

EARLY NUMBERS SHOW COMPETITIVE GUBERNATORIAL RACE

In November, Virginia will again become the center of the political universe as one of only two states with a race for governor on the ballot. While the next eight months will no doubt have plenty of twists and turns, the early polling numbers show a contest with no clear favorite.



Ralph Northam

Tom Perriello

On the Democratic side, Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam and former Congressman Tom Perriello are announced candidates.

The Republicans have a field that includes 2014 Senate nominee Ed Gillespie, Prince William County Board of Supervisors Chairman Corey Stewart, State Senator Frank Wagner and businessman Denver Riggleman.

Gillespie, Northam, Perriello and Stewart are the candidates currently best known to Virginia voters and in head-to-head match-ups Gillespie and Northam appear to be the strongest right now.



Corey Stewart

Ed Gillespie,

Denver Riggleman

Frank Wagner

In what today would be the race between the two top party candidates, Gillespie holds a very narrow 44%-41% lead over Northam. In other match-ups Northam runs ahead against Stewart (45%-37%), while Gillespie leads by a wider margin over Perriello (45%-36%) than he does against Northam.

STATEWIDE NAME RECOGNITION

Do you recognize the name _____?

(IF YES) Do you have a favorable, unfavorable or neutral opinion of _____?

	<u>RECOGNIZE FAVORABLE</u>	<u>RECOGNIZE UNFAVORABLE</u>	<u>RECOGNIZE NEUTRAL</u>	<u>DON'T RECOGNIZE</u>
Donald Trump	40%	49%	11%	-
Ed Gillespie	25%	13%	35%	27%
Ralph Northam	17%	8%	26%	49%
Tom Perriello	15%	6%	21%	58%
Corey Stewart	13%	7%	18%	62%
Frank Wagner	4%	1%	17%	78%
Denver Riggleman	2%	-	18%	80%

STATEWIDE NAME RECOGNITION

*** 250 REGISTERED DEMOCRATS ***

Ralph Northam	31%	5%	30%	34%
Tom Perriello	21%	3%	27%	51%

***** 206 REGISTERED REPUBLICANS *****

Donald Trump	70%	11%	19%	-
Ed Gillespie	31%	3%	49%	17%
Corey Stewart	16%	4%	23%	57%
Frank Wagner	5%	1%	20%	74%
Denver Riggleman	2%	-	22%	76%

VOTER PREFERENCE

QUESTION: If the 2017 election for governor were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Ralph Northam, the Democrat, and Ed Gillespie, the Republican?

	<u>STATE</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOMEN</u>	<u>DEMS</u>	<u>REPS</u>	<u>INDS</u>
GILLESPIE	44%	49%	40%	6%	88%	45%
NORTHAM	41%	38%	42%	83%	4%	24%
UNDECIDED	15%	13%	18%	11%	8%	31%

QUESTION: If the 2017 election for governor were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Ralph Northam, the Democrat, and Corey Stewart, the Republican?

	<u>STATEMEN</u>	<u>WOMEN</u>	<u>DEMS</u>	<u>REPS</u>	<u>INDS</u>	
NORTHAM	45%	41%	49%	86%	6%	32%
STEWART	37%	43%	32%	5%	74%	39%
UNDECIDED	18%	16%	19%	9%	20%	29%

QUESTION: If the 2017 election for governor were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Tom Perriello, the Democrat, and Ed Gillespie, the Republican?

	<u>STATE</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOMEN</u>	<u>DEMS</u>	<u>REPS</u>	<u>INDS</u>
GILLESPIE	45%	52%	39%	9%	85%	49%
PERRIELLO	36%	32%	39%	72%	1%	24%
UNDECIDED	19%	16%	22%	19%	14%	27%

QUESTION: If the 2017 election for governor were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Tom Perriello, the Democrat, and Corey Stewart, the Republican?

	<u>STATEMEN</u>	<u>WOMEN</u>	<u>DEMS</u>	<u>REPS</u>	<u>INDS</u>	
PERRIELLO	40%	37%	43%	77%	4%	29%
STEWART	38%	44%	32%	5%	77%	39%
UNDECIDED	22%	19%	25%	18%	19%	32%

DEMOGRAPHICS

PARTY REGISTRATION:

Democrat	250 (40%)
Republican	206 (33%)
Independent or Other	169 (27%)

AGE:

18-34	112 (18%)
35-49	167 (27%)
50-64	189 (30%)
65+	152 (24%)
Refused	5 (1%)

RACE/ETHNICITY:

White/Caucasian	446 (71%)
Black/African American	125 (20%)
Hispanic	31 (5%)
Other	17 (3%)
Refused	6 (1%)

SEX:

Male	302 (48%)
Female	323 (52%)

REGION:

Northern Virginia	170 (27%)
Shenandoah/Piedmont	95 (15%)
Richmond Metro	90 (14%)
Hampton Roads/Tidewater	125 (20%)
Lynchburg/Southside	75 (12%)
Roanoke/Southwest	70 (11%)

HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED

This poll was conducted by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research, Inc. of Jacksonville, Florida from January 5 through January 10, 2017. A total of 625 registered Virginia voters were interviewed statewide by telephone.

Those interviewed were randomly selected from a phone-matched Virginia voter registration list that included both land-line and cell phone numbers. Quotas were assigned to reflect voter registration by county.

The margin for error, according to standards customarily used by statisticians, is no more than ± 4 percentage points. This means that there is a 95 percent probability that the "true" figure would fall within that range if all voters were surveyed. The margin for error is higher for any subgroup, such as a gender or age grouping.

