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Kaine retains narrow lead over Allen

Raleigh, N.C. – In 2006 Jim Webb edged out George Allen in the closest senate race in the nation. History could repeat itself as former Governor Tim Kaine holds just a 46-43 edge over Allen, effectively unchanged from his 46-44 lead in May. For more than half a year, the Virginia Senate race has been deadlocked, and with both candidates well known, it could stay that way through the election in 2012.

Both candidates have their parties united behind them with Kaine winning Democrats 87-7 and Allen taking Republicans 87-6. Kaine has the advantage with independents 44-33, giving him the nominal edge over Allen. As almost all partisans are decided, if Kaine can hold a small lead with independents through the election, he will be in good shape.

While the race could come down to the wire with Allen as the GOP nominee, if Jamie Radtke wins the nomination in an upset, Kaine would be favored 47-31. With Independents, Kaine beats Radtke more than two to one, taking 49% to Radtke's 24%. Far more undecideds are Republicans than Democrats, so the race could narrow in the event of a Radtke nomination.

Though both Kaine and Allen are widely known, neither is exactly beloved. Kaine garners only a tepid 42-40 favorability rating. However, this is significantly stronger than Allen's 34-44 rating. Allen seems to have permanently damaged his image in the 2006 campaign, but not so much as to be uncompetitive statewide. On the other hand, Radtke is unknown to the commonwealth and unpopular with those who do know her. Only 5% see Radtke favorably compared to 16% who see her unfavorably.

“Even as Barack Obama's numbers in the state have worsened over the last 3 months the state of the Senate race has remained the same,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “This is a contest that seems likely to stay tight all the way to election day regardless of changes in the political winds.”

PPP surveyed 500 Virginia voters from July 21th to 24th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.4%. 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 George Allen?

Favorable..... 34%
Unfavorable 44%
Not sure 22%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Tim Kaine?

Favorable..... 42%
Unfavorable 40%
Not sure 17%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jamie Radtke?

Favorable..... 5%
Unfavorable 16%
Not sure 79%

Q4 If the candidates for US Senate in 2012 were Democrat Tim Kaine and Republican George Allen, who would you vote for?

Tim Kaine..... 46%
George Allen 43%
Undecided..... 11%

Q5 If the candidates for US Senate in 2012 were Democrat Tim Kaine and Republican Jamie Radtke, who would you vote for?

Tim Kaine..... 47%
Jamie Radtke..... 31%
Undecided..... 22%

Q6 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 47%
Barack Obama..... 47%
Someone else/Don't remember 6%

Q7 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 11%
Somewhat liberal 18%
Moderate..... 30%
Somewhat conservative..... 21%
Very conservative 20%

Q8 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%

Q9 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 35%
Republican..... 36%
Independent/Other..... 30%

Q10 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 76%
African-American 19%
Other..... 5%

Q11 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.

18 to 29..... 12%
30 to 45..... 22%
46 to 65..... 44%
Older than 65..... 22%



Q12

276.....	5%
434.....	9%
540.....	25%
703.....	21%
757.....	21%
804.....	18%



Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Allen Favorability				
Favorable	34%	60%	8%	26%
Unfavorable	44%	18%	72%	39%
Not sure	22%	22%	21%	34%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Kaine Favorability				
Favorable	42%	18%	69%	22%
Unfavorable	40%	64%	16%	42%
Not sure	17%	18%	15%	37%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Radtke Favorability				
Favorable	5%	8%	2%	3%
Unfavorable	16%	9%	23%	22%
Not sure	79%	83%	74%	74%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Kaine/Allen				
Tim Kaine	46%	8%	84%	40%
George Allen	43%	81%	6%	37%
Undecided	11%	12%	10%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Kaine/Radtke				
Tim Kaine	47%	9%	88%	27%
Jamie Radtke	31%	61%	3%	16%
Undecided	22%	30%	9%	57%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Allen Favorability						
Favorable	34%	18%	15%	18%	54%	61%
Unfavorable	44%	73%	65%	58%	21%	15%
Not sure	22%	9%	20%	24%	25%	24%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Kaine Favorability						
Favorable	42%	73%	67%	53%	19%	13%
Unfavorable	40%	14%	18%	31%	55%	73%
Not sure	17%	14%	16%	16%	26%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Radtke Favorability						
Favorable	5%	4%	1%	4%	2%	13%
Unfavorable	16%	28%	23%	17%	12%	8%
Not sure	79%	68%	76%	79%	86%	79%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Kaine/Allen						
Tim Kaine	46%	83%	78%	64%	11%	5%
George Allen	43%	13%	16%	20%	75%	84%
Undecided	11%	4%	6%	16%	14%	11%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Kaine/Radtke						
Tim Kaine	47%	79%	85%	65%	13%	5%
Jamie Radtke	31%	13%	8%	13%	52%	67%
Undecided	22%	8%	7%	22%	34%	28%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Allen Favorability			
Favorable	34%	28%	40%
Unfavorable	44%	45%	44%
Not sure	22%	28%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Kaine Favorability			
Favorable	42%	46%	39%
Unfavorable	40%	36%	45%
Not sure	17%	18%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Radtke Favorability			
Favorable	5%	4%	6%
Unfavorable	16%	13%	20%
Not sure	79%	83%	74%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Kaine/Allen			
Tim Kaine	46%	51%	40%
George Allen	43%	37%	49%
Undecided	11%	12%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Kaine/Radtke			
Tim Kaine	47%	53%	41%
Jamie Radtke	31%	26%	37%
Undecided	22%	22%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Allen Favorability				
Favorable	34%	9%	69%	20%
Unfavorable	44%	72%	15%	47%
Not sure	22%	18%	17%	33%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Kaine Favorability				
Favorable	42%	67%	18%	43%
Unfavorable	40%	18%	64%	38%
Not sure	17%	15%	19%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Radtke Favorability				
Favorable	5%	1%	9%	5%
Unfavorable	16%	23%	10%	17%
Not sure	79%	76%	82%	78%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Kaine/Allen				
Tim Kaine	46%	87%	6%	44%
George Allen	43%	7%	87%	33%
Undecided	11%	6%	7%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Kaine/Radtke				
Tim Kaine	47%	88%	6%	49%
Jamie Radtke	31%	3%	66%	24%
Undecided	22%	9%	29%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Allen Favorability				
Favorable	34%	39%	13%	28%
Unfavorable	44%	41%	58%	44%
Not sure	22%	20%	29%	28%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Kaine Favorability				
Favorable	42%	40%	52%	39%
Unfavorable	40%	45%	24%	37%
Not sure	17%	15%	25%	24%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Radtke Favorability				
Favorable	5%	4%	8%	4%
Unfavorable	16%	14%	26%	24%
Not sure	79%	82%	67%	72%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Kaine/Allen				
Tim Kaine	46%	38%	72%	61%
George Allen	43%	51%	12%	35%
Undecided	11%	11%	17%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Kaine/Radtke				
Tim Kaine	47%	41%	71%	53%
Jamie Radtke	31%	37%	8%	24%
Undecided	22%	22%	20%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Allen Favorability					
Favorable	34%	27%	41%	29%	38%
Unfavorable	44%	47%	34%	51%	41%
Not sure	22%	27%	25%	20%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Kaine Favorability					
Favorable	42%	53%	38%	45%	36%
Unfavorable	40%	27%	48%	37%	45%
Not sure	17%	20%	14%	18%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Radtke Favorability					
Favorable	5%	-	11%	4%	4%
Unfavorable	16%	20%	9%	18%	18%
Not sure	79%	80%	80%	78%	78%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Kaine/Allen					
Tim Kaine	46%	43%	41%	50%	43%
George Allen	43%	30%	46%	42%	50%
Undecided	11%	27%	13%	9%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Kaine/Radtke					
Tim Kaine	47%	50%	41%	51%	45%
Jamie Radtke	31%	27%	32%	31%	35%
Undecided	22%	23%	27%	19%	21%

	Base	Area Code					
		276	434	540	703	757	804
Allen Favorability							
Favorable	34%	36%	42%	37%	25%	29%	40%
Unfavorable	44%	37%	40%	47%	56%	38%	39%
Not sure	22%	27%	17%	16%	19%	33%	21%

	Base	Area Code					
		276	434	540	703	757	804
Kaine Favorability							
Favorable	42%	42%	43%	43%	52%	40%	34%
Unfavorable	40%	46%	39%	41%	34%	34%	54%
Not sure	17%	13%	17%	17%	15%	26%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		276	434	540	703	757	804
Radtke Favorability							
Favorable	5%	-	6%	6%	2%	3%	9%
Unfavorable	16%	13%	11%	12%	13%	18%	30%
Not sure	79%	87%	84%	82%	84%	79%	61%

	Base	Area Code					
		276	434	540	703	757	804
Kaine/Allen							
Tim Kaine	46%	52%	40%	44%	60%	46%	31%
George Allen	43%	34%	45%	49%	32%	38%	54%
Undecided	11%	13%	15%	7%	7%	16%	14%

	Base	Area Code					
		276	434	540	703	757	804
Kaine/Radtke							
Tim Kaine	47%	52%	39%	44%	59%	48%	39%
Jamie Radtke	31%	33%	28%	35%	25%	26%	40%
Undecided	22%	14%	33%	20%	16%	26%	21%

