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Flake still has strong lead for AZ-Sen.

Raleigh, N.C. – Jeff Flake looks like the overwhelming favorite to take the Republican nomination for Jon Kyl’s Arizona Senate seat, and he continues to hold a double-digit advantage over Democratic pick Richard Carmona.

In the primary, Flake leads conservative challenger Wil Cardon by a 42-20 margin, with three others combining for 6%, and a third undecided with almost four months to go. That is still a daunting gap to close for the largely self-funded Cardon, but he has managed to make up considerable ground since PPP last polled the race in February. Then, Flake had a 56-7 lead. But also as then, Flake is still stronger with the most conservative voters than he is with the center-right or moderates, potentially stymying the reason for Cardon’s candidacy.

In the general, Flake leads Carmona 48-35, and Cardon has a much smaller 40-37 edge over the Democrat. Three months ago, those match-ups were a very similar 46-35 and 37-33, respectively.

While Carmona has raised his profile slightly over the last few months, he remains still mostly unknown. Only 34% of voters have an opinion on Carmona personally, and they fall at 19% favorable and 15% unfavorable, up a bit from 27% (13-14) in the last survey. Flake, however, is recognized by 60% (33-27).

The positive flip side to that is that voters who know both Carmona and Flake strongly favor Carmona, suggesting that as Carmona continues to campaign and become a known commodity to the rest of the electorate, he can close the gap. The improvement in his name identification so far has been entirely with Democrats, however.

“The big story in Arizona is Wil Cardon chopping more than 20 points off Jeff Flake’s lead in the primary,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “This race is starting to show some of the upset potential that has characterized many Republican Senate primaries over the last two cycles.”

PPP surveyed 500 Arizona voters, including an oversample of 421 usual Republican primary voters, between May 17th and 20th. The margin of error for the overall survey is +/-4.4%, and +/-4.8% for the primary portion. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.



Arizona Survey Results

- Q1** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Wil Cardon?
- Favorable*..... 15%
 - Unfavorable* 25%
 - Not sure* 60%
- Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Richard Carmona?
- Favorable*..... 19%
 - Unfavorable* 15%
 - Not sure* 67%
- Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jeff Flake?
- Favorable*..... 33%
 - Unfavorable* 27%
 - Not sure* 40%
- Q4** If the candidates for Senate this fall were Republican Wil Cardon and Democrat Richard Carmona, who would you vote for?
- Wil Cardon*..... 40%
 - Richard Carmona*..... 37%
 - Undecided*..... 23%
- Q5** If the candidates for Senate this fall were Republican Jeff Flake and Democrat Richard Carmona, who would you vote for?
- Jeff Flake* 48%
 - Richard Carmona*..... 35%
 - Undecided*..... 17%
- Q6** Who did you vote for President in 2008?
- John McCain*..... 48%
 - Barack Obama*..... 42%
 - Someone else/Don't remember* 10%
- Q7** Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?
- Very liberal*..... 14%
 - Somewhat liberal* 14%
 - Moderate*..... 24%
 - Somewhat conservative*..... 27%
 - Very conservative* 21%
- Q8** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.
- Woman* 52%
 - Man*..... 48%
- Q9** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.
- Democrat* 31%
 - Republican*..... 46%
 - Independent/Other*..... 23%
- Q10** If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If other, press 3.
- Hispanic*..... 18%
 - White* 71%
 - Other*..... 11%
- Q11** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.
- 18 to 29*..... 12%
 - 30 to 45*..... 24%
 - 46 to 65*..... 44%
 - Older than 65*..... 20%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Cardon Favorability				
Favorable	15%	27%	3%	8%
Unfavorable	25%	11%	44%	14%
Not sure	60%	62%	53%	78%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Carmona Favorability				
Favorable	19%	8%	33%	9%
Unfavorable	15%	14%	17%	9%
Not sure	67%	78%	50%	82%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Flake Favorability				
Favorable	33%	48%	12%	47%
Unfavorable	27%	17%	44%	7%
Not sure	40%	35%	44%	46%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Cardon/Carmona				
Wil Cardon	40%	68%	11%	22%
Richard Carmona	37%	9%	72%	24%
Undecided	23%	23%	17%	54%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Flake/Carmona				
Jeff Flake	48%	79%	12%	51%
Richard Carmona	35%	6%	72%	19%
Undecided	17%	15%	16%	30%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cardon Favorability						
Favorable	15%	9%	5%	6%	21%	29%
Unfavorable	25%	33%	34%	34%	20%	11%
Not sure	60%	58%	61%	60%	59%	60%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Carmona Favorability						
Favorable	19%	32%	29%	27%	10%	4%
Unfavorable	15%	15%	13%	14%	15%	16%
Not sure	67%	53%	57%	58%	75%	80%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Flake Favorability						
Favorable	33%	14%	9%	22%	45%	57%
Unfavorable	27%	33%	49%	28%	24%	12%
Not sure	40%	52%	42%	50%	31%	31%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cardon/Carmona						
Wil Cardon	40%	26%	11%	20%	52%	74%
Richard Carmona	37%	68%	77%	46%	18%	5%
Undecided	23%	6%	12%	34%	30%	22%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Flake/Carmona						
Jeff Flake	48%	24%	10%	28%	66%	87%
Richard Carmona	35%	69%	75%	46%	14%	3%
Undecided	17%	6%	15%	26%	20%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cardon Favorability			
Favorable	15%	14%	17%
Unfavorable	25%	25%	25%
Not sure	60%	61%	57%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Carmona Favorability			
Favorable	19%	23%	14%
Unfavorable	15%	16%	14%
Not sure	67%	61%	73%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Flake Favorability			
Favorable	33%	28%	37%
Unfavorable	27%	26%	29%
Not sure	40%	46%	34%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cardon/Carmona			
Wil Cardon	40%	35%	44%
Richard Carmona	37%	41%	32%
Undecided	23%	24%	23%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Flake/Carmona			
Jeff Flake	48%	41%	55%
Richard Carmona	35%	40%	30%
Undecided	17%	19%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cardon Favorability				
Favorable	15%	9%	20%	16%
Unfavorable	25%	32%	19%	27%
Not sure	60%	59%	61%	57%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Carmona Favorability				
Favorable	19%	39%	9%	11%
Unfavorable	15%	16%	15%	12%
Not sure	67%	45%	76%	76%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Flake Favorability				
Favorable	33%	13%	44%	36%
Unfavorable	27%	41%	19%	25%
Not sure	40%	46%	37%	39%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Cardon/Carmona				
Wil Cardon	40%	13%	59%	36%
Richard Carmona	37%	72%	15%	36%
Undecided	23%	15%	26%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Flake/Carmona				
Jeff Flake	48%	13%	71%	48%
Richard Carmona	35%	73%	12%	32%
Undecided	17%	15%	17%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
Cardon Favorability				
Favorable	15%	21%	16%	4%
Unfavorable	25%	33%	24%	22%
Not sure	60%	46%	61%	74%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
Carmona Favorability				
Favorable	19%	29%	16%	20%
Unfavorable	15%	28%	12%	10%
Not sure	67%	43%	72%	70%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
Flake Favorability				
Favorable	33%	25%	35%	32%
Unfavorable	27%	34%	25%	30%
Not sure	40%	41%	40%	38%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
Cardon/Carmona				
Wil Cardon	40%	38%	42%	24%
Richard Carmona	37%	42%	34%	52%
Undecided	23%	20%	24%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
Flake/Carmona				
Jeff Flake	48%	42%	51%	38%
Richard Carmona	35%	44%	32%	43%
Undecided	17%	14%	17%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cardon Favorability					
Favorable	15%	21%	19%	12%	16%
Unfavorable	25%	21%	23%	30%	21%
Not sure	60%	58%	58%	59%	64%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Carmona Favorability					
Favorable	19%	20%	11%	23%	18%
Unfavorable	15%	5%	15%	19%	11%
Not sure	67%	75%	74%	58%	72%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Flake Favorability					
Favorable	33%	35%	34%	30%	36%
Unfavorable	27%	5%	19%	37%	28%
Not sure	40%	60%	47%	33%	36%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cardon/Carmona					
Wil Cardon	40%	35%	42%	37%	46%
Richard Carmona	37%	40%	36%	39%	33%
Undecided	23%	25%	23%	24%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Flake/Carmona					
Jeff Flake	48%	45%	51%	47%	48%
Richard Carmona	35%	40%	26%	39%	36%
Undecided	17%	15%	23%	14%	17%





Arizona Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Wil Cardon?

Favorable..... 19%
Unfavorable 16%
Not sure 65%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jeff Flake?

Favorable..... 46%
Unfavorable 17%
Not sure 37%

Q3 The Republican candidates for Senate are Wil Cardon, Jeff Flake, Bryan Hackbarth, John Lyon, and Clair Van Steenwyk. If the primary was today, who would you vote for?

Wil Cardon..... 20%
Jeff Flake 42%
Bryan Hackbarth..... 3%
John Lyon 1%
Clair Van Steenwyk..... 2%
Undecided..... 33%

Q4 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 3%
Somewhat liberal 4%
Moderate..... 19%
Somewhat conservative..... 36%
Very conservative 38%

Q5 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 49%
Man..... 51%

Q6 If you are 18 to 45 years old, press 1. If 46 to 65, press 2. If you are older than 65, press 3.

18 to 45..... 28%
46 to 65..... 39%
Older than 65..... 33%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Cardon Favorability						
Favorable	19%	12%	9%	11%	21%	23%
Unfavorable	16%	44%	25%	28%	9%	14%
Not sure	65%	44%	66%	61%	70%	63%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Flake Favorability						
Favorable	46%	12%	23%	33%	48%	54%
Unfavorable	17%	31%	48%	20%	18%	12%
Not sure	37%	57%	30%	47%	34%	34%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
2012 GOP Sen Primary						
Wii Cardon	20%	31%	16%	11%	22%	21%
Jeff Flake	42%	18%	18%	26%	43%	51%
Bryan Hackbarth	3%	19%	7%	2%	2%	2%
John Lyon	1%	-	4%	-	2%	-
Clair Van Steenwyk	2%	-	7%	6%	2%	-
Undecided	33%	32%	48%	55%	29%	25%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Cardon Favorability			
Favorable	19%	20%	18%
Unfavorable	16%	12%	20%
Not sure	65%	68%	62%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Flake Favorability			
Favorable	46%	43%	48%
Unfavorable	17%	13%	22%
Not sure	37%	44%	31%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
2012 GOP Sen Primary			
Wil Cardon	20%	21%	19%
Jeff Flake	42%	37%	46%
Bryan Hackbarth	3%	2%	3%
John Lyon	1%	1%	1%
Clair Van Steenwyk	2%	0%	4%
Undecided	33%	39%	28%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Cardon Favorability				
Favorable	19%	18%	16%	23%
Unfavorable	16%	20%	16%	13%
Not sure	65%	62%	68%	64%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Flake Favorability				
Favorable	46%	44%	49%	43%
Unfavorable	17%	16%	20%	16%
Not sure	37%	40%	31%	41%



Crosstabs

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
2012 GOP Sen Primary				
Wil Cardon	20%	18%	16%	26%
Jeff Flake	42%	39%	47%	37%
Bryan Hackbarth	3%	4%	2%	2%
John Lyon	1%	2%	-	1%
Clair Van Steenwyk	2%	4%	2%	1%
Undecided	33%	35%	33%	33%