



behavior research center's

Rocky Mountain Poll

NEWS RELEASE
RMP 2005-II-08

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BUSH JOB RATING DECLINE STOPS IN MARICOPA COUNTY

Phoenix, Arizona, June 1, 2005. President George W. Bush continues to hold a plurality opinion among Maricopa County adults that he is doing a good job in office and it appears that the slide in respect for his work may have slowed or even stopped.

After attaining 55 percent approval ratings in January of this year, Mr. Bush's ratings fell to only 45 percent in April but have now edged upward to 47 percent. Negative ratings on the other hand (those who characterize his performance as "poor"), have remained fairly stable at 35 percent, compared to 36 percent in April. Negative scores were only 27 percent at the outset of the year.

The division in views toward the President among Democrats, Republicans and Independents is very strong. Thus, whereas only nine percent of Republicans here rate his performance as "poor," the figure jumps to 54 percent among Independents and to 55 percent among Democrats. Seventy-five percent of Republican voters here say he is doing an "excellent" or "good" job in the White House.

More interesting, however, is the evolution of opinion toward Mr Bush among Republicans. The most evident change is the proportion who believe he is going an "excellent" job. In mid-summer of last year, 48 percent of Republicans rated his performance as "excellent." This declined to 37 percent by January and now rests at only 33 percent. Notwithstanding the dampening of their enthusiasm, most still think he is doing a good job and few Republicans have switched into saying he is doing a "fair" or "poor" job. Very little change is registered in the proportion of Republicans who think he is doing a "poor" job – currently only nine percent hold this view and over the past year or so, the percent has never risen above eleven percent.

The findings outlined in this report are based on a survey of 600 heads of household throughout Maricopa County conducted between May 19 and May 23, 2005, 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 to read this and other recent polls.

-30-

EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll Arizona (2005-II-08) is based on 600 telephone interviews conducted from May 19 through May 23, 2005, with adult heads of household throughout Maricopa County. In a sample of this size, one may say with 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 4.08 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.

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

BELOW: Statistical data

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

STATISTICAL DATA

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Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona
RMP 2005-II-08

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"Now, 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."

JOB RATINGS FOR GEORGE W. BUSH

Maricopa County

		Excellent/ Good	Fair	Poor/Very Poor	(Net Points To Neg)
May	2005	47%	16%	35%	(+ 12)
April	2005	45	18	36	(+ 9)
January	2005	55	16	27	(+ 28)
October	2004	54	12	29	(+ 26)
July	2004	53	14	30	(+ 23)
<u>MAY DETAIL</u>					
Total		47	16	35	(+ 12)
Democrats		20	23	55	(- 35)
Independents		30	16	54	(- 24)
Republicans		75	16	9	(+ 66)

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**STATISTICAL DATA**

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RMP 2005-II-08

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EVALUATION OF POSITIVE JOB RATINGS FOR PRESIDENT BUSH BY PARTY

|                     |      | <u>Excellent</u> | <u>Good</u> | <u>(Total Positive)</u> |
|---------------------|------|------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| <u>REPUBLICAN</u>   |      |                  |             |                         |
| May                 | 2005 | 33%              | 42%         | (75%)                   |
| April               | 2005 | 35               | 37          | (72%)                   |
| January             | 2005 | 37               | 41          | (78%)                   |
| October             | 2004 | 42               | 38          | (80%)                   |
| July                | 2004 | 48               | 31          | (79%)                   |
| <u>INDEPENDENTS</u> |      |                  |             |                         |
| May                 | 2005 | 10               | 20          | (30%)                   |
| April               | 2005 | 9                | 19          | (28%)                   |
| January             | 2005 | 15               | 28          | (43%)                   |
| October             | 2004 | 10               | 31          | (41%)                   |
| July                | 2004 | 22               | 28          | (50%)                   |
| <u>DEMOCRATS</u>    |      |                  |             |                         |
| May                 | 2005 | 7                | 13          | (20%)                   |
| April               | 2005 | 4                | 16          | (20%)                   |
| January             | 2005 | 9                | 22          | (31%)                   |
| October             | 2004 | 7                | 15          | (22%)                   |
| July                | 2004 | 16               | 17          | (33%)                   |

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