



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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Governor Bill Richardson Ranked in Top 10 among Governors in Job Approval

SANTA FE – New Mexico Bill Richardson was ranked as one of the Top 10 Governors in the nation, according to the latest Survey USA job-approval poll released today.

The Survey USA poll, conducted August 11-13, reflects a 65 percent approval rate for Governor Richardson in New Mexico. The 65-percent approval rate ties Governor Richardson with Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman.

“I am pleased that a strong majority of New Mexicans approve of the direction we are taking the state,” Governor Bill Richardson said. “New Mexico continues to show strong economic growth across the board, which is enabling us to push for additional tax cuts for working New Mexico families, increase access to quality health care and invest students in the classroom.”

Governor Richardson recently announced that the state’s unemployment rate (4.1 percent) continues to be lower than the national average (4.6 percent) – suggesting the state’s economic growth is outpacing growth in other states. New Labor Department statistics show that New Mexico’s job growth (2.8 percent) is the 9th strongest in the nation. New Mexico finished the recent budget year with a \$700 million surplus, the highest in state history.

The Survey USA Poll surveyed 600 adults in all 50 states; margin of error +/- 4% (release, 8/22). Results and highlights can be found at:

<http://www.surveyusa.com/50State2006/50StateGovernor060822Approval.htm>

<u>GOP Rankings</u>	<u>App</u>	<u>Dis</u>	<u>Rnk</u>	<u>Dem Rankings</u>	<u>App</u>	<u>Dis</u>	<u>Rnk</u>
John Hoeven (ND)	78%	16%	1	Brian Schweitzer (MT)	76%	18%	2
Jon Huntsman (UT)	76%	18%	2	John Lynch (NH)	72%	20%	4
Jodi Rell (CT)	70%	25%	6	Joe Manchin (WV)	72%	24%	4
Linda Lingle (HI)	66%	28%	8	Brad Henry (OK)	69%	25%	7
Dave Heineman (NE)	65%	30%	10	Dave Freudenthal (WY)	66%	27%	8
Sonny Perdue (GA)	63%	33%	12	Bill Richardson (NM)	65%	32%	10
Bob Riley (AL)	62%	35%	14	Kathleen Sebelius (KS)	63%	32%	12
Mike Rounds (SD)	62%	35%	14	Janet Napolitano (AZ)	59%	38%	17
Jim Douglas (VT)	60%	34%	16	Tim Kaine (VA)	59%	33%	17
Mike Huckabee (AR)	57%	39%	20	Ed Rendell (PA)	58%	38%	19
Tim Pawlenty (MN)	56%	42%	22	Phil Bredesen (TN)	57%	37%	20
Jeb Bush (FL)	54%	44%	24	Mike Easley (NC)	56%	38%	22
Bill Owens (CO)	53%	41%	25	Tom Vilsack (IA)	52%	44%	28
Jim Risch (ID)	53%	32%	25	Chris Gregoire (WA)	51%	45%	30
Kenny Guinn (NV)	53%	40%	25	Jim Doyle (WI)	48%	48%	34
Bob Ehrlich (MD)	52%	43%	28	John Baldacci (ME)	45%	51%	36
Haley Barbour (MS)	51%	44%	30	Jon Corzine (NJ)	45%	50%	36
Mark Sanford (SC)	51%	45%	30	Rod Blagojevich (IL)	44%	52%	38
Don Carcieri (RI)	49%	46%	33	Ted Kulongoski (OR)	44%	57%	38
Mitt Romney (MA)	48%	49%	34	Jennifer Granholm (MI)	43%	53%	41
A. Schwarzenegger (CA)	44%	53%	38	Ruth Minner (DE)	42%	51%	43
Rick Perry (TX)	43%	52%	41	Kathleen Blanco (LA)	42%	56%	43
George Pataki (NY)	42%	54%	43				
Matt Blunt (MO)	40%	54%	46				
Mitch Daniels (IN)	39%	54%	47				
Ernie Fletcher (KY)	24%	73%	48				
Frank Murkowski (AK)	19%	76%	49				
Bob Taft (OH)	17%	79%	50				

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