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# *Rocky Mountain Poll*

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Contact: Earl de Berge  
Research Director

## JANET NAPOLITANO AND LEGISLATURE JOB RATINGS SLIP

Phoenix, Arizona, October 24, 2003. The job ratings of both Governor Janet Napolitano and the State legislature appear to be headed south, particularly those of the legislature. Today, nearly as many rate the legislature as doing a "poor" job (20%) as think it is doing a good job (22%).

Governor Janet Napolitano is well-regarded by the public, with a favorable-to-unfavorable assessment of roughly three to one (46% favorable to 16% unfavorable), but the current readings have slipped since April when 49 percent gave her good job ratings and only ten percent opined that she was doing a "poor" job as Governor. Among voters most likely to participate in state elections, her current job ratings are stronger (51 percent favorable to 17 percent unfavorable).

The reverse is true of the state legislature. Thus, 22 percent of the general public rates that body favorably, while among likely voters, the figure drops to 19 percent. And while 20 percent of the general public classifies the legislature's performance as "poor," among likely voters, the figure rises to 24 percent.

While it might be expected that Republicans would be more favorably disposed to the GOP-dominated legislature and less favorable toward the Democrat governor, the result of this poll find this to be only half true. Thus, Republicans are cooler toward Governor Napolitano than either Democrats or Independents, but Democrats are more positive toward both the Governor and the legislature than are Republicans. Further, a plurality of Republicans (35%) believe the Governor is doing a good job compared to only 20 percent willing to say the same of the legislature.

The findings outlined in this report are based on a survey of 701 adults across Arizona conducted between October 9<sup>th</sup> and October 16<sup>th</sup>, 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.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll Arizona (2003-IV-05) is based on 701 telephone interviews with adults, conducted from October 9<sup>th</sup> through October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2003 throughout Arizona. In the overall sample, one may say with 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. The Rocky Mountain Poll is conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona and is an independent and non-partisan research program. The voter subset of this poll included 540 respondents and the margin of error for that sample is estimated to be plus or minus 4.3 percent at a .95 confidence interval.

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

**ENCLOSED:** Statistical data for reference.

**STATISTICAL DATA**

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Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona  
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For this and other polls, see [www.brcpolls.com/results](http://www.brcpolls.com/results).

*“Next, I'd like to read you the names of some public officials. As I read each one, please just tell me if you think the job they are doing in office is excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor.”*

|   |             | EXCELLENT/<br>GOOD | FAIR       | POOR/VERY<br>POOR | (NET POS<br>TO NEG) |
|---|-------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b><u>Governor Janet Napolitano</u></b> |             |                    |            |                   |                     |
| <b>October</b>                          | <b>2003</b> | <b>46%</b>         | <b>30%</b> | <b>16%</b>        | <b>(+ 30)</b>       |
| April                                   | 2003        | 49                 | 24         | 10                | (+ 39)              |
| <b><u>Arizona State Legislature</u></b> |             |                    |            |                   |                     |
| <b>October</b>                          | <b>2003</b> | <b>22%</b>         | <b>38%</b> | <b>20%</b>        | <b>(+ 2)</b>        |
| April                                   | 2003        | 29                 | 31         | 20                | (+ 9)               |
| January                                 | 2003        | 19                 | 33         | 30                | (- 11)              |
| October                                 | 2002        | 17                 | 35         | 29                | (- 12)              |
| October                                 | 2001        | 29                 | 34         | 16                | (+ 13)              |
| April                                   | 2001        | 28                 | 37         | 17                | (+ 11)              |
| January                                 | 2001        | 25                 | 32         | 25                | ( -0- )             |
| October                                 | 2000        | 31                 | 35         | 16                | (+ 15)              |
| January                                 | 2000        | 30                 | 36         | 18                | (+ 12)              |
| January                                 | 1999        | 37                 | 33         | 11                | (+ 26)              |
| January                                 | 1998        | 31                 | 35         | 18                | (+ 13)              |
| January                                 | 1997        | 28                 | 40         | 17                | (+ 11)              |
| January                                 | 1996        | 22                 | 46         | 17                | (+ 5)               |
| January                                 | 1995        | 22                 | 41         | 15                | (+ 7)               |
| January                                 | 1994        | 23                 | 39         | 22                | (+ 1)               |
| January                                 | 1993        | 15                 | 39         | 26                | (- 11)              |
| January                                 | 1991        | 15                 | 35         | 30                | (- 15)              |
| January                                 | 1990        | 25                 | 41         | 21                | (+ 4)               |

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