

SCREENERS

- Q1.** In November of this year, there will be an election for Governor of Connecticut, members of Congress, and state officials. How likely are you to vote in the November election this year?

Definitely vote	85
Probably vote	10
50-50 chance	4
Probably not	0
Don't know/Refused	0

- Q2.** Regardless of how you are registered, do you consider yourself a strong Democrat, a weak Democrat, a strong Republican, a weak Republican, or an Independent?

Strong Democrat	29
Weak Democrat	6
Strong Republican	18
Weak Republican	5
Independent	40
Other	0
Don't know	2

DEMOCRAT	35
REPUBLICAN	23
INDEPENDENT	41

Among Independents

Q3. Which of the following statements would you say best describes you?

You almost always vote for Democratic candidates	10
You vote for Democrats more often than you vote for Republicans	22
You vote for Republicans more often than you vote for Democrats	18
You almost always vote for Republican candidates	6
You vote equally for Democrats and Republicans	29
Don't know	15
DEM LEAN	32
REP LEAN	24
TRUE IND	44

LAY OF THE LAND AND BASELINE ATTITUDES

Now I am going to read you a list of people. After I read each one, please tell me if you have a very favorable view of them, somewhat favorable view, somewhat unfavorable view or very unfavorable view of them. If you haven't heard of them or are unfamiliar with them, just tell me that.

	Very fav	Smwt fav	Smwt unfav	Very unfav	Heard of but no opinion	Have not heard of	Don't know	TOTAL FAV	TOTAL UNFAV	NO OPINION/HAVE NOT HEARD/DK
Q5. Ned Lamont	16	21	18	20	17	7	1	37	38	25
Q6. Bob Stefanowski	13	21	12	15	20	13	6	34	27	39
Q4. Dan Malloy	8	20	19	45	5	4	0	28	63	9
Q7. Oz Griebel	0	6	6	3	17	58	9	7	9	85

Switching topics...

Q8. How much do you worry about crime and safety in the Connecticut? Do you worry... about crime and safety in Connecticut?

A great deal	23
Some	42
Not very much	27
Not at all	8
Don't know	0
GREAT DEAL/SOME	65
NOT MUCH/AT ALL	35

Q9. And how much do you worry about crime and safety in the area where you live? Do you worry... about crime and safety in your area?

A great deal	10
Some	25
Not very much	45
Not at all	19
Don't know	0
GREAT DEAL/SOME	35
NOT MUCH/AT ALL	65

Q10. Do you think the criminal justice system in Connecticut right now is...?

Headed in the right direction	35
Headed in the wrong direction	39
Don't know	26

Q11. In your opinion, how important is it to reduce the number of people who are in prison in Connecticut today? Is it...?

Very important	28
Somewhat important	31
Not very important	16
Not at all important	19
Don't know	6
IMPORTANT	58
NOT IMPORTANT	35

Asked of half the sample

Q12. Which statement do you agree with more?

People who have been convicted of a crime can turn their lives around and become productive members of our community if they can get the right kind of help.	82
People who have been convicted of a crime are unlikely to change and will almost always be a danger to society.	12
Don't know	6

Asked of other half of the sample

Q12A. Which statement do you agree with more?

People who have been convicted of a <u>violent</u> crime can turn their lives around and become productive members of our community if they can get the right kind of help.	62
People who have been convicted of a <u>violent</u> crime are unlikely to change and will almost always be a danger to society.	33
Don't know	6

Q13. In your view, would making reforms that reduce the number of people in prison in Connecticut...

Help communities by saving taxpayer dollars that can be reinvested into preventing crime and rehabilitating people convicted of crimes	58
Harm communities because people who belong behind bars will be let out	29
Don't know	12

Q14. Which of the following comes closer to your view?

If you do the crime, you should pay a price, but prison isn't the only answer and we should encourage offenders to work hard to improve themselves.	72
If you do the crime, you should do the time, no exceptions and no breaks for good behavior.	25
Don't know	3

Q15. Which of the following comes closer to your view?

The purpose of our criminal justice system is to deter people from committing crime.	38
The purpose of our criminal justice system is to get offenders back on a path to being good, law-abiding people.	38
The purpose of our criminal justice system is to punish people.	20
Don't know	4

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ATTITUDES

Now I'm going to read you a list of statements that someone could make. After each one, please tell me if you agree or disagree with that statement.

	Strongly agree	Smwt agree	Smwt disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't Know	TOTAL AGREE	TOTAL DISAGREE
Q21. The primary purpose of prison should be to make sure people who have been convicted of a crime pay a price, but we also have a responsibility to rehabilitate criminals while they are in prison, so that they can become productive members of our community when they are released.	64	26	5	3	1	90	8
Asked of ½ sample							
Q25. People who have been convicted of a crime and have served their sentence should have a fair shot at getting their lives back on track without having their prison sentence held against them. Everyone deserves a second chance, even those who have been convicted of a crime .	60	30	5	3	1	90	9
Asked of ½ sample							
Q18. If we stopped imprisoning people who are not truly dangerous and treated the problems that lead people to commit crime in the first place, like drug addiction and mental illness, we could make our communities safer.	60	22	11	7	1	82	17
Asked of ½ sample							
Q19. The primary purpose of prison should be to rehabilitate people so they can successfully reenter society and not commit crimes again in the future.	56	28	8	7	1	84	15
Q24. We send too many people to prison for minor offenses and when they finally get released, they struggle to get steady jobs and housing because having served time suggests they've done something much worse than they have.	51	29	10	7	4	79	17
Q16. Dangerous criminals should be sent to prison, but we waste too much taxpayer money locking up people who are not dangerous to others.	48	29	13	4	5	78	18
Asked of ½ sample							
Q20. The primary purpose of prison should be to punish those who have been convicted of a crime.	41	27	18	12	1	69	30
Q23. Our prison system is broken. Instead of rehabilitating people, our prisons harden prisoners so that when they're released, they are more likely to have drug problems, links to criminal networks or are unable to cope in the outside world.	37	31	16	8	8	69	24

Asked of ½ sample

Q25A. People who have been **convicted of a violent crime** and have served their sentence should have a fair shot at getting their lives back on track without having their prison sentence held against them. Everyone deserves a second chance, even those who have been **convicted of a violent crime**.

35 36 15 13 2 **71** **28**

Asked of ½ sample

Q17. Many people who are sent to prison commit crimes again when they get out because Connecticut's prison system does not do a good job of working with prisoners to overcome problems like drug addiction and mental illness.

35 31 13 8 12 **66** **21**

Q22. On the whole, the criminal justice system in Connecticut treats everyone fairly, regardless of race or ethnic background.

15 23 20 34 8 **38** **54**

Q21A. Any change that reduces the number of people in prison is likely to mean more crime in the future.

14 17 40 24 4 **32** **64**

POLICY SUPPORT – CT CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICIES

Now I'm going to ask you about existing criminal justice policies in Connecticut.

- Q26.** As you may or may not know, in 2011, Connecticut began the Risk Reduction Earned Credit program, which allows prisoners with good behavior and who participate in certain programs to earn time off their sentence. For example, a low-risk offender who follows all the rules can earn five days off their prison sentence each month. Those convicted of serious violent crimes like murder or sexual assault are not eligible for the program. Hearing this, do you... this program?

Strongly support	53
Somewhat support	33
Somewhat oppose	6
Strongly oppose	6
Don't know	1
SUPPORT	86
OPPOSE	13

Now I'm going to read you a list of ways some people have proposed to change the criminal justice system in Connecticut. After each one, I'll ask whether you support or oppose the proposal.

	Strongly support	Smwt support	Smwt oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know	TOTAL SUPPORT	TOTAL OPPOSE
Q29. Increasing funding for programs that make our communities safer by helping people coming out of prison to find jobs, housing and medical care so they have a better shot of becoming productive members of society.	57	31	8	3	1	87	12
Asked of ¼ sample							
Q32. Allow people convicted of <u>misdemeanors</u> to have their criminal record erased if they go five years without a new conviction after they've been released from prison.	55	30	11	4	0	85	15
Asked of ¼ sample							
Q31. Allow people convicted of <u>minor offenses</u> to have their criminal record erased if they go five years without a new conviction after they've been released from prison.	52	37	4	6	1	89	10
Asked of ½ sample							
Q28. Sending first time offenders who have been convicted of a crime into proven programs that address the root causes of crime instead of sending them to prison.	41	35	10	8	5	76	18
Asked of ½ sample							
Q30. Pass a law that prohibits former prisoners from being discriminated against due to their criminal record when it comes to things like housing, employment, education, and insurance.	34	40	12	10	4	74	22
Q33. Just like Vermont and Maine, extend voting rights to people who are currently in prison in Connecticut.	24	22	13	40	1	46	53
Asked of ½ sample							
Q27. Sending first time offenders who have been convicted of a <u>violent crime</u> into proven programs that address the root causes of crime instead of sending them to prison.	22	28	15	32	3	50	47

DEMOGRAPHICS

D1. Have you, personally, ever been the victim of a crime? IF YES: Were you physically harmed, or threatened with physical harm?

Yes, victim of a crime but NOT threatened with physical harm	18
Yes, victim of a crime and threatened with physical harm	16
No	67
Don't know/ Refused	0

D2. Do you personally know anyone who has been sent to jail, prison, or another type of correctional facility?

Yes	68
No	32
Don't know/ Refused	0

Y1. May I ask how old you are?

18 to 24 years	4
25 to 29 years	5
30 to 34 years	8
35 to 39 years	5
40 to 44 years	7
45 to 49 years	10
50 to 54 years	12
55 to 59 years	12
60 to 64 years	11
65 to 69 years	6
70 to 74 years	9
75 to 79 years	5
80 or older	6
Don't know/Refused	0

Y2. What is the last grade or level of school you have completed?

Less than high school degree	2
High school graduate (GED)	16
Some college - but less than two years of college	10
Some college - two years or more/AA degree	14
College graduate/bachelor's degree/BA/BS	32
Postgraduate courses	4
Postgraduate Degree (JD, MD, MBA, Ph.D, etc.)	22
Don't know/None specified	0

Y3. Do you have children age 18 or under living with you at home?

Yes	32
No	68
Don't know/None specified	0

Y4. Do you live in a city, a suburb just outside a city, or a less developed or rural area that is not near a city?

City	24
Suburb	55
More rural, less developed	21
Don't know	0

Y5. Do you generally consider yourself...?

Very liberal	13
Somewhat liberal	20
Moderate	29
Somewhat conservative	23
Very conservative	12
Don't know/None specified	2
LIBERAL	34
MODERATE	29
CONSERVATIVE	35

Y6. For statistical purposes only, we need to know your total family income for 2017. Will you please tell me which of the following categories best represents your total family income?

Less than 15,000	4
15,000 to less than 30,000	5
30,000 to less than 40,000	4
40,000 thousand to less than 50,000	7
50,000 thousand to less than 60,000	7
60,000 thousand to less than 75,000	8
75,000 to less than 100,000	14
100,000 to less than 150,000	22
150,000 or more	18
Don't know/Refused	10

Y7. Which of the following ethnic groups describes you? You can stop me when I've read your group.

White or Caucasian	78
Black or African-American	9
Latino, Hispanic or Mexican	8
Asian or Pacific Islander	2
Native American	1
Mixed Race	1
Other:	0
Don't know/Refused	2

Among those who do not identify as Hispanic

Y8. Do you consider yourself to be of Hispanic descent?

Yes	3
No	95
Don't know	1

Y9. Observed Gender

Female	53
Male	47

C6. Party Registration

Democrat	40
Independent	36
Republican	24