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Sandoval still trounces Reid in re-do

Raleigh, N.C. –Brian Sandoval bucked the trend of states electing the candidate from the opposite party as their unpopular governor last fall. Jim Gibbons left office with a dismal 25-67 approval rating, but Sandoval's overwhelming popularity and Democrat Rory Reid's unpopularity allowed Sandoval to beat Reid by 12 points. Sandoval has not fared as well in public opinion since taking office. His 44-38 approval margin puts him at about the median position of the 38 currently serving governors on which PPP has polled. But that is down from the 56-33 favorability rating he posted just prior to the November election. That decline has come across the board. 29% of Democrats had a favorable opinion of Sandoval late last October, but only 19% now approve of his job performance so far. He has dropped from 83% to only 71% with his own party, and from 58% to 50% with independents.

But just as he defied the trend last November, Sandoval now also escapes the voters' remorse which many of his GOP colleagues now face. In Ohio, Florida, Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Georgia, voters would turn their unpopular new Republican governors out of office and elect their Democratic opponents if they could do last fall's election over again. But Sandoval would still top Reid, 51-41.

Unlike his son, Reid's father Harry squeaked by in his re-election bid, and though unpopular, with a 43-51 approval spread, he is still seen more positively than the younger Reid. John Ensign was probably wise to retire and resign. He was already near the bottom of the bin in January, at 35-50, but that has fallen further to 29-55, making him the second least popular of 81 currently seated senators on which PPP has polled.

Nevada is one of few states to have legal domestic partnerships for gay couples. 41% of Nevadans, including 46% of the GOP and half of independents, support the status quo, and a further third, including half of Democrats, believe the state should move to full marriage equality. Only a quarter oppose all legal recognition of same-sex relationships.

PPP surveyed 491 Nevada voters from April 21st to 24th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.4%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.



Nevada Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Brian Sandoval's job performance?

Approve 44%
Disapprove..... 38%
Not sure 18%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rory Reid?

Favorable..... 31%
Unfavorable 53%
Not sure 16%

Q3 If you could do last fall's election for Governor over again, would you vote for Democrat Rory Reid or Republican Brian Sandoval?

Rory Reid..... 41%
Brian Sandoval 51%
Not sure 8%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Harry Reid's job performance?

Approve 43%
Disapprove..... 51%
Not sure 6%

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator John Ensign's job performance?

Approve 29%
Disapprove..... 55%
Not sure 16%

Q6 Which of the following best describes your opinion on gay marriage: gay couples should be allowed to legally marry, or gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not legally marry, or there should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship?

Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry 33%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry 41%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship 25%
Not sure 2%

Q7 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 44%
Barack Obama..... 49%
Someone Else/Don't Remember..... 7%

Q8 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 10%
Somewhat liberal 19%
Moderate..... 28%
Somewhat conservative..... 25%
Very conservative 18%

Q9 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%

Q10 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 45%
Republican..... 35%
Independent/Other..... 20%





Q11 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2.
If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

<i>Hispanic</i>	16%
<i>White</i>	72%
<i>African-American</i>	8%
<i>Other</i>	4%

Q12 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.

<i>18 to 29</i>	6%
<i>30 to 45</i>	25%
<i>46 to 65</i>	48%
<i>Older than 65</i>	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Sandoval Approval				
Approve	44%	72%	20%	38%
Disapprove	38%	14%	60%	38%
Not sure	18%	14%	20%	24%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Rory Reid Favorability				
Favorable	31%	8%	52%	35%
Unfavorable	53%	86%	23%	52%
Not sure	16%	6%	25%	13%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Reid/Sandoval Re-do				
Rory Reid	41%	11%	69%	32%
Brian Sandoval	51%	88%	19%	47%
Not sure	8%	1%	11%	21%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Harry Reid Approval				
Approve	43%	9%	73%	43%
Disapprove	51%	88%	17%	52%
Not sure	6%	3%	10%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Ensign Approval				
Approve	29%	47%	13%	29%
Disapprove	55%	35%	73%	59%
Not sure	16%	19%	14%	12%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Gay Marriage				
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	33%	12%	50%	40%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	41%	49%	35%	22%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	25%	37%	14%	33%
Not sure	2%	2%	1%	4%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Sandoval Approval						
Approve	44%	25%	16%	33%	64%	71%
Disapprove	38%	57%	61%	51%	20%	10%
Not sure	18%	17%	22%	16%	16%	19%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Rory Reid Favorability						
Favorable	31%	67%	53%	36%	13%	8%
Unfavorable	53%	19%	22%	47%	71%	87%
Not sure	16%	14%	25%	17%	16%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Reid/Sandoval Re-do						
Rory Reid	41%	70%	76%	51%	17%	8%
Brian Sandoval	51%	16%	17%	40%	77%	87%
Not sure	8%	13%	8%	9%	6%	4%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Harry Reid Approval						
Approve	43%	81%	78%	50%	17%	11%
Disapprove	51%	15%	17%	41%	76%	86%
Not sure	6%	5%	4%	9%	8%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Ensign Approval						
Approve	29%	24%	13%	26%	32%	49%
Disapprove	55%	74%	71%	58%	47%	36%
Not sure	16%	3%	16%	15%	21%	15%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gay Marriage						
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	33%	66%	57%	38%	15%	4%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	41%	19%	31%	42%	60%	33%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	25%	13%	11%	18%	23%	63%
Not sure	2%	2%	2%	3%	1%	-





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Sandoval Approval			
Approve	44%	41%	47%
Disapprove	38%	38%	39%
Not sure	18%	21%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Rory Reid Favorability			
Favorable	31%	35%	27%
Unfavorable	53%	46%	60%
Not sure	16%	19%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Reid/Sandoval Re-do			
Rory Reid	41%	44%	38%
Brian Sandoval	51%	47%	56%
Not sure	8%	9%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Harry Reid Approval			
Approve	43%	47%	38%
Disapprove	51%	46%	56%
Not sure	6%	7%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Ensign Approval			
Approve	29%	30%	28%
Disapprove	55%	52%	58%
Not sure	16%	18%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gay Marriage			
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	33%	36%	29%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	41%	39%	42%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	25%	24%	27%
Not sure	2%	1%	2%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Sandoval Approval				
Approve	44%	19%	71%	50%
Disapprove	38%	61%	13%	33%
Not sure	18%	20%	16%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Rory Reid Favorability				
Favorable	31%	58%	5%	18%
Unfavorable	53%	21%	87%	65%
Not sure	16%	21%	8%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Reid/Sandoval Re-do				
Rory Reid	41%	74%	9%	26%
Brian Sandoval	51%	16%	89%	63%
Not sure	8%	10%	3%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Harry Reid Approval				
Approve	43%	76%	8%	31%
Disapprove	51%	16%	89%	62%
Not sure	6%	8%	3%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Ensign Approval				
Approve	29%	16%	46%	28%
Disapprove	55%	69%	37%	55%
Not sure	16%	15%	16%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gay Marriage				
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	33%	50%	12%	30%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	41%	32%	46%	50%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	25%	16%	41%	18%
Not sure	2%	2%	1%	2%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Sandoval Approval					
Approve	44%	34%	48%	19%	47%
Disapprove	38%	41%	36%	55%	29%
Not sure	18%	25%	15%	26%	24%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Rory Reid Favorability					
Favorable	31%	39%	27%	53%	39%
Unfavorable	53%	43%	60%	19%	39%
Not sure	16%	18%	14%	28%	22%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Reid/Sandoval Re-do					
Rory Reid	41%	50%	36%	72%	33%
Brian Sandoval	51%	41%	57%	13%	61%
Not sure	8%	9%	7%	16%	6%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Harry Reid Approval					
Approve	43%	52%	37%	78%	39%
Disapprove	51%	43%	57%	16%	50%
Not sure	6%	5%	6%	6%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Ensign Approval					
Approve	29%	27%	32%	16%	11%
Disapprove	55%	52%	54%	69%	72%
Not sure	16%	21%	14%	16%	17%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Gay Marriage					
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	33%	36%	34%	25%	17%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	41%	36%	41%	50%	44%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	25%	27%	24%	25%	39%
Not sure	2%	2%	2%	-	-

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Sandoval Approval					
Approve	44%	33%	46%	43%	47%
Disapprove	38%	43%	36%	43%	29%
Not sure	18%	24%	19%	14%	24%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Rory Reid Favorability					
Favorable	31%	34%	27%	30%	39%
Unfavorable	53%	49%	55%	53%	52%
Not sure	16%	17%	18%	17%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Reid/Sandoval Re-do					
Rory Reid	41%	47%	42%	43%	36%
Brian Sandoval	51%	42%	51%	49%	59%
Not sure	8%	11%	8%	8%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Harry Reid Approval					
Approve	43%	47%	37%	45%	43%
Disapprove	51%	47%	55%	47%	56%
Not sure	6%	6%	8%	8%	1%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Ensign Approval					
Approve	29%	32%	31%	29%	26%
Disapprove	55%	47%	47%	59%	59%
Not sure	16%	21%	22%	12%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gay Marriage					
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	33%	59%	32%	34%	22%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	41%	27%	37%	42%	46%
There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship	25%	15%	27%	23%	30%
Not sure	2%	-	4%	0%	2%

