



behavior research center's

Rocky Mountain Poll

NEWS RELEASE [RMP 2012-I-06]

Contact: Earl de Berge
Research Director
Jim Haynes
President

CONFIDENCE IN ARIZONA'S TWO U.S. SENATORS IMPROVES SLIGHTLY, BUT IS STILL BELOW PAST LEVELS AS VOTERS REMAIN UNHAPPY WITH CONGRESS

Phoenix, Arizona. January 27, 2011. Voter respect for the work being done in the U.S. Senate by retiring U.S. Senator Jon Kyl and Senior Senator John McCain is experiencing a mild renaissance although both men's ratings remain at levels significantly lower than in past years. The reluctance of voters to give their Senators premium marks may trace in large measure to voters' dissatisfaction with the 112th Congress. Currently, 53 percent rate this Congress as doing a poor job. Favorable job ratings for Senator Kyl rose to 33 percent in January from 24 percent last spring. His negative job ratings declined as well from 23 percent to 20 percent. In years past, however, Senator Kyl has enjoyed positive scores of over 50 percent and negatives as low as five percent (January 2002).

Senator John McCain also has the most favorable job ratings he has enjoyed since July of 2010 when favorable ratings were 36 percent compared to 39 percent today. Unlike Senator Kyl, however, Senator McCain's negative job assessment rests at 26 percent, only two points lower than last April and the third highest negative rating since we began testing his approval scores 20 years ago. In January 2005, six percent of the Arizona electorate thought Senator McCain was doing a poor job in Washington, but today that number is 26 percent. Senator McCain's ratings rose to 73 percent in January 2005, his highest on record.

Part of the reason for the current improvements in McCain's evaluation by voters traces to the views of registered Independents – 44 percent of whom today rate him favorably compared to only 25 percent in April of 2011. Democrats and Republicans views have remained fundamentally unchanged during this period with Republicans applauding his work at a four to one ratio and Democrats giving him a thumbs down by a ratio of exactly two to one.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2012-I-06), is based on 553 interviews with registered voters statewide, conducted between January 5th and 9th. 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 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

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		EXCELLENT/ GOOD	FAIR	POOR/VERY POOR	(NET POS TO NEG)
U.S. Senator Jon Kyl					
January	2012	33%	33%	20%	(+ 13)
April	2011	24	29	23	(+ 1)
July	2010	29	29	17	(+ 12)
January	2010	35	23	20	(+ 15)
September	2009	44	32	24	(+ 20)
November	2007	37	26	13	(+ 24)
July	2007	40	34	18	(+ 22)
March	2007	46	25	12	(+ 34)
January	2007	48	24	16	(+ 32)
January	2006	42	26	9	(+ 33)
October	2005	40	23	10	(+ 30)
July	2005	47	21	9	(+ 38)
April	2005	42	21	10	(+ 32)
January	2005	49	22	7	(+ 42)
October	2004	47	23	8	(+ 39)
July	2004	48	22	9	(+ 39)
April	2004	42	25	9	(+ 33)
January	2004	41	28	10	(+ 31)
October	2003	43	27	7	(+ 36)
July	2003	49	23	9	(+ 40)
April	2003	45	22	7	(+ 38)
January	2003	42	28	8	(+ 34)
October	2002	43	26	10	(+ 33)
July	2002	50	23	8	(+ 42)
April	2002	49	21	9	(+ 40)
January	2002	48	26	5	(+ 43)
October	2001	57	22	7	(+ 50)
July	2001	46	24	7	(+ 39)
April	2001	46	27	8	(+ 38)
January	2001	47	23	9	(+ 38)
October	2000	46	26	7	(+ 39)
July	2000	39	32	7	(+ 32)
April	2000	37	26	10	(+ 27)
January	2000	40	26	8	(+ 32)
October	1999	38	26	9	(+ 29)
July	1999	43	28	8	(+ 35)
April	1999	39	27	9	(+ 30)
January	1999	42	25	8	(+ 34)
January	1998	42	28	9	(+ 33)
January	1997	36	32	8	(+ 28)
January	1996	33	31	13	(+ 20)

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|                                 |             | EXCELLENT/<br>GOOD | FAIR       | POOR/VERY<br>POOR | (NET POS<br>TO NEG) |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>U.S. Senator John McCain</b> |             |                    |            |                   |                     |
| <b>January</b>                  | <b>2012</b> | <b>39%</b>         | <b>32%</b> | <b>26%</b>        | <b>(+ 13)</b>       |
| 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)              |
| January                         | 1991        | 24                 | 34         | 19                | (+ 5)               |

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	EXCELLENT/ GOOD	FAIR	POOR/ VERY POOR	NET TO POSITIVE
January 2012				
<u>SENATOR MCCAIN JOB RATING</u>				
Republicans	51%	34%	13%	+38
Independents	44	30	25	+19
Democrats	21	34	42	- 21
 <u>SENATOR KYL JOB RATING</u>				
Republicans	52	33	9	+43
Independents	27	39	21	- 6
Democrats	21	31	32	-11
 April 2011				
<u>SENATOR MCCAIN JOB RATING</u>				
Republicans	50%	28%	14%	+36
Independents	25	38	30	- 5
Democrats	22	36	39	-17
 <u>SENATOR KYL JOB RATING</u>				
Republicans	49	29	9	+40
Independents	22	35	25	- 3
Democrats	16	31	35	-19

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