
FOR RELEASE: MAY 26, 2022

**LAMONT HAS 8-POINT LEAD IN CONNECTICUT GOVERNOR RACE,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
58% SAY THEY ARE WORSE OFF FINANCIALLY THAN A YEAR AGO**

Democratic incumbent Governor Ned Lamont leads Republican challenger Bob Stefanowski 51 – 43 percent in Connecticut’s gubernatorial race, according to a Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pea-ack) University poll of registered voters in Connecticut released today. This poll was conducted from May 19th – 23rd.

Democrats support Lamont 92 – 6 percent, while Republicans back Stefanowski 89 – 9 percent. Independents are divided with 47 percent supporting Lamont and 43 percent supporting Stefanowski. Women back Lamont 59 – 35 percent, while men back Stefanowski 52 – 42 percent.

“Governor Lamont, propelled by strong support from women and enjoying a positive job approval rating from Connecticut voters, leads in a rematch with Bob Stefanowski, but it’s certainly not a lock,” said Quinnipiac University Poll Director Doug Schwartz.

FAVORABILITY RATINGS

Fifty percent of voters have a favorable opinion of Ned Lamont, while 36 percent have an unfavorable opinion of him, and 11 percent haven’t heard enough about him.

Thirty-seven percent of voters have a favorable opinion of Bob Stefanowski, while 22 percent have an unfavorable opinion of him, and 38 percent haven’t heard enough about him.

MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE

The economy tops the list as the most important issue to voters in deciding who to vote for in the election for governor. Thirty-five percent of voters say the economy is the most important issue, followed by taxes (15 percent) and abortion (11 percent).

Among Republicans, the top issues are the economy (45 percent) and taxes (25 percent), with no other issue hitting double digits.

Among Democrats, the top issues are the economy (25 percent), abortion (16 percent), and taxes (10 percent).

Among independents, the top issues are the economy (37 percent) and taxes (16 percent).

JOB APPROVALS

Fifty-two percent of voters approve of the way Ned Lamont is handling his job as governor, while 38 percent disapprove. This compares to a 65 – 26 percent job approval rating in a Quinnipiac University poll in May 2020 during the height of the initial wave of the coronavirus pandemic.

Seventy-one percent of voters approve of the way Lamont is handling the response to the coronavirus, while 23 percent disapprove. In May 2020, Lamont received a 78 – 17 percent approval rating for his handling of the response to the coronavirus.

On Lamont’s handling of the state budget, voters are split with 43 percent approving and 44 percent disapproving.

Voters give Senator Chris Murphy a 45 – 37 percent job approval rating. This is his lowest score in a Quinnipiac poll since taking office in 2013.

Voters give Senator Richard Blumenthal a 45 – 43 percent job approval rating. This is his lowest score in a Quinnipiac poll since taking office in 2011.

Voters give President Joe Biden a negative 40 – 54 percent job approval rating.

ECONOMY

Forty percent of voters say the state of Connecticut’s economy is either excellent (3 percent) or good (37 percent), while 57 percent say the state of Connecticut’s economy is either not so good (34 percent) or poor (23 percent). This is the most positive rating of Connecticut’s economy from voters in a Quinnipiac University poll since April 2005.

Only 13 percent of voters think Connecticut’s economy is getting better, while 45 percent of voters think it’s getting worse, and 40 percent think it’s staying about the same.

Fifty-eight percent of voters say they are worse off financially than they were a year ago, while 25 percent say they are better off, and 15 percent say they are the same.

“A somewhat gloomy financial self-assessment from voters comparing this year to last,” added Schwartz.

ABORTION

Voters support 66 – 26 percent a Connecticut law designed to protect out-of-state patients who seek abortion services in Connecticut from legal action taken by states that have outlawed abortion. This law also protects in-state abortion providers and others involved.

The vast majority of voters (68 percent) think abortion should be legal in all cases (37 percent) or most cases (31 percent), while 23 percent think abortion should be illegal in most cases (18 percent) or all cases (5 percent).

Voters support 67 – 25 percent amending the state constitution to guarantee that women in Connecticut have access to abortion services.

Voters support 70 – 24 percent requiring parental notification before anyone under 16 years old could get an abortion.

1,660 registered voters in Connecticut were surveyed from May 19th – 23rd with a margin of error of +/- 2.4 percentage points.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Doug Schwartz, Ph.D. since 1994, conducts independent, non-partisan national and state polls on politics and issues. Surveys adhere to industry best practices and are based on random samples of adults using random digit dialing with live interviewers calling landlines and cell phones.

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1. If the election for governor were being held today, and the candidates were Ned Lamont the Democrat and Bob Stefanowski the Republican, for whom would you vote? (INCLUDES LEANERS)

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Lamont	51%	9%	92%	47%	42%	59%
Stefanowski	43	89	6	43	52	35
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	1
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-
UNDECIDED (VOL)	4	2	1	7	4	4
REFUSED	2	-	1	2	2	1

2. Is your opinion of Ned Lamont favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Favorable	50%	17%	82%	49%	41%	58%
Unfavorable	36	70	5	36	42	30
Hvn't hrd enough	11	10	11	12	13	9
REFUSED	3	3	2	3	3	3

2a. Is your opinion of Ned Lamont favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him? COMBINED WITH: (If favorable/unfavorable q2) Do you have a strongly or somewhat favorable/unfavorable opinion?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Strongly favorable	23%	5%	49%	18%	16%	30%
Smwht favorable	26	12	32	31	25	27
Smwht unfavorable	16	28	3	18	17	15
Strongly unfavorable	19	41	2	18	25	14
Hvn't hrd enough	11	10	11	12	13	9
REFUSED	5	4	3	4	4	5

3. Is your opinion of Bob Stefanowski favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Favorable	37%	78%	8%	36%	43%	32%
Unfavorable	22	2	48	15	19	24
Hvn't hrd enough	38	21	42	46	36	40
REFUSED	3	-	3	3	2	3

3a. Is your opinion of Bob Stefanowski favorable, unfavorable or haven't you heard enough about him? COMBINED WITH: (If favorable/unfavorable q3) Do you have a strongly or somewhat favorable/unfavorable opinion?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Strongly favorable	21%	50%	3%	16%	25%	17%
Smwht favorable	16	26	4	19	18	15
Smwht unfavorable	9	-	18	7	9	9
Strongly unfavorable	13	1	29	8	10	15
Hvn't hrd enough	38	21	42	46	36	40
REFUSED	3	1	3	4	3	4

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ned Lamont is handling his job as governor?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	52%	17%	86%	49%	43%	60%
Disapprove	38	74	6	38	47	30
DK/NA	11	8	8	13	11	11

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Murphy is handling his job as United States Senator?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	45%	14%	78%	42%	38%	51%
Disapprove	37	75	6	37	46	29
DK/NA	18	11	16	20	16	19

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Richard Blumenthal is handling his job as United States Senator?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	45%	12%	79%	41%	35%	53%
Disapprove	43	82	9	44	53	33
DK/NA	13	6	12	15	12	13

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as president?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	40%	4%	81%	34%	31%	48%
Disapprove	54	95	15	59	64	46
DK/NA	5	1	4	7	5	5

8. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in Connecticut today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Very satisfied	11%	3%	21%	9%	10%	12%
Smwht satisfied	37	13	60	37	32	42
Smwht dissatisfied	22	32	13	24	24	21
Very dissatisfied	28	52	5	30	34	24
DK/NA	1	-	1	-	-	1

9. Which of these is the most important issue to you in deciding who to vote for in the election for governor: taxes, crime, the state budget, infrastructure, COVID-19, the economy, the environment, education, or abortion?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Taxes	15%	25%	10%	16%	19%	12%
Crime	6	4	7	6	6	5
State budget	6	6	6	6	8	5
Infrastructure	5	2	7	6	6	5
COVID-19	3	1	7	1	2	3
Economy	35	45	25	37	36	34
Environment	5	1	8	5	5	5
Education	7	6	7	7	7	7
Abortion	11	5	16	9	5	16
SOMETHING ELSE (VOL)	3	2	2	3	2	3
DK/NA	4	3	4	3	2	5

10. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ned Lamont is handling - the response to the coronavirus?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	71%	47%	93%	70%	65%	76%
Disapprove	23	45	5	23	28	19
DK/NA	6	9	2	7	8	4

11. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ned Lamont is handling - the state budget?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	43%	15%	75%	40%	38%	48%
Disapprove	44	76	13	44	50	38
DK/NA	13	9	12	16	12	14

12. Do you think abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, illegal in most cases or illegal in all cases?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Legal all cases	37%	15%	54%	37%	30%	44%
Legal most cases	31	26	32	38	32	31
Illegal most cases	18	40	4	16	23	13
Illegal all cases	5	9	4	3	5	5
DK/NA	8	10	6	7	10	7

13. As you may know, Connecticut now has a law designed to protect out-of-state patients who seek abortion services in Connecticut from legal action taken by states that have outlawed abortion. It also protects in-state abortion providers and others involved. Do you support or oppose this law?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Support	66%	40%	87%	67%	59%	72%
Oppose	26	52	8	24	33	20
DK/NA	8	7	5	8	7	8

14. Do you support or oppose amending the state constitution to guarantee that women in Connecticut have access to abortion services?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Support	67%	40%	88%	69%	61%	73%
Oppose	25	52	8	23	31	20
DK/NA	8	8	4	8	8	8

15. Do you support or oppose requiring parental notification before anyone under 16 years old could get an abortion?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Support	70%	80%	59%	75%	74%	67%
Oppose	24	14	35	20	20	27
DK/NA	6	5	6	5	6	6

16. Would you describe the state of Connecticut's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Excellent	3%	2%	5%	2%	2%	4%
Good	37	15	62	33	37	37
Not so good	34	44	23	37	33	35
Poor	23	38	5	24	25	22
DK/NA	3	1	4	3	3	2

17. Do you think Connecticut's economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Better	13%	4%	28%	9%	13%	14%
Worse	45	68	21	46	42	47
The same	40	27	49	41	42	37
DK/NA	3	1	3	3	3	2

18. Would you say that you are better off or worse off financially than you were a year ago?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Better off	25%	10%	43%	23%	27%	24%
Worse off	58	79	35	62	61	55
SAME (VOL)	15	9	21	12	10	19
DK/NA	2	2	1	3	2	2

19. Thinking about your own financial situation, which one of the following issues worries you the most: rising gasoline prices, rising food prices, rising home energy costs, or rising housing and rent costs?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Gasoline	28%	40%	25%	24%	34%	24%
Food	27	24	27	30	20	34
Home energy	24	24	21	26	23	24
Housing and rent	15	7	22	16	17	14
DK/NA	5	5	5	4	7	4

20. In general, how serious a problem do you think crime is in Connecticut; a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not very serious, or not a problem at all?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Very serious	36%	47%	28%	36%	35%	37%
Smwht serious	50	45	55	50	46	53
Not very serious	11	7	13	11	14	8
Not a problem at all	2	1	2	2	3	1
DK/NA	1	1	2	1	2	1

21. Is being the victim of a crime something you personally worry about, or not?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Yes	44%	50%	36%	44%	40%	47%
No	55	47	64	55	59	51
DK/NA	1	3	-	1	1	2

22. Compared to 5 years ago, do you feel that Connecticut has become a safer place to live, a less safe place to live, or stayed about the same?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Safer	8%	3%	12%	8%	9%	7%
Less safe	41	61	22	46	40	42
About the same	49	35	63	46	49	49
DK/NA	2	2	3	1	2	2

23. Compared to 5 years ago, do you feel that your town or city has become a safer place to live, a less safe place to live, or stayed about the same?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Safer	8%	7%	12%	6%	9%	7%
Less safe	29	36	19	33	27	31
About the same	61	56	66	60	63	60
DK/NA	2	2	3	1	2	2

24. How prepared do you think the state is to deal with an extreme weather event; very prepared, somewhat prepared, not so prepared, or not prepared at all?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Very prepared	15%	15%	19%	13%	16%	14%
Somewhat prepared	63	57	61	67	59	66
Not so prepared	13	18	13	12	14	12
Not prepared at all	5	6	4	5	7	4
DK/NA	4	5	3	3	4	4

25. How prepared are you to deal with an extreme weather event; very prepared, somewhat prepared, not so prepared, or not prepared at all?

	REGISTERED VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Very prepared	29%	33%	22%	31%	35%	24%
Somewhat prepared	55	53	58	53	51	57
Not so prepared	11	10	14	10	8	13
Not prepared at all	4	2	4	5	4	4
DK/NA	1	2	2	-	2	1