

# Poll: Niners QB Colin Kaepernick most disliked player in league



By Darren Rovell | ESPN Senior Writer

[Colin Kaepernick](#) is now the most disliked player in the NFL.

That's at least according to a recent poll of Americans by E-Poll Market Research, which asked 1,100 people whose demographics were representative of the general population.

The poll, taken last week, revealed that Kaepernick was "disliked a lot" by 29 percent of those polled, more than any of the more than 350 players asked about in the survey. Kaepernick finished ahead, in the dislike category, of [Tampa Bay Buccaneers](#) quarterback [Jameis Winston](#) (22 percent), [Miami Dolphins](#) defensive end [Ndamukong Suh](#) (21 percent), [New England Patriots](#) quarterback [Tom Brady](#) (13 percent) and [Pittsburgh Steelers](#) quarterback [Ben Roethlisberger](#) (10 percent).



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Gerry Philpott – CEO E-Poll Market Research

In August 2014, the last time the poll was taken, Kaepernick -- fresh off leading the [San Francisco 49ers](#) to the NFC Championship Game before losing to the [Seattle Seahawks](#) -- was only "disliked a lot" by 6 percent of the population.

The overall negative sentiment for Kaepernick is even higher among NFL fans. Today, 36 percent say they dislike

him "a lot," up from just 10 percent when last asked two years ago.

While results of the poll show Kaepernick being more disliked by the general population, much of that has to do with the fact that African-Americans only make up 15 percent of the U.S. population. Kaepernick hasn't been standing during the national anthem to show his displeasure with the treatment of African-Americans by police officers.

Among African-Americans, Kaepernick has never been more popular. The poll shows 42 percent of African-Americans now say they like the 49ers quarterback "a lot," while only 2 percent dislike him "a lot." Two years ago, only 16 percent of African-Americans said they liked Kaepernick "a lot," while 3 percent disliked him "a lot."

Much of the change in sentiment comes from how Caucasians feel about him.

Two years ago, only 7 percent of Caucasians said they disliked Kaepernick "a lot." Last week, that number had jumped to 37 percent.

As Kaepernick's actions were focused on, sales of his jersey skyrocketed to the best-selling jersey in the league for a couple days in the beginning of the month.

"Jersey sales represents a metric which shows how he has inspired a number of people to demonstrate support by opening up their wallet," said Gerry Philpott, CEO of E-Poll. "There is no counter-metric that you can use for those he has alienated or who had never heard of him before, other than the sentiment we measured."

Kaepernick's highly publicized stand has obviously made him more relevant, even though he's the backup to [Blaine Gabbert](#) and isn't getting time on the field. Only 24 percent of people said they knew his name two years ago. Last week, 42 percent of those polled were familiar.

Read the article on [ESPN here](#).

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