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Ohio, Wisconsin voters narrowly support tax deal

Raleigh, N.C. – Voters in Ohio and Wisconsin both support the tax deal President Obama struck with Congressional Republicans last week by a narrow margin, although in each place that favor falls short of a majority. In Ohio voters support it by a 45/32 margin and in Wisconsin it's a nearly identical 44/34 spread.

This issue is quite unusual in that there is very little difference along partisan lines in how voters respond to the deal. In Ohio 48% of Republicans, 47% of independents, and 42% of Democrats support it. In Wisconsin 52% of Republicans, 42% of Democrats, and 39% of independents support it. It's not like many hot button issues since Barack Obama took office where Democrats are all on one side and Republicans all on the other.

Voters are split pretty evenly three ways when it comes to the question of whether Obama made too many concessions to Republicans with the deal, not enough, or the right amount. In Ohio 33% think he made too many concessions, 32% think he made the right amount, and 28% think he didn't make enough. In Wisconsin 34% think made too many, 32% think he made the right amount, and 28% think he didn't make enough.

The overall impact of the deal on Obama's political standing is unclear. Obama's approval rating in Ohio is 42%, up from 38% before the election, and in Wisconsin it's 47%, up from 37% before the election. He has particularly seen an improvement with independents and you could make the argument that's a show of appreciation for his willingness to work across party lines and compromise on this issue but you could also argue his improvement is simply a function of moving away from the 2010 electorate that wasn't very friendly to Democrats.

"The tax deal is probably a wash for Obama," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "Some Democrats like it, some don't. Some Republicans like it, some don't. Some independents like it, some don't. Overall that probably means some voters like Obama more because of it and some like him less because of it.

PPP surveyed 702 Wisconsin voters and 510 Ohio voters from December 10th to December 12th. For Ohio the survey's margin of error is +/-4.3% and for Wisconsin the survey's margin of error is +/-3.7%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

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Ohio Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 42%
Disapprove..... 49%
Not sure 8%

Q2 Do you support or oppose the tax deal President Obama made with Congressional Republicans this week?

Support 45%
Oppose 32%
Not sure 23%

Q3 Do you think President Obama made too many concessions to Republicans with his tax deal this week, not enough concessions to Republicans, or about the right amount of concessions to Republicans?

Too Many 33%
Not Enough..... 28%
About right 32%
Not sure 7%

Q4 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 18%
Moderate..... 42%
Conservative..... 40%

Q5 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 51%
Man..... 49%

Q6 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 44%
Republican..... 39%
Independent/Other..... 18%

Q7 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 84%
African-American 12%
Other..... 4%

Q8 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 6%
30 to 45..... 26%
46 to 65..... 47%
Older than 65..... 21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Tax Deal Support		
		Support	Oppose	Not sure
Obama Approval				
Approve	42%	42%	45%	40%
Disapprove	49%	50%	49%	49%
Not sure	8%	8%	7%	11%

	Base	Tax Deal Support		
		Support	Oppose	Not sure
Tax Deal Support				
Support	45%	100%	-	-
Oppose	32%	-	100%	-
Not sure	23%	-	-	100%

	Base	Tax Deal Support		
		Support	Oppose	Not sure
Obama Concessions				
Too Many	33%	18%	58%	26%
Not Enough	28%	29%	29%	26%
About right	32%	47%	9%	34%
Not sure	7%	5%	3%	14%

	Base	Obama Concessions			
		Too Many	Not Enough	About right	Not sure
Obama Approval					
Approve	42%	69%	5%	52%	28%
Disapprove	50%	22%	94%	38%	52%
Not sure	8%	9%	1%	11%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Obama Concessions			
		Too Many	Not Enough	About right	Not sure
Tax Deal Support					
Support	45%	25%	46%	67%	36%
Oppose	32%	56%	33%	9%	16%
Not sure	23%	18%	21%	24%	48%

	Base	Obama Concessions			
		Too Many	Not Enough	About right	Not sure
Obama Concessions					
Too Many	33%	100%	-	-	-
Not Enough	28%	-	100%	-	-
About right	32%	-	-	100%	-
Not sure	7%	-	-	-	100%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	42%	67%	63%	10%
Disapprove	49%	18%	29%	85%
Not sure	8%	15%	8%	5%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Tax Deal Support				
Support	45%	39%	43%	50%
Oppose	32%	41%	30%	30%
Not sure	23%	20%	27%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Concessions				
Too Many	33%	59%	39%	14%
Not Enough	28%	7%	12%	55%
About right	32%	28%	40%	26%
Not sure	7%	6%	9%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	42%	47%	38%
Disapprove	49%	44%	55%
Not sure	8%	9%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Tax Deal Support			
Support	45%	47%	44%
Oppose	32%	28%	36%
Not sure	23%	25%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Concessions			
Too Many	33%	34%	32%
Not Enough	28%	25%	31%
About right	32%	32%	32%
Not sure	7%	9%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	42%	71%	11%	40%
Disapprove	49%	15%	87%	54%
Not sure	8%	14%	2%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Tax Deal Support				
Support	45%	42%	48%	47%
Oppose	32%	35%	32%	23%
Not sure	23%	23%	20%	30%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Concessions				
Too Many	33%	49%	13%	34%
Not Enough	28%	7%	55%	24%
About right	32%	37%	25%	36%
Not sure	7%	7%	7%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	42%	36%	80%	67%
Disapprove	49%	56%	7%	33%
Not sure	8%	8%	13%	-





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Tax Deal Support				
Support	45%	45%	47%	56%
Oppose	32%	33%	20%	33%
Not sure	23%	22%	33%	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama Concessions				
Too Many	33%	33%	27%	50%
Not Enough	28%	32%	7%	17%
About right	32%	30%	47%	22%
Not sure	7%	5%	20%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	42%	37%	40%	43%	45%
Disapprove	49%	52%	53%	48%	47%
Not sure	8%	11%	8%	8%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Tax Deal Support					
Support	45%	37%	48%	44%	48%
Oppose	32%	32%	24%	38%	28%
Not sure	23%	31%	28%	19%	24%



Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Concessions					
Too Many	33%	45%	31%	34%	28%
Not Enough	28%	21%	30%	27%	30%
About right	32%	28%	35%	33%	27%
Not sure	7%	6%	4%	5%	15%



Wisconsin Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 47%
Disapprove..... 46%
Not sure 7%

Q2 Do you support or oppose the tax deal President Obama made with Congressional Republicans this week?

Support 44%
Oppose 34%
Not sure 22%

Q3 Do you think President Obama made too many concessions to Republicans with his tax deal this week, not enough concessions to Republicans, or about the right amount of concessions to Republicans?

Too much 34%
Too little 28%
About right 32%
Not sure 6%

Q4 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal 19%
Moderate..... 41%
Conservative..... 40%

Q5 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%

Q6 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 35%
Republican..... 31%
Independent/Other..... 33%

Q7 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 90%
African-American 6%
Other..... 4%

Q8 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 5%
30 to 45..... 33%
46 to 65..... 45%
Older than 65..... 18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Tax Deal Support		
		Support	Oppose	Not sure
Obama Approval				
Approve	47%	50%	50%	39%
Disapprove	46%	47%	44%	48%
Not sure	7%	3%	6%	13%

	Base	Tax Deal Support		
		Support	Oppose	Not sure
Tax Deal Support				
Support	44%	100%	-	-
Oppose	34%	-	100%	-
Not sure	22%	-	-	100%

	Base	Tax Deal Support		
		Support	Oppose	Not sure
Obama Conceded Too Much/Too Little/About Right				
Too much	34%	16%	62%	24%
Too little	28%	27%	30%	29%
About right	32%	53%	6%	31%
Not sure	6%	4%	2%	16%

	Base	Obama Conceded Too Much/Too Little/About Right			
		Too much	Too little	About right	Not sure
Obama Approval					
Approve	47%	78%	8%	53%	28%
Disapprove	46%	16%	89%	37%	56%
Not sure	7%	5%	2%	10%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Obama Conceded Too Much/Too Little/About Right			
		Too much	Too little	About right	Not sure
Tax Deal Support					
Support	44%	21%	42%	73%	28%
Oppose	34%	63%	36%	6%	14%
Not sure	21%	15%	22%	21%	58%

	Base	Obama Conceded Too Much/Too Little/About Right			
		Too much	Too little	About right	Not sure
Obama Conceded Too Much/Too Little/About Right					
Too much	34%	100%	-	-	-
Too little	28%	-	100%	-	-
About right	32%	-	-	100%	-
Not sure	6%	-	-	-	100%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	47%	89%	63%	12%
Disapprove	46%	8%	26%	84%
Not sure	7%	3%	11%	4%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Tax Deal Support				
Support	44%	35%	43%	49%
Oppose	34%	48%	35%	27%
Not sure	22%	16%	21%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Conceded Too Much/Too Little/About Right				
Too much	34%	67%	39%	13%
Too little	28%	7%	16%	50%
About right	32%	25%	39%	28%
Not sure	6%	2%	6%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	47%	49%	46%
Disapprove	46%	43%	50%
Not sure	7%	8%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Tax Deal Support			
Support	44%	43%	46%
Oppose	34%	30%	39%
Not sure	22%	27%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Conceded Too Much/Too Little/About Right			
Too much	34%	33%	34%
Too little	28%	27%	29%
About right	32%	33%	31%
Not sure	6%	6%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	47%	85%	5%	47%
Disapprove	46%	10%	91%	42%
Not sure	7%	5%	4%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Tax Deal Support				
Support	44%	42%	52%	39%
Oppose	34%	37%	24%	41%
Not sure	22%	21%	23%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Conceded Too Much/Too Little/About Right				
Too much	34%	58%	7%	33%
Too little	28%	6%	55%	27%
About right	32%	31%	29%	35%
Not sure	6%	4%	9%	5%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	47%	44%	90%	59%
Disapprove	46%	49%	5%	33%
Not sure	7%	7%	5%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Tax Deal Support				
Support	44%	44%	43%	48%
Oppose	34%	34%	38%	44%
Not sure	22%	22%	19%	7%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama Conceded Too Much/Too Little/About Right				
Too much	34%	32%	48%	41%
Too little	28%	30%	14%	19%
About right	32%	32%	33%	30%
Not sure	6%	6%	5%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	47%	54%	42%	53%	42%
Disapprove	46%	43%	52%	41%	49%
Not sure	7%	3%	6%	7%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Tax Deal Support					
Support	44%	57%	47%	42%	39%
Oppose	34%	23%	34%	37%	33%
Not sure	22%	20%	19%	21%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Conceded Too Much/Too Little/About Right					
Too much	34%	29%	33%	35%	32%
Too little	28%	37%	32%	27%	24%
About right	32%	23%	31%	34%	31%
Not sure	6%	12%	4%	4%	13%

