



Toplines **Wesleyan SurveyLab CT Poll**

Field Dates: April 3-17, 2023

Sample: 600 self-identified registered voters in Connecticut

Margin of error: Plus or minus 5.13% (adjusted for design effects)

Methodology: The Wesleyan SurveyLab CT Poll was designed by a research team at Wesleyan University and fielded by YouGov. The YouGov panel, a proprietary opt-in survey panel, is comprised of 1.8 million U.S. residents who have agreed to participate in YouGov's web surveys as well as the YouGov Online community.

YouGov fielded the survey online to 611 panelists who were then matched down to a sample of 600 to produce the final dataset. The respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race, and education. The sampling frame is a politically representative "modeled frame" of registered voters in Connecticut, based upon the American Community Survey (ACS) public use microdata file, public voter file records, the 2020 Current Population Survey (CPS) Voting and Registration supplements, the 2020 National Election Pool (NEP) exit poll, and the 2020 CES surveys, including demographics and 2020 presidential vote.

The matched cases were weighted to the sampling frame using propensity scores. The matched cases and the frame were combined and a logistic regression was estimated for inclusion in the frame. The propensity score function included age, gender, race/ethnicity, and years of education. The propensity scores were grouped into deciles of the estimated propensity score in the frame and post-stratified according to these deciles.

The weights were post-stratified on 2020 Presidential vote choice, a four-way stratification of gender, age (4-categories), race (4-categories), and education (4-categories). The weights were then weighted by Iterative Proportional Fitting Procedure on gender, education, age, and race to produce the final weight.

The reported percentages are based on the weighted data.

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Wesleyan SurveyLab CT Poll

The following tables show the toplines from the Wesleyan SurveyLab CT Poll using the weighted data.

[Q1_a] Below is a list of some stories covered by Connecticut news organizations in recent weeks. Please indicate how closely you followed each news story – Debate over Governor Lamont’s budget proposal:

Q1_a	Percent (%)
Very closely	9
Fairly closely	32
Not too closely	31
Not at all closely	28

[Q1_b] The increase in black bears in the state:

Q1_b	Percent (%)
Very closely	9
Fairly closely	31
Not too closely	34
Not at all closely	26

[Q1_c] Teacher shortages in Connecticut schools:

Q1_c	Percent (%)
Very closely	11
Fairly closely	29
Not too closely	30
Not at all closely	30

[Q1_d] The University of Connecticut men’s basketball team’s performance in the NCAA tournament:

Q1_d	Percent (%)
Very closely	27
Fairly closely	23
Not too closely	21
Not at all closely	30

[Q1_e] The University of Connecticut women’s basketball team’s performance in the NCAA tournament:

Q1_e	Percent (%)
Very closely	17
Fairly closely	20
Not too closely	28
Not at all closely	34

[Q2] Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling his job as President?:

Q2	Percent (%)
Strongly approve	20
Somewhat approve	29
Somewhat disapprove	15
Strongly disapprove	34
Not sure	2

[Q3] Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ned Lamont is handling his job as Governor?:

Q3	Percent (%)
Strongly approve	26
Somewhat approve	34
Somewhat disapprove	18
Strongly disapprove	15
Not sure	7

[Q4] Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Connecticut General Assembly is doing?:

Q4	Percent (%)
Strongly approve	12
Somewhat approve	34
Somewhat disapprove	19
Strongly disapprove	16
Not sure	19

[Q5] Did you vote in the 2022 midterm elections in November?:

Q5	Percent (%)
I did not vote (in the election last November)	13
I thought about voting this time, but didn't	5
I usually vote, but didn't this time	5
I am sure I voted	77

[Q6] In the 2022 election for Governor in Connecticut, for whom did you vote? (Asked of those who are sure they voted in 2022 (n=487)):

Q6	Percent (%)
Ned Lamont (Democrat)	59
Bob Stefanowski (Republican)	33
Robert Hotaling (Independent)	4
Other	1
I did not vote in this race	1
Don't recall	3

[Q7] Would you say that over the past twelve months, the state of the economy in the United States has gotten much better, gotten somewhat better, stayed about the same, gotten somewhat worse, or gotten much worse?:

Q7	Percent (%)
Much better	5
Somewhat better	19
About the same	31
Somewhat worse	21
Much worse	24

[Q8] Would you say that over the past twelve months, the state of the economy in Connecticut has gotten much better, gotten somewhat better, stayed about the same, gotten somewhat worse, or gotten much worse?:

Q8	Percent (%)
Much better	4
Somewhat better	24
About the same	32
Somewhat worse	26
Much worse	14

[Q9] What do you think is the most important problem facing the state of Connecticut today?:

Q9	Percent (%)
Economy/Inflation	26
Coronavirus	2
Guns/Gun Control	5
Crime/Violence	8
Education	6
Healthcare	5
Abortion	1
Immigration	2
Race/Race Relations	0
Poverty/Inequality	7
Taxes	17
Government spending	5
Housing/Homelessness	7
Environment/Climate Change	6
Other	4

[Q10] Connecticut is projected to have a budget surplus of \$3.2 billion this year. In response, the state could increase spending in areas such as education and healthcare, pay down long-term debt, or cut taxes for Connecticut residents. Which option would you most prefer?:

Q10	Percent (%)
Increase spending	16
Pay down long-term debt	25
Cut taxes	51
Not sure	8

[Q11_a] Below is a list of potential tax cuts proposed by Governor Lamont and/or state legislators. Do you support or oppose the following proposals? Lowering the tax rates on income below \$50,000 for individuals and \$100,000 for families:

Q11_a	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	5
Somewhat oppose	5
Somewhat support	35
Strongly support	51
Not Sure	4

[Q11_b] Cutting taxes on small businesses:

Q11_b	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	2
Somewhat oppose	7
Somewhat support	40
Strongly support	45
Not Sure	5

[Q11_c] Providing a tax credit to low- and middle-income households with children under 18:

Q11_c	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	7
Somewhat oppose	10
Somewhat support	40
Strongly support	38
Not Sure	5

[Q11_d] Expanding the state Earned Income Tax Credit for lower-income workers:

Q11_d	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	8
Somewhat oppose	10
Somewhat support	36
Strongly support	36
Not Sure	9

[Q12_a] Below is a list of areas where the state government spends money on services and programs. Do you think state spending in this area should be increased, decreased, or kept about the same: Child care:

Q12_a	Percent (%)
Increased	47
Decreased	12
Kept About the Same	41

[Q12_b] K-12 Education:

Q12_b	Percent (%)
Increased	53
Decreased	9
Kept About the Same	38

[Q12_c] Public colleges and universities:

Q12_c	Percent (%)
Increased	31
Decreased	20
Kept About the Same	49

[Q12_d] Healthcare:

Q12_d	Percent (%)
Increased	59
Decreased	10
Kept About the Same	31

[Q12_e] Transportation (roads, rail, buses):

Q12_e	Percent (%)
Increased	58
Decreased	7
Kept About the Same	34

[Q12_f] Job training programs:

Q12_f	Percent (%)
Increased	48
Decreased	8
Kept About the Same	43

[Q12_g] Renewable energy (solar, wind):

Q12_g	Percent (%)
Increased	44
Decreased	24
Kept About the Same	32

[Q12_h] State police:

Q12_h	Percent (%)
Increased	35
Decreased	18
Kept About the Same	47

[Q13] Politicians in Connecticut have debated raising taxes on individuals making more than \$250,000 a year and couples making more than \$500,000 a year. Supporters say that this would help pay for needed government services in the state. Opponents say that this will lead to more high-income taxpayers leaving the state for states with lower taxes. Would you support or oppose raising taxes on individuals making more than \$250,000 a year and couples making more than \$500,000 a year?:

Q13	Percent (%)
Strongly support	41
Somewhat support	26
Somewhat oppose	13
Strongly oppose	14
Not sure	5

[Q14_a] How much of a problem do you think the following issues are in the state of Connecticut? Inequality:

Q14_a	Percent (%)
A big problem	26
Somewhat of a problem	44
Not a problem	30

[Q14_b] Crime:

Q14_b	Percent (%)
A big problem	40
Somewhat of a problem	51
Not a problem	10

[Q14_c] Affordability of housing:

Q14_c	Percent (%)
A big problem	58
Somewhat of a problem	35
Not a problem	6

[Q14_d] Racism:

Q14_d	Percent (%)
A big problem	21
Somewhat of a problem	49
Not a problem	30

[Q14_e] Energy costs:

Q14_e	Percent (%)
A big problem	69
Somewhat of a problem	27
Not a problem	5

[Q15] Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: It is the responsibility of the government to reduce income differences between the richest and poorest households.:

Q15	Percent (%)
Strongly agree	23
Somewhat agree	31
Somewhat disagree	16
Strongly disagree	25
Not sure	6

[Q16_a] Please tell us whether you would support or oppose the following changes to gun laws in the state of Connecticut. Requiring higher bail and immediate revocation of parole for individuals convicted of repeated firearm offenses:

Q16_a	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	5
Somewhat oppose	3
Somewhat support	22
Strongly support	65
Not Sure	5

[Q16_b] Increasing the age to purchase all firearms to 21:

Q16_b	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	8
Somewhat oppose	6
Somewhat support	14
Strongly support	68
Not Sure	3

[Q16_c] Banning the open carry of firearms:

Q16_c	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	25
Somewhat oppose	14
Somewhat support	11
Strongly support	42
Not Sure	9

[Q16_d] Limiting gun purchases to one a month:

Q16_d	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	16
Somewhat oppose	7
Somewhat support	18
Strongly support	49
Not Sure	10

[Q16_e] Establishing the right to carry a pistol in any state park or forest:

Q16_e	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	37
Somewhat oppose	11
Somewhat support	20
Strongly support	21
Not Sure	11

[Q16_f] Recognizing gun permits issued in other states:

Q16_f	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	24
Somewhat oppose	16
Somewhat support	23
Strongly support	24
Not Sure	13

[Q17_a] Please tell us whether you would support or oppose the following changes to housing laws in the state of Connecticut. Capping rent increases at 4% per year:

Q17_a	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	11
Somewhat oppose	12
Somewhat support	26
Strongly support	42
Not Sure	9

[Q17_b] Requiring each city or town in Connecticut to build more affordable housing:

Q17_b	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	14
Somewhat oppose	13
Somewhat support	28
Strongly support	40
Not Sure	5

[Q17_c] Limiting landlords' access to the eviction history of potential tenants:

Q17_c	Percent (%)
Strongly oppose	25
Somewhat oppose	19
Somewhat support	22
Strongly support	19
Not Sure	14

[Q18] In 2017, the state of Connecticut passed budget controls or guardrails that put caps on spending and borrowing by the state government and require surplus funds over a certain amount to pay down Connecticut's debt. Prior to taking this survey, how much had you heard or read about these fiscal guardrails?:

Q18	Percent (%)
A lot	3
Some	18
Only a little	28
Nothing at all	51

[Q19] Supporters of keeping the guardrails in place say they have led to state budget surpluses and fiscal stability. Opponents of keeping the guardrails in place say they prevent the state from accessing funds needed to address inequities in the state. What about you? Do you support or oppose keeping the guardrails in place?:

Q19	Percent (%)
Strongly support	24
Somewhat support	32
Somewhat oppose	9
Strongly oppose	4
Not sure	32

[Q20] In 2020, the state of Connecticut passed the Police Accountability Law. The law created a legal duty for police to intervene and report police misconduct, tightened standards for use of force, and replicated in state law a federal right to sue police for violations of individual rights. Prior to taking this survey, how much had you heard or read about the Police Accountability Law?:

Q20	Percent (%)
A lot	12
Some	30
Only a little	29
Nothing at all	30

[Q21] Supporters of the Police Accountability Law say it enhances transparency and professionalism in policing. Opponents of the Police Accountability Law say it hurts police morale and makes it harder to recruit police officers in the state. What about you? Do you support or oppose the Police Accountability Law?:

Q21	Percent (%)
Strongly support	39
Somewhat support	24
Somewhat oppose	12
Strongly oppose	12
Not sure	14

[Q22] In 2019, the state of Connecticut passed a family and medical leave law that pays replacement wages for employees who take time off to care for a new child or sick family member. The program receives funding through a 0.5-percent increase in payroll taxes. Prior to taking this survey, how much had you heard or read about the state family and medical leave law?:

Q22	Percent (%)
A lot	17
Some	31
Only a little	27
Nothing at all	25

[Q23] Supporters of the family and medical leave law say the bill ensures people will not have to choose between a paycheck and taking care of a family member. Opponents say it puts a burden on Connecticut businesses, especially small businesses. What about you? Do you support or oppose the Connecticut family and medical leave law?:

Q23	Percent (%)
Strongly support	37
Somewhat support	29
Somewhat oppose	13
Strongly oppose	8
Not sure	12

[Q24] Relative to governors in other states, how well do you think Governor Lamont managed the state's response to the Covid-19 pandemic?:

Q24	Percent (%)
Much better	34
Somewhat better	27
About the same	21
Somewhat worse	7
Much worse	7
Not sure	5

[Q25] How would you rate the public schools in your local school district?:

Q25	Percent (%)
Excellent	20
Good	39
Fair	24
Poor	11
Not sure	7

[Q26] How would you rate the public schools in the state?:

Q26	Percent (%)
Excellent	10
Good	44
Fair	27
Poor	9
Not sure	10

[Q27] In the last year, have you attended a board of education meeting in your local school district (either in person or live online)?:

Q27	Percent (%)
Yes	12
No	86
Not sure	2

[Q28_1] What do you think are the biggest challenges facing public education in Connecticut? Please select up to three. Funding differences between school districts:

Q28_1	Percent (%)
selected	29
not selected	71

[Q28_2] Lack of parent control over education :

Q28_2	Percent (%)
selected	17
not selected	83

[Q28_3] Limited school choice:

Q28_3	Percent (%)
selected	10
not selected	90

[Q28_4] Racial segregation in schools:

Q28_4	Percent (%)
selected	7
not selected	93

[Q28_5] Socioeconomic segregation in schools:

Q28_5	Percent (%)
selected	13
not selected	87

[Q28_6] School facilities/infrastructure:

Q28_6	Percent (%)
selected	14
not selected	86

[Q28_7] Transportation to/from schools:

Q28_7	Percent (%)
selected	3
not selected	97

[Q28_8] School safety:

Q28_8	Percent (%)
selected	30
not selected	70

[Q28_9] Student absenteeism:

Q28_9	Percent (%)
selected	9
not selected	91

[Q28_10] Student behavior/discipline:

Q28_10	Percent (%)
selected	34
not selected	66

[Q28_11] Student mental health/well-being:

Q28_11	Percent (%)
selected	32
not selected	68

[Q28_12] Students' performance on state assessments :

Q28_12	Percent (%)
selected	11
not selected	89

[Q28_13] Recruiting and retaining teachers:

Q28_13	Percent (%)
selected	35
not selected	65

[Q28_14] Something else:

Q28_14	Percent (%)
selected	7
not selected	93

[Q28_15] Not sure:

Q28_15	Percent (%)
selected	7
not selected	93

[Q29] Charter schools are publicly funded schools that are run independently of the school district and may also have a specialized focus. Would you support or oppose the formation of more charter schools with public funds in Connecticut?:

Q29	Percent (%)
Strongly support	23
Somewhat support	28
Somewhat oppose	15
Strongly oppose	12
Not sure	21

[Q30] Which comes closest to your view:

Q30	Percent (%)
Americans are united in agreement about the most important values	24
Americans are greatly divided when it comes to the most important values	76

[Q31] Which comes closest to your view:

Q31	Percent (%)
People in Connecticut are united in agreement about the most important values	46
People in Connecticut are greatly divided when it comes to the most important values	54

[Q32_a] How familiar are you with the following minor or third parties in the state of Connecticut: Green Party:

Q32_a	Percent (%)
Very familiar	8
Somewhat familiar	39
Not too familiar	29
Not at all familiar	24

[Q32_b] Independent Party:

Q32_b	Percent (%)
Very familiar	16
Somewhat familiar	34
Not too familiar	30
Not at all familiar	20

[Q32_c] Libertarian Party:

Q32_c	Percent (%)
Very familiar	10
Somewhat familiar	36
Not too familiar	28
Not at all familiar	25

[Q32_d] Working Families Party:

Q32_d	Percent (%)
Very familiar	10
Somewhat familiar	29
Not too familiar	27
Not at all familiar	34

[Q33] Some states, including Connecticut, permit multiple political parties to nominate the same political candidate in an election. For instance, John Smith is the nominee for Party A and also the nominee for Party B on the same ballot. In general, does more than one party nominating the same person make the voting process easier or harder for a voter like you?:

Q33	Percent (%)
Easier	17
Harder	26
Neither	57

[Q34] How many children 18 or younger do you have living at home?:

Q34	Percent (%)
Zero	79
One	12
Two	6
Three or more	2

[Q35m_1] Are your children enrolled in any of the following? Select all that apply. Pre-school/Pre-K (Asked to respondents with 1 or more children under 18 living at home (n=122)):

Q35m_1	Percent (%)
selected	12
not selected	88

[Q35m_2] Elementary School (n=122):

Q35m_2	Percent (%)
selected	38
not selected	62

[Q35m_3] Middle-school/junior high school (n=122):

Q35m_3	Percent (%)
selected	22
not selected	78

[Q35m_4] High school (n=122):

Q35m_4	Percent (%)
selected	32
not selected	68

[Q35m_5] None of the above (n=122):

Q35m_5	Percent (%)
selected	18
not selected	82

[Q36_1] What types of K-12 schools are your children enrolled in? Select all that apply. Neighborhood public school (Asked of respondents with kids in elementary-high school (n=101)):

Q36_1	Percent (%)
selected	59
not selected	41

[Q36_2] Private school (n=101):

Q36_2	Percent (%)
selected	15
not selected	85

[Q36_3] Homeschool (n=101):

Q36_3	Percent (%)
selected	7
not selected	93

[Q36_4] Other public non-charter school(e.g., magnet, open enrollment, etc.) (n=101):

Q36_4	Percent (%)
selected	25
not selected	75

[Q36_5] Charter school (n=101):

Q36_5	Percent (%)
selected	3
not selected	97

[Q36_6] Other (n=101):

Q36_6	Percent (%)
not selected	100

The following variables are profile variables provided by YouGov.

[race] Race:

race	Percent (%)
White	77
Black	9
Hispanic	9
Asian	1
Native American	1
Two or more races	2
Other	1

[educ] Education:

educ	Percent (%)
No HS	1
High school graduate	26
Some college	18
2-year	7
4-year	27
Post-grad	21

[gender4] Gender:

gender4	Percent (%)
Man	46
Woman	53
Non-binary	1
Other	1

[faminc_new] Family income:

faminc_new	Percent (%)
Less than \$10,000	3
\$10,000 - \$19,999	4
\$20,000 - \$29,999	8
\$30,000 - \$39,999	7
\$40,000 - \$49,999	8
\$50,000 - \$59,999	6
\$60,000 - \$69,999	7
\$70,000 - \$79,999	9
\$80,000 - \$99,999	9
\$100,000 - \$119,999	8
\$120,000 - \$149,999	6
\$150,000 - \$199,999	6
\$200,000 - \$249,999	3
\$250,000 - \$349,999	3
\$350,000 - \$499,999	1
\$500,000 or more	0
Prefer not to say	11

[pid3] 3 point party ID:

pid3	Percent (%)
Democrat	39
Republican	23
Independent	32
Other	3
Not sure	3

[pid7] 7 point Party ID:

pid7	Percent (%)
Strong Democrat	30
Not very strong Democrat	10
Lean Democrat	12
Independent	16
Lean Republican	6
Not very strong Republican	8
Strong Republican	16
Not sure	3

[pid7_rec] 3 point Party ID (leaners as partisans):

pid7_rec	Percent (%)
Democrat	51
Independent	16
Republican	30
Not sure	3

[age_4category] Age (based on the respondent's year of birth):

age_4category	Percent (%)
18-29	12
30-44	22
45-64	35
65+	31

[county] County:

county	Percent (%)
Fairfield County	21
Hartford County	22
Litchfield County	10
Middlesex County	5
New Haven County	23
New London County	6
Tolland County	9
Windham County	4

[ideo5] Ideology:

ideo5	Percent (%)
Very liberal	16
Liberal	21
Moderate	29
Conservative	20
Very conservative	8
Not sure	6

[religpew] Religion:

religpew	Percent (%)
Protestant	23
Roman Catholic	34
Mormon	0
Eastern or Greek Orthodox	0
Jewish	4
Muslim	0
Buddhist	1
Hindu	0
Atheist	7
Agnostic	6
Nothing in particular	20
Something else	4