



behavior research center's

Rocky Mountain Poll

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NAPOLITANO, McCAIN JOB RATINGS HIT RECORD HIGH MARKS

Phoenix, Arizona, February 16, 2005. As Republican “wanna-be” governors stumble over each other to challenge Democrat Governor Janet Napolitano, voters in Arizona appear to be growing more fond of their chief executive. Napolitano’s favorable job rating rose to 55 percent in January from 51 percent in October and only 49 percent one year ago January. Those inclined to disapprove of her performance in office shrank to 13 percent from 16 percent in October.

Favorable job ratings for the Governor total 71 percent among Democrats, 41 percent with Republicans and an impressive 63 percent among Independents.

Simultaneously, Republican Senator John McCain is at the top of his popularity with a stunning 73 percent rating his performance as favorable. Barely six percent think he is doing a poor job as U.S. Senator.

Such results would seem to provide some evidence that Arizona voters are able to find some comfort in having major offices held by members of differing political parties. The results are also interesting when compared to the ratings the public gives to the state legislature and U.S. Senator Jon Kyl, both arguably further to the right than either Napolitano or McCain. In the case of the state legislature, favorable job ratings rose to 34 percent in January – roughly comparable to last summer, but definitely superior to those of the past several years. Voters will probably take a serious interest in both the substance and style of what some predict will be a divisive serious run by a very conservative legislature determined to embarrass and weaken Governor Napolitano.

The findings outlined in this report are based on a survey of 703 adults across Arizona conducted between January 4th and January 7th, 2005, by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona as part of the Center’s independent and non-partisan Rocky Mountain Poll series. The public is welcome to visit www.brcpolls.com to read this and other recent polls.

Senator Jon Kyl is also enjoying some of his best readings – 49 percent favorable to only seven percent unfavorable. Senator Kyl’s numbers, while good, lack the bi-partisan tonality of Senator McCain. Thus, while Kyl has solid positive job ratings among Republicans (63%) they soften to 53 percent among Independents and to only 39 percent among Democrats.

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It may also be of interest to some that the more centrist politicians McCain and Napolitano are considerably more popular than the conservative Kyl and the very conservative new state legislature.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll Arizona (2005-I-04) is based on 703 telephone interviews with adults, conducted from January 4th through January 7th, 2005, throughout Arizona. In the overall sample, one may say with 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 3.7 percent of what they would have been had the entire adult population been surveyed. The voter segment of the sample includes 540 voters and has an estimated margin of error =/-4.3 percent. The Rocky Mountain Poll is conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona and is an independent and non-partisan research program.

This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

ENCLOSED: Statistical data for reference.

STATISTICAL DATA

Behavior Research Center
Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona
RMP 2005-I-04

For this and other polls, see www.brcpolls.com/results.

“Next, I’d like to read you the names of some public officials. As I read each one, please just tell me if you think the job they are doing in office is excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor.”

		EXCELLENT/ GOOD	FAIR	POOR/VERY POOR	(NET POS TO NEG)
<u>Governor Janet Napolitano</u>					
January	2005	55%	24%	13%	(+ 42)
October	2004	51	25	16	(+ 35)
July	2004	52	25	18	(+ 34)
April	2004	43	30	20	(+ 23)
January	2004	49	26	17	(+ 32)
October	2003	46	30	16	(+ 30)
April	2003	49	24	10	(+ 39)
<u>Arizona State Legislature</u>					
January	2005	34%	34%	13%	(+ 21)
October	2004	26	35	19	(+ 7)
July	2004	34	33	18	(+ 17)
April	2004	25	37	20	(+ 5)
January	2004	27	34	22	(+ 5)
October	2003	22	38	20	(+ 2)
April	2003	29	31	20	(+ 9)
January	2003	19	33	30	(- 11)
October	2002	17	35	29	(- 12)
October	2001	29	34	16	(+ 13)
April	2001	28	37	17	(+ 11)
January	2001	25	32	25	(-0-)
October	2000	31	35	16	(+ 15)
January	2000	30	36	18	(+ 12)
January	1999	37	33	11	(+ 26)
January	1998	31	35	18	(+ 13)
January	1997	28	40	17	(+ 11)
January	1996	22	46	17	(+ 5)
January	1995	22	41	15	(+ 7)
January	1994	23	39	22	(+ 1)
January	1993	15	39	26	(- 11)

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*“Next, I’d like to read you the names of some public officials. As I read each one, please just tell me if you think the job they are doing in office is excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor.” (READ EACH; ROTATE LIST)*

|                                        |             | EXCELLENT/<br>GOOD | FAIR       | POOR/VERY<br>POOR | (NET POS<br>TO NEG) |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b><u>U.S. Senator John McCain</u></b> |             |                    |            |                   |                     |
| <b>January</b>                         | <b>2005</b> | <b>73%</b>         | <b>15%</b> | <b>6%</b>         | <b>(+ 67)</b>       |
| October                                | 2004        | 70                 | 17         | 8                 | (+ 62)              |
| July                                   | 2004        | 72                 | 17         | 6                 | (+ 66)              |
| April                                  | 2004        | 65                 | 18         | 9                 | (+ 56)              |
| January                                | 2004        | 64                 | 20         | 9                 | (+ 55)              |
| October                                | 2003        | 61                 | 22         | 7                 | (+ 54)              |
| July                                   | 2003        | 68                 | 18         | 8                 | (+ 60)              |
| April                                  | 2003        | 66                 | 20         | 6                 | (+ 60)              |
| January                                | 2003        | 57                 | 24         | 9                 | (+ 48)              |
| October                                | 2002        | 61                 | 23         | 10                | (+ 51)              |
| July                                   | 2002        | 66                 | 21         | 8                 | (+ 58)              |
| April                                  | 2002        | 69                 | 15         | 9                 | (+ 60)              |
| January                                | 2002        | 65                 | 21         | 9                 | (+ 56)              |
| October                                | 2001        | 70                 | 16         | 9                 | (+ 61)              |
| July                                   | 2001        | 54                 | 22         | 13                | (+ 41)              |
| April                                  | 2001        | 63                 | 22         | 8                 | (+ 55)              |
| January                                | 2001        | 63                 | 21         | 7                 | (+ 56)              |
| October                                | 2000        | 67                 | 18         | 8                 | (+ 59)              |
| July                                   | 2000        | 63                 | 21         | 8                 | (+ 55)              |
| April                                  | 2000        | 56                 | 24         | 9                 | (+ 47)              |
| January                                | 2000        | 63                 | 20         | 7                 | (+ 56)              |
| January                                | 1999        | 63                 | 17         | 9                 | (+ 54)              |
| January                                | 1998        | 55                 | 25         | 8                 | (+ 47)              |
| January                                | 1997        | 50                 | 28         | 9                 | (+ 41)              |
| January                                | 1996        | 47                 | 28         | 11                | (+ 36)              |
| January                                | 1995        | 47                 | 29         | 11                | (+ 37)              |
| January                                | 1994        | 38                 | 33         | 14                | (+ 24)              |
| January                                | 1993        | 46                 | 30         | 14                | (+ 32)              |
| January                                | 1992        | 33                 | 35         | 17                | (+ 16)              |
| January                                | 1991        | 24                 | 34         | 19                | (+ 05)              |

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|                             |             | EXCELLENT/<br>GOOD | FAIR       | POOR/VERY<br>POOR | (NET POS<br>TO NEG) |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>U.S. Senator Jon Kyl</b> |             |                    |            |                   |                     |
| <b>January</b>              | <b>2005</b> | <b>49%</b>         | <b>22%</b> | <b>7%</b>         | <b>(+ 42)</b>       |
| October                     | 2004        | 47                 | 23         | 8                 | (+ 39)              |
| July                        | 2004        | 48                 | 22         | 9                 | (+ 39)              |
| April                       | 2004        | 42                 | 25         | 9                 | (+ 33)              |
| January                     | 2004        | 41                 | 28         | 10                | (+ 31)              |
| October                     | 2003        | 43                 | 27         | 7                 | (+ 36)              |
| July                        | 2003        | 49                 | 23         | 9                 | (+ 40)              |
| April                       | 2003        | 45                 | 22         | 7                 | (+ 38)              |
| January                     | 2003        | 42                 | 28         | 8                 | (+ 34)              |
| October                     | 2002        | 43                 | 26         | 10                | (+ 33)              |
| July                        | 2002        | 50                 | 23         | 8                 | (+ 42)              |
| April                       | 2002        | 49                 | 21         | 9                 | (+ 40)              |
| January                     | 2002        | 48                 | 26         | 5                 | (+ 43)              |
| October                     | 2001        | 57                 | 22         | 7                 | (+ 50)              |
| July                        | 2001        | 46                 | 24         | 7                 | (+ 39)              |
| April                       | 2001        | 46                 | 27         | 8                 | (+ 38)              |
| January                     | 2001        | 47                 | 23         | 9                 | (+ 38)              |
| October                     | 2000        | 46                 | 26         | 7                 | (+ 39)              |
| July                        | 2000        | 39                 | 32         | 7                 | (+ 32)              |
| April                       | 2000        | 37                 | 26         | 10                | (+ 27)              |
| January                     | 2000        | 40                 | 26         | 8                 | (+ 32)              |
| October                     | 1999        | 38                 | 26         | 9                 | (+ 29)              |
| July                        | 1999        | 43                 | 28         | 8                 | (+ 35)              |
| April                       | 1999        | 39                 | 27         | 9                 | (+ 30)              |
| January                     | 1999        | 42                 | 25         | 8                 | (+ 34)              |
| January                     | 1998        | 42                 | 28         | 9                 | (+ 33)              |
| January                     | 1997        | 36                 | 32         | 8                 | (+ 28)              |
| January                     | 1996        | 33                 | 31         | 13                | (+ 20)              |