

2020 Virginia General Election Results

Summary:

The 2020 General Election will go down in history as one of the most unorthodox and interesting elections in U.S. history. With the backdrop of a global pandemic which brought the world economy to a standstill, and led to state-level shutdowns, candidates campaigned hard at all levels, leveraging social media and finding new ways to reach voters.

The voter turnout in this election was surprisingly consistent with that of 2016, despite predictions that it would be much higher. In the Commonwealth, of the 5,975,696 registered voters, 4,244,222 voted either absentee or in-person on election day. That represents a turnout of 71%. To put the 2020 General Election into context, in the 2016 Election between President Donald J. Trump and Hillary Clinton, there were 3.9 million votes cast representing a turnout of seventy-two percent (72%).

At the time of this report, ninety-eight percent (98%) of precincts have reported in and while some of the final vote totals might adjust slightly, none of the outstanding precincts will impact the outcome of the election. Below is a brief report of the election results in the Commonwealth.

Presidential Contest: [JOE BIDEN](#)

In the race for the White House, Joe Biden won Virginia's thirteen electoral votes. Biden received 53.65% (2,286,321 votes) and President Trump received 44.48% (1,895,689 votes) Overall, Biden won by approximately 80,000 votes. Trump performed well in Southwest Virginia but did underperform in some traditionally Republican suburban counties. In comparison, Joe Biden performed extremely well in the urban and suburban areas of Virginia such as in Arlington County, Fairfax County, and the City of Richmond.

United States Senate: [MARK WARNER](#)

Senator Mark Warner defeated Republican Daniel Gade. Results: Senator Mark Warner 55.63% (2,332,266 Votes); Daniel Gade 44.27% (1,855,992 Votes)

Senator Mark Warner (D-Virginia) was first elected during the 2008 General Election, following the retirement of longtime U.S. Senator John Warner (R-Virginia). Previously, Warner served as Governor of the Commonwealth from 2002-2006.

Senator Mark Warner currently serves on the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs, the Committee on the Budget, the Committee on Rules & Administration, and the Select Committee on Intelligence where he serves as Vice Chairman.

First Congressional District: WITTMAN

Congressman Rob Wittman defeated Democrat Qasim Rashid. Results: Congressman Wittman 58.93% (240,748 votes); Qasim Rashid 40.94% (167,279 votes).

Congressman Rob Wittman (R-Montross) was first elected in a special election in 2007 following the death of former Congresswoman JoAnn Davis. Previously, Congressman Wittman served in the Virginia House of Delegates.

Congressman Wittman currently serves on the House Committee on Armed Services and the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Second Congressional District: LURIA

Congresswoman Elaine Luria defeated Republican Scott Taylor. Results: Congresswoman Luria 50.94% (174,873 votes); Scott Taylor 46.49% (159,568 votes).

Congresswoman Luria (D-Virginia Beach) was first elected in 2018 when she defeated former Congressman Scott Taylor. The 2020 General Election was a re-match between the two candidates. Luria has a distinguished career as a Commander in the U.S. Navy before retiring.

Congresswoman Luria currently serves on the House Committee on Armed Services and the House Committee on Veterans Affairs.

Third Congressional District: SCOTT

Congressman Bobby Scott easily won reelection and defeated GOP challenger John Collick. Results: Congressman Scott received 63.28%% (170,233 votes); John Collick 36.51% (98,226 votes).

The Third Congressional District is considered one of the most Democrat leaning districts in the Commonwealth and was redrawn following a court-ordered redistricting.

Congressman Scott serves as Chairman of the Committee on Education and Workforce.

Fourth Congressional District: McEACHIN

Congressman Don McEachin defeated Republican Leon Benjamin to represent the 4th District. Results: Congressman Don McEachin 60.69% (227,623 votes); Leon Benjamin 39.19% (146,963 votes).

Congressman McEachin was first elected to the U.S. House in 2016. Prior to his election, he served in the Senate of Virginia. The 4th Congressional District was one of the districts which was re-drawn following a court order.

Congressman McEachin serves on the Committee on Energy & Commerce, the Committee on Natural Resources, and the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis.

Fifth Congressional District: GOOD

Republican Bob Good defeated Democrat Cameron Webb in the Republican leaning 5th Congressional District. Results: Republican Bob Good 52.30% (201,734 votes); Democrat Cameron Webb 47.45% (183,016 votes).

The 5th District has undergone several change in its representation over the past few years. In 2016, former Congressman Robert Hurt announced that he would not seek a fourth term. The 5th District later elected former Republican Congressman Tom Garrett in the November 2016 General Election. Garrett served one term in Congress, and retired in advance of the 2018 Mid-Term Election. The 5th District then elected Republican Congressman Denver Riggleman. In May 2020, Congressman Riggleman was defeated in a Republican Primary by Mr. Bob Good.

This was a targeted race by both the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, and the National Republican Congressional Committee. Both candidates had high profile endorsements and strong support from national campaigns.

Good served on the Campbell County Board of Supervisors for one term (2015-2019). He has been married to his wife for thirty-two years, and has three children.

Sixth Congressional District: CLINE

Congressman Cline handily won against Democrat Nicholas Betts. Results: Congressman Cline 65.26% (227,437 votes); Nicholas Betts 34.74% (121,046 votes).

Congressman Cline (R-Lexington) was first elected in 2018 and currently serves on the House Committee on Education & Labor, and the Committee on Judiciary.

Seventh Congressional District: TOO CLOSE TO CALL

Republican Nick Freitas is narrowly leading Congresswoman Abigail Spanberger. Results: Nick Freitas 49.95% (199,786 votes); Congresswoman Spanberger 49.89% (199,513 votes).

The 7th District is another Republican leaning district which has undergone several changes to its representation in the past few years. For many years, the 7th District was represented by Congressman Eric Cantor, who at the time of his defeat served as the House Majority Leader. In 2014, he lost a primary challenge to former Congressman Dave Brat. Congressman Brat served three terms in the U.S. House until his defeat by Democrat Abigail Spanberger in the 2018 Mid-Term election. Spanberger ran as a centrist Democrat who was strong on national security given her background as an intelligence officer at the CIA.

At this time, this race is too close to call

Eighth Congressional District: BEYER

Democrat Don Beyer easily defeated Republican Jeff Jordan. Results: Beyer received 75.57% (293,235 votes) to Jordan's 24.20% (93,906 votes). The Eighth Congressional District is an overwhelmingly Democrat district.

Congressman Beyer has a distinguished career in politics. He served as Lieutenant Governor from 1990-1998 and the unsuccessfully ran for Governor of the Commonwealth. Later, he was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve as Ambassador to

Liechtenstein (2009-2013). In 2014, he won a competitive Democrat Primary and later won the General Election by a wide margin.

Congressman Beyer currently serves on the Committee on Ways & Means, the Committee on Science, Space and Technology, and the Joint Economic Committee.

Ninth Congressional District: GRIFFITH

Republican Congressman Morgan Griffith ran unopposed in the 9th Congressional District. Congressman Griffith was reelected to his sixth term in Congress having been elected in 2010 when he defeated former Congressman Rick Boucher. Currently, Congressman Griffith serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Tenth Congressional District: WEXTON

Congresswoman Jennifer Wexton defeated Republican Aliscia Andrews. Results: Congresswoman Wexton received 56.24% (256,812 votes) and Andrews received 43.656% (199,320 votes.)

Congressman Wexton was reelected to a second term in Congress, having defeated former Republican Congresswoman Barbara Comstock in the 2018 Mid-Term election. The 10th District is considered a swing district and stretches from the Capital Beltway to the West Virginia border.

Wexton currently serves on the House Committee on Financial Services, and the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology.

Eleventh Congressional District: CONNOLLY

Democrat Congressman Gerry Connolly easily won reelection defeating Republican Manga Anantamula. Results: Congresswoman Connolly received 71.45% (271,400 votes) and Anantamula received 28.27% (107,368 votes.)

Congressman Connolly was reelected to seventh term in Congress having been elected in 2008 following the retirement of former Congressman Tom Davis. Prior to his election to Congress, Connolly served as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

Congressman Connolly currently serves on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Congressional Districts	Member	Party Affiliation	Elected Terms
1 st District	Wittman	Republican	7 th Term
2 nd District	Luria	Democrat	2 nd Term
3 rd District	Scott	Democrat	15 th Term
4 th District	McEachin	Democrat	3 rd Term
5 th District	Good	Republican	1 st Term
6 th District	Cline	Republican	2 nd Term

7 th District	TOO CLOSE	N/A	
8 th District	Beyer	Democrat	4 th Term
9 th District	Griffith	Republican	6 th Term
10 th District	Wexton	Democrat	2 nd Term
11 th District	Connolly	Democrat	7 th Term

OTHER CONTESTS OF NOTE

Non-Partisan Redistricting Amendment

The constitutional amendment establishing a non-partisan redistricting commission passed 65.76% (2,446,479 Votes) to 34.24% (1,273,918 votes).

The notion of a non-partisan redistricting commission has been debated for several years in the Virginia General Assembly. During the 2019 General Assembly Session, the Republican Majority proposed a constitutional amendment which established a non-partisan redistricting commission. The amendment language passed 85-13 in the House of Delegates and 39-1 in the Senate of Virginia. The process for a constitutional amendment requires that a second vote on identical language take place after an intervening election, and so the matter came before the General Assembly during the 2020 Session. This amendment was highly controversial, and despite overwhelming support from Democrats the year prior, the amendment barely passed the House of Delegates 54-46, and in the Senate 38-2.

Following the approval of the Joint Resolution which placed the amendment on the 2020 General Election ballot, there was a highly organized campaign by both those supporting and opposed to the constitutional amendment. The issue has created a schism within the Democratic Party with some elected officials voicing support for the amendment, while others were opposed.

With the passage of this amendment the 2021 decennial redistricting process will be governed by a non-partisan commission comprised of eight legislators and eight citizens. The members will be selected by retired judges from lists provide by both parties in both chambers of the General Assembly. The maps require the votes of six legislators and six citizens to pass, and the General Assembly ultimately gets an up-or-down vote on the map, but does not have the ability to amend the proposal.

City of Virginia Beach

The City of Virginia Beach also had a competitive mayoral contest, and several council elections. There was one at-large seat on the ballot, along with three district-level seats. The results of the election are as follows (winner highlighted):

<u>Office</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Total Percentage</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Mayor	Bobby Dyer (I)	51.78%	
Mayor	Jody Wagner	43.81%	
Mayor	Richard Kowalewitch	4.28%	
At-Large	Rosemary Wilson (I)	53.82%	
At-Large	Brandon Hutchins	35.56%	
At-Large	Nadine Paniccia	10.35%	
Centerville District	Sabrina Wooten (I)	54.98%	
Centerville District	Eric Wray	44.77%	
Kempsville District	Jessica Abbott (I)	62.18%	
Kempsville District	Bill Dale	37.59%	
Rose Hall District	Michael Berlucchi (I)	57.47%	
Rose Hall District	Conrad Schesventer	27.77%	
Rose Hall District	Garry Hubbard	14.40%	

*(I) Represents an Incumbent

City of Portsmouth

The City of Portsmouth also had a competitive mayoral contest, and a council election. The top three vote getters were elected to the City Council. The results of the election are as follows (winners highlighted):

<u>Office</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Total Percentage</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Mayor	Paul Battle	20.42%	
Mayor	Shannon Glover	35.21%	
Mayor	Tony Goodwin	11.74%	
Mayor	Danny Meeks	28.65%	
Mayor	Cliff Page	2.19%	
Mayor	Donna Sayegh	1.44%	
Council	De'Andre Barnes	16.65%	
Council	Ambakey Bolden	2.62%	
Council	Ed Brown	4.37%	
Council	Nathan Clark (I)	8.97%	
Council	Mark Hugel	9.6%	
Council	Ted Lamb	10.83%	
Council	Lisa Lucas-Burke (I)	16.26%	
Council	Tamara Shewmake	12.92%	
Council	Dante Walston	4.28%	
Council	Mark Whitaker	13.18%	

*(I) Represents an Incumbent

Conclusion:

The results of the 2020 General Election produced a rather significant shift in the partisan composition of the Virginia Congressional delegation. While the 7th District is still too close to call, should Del. Freitas prevail, Democrats will have a 6-5 advantage in the House of Representatives and retain control of both United States Senate seats.

Likewise, the approval of the constitutional amendment establishing a non-partisan redistricting commission will likely have a long-term impact on the upcoming 2021 General Election, in which the entire House of Delegates will be up for election.

Please note that results listed above are preliminary and unofficial until certified by the State Board of Elections.