# Table of Contents

## SECTION ONE

### About the Poll

## SECTION TWO

### Project Overview

## SECTION THREE

### Key Findings & Headlines

## SECTION FOUR

### Detailed Study Findings
Sacred Heart University and GreatBlue Research are partnering through the Institute for Public Policy to analyze salient issues facing the State of Connecticut. This collaboration combines the academic excellence of a top-rated private University with the research design, analysis, and reporting expertise of GreatBlue Research.
Table of Contents

SECTION ONE
About the Poll

SECTION TWO
Project Overview

SECTION THREE
Headlines

SECTION FOUR
Detailed Study Findings
The Sacred Heart University Institute for Public Policy leveraged quantitative research through a telephonic methodology to address the following areas of investigation:

- Voter preferences regarding the 2018 CT Gubernatorial Race
- Voter preferences regarding the 2018 election for the U.S. House of Representatives
- Impressions of Democratic and Republic Candidates for Governor
- Presidential Job Approval
- Gubernatorial Job Approval
- Issues facing the State of Connecticut
- Demographic profiles of respondents

Areas of Investigation
# Research Methodology Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Methodology</th>
<th>No. of Completes</th>
<th>No. of Questions</th>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Confidence Level</th>
<th>Research Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Telephone*</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>21**</td>
<td>Connecticut residents</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>August 16-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Likely voters”***</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Supervisory personnel in addition to computer-aided interviewing platforms ensure the integrity of the data is accurate.

** This represents the total possible number of questions; not all respondents will answer all questions based on skip patterns and other instrument bias.

*** Respondents to the survey indicated they were registered to vote, had voted in the 2016 election, and were “very” or “somewhat” likely to vote in the 2018 election in order to qualify for the survey.
Data indicated a tight race for the governorship is ahead in the coming months as, currently, 40.8% of Connecticut voters currently support Ned Lamont (D) for governor compared to 36.9% who support Bob Stefanowski (R).

- Unaffiliated voters are currently divided as 29.8% support Ned Lamont (D) and 29.8% support Bob Stefanowski (R). In addition, another 27.3% of unaffiliated voters were undecided at the time of the poll.
- A major gender gap exists as 49.3% of female voters support Ned Lamont (D) compared to 30.1% of female voters who support Bob Stefanowski (R). However, 43.9% of male voters support Bob Stefanowski (R) compared to 31.4% of male voters who support Ned Lamont (D).

29.8% of Connecticut voters have a “favorable” view of Ned Lamont (D), while 30.3% have a “favorable” view of Bob Stefanowski (R). However, the race will remain fluid as voters get to know more about the candidates. Currently, 44.4% of Connecticut voters “have not heard enough about” Bob Stefanowski (R) to form an opinion, and 41.6% report the same about Ned Lamont (D).

The top issues driving voters’ behavior heading into the race of governor was the “high overall tax burden” (24.7%) or “State budget crisis” (22.3%) in Connecticut.

In addition, leading up to the gubernatorial election to choose his successor, only 15.9% of Connecticut voters “approve” of the job Dannel Malloy is doing as governor.
SHU Institute for Public Policy - Key Findings & Headlines

❖ Data indicated that one-half of Connecticut voters (49.8%) reported to “strongly” (25.9%) or “somewhat” agree (23.9%) with the statement “Electronic highway tolls that collect significant money from out-of-state motorists and interstate trucks as well as from Connecticut residents would be an effective way to help pay for highway improvements to relieve congestion.”

❖ A higher rate of Connecticut voters (66.3%) reported to “strongly” (45.4%) or “somewhat” agree (20.9%) with the statement “If Connecticut cannot solve its budget crisis by cutting state services and spending, raising taxes on people with incomes over $1 million would be fair and effective.”

❖ Nationally, less than one-third of Connecticut voters “approve” (30.5%) of how Donald Trump is handling his job as President compared to 58.3% who currently “disapprove” of his job performance.
  • Further, if the elections of the U.S. House of Representatives were held today, 43.0% of Connecticut voters suggest they will support the Democratic candidate in their district compared to 33.1% who will support the Republican candidate.
  • Among unaffiliated voters, 29.8% support the Democratic congressional candidate in their district compared to 21.5% who support the Republican candidate. However, another 36.4% of unaffiliated voters were undecided on who they would support in the U.S. congressional election at the time of the poll.
Gubernatorial Race

Overall, in regards to the 2018 Gubernatorial election being held in November, 40.8% of Connecticut voters suggest they will support Ned Lamont (D) for governor in the fall, compared to 36.9% who will support Bob Stefanowski (R). However, it is important to note that 16.7% of voters were undecided at the time of the poll.

❖ Both candidates have strong support within their own parties as 81.9% of Republicans support Bob Stefanowski and 76.9% of Democrats support Ned Lamont.
❖ Currently, unaffiliated voters are split with 29.8% supporting Ned Lamont and 29.8% supporting Bob Stefanowski.
Both candidates for governor have opportunities to grow support as 44.4% of Connecticut voters “have not heard enough about” Bob Stefanowski to form an opinion yet, and 41.6% report the same about Ned Lamont.

Q: Is your opinion of Ned Lamont favorable, unfavorable or haven’t you heard enough about him?

- Favorable: 29.3%
- Unfavorable: 20.1%
- Haven’t heard enough: 44.4%
- Don’t know/unsure: 5.2%

Q: Is your opinion of Bob Stefanowski favorable, unfavorable or haven’t you heard enough about him?

- Favorable: 30.3%
- Unfavorable: 20.1%
- Haven’t heard enough: 44.4%
- Don’t know/unsure: 5.2%
Congressional Race

In regards to the U.S. congressional races also being held in November, 43.0% of Connecticut voters suggest they will support the Democratic candidate in their district compared to 33.1% who will support the Republican candidate.

❖ Both major parties running for U.S. House of Representatives have consolidated strong support within their own parties as 83.3% of Republicans support Republican candidates for Congress and 81.9% of Democrats support Democratic candidates for Congress.

❖ However, in regards to the U.S. congressional election, unaffiliated voters currently favor the Democratic candidates in their district by a 29.8% to 21.5% margin.

If the election for the U.S. House of Representatives were being held today, would you vote for the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate in your congressional district?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Party affiliation...</th>
<th>Gender...</th>
<th>College degree...</th>
<th>Age...</th>
<th>Race/ethnicity...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>Unaffiliated</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
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<tr>
<td>43.0</td>
<td>81.9</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>29.8</td>
<td>50.2</td>
<td>35.6</td>
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<td>33.1</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>83.3</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>41.4</td>
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<td>12.4</td>
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<td>3.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>36.4</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>19.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Job Approval Ratings

Over two-thirds of Connecticut voters “disapprove” of how Dannel Malloy is handling his job as governor (69.6%), while only 15.9% “approve” of his job performance.

❖ Only 2.8% of Republican voters in the state currently approve of Dannel Malloy’s job performance.

❖ Over three-quarters of unaffiliated voters currently “disapprove” of how Dannel Malloy is handling his job as Governor.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling his job as Governor?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling his job as Governor?</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Party affiliation...</th>
<th>Gender...</th>
<th>College degree...</th>
<th>Age...</th>
<th>Race/ethnicity...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>Unaffiliated</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approve</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>28.6</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>12.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disapprove</td>
<td>69.6</td>
<td>51.8</td>
<td>92.4</td>
<td>76.0</td>
<td>63.3</td>
<td>76.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know/unsure</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>10.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Job Approval Ratings

58.3% of Connecticut voters “disapprove” of how Donald Trump is handling his job as President, while slightly less than one-third “approve” of his job performance (30.5%).

❖ Only 4.0% of Democratic voters in the state currently approve of Donald Trump’s job performance.

❖ Over three-fifths of unaffiliated voters currently “disapprove” of how Donald Trump is handling his job as President.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as President?</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Party affiliation...</th>
<th>Gender...</th>
<th>College degree...</th>
<th>Age...</th>
<th>Race/ethnicity...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>Unaffiliated</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approve</td>
<td>30.5</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>75.0</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>23.6</td>
<td>38.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disapprove</td>
<td>58.3</td>
<td>87.9</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>62.0</td>
<td>65.3</td>
<td>51.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know/unsure</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>10.9</td>
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</table>
Issues facing the State of Connecticut

For the majority of residents, either the State’s “high overall tax burden” (24.7%) or “budget crisis” (22.3%) would be the topic that would determine their vote for governor. Another 12.7% reported the “high overall cost of living” in the State would be the deciding factor for them. “Education inequality” (7.2%), “low economic growth” (6.4%), and “income inequality within the State” (5.8%) were factors for fewer voters.

What is the most important issue to you in deciding your vote for governor in November?
Half of Connecticut voters, 49.8%, reported to either “strongly” (25.9%) or “somewhat” agree (23.9%) with the statement “Electronic highway tolls that collect significant money from out-of-state motorists and interstate trucks as well as from Connecticut residents would be an effective way to help pay for highway improvements to relieve congestion.”

❖ 65.9% of Democratic voters in the State supported electronic highway tolls compared 38.8% of Republican voters.
❖ 41.3% of unaffiliated voters supported electric highway tolls compared to 52.8% who opposed these tolls.

“Electronic highway tolls that collect significant money from out-of-state motorists and interstate trucks as well as from Connecticut residents would be an effective way to help pay for highway improvements to relieve congestion.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Party affiliation</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>College degree</th>
<th>Race/ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>Unaffiliated</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly agree</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>32.7</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>24.8</td>
<td>28.2</td>
<td>23.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat agree</td>
<td>23.9</td>
<td>33.2</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>25.1</td>
<td>23.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat disagree</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>12.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly disagree</td>
<td>35.1</td>
<td>20.6</td>
<td>49.3</td>
<td>38.8</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>38.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know/unsure</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Two-thirds of Connecticut voters, 66.3%, reported to either “strongly” (45.4%) or “somewhat” agree (20.9%) with the statement “If Connecticut cannot solve its budget crisis by cutting state services and spending, raising taxes on people with incomes over $1 million would be fair and effective.”

- 80.9% of Democratic voters in the State supported raising taxes on people with incomes over $1 million compared 44.4% of Republican voters.
- 66.9% of unaffiliated voters supported raising taxes on people with incomes over $1 million compared to 27.3% who opposed these taxes.