

# DATA FOR **PROGRESS**

From October 22 to 26, 2022, Data for Progress conducted a survey of 654 likely voters in Virginia using web panel respondents. The sample was weighted to be representative of likely voters by age, gender, education, race, geography, and voting history. The survey was conducted in English. The margin of error is  $\pm 4$  percentage points.

NB: subgroups with a n-size less than 50 (<50) are not shown on these cross-tabs. We choose not to display N<50 subgroups because the sample is too small to have statistical significance. We did, however, take samples of these subgroups for representational and weighting purposes to accurately reflect the electorate makeup. Some values may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

N=654 unless otherwise specified.

**[1]** Below is a list of reforms that state legislators in Virginia have recently enacted in the state's criminal justice system. For each of the following reforms, do you think that they have made your community **more** safe, **less** safe, or has there been **no change**?

— The state decriminalized the possession of marijuana

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
My community is more safe after the reforms	32	43	29	23
There has been no change	39	40	43	35
My community is less safe after the reforms	19	9	16	31
Don't know	10	7	12	11
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[2]** Below is a list of reforms that state legislators in Virginia have recently enacted in the state's criminal justice system. For each of the following reforms, do you think that they have made your community **more** safe, **less** safe, or has there been **no change**?

— The state ended the use of the death penalty in Virginia

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
My community is more safe after the reforms	12	20	10	6
There has been no change	42	52	38	36
My community is less safe after the reforms	29	14	31	44
Don't know	16	14	21	14
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[3]** Below is a list of reforms that state legislators in Virginia have recently enacted in the state's criminal justice system. For each of the following reforms, do you think that they have made your community **more** safe, **less** safe, or has there been **no change**?

— The state enacted a program to award Earned Sentence Credits to incarcerated people, incentivizing positive behaviors and engagement with rehabilitative programs in exchange for limited reductions in sentences

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
My community is more safe after the reforms	26	35	22	21
There has been no change	38	36	40	39
My community is less safe after the reforms	13	7	12	18
Don't know	23	21	27	21
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[4]** Below is a list of reforms that state legislators in Virginia have recently enacted in the state's criminal justice system. For each of the following reforms, do you think that they have made your community **more** safe, **less** safe, or has there been **no change**?

— The state prohibited the use of minor traffic violations to racially profile drivers

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
My community is more safe after the reforms	30	48	26	15
There has been no change	37	33	38	40
My community is less safe after the reforms	14	7	13	22
Don't know	19	12	24	23
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[5]** When thinking about the state's current public safety spending, do you think that the government should prioritize funding **state prisons and jails** or funding **crime prevention programs**?

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
The state should prioritize funding crime prevention programs	76	83	72	73
The state should prioritize funding state prisons and jails	17	10	20	23
Don't know	6	7	8	4
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[6]** Below is a list of criminal justice positions supported by certain leaders in Richmond. For each of the following statements, please say whether you agree or disagree with the position.

— Women suspected of seeking abortion services should face harsh penalties to include felony convictions and jail and prison sentences.

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
Strongly agree	5	5	3	7
Somewhat agree	8	5	7	12
Somewhat disagree	18	5	20	29
Strongly disagree	64	83	65	43
Don't know	5	2	5	9
AGREE (TOTAL)	13	10	10	19
DISAGREE (TOTAL)	82	88	85	72
AGREE (NET)	-69	-78	-75	-53
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[7]** Below is a list of criminal justice positions supported by certain leaders in Richmond. For each of the following statements, please say whether you agree or disagree with the position.

— Aggressive policing and long prison sentences have been effective in discouraging the use of opioids in Virginia

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
Strongly agree	9	7	5	14
Somewhat agree	16	12	16	20
Somewhat disagree	27	26	26	28
Strongly disagree	33	40	39	22
Don't know	15	16	14	16
AGREE (TOTAL)	25	19	21	34
DISAGREE (TOTAL)	60	66	65	50
AGREE (NET)	-35	-47	-44	-16
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[8]** Below is a list of criminal justice positions supported by certain leaders in Richmond. For each of the following statements, please say whether you agree or disagree with the position.

— The law should not second guess police officers' motivations for conducting traffic stops. They know how to best reduce crime and keep us safe

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
Strongly agree	15	9	10	25
Somewhat agree	26	13	23	41
Somewhat disagree	27	32	30	20
Strongly disagree	27	44	29	10
Don't know	5	2	8	4
AGREE (TOTAL)	41	22	33	66
DISAGREE (TOTAL)	54	76	59	30
AGREE (NET)	-13	-54	-26	+36
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[9]** Below is a list of criminal justice positions supported by certain leaders in Richmond. For each of the following statements, please say whether you agree or disagree with the position.

— Juvenile detention facilities provide more effective rehabilitation to young people than other public health, crime prevention, or other sentencing alternatives.

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
Strongly agree	9	11	5	10
Somewhat agree	27	21	28	31
Somewhat disagree	24	23	25	25
Strongly disagree	17	22	19	11
Don't know	23	23	23	23
AGREE (TOTAL)	36	32	33	41
DISAGREE (TOTAL)	41	45	44	36
AGREE (NET)	-5	-13	-11	+5
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[10]** Below is a list of criminal justice positions supported by certain leaders in Richmond. For each of the following statements, please say whether you agree or disagree with the position.

— Recent criminal justice reforms have led to increased crime and made my community less safe

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
Strongly agree	15	6	12	27
Somewhat agree	23	21	22	26
Somewhat disagree	25	21	29	24
Strongly disagree	15	26	10	8
Don't know	22	26	27	15
AGREE (TOTAL)	38	27	34	53
DISAGREE (TOTAL)	40	47	39	32
AGREE (NET)	-2	-20	-5	+21
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[11]** When thinking about public safety in Virginia, would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supported the following policies?

— Moving the Department of Juvenile Justice into the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, in line with all other youth-focused departments

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
Much more likely	17	30	11	8
Somewhat more likely	34	35	36	31
Somewhat less likely	17	8	20	22
Much less likely	9	8	6	13
Would not affect my decision	24	20	26	25
MORE LIKELY (TOTAL)	51	65	47	39
LESS LIKELY (TOTAL)	26	16	26	35
MORE LIKELY (NET)	+25	+49	+21	+4
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[12]** When thinking about public safety in Virginia, would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supported the following policies?

— Prohibiting law enforcement from holding youth suspected of committing offenses in adult prisons and jails

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
Much more likely	22	33	22	12
Somewhat more likely	28	34	31	19
Somewhat less likely	22	13	19	33
Much less likely	11	9	9	15
Would not affect my decision	17	11	20	21
<b>MORE LIKELY (TOTAL)</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>LESS LIKELY (TOTAL)</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>MORE LIKELY (NET)</b>	<b>+17</b>	<b>+45</b>	<b>+25</b>	<b>-17</b>
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[13]** When thinking about public safety in Virginia, would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supported the following policies?

— Adopting a public health approach to substance use disorder.

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
Much more likely	34	51	26	23
Somewhat more likely	39	35	44	40
Somewhat less likely	8	6	7	11
Much less likely	5	2	4	8
Would not affect my decision	14	7	18	17
<b>MORE LIKELY (TOTAL)</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>LESS LIKELY (TOTAL)</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>MORE LIKELY (NET)</b>	<b>+60</b>	<b>+78</b>	<b>+59</b>	<b>+44</b>
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[14]** When thinking about public safety in Virginia, would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supported the following policies?

— Ensuring that public defenders have equal access to government resources as state prosecutors

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
Much more likely	38	46	37	31
Somewhat more likely	38	36	36	42
Somewhat less likely	7	6	7	7
Much less likely	4	4	5	3
Would not affect my decision	13	8	15	17
<b>MORE LIKELY (TOTAL)</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>LESS LIKELY (TOTAL)</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>MORE LIKELY (NET)</b>	<b>+65</b>	<b>+72</b>	<b>+61</b>	<b>+63</b>
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[15]** When thinking about public safety in Virginia, would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supported the following policies?

— Creating more thorough systems to review the use of extreme jail sentences and to determine rehabilitation of incarcerated individuals

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
Much more likely	29	45	24	18
Somewhat more likely	41	36	46	41
Somewhat less likely	12	6	12	18
Much less likely	5	3	4	7
Would not affect my decision	13	10	15	16
<b>MORE LIKELY (TOTAL)</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>LESS LIKELY (TOTAL)</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>MORE LIKELY (NET)</b>	<b>+53</b>	<b>+72</b>	<b>+54</b>	<b>+34</b>
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[16]** The state of Virginia budgeted \$1.34 billion to fund its prison system in 2020, a year in which over 50% of prison admissions were for **nonviolent** offenses.

When thinking about public safety funding in Virginia, do you support or oppose the state government reallocating a portion of its prison funding towards alternative sentencing and prison diversion programs?

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
Strongly support	29	45	25	15
Somewhat support	46	40	49	50
Somewhat oppose	13	7	12	20
Strongly oppose	7	4	8	9
Don't know	5	3	6	6
SUPPORT (TOTAL)	75	85	74	65
OPPOSE (TOTAL)	20	11	20	29
SUPPORT (NET)	+55	+74	+54	+36
Weighted N	654	232	190	232

**[17]** Studies have shown that residents often struggle to secure housing, employment, and access to public services upon release from prison solely on the basis of their record.

When thinking about the reentry process from the justice system into society, which statement comes closest to your view, even if neither is exactly right?

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
Residents with records have served their time and should not be further punished. The state should ensure that they are able to re-enter society without facing discrimination.	77	83	75	72
Residents with records broke the law and should face the consequences that society deems appropriate, even after they have served their time.	18	12	18	24
Don't know	6	6	7	4
Weighted N	654	232	190	232