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**CT GOVERNOR'S RACE: LAMONT HOLDS 17-POINT LEAD OVER FAZIO,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY CONNECTICUT POLL FINDS;
LAMONT AHEAD ON COST OF LIVING AND ECONOMY**

Less than two months until Connecticut's gubernatorial election, 55 percent of likely voters support incumbent Democrat Ned Lamont, 38 percent support Republican challenger Ryan Fazio, 5 percent are undecided, and 2 percent refuse to respond, according to a Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pea-ack) University Connecticut poll of likely voters released today.

Democrats 93 – 6 percent support Lamont, while Republicans 86 – 10 percent support Fazio. Among independents, 48 percent support Lamont and 42 percent support Fazio.

There is a wide gender gap.

Women 64 – 30 percent support Lamont.

Men are divided, with 44 percent supporting Lamont and 47 percent supporting Fazio.

FAVORABILITY RATINGS

Fifty percent of likely 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.

Twenty-eight percent of likely voters have a favorable opinion of Ryan Fazio, while 25 percent have an unfavorable opinion of him, and 45 percent haven't heard enough about him.

"Ned Lamont seems favored to win a third term as governor, as his opponent Ryan Fazio fights a name recognition handicap in a predominantly Democratic state," said Doug Schwartz, Associate Vice President and Director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE

When likely voters were given a list of nine issues and asked which is the most important one in deciding who to vote for in the election for governor, the cost of living (27 percent) and the economy (23 percent) top the list, followed by taxes (11 percent), immigration (10 percent), and health care (8 percent). No other issue reached six percent.

Among likely voters who say the cost of living is the most important issue, 63 percent back Lamont and 29 percent back Fazio.

Among likely voters who say the economy is the most important issue, 58 percent back Lamont and 33 percent back Fazio.

Among likely voters who say taxes are the most important issue, 72 percent back Fazio and 22 percent back Lamont.

Among likely voters who say immigration is the most important issue, 63 percent back Fazio and 36 percent back Lamont.

Among likely voters who say health care is the most important issue, 83 percent back Lamont and 15 percent back Fazio.

“Can Fazio’s strong numbers on taxes and immigration blunt Lamont’s dominance on cost of living and the economy? It is a steep uphill climb against a governor with a strong advantage in the race and years of incumbency,” added Schwartz.

PERSONAL TRAITS

Likely voters were asked whether the candidates have good leadership skills:

- Lamont: 63 percent say yes, 32 percent say no, with 5 percent not offering an opinion;
- Fazio: 31 percent say yes, 26 percent say no, with 43 percent not offering an opinion.

Likely voters were asked whether the candidates care about the needs and problems of people like them:

- Lamont: 53 percent say yes, 42 percent say no, with 5 percent not offering an opinion;
- Fazio: 42 percent say yes, 31 percent say no, with 27 percent not offering an opinion.

Likely voters were asked whether the candidates are honest:

- Lamont: 51 percent say yes, 37 percent say no, with 12 percent not offering an opinion;
- Fazio: 36 percent say yes, 23 percent say no, with 42 percent not offering an opinion.

SATISFACTION

More than half of likely voters (52 percent) are either very satisfied (8 percent) or somewhat satisfied (44 percent) with the way things are going in Connecticut today, while 47 percent are either somewhat dissatisfied (25 percent) or very dissatisfied (22 percent).

CT’S ECONOMY

Forty-five percent of likely voters describe the state of Connecticut’s economy these days as either excellent (2 percent) or good (43 percent), while 53 percent describe it as either not so good (34 percent) or poor (19 percent).

More than half of likely voters (53 percent) think Connecticut’s economy is staying about the same, 39 percent think it’s getting worse, and 6 percent think the state’s economy is getting better.

Half of likely voters (50 percent) think Ned Lamont is more responsible for the state of Connecticut’s economy, while 41 percent think Donald Trump is more responsible for the state of Connecticut’s economy.

Fifty-two percent of likely voters say they are worse off financially than they were a year ago, while 28 percent say they are better off, and 18 percent volunteer they are the same financially as they were a year ago.

JOB APPROVALS

Fifty percent of likely voters approve of the way Ned Lamont is handling his job as governor, while 42 percent disapprove.

Fifty-one percent of likely voters approve of the way Chris Murphy is handling his job as United States Senator, while 38 percent disapprove.

Fifty percent of likely voters approve of the way Richard Blumenthal is handling his job as United States Senator, while 40 percent disapprove.

Twenty-eight percent of likely voters approve of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president, while 67 percent disapprove.

1,288 Connecticut likely voters were surveyed from September 8th – 14th with a margin of error of +/- 3.8 percentage points, including the design effect.

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 probability-based samples using random digit dialing with live interviewers calling landlines and cell phones.

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Email poll@qu.edu or follow us on X [@QuinnipiacPoll](https://twitter.com/QuinnipiacPoll).**

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

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Lamont	55%	10%	93%	48%	44%	64%
Fazio	38	86	6	42	47	30
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-	-
UNDECIDED (VOL)	5	5	1	8	5	5
REFUSED	2	-	-	2	3	-

	MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE TO GOV VOTE Q8				
	Econ-omy	CostOf Living	Health Care	Taxes	Immig-ration
Lamont	58%	63%	83%	22%	36%
Fazio	33	29	15	72	63
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	-	-	-	-	-
UNDECIDED (VOL)	7	5	2	5	1
REFUSED	1	2	1	1	-

	CONNECTICUT ECONOMY Q10.	
	Excellent/ VeryGood	NotSoGood/ Poor
Lamont	77%	37%
Fazio	19	55
SMONE ELSE (VOL)	-	-
WLDN'T VOTE (VOL)	-	-
UNDECIDED (VOL)	3	7
REFUSED	2	1

1a. (If candidate chosen q1) Would you say you are very enthusiastic about supporting (candidate of choice), somewhat enthusiastic, not so enthusiastic, or not enthusiastic at all?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....		
	CANDIDATE CHOSEN Q1.....		
	CANDIDATE OF CHOICE Q1		
	Tot	Lamont	Fazio
Very enthusiastic	32%	27%	39%
Smwht enthusiastic	53	54	51
Not so enthusiastic	10	12	6
Not enthus at all	4	5	3
DK/NA	2	2	2

1b. (If candidate chosen q1) How likely is it that you will change your mind about your choice for governor before the election; very likely, somewhat likely, not so likely, or not likely at all?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....		
	CANDIDATE CHOSEN Q1.....		
	CANDIDATE OF CHOICE Q1		
	Tot	Lamont	Fazio
Very likely	1%	1%	1%
Somewhat likely	10	9	10
Not so likely	18	21	13
Not likely at all	70	67	75
DK/NA	1	2	1

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

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Favorable	50%	19%	79%	40%	42%	56%
Unfavorable	36	71	9	43	44	30
Hvn't hrd enough	11	8	12	12	11	11
REFUSED	3	2	1	5	3	3

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

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Favorable	28%	62%	5%	29%	35%	23%
Unfavorable	25	3	43	22	24	26
Hvn't hrd enough	45	35	50	46	40	49
REFUSED	2	-	1	4	1	2

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

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	50%	16%	81%	42%	43%	57%
Disapprove	42	77	13	48	49	35
DK/NA	8	7	6	10	8	8

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

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	51%	10%	83%	43%	42%	58%
Disapprove	38	80	8	42	47	30
DK/NA	12	10	9	15	11	12

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

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	50%	13%	80%	43%	42%	57%
Disapprove	40	78	11	45	48	33
DK/NA	10	8	9	12	10	10

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

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Approve	28%	76%	3%	24%	32%	25%
Disapprove	67	17	94	70	62	70
DK/NA	6	7	3	6	7	5

8. Which of these is the most important issue to you in deciding who to vote for in the election for governor: the economy, the cost of living, health care, taxes, electricity costs, crime, schools, immigration, or affordable housing?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Economy	23%	23%	23%	24%	24%	22%
Cost of living	27	18	30	29	24	29
Health care	8	4	12	7	5	10
Taxes	11	19	2	15	13	9
Electricity costs	5	6	5	5	6	4
Crime	2	4	1	2	3	1
Schools	4	2	6	3	3	5
Immigration	10	16	9	8	7	13
Affordable housing	4	1	6	3	6	2
SOMETHING ELSE (VOL)	2	3	1	2	3	2
DK/NA	3	4	4	3	5	2

9. 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?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Very satisfied	8%	2%	15%	5%	8%	9%
Smwht satisfied	44	22	63	41	38	48
Smwht dissatisfied	25	34	16	30	28	23
Very dissatisfied	22	42	7	24	25	20
DK/NA	-	-	-	1	1	-

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

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Excellent	2%	1%	3%	2%	3%	1%
Good	43	25	64	35	43	44
Not so good	34	41	25	39	32	35
Poor	19	32	7	22	21	18
DK/NA	2	1	1	3	1	2

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

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Better	6%	4%	8%	7%	10%	3%
Worse	39	50	30	40	35	41
The same	53	45	59	51	52	53
DK/NA	2	1	3	2	2	2

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

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Better off	28%	28%	32%	27%	35%	23%
Worse off	52	50	46	58	43	58
SAME (VOL)	18	21	19	14	19	17
DK/NA	2	2	3	1	2	1

13. Who do you think is more responsible for the state of Connecticut's economy: Ned Lamont or Donald Trump?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Lamont	50%	71%	38%	52%	58%	44%
Trump	41	24	54	38	34	47
DK/NA	8	4	8	10	7	9

	CONNECTICUT ECONOMY Q10.	
	Excellent/ VeryGood	NotSoGood/ Poor
Lamont	48%	53%
Trump	45	38
DK/NA	7	8

14. Would you say that Ned Lamont - has good leadership skills, or not?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Yes	63%	36%	86%	58%	55%	69%
No	32	60	10	36	41	25
DK/NA	5	4	4	7	4	6

15. Would you say that Ryan Fazio - has good leadership skills, or not?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Yes	31%	63%	10%	34%	36%	27%
No	26	9	39	23	23	28
DK/NA	43	27	51	43	41	45

16. Would you say that Ned Lamont - is honest, or not?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Yes	51%	27%	71%	46%	44%	56%
No	37	62	16	41	44	31
DK/NA	12	11	12	13	11	13

17. Would you say that Ryan Fazio - is honest, or not?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Yes	36%	63%	19%	38%	40%	32%
No	23	10	33	20	24	22
DK/NA	42	27	48	43	36	46

18. Would you say that Ned Lamont - cares about the needs and problems of people like you, or not?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Yes	53%	26%	78%	44%	46%	58%
No	42	69	19	50	50	35
DK/NA	5	5	4	6	4	6

19. Would you say that Ryan Fazio - cares about the needs and problems of people like you, or not?

	LIKELY VOTERS.....					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom
Yes	42%	78%	23%	40%	47%	38%
No	31	8	43	32	31	30
DK/NA	27	14	34	28	22	32