure	23%	32%	27%	18%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Webb on Ticket</b>					
Voting for Obama regardless	36%	32%	36%	40%	30%
Voting for McCain regardless	34%	33%	33%	33%	42%
More likely to vote for Obama	12%	9%	13%	13%	8%
Less likely to vote for Obama	12%	21%	13%	9%	13%
Not sure	5%	4%	5%	6%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Warner on Ticket</b>					
Voting for Obama regardless	35%	33%	35%	37%	30%
Voting for McCain regardless	34%	33%	33%	33%	43%
More likely to vote for Obama	18%	18%	19%	18%	13%
Less likely to vote for Obama	9%	14%	8%	9%	8%
Not sure	4%	2%	4%	4%	6%

