

DATA FOR **PROGRESS**

From May 19 to 25, 2022, Data for Progress conducted a survey of 598 likely voters in Virginia using web panel respondents. The sample was weighted to be representative of likely voters by age, gender, education, race, and voting history. The survey was conducted in English. The margin of error is ± 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=598 unless otherwise specified.

[1] In recent years, legislators in Virginia have pushed for reforms to the state's criminal justice system, including ending the death penalty and decriminalizing marijuana for adults.

Do you think that these reforms have made your community more safe, less safe, or has there been no change?

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
My community is more safe after the reforms	13	21	12	5
There has been no change	60	64	58	57
My community is less safe after the reforms	22	8	22	35
Don't know	6	7	8	3
Weighted N	598	183	225	189

[2] When thinking about the Virginia criminal justice system, which statement comes closer to your view even if neither one is exactly right?

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
The criminal justice system is meant to keep violators off of the street and discourage future crime by punishing them harshly	36	42	29	39
The criminal justice system is meant to reform violators into contributing members of society while also punishing them for their crimes	57	54	63	52
Don't know	7	3	8	9
Weighted N	598	183	225	189

[3] A 2017 report found that the state of Virginia spends over \$21,000 a year per person in state prisons, including the over 5,000 inmates over the age of 55.

When thinking about public safety funding in Virginia, do you think that the state should prioritize funding **crime prevention programs** or funding **state prisons and jails**?

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
The state should prioritize funding crime prevention programs	71	87	64	64
The state should prioritize funding state prisons and jails	20	9	21	29
Don't know	9	5	14	6
Weighted N	598	183	225	189

[4] Studies have shown that many residents' first encounter with mental health professionals doesn't occur until they enter the criminal justice system.

Knowing what you do now, when thinking about how to prevent crime in your community, do you think that the state should prioritize **funding long-term prison sentences** or that it should prioritize **making mental health services** more accessible to residents?

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican
The state should prioritize funding long-term prison sentences	8	6	10	8
The state should prioritize making mental health services more accessible	85	91	81	85
Don't know	6	3	9	7
Weighted N	598	183	225	189

[5] 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.	75	89	71	67
Residents with records broke the law and should face the consequences that society deems appropriate, even after they have served their time.	19	10	19	27
Don't know	6	1	9	6
Weighted N	598	183	225	189