



Daily Presidential Tracking Poll

February 8, 2013

The Rasmussen Reports daily Presidential Tracking Poll for Friday shows that 52% of Likely U.S. Voters approve of President Obama's job performance. Forty-seven percent (47%) disapprove (see trends).

Results are updated daily at 9:30 a.m. Eastern (sign up for free daily e-mail update).

A third of U.S. voters believe the president's foreign policy tends to blame America first, while a slightly larger number thinks congressional Republicans instinctively send Americans first to resolve international conflicts. Voters overwhelmingly want a policy that protects the United States first.

In his weekly newspaper column, Scott Rasmussen notes that gun control and immigration are top priorities for the president but relatively less important for most voters. However, the president's priorities resonate with Democrats. "Democrats place a higher priority on controlling guns than on controlling spending. Other voters reverse those priorities," Scott explains, adding that this suggests the president may be pursuing a strategy to fire up his base for the 2014 midterm election. The top priority for voters is job creation.

This weekend on What America Thinks, Scott will preview the president's State-of-the-Union address with Sean Trende from Real Clear Politics. He also hosts a lively discussion on the president's health care law between Henry Aaron of the Brookings Institution and Michael Tanner of the Cato Institute. What America Thinks airs weekly on 61 television stations around the country. Find a station in your area.

If you'd like Scott to speak to your organization, meeting or conference, please contact Premiere Speakers. His latest book, *The People's Money*, a New York Times bestseller, is now available in paperback.

The Postal Service is bowing to reality and will be stopping Saturday delivery in August. Three-out-of-four Americans support this move. Most Americans would rather cut back mail service to four or five days a week than continue government subsidies.

Sixty-six percent (66%) believe that human activity is at least somewhat likely to impact global warming. Nearly as many (60%) say the same about solar activity such as flares and sunspots.

(Approval Index data and more below)

Presidential Job Approval



Today's figures include 31% who Strongly Approve of the way Obama is performing as president and 36% who Strongly Disapprove. This gives him a Presidential Approval Index rating of -5 (see trends).

The president earns mixed reviews on tax and spend issues. Democrats think he's doing a good job on both, while Republicans give him poor marks. Unaffiliated voters are divided on the president's handling of taxes but give him poor marks when it comes to government spending.

Voters rate government spending and job creation as far more important issues than gun control, but the Political Class disagrees.

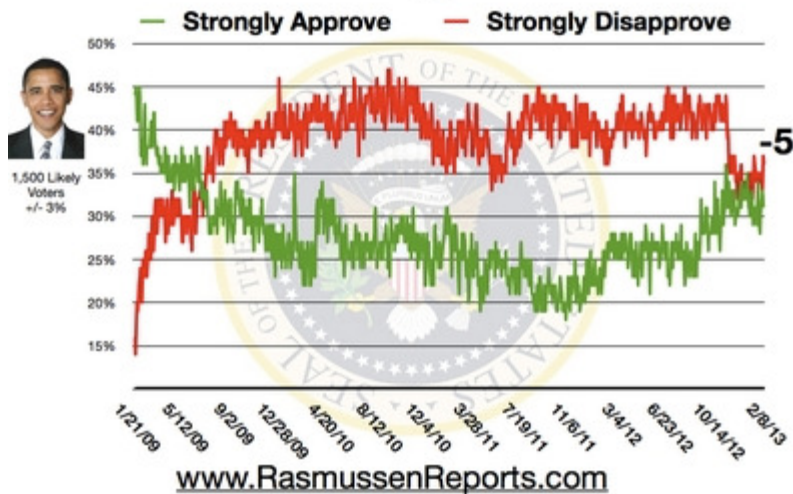
American are divided in their opinions of the current job market. Just 28% say it's better than it was one year ago, while just as many (29%) say it's worse. Looking ahead, 34% expect lower unemployment rates in a year, while 30% expect them to be higher.

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To get a sense of longer-term job approval trends for the president, Rasmussen Reports compiles our tracking data on a full month-by-month basis.

(More below)

Presidential Approval Index



Seventy-five percent (75%) of voters in the survey sample are white, 11% black and 9% Hispanic. Additionally, 33% of the voters are Republicans, while 38% are Democrats.

Rasmussen Reports has been a pioneer in the use of automated telephone polling techniques, but many other firms still utilize their own operator-assisted technology (see methodology). Pollsters for Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton have cited our "unchallenged record for both integrity and accuracy."

Learn more about the Rasmussen Reports track record over the years.

Daily tracking results are collected via telephone surveys of 500 likely voters per night and reported on a three-day rolling average basis. To reach those who have abandoned traditional landline telephones, Rasmussen Reports uses an online survey tool to interview randomly selected participants from a demographically diverse panel. The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 1,500 Likely Voters is +/- 3 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence. Results are also compiled on a full-week basis and crosstabs for full-week results are available for Platinum Members.