



*behavior research center's*

# *Rocky Mountain Poll*

NEWS RELEASE  
RMP 2003-I-11

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## McCAIN A NEAR CINCH FOR RE-ELECTION

Phoenix, Arizona, February 14, 2003. Seventy-eight percent of registered voters say they would vote to re-elect John McCain to the United States Senate if the election were today, including an impressive 45 percent who say they are firmly committed to his re-election. Among Republican voters, the trial balloon of conservative Congressman Jeff Flake appears to have about as much probability of gaining altitude as there is likelihood that McCain will voluntarily retire to take up competitive Chinese checkers – 82 percent of Republicans would vote to re-elect him.

Democrat Party hopes of unseating McCain may be similarly viewed with a yawn by rank and file Democratic voters. Thus, among Democrats, 76 percent favor his re-election, including 41 percent who strongly support keeping him in the Senate. Among Independent voters, his overall support falls to a paltry 73 percent.

U.S. Senator Jon Kyl is also likely to be a long-term colleague of McCain in the U.S. Senate. Although his re-election bid will not occur until 2006, 58 percent of voters already favor him for re-election, including 75 percent of Republicans, 40 percent of Democrats and 47 percent of independents.

Finally, President George Bush is favored for re-election by 64 percent, but his support is deeply partisan and may be increasingly generational as well. Thus, support for his re-election soars to 85 percent among Republicans, but declines to 34 percent among Democrats. Fifty-one percent of retirees, but 69 percent of working-age Arizonans favor his re-election.

The findings outlined in this report are based on a survey of 453 voters throughout Maricopa County conducted between February 6 and February 9, 2003, 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](http://www.brcpolls.com) to read this and other recent polls.

-30-

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This Rocky Mountain Poll Arizona (2002-IV-11) is based on 453 telephone interviews conducted from February 6 through February 9, 2003, with adult registered voters throughout Maricopa County. In a sample of this size, one may say with 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 4.6 percent of what they would have been had the entire adult population been surveyed. The Arizona Consumer Confidence Study 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.

**BELOW:** Statistical data

For this and other polls, see [www.brcpolls.com/results](http://www.brcpolls.com/results)

**STATISTICAL DATA**

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*If the election for each of the following persons were being held today, would you definitely, probably, probably not or definitely not vote to re-elect them to office?"*

	U.S. SENATOR JOHN MCCAIN	U.S. SENATOR JON KYL	PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH
Definitely	45%	28%	43%
Probably	<u>33</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>21</u>
(Net yes)	(78%)	(58%)	(64%)
Probably not	9%	16%	10%
Definitely not	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>23</u>
(Net no)	(19%)	(26%)	(33%)
Unsure	3%	16%	3%

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