

New Low in Gallup Poll

Nixon Popularity Drops

By George Gallup
Princeton, N.J.

The American public's approval of President Nixon's performance in office continues to plummet and now stands at his low point to date — 45 percent.

This nationwide Gallup survey was conducted shortly after the President's televised April 30 speech dealing with Watergate. Generally, an overt action such as this, by a President, serves to boost his popularity rating. But in this case it fails to check a 3½-month decline in Mr. Nixon's popularity.

The current figure represents more than a 20 percentage point drop in Nixon's popularity since it peaked at 68 percent following the announcement of the peace agreement with North Vietnam in late January.

PARTY
Mr. Nixon still maintains his previous level of approval among his own party

1000 to 1 Odds on Impeachment

Las Vegas

Oddsmaker Jimmy (The Greek) Snyder said yesterday in response to inquiries that it was 200 to 1 against President Nixon resigning over the Watergate affair.

Snyder also said odds were 100 to 1 that the President would finish his full term and 1000 to 1 that he would not be impeached. As an aside he said odds were 5 to 1 that former Attorney General John Mitchell would be exonerated.

United Press

members. Three-fourths of those in the survey calling themselves Republicans (74 percent) approve Mr. Nixon's handling of his job. Among Democrats,

though, only about one person in four (24 percent) approves, and slightly less than half the independents (49 percent) agree.

Mr. Nixon, never particularly popular with minorities, receives his lowest rating from non-whites with less than one in ten approving. Others giving him low marks include younger people (41 percent); manual laborers; both skilled and unskilled (41 percent); those with less formal education (39 percent); and persons at the low end of the income scale (38 percent).

The President is most popular with those in the professions and business (54 percent); other white-collar vocations (53 percent); the college-educated (47 percent); those in upper-income brackets (56 percent); and older people (46 percent).

CONSECUTIVE:

Mr. Nixon's popularity, under 50 percent only once since early 1972 and before Watergate became an issue.

has now registered below that mark on two consecutive surveys. Interestingly, as the President's popularity declines, there has been no large corresponding rise in the percent of people having no opinion. The percentage of those disapproving is up 17 percent since late January to the present level of 42 percent — the highest disapproval rate ever recorded for Mr. Nixon.

Mr. Nixon's current level is, however, not the lowest percentage ever recorded in continuing Gallup audits of Presidential popularity. Both President Truman and President Johnson received lower approval ratings from the public — 23 and 35 percent, respectively. These levels

were recorded, however, when both the Truman and Johnson administrations were mired in highly unpopular, undeclared wars.

Here is the question asked in the current survey, as in all previous surveys on the subject since the late 1930s.

“Do you approve or disapprove of the way Nixon is handling his job as President?”

Following is the trend since the beginning of the current year:

Date	Approve	Disapprove	No Opinion
May 4-7	45	42	13
April 27-30	48	40	12
April 6-9	54	36	10
March 30-April 2	59	32	9
Feb. 15-19	65	25	10
Jan. 26-29	68	25	7
Jan. 12-15	51	37	12

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