

Results of SurveyUSA Election Poll #14336

Geography: Virginia
Data Collected: 09/05/2008 - 09/07/2008
Release Date: 09/08/2008
Percentaaes

No Bounce Either Way in VA After 2 Political Conventions; State Still In-Play: In an election for President of the United States in Virginia today, 09/08/08, 8 weeks till votes are counted, John McCain and Barack Obama remain effectively tied, in research conducted for WDBJ-TV in Roanoke, WJLA-TV in Washington DC, WTVR-TV in Richmond and WJHL-TV in the Tri-Cities. Today, it's McCain 49%, Obama 47%, within the survey's 3.7 percentage point margin of sampling error and effectively unchanged from an identical SurveyUSA poll 4 weeks ago, conducted before both political conventions, which showed McCain 48%, Obama 47%. Today's data reveals new polarization among young and old, and among Pro-Life and Pro-Choice voters, but the rest of the data is striking for its lack of movement. Among voters younger than Barack Obama, Obama had led by 2 points, now by 9. Among voters older than John McCain, McCain had led by 9, now by 26. Among Pro-Life voters, McCain had led by 37, now leads by 49, a 12-point gain. Among Pro-Choice voters, Obama had led by 26, now leads by 35, a 9-point gain. There is zero indication in this data that the selection of Sarah Palin has altered how women view the race. McCain got 44% of the female vote a month ago, before picking Palin, today gets 43% of the female vote. There is no movement in the Shenandoah and in Central VA. There is offsetting movement: to McCain in military-rich Southeast VA, to Obama in the DC suburbs.

Filtering: SurveyUSA interviewed 900 Virginia adults 09/05/08 through 09/07/08. All interviews were completed after the Labor Day weekend, and after the conclusion of the Republican National Convention. Of the adults, 807 were registered to vote. Of the registered voters, 717 were determined by SurveyUSA to be likely voters in the 11/04/08 general election. Virginia has 13 Electoral College votes. George W. Bush carried Virginia by 8 points in both 2004 and 2000.

1 If the election for President were today, would you vote for ... (choices rotated) Republican John McCain? Or, Democrat Barack Obama?

717 Likely Voters	All	Gender		Age				<50 / 50+		Age			Race				Party Affiliation			Ideology			College Grad		Attend Religious Service			Abortion		Change Your Mi	
Credibility Interval: +/-3.7 pct points		Male	Female	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	18-49	50+	< Obam	> McCa	> In Bet	White	Black	Hispani	Other	Republi	Democr	Indepe	Conser	Modera	Liberal	Yes	No	Regular	Occasi	Almost	Pro-life	Pro-cho	Could	Mind M
McCain (R)	49%	54%	43%	39%	47%	52%	59%	44%	55%	43%	63%	53%	59%	14%	**	37%	85%	10%	55%	81%	37%	11%	48%	50%	54%	40%	47%	73%	30%	39%	51%
Obama (D)	47%	43%	51%	55%	48%	43%	38%	51%	41%	52%	37%	43%	37%	84%	**	58%	11%	89%	34%	15%	58%	88%	48%	45%	42%	55%	50%	24%	65%	42%	47%
Other	2%	2%	3%	6%	1%	2%	2%	3%	2%	3%	0%	2%	2%	0%	**	3%	3%	0%	6%	3%	3%	1%	3%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	10%	1%
Undecided	2%	1%	3%	0%	3%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	0%	3%	2%	2%	**	2%	1%	1%	5%	1%	3%	0%	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%	2%	9%	0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	48%	52%	24%	34%	25%	17%	58%	42%	51%	8%	41%	73%	19%	3%	6%	35%	36%	20%	35%	39%	12%	58%	42%	53%	25%	21%	44%	52%	12%	86%

1 If the election for President were today, would you vote for ... (choices rotated) Republican John McCain? Or, Democrat Barack Obama?

717 Likely Voters	All	Income		Region			
Credibility Interval: +/-3.7 pct points		< \$50K	> \$50K	Shenan	Northea	Southe	Central
McCain (R)	49%	43%	51%	60%	41%	42%	51%
Obama (D)	47%	49%	46%	36%	57%	50%	45%
Other	2%	6%	1%	3%	0%	6%	1%
Undecided	2%	3%	1%	2%	1%	2%	3%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Composition of Likely Voters	100%	29%	71%	24%	24%	24%	27%

** Too few respondents of this type were interviewed for this data to be meaningful.

: WDBJ-TV Roanoke, WJHL-TV Tri-Cities, WJLA-TV Washington DC, WTVR-TV Richmond

Statement of Methodology: About the Poll: This poll was conducted by telephone in the voice of a professional announcer. Respondent households were selected at random, using Random Digit Dialed (RDD) sample provided by Survey Sampling, of Fairfield CT. All respondents heard the questions asked identically. The pollster's report includes the geography that was surveyed; the date(s) interviews were conducted, the number of respondents who answered each question and the theoretical margin of sampling error for each question. Where necessary, respondents were weighted using the most recent US Census estimates for age, gender, ethnic origin and region, to align the sample to the population. In theory, one can say with 95% certainty that the results would not vary by more than the stated margin of sampling error, in one direction or the other, had the entire universe of respondents with home telephones been interviewed with complete accuracy. There are other possible sources of error in all surveys that may be more serious than sampling error. These include: the difficulty of interviewing respondents who do not have a home telephone; the refusal by some with home telephones to be interviewed; the order in which questions are asked; the wording of questions; the way and extent to which data are weighted; and the manner in which specialized populations, such as likely voters, are determined. It is difficult to quantify the errors that may result from these and other factors. Research methodology, questionnaire design and fieldwork for this survey were completed by SurveyUSA of Clifton, NJ. This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.