



May 24, 2017

TRUMP JOB APPROVAL FALLS IN WAKE OF COMEY DISMISSAL

By: Andrew E. Smith, Ph.D.
Zachary S. Azem, M.A.
Sean P. McKinley, M.A.

andrew.smith@unh.edu
603-862-2226
cola.unh.edu/survey-center

DURHAM, NH – President Donald Trump's approval rating has fallen among New Hampshire adults in the wake of his decision to fire FBI Director James Comey. This shift is consistent with a downward trend in recent national Gallup job approval numbers. While Republicans and Democrats remain largely unchanged in their opinions of the President's performance, the approval of Independents has significantly decreased. Disapproval of the president's job performance is at its highest point since the last quarter of George W. Bush's administration.

These findings are based on the latest **Granite State Poll***, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred (500) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by landline and cellular telephone between May 5 and May 15, 2017. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.4 percent.

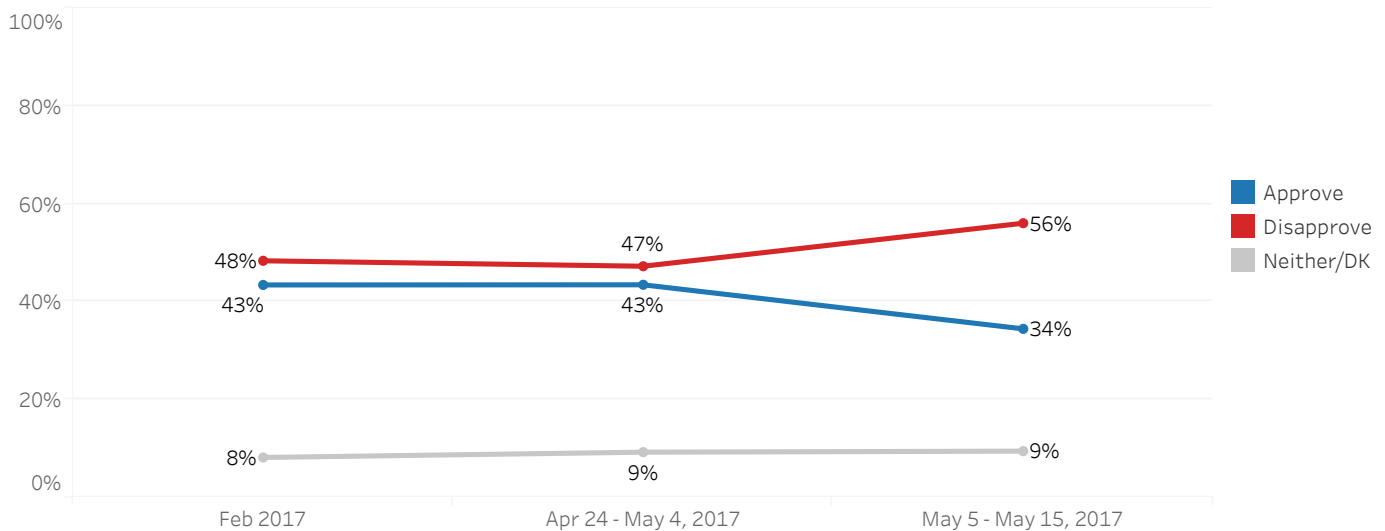
Presidential Approval

Only 34% of New Hampshire adults approve of Donald Trump's performance as President, 56% disapprove, and 9% are neutral. This represents a clear drop in approval of the President since earlier this month, when 43% approved and 47% disapproved.

This polling period (May 5 to May 15) largely took place after President Trump's decision to fire FBI Director James Comey on May 9 but before allegations that President Trump shared sensitive intelligence with Russian officials or Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein's decision to appoint a Robert Mueller as a Special Counsel to investigate possible links between Russia and the Trump presidential campaign.

The proportion of New Hampshire adults who disapprove of Trump's job performance (56%) is the highest disapproval of a President's performance since George W. Bush's last quarter in office.

Presidential Approval - Donald Trump

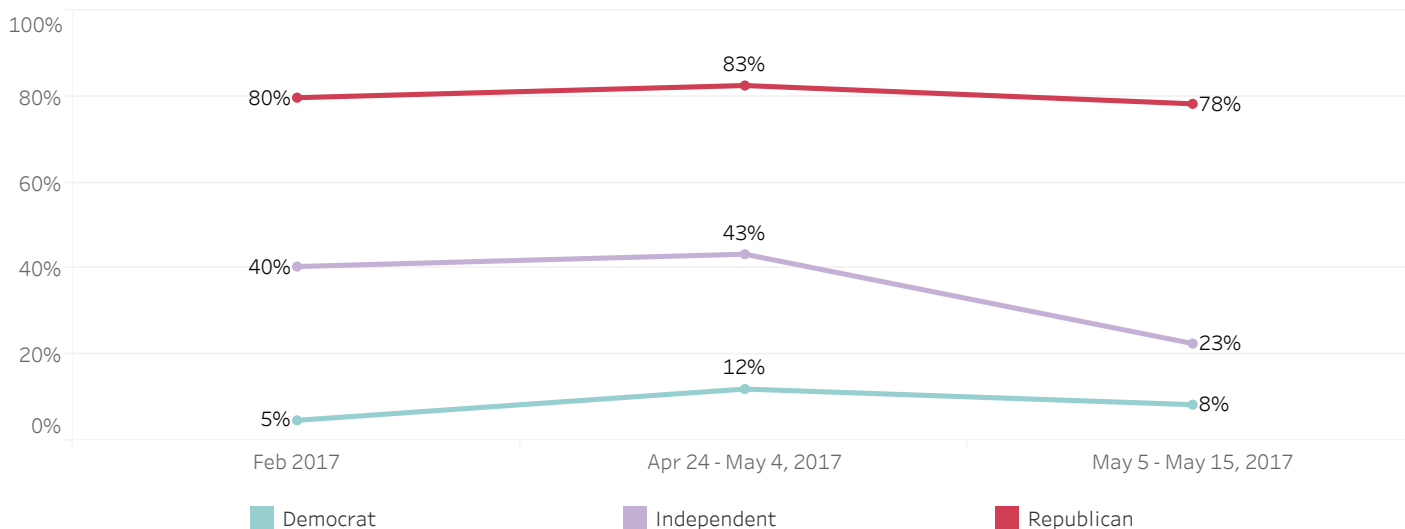


* We ask that this copyrighted information be referred to as *the Granite State Poll*, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center.

Approval of President Trump remains high among Republicans and very low among Democrats but has decreased among Independents. Seventy-eight percent of Republicans approve of Trump's job performance, but only 23% of Independents and 8% of Democrats approve.

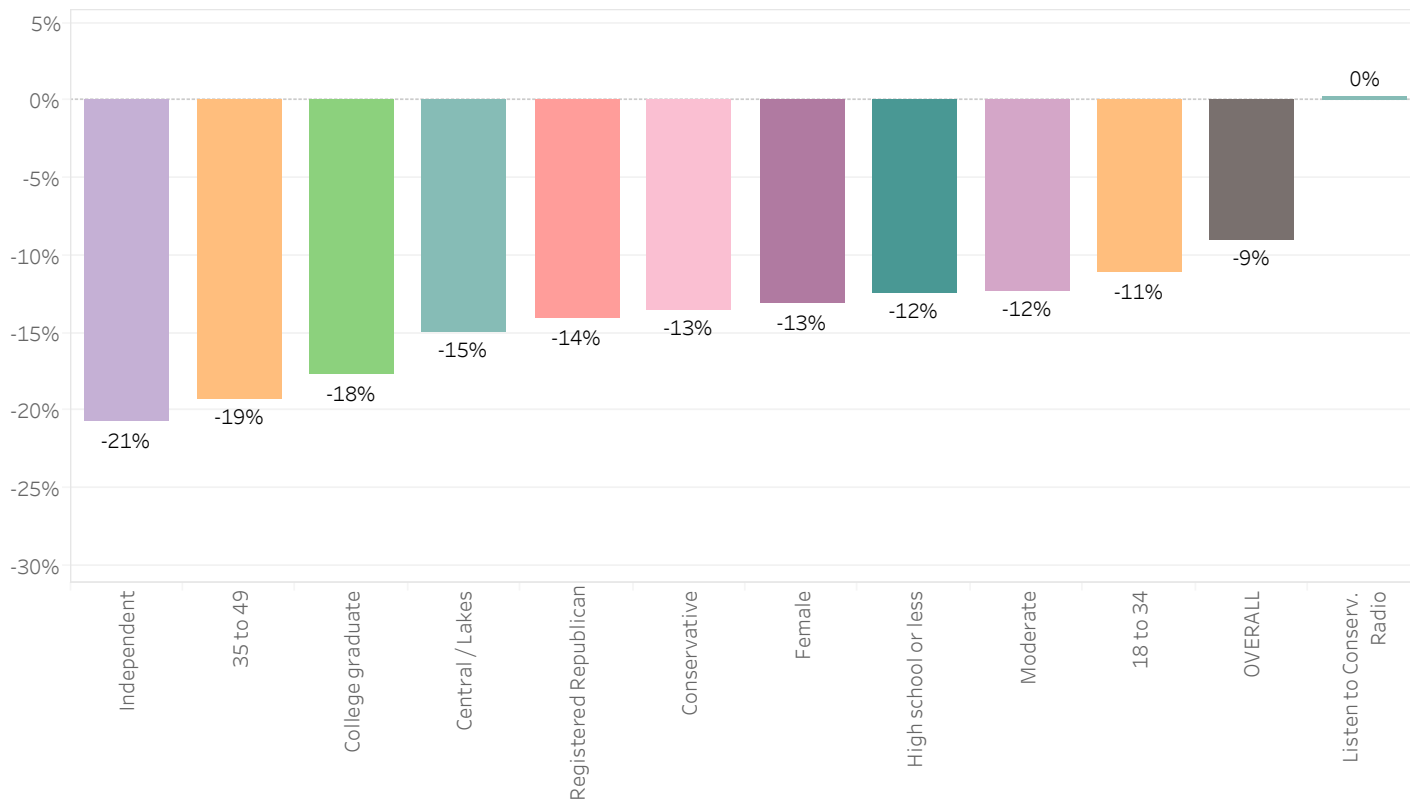
Presidents Obama and Bush did not see their approval among Independents dip below 30% until well into their second terms.

Presidential Approval by Party ID



Approval of Trump's job performance has fallen among nearly every demographic group since the period between April 24 and May 4. Approval has fallen most dramatically among Independents (-21%), those aged 35 to 49 (-19%), college graduates (-18%), Central/Lakes Region residents (15%), registered Republicans (-14%), self-described conservatives (-13%), and women (-13%). Among those who frequently listen to conservative radio there has been no change in approval of Trump.

**Presidential Approval by Selected Demographics:
Change in Approval Between April 24 - May 4 and May 5 - May 15 Periods**



Granite State Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the latest Granite State Poll, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred (500) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by landline and cellular telephone between May 5 and May 15, 2017. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.4 percent. These MSE's have not been adjusted for design effect. The design effect for the survey is 1.3%.

The random sample used in the Granite State Poll was purchased from Marketing Systems Group (MSG), Horsham, PA. MSG screens each selected telephone number to eliminate non-working numbers, disconnected numbers, and business numbers to improve the efficiency of the sample, reducing the amount of time interviewers spend calling non-usable numbers.

The data have been weighted to adjust for numbers of adults and telephone lines within households. Additionally, data were weighted by respondent sex, age, education, and region of the state to targets from the most recent American Community Survey (ACS) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. In addition to potential sampling error, all surveys have other potential sources of non-sampling error including question order effects, question wording effects, and non-response. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100%. The number of respondents in each demographic below may not equal the number reported in cross-tabulation tables as some respondents choose not to answer some questions.

For more information about the methodology used in the Granite State Poll, contact Dr. Andrew Smith at (603) 862-2226 or by email at andrew.smith@unh.edu.

Granite State Poll, Spring 2017 Demographics

		N	%
Sex of Respondent	Female	256	51%
	Male	245	49%
Age of Respondent	18 to 34	127	27%
	35 to 49	109	23%
	50 to 64	146	31%
	65 and older	91	19%
Level of Education	High school or less	172	35%
	Technical school/Some college	165	33%
	College graduate	103	21%
	Postgraduate work	55	11%
Region of State	Central / Lakes	86	17%
	Connecticut Valley	60	12%
	Manchester Area	89	18%
	Mass Border	125	25%
	North Country	52	10%
	Seacoast	87	17%
Registered to Vote	Reg. Democrat	116	23%
	Reg. Undeclared/Not Reg.	274	55%
	Reg. Republican	105	21%
Party ID	Democrat	212	44%
	Independent	113	24%
	Republican	156	32%

Presidential Approval

“Generally speaking, do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?”

	Approve	Disapprove	Neither/DK	N
Feb 2017	43%	48%	8%	501
Apr 24 - May 4, 2017	43%	47%	9%	508
May 5 - May 15, 2017	34%	56%	9%	494

Presidential Approval

		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Neither/DK</u>	<u>N</u>
STATEWIDE		34%	56%	9%	494
Registered to Vote	Reg. Democrat	8%	88%	3%	114
	Reg. Undeclared/Not Reg.	30%	56%	14%	270
	Reg. Republican	74%	21%	5%	105
Party ID	Democrat	8%	88%	4%	211
	Independent	23%	52%	25%	110
	Republican	78%	17%	4%	155
Political Ideology	Liberal	6%	91%	3%	111
	Moderate	29%	59%	12%	228
	Conservative	68%	25%	7%	119
Media	Listen to Conserv Radio	86%	11%	2%	56
	Listen to NHPR	24%	72%	5%	139
	Read Boston Globe	25%	70%	5%	59
	Read Local Newspapers	31%	57%	12%	179
	Read Union Leader	40%	49%	12%	99
	Watch WMUR	35%	56%	9%	279
Age of Respondent	18 to 34	29%	59%	13%	127
	35 to 49	25%	65%	11%	107
	50 to 64	42%	53%	6%	144
	65 and older	39%	50%	10%	88
Sex of Respondent	Female	29%	63%	8%	252
	Male	40%	49%	11%	242
Level of Education	High school or less	35%	52%	13%	172
	Technical school/Some college	40%	49%	11%	161
	College graduate	28%	67%	5%	103
	Postgraduate work	24%	72%	3%	53
Frequency Attend Relig. Service	Once a week or more often	50%	37%	13%	86
	Once or twice a month	50%	50%		25
	Few times a year	30%	61%	9%	159
	Never	27%	63%	10%	202
2016 Presidential Election Vote	Donald Trump	87%	8%	5%	151
	Hillary Clinton	2%	94%	4%	184
	Other	16%	67%	17%	56
	Did Not Vote	15%	58%	26%	75
Gun Owner in Household	Gun Owner	47%	45%	8%	211
	Not Gun Owner	22%	66%	11%	268
Labor Union Member	Not Union Member	35%	56%	9%	417
	Union Member	32%	55%	13%	70
Veteran/Active in Household	Active/Veteran Military	42%	45%	13%	127
	Not Active/Veteran Military	32%	60%	8%	364
Region of State	Central / Lakes	31%	62%	7%	86
	Connecticut Valley	30%	62%	9%	59
	Manchester Area	41%	50%	8%	87
	Mass Border	35%	53%	12%	125
	North Country	35%	56%	10%	51
	Seacoast	33%	57%	10%	87
Congressional District	1st District	37%	55%	9%	292
	2nd District	31%	58%	10%	202