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# ***Rocky Mountain Poll***

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## CONFIDENCE IN ARIZONA'S TWO U.S. SENATORS ERODES OBAMA'S RATINGS LOW BUT IMPROVING EVEN BEFORE BIN LADEN'S DEATH

Phoenix, Arizona. May 6, 2011. In a statewide survey completed on April 30, 2011, the proportion of Arizonan's who give "good" job ratings to U.S. Senators John McCain and Jon Kyl has eroded to the point where nearly as many people say their performance in Washington is "poor" as they say are doing a "good" job.

More specifically, Senator McCain gets a positive job rating from 33 percent, a "poor" rating from 28 percent and the balance say his performance is "fair" or that they are reserving judgement. The situation for Senator Kyl, who has announced he will not seek re-election next year, is even less flattering. Thus, 24 percent rate Kyl's performance as "good" but a nearly equal 23 percent say his performance is "poor." A majority (53%) rate Senator Kyl's performance as "fair" or are reserving judgment.

The survey was conducted between April 15 and April 30, 2011 and is based on 700 telephone interviews with a random cross section of Arizona residents. The margin of error for the study is plus or minus 3.8 percent.

No doubt the seemingly endless partisan wrangling in Washington over almost every issue contributes to the public's belief that partisan deadlock has left the effective governance at risk while politicians spin their wheels in a game of "got-ya!"

Dissatisfaction with Washington is also reflected in how the public evaluates the job performance of President Barack Obama. Interestingly, however, the President's job ratings, although nothing to crow about, show improvement compared to last year. President Obama's 2011 job ratings in Arizona are 33 percent "good," 35 percent "poor" and the balance "fair" or undecided. This compares to 28 percent "good" and 39 percent "poor" last July. The current reading was taken immediately before the President announced the killing of Osama Bin Laden, and no doubt his ratings will improve in the wake of this event.

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The tepid regard for the senators is driven principally by the views of Democrats, Independents, political moderates and liberals, but it is also apparent that job ratings given them by Republicans, which in past years have ranged upwards into the mid sixty and seventy percentiles, have now subsided to the point where only half of Republicans rate their performance as “good.” Even fewer “very conservative” voters remain willing to rate either senator as doing a “good” job in Washington.

Senator McCain’s current favorable job ratings total only 33 percent and began seriously to erode in 2007, but the current reading is the lowest since 1991. Senator Jon Kyl’s current “good” job rating totals only 24 percent, the lowest level to date.

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**EDITOR’S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2011-II-01), is based on 700 interviews with adult heads of household statewide, conducted between April 15 and 30, 2011. 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 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 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 (2011-II-01)

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

		EXCELLENT/ GOOD		FAIR	POOR/VERY POOR		(NET POS TO NEG)
<b>U.S. Senator John McCain</b>							
<b>April</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>26%</b>		<b>28%</b>		<b>(+ 5)</b>
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/<br>GOOD |  | FAIR       | POOR/VERY<br>POOR |  | (NET POS<br>TO NEG) |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------------|--|------------|-------------------|--|---------------------|
| <b>U.S. Senator Jon Kyl</b> |             |                    |  |            |                   |  |                     |
| <b>April</b>                | <b>2011</b> | <b>24%</b>         |  | <b>29%</b> | <b>23%</b>        |  | <b>(+ 1)</b>        |
| 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/ GOOD	FAIR	POOR/ VERY POOR	NET TO POSITIVE
<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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*“Would you say that President Barack Obama is doing an excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor job in office?”*

|            | EXCELLENT/<br>GOOD | FAIR | POOR/<br>VERY POOR | NET TO<br>POSITIVE |
|------------|--------------------|------|--------------------|--------------------|
| April 2011 | 33%                | 26%  | 35%                | (- 2)              |
| July 2010  | 28                 | 27   | 39                 | (- 11)             |
| Jan 2010   | 40                 | 18   | 35                 | (+ 5)              |
| Sept 2009  | 45                 | 20   | 30                 | (+14)              |
| April 2009 | 51                 | 24   | 20                 | (+31)              |

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