

FOR RELEASE: AUGUST 9, 2017

**DEMOCRAT HOLDS 6-POINT LEAD IN VIRGINIA GOV RACE,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
VOTERS WANT DEMOCRATS TO CONTROL STATE LEGISLATURE**

Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam holds a 44 – 38 percent lead over Republican Ed Gillespie in the Virginia governor’s race, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today. Libertarian Party candidate Cliff Hyra has 4 percent.

Northam had a 47 – 39 percent lead over Gillespie in a June 21 survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University. This earlier survey did not include a third party candidate.

Independent voters back the Republican 39 – 30 percent, with 8 percent for Hyra. Democrats back Northam 89 – 5 percent, with 1 percent for Hyra, as Republicans back Gillespie 89 – 1 percent, with 3 percent for Hyra.

Northam leads 51 – 33 percent among women, 48 – 39 percent among white college educated voters and 56 – 21 percent among non-white voters.

Gillespie leads 44 – 35 percent among men, 54 – 28 percent among white voters with no college degree and 47 – 38 percent among all white voters.

“The Virginia Governor's race leans toward Democratic Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam, but not overly so,” said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

“With three months until Election Day, the race remains competitive.

“Former Republican National Committee Chairman Ed Gillespie apparently has been able to convince many voters that he is his own man. Gillespie is within six percentage points of Northam despite President Donald Trump’s unpopularity in the Old Dominion.

“Libertarian Cliff Hyra is getting 4 percent of the vote. Given Northam’s 6-point lead, Hyra could become a factor in the race.”

Health care is the most important issue in deciding how they will vote in the governor’s race, 36 percent of Virginia voters say, while 25 percent list the economy and 16 percent cite education.

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Virginia voters say 44 – 34 percent that Northam would do a better job handling health care. Comparing the candidates on other issues, voters say:

- 41 – 38 percent that Gillespie would do a better job on the economy;
- 42 – 35 percent that Northam would do a better job on education;
- Split 38 – 38 percent on who would do a better job on immigration;
- 41 – 37 percent that Gillespie would do a better job on taxes.

Virginia voters give Northam a 35 – 18 percent favorability rating, with 45 percent who haven't heard enough about him to form an opinion of him.

Gillespie gets a 38 – 27 percent favorability rating, with 34 percent who haven't heard enough to form an opinion.

For Hyra, 87 percent haven't heard enough to form an opinion.

Virginia voters say 49 – 38 percent that they would like to see the Democrats in control of the State Legislature. Independent voters are divided 38 – 38 percent on who should control the State Legislature.

President Trump's Approval

Virginia voters disapprove 61 – 36 percent of the job President Donald Trump is doing. Republicans approve 82 – 14 percent and white voters with no college degree approve 56 – 42 percent. Every other party, gender, education, age and racial group disapproves.

Voters approve 51 – 35 percent of the job Gov. Terry McAuliffe is doing, up from 47 – 37 percent June 21.

U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine gets a 54 – 38 percent approval rating and Virginia voters say 50 – 40 percent that he deserves to be reelected.

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner gets a 59 – 30 percent job approval rating.

From August 3 – 8, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,082 Virginia voters with a margin of error of +/- 3.8 percentage points, including the design effect. Live interviewers call landlines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys nationwide, and in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa and Colorado as a public service and for research.

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1. If the election for Governor were being held today, and the candidates were Ralph Northam the Democrat, Ed Gillespie the Republican, and Cliff Hyra the Libertarian, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Northam	44%	1%	89%	30%	35%	51%	48%	28%
Gillespie	38	89	5	39	44	33	39	54
Hyra	4	3	1	8	5	3	3	3
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	1	-	5	2	2	1	1
DK/NA	11	5	5	18	12	10	7	11

	AGE IN	YRS.....	YRS.....	YRS.....	YRS.....	WHITE.....		Non-
						18-34	35-49	
Northam	46%	46%	45%	40%	34%	42%	38%	56%
Gillespie	28	38	43	45	48	46	47	21
Hyra	8	3	3	2	3	3	3	6
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	1	1	-	2	-	1	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	2	4	1	1	2	1	1	4
DK/NA	16	7	8	12	11	8	9	13

2. Is your opinion of Ralph Northam favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Favorable	35%	5%	68%	26%	30%	40%	43%	25%
Unfavorable	18	36	2	23	24	13	20	24
Hvn't hrd enough	45	55	30	50	44	46	36	49
REFUSED	2	4	-	2	2	1	1	2

	AGE IN	YRS.....	YRS.....	YRS.....	YRS.....	WHITE.....		Non-
						18-34	35-49	
Favorable	35%	34%	34%	40%	29%	39%	34%	39%
Unfavorable	12	21	22	19	26	18	22	11
Hvn't hrd enough	49	44	44	39	43	42	43	49
REFUSED	4	1	1	2	1	2	1	2

3. Is your opinion of Ed Gillespie favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Favorable	38%	70%	12%	43%	42%	34%	38%	45%
Unfavorable	27	5	50	21	29	25	38	19
Hvn't hrd enough	34	24	36	34	27	40	22	35
REFUSED	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	1

	AGE IN	YRS.....	YRS.....	YRS.....	YRS.....	WHITE.....		Non-
						18-34	35-49	
Favorable	27%	37%	42%	45%	44%	40%	42%	29%
Unfavorable	28	27	28	26	30	26	28	25
Hvn't hrd enough	43	35	30	27	24	32	28	44
REFUSED	3	1	-	2	2	1	2	1

4. Is your opinion of Cliff Hyra favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Favorable	4%	4%	2%	7%	5%	3%	3%	4%
Unfavorable	8	8	9	8	11	5	7	9
Hvn't hrd enough	87	87	89	85	83	91	89	86
REFUSED	1	2	-	-	1	-	1	1

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Favorable	9%	2%	3%	5%	4%	4%	4%	5%
Unfavorable	12	10	7	6	10	7	8	8
Hvn't hrd enough	78	87	90	88	86	89	87	87
REFUSED	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	-

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Terry McAuliffe is handling his job as Governor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	51%	16%	81%	46%	49%	53%	56%	37%
Disapprove	35	72	7	37	41	29	35	46
DK/NA	14	12	12	17	11	17	9	18

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Approve	53%	50%	53%	49%	45%	47%	46%	64%
Disapprove	26	35	38	40	45	37	40	20
DK/NA	21	15	9	12	10	16	13	16

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the state legislature is handling its job?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	42%	43%	42%	45%	40%	44%	40%	40%
Disapprove	38	33	42	35	40	35	44	34
DK/NA	21	24	16	20	20	21	16	26

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Approve	48%	39%	42%	42%	39%	42%	40%	47%
Disapprove	32	41	40	35	42	36	39	35
DK/NA	20	21	18	23	20	22	21	18

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Mark Warner is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	59%	26%	86%	57%	55%	63%	63%	47%
Disapprove	30	62	7	31	36	24	31	40
DK/NA	11	12	7	12	9	12	7	14
	AGE IN	YRS.....			WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Approve	59%	61%	58%	60%	53%	56%	55%	71%
Disapprove	22	31	34	33	40	31	35	18
DK/NA	19	8	8	7	7	13	10	11

8. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Tim Kaine is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	54%	16%	88%	49%	49%	59%	59%	38%
Disapprove	38	76	8	43	44	32	38	52
DK/NA	8	9	4	8	7	9	4	11
	AGE IN	YRS.....			WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Approve	60%	53%	56%	51%	45%	51%	48%	70%
Disapprove	31	41	39	41	50	40	45	22
DK/NA	9	7	4	8	6	9	7	7

9. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Approve	36%	82%	2%	38%	40%	32%	34%	56%
Disapprove	61	14	97	57	57	64	63	42
DK/NA	4	4	1	5	3	4	3	2
	AGE IN	YRS.....			WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Approve	27%	35%	39%	43%	47%	43%	45%	15%
Disapprove	70	62	58	54	51	54	52	80
DK/NA	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	5

10. Do you feel that Tim Kaine deserves to be reelected, or do you feel that he does not deserve to be reelected?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Yes/Deserves	50%	12%	85%	42%	46%	53%	55%	34%
No/Does not	40	78	7	48	46	34	38	55
DK/NA	10	10	7	10	8	12	7	12
	AGE IN	YRS.....			WHITE.....			Non-
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Yes/Deserves	55%	50%	50%	48%	41%	48%	44%	64%
No/Does not	34	40	42	43	51	41	46	25
DK/NA	11	11	8	9	8	11	9	11

11. Would you like to see the Democrats or the Republicans control the Virginia state legislature?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Democrats	49%	1%	94%	38%	41%	56%	50%	32%
Republicans	38	94	1	38	43	33	40	54
DK/NA	14	6	5	23	16	11	10	13
	AGE IN	YRS.....			WHITE.....			Non-
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Democrats	59%	47%	46%	46%	35%	47%	41%	67%
Republicans	29	36	42	44	50	45	48	18
DK/NA	12	16	12	10	15	8	11	15

12. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in Virginia today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Very satisfied	8%	5%	10%	8%	6%	9%	7%	7%
Smwht satisfied	58	46	70	57	58	57	62	52
Smwht dissatisfied	25	36	15	27	27	24	24	29
Very dissatisfied	8	13	4	8	8	8	5	10
DK/NA	2	1	1	-	1	2	1	3
	AGE IN	YRS.....			WHITE.....			Non-
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Very satisfied	6%	10%	6%	7%	6%	8%	7%	10%
Smwht satisfied	68	55	54	57	55	58	57	59
Smwht dissatisfied	24	22	30	25	29	25	27	22
Very dissatisfied	-	12	10	7	8	7	8	8
DK/NA	2	1	-	3	2	2	2	1

13. Which of these is the most important issue to you in deciding how to vote for governor this year: taxes, the economy, education, health care, or immigration?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Taxes	11%	18%	5%	13%	12%	11%	13%	10%
Economy	25	34	15	28	30	21	24	28
Education	16	8	21	19	17	16	17	13
Health care	36	19	56	30	31	41	34	36
Immigration	8	17	2	7	6	9	9	10
SOMETHING ELSE (VOL)	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	1
DK/NA	1	1	-	1	2	1	1	2

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Taxes	11%	12%	15%	8%	13%	10%	11%	12%
Economy	23	23	28	25	29	22	26	23
Education	24	23	11	11	14	16	15	18
Health care	37	34	34	41	32	37	35	40
Immigration	5	5	9	11	8	11	9	4
SOMETHING ELSE (VOL)	-	3	2	1	2	1	2	2
DK/NA	-	1	1	4	1	2	2	1

14. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think would do a better job handling - taxes: Ralph Northam or Ed Gillespie?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Northam	37%	5%	72%	26%	34%	40%	41%	26%
Gillespie	41	83	12	43	46	37	46	52
DK/NA	21	12	16	30	20	23	14	23

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Northam	44%	35%	36%	37%	32%	34%	33%	46%
Gillespie	31	43	47	46	50	47	49	26
DK/NA	25	22	18	17	18	18	18	27

15. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think would do a better job handling - the economy: Ralph Northam or Ed Gillespie?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Northam	38%	5%	72%	29%	34%	42%	41%	26%
Gillespie	41	82	12	44	45	38	43	53
DK/NA	20	12	16	27	21	20	16	21

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Northam	46%	37%	36%	36%	32%	35%	33%	49%
Gillespie	31	43	47	46	49	48	48	27
DK/NA	23	20	18	18	19	17	18	24

16. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think would do a better job handling - education: Ralph Northam or Ed Gillespie?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Northam	42%	7%	75%	36%	41%	43%	49%	28%
Gillespie	35	77	10	35	35	36	33	48
DK/NA	22	16	15	29	24	21	18	23
	AGE IN	YRS.....			WHITE.....			Non-
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Northam	48%	44%	40%	40%	38%	39%	39%	51%
Gillespie	26	36	42	41	38	43	41	25
DK/NA	27	21	18	19	24	17	21	24

17. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think would do a better job handling - health care: Ralph Northam or Ed Gillespie?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Northam	44%	9%	76%	38%	41%	47%	49%	30%
Gillespie	34	74	9	32	35	32	33	45
DK/NA	22	16	14	29	24	21	18	25
	AGE IN	YRS.....			WHITE.....			Non-
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Northam	55%	43%	40%	42%	37%	42%	39%	53%
Gillespie	20	34	41	40	39	39	39	23
DK/NA	25	23	20	18	24	20	22	23

18. Regardless of who you may support, who do you think would do a better job handling - immigration: Ralph Northam or Ed Gillespie?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Northam	38%	7%	71%	29%	37%	40%	44%	25%
Gillespie	38	78	13	39	41	36	38	51
DK/NA	23	16	17	32	23	24	18	24
	AGE IN	YRS.....			WHITE.....			Non-
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Northam	46%	34%	39%	36%	33%	35%	34%	47%
Gillespie	30	41	40	44	44	45	45	25
DK/NA	24	25	21	20	23	20	21	27

19. If a candidate for governor supports President Trump, does that make you: more likely to vote for them, less likely to vote for them, or doesn't it have an impact either way?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
More likely	21%	52%	2%	18%	22%	19%	21%	33%
Less likely	48	7	84	40	42	52	52	34
No impact	31	40	15	41	35	28	27	32
DK/NA	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	1

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
More likely	11%	18%	27%	27%	27%	27%	27%	7%
Less likely	52	48	49	42	41	44	43	60
No impact	38	34	23	30	31	29	30	32
DK/NA	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	1

20. Would you describe the state of Virginia's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Excellent	7%	6%	8%	8%	9%	5%	12%	4%
Good	65	57	72	67	69	62	70	61
Not so good	21	28	18	18	16	26	13	27
Poor	6	7	2	7	5	6	4	6
DK/NA	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Excellent	9%	7%	5%	8%	10%	6%	8%	6%
Good	71	65	64	62	68	64	66	63
Not so good	14	23	22	23	16	24	20	23
Poor	5	4	9	6	5	4	5	7
DK/NA	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	-

21. Do you think Virginia's economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Better	28%	25%	31%	28%	33%	23%	33%	25%
Worse	10	9	6	12	11	9	7	11
The same	61	64	61	58	55	66	59	60
DK/NA	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	3

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Better	37%	26%	25%	26%	35%	24%	29%	26%
Worse	9	9	11	9	11	7	9	10
The same	53	63	63	61	53	66	60	62
DK/NA	2	1	1	4	1	3	2	2

22. Would you describe your financial situation these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG	
							Yes	No
Excellent	14%	12%	16%	14%	14%	15%	21%	8%
Good	58	67	57	56	62	55	66	61
Not so good	20	12	21	22	18	22	9	22
Poor	5	5	4	6	4	6	3	8
DK/NA	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	2

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Non-	
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Wht
Excellent	11%	13%	16%	17%	15%	14%	14%	13%
Good	56	61	60	59	64	63	63	51
Not so good	26	18	18	17	16	14	15	30
Poor	6	6	4	5	4	7	5	5
DK/NA	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	1