
NEWS



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For More Information, Contact:
Rex Repass
513-325-2700 (direct)
rex@repassinc.com

Trump Maintains Strong Lead in West Virginia

Cincinnati, Ohio – Donald Trump has a commanding 18-point lead over Hillary Clinton, according to the latest edition of the MetroNews West Virginia Poll.

Trump leads 49 percent-to-31 percent over Clinton, while Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson trails with 10 percent and Green Party candidate Jill Stein with 4 percent support. Six percent of likely voters remain undecided.

“Donald Trump continues to dominate the presidential race in West Virginia, as he did during the primary season,” Rex Repass, CEO of REPASS Research and director of the MetroNews West Virginia Poll said. “There is enthusiasm for the Republican nominee, but Libertarian Gary Johnson is also gaining some support. Nearly nine-in-10 West Virginians are worried about the national economy (57 percent “very worried” and 31 percent “somewhat worried”), and Republicans in the state are enthusiastic about their presidential nominee,” Repass added.

In addition to his support among Republicans (eight-in-10 said they would vote for Trump if the election were held today), Trump’s support among independents is 53 percent and 27 percent among Democrats.

In other poll questions, 41 percent of respondents in West Virginia said they prefer a Republican controlled US Congress vs. 39 percent who said they prefer control by the Democratic party. President Obama has 32 percent approval rating compared to 60 percent who disapprove.

West Virginia governor Earl Ray Tomblin has a 53 percent approval rating (25 percent disapprove); US Senator Joe Manchin has a 50 percent approval rating (31 percent disapprove); and Shelley Moore Capito has a 47 percent approval rating (27 percent disapprove).

A methodology statement and additional findings follow.

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Methodology Statement

Results of this edition of MetroNews West Virginia Poll are the result of interviews conducted between August 9-28, 2016 (presidential and gubernatorial questions fielded August 18-28, 2016) with a sample of 386 and 435 registered, likely voters in W.Va. including registered Democrats, Republicans, Libertarian, Mountain Party, and unaffiliated or independent voters. Data collection methods used included landline phone, cell phone, and opt-in Internet panel. Each data collection method has inherent strengths and weakness.

Respondents answered screening questions to qualify for participation in the poll including West Virginia residency, current voter registration, and likelihood to vote in the November 8, 2016 primary election. All 55 counties in West Virginia were represented in the survey proportionate to the number of registered voters by party based on 2016 data from the W.Va. Secretary of State's office.

When using multiple data collection methods, it is not appropriate to apply a probability-based margin of error to interviews completed. However, applying statistical tests of significance to each question asked at the 95 percent confidence interval yields an overall statistical error of +/- 4.7 percentage points based on the 435 ballot questions asked of registered likely voters. The 95 percent confidence interval varies by question.

The purpose of the MetroNews West Virginia Poll is to provide a snapshot of opinion and timely voter views in the Mountain State. The media sponsor of the West Virginia Poll is MetroNews, the statewide radio network owned by West Virginia Radio Corporation.

REPASS is responsible for questionnaire design, the respondent screening and selection process, data tabulation, statistical analysis, and reporting of results. The firm's data collection partner, McMillion Research Services, conducts the data collection. Data collection for this issue of the poll was conducted from the firm's Charleston, W.Va. data collection facilities for telephone, mobile, and online surveys. Both the REPASS and McMillion firms are members of the Council of American Survey Research Organizations (CASRO).

Data as reported has been statistically weighted based by Census estimates of voter participation by age, party affiliation, and gender.

The MetroNews West Virginia Poll is a non-partisan survey of public opinion owned and conducted by the REPASS firm. The West Virginia Poll has been conducted periodically since January 21, 1980. The name The West Virginia Poll is a registered trademark of R.L. Repass & Partners, Inc., dba REPASS, all rights reserved. For more information, see www.wvpoll.com.

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REPASS is a custom survey research and strategic consulting firm. The firm's services range from consulting with clients to identify research objectives, through study design, data collection, analysis, and research-based strategy recommendations. The company is headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio with offices in metro Washington, DC and Charleston, W.Va. For more information, see www.repassinc.com.

Topline Results Follow

Respondent qualifications:

- Age 18 or older
- Resident of West Virginia
- Registered in current precinct or election district
- Absolutely certain or very likely to vote in November election

Respondent Profile

- Gender
 - Male 48%
 - Female 52%

- Age
 - 18-24 8%
 - 25-34 13%
 - 35-44 17%
 - 45-64 33%
 - 65+ 29%

- County of residence
 - Northern 48%
 - Southern 52%

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Findings

- If the presidential election were being held TODAY, would you vote for **(ROTATE ORDER OF NAMES)** [Hillary Clinton, the Democratic Party candidate / Donald Trump, the Republican Party candidate / Gary Johnson, the Libertarian Party candidate / Jill Stein, the Green Party candidate]? *Base: All respondents, n=435*

49%	Donald Trump, the Republican Party candidate
31%	Hillary Clinton, the Democratic Party candidate
10%	Gary Johnson, the Libertarian Party candidate
4%	Jill Stein, the Green Party candidate
6%	Not sure

- And, thinking about the 2016 elections, what is your preference for the outcome of NEXT year's congressional elections **(ROTATE ORDER)** [A Republican-controlled Congress / A Democrat-controlled Congress]? *Base: All respondents, n=386*

41%	A Republican-controlled Congress
39%	A Democrat-controlled Congress
20%	Not sure

- Next, do you approve or disapprove of the job the following public figure **(ROTATE ORDER OF NAMES)** [Barack Obama as president / Earl Ray Tomblin as West Virginia governor / Shelley Moore-Capito as a US senate / Joe Manchin as a US senator] are doing . . . ? *Base: All respondents, n=386*

	Approve	Disapprove	Not Sure
Barack Obama as president	32%	60%	7%
Earl Ray Tomblin as West Virginia governor	53%	25%	22%
Shelley Moore-Capito as a US senator	47%	27%	26%
Joe Manchin as a US senator	50%	31%	19%

- How worried are you about the direction of the nation's economy in the next few years? *Base: All respondents, n=386*

57%	Very worried
31%	Somewhat worried
9%	Not very worried
2%	Not at all worried

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- How does the Republican Party make you feel? *Base: Registered Republicans*

20%	Frustrated
63%	Hopeful
3%	Angry
6%	Afraid
24%	Proud
30%	Enthusiastic
9%	None of these

- How does the Democratic Party make you feel? *Base: Registered Democrats*

32%	Frustrated
46%	Hopeful
10%	Angry
9%	Afraid
22%	Proud
19%	Enthusiastic
7%	None of these

Respondent Demographics

These last few questions are for statistical purposes only.

- Which of the following best describes your level of education? *Base: All respondents, n=386*

1%	Some high school or less
25%	High school graduate or equivalent (GED)
8%	Technical school graduate
23%	Some college
13%	Associate's degree
17%	Bachelor's degree
13%	Graduate or professional degree

26% NET HS grad or less education
44% NET Tech school, some college, Associate's degree
30% NET College degree or graduate degree

- Are you or anyone else in your immediate household a member of a labor union organization?
Base: All respondents, n=386

15%	Yes
84%	No

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- Finally, into which of the following categories does your total annual household income happen to fall? *Base: All respondents, n=386*

7%	Less than \$10,000
5%	\$10,000 - \$14,999
11%	\$15,000 - \$24,999
14%	\$25,000 - \$34,999
18%	\$35,000 - \$49,999
18%	\$50,000 - \$74,999
9%	\$75,000 - \$99,999
8%	\$100,000 - \$149,999
1%	Over \$150,000
9%	Refused