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Rocky Mountain Poll

Rated in the Top 15% of Political Polls in the U.S.

NEWS RELEASE [RMP 2016-II-06]

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OBAMA JOB RATINGS IMPROVE AGAIN IN ARIZONA

Phoenix, Arizona, April 29, 2016. One could not say that President Barack Obama receives stellar job performance ratings from Arizonans, but for the second year in a row they show improvement. This improvement, in an all-important election year, has come in the face of a seemingly endless barrage of negative attacks from GOP presidential candidates. Such attacks on the President have resonated with registered Republicans of whom 72 percent say he is doing a poor job in the White House.

On the other hand, these attacks may be causing Democrats to “circle the wagons” as they are now more positive toward the President than at any time in the past year. Independents are also looking more favorably on the President’s performance.

Mr. Obama’s overall favorable job rating has been rising steadily since July 2014 when it stood at barely 23 percent, then rose to 28 percent in May 2015 and now stands at 36 percent. At the same time, negative ratings of the President were at 42 percent in 2014, edged down to 39 percent last year and to 36 percent this year. So today, we find that as many voters like the President’s work in the White House (36%) as do not (36%).

But when only Democrat and Independent voters are included in the calculations, the picture changes a great deal. In that case, the President’s job rating is two-to-one positive (47 percent favorable to 22 percent unfavorable) and when we look only at Democrat voters, favorable evaluations rise to 63 percent favorable to only 16 percent unfavorable. If Democrats are becoming more loyal to the President (or more angry at the attacks being made on him), their renewed loyalty could spill over to help Democrats in this year’s presidential and congressional races.

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But a second trend may be as important: thus far modest yet nonetheless improved positive ratings of the President’s job performance are being registered among women, Independents, Hispanics and among voters in both the 35 to 54 and in the 55+ years of age brackets.

Republican voter’s disappointment with President Obama has subsided very little: last year 75 percent rated his performance as poor and today 72 percent still do.

Today President Obama’s favorable image appears most on the mend among men (up 11 points), among voters under 35 years of age (now 39% favorable), and older voters (up 9 points).

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EDITOR’S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2016-II-06), is based on 701 interviews with heads of household statewide including 564 registered voters, conducted between April 4 and April 11, 2016. Interviewing was conducted in English or Spanish by professional interviewers of the Behavior Research Center on both land lines and cell phones. Where necessary, figures for age, sex, and race were weighted to bring them into line with their actual proportion in the population. In a sample of this size, one can say with a 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 and plus or minus 4.7 percent among voters. The Rocky Mountain Poll is conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona and is an independent and non-partisan research program sponsored by the Center.

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

Further Note on Behavior Research Center

Nate Silver of the website fivethirtyeight.com rated BRC as one of the top 15 percent of political polling firms in the country for methodology and accuracy, giving BRC an “A-“rating. Mr. Silver and his website have correctly predicted national and state election outcomes in recent election outcomes in recent election cycles by aggregating polling results from multiple research firms.

ENCLOSED: Statistical tables.

For this and other Rocky Mountain Polls, see www.brcpolls.com/results

RMP (2016-II-06)

“Would you say that **President Barack Obama** is doing an excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor job in office?”

	Excellent/ Good	Fair	Poor/Very Poor	(Net to Positive)
April 2016	36%	23%	36%	(- 0)
May 2015	28	28	39	(-11)
July 2014	23	22	42	(-19)
April 2014	38	17	40	(- 2)
January 2014	30	17	49	(-19)
July 2013	39	24	32	(+ 7)
April 2013	31	25	37	(- 6)
April 2012	34	25	39	(- 5)
Jan. 2012	34	23	41	(- 7)
April 2011	33	26	35	(- 2)
July 2010	28	27	39	(-11)
Jan. 2010	40	18	35	(+ 5)
Sept. 2009	45	20	30	(+15)
April 2009	51	24	20	(+31)
<u>APRIL 2016 DETAIL</u>				
Democrats	63	17	16	(+44)
Independents	34	38	27	(+7)
Republicans	13	9	72	(- 67)
Maricopa	38	24	34	(+4)
Pima	37	23	33	(+4)
Rural	30	22	43	(-13)
Women	39	20	36	(+3)
Men	34	26	36	(-2)
Under 35	39	31	24	(+15)
35 to 54	32	24	39	(- 7)
55 or over	38	14	43	(-5)
Hispanics	54	28	25	(+29)