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# **Rocky Mountain Poll**

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## **SHERIFF JOE ARPAIO JOB RATINGS TURN NEGATIVE**

Phoenix, Arizona, August 22, 2013. Long time Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio has lost much of his popularity with the public in Maricopa County over the past year and a half. As of July, 42 percent rate his performance in office as “poor” while only 37 percent still believe he is doing a “good” job. This is his lowest positive job rating since we began measuring his popularity in 1996.

Seventeen months ago in January 2013, Sheriff Arpaio’s favorable job rating was 12 points higher (49%) and his poor job ratings were 10 points lower (32%). This means that a significant 22-point shift away from support for the Sheriff has occurred over those months. In April 1996, the Sheriff’s favorable rating was 73 percent and his unfavorable rating only five percent.

<u>Maricopa County</u>	<u>Excellent/ Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor/ Very Poor</u>	<u>Net to Positive</u>
July 2013	37%	12%	42%	(- 5)
Jan. 2012	49	15	32	(+17)
April 2011	41	18	33	(+ 8)
July 2010	44	13	34	(+10)
Jan. 2010	39	20	34	(+ 5)
July 2008	54	14	28	(+26)
Nov. 2007	59	16	22	(+37)
March 2007	64	13	16	(+48)
<b>April 1996</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>(+68)</b>

Another interesting aspect of Sheriff Arpaio’s readings is that they are heavily polarized, with Democrats and Independents being negative and Republicans favorable, although Republicans are less so than in the past when 70 percent or more applauded his performance. Additionally, note that he has alienated minority adults and lost most of the young adults.

One interesting aspect of this poll is that Sheriff Arpaio is more popular outside his home Maricopa county and particularly in the rural counties where 50 percent still rate his performance favorably.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2013-III-07), is based on 701 interviews with heads of household statewide, conducted between July 8 and 21, 2013. Interviewing was conducted in both English and Spanish by professional interviewers of the Behavior Research Center on both landlines and cell phones. 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 this size, one can say with a 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 4.3 percent of what they would have been had the entire adult population been surveyed. The samples in Maricopa county total 418 with a margin of error of 4.8 percent; in Pima county 111 with a margin of error of 9.5 percent and in the rural counties, 172 with a margin of error of 7.6 percent. 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 (2013-III-07)

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

JOB RATINGS OF MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF

<u>MARICOPA COUNTY</u>	<u>EXCELLENT/ GOOD</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>POOR/ VERY POOR</u>	<u>NET TO POSITIVE</u>
Total	37%	12%	42%	(- 5)
Democrats	24	13	60	(- 36)
Independents	31	11	51	(- 20)
Republicans	55	19	23	(+32)
Caucasians	47	12	34	(+13)
Latinos	10	14	72	(- 62)
Other	21	7	52	(- 31)
Under 35	25	14	55	(- 30)
35 to 54	40	8	38	(+ 2)
55 or older	48	14	33	(+15)
<u>OTHER ARIZONA</u>				
Total	46	17	28	(+18)
Pima	42	16	31	(+11)
Rural	50	18	25	(+25)

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