



behavior research center's

Rocky Mountain Poll

NEWS RELEASE [RMP 2010-II-02]

Contact: Earl de Berge
Research Director or
Jim Haynes
President

JAN BREWER EDGING AHEAD IN GOP PRIMARY FOR GOVERNOR

May 4, 2010. Phoenix, Arizona. Although nearly half of Republican voters remain uncommitted, incumbent Jan Brewer appears to be opening some distance between herself and her three GOP rivals for the nomination in the Republican gubernatorial primary. Brewer currently has 22 percent of the vote compared to 13 percent for newcomer Buz Mills, ten percent for Dean Martin and just four percent for John Munger. In effect, among decided Republican voters, Brewer currently has 44 percent of the vote.

In the course of the polling it could be seen that her support among Republicans grew after she announced she would sign the new immigration bill into law and did in fact do so. Now the question is whether her position on a temporary raising of the state sales tax to get the state budget back in balance will fly with GOP voters who traditionally favor a balanced budget but loathe tax raises of any kind.

Brewer's greatest anchor of support is in Maricopa county, where six of ten Republican voters reside and where she gets 25 percent of their vote. Her closest rival in Maricopa is Dean Martin, but as of this survey, he receives only 12 percent there and Buz Mills gets 10 percent.

Mills leads the Republican field in both Pima county (17%) and in the rural counties (21%) but Brewer is close on his heels, trailing by only three points. Munger and Martin are fundamentally non-competitive at this time among rural Republicans.

It also appears that GOP voters are viewing the Governor race as unconnected to the heated U.S. Senate contest between J.D. Hayworth and John McCain. Thus, 25 percent of McCain supporters are voting for Brewer, as are 24 percent of Hayworth supporters. Mills does, however, seem to be more popular among older Republicans (55+) where he leads Brewer by 22 to 16 percent. On the other hand, Brewer leads Mills in all other age groups and particularly among 35 to 54 year old Republicans where she gets 29 percent compared to 14 percent for Martin, eight percent for Mills and only three percent for Munger.

(Continue)

Still, the biggest reality of this primary is that half of Republicans remain uncommitted, a figure that rises to 60 percent among women and to 75 percent among Republicans under the age of 35.

-30-

EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2010-II-02), is based on 319 interviews conducted between April 15 and 25, 2010 with Republican voters and Independent voters planning to vote in the GOP primary. Where necessary, figures for age, sex, race and political party were weighted to bring them into line with their actual proportion in the population. In a sample of 319, one can say with a 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 5.6 percent of what they would have been had the entire voter population been surveyed. 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.

ENCLOSED: Statistical tables.

STATISTICAL DATA

Behavior Research Center
Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona
RMP (2010-II-02)

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

“If the Republican primary election for governor of Arizona were being held today, which of the following candidates would you vote for?”

	Total	Republicans	Independents
Jan Brewer	22%	24%	9%
Buz Mills	13	13	20
Dean Martin	10	11	4
John Munger	4	4	*
Uncommitted	<u>51</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>67</u>
	100%	100%	100%

~~~~~