

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

Reagan gets high marks from Virginia voters

Raleigh, N.C. – A look at the favorite and least favorite Presidents of Virginia voters since 1980 is a good prism into how the state that had voted so reliably for Republicans went Democratic last year.

Ronald Reagan is by far and away the most popular of the last five Presidents. But more recently voters say George W. Bush is their least favorite, a fact that probably played a large role in Barack Obama's victory in the state last year.

Reagan is the top choice of 44% of voters, followed by Obama at 23% and Bill Clinton at 21%. Reagan is tops among Republican voters (71%) and independents (57%) while Obama edges out Clinton 49-39 among Democratic voters.

Interestingly 31% of African Americans pick Clinton as their favorite to 58% for Obama, a reflection of Clinton's strong popularity in the black community.

The second President Bush is the least favorite of 41% of respondents with Obama and Clinton coming in at second and third with 31 and 18% respectively. The first President Bush does not inspire strong reactions one way or the other.

Republicans, who tended to really hate Clinton, already say they dislike Obama more. 59% of them picked him as their least favorite to 30% for Clinton.

“Virginia voters love the Republican leadership of the 80s but not what they've seen so far in the 21st century,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “That's reflected in the state's Congressional delegation and its Presidential vote last year.”

PPP surveyed 596 likely Virginia voters from August 28th to 31st. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.0%. 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.

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 Of the last five Presidents, who do you have the highest opinion of: Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, or Barack Obama? If Ronald Reagan, press 1. If George H.W. Bush, press 2. If Bill Clinton, press 3. If George W. Bush, press 4. If Barack Obama, press 5.

Reagan 44%
Bush 1 4%
Clinton..... 21%
Bush 2 8%
Obama..... 23%

Q2 Of the last five Presidents, who do you have the lowest opinion of: Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, or Barack Obama? If Ronald Reagan, press 1. If George H.W. Bush, press 2. If Bill Clinton, press 3. If George W. Bush, press 4. If Barack Obama, press 5.

Reagan 3%
Bush 1 7%
Clinton..... 18%
Bush 2 41%
Obama..... 31%

Q3 Would you describe the community you live in as urban, suburban, rural, or a small town? If urban, press 1. If suburban, press 2. If rural, press 3. If a small town, press 4.

Urban..... 15%
Suburban 45%
Rural..... 23%
Small Town..... 16%

Q4 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If a liberal, press 1. If a moderate, press 2. If a conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 19%
Moderate..... 46%
Conservative..... 36%

Q5 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 55%
Man..... 45%

Q6 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

Democrat..... 38%
Republican..... 31%
Other..... 31%

Q7 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 5%
White 76%
African American 17%
Other..... 3%

Q8 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..... 11%
30 to 45..... 18%
46 to 65..... 50%
Older than 65..... 21%





Q9

276.....	7%
434.....	9%
540.....	20%
703.....	22%
757.....	24%
804.....	18%





	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Favorite President					
Reagan	44%	45%	47%	42%	37%
Bush 1	4%	2%	5%	3%	5%
Clinton	21%	20%	22%	20%	22%
Bush 2	8%	2%	5%	13%	12%
Obama	23%	31%	21%	21%	24%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Least Favorite President					
Reagan	3%	2%	5%	3%	2%
Bush 1	7%	12%	6%	5%	5%
Clinton	18%	12%	20%	18%	16%
Bush 2	41%	45%	42%	34%	45%
Obama	31%	29%	28%	40%	32%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Favorite President				
Reagan	44%	11%	32%	76%
Bush 1	4%	1%	6%	3%
Clinton	21%	34%	28%	6%
Bush 2	8%	2%	8%	10%
Obama	23%	52%	26%	5%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Least Favorite President				
Reagan	3%	1%	4%	3%
Bush 1	7%	18%	5%	3%
Clinton	18%	1%	17%	26%
Bush 2	41%	77%	54%	6%
Obama	31%	3%	20%	62%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Favorite President			
Reagan	44%	33%	57%
Bush 1	4%	4%	4%
Clinton	21%	23%	19%
Bush 2	8%	11%	4%
Obama	23%	29%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Least Favorite President			
Reagan	3%	2%	5%
Bush 1	7%	9%	4%
Clinton	18%	18%	17%
Bush 2	41%	46%	35%
Obama	31%	26%	38%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Favorite President				
Reagan	44%	11%	71%	57%
Bush 1	4%	1%	4%	7%
Clinton	21%	39%	2%	20%
Bush 2	8%	0%	20%	4%
Obama	23%	49%	3%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Least Favorite President				
Reagan	3%	6%	1%	2%
Bush 1	7%	14%	3%	2%
Clinton	18%	3%	30%	23%
Bush 2	41%	74%	7%	36%
Obama	31%	4%	59%	37%





	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Favorite President					
Reagan	44%	59%	51%	7%	35%
Bush 1	4%	-	5%	2%	-
Clinton	21%	9%	20%	31%	34%
Bush 2	8%	2%	9%	3%	-
Obama	23%	30%	15%	58%	31%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Least Favorite President					
Reagan	3%	7%	1%	9%	15%
Bush 1	7%	37%	3%	15%	12%
Clinton	18%	6%	22%	3%	6%
Bush 2	41%	44%	36%	65%	38%
Obama	31%	7%	38%	8%	29%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Favorite President					
Reagan	44%	38%	44%	42%	51%
Bush 1	4%	8%	3%	2%	6%
Clinton	21%	8%	21%	25%	20%
Bush 2	8%	15%	10%	6%	5%
Obama	23%	31%	23%	24%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Least Favorite President					
Reagan	3%	8%	2%	3%	2%
Bush 1	7%	15%	2%	8%	3%
Clinton	18%	23%	16%	16%	20%
Bush 2	41%	31%	46%	43%	37%
Obama	31%	23%	35%	30%	37%





	Base	Region					
		276	434	540	703	757	804
Favorite President							
Reagan	44%	48%	47%	46%	46%	40%	41%
Bush 1	4%	4%	1%	4%	4%	5%	3%
Clinton	21%	18%	22%	24%	16%	24%	21%
Bush 2	8%	10%	6%	8%	5%	12%	6%
Obama	23%	20%	23%	18%	28%	20%	29%

	Base	Region					
		276	434	540	703	757	804
Least Favorite President							
Reagan	3%	-	4%	2%	3%	4%	5%
Bush 1	7%	5%	5%	9%	3%	10%	5%
Clinton	18%	20%	12%	22%	22%	13%	15%
Bush 2	41%	31%	44%	39%	44%	39%	45%
Obama	31%	44%	35%	28%	27%	34%	30%

