



behavior research center's

Rocky Mountain Poll

NEWS RELEASE
RMP 2005-II-01

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GOVERNOR RATINGS UP – LEGISLATURE RATINGS DOWN;
ATTORNEY GENERAL RATINGS STABLE

Phoenix, Arizona, April 21, 2005. Governor Janet Napolitano's positive job ratings edged upward in April to 57 percent from 55 percent in January and 51 percent in October of 2004. Her current positive job ratings are at a historic high. Arizonans who think the governor is doing a "poor" job in office registers at 15 percent, which is two points higher than in January.

The Governor's willingness to wield her veto power on the budget and other matters sent to her by the legislature does not seem to have ruffled voters' feathers. Indeed, they may believe the governor has exercised good judgement or simply enjoy her spirited and seemingly good natured sparring with the legislature.

The governor is in particularly good odor with Democrats and Independents, of whom 60 percent or more give her favorable job ratings. Republicans are less enthusiastic, yet 45 percent rate her favorably while only 23 percent say she is doing a poor job.

At the same time the governor's job ratings are on the rise, those for the legislature are heading south. More specifically, positive job ratings for the state legislature were at 27 percent this month compared to 34 percent in January. Simultaneously, negative ratings rose to 17 from 13 percent during the same period. This general view seems to hold across most voter groups although Republicans are most favorably disposed toward the legislature. Of interest is the finding that among voters most likely to go to the polls in an off year election, favorable views of this legislature total 28 percent and negative views register at almost the same level – 24 percent.

The findings outlined in this report are based on a survey of 682 adults across Arizona conducted between April 12th and April 17th, 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.

State Attorney General Terry Goddard's favor with the public appears to be on an even keel – and perhaps even slightly improved. By a 43-to-6 ratio, voters say he is doing a good job in office. Favorable regard for Terry Goddard appears bipartisan with favorable scores registering at 42 percent among Republicans, 49 percent among Democrats and 43 percent among Independents. Goddard's main hurdle in garnering higher ratings appears to be Pima County where close to half have too little information to evaluate his performance, yet of those who do know of him, favorable ratings total 55 percent and only eight percent hold a negative view.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll Arizona (2005-II-02) is based on 682 telephone interviews with adults, conducted from April 12th through April 17th, 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 3.8 percent of what they would have been had the entire adult population been surveyed. The voter segment of the sample includes 524 voters and has an estimated margin of error +/-4.4 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

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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>					
April	2005	57%	22%	15%	(+ 42)
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>					
April	2005	27%	33%	17%	(+ 10)
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)
<u>Attorney General Terry Goddard</u>					
April	2005	43	24	6	(+ 37)
October	2004	37	29	6	(+ 31)
July	2004	42	28	6	(+ 36)

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APRIL 2005

	<u>GOVERNOR NAPOLITANO</u>			<u>STATE LEGISLATURE</u>		
	<u>Excellent/ Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor/ Very Poor</u>	<u>Excellent/ Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor/ Very Poor</u>
Statewide	57%	22%	15%	27%	33%	17%
Democrats	74	18	7	26	34	21
Republicans	45	27	23	30	45	10
Independents	61	20	16	30	28	26
Most likely to vote	60	22	15	28	33	24
Men	55	21	20	26	36	18
Women	59	24	9	28	31	16
Maricopa	54	21	18	28	33	18
Pima	65	22	7	27	30	19
Rural	56	27	38	26	35	15
Hispanics	49	35	10	23	49	14

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