



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Obama up 5 points in Virginia

**Raleigh, N.C.** – PPP's newest Virginia poll finds Barack Obama leading by 5 points, 51-46. Obama's lead is unchanged from a month ago when we found him leading 50-45 in the state. He may not be seeing a bump from the convention in the state at this point, but he was in a pretty good position to begin with.

Virginia continues to look like it may be something of a firewall state for Obama. PPP has now polled it 9 times this cycle, and President Obama has led by at least 4 points on all 9 of the polls. He's been ahead by 5 points, 5 points, 8 points, and 8 points over the course of the four surveys we've conducted in 2012.

“Barack Obama continues to look like the definite favorite in Virginia,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “And it’s hard to imagine a scenario where Obama would win Virginia but lose the election.”

Obama has a slight advantage over Romney (49-47) in terms of who voters trust more on the economy and a wider (51-45) edge over Romney on foreign policy. Only 41% of voters say they approve of how Romney reacted to the situation in Libya this week while 48% express disapproval.

Obama's leading 56-42 with women, 91-7 with African Americans, 63-30 with other non-white voters, and 56-37 with young voters. Romney has a 51-45 advantage with men, a 57-40 one with whites, and a 54-43 lead with seniors. Romney is slightly ahead with independents, 47-45, but Obama's party is more unified with Democrats supporting him 95-4 while Republicans go for Romney by a slightly weaker 92-7 margin.

There has been a lot of talk about the possibility of Virgil Goode tipping the election to Obama in Virginia but our new poll finds that his support has mostly faded. When third party candidates are included on this poll Obama leads Romney 49-45 with Gary Johnson at 2% and Goode and Jill Stein both at just 1%. Goode's net favorability with Republican voters has dropped a net 15 points in the last month from +3 (19/16) to -12 (14/26).

PPP surveyed 1,021 likely Virginia voters from September 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the overall survey is +/-3.1%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.





## Virginia Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

*Approve* ..... 50%  
*Disapprove*..... 48%  
*Not sure* ..... 2%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitt Romney?

*Favorable*..... 47%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 49%  
*Not sure* ..... 4%

**Q3** The candidates for President are Democrat Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

*Barack Obama*..... 51%  
*Mitt Romney*..... 46%  
*Undecided*..... 3%

**Q4** Do you trust Barack Obama or Mitt Romney more on the issue of the economy?

*Barack Obama*..... 49%  
*Mitt Romney*..... 47%  
*Not sure* ..... 4%

**Q5** Do you trust Barack Obama or Mitt Romney more on the issue of foreign policy?

*Barack Obama*..... 51%  
*Mitt Romney*..... 45%  
*Not sure* ..... 4%

**Q6** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Virgil Goode?

*Favorable*..... 11%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 29%  
*Not sure*..... 59%

**Q7** If the candidates for President this fall were Democrat Barack Obama, Republican Mitt Romney, Libertarian Gary Johnson, Constitution Party candidate Virgil Goode, and Green Party candidate Jill Stein, who would you vote for?

*Barack Obama*..... 49%  
*Mitt Romney*..... 45%  
*Gary Johnson* ..... 2%  
*Virgil Goode* ..... 1%  
*Jill Stein* ..... 1%  
*Undecided*..... 3%

**Q8** Are you very excited, somewhat excited, or not at all excited about voting in the 2012 elections?

*Very excited* ..... 62%  
*Somewhat excited* ..... 25%  
*Not at all excited* ..... 13%

**Q9** Do you approve or disapprove of how Mitt Romney reacted to the situation in Libya this week?

*Approve* ..... 41%  
*Disapprove*..... 48%  
*Not sure* ..... 11%

**Q10** Do you think Mitt Romney should release his tax returns for the last 12 years, or not?

*He should*..... 50%  
*He should not*..... 43%  
*Not sure*..... 7%





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

<i>Very liberal</i> .....	11%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i> .....	17%
<i>Moderate</i> .....	32%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i> .....	25%
<i>Very conservative</i> .....	16%

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

<i>Woman</i> .....	52%
<i>Man</i> .....	48%

**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> .....	35%
<i>Republican</i> .....	32%
<i>Independent/Other</i> .....	33%

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

<i>White</i> .....	73%
<i>African-American</i> .....	17%
<i>Other</i> .....	10%

**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> .....	12%
<i>30 to 45</i> .....	26%
<i>46 to 65</i> .....	41%
<i>Older than 65</i> .....	21%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>						
Approve	50%	90%	88%	61%	16%	15%
Disapprove	48%	10%	10%	36%	81%	85%
Not sure	2%	-	2%	3%	4%	-

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Romney Favorability</b>						
Favorable	47%	12%	9%	34%	80%	82%
Unfavorable	49%	85%	85%	61%	16%	14%
Not sure	4%	3%	6%	5%	4%	4%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Romney</b>						
Barack Obama	51%	93%	91%	60%	15%	16%
Mitt Romney	46%	7%	9%	34%	81%	82%
Undecided	3%	-	-	6%	4%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Trust More on Econ.?</b>						
Barack Obama	49%	88%	89%	59%	14%	14%
Mitt Romney	47%	10%	10%	32%	81%	85%
Not sure	4%	1%	1%	9%	5%	1%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Trust More on Foreign Policy?</b>						
Barack Obama	51%	90%	90%	62%	16%	16%
Mitt Romney	45%	10%	10%	30%	79%	82%
Not sure	4%	0%	0%	8%	5%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Goode Favorability</b>						
Favorable	11%	8%	6%	12%	13%	15%
Unfavorable	29%	51%	30%	26%	24%	30%
Not sure	59%	42%	64%	63%	63%	54%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Obama/Romney/Johnson/Goode/Stein</b>						
Barack Obama	49%	86%	90%	59%	15%	14%
Mitt Romney	45%	10%	7%	31%	80%	80%
Gary Johnson	2%	-	1%	4%	1%	1%
Virgil Goode	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	3%
Jill Stein	1%	2%	1%	1%	-	0%
Undecided	3%	1%	1%	4%	3%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Voter Enthusiasm</b>						
Very excited	62%	83%	66%	51%	60%	74%
Somewhat excited	25%	11%	25%	30%	27%	18%
Not at all excited	13%	6%	9%	19%	13%	8%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Approve/Disapprove of Romney Libya Handling</b>						
<b>Approve</b>	41%	10%	7%	27%	74%	74%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	86%	83%	63%	13%	12%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	4%	10%	11%	12%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Should Romney Release Taxes?</b>						
<b>He should</b>	50%	85%	85%	61%	19%	18%
<b>He should not</b>	43%	10%	6%	33%	76%	73%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	5%	9%	6%	5%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	50%	55%	44%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	42%	54%
<b>Not sure</b>	2%	3%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Romney Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	47%	42%	51%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	53%	45%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	5%	4%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Romney</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	51%	56%	45%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	46%	42%	51%
<b>Undecided</b>	3%	3%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Trust More on Econ.?</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	49%	55%	43%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	47%	41%	53%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	5%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Trust More on Foreign Policy?</b>			
<b>Barack Obama</b>	51%	56%	45%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	45%	39%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	4%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Goode Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	11%	10%	13%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	29%	26%	33%
<b>Not sure</b>	59%	64%	55%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama/Romney/Johnson/Goode/Stein</b>			
Barack Obama	49%	55%	42%
Mitt Romney	45%	40%	50%
Gary Johnson	2%	0%	3%
Virgil Goode	1%	1%	2%
Jill Stein	1%	0%	1%
Undecided	3%	3%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Voter Enthusiasm</b>			
Very excited	62%	64%	60%
Somewhat excited	25%	25%	24%
Not at all excited	13%	10%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Approve/Disapprove of Romney Libya Handling</b>			
Approve	41%	36%	47%
Disapprove	48%	52%	44%
Not sure	11%	12%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Should Romney Release Taxes?</b>			
He should	50%	54%	46%
He should not	43%	38%	49%
Not sure	7%	9%	4%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	50%	92%	8%	46%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	6%	90%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	2%	2%	2%	3%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Romney Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	47%	6%	90%	48%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	90%	8%	45%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	4%	2%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Romney</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	51%	95%	7%	45%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	46%	4%	92%	47%
<b>Undecided</b>	3%	1%	1%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Trust More on Econ.?</b>				
<b>Barack Obama</b>	49%	93%	7%	43%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	47%	5%	91%	47%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	2%	2%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Trust More on Foreign Policy?</b>				
Barack Obama	51%	94%	8%	47%
Mitt Romney	45%	5%	89%	44%
Not sure	4%	1%	3%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Goode Favorability</b>				
Favorable	11%	9%	14%	11%
Unfavorable	29%	34%	26%	28%
Not sure	59%	57%	60%	61%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama/Romney/Johnson/Goode/Stein</b>				
Barack Obama	49%	93%	8%	43%
Mitt Romney	45%	5%	89%	45%
Gary Johnson	2%	-	1%	4%
Virgil Goode	1%	1%	2%	2%
Jill Stein	1%	-	0%	2%
Undecided	3%	2%	1%	5%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Voter Enthusiasm</b>				
Very excited	62%	73%	63%	51%
Somewhat excited	25%	21%	26%	27%
Not at all excited	13%	6%	11%	22%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Approve/Disapprove of Romney Libya Handling</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	41%	5%	79%	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	87%	7%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	8%	15%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Should Romney Release Taxes?</b>				
<b>He should</b>	50%	89%	15%	44%
<b>He should not</b>	43%	5%	77%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	6%	8%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	50%	39%	90%	61%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	58%	7%	39%
<b>Not sure</b>	2%	2%	3%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Romney Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	47%	57%	9%	37%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	39%	86%	59%
<b>Not sure</b>	4%	4%	5%	4%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama/Romney</b>				
Barack Obama	51%	40%	91%	63%
Mitt Romney	46%	57%	7%	30%
Undecided	3%	3%	2%	7%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Trust More on Econ.?</b>				
Barack Obama	49%	38%	90%	57%
Mitt Romney	47%	57%	8%	38%
Not sure	4%	5%	2%	5%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Trust More on Foreign Policy?</b>				
Barack Obama	51%	41%	91%	59%
Mitt Romney	45%	55%	9%	35%
Not sure	4%	5%	-	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Goode Favorability</b>				
Favorable	11%	11%	13%	14%
Unfavorable	29%	28%	30%	36%
Not sure	59%	61%	57%	50%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama/Romney/Johnson/Goode/Stein</b>				
Barack Obama	49%	38%	90%	54%
Mitt Romney	45%	55%	6%	35%
Gary Johnson	2%	1%	1%	6%
Virgil Goode	1%	2%	-	-
Jill Stein	1%	1%	-	2%
Undecided	3%	3%	2%	2%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Voter Enthusiasm</b>				
Very excited	62%	57%	85%	65%
Somewhat excited	25%	29%	12%	12%
Not at all excited	13%	14%	3%	23%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Approve/Disapprove of Romney Libya Handling</b>				
Approve	41%	49%	9%	37%
Disapprove	48%	40%	79%	61%
Not sure	11%	11%	12%	2%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Should Romney Release Taxes?</b>				
He should	50%	41%	81%	66%
He should not	43%	52%	10%	34%
Not sure	7%	7%	9%	1%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	<b>50%</b>	56%	51%	52%	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>48%</b>	44%	47%	45%	56%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>2%</b>	-	2%	4%	2%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Romney Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>47%</b>	41%	48%	44%	53%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>49%</b>	59%	47%	51%	42%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>4%</b>	-	5%	5%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Romney</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>51%</b>	56%	53%	52%	43%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	<b>46%</b>	37%	46%	45%	54%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>3%</b>	7%	2%	3%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Trust More on Econ.?</b>					
<b>Barack Obama</b>	<b>49%</b>	52%	50%	51%	41%
<b>Mitt Romney</b>	<b>47%</b>	37%	47%	45%	54%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>4%</b>	11%	2%	4%	4%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Trust More on Foreign Policy?</b>					
Barack Obama	51%	52%	53%	54%	42%
Mitt Romney	45%	37%	45%	43%	54%
Not sure	4%	11%	2%	4%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Goode Favorability</b>					
Favorable	11%	15%	13%	8%	13%
Unfavorable	29%	33%	22%	30%	35%
Not sure	59%	52%	64%	62%	52%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama/Romney/Johnson/Goode/Stein</b>					
Barack Obama	49%	52%	51%	51%	41%
Mitt Romney	45%	41%	43%	43%	54%
Gary Johnson	2%	7%	2%	1%	0%
Virgil Goode	1%	-	2%	2%	1%
Jill Stein	1%	-	2%	0%	0%
Undecided	3%	-	1%	4%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Voter Enthusiasm</b>					
Very excited	62%	72%	66%	59%	62%
Somewhat excited	25%	17%	27%	26%	24%
Not at all excited	13%	11%	7%	16%	15%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Approve/Disapprove of Romney Libya Handling</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	41%	39%	43%	38%	47%
<b>Disapprove</b>	48%	50%	45%	52%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	11%	12%	10%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Should Romney Release Taxes?</b>					
<b>He should</b>	50%	44%	53%	53%	44%
<b>He should not</b>	43%	50%	41%	40%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	6%	6%	7%	6%

