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**OHIOANS FORGIVE KING JAMES, WELCOME HIM BACK,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
INDIANS TOP REDS AS FAVORITE BUCKEYE TEAM**

By a 62 – 12 percent margin, Ohio adults forgive LeBron James for leaving Cleveland and approve 63 – 10 percent of the Cavaliers’ decision to bring him back, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

There is almost no gender gap as 61 percent of men forgive James and 66 percent approve of his return, compared to 64 percent of women who forgive James and 60 percent who approve of his return, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds.

Only 37 percent of Ohioans consider themselves Cavaliers fans, 53 percent of all adults have a favorable opinion of James, with 19 percent unfavorable and 20 percent who haven’t heard enough about him to form an opinion.

James is worth what the Cavaliers paid to get him back, 41 percent of Ohio adults say, while 36 percent say the team paid too much, with 23 percent undecided.

“‘Come back, LeBron. All is forgiven.’ That’s the message from six out of 10 Ohioans on the return of LeBron James,” said Peter Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac Poll,

“Ohioans are positive on the return of LeBron James to Cleveland. A narrow plurality thinks he is worth the tens of millions he is being paid. In the only major gender gap regarding James, men say 51 – 27 percent that he is worth the big bucks, while women say 46 – 31 percent that the Cavs paid too much.”

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A total of 49 percent of Ohio adults say they are “very interested” or “somewhat interested” in Major League Baseball.

Among those fans, 42 percent say the Cleveland Indians are their favorite team, while 34 percent cheer for the Cincinnati Reds, with 4 percent for the Pittsburgh Pirates and 3 percent each for the Detroit Tigers, the Boston Red Sox and the New York Yankees.

There is almost no gender gap in the Indians-Reds rivalry as men back the Indians 43 – 35 percent and women cheer for Cleveland 40 – 33 percent.

“The Indians are Ohio’s favorite Major League Baseball team even without winning a World Series in more than half a century,” Brown said. “The Reds have been more successful historically, but have fewer fans. None of the out-of-state teams has more than a handful of support.”

From July 24 – 28, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,539 Ohio adults with a margin of error of +/- 2.5 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

For more information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#).

37. (All adults) How interested are you in following major league baseball; very interested, somewhat interested or not interested at all?

ALL ADULTS.....							
	Tot	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
				18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Very interested	16%	18%	14%	15%	17%	14%	18%
Smwht interested	33	36	30	28	31	36	39
Not at all	50	45	55	57	51	50	43
DK/NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

AREA.....						
	Cntrl	NrthE	NrthW	SthE	SthW	WstCnt
Very interested	12%	18%	10%	20%	22%	15%
Smwht interested	25	38	25	23	41	33
Not at all	63	44	63	56	37	53
DK/NA	-	-	1	-	-	-

38. (If Very or Somewhat interested q37) What is your favorite major league baseball team?

BASEBALL FANS.....			
	Tot	Men	Wom
Cincinnati REDS	34%	35%	33%
Cleveland INDIANS	42	43	40
Atlanta BRAVES	2	2	1
Baltimore ORIOLES	1	1	-
Boston RED SOX	3	2	3
Chicago CUBS	1	2	-
Detroit TIGERS	3	3	3
Milwaukee BREWERS	1	1	1
New York METS	1	-	2
New York YANKEES	3	5	1
Pittsburgh PIRATES	4	3	4
St. Louis CARDINALS	1	1	1
DK/NA	3	1	6

39. (All adults) How interested are you in following professional basketball; very interested, somewhat interested or not interested at all?

ALL ADULTS.....							
	Tot	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
				18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Very interested	12%	14%	10%	16%	14%	8%	10%
Smwht interested	29	30	29	27	27	31	34
Not at all	58	56	61	57	59	61	55
DK/NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

AREA.....						
	Cntrl	NrthE	NrthW	SthE	SthW	WstCnt
Very interested	12%	18%	9%	8%	6%	7%
Smwht interested	28	35	26	19	28	23
Not at all	60	47	65	73	66	69
DK/NA	-	-	-	-	-	1

40. (All adults) Do you consider yourself a fan of the Cleveland Cavaliers or not?

	ALL ADULTS.....							Bsktbl FanQ39
	Tot	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....				
				18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	
Yes	37%	40%	34%	34%	36%	37%	40%	71%
No	61	58	64	65	63	61	58	28
DK/NA	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	2

	AREA.....					
	Cntrl	NrthE	NrthW	SthE	SthW	WstCnt
Yes	29%	58%	26%	23%	12%	28%
No	70	40	72	71	87	70
DK/NA	1	2	2	6	1	2

41. (All adults) Is your opinion of LeBron James favorable, unfavorable, or haven't you heard enough about him?

	ALL ADULTS.....							
	Tot	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....				Bsktbl Cavs FanQ39 FanQ40
				18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	
Favorable	53%	57%	50%	48%	53%	54%	57%	79% 84%
Unfavorable	19	17	22	24	22	18	13	11 9
Hvn't hrd enough	20	18	23	22	16	23	23	6 4
REFUSED	7	8	6	6	9	6	7	3 3

	AREA.....					
	Cntrl	NrthE	NrthW	SthE	SthW	WstCnt
Favorable	51%	65%	51%	40%	43%	40%
Unfavorable	19	19	15	21	23	20
Hvn't hrd enough	24	8	26	34	30	31
REFUSED	6	8	8	6	4	10

42. (All adults) Do you approve or disapprove of the Cavaliers' decision to bring back LeBron James?

	ALL ADULTS.....							
	Tot	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....				Bsktbl Cavs FanQ39 FanQ40
				18-29	30-49	50-64	65+	
Approve	63%	66%	60%	69%	63%	59%	62%	85% 89%
Disapprove	10	7	13	8	11	12	10	6 6
DK/NA	27	26	27	23	26	29	28	9 5

	AREA.....					
	Cntrl	NrthE	NrthW	SthE	SthW	WstCnt
Approve	63%	73%	51%	50%	55%	53%
Disapprove	9	10	10	13	9	15
DK/NA	28	17	39	36	37	32

43. (All adults) Do you forgive LeBron James for leaving Cleveland or not?

	ALL ADULTS.....							Bsktbl Cavs	
	Tot	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....				FanQ39	FanQ40
				18-29	30-49	50-64	65+		
Yes	62%	61%	64%	66%	63%	61%	60%	77%	81%
No	12	12	12	13	11	12	12	12	11
DK/NA	26	27	24	20	26	26	28	11	7

	AREA.....					
	Cntrl	NrthE	NrthW	SthE	SthW	WstCnt
Yes	64%	69%	56%	51%	58%	53%
No	8	12	9	11	14	18
DK/NA	28	19	34	38	28	29

44. (All adults) Do you think the Cavaliers paid too much to get LeBron James back or do you think LeBron James is worth it?

	ALL ADULTS.....							Bsktbl Cavs	
	Tot	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....				FanQ39	FanQ40
				18-29	30-49	50-64	65+		
Paid too much	36%	27%	46%	36%	34%	39%	37%	28%	26%
Worth it	41	51	31	39	44	41	38	63	65
DK/NA	23	22	23	25	22	19	25	10	9

	AREA.....					
	Cntrl	NrthE	NrthW	SthE	SthW	WstCnt
Paid too much	36%	34%	40%	47%	36%	40%
Worth it	36	52	31	27	36	35
DK/NA	29	15	29	26	28	25