

Oct. 16, 2016

Clinton expands lead over Trump to 15 points, 44-29, after 'Access Hollywood' tape release and 2nd debate

Summary of Key Findings

1. Clinton leads Trump 44-29 percent on the full five-candidate ballot, indicating significant damage to Trump by the 'Access Hollywood' tape and the 2nd debate.
2. Women's support for Clinton is nearly double their support for Trump, 50-26 percent.
3. Clinton now leads among men for the first time, 37-32 percent.
4. Independent voters are moving to Clinton from Trump and from Libertarian nominee Gary Johnson.
5. Clinton's lead in Northern Virginia has risen to 55 percent; Trump's lead in South/Southwest Virginia has grown to 48 percent.
6. Among likely voters in Virginia's military households, Clinton now leads Trump for the first time, 38-32 percent.

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Analysis

With just over three weeks left until Election Day, the bottom seems to be dropping out of Donald Trump's chances in Virginia. Hillary Clinton's lead has expanded from 7 points in late September to 15 points, according to a new Wason Center survey. On the five-candidate ballot, Clinton now leads Trump, 44-29 percent.

"It's crystal clear why the Trump campaign pulled staff out of Virginia this week," said Dr. Quentin Kidd, Director of the Wason Center. "The Access Hollywood tape, along with Trump's 2nd debate performance and the turmoil that followed, has fundamentally made Virginia impossible for him to win."

The survey was conducted Oct. 11-14 among 809 likely Virginia voters, entirely after the release of the 2005 tape and the St. Louis debate. It has an overall margin of error of +/- 3.6 % at the 95% level of confidence.

While Trump's support has sunk dramatically, Clinton's has increased only slightly since early October. Her gain from 42 percent to 44 percent continues to indicate that while voters are rejecting Trump, they are having a hard time embracing Clinton. However, some of her growth comes from Republicans moving from Trump to her. Although shifts in the overall complexion of the race in this survey are modest, changes within some demographic groups are dramatic, although the margin of error for subgroups is higher.

"Clinton's strong showing in Northern Virginia and her 24-point lead statewide among women block any path Trump might have to win in Virginia," said Dr. Rachel Bitecofer, Assistant Director of the Wason Center. "Although Trump continues to lead among white voters generally, and in South-Southwest Virginia, that isn't nearly enough to counter his weakness in the Golden Crescent that runs from Northern Virginia through Richmond to Hampton Roads."

Clinton's support among Independents has grown from 21 percent in late September to 39 percent in mid-October. Independents continue to move away from both Trump and Libertarian nominee Gary Johnson. Johnson's support among Independents dropped 13 points, from 31 percent in September to 18 percent in this survey. The Libertarian lost ground in every demographic segment, and his overall support dropped from 15 percent in September to 11 percent in this survey.

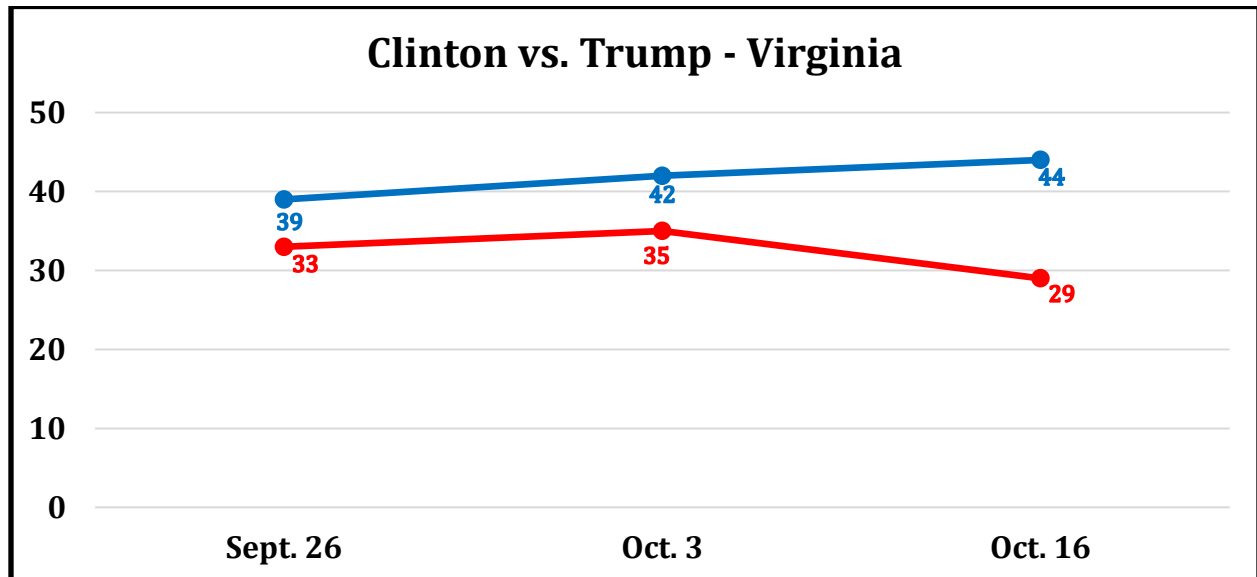
Clinton's support has grown 5 points among men since September, and she now leads Trump among male voters, 37-32 percent. Clinton's support among military households is up 6 points since September, and she leads Trump among military households for the first time, 38-32 percent. In populous Northern Virginia, Clinton has gained 10 points since September while Trump lost 6 points, and she leads there, 55-21 percent. That pattern is similar in Richmond/Central and Hampton Roads. Only in South-Southwest Virginia has Trump's position strengthened, up from 47 percent to 48 percent.

The Wason Center will release three more tracking surveys among likely Virginia voters leading up to the Nov. 8 election. The releases are set for Oct. 21, Oct. 28 and Nov. 7.

Tables

Q4: If the election for president were held TODAY and the candidates were [RANDOMIZE: “Hillary Clinton the Democrat,” “Donald Trump the Republican”, “Gary Johnson the Libertarian”, “Jill Stein the Green”, or “Evan McMullin the Independent”], for whom would you vote?

Overall	10/16	10/3	9/26
Clinton	44	42	39
Trump	29	35	33
Johnson	11	12	15
Stein	2	1	3
McMullin	3	2	3
Undecided	2	1	1
None	6	5	5
Dk/Ref	3	2	1



By party	10/16			10/3			9/26		
	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind	Rep	Dem	Ind
Clinton	7	87	39	8	88	34	3	87	21
Trump	68		24	73	2	28	78	1	32
Johnson	9	6	18	10	3	20	9	4	31
Stein	1	1	1		2	2	2	2	4
McMullin	4	1	5	3	1	4	3		5
Undecided	3		3		1	1	1		1
Neither	6	3	7	5	3	7	4	5	6
Dk/Ref	2	1	4	1		3		1	

By sex	10/16		10/3		9/26	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Clinton	37	50	36	46	32	46
Trump	32	26	42	28	42	26
Johnson	14	8	13	10	15	15
Stein	4	1	1	2	4	2
McMullin	3	3	2	3	2	3
Undecided	1	3	1	1	2	
Neither	7	6	3	8	4	7
Dk/Ref	2	3	2	2		2

By age	10/16		10/3		9/26	
	18-34	35+	18-34	35+	18-34	35+
Clinton	45	43	42	42	34	41
Trump	18	34	24	38	23	37
Johnson	20	7	24	7	27	10
Stein	3	1	2	1	4	3
McMullin	3	3	3	2	4	2
Undecided	5	1	1	1		1
Neither	3	7	4	6	7	5
Dk/Ref	2	4		3		1

By race	10/16		10/3		9/26	
	White	Black	White	Black	White	Black
Clinton	32	79	32	74	30	74
Trump	40	3	44	7	41	4
Johnson	12	4	13	7	17	4
Stein	1	1	1	3	4	1
McMullin	4	3	3	1	2	4
Undecided	2	2	1	1	1	1
Neither	6	6	5	5	4	11
Dk/Ref	3	2	1	2	1	1

By white, sex	10/16		10/3		9/26	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Clinton	26	36	29	36	27	34
Trump	44	36	50	41	48	34
Johnson	15	9	12	8	15	20
Stein	3	1	1	1	4	3
McMullin	3	5	2	2	2	2
None	2	3	1	1	1	
Neither	6	7	4	8	3	5
Dk/Ref	1	3	2	2		2

By white, college degree	10/16		10/3		9/26	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Clinton	37	23	39	24	37	18
Trump	32	51	37	55	33	57
Johnson	13	11	13	7	17	17
Stein	1	2	2	1	4	3
McMullin	5	3	1	2	2	1
Undecided	3	2	1	1	1	
None	6	6	5	7	5	2
Dk/Ref	3	2	1	3	1	1

By military	10/16		10/3		9/26	
	Mil	Non- Mil	Mil	Non- mil	Mil	Non- mil
Clinton	38	47	36	44	32	42
Trump	32	28	37	34	39	31
Johnson	15	8	13	12	19	13
Stein		2	1	1	2	3
McMullin	5	3	4	2	2	3
Undecided	3	2	1		1	1
Neither	4	7	7	5	4	6
Dk/Ref	3	3	1	2	1	1

By region	10/16				10/3				9/26			
	Nova	Rich	HR	S'west	Nova	Rich	HR	S'west	Nova	Rich	HR	S'west
Clinton	55	47	42	27	50	41	40	31	45	42	38	29
Trump	21	27	25	48	27	35	34	46	27	31	31	47
Johnson	8	8	20	6	9	13	15	11	16	12	17	13
Stein	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	4	3	3
McMullin	2	6	4	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	4
Undecided	3	1	2	2	1		1	1	1	2		
Neither	5	8	4	10	9	3	4	4	5	6	8	3
Dk/Ref	3	2	2	4		4	2	3	1	1	1	1

Demographic Toplines

EDUC:		
High school or less		15
Some college		24
Vocational or technical training		3
College graduate		34
Graduate study or more		23
Dk/ref (vol)		1

HISPANIC:		
Yes	5	
No	95	

RACE:		
White	68	
Black or African American	20	
Other	12	

AGE: (Recorded as exact year of birth)		
18-24	12	
25-34	17	
35-44	17	
45-54	21	
55 & older	33	

MILITARY HOUSEHOLD:		
Yes	27	
No	72	
Dk/ref (vol)	1	

PARTYID:		
Republican	29	
Democrat	33	
Independent	30	
No preference (vol)	4	
Other party (vol)	1	
Dk/ref (vol)	3	

[IF OTHER THAN REP OR DEM ABOVE]

PARTLEAN:		
Republican	36	
Democratic	31	
Independent	29	
Dk/ref (vol)	4	

RELIG:		
Protestant		27
Christian (non-specific) (vol)		19
Catholic		16
Jewish		2
Other		15
None		18
Dk/ref (vol)		3

IDEOL:		
Strong liberal	5	
Liberal	11	
Moderate, leaning liberal	22	
Moderate, leaning conservative	20	
Conservative	21	
Strong Conservative	10	
Dk/ref (vol)	12	

REGION:		
Northern Virginia		33
Richmond/Central		21
Hampton Roads		24
South/Southwest		22

INCOME:		
Under \$25,000		5
\$25-\$49,999		14
\$50-\$74,999		16
\$75-\$99,999		14
\$100,000-\$149,999		19
Over \$150,000		18
Dk/ref (vol)		13

SEX: [INTERVIEWER CODE]

Male	46
Female	54

How the survey was conducted:

The results of this poll are based on 809 interviews of likely Virginia voters, including 341 on landline and 468 on cell phone, conducted Oct. 11-14, 2016. Percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding. The margin of error for the whole survey is +/- 3.6 % at the 95% level of confidence. All error margins have been adjusted to account for the survey's design effect, which is 1.1 in this survey. The design effect is a factor representing the survey's deviation from a simple random sample, and takes into account decreases in precision due to sample design and weighting procedures. Sub samples have a higher margin of error. In addition to sampling error, the other potential sources of error include non-response, question wording, and interviewer error. The response rate (AAPOR RRI Standard Definition) for the survey was 20%. Five callbacks were employed in the fielding process. Live calling was conducted by trained interviewers at the Wason Center for Public Policy Survey Research Lab at Christopher Newport University. The data reported here are weighted using an iterative weighting process on sex, age, race and region of residence to reflect as closely as possible the demographic composition of likely 2016 voters in Virginia.