



*behavior research center's*

# ***Rocky Mountain Poll***

NEWS RELEASE [RMP 2013-II-02]

Contact: Earl de Berge  
Research Director  
Jim Haynes  
President/CEO

## SENATOR McCAIN'S SUPPORT IN ARIZONA COLLAPSES:

67% THINK IT IS TIME FOR A SENATOR WITH NEW IDEAS AND INTERESTS

Phoenix, Arizona, April 23, 2013. Even before his recent vote in support of legislation to strengthen background checks for gun buyers, U.S. Senator John McCain's job approval rating in Arizona had dropped to its lowest level (26%) in 21 years. Similarly, the proportion willing to classify his performance as "poor" now stands at 36 percent, the highest since we began tracking respect among the voting public for the job the Senator is doing in Washington.

Additionally, 67 percent of Arizonans now opine that Arizona needs to elect someone to the U.S. Senate with new ideas and interests. Only 21 percent now believe that John McCain deserves another six year term. This view is shared across the state in that the proportion saying they would prefer a new U.S. Senator reaches 72 percent in Maricopa county, 67 percent in Pima county and 58 percent in the rural counties. Further, 61 percent of those are registered Republicans and 67 percent call themselves politically conservative hold the same view.

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Senator McCain's popularity has been edging downward fairly steadily since 2007 when it dipped below 50 percent and never recovered. By 2010, his job approval rating was at only 40 percent and by the summer of that year had subsided further to 36 percent. But this is the first survey when his job rating has dropped to below 30 percent.

This is also the first survey in which nearly every constituency group we measured had a more negative than positive rating of his performance in the Senate. The only exception was among Republicans, but even within their ranks the call is close, with 35 percent giving positive ratings and 28 percent poor.

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“Would you say that U.S. Senator John McCain is doing an excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor job in office?”

		EXCELLENT/ GOOD	FAIR	POOR/VERY POOR	(NET POS TO NEG)
<b>U.S. Senator John McCain</b>					
April	2013	<b>26%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>36%</b>	(- 10)
April	2012	33	30	31	(+ 2)
January	2012	39	32	26	(+ 13)
April	2011	33	26	28	(+ 5)
July	2010	36	31	22	(+ 14)
January	2010	40	30	21	(+ 19)
September	2009	48	31	21	(+ 27)
November	2007	45	26	17	(+ 28)
July	2007	42	25	30	(+ 12)
March	2007	49	24	18	(+ 31)
January	2007	50	25	17	(+ 33)
January	2006	62	20	9	(+ 53)
October	2005	60	27	7	(+ 53)
July	2005	63	19	9	(+ 54)
April	2005	61	22	10	(+ 51)
January	2005	73	15	6	(+ 67)
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)

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<p><b>John McCain job rating April 2013</b></p> <p>Would you say that U.S. John McCain is doing an excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor job in office?</p>	<p>Do you think U.S. Senator John McCain should be elected to another six year term or do you think it is time to elect someone with new ideas and interests to represent Arizona in the US Senate?</p>
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	Excellent/ Good	Fair	Poor/ Very Poor	Net Pos to Neg	Deserves Another Term	Prefer a New Senator	Not Sure
State	26%	27%	36%	-10	21%	67%	12%
County							
Maricopa	26	33	32	-6	20	72	8
Pima	22	24	42	-20	16	67	17
Rural	29	24	38	-9	25	58	17
Party							
Republican	35	35	28	+7	34	61	5
Independent	28	26	38	-10	22	72	6
Democrat	23	19	49	-26	16	75	9
Gender							
Men	24	31	36	-12	26	65	9
Women	28	24	35	-7	16	69	15
Ethnicity							
Caucasian	28	27	38	-10	24	66	10
Latino	27	20	34	-7	6	76	18
Other	14	37	25	-11	20	63	17
Political Philosophy							
Liberal	29	24	33	-4	15	70	15
Moderate	30	29	35	-5	27	67	6
Conservative	23	34	35	-12	21	67	12

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Additionally, 67 percent of Arizonans now opine that Arizona needs to elect someone to the U.S. Senate with new ideas and interests. Only 21 percent now believe that John McCain deserves another six year term. This view is shared across the state in that the proportion saying they would prefer a new U.S. Senator reaches 72 percent in Maricopa county, 67 percent in Pima county and 58 percent in the rural counties. Further, 61 percent of those are registered Republicans and 67 percent call themselves politically conservative hold the same view.

-more-

Senator McCain's popularity has been edging downward fairly steadily since 2007 when it dipped below 50 percent and never recovered. By 2010, his job approval rating was at only 40 percent and by the summer of that year had subsided further to 36 percent. But this is the first survey when his job rating has dropped to below 30 percent.

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“Would you say that U.S. Senator John McCain is doing an excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor job in office?”

|                                 |      | EXCELLENT/<br>GOOD | FAIR       | POOR/VERY<br>POOR | (NET POS<br>TO NEG) |
|---------------------------------|------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------|
|                                 |      |                    |            |                   |                     |
| <b>U.S. Senator John McCain</b> |      |                    |            |                   |                     |
| April                           | 2013 | <b>26%</b>         | <b>27%</b> | <b>36%</b>        | (- 10)              |
| April                           | 2012 | 33                 | 30         | 31                | (+ 2)               |
| January                         | 2012 | 39                 | 32         | 26                | (+ 13)              |
| April                           | 2011 | 33                 | 26         | 28                | (+ 5)               |
| July                            | 2010 | 36                 | 31         | 22                | (+ 14)              |
| January                         | 2010 | 40                 | 30         | 21                | (+ 19)              |
| September                       | 2009 | 48                 | 31         | 21                | (+ 27)              |
| November                        | 2007 | 45                 | 26         | 17                | (+ 28)              |
| July                            | 2007 | 42                 | 25         | 30                | (+ 12)              |
| March                           | 2007 | 49                 | 24         | 18                | (+ 31)              |
| January                         | 2007 | 50                 | 25         | 17                | (+ 33)              |
| January                         | 2006 | 62                 | 20         | 9                 | (+ 53)              |
| October                         | 2005 | 60                 | 27         | 7                 | (+ 53)              |
| July                            | 2005 | 63                 | 19         | 9                 | (+ 54)              |
| April                           | 2005 | 61                 | 22         | 10                | (+ 51)              |
| January                         | 2005 | 73                 | 15         | 6                 | (+ 67)              |
| 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)              |

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|                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>John McCain job rating April 2013</b></p> <p>Would you say that U.S. John McCain is doing an excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor job in office?</p> | <p>Do you think U.S. Senator John McCain should be elected to another six year term or do you think it is time to elect someone with new ideas and interests to represent Arizona in the US Senate?</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                         | Excellent/<br>Good | Fair | Poor/<br>Very Poor | Net<br>Pos to Neg | Deserves<br>Another Term | Prefer a<br>New Senator | Not<br>Sure |
|-------------------------|--------------------|------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| State                   | 26%                | 27%  | 36%                | -10               | 21%                      | 67%                     | 12%         |
| County                  |                    |      |                    |                   |                          |                         |             |
| Maricopa                | 26                 | 33   | 32                 | -6                | 20                       | 72                      | 8           |
| Pima                    | 22                 | 24   | 42                 | -20               | 16                       | 67                      | 17          |
| Rural                   | 29                 | 24   | 38                 | -9                | 25                       | 58                      | 17          |
| Party                   |                    |      |                    |                   |                          |                         |             |
| Republican              | 35                 | 35   | 28                 | +7                | 34                       | 61                      | 5           |
| Independent             | 28                 | 26   | 38                 | -10               | 22                       | 72                      | 6           |
| Democrat                | 23                 | 19   | 49                 | -26               | 16                       | 75                      | 9           |
| Gender                  |                    |      |                    |                   |                          |                         |             |
| Men                     | 24                 | 31   | 36                 | -12               | 26                       | 65                      | 9           |
| Women                   | 28                 | 24   | 35                 | -7                | 16                       | 69                      | 15          |
| Ethnicity               |                    |      |                    |                   |                          |                         |             |
| Caucasian               | 28                 | 27   | 38                 | -10               | 24                       | 66                      | 10          |
| Latino                  | 27                 | 20   | 34                 | -7                | 6                        | 76                      | 18          |
| Other                   | 14                 | 37   | 25                 | -11               | 20                       | 63                      | 17          |
| Political<br>Philosophy |                    |      |                    |                   |                          |                         |             |
| Liberal                 | 29                 | 24   | 33                 | -4                | 15                       | 70                      | 15          |
| Moderate                | 30                 | 29   | 35                 | -5                | 27                       | 67                      | 6           |
| Conservative            | 23                 | 34   | 35                 | -12               | 21                       | 67                      | 12          |

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Pima	22	24	42	-20	16	67	17
Rural	29	24	38	-9	25	58	17
Party							
Republican	35	35	28	+7	34	61	5
Independent	28	26	38	-10	22	72	6
Democrat	23	19	49	-26	16	75	9
Gender							
Men	24	31	36	-12	26	65	9
Women	28	24	35	-7	16	69	15
Ethnicity							
Caucasian	28	27	38	-10	24	66	10
Latino	27	20	34	-7	6	76	18
Other	14	37	25	-11	20	63	17
Political Philosophy							
Liberal	29	24	33	-4	15	70	15
Moderate	30	29	35	-5	27	67	6
Conservative	23	34	35	-12	21	67	12

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