



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 16, 2011

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Virginia down on Cantor, favors civil unions

Raleigh, N.C. – When PPP last polled Virginia in July, before Congress cut a deal with President Obama to raise the debt ceiling, key House negotiator Eric Cantor was already somewhat unpopular in his home state. 29% saw him favorably and 31% unfavorably. In the five-month aftermath of that deal, as Congress has gotten less popular, so has one of its most vocal and visible leaders, even on his home turf. Now, only 21% see one of their representatives positively, and 38% negatively, a decline of 15 points on the margin. Almost all of that decline has come within Cantor's own party. Democrats remain equally against him as before (5-54), and independents have moved only a hair (from 23-31 to 25-37), but Republicans now side with him by only a 35-19 spread, versus 59-10.

While Virginia opposes legal same-sex marriage by a 34-53 margin, 59% say they favor at least civil unions for gay couples, including 70% of Democrats, 66% of independents, and 39% of Republicans.

Virginia does not like either the left's or the right's populist movements, but when given a direct choice between the two, they narrowly choose Occupy Wall Street over the Tea Party, saying they have a higher opinion of the former than the latter by a 38-37 margin. More see the Tea Party favorably (35%) than O.W.S. (31%), but the difference between their unfavorable marks is even greater—47% for the Tea Party versus 39% for O.W.S.

In July, PPP found that the New York Yankees, at 14%, were the second most popular Major League Baseball team after the Atlanta Braves' 19%, and that the Boston Red Sox tied the Washington Nationals for third at 11%. That seemed to suggest the population shift in the state that has helped it turn bluer. Now PPP finds that only two-thirds of the state considers themselves Southern, and 34% do not. And while the Washington Redskins are their favorite NFL team by far, with 29% of voters' allegiances, the nearby Baltimore Ravens, having a great season, are the least popular of eight listed teams, at only 2%. Most (33%) favor some other team or have no favorite.

PPP surveyed 600 Virginia voters from December 10th to 12th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.0%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.





Virginia Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Eric Cantor?

Favorable..... 21%
Unfavorable 38%
Not sure 41%

Q2 Do you think same-sex marriage should be legal or illegal?

Legal..... 34% *Not sure* 13%
Illegal 53%

Q3 Which of the following best describes your opinion on gay marriage: gay couples should be allowed to legally marry, or gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not legally marry, or there should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship?

<i>Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry</i> 31%	<i>There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship</i> 38%
<i>Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry</i> 28%	<i>Not sure</i> 3%

Q4 If there was an election for Congress today, would you vote Democratic or Republican?

Democratic..... 45% *Not sure* 14%
Republican..... 42%

Q5 Do you support or oppose the goals of the Occupy Wall Street movement?

Support..... 31% *Not sure* 30%
Oppose 39%

Q6 Do you support or oppose the goals of the Tea Party movement?

Support..... 35% *Not sure* 19%
Oppose 47%

Q7 Do you have a higher opinion of the Occupy Wall Street movement or the Tea Party movement?

Occupy Wall Street 38% *Not sure* 25%
Tea Party 37%

Q8 Do you consider yourself to be a Southerner, or not?

Consider yourself a Southerner 66% *Do not* 34%

Q9 Is your favorite NFL team the Atlanta Falcons, Baltimore Ravens, Carolina Panthers, Dallas Cowboys, Green Bay Packers, Philadelphia Eagles, Pittsburgh Steelers, Washington Redskins, or someone else?

Falcons 3%
Ravens..... 2%
Panthers 3%
Cowboys..... 10%
Packers..... 5%
Eagles..... 8%
Steelers..... 7%
Redskins 29%
Someone else/Don't have a favorite team 33%

Q10 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 43%
Barack Obama..... 48%
Someone else/Don't remember 9%





Q11 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

<i>Very liberal</i>	9%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	15%
<i>Moderate</i>	34%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	24%
<i>Very conservative</i>	18%

Q12 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i>	55%
<i>Man</i>	45%

Q13 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

<i>Democrat</i>	36%
<i>Republican</i>	33%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	31%

Q14 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

<i>White</i>	73%
<i>African-American</i>	19%
<i>Other</i>	8%

Q15 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

<i>18 to 29</i>	14%
<i>30 to 45</i>	30%
<i>46 to 65</i>	36%
<i>Older than 65</i>	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Cantor Favorability				
Favorable	21%	39%	8%	12%
Unfavorable	38%	20%	53%	39%
Not sure	41%	41%	40%	49%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Same-sex Legal/Illegal				
Legal	34%	15%	50%	38%
Illegal	53%	78%	31%	50%
Not sure	13%	7%	19%	12%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition				
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	31%	14%	45%	37%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	28%	27%	31%	13%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	38%	58%	19%	49%
Not sure	3%	1%	4%	1%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Generic Cong. Ballot				
Democratic	45%	9%	78%	34%
Republican	42%	81%	8%	41%
Not sure	14%	10%	14%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Support/Oppose OWS Goals				
Support	31%	9%	52%	23%
Oppose	39%	66%	14%	42%
Not sure	30%	25%	34%	34%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Support/Oppose Tea Party Goals				
Support	35%	63%	7%	47%
Oppose	47%	18%	76%	24%
Not sure	19%	19%	16%	30%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Higher Opinion of OWS or Tea Party?				
Occupy Wall Street	38%	10%	65%	26%
Tea Party	37%	72%	6%	34%
Not sure	25%	17%	29%	40%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Consider Yourself a Southerner?				
Consider yourself a Southerner	66%	71%	60%	75%
Do not	34%	29%	40%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Fave NFL Team				
Falcons	3%	4%	3%	-
Ravens	2%	2%	4%	-
Panthers	3%	4%	2%	1%
Cowboys	10%	11%	9%	7%
Packers	5%	4%	5%	6%
Eagles	8%	5%	8%	21%
Steelers	7%	6%	8%	8%
Redskins	29%	31%	27%	28%
Someone else/Don't have a favorite team	33%	32%	34%	27%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cantor Favorability						
Favorable	21%	3%	11%	13%	36%	37%
Unfavorable	38%	64%	63%	44%	17%	17%
Not sure	41%	33%	26%	44%	46%	47%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Same-sex Legal/Illegal						
Legal	34%	75%	57%	41%	16%	4%
Illegal	53%	22%	26%	41%	73%	89%
Not sure	13%	3%	17%	18%	11%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition						
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	31%	68%	56%	35%	14%	2%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	28%	10%	31%	35%	32%	15%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	38%	21%	12%	25%	51%	81%
Not sure	3%	1%	1%	5%	2%	2%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Generic Cong. Ballot						
Democratic	45%	83%	77%	62%	12%	6%
Republican	42%	9%	15%	17%	76%	84%
Not sure	14%	8%	9%	21%	12%	10%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Support/Oppose OWS Goals						
Support	31%	62%	53%	41%	11%	2%
Oppose	39%	17%	19%	21%	61%	73%
Not sure	30%	20%	28%	38%	28%	25%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Support/Oppose Tea Party Goals						
Support	35%	16%	10%	13%	61%	74%
Oppose	47%	76%	77%	62%	18%	12%
Not sure	19%	9%	12%	25%	21%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Higher Opinion of OWS or Tea Party?						
Occupy Wall Street	38%	65%	73%	53%	9%	3%
Tea Party	37%	15%	11%	13%	64%	80%
Not sure	25%	21%	16%	33%	27%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Consider Yourself a Southerner?						
Consider yourself a Southerner	66%	70%	49%	63%	71%	77%
Do not	34%	30%	51%	37%	29%	23%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Fave NFL Team						
Falcons	3%	6%	3%	3%	3%	1%
Ravens	2%	2%	1%	5%	1%	1%
Panthers	3%	2%	5%	3%	4%	-
Cowboys	10%	10%	4%	13%	11%	9%
Packers	5%	2%	4%	6%	3%	9%
Eagles	8%	9%	10%	6%	10%	6%
Steelers	7%	6%	9%	6%	7%	9%
Redskins	29%	24%	33%	21%	34%	36%
Someone else/Don't have a favorite team	33%	40%	30%	37%	27%	31%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cantor Favorability			
Favorable	21%	21%	21%
Unfavorable	38%	33%	44%
Not sure	41%	46%	35%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Same-sex Legal/Illegal			
Legal	34%	34%	35%
Illegal	53%	52%	54%
Not sure	13%	14%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition			
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	31%	32%	30%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	28%	29%	26%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	38%	36%	41%
Not sure	3%	3%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Cong. Ballot			
Democratic	45%	50%	38%
Republican	42%	38%	46%
Not sure	14%	11%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose OWS Goals			
Support	31%	30%	32%
Oppose	39%	33%	46%
Not sure	30%	37%	22%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Support/Oppose Tea Party Goals			
Support	35%	30%	40%
Oppose	47%	48%	45%
Not sure	19%	22%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Higher Opinion of OWS or Tea Party?			
Occupy Wall Street	38%	36%	41%
Tea Party	37%	32%	42%
Not sure	25%	32%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Consider Yourself a Southerner?			
Consider yourself a Southerner	66%	67%	65%
Do not	34%	33%	35%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Fave NFL Team			
Falcons	3%	3%	3%
Ravens	2%	3%	2%
Panthers	3%	3%	3%
Cowboys	10%	11%	9%
Packers	5%	5%	5%
Eagles	8%	8%	8%
Steelers	7%	8%	6%
Redskins	29%	27%	31%
Someone else/Don't have a favorite team	33%	33%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cantor Favorability				
Favorable	21%	5%	35%	25%
Unfavorable	38%	54%	19%	37%
Not sure	41%	41%	45%	37%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Same-sex Legal/Illegal				
Legal	34%	46%	15%	41%
Illegal	53%	38%	78%	44%
Not sure	13%	16%	7%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition				
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	31%	41%	14%	37%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	28%	29%	25%	29%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	38%	24%	59%	33%
Not sure	3%	5%	2%	1%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Cong. Ballot				
Democratic	45%	91%	4%	33%
Republican	42%	4%	91%	34%
Not sure	14%	5%	5%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose OWS Goals				
Support	31%	53%	7%	30%
Oppose	39%	17%	65%	37%
Not sure	30%	30%	28%	32%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Support/Oppose Tea Party Goals				
Support	35%	9%	65%	34%
Oppose	47%	78%	15%	42%
Not sure	19%	13%	20%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Higher Opinion of OWS or Tea Party?				
Occupy Wall Street	38%	65%	5%	41%
Tea Party	37%	7%	71%	36%
Not sure	25%	28%	23%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Consider Yourself a Southerner?				
Consider yourself a Southerner	66%	59%	74%	66%
Do not	34%	41%	26%	34%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Fave NFL Team				
Falcons	3%	3%	2%	4%
Ravens	2%	2%	1%	4%
Panthers	3%	4%	1%	4%
Cow boys	10%	11%	12%	7%
Packers	5%	4%	5%	7%
Eagles	8%	10%	7%	7%
Steelers	7%	9%	5%	8%
Redskins	29%	29%	34%	23%
Someone else/Don't have a favorite team	33%	29%	34%	36%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Cantor Favorability				
Favorable	21%	24%	14%	13%
Unfavorable	38%	37%	39%	41%
Not sure	41%	39%	47%	46%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Same-sex Legal/Illegal				
Legal	34%	34%	28%	53%
Illegal	53%	54%	54%	33%
Not sure	13%	12%	18%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition				
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	31%	31%	25%	50%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	28%	26%	36%	25%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	38%	41%	32%	23%
Not sure	3%	2%	8%	1%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Generic Cong. Ballot				
Democratic	45%	35%	82%	46%
Republican	42%	53%	9%	13%
Not sure	14%	12%	9%	41%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose OWS Goals				
Support	31%	26%	43%	46%
Oppose	39%	47%	18%	8%
Not sure	30%	26%	39%	45%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Support/Oppose Tea Party Goals				
Support	35%	41%	12%	25%
Oppose	47%	41%	71%	44%
Not sure	19%	18%	17%	31%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Higher Opinion of OWS or Tea Party?				
Occupy Wall Street	38%	32%	57%	51%
Tea Party	37%	47%	11%	6%
Not sure	25%	21%	32%	42%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Consider Yourself a Southerner?				
Consider yourself a Southerner	66%	71%	52%	49%
Do not	34%	29%	48%	51%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Fave NFL Team				
Falcons	3%	2%	4%	10%
Ravens	2%	3%	2%	2%
Panthers	3%	3%	4%	4%
Cowboys	10%	10%	11%	12%
Packers	5%	6%	2%	5%
Eagles	8%	6%	19%	2%
Steelers	7%	7%	10%	2%
Redskins	29%	31%	17%	32%
Someone else/Don't have a favorite team	33%	34%	30%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cantor Favorability					
Favorable	21%	13%	16%	24%	30%
Unfavorable	38%	38%	48%	33%	30%
Not sure	41%	49%	36%	43%	40%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Same-sex Legal/Illegal					
Legal	34%	42%	42%	31%	23%
Illegal	53%	39%	47%	58%	62%
Not sure	13%	18%	12%	11%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition					
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	31%	49%	36%	27%	17%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	28%	5%	31%	31%	34%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	38%	46%	29%	39%	45%
Not sure	3%	-	4%	3%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Cong. Ballot					
Democratic	45%	47%	47%	44%	40%
Republican	42%	38%	38%	43%	48%
Not sure	14%	15%	15%	12%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose OWS Goals					
Support	31%	38%	35%	29%	25%
Oppose	39%	29%	36%	37%	53%
Not sure	30%	32%	30%	34%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Support/Oppose Tea Party Goals					
Support	35%	38%	30%	35%	40%
Oppose	47%	32%	57%	46%	41%
Not sure	19%	29%	13%	19%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Higher Opinion of OWS or Tea Party?					
Occupy Wall Street	38%	45%	45%	35%	29%
Tea Party	37%	24%	36%	37%	45%
Not sure	25%	30%	19%	27%	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Consider Yourself a Southerner?					
Consider yourself a Southerner	66%	71%	60%	67%	70%
Do not	34%	29%	40%	33%	30%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Fave NFL Team					
Falcons	3%	6%	5%	1%	1%
Ravens	2%	-	2%	3%	3%
Panthers	3%	6%	1%	4%	2%
Cowboys	10%	9%	11%	9%	11%
Packers	5%	12%	2%	3%	8%
Eagles	8%	9%	9%	7%	9%
Steelers	7%	6%	7%	7%	7%
Redskins	29%	26%	34%	23%	31%
Someone else/Don't have a favorite team	33%	26%	28%	42%	27%

