

INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312**IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL
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OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

Murphy up on Shays by 4, McMahon by 7 in CT

Raleigh, N.C. – Chris Murphy remains Democrats’ strongest bet to hold Joe Lieberman’s soon-vacated Senate seat, with newly announced candidate Chris Shays the GOP’s surest horse to take it.

Murphy leads Shays by a 43-39 margin; tops last year’s GOP nominee Linda McMahon, 50-43; and beats former Rep. Rob Simmons, 45-36. Former Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz leads McMahon only 47-46, and trails Simmons, 42-41, and Shays, 48-37. State Rep. William Tong trails Simmons and McMahon by seven points and Shays by 19. Murphy and Bysiewicz have declined by four to 10 points against McMahon and Simmons since PPP last polled the race in March; Shays and Tong were not tested then.

Most of the shift is because the electorate is projecting as significantly more Republican than six months ago, with Democrats still at a +14 identification advantage. The candidates are holding almost identical levels of support within their own bases, but there have been some shifts toward the Republicans among the quarter of voters who identify as independents. Murphy led McMahon by six points in March, but now trails by five; he led Simmons by two, but now trails by two; he also trails Shays by nine with them. Bysiewicz lags with nonpartisans by 13 to 21 points, versus 3 to 14 in the previous poll.

Murphy’s competitiveness edge over Bysiewicz is not because he is better-known. In fact, slightly more (70%) are familiar with the former statewide officeholder than the congressman (63%). But Murphy is far more popular, with a 35-28 favorability rating, versus Bysiewicz’s 29-41. Voters are most familiar with McMahon, but she is also disliked, at 39-49. Shays is seen just slightly better than Murphy, at 37-28.

“Chris Shays could make this a pretty close race,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “His problem is that Democrats like him more than Republicans. That’s not a good formula for surviving a GOP primary with Linda McMahon.”

PPP surveyed 592 Connecticut voters from September 22nd to 25th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.0%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.



Connecticut Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Susan Bysiewicz?

Favorable..... 29%
Unfavorable 41%
Not sure 30%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Linda McMahon?

Favorable..... 39%
Unfavorable 49%
Not sure 12%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Chris Murphy?

Favorable..... 35%
Unfavorable 28%
Not sure 36%

Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Christopher Shays?

Favorable..... 37%
Unfavorable 28%
Not sure 35%

Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rob Simmons?

Favorable..... 28%
Unfavorable 28%
Not sure 44%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of William Tong?

Favorable..... 5%
Unfavorable 23%
Not sure 73%

Q7 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat Susan Bysiewicz and Republican Linda McMahon, who would you vote for?

Susan Bysiewicz..... 47%
Linda McMahon 46%
Undecided..... 7%

Q8 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat Susan Bysiewicz and Republican Christopher Shays, who would you vote for?

Susan Bysiewicz..... 37%
Christopher Shays 48%
Undecided..... 16%

Q9 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat Susan Bysiewicz and Republican Rob Simmons, who would you vote for?

Susan Bysiewicz..... 41%
Rob Simmons 42%
Undecided..... 17%

Q10 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat Chris Murphy and Republican Linda McMahon, who would you vote for?

Chris Murphy 50%
Linda McMahon 43%
Undecided..... 6%

Q11 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat Chris Murphy and Republican Christopher Shays, who would you vote for?

Chris Murphy 43%
Christopher Shays 39%
Undecided..... 18%





Q12 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat Chris Murphy and Republican Rob Simmons, who would you vote for?

Chris Murphy 45%
Rob Simmons 36%
Undecided..... 20%

Q13 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat William Tong and Republican Linda McMahon, who would you vote for?

William Tong 38%
Linda McMahon 45%
Undecided..... 17%

Q14 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat William Tong and Republican Christopher Shays, who would you vote for?

William Tong 27%
Christopher Shays 46%
Undecided..... 27%

Q15 If the candidates for Senate next year were Democrat William Tong and Republican Rob Simmons, who would you vote for?

William Tong 32%
Rob Simmons 39%
Undecided..... 29%

Q16 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal 10%
Somewhat liberal 26%
Moderate..... 29%
Somewhat conservative..... 24%
Very conservative 11%

Q17 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%

Q18 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 45%
Republican..... 31%
Independent/Other..... 24%

Q19 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White 80%
Other..... 20%

Q20 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 12%
30 to 45..... 24%
46 to 65..... 44%
Older than 65..... 20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bysiewicz Favorability						
Favorable	29%	46%	38%	27%	22%	13%
Unfavorable	41%	24%	28%	36%	53%	72%
Not sure	30%	30%	34%	37%	25%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
McMahon Favorability						
Favorable	39%	16%	15%	36%	62%	76%
Unfavorable	49%	63%	78%	50%	25%	18%
Not sure	12%	21%	8%	15%	12%	6%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Murphy Favorability						
Favorable	35%	53%	60%	32%	18%	8%
Unfavorable	28%	19%	9%	28%	40%	55%
Not sure	36%	28%	31%	40%	42%	36%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Shays Favorability						
Favorable	37%	30%	41%	40%	34%	31%
Unfavorable	28%	40%	21%	25%	32%	34%
Not sure	35%	30%	38%	35%	34%	35%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Simmons Favorability						
Favorable	28%	14%	21%	30%	37%	33%
Unfavorable	28%	37%	28%	28%	19%	35%
Not sure	44%	50%	51%	42%	43%	31%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Tong Favorability						
Favorable	5%	10%	5%	4%	5%	-
Unfavorable	23%	23%	23%	25%	18%	26%
Not sure	73%	67%	73%	71%	77%	74%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bysiewicz/McMahon						
Susan Bysiewicz	47%	79%	77%	47%	20%	7%
Linda McMahon	46%	13%	14%	44%	75%	91%
Undecided	7%	8%	8%	9%	5%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bysiewicz/Shays						
Susan Bysiewicz	37%	75%	64%	28%	14%	11%
Christopher Shays	48%	12%	22%	51%	70%	78%
Undecided	16%	13%	14%	21%	16%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Bysiewicz/Simmons						
Susan Bysiewicz	41%	75%	71%	39%	12%	7%
Rob Simmons	42%	16%	13%	38%	69%	87%
Undecided	17%	9%	16%	23%	19%	6%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Murphy/McMahon						
Chris Murphy	50%	86%	85%	50%	18%	11%
Linda McMahon	43%	13%	11%	39%	76%	85%
Undecided	6%	2%	4%	11%	7%	4%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Murphy/Shays						
Chris Murphy	43%	83%	73%	41%	13%	4%
Christopher Shays	39%	6%	6%	36%	70%	84%
Undecided	18%	11%	21%	22%	17%	12%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Murphy/Simmons						
Chris Murphy	45%	89%	75%	43%	10%	12%
Rob Simmons	36%	3%	6%	29%	70%	74%
Undecided	20%	8%	18%	28%	20%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Tong/McMahon						
William Tong	38%	80%	67%	35%	8%	6%
Linda McMahon	45%	11%	16%	40%	76%	89%
Undecided	17%	9%	17%	25%	16%	5%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Tong/Shays						
William Tong	27%	65%	48%	22%	5%	6%
Christopher Shays	46%	20%	15%	47%	73%	80%
Undecided	27%	15%	37%	32%	22%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Tong/Simmons						
William Tong	32%	77%	52%	29%	7%	4%
Rob Simmons	39%	9%	12%	35%	67%	79%
Undecided	29%	14%	36%	36%	26%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bysiewicz Favorability			
Favorable	29%	32%	26%
Unfavorable	41%	37%	46%
Not sure	30%	31%	28%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McMahon Favorability			
Favorable	39%	36%	43%
Unfavorable	49%	51%	46%
Not sure	12%	13%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Murphy Favorability			
Favorable	35%	39%	31%
Unfavorable	28%	20%	37%
Not sure	36%	41%	32%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Shays Favorability			
Favorable	37%	34%	39%
Unfavorable	28%	25%	31%
Not sure	35%	40%	29%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Simmons Favorability			
Favorable	28%	22%	35%
Unfavorable	28%	24%	32%
Not sure	44%	54%	33%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Tong Favorability			
Favorable	5%	5%	5%
Unfavorable	23%	18%	28%
Not sure	73%	77%	68%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bysiewicz/McMahon			
Susan Bysiewicz	47%	52%	41%
Linda McMahon	46%	40%	53%
Undecided	7%	8%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bysiewicz/Shays			
Susan Bysiewicz	37%	46%	26%
Christopher Shays	48%	37%	60%
Undecided	16%	17%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bysiewicz/Simmons			
Susan Bysiewicz	41%	47%	34%
Rob Simmons	42%	32%	54%
Undecided	17%	22%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Murphy/McMahon			
Chris Murphy	50%	58%	42%
Linda McMahon	43%	36%	52%
Undecided	6%	7%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Murphy/Shays			
Chris Murphy	43%	48%	37%
Christopher Shays	39%	31%	49%
Undecided	18%	22%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Murphy/Simmons			
Chris Murphy	45%	52%	36%
Rob Simmons	36%	24%	48%
Undecided	20%	24%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Tong/McMahon			
William Tong	38%	44%	31%
Linda McMahon	45%	39%	52%
Undecided	17%	17%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Tong/Shays			
William Tong	27%	30%	23%
Christopher Shays	46%	37%	56%
Undecided	27%	33%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Tong/Simmons			
William Tong	32%	34%	29%
Rob Simmons	39%	31%	49%
Undecided	29%	35%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bysiewicz Favorability				
Favorable	29%	40%	17%	23%
Unfavorable	41%	28%	56%	46%
Not sure	30%	32%	27%	31%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McMahon Favorability				
Favorable	39%	19%	63%	46%
Unfavorable	49%	71%	25%	39%
Not sure	12%	10%	11%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Murphy Favorability				
Favorable	35%	49%	16%	33%
Unfavorable	28%	18%	43%	30%
Not sure	36%	33%	40%	37%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Shays Favorability				
Favorable	37%	41%	34%	32%
Unfavorable	28%	27%	30%	29%
Not sure	35%	32%	36%	39%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Simmons Favorability				
Favorable	28%	21%	38%	29%
Unfavorable	28%	31%	21%	30%
Not sure	44%	49%	41%	41%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Tong Favorability				
Favorable	5%	7%	4%	2%
Unfavorable	23%	23%	20%	25%
Not sure	73%	71%	76%	73%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bysiewicz/McMahon				
Susan Bysiewicz	47%	74%	14%	39%
Linda McMahon	46%	19%	81%	52%
Undecided	7%	7%	5%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bysiewicz/Shays				
Susan Bysiewicz	37%	62%	7%	28%
Christopher Shays	48%	24%	80%	49%
Undecided	16%	14%	13%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bysiewicz/Simmons				
Susan Bysiewicz	41%	68%	9%	32%
Rob Simmons	42%	19%	74%	46%
Undecided	17%	14%	17%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Murphy/McMahon				
Chris Murphy	50%	78%	16%	43%
Linda McMahon	43%	17%	77%	48%
Undecided	6%	5%	7%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Murphy/Shays				
Chris Murphy	43%	70%	11%	34%
Christopher Shays	39%	13%	73%	43%
Undecided	18%	17%	16%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Murphy/Simmons				
Chris Murphy	45%	73%	11%	36%
Rob Simmons	36%	11%	69%	38%
Undecided	20%	16%	20%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Tong/McMahon				
William Tong	38%	66%	8%	25%
Linda McMahon	45%	17%	80%	52%
Undecided	17%	17%	12%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Tong/Shays				
William Tong	27%	48%	4%	16%
Christopher Shays	46%	22%	78%	49%
Undecided	27%	29%	19%	35%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Tong/Simmons				
William Tong	32%	58%	3%	20%
Rob Simmons	39%	14%	73%	42%
Undecided	29%	28%	24%	38%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Bysiewicz Favorability			
Favorable	29%	29%	30%
Unfavorable	41%	42%	38%
Not sure	30%	29%	33%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
McMahon Favorability			
Favorable	39%	44%	23%
Unfavorable	49%	45%	63%
Not sure	12%	11%	15%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Murphy Favorability			
Favorable	35%	35%	35%
Unfavorable	28%	28%	30%
Not sure	36%	37%	35%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Shays Favorability			
Favorable	37%	35%	45%
Unfavorable	28%	28%	28%
Not sure	35%	37%	28%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Simmons Favorability			
Favorable	28%	29%	23%
Unfavorable	28%	26%	35%
Not sure	44%	45%	43%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Tong Favorability			
Favorable	5%	4%	8%
Unfavorable	23%	23%	23%
Not sure	73%	74%	70%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Bysiewicz/McMahon			
Susan Bysiewicz	47%	41%	70%
Linda McMahon	46%	51%	28%
Undecided	7%	8%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Bysiewicz/Shays			
Susan Bysiewicz	37%	31%	57%
Christopher Shays	48%	51%	35%
Undecided	16%	18%	8%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Bysiewicz/Simmons			
Susan Bysiewicz	41%	36%	60%
Rob Simmons	42%	45%	30%
Undecided	17%	19%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Murphy/McMahon			
Chris Murphy	50%	45%	73%
Linda McMahon	43%	48%	25%
Undecided	6%	7%	3%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Murphy/Shays			
Chris Murphy	43%	39%	57%
Christopher Shays	39%	41%	33%
Undecided	18%	20%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Murphy/Simmons			
Chris Murphy	45%	41%	57%
Rob Simmons	36%	38%	25%
Undecided	20%	20%	18%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Tong/McMahon			
William Tong	38%	34%	53%
Linda McMahon	45%	49%	30%
Undecided	17%	17%	18%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Tong/Shays			
William Tong	27%	22%	48%
Christopher Shays	46%	49%	35%
Undecided	27%	30%	18%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Tong/Simmons			
William Tong	32%	26%	55%
Rob Simmons	39%	43%	25%
Undecided	29%	31%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bysiewicz Favorability					
Favorable	29%	23%	28%	30%	32%
Unfavorable	41%	42%	37%	42%	44%
Not sure	30%	36%	36%	27%	25%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McMahon Favorability					
Favorable	39%	50%	40%	40%	30%
Unfavorable	49%	34%	50%	48%	57%
Not sure	12%	16%	10%	12%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Murphy Favorability					
Favorable	35%	26%	33%	40%	33%
Unfavorable	28%	34%	33%	24%	31%
Not sure	36%	41%	34%	37%	36%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Shays Favorability					
Favorable	37%	30%	31%	37%	46%
Unfavorable	28%	33%	24%	31%	24%
Not sure	35%	37%	45%	32%	30%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Simmons Favorability					
Favorable	28%	29%	22%	25%	42%
Unfavorable	28%	23%	26%	31%	24%
Not sure	44%	48%	52%	44%	34%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Tong Favorability					
Favorable	5%	6%	4%	3%	6%
Unfavorable	23%	23%	21%	23%	24%
Not sure	73%	71%	74%	74%	69%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bysiewicz/McMahon					
Susan Bysiewicz	47%	45%	43%	49%	48%
Linda McMahon	46%	50%	49%	46%	42%
Undecided	7%	5%	8%	6%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bysiewicz/Shays					
Susan Bysiewicz	37%	43%	35%	36%	36%
Christopher Shays	48%	42%	48%	47%	51%
Undecided	16%	15%	17%	16%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bysiewicz/Simmons					
Susan Bysiewicz	41%	42%	35%	42%	45%
Rob Simmons	42%	43%	44%	41%	43%
Undecided	17%	15%	20%	18%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Murphy/McMahon					
Chris Murphy	50%	50%	46%	51%	54%
Linda McMahon	43%	44%	48%	43%	38%
Undecided	6%	6%	7%	6%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Murphy/Shays					
Chris Murphy	43%	47%	43%	41%	43%
Christopher Shays	39%	39%	38%	40%	38%
Undecided	18%	14%	18%	19%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Murphy/Simmons					
Chris Murphy	45%	54%	39%	46%	42%
Rob Simmons	36%	29%	38%	36%	36%
Undecided	20%	17%	23%	18%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Tong/McMahon					
William Tong	38%	34%	38%	39%	38%
Linda McMahon	45%	48%	51%	44%	39%
Undecided	17%	18%	11%	17%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Tong/Shays					
William Tong	27%	32%	26%	25%	29%
Christopher Shays	46%	51%	43%	48%	42%
Undecided	27%	17%	31%	27%	28%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Tong/Simmons					
William Tong	32%	43%	30%	30%	31%
Rob Simmons	39%	40%	37%	38%	45%
Undecided	29%	17%	32%	32%	24%

