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RCP POLL AVERAGES	
President Obama Job Approval	
RCP Average	
Approve	43.3
Disapprove	50.4
Spread -7.1	
Congressional Job Approval	
RCP Average	
Approve	16.0
Disapprove	78.2
Spread -62.2	
Generic Congressional Vote	
RCP Average	
Republicans	45.0
Democrats	44.7
Republicans +0.3	
Direction of Country	
RCP Average	
Right Direction	18.5
Wrong Track	73.8
Spread -55.3	

AUGUST 16, 2011

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BEST OF THE BLOGS TUESDAY

- ▶ **"Who's Next?" Talk Refuses to Quiet Down** - Patrick O'Connor, WW
- ▶ **Perry Almost Alone in Military Experience** - Rachel Weiner, The Fix
- ▶ **The Jobs Attacks Begin** - Bruce McQuain, Q&O
- ▶ **How Texas Got Huge Job Growth** - Derek Thompson, The Atlantic
- ▶ **Malpractice Reform: Another Texas Non-Miracle** - Kevin Drum, MJ
- ▶ **Dems Hope Warren Can Beat "Unbeatable" Brown** - Seth Mandel, Contentions
- ▶ **Perry: National or Niche Candidate?** - Kristen Soltis, Huffington Post
- ▶ **No Hope or Change When It Comes to Fannie Mae** - Mark Calabria, @Liberty

Afternoon Archive

Morning Edition

- ▶ **Both Sides Can Learn From Perry's Fed Comments** - Jennifer Rubin, Right Turn
- ▶ **What Perry Got Wrong About the Federal Reserve** - Matthew Yglesias, ThinkProgress
- ▶ **Perry's Social Security Conversation** - Adam Sorensen, SwampLand
- ▶ **Ryan for President?** - Stephen Hayes, The Blog
- ▶ **It's the Austerity, Stupid!** - Simon van Zuylen-Wood, TNR
- ▶ **Lies From a Failed Obama Czar** - Matthew Vadum, AmSpec
- ▶ **Right Rejects Buffett's Good Advice** - Steve Benen, Political Animal
- ▶ **The Inconsistency of Taxing Investment Returns** - Daniel Indiviglio, The Atlantic
- ▶ **Stop the Defense Budget Train Wreck** - John Bolton, The Enterprise
- ▶ **Health Reform's \$50 Billion Question** - Sarah Kliff, Washington Post

Morning Archive

Best of The Blogs Monday

Morning Edition

- ▶ **Obama's Problem is Not Communication** - Peter Wehner, Contentions
- ▶ **Obama: The GOP is Blocking My Tax Break** - Thomas Lane, TPM
- ▶ **Romney and Perry Already Throwing Jobs** - AllahPundit, Hot Air
- ▶ **Texas and the Uninsured** - Sarah Kliff, Washington Post
- ▶ **When the GOP Establishment Ponders Electability** - Steve Benen, Political Animal
- ▶ **Perry's Underwhelming Radicalism** - Peter Suderman, Hit & Run
- ▶ **Is Romney Switching Positions on the Flat Tax?** - Katrina Trinko, The Corner
- ▶ **Who Pays the Super Committee?** - Catherine Rampell, Economix
- ▶ **London Rioters, Not the Tea Party, Are Guilty of Violence** - Marion Smith, The Foundry
- ▶ **The Verizon Strike is About Middle Class Jobs** - Laura Clawson, Daily Kos

Afternoon Edition

- ▶ **Rick Perry's Book is Really Good** - Ezra Klein, Washington Post
- ▶ **Perry and the Texas Miracle** - Joseph Lawler, AmSpec
- ▶ **How the Deck Was Rigged Against Pawlenty** - Walter Shapiro, TNR
- ▶ **Exit Pawlenty** - Ross Douthat, Evaluations
- ▶ **Bachmann's Strategy: Ignore Past Statements** - Barbara Morrill, Daily Kos
- ▶ **Taxing Warren Buffett** - Samuel Gregg, The Corner
- ▶ **Buffett: Will Somebody Please Raise My Taxes?** - AllahPundit, Hot Air
- ▶ **Tight Race Expected in Final WI Recalls** - Rachel Weiner, The Fix

Best of The Blogs Friday

Morning Edition

- ▶ **The Use and Abuse of History** - Bill Kristol, The Blog
- ▶ **The New Orthodoxy: No Revenue Ever** - Matthew Yglesias, ThinkProgress
- ▶ **Pawlenty and Big Government** - Katrina Trinko, The Corner
- ▶ **Why the GOP Doesn't Want to Debate Birth Control** - Amy Sullivan, SwampLand
- ▶ **Asking Bachmann About Marriage** - Jennifer Rubin, Right Turn
- ▶ **Debt Default Skeptics Try to Run from Their Records** - Brian Beutler, TPM
- ▶ **It Looks Like the Stimulus Worked** - Kevin Drum, Mother Jones
- ▶ **Compromise Is Not the Flavor of the Month** - Jonathan Tobin, Contentions
- ▶ **Walker Recall Still a Goal for Wisconsin Dems** - Rachel Weiner, The Fix
- ▶ **Some Optimism for the World** - Daniel Drezner, Foreign Policy

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The Gold Standard? In the 21st Century? - Steve Benen, Political Animal
Hypocritical NPR Hits Romney Over Corporations - Jeffrey Lord, AmSpec
Zero Appellate Judges Under Age 45 Appointed By Obama - David Dayen, FDL
Political Gridlock Could Do the Country In - Ezra Klein, Washington Post
Obama Continues to Make Policy Through Waiver - Rachel Sheffield, The Foundry

Best of The Blogs Thursday**Morning Edition**

Leave Pawlenty Alone - Jonathan Chait, TNR
Palin Goes to Iowa, Which Means... What? - Jim Geraghty, The Corner
Is Dowd Right About Obama's Problem? - Melissa Clouthier, RedState
Is Portman Open to Raising Revenue? - Tanya Somander, ThinkProgress
A Matter of Priorities - Steve Benen, Political Animal
Will Defiant Dems Try to Recall Walker? - AllahPundit, Hot Air
Conservative Economists: Raise Revenue - Ajay Ravichandran, FrumForum
The Military Legacy of David Petraeus - Adam Sorensen, SwampLand
Is the World Cracking Up? - Daniel Drezner, Foreign Policy
U.S. Hires Mercenaries in Somalia - David Axe, Danger Room

Afternoon Edition

Can the GOP Win Over Hispanics? - Jennifer Rubin, Right Turn
Obama's Biggest Policy Mistake? - Jonathan Bernstein, Plain Blog
Will the Left Turn Out in 2012? - Bruce McQuain, Q&O
California Joins National Popular Vote Movement - Kevin Drum, MJ
Don't Fear the Super Committee - Jonathan Chait, TNR
Supreme Court Tea Leaves for ObamaCare - Elizabeth Price Foley, Big Gov't
Russian Threats a Blow to Obama's "Reset" - Ariel Cohen, The Foundry
Obama Must Get Tougher on GOP's Obstructionism - Greg Sargent, Plum Line