

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 2, 2008**

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

## **Obama headed for comfortable win in Virginia**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Public Policy Polling’s final Virginia survey finds Barack Obama with a 52-46 lead in the state. Obama led in all seven polls PPP conducted in Virginia this year.

Obama’s lead is down from 52-43 last week, an indication that undecided voters might be moving toward John McCain. Nonetheless Obama is holding strong over the 50% mark.

Obama is winning more Republican voters (13%) than McCain is Democratic voters (9%). Obama is also holding a slight lead with independents, 49-47.

Obama has held tight at 42% of the white vote since last week. McCain’s share has increased from 53% to 56%. That’s not going to be good enough for him given the 20% black portion of the electorate, and Obama’s 91-9 lead within that group.

“Virginia has really become a firewall for Barack Obama,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Even if he ends up losing in places like Florida and Ohio, it still seems pretty certain that he’ll win here, and there aren’t a lot of scenarios where he wins Virginia and doesn’t take the Presidency along with him.”

Obama is winning every age group except senior citizens and leads with both male and female voters.

In Virginia’s Senate race Democrat Mark Warner is set for an easy victory. He leads fellow former Governor Jim Gilmore 62-36, including a 67-28 advantage with independent voters.

PPP surveyed 1,557 likely voters from October 31<sup>st</sup> to November 2nd. The survey’s margin of error is +/-2.5%. 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](http://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** The candidates for President are Republican John McCain and Democrat Barack Obama. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*McCain*.....46% *Undecided*..... 2%

*Obama*.....52%

**Q2** The candidates for US Senate are Republican Jim Gilmore and Democrat Mark Warner. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If Jim Gilmore, press 1. If Mark Warner, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

*Gilmore* ..... 36%

*Warner*.....62%

*Undecided*..... 2%

**Q3** Have you already voted either at an early voting site or with an absentee ballot? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2.

*Yes* ..... 16%

*No*..... 84%

**Q4** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman* .....55%

*Man*.....45%

**Q5** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

*Democrat*..... 40%

*Republican*..... 35%

*Other*..... 25%

**Q6** If you are white, press 1. If you are African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

*White* ..... 75%

*African American* ..... 20%

*Other*..... 5%

**Q7** 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*..... 15%

*30 to 45*.....29%

*46 to 65*.....39%

*Older than 65*..... 17%





	Base	Already Voted	
		Yes	No
<b>McCain/Obama</b>			
<b>McCain</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>48%</b>
<b>Obama</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2%</b>

	Base	Already Voted	
		Yes	No
<b>Senate</b>			
<b>Gilmore</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>37%</b>
<b>Warner</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>61%</b>
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>3%</b>

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>McCain/Obama</b>			
<b>McCain</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>45%</b>
<b>Obama</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>53%</b>
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2%</b>

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Senate</b>			
<b>Gilmore</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>37%</b>
<b>Warner</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>61%</b>
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>2%</b>





	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>McCain/Obama</b>				
<b>McCain</b>	46%	9%	87%	47%
<b>Obama</b>	52%	89%	13%	49%
<b>Undecided</b>	2%	1%	0%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Senate</b>				
<b>Gilmore</b>	36%	7%	74%	28%
<b>Warner</b>	62%	91%	24%	67%
<b>Undecided</b>	2%	2%	2%	5%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
<b>McCain/Obama</b>				
<b>McCain</b>	46%	56%	9%	39%
<b>Obama</b>	52%	42%	91%	55%
<b>Undecided</b>	2%	2%	0%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
<b>Senate</b>				
<b>Gilmore</b>	36%	44%	8%	31%
<b>Warner</b>	62%	54%	89%	61%
<b>Undecided</b>	2%	2%	3%	8%





	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>McCain/Obama</b>					
<b>McCain</b>	<b>46%</b>	46%	44%	43%	56%
<b>Obama</b>	<b>52%</b>	53%	54%	55%	43%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>2%</b>	1%	2%	2%	1%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Senate</b>					
<b>Gilmore</b>	<b>36%</b>	36%	36%	34%	41%
<b>Warner</b>	<b>62%</b>	60%	60%	65%	57%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>2%</b>	4%	3%	2%	2%

