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CT likes gay marriage being legal, wants UConn in Big East

Raleigh, N.C. – Same-sex marriage has been legal in Connecticut for almost three years, and 70% of the state’s voters think life has gone on just as before. Only 18% say it has had a negative impact on their lives. Indeed, 55% think it should remain legal, and only 32% want it to be illegal again. And only half that think gay couples deserve no legal recognition whatsoever. With civil unions, which were legalized in 2005, on the menu of options, 81% believe gay couples deserve the same legal rights as straight couples—47% for full marriage equality and another 34% for civil unions. While only 32% of Republicans favor full marriage rights, 79% are in favor of at least civil unions, joined by 78% of independents (up from 56% in favor of marriage in the two-way question) and 85% of Democrats (70%). There is still a huge generational gap here, but unlike in other states, even those over 65 support legal gay marriage.

The University of Connecticut is rumored to be considering a conference move after Syracuse and Pittsburgh bolted the once 16-strong Big East for the ACC. But 41% of Nutmeg State voters want UConn to stay right where it is, with the same amount not sure, and only 19% wanting the Huskies to join the Orange and Panthers. Men (26%) are more than twice as likely as women (12%) to want UConn’s old rivalries to continue into the Southern-based ACC.

Parts of Connecticut are suburbs of New York City, and other parts more culturally New England. When it comes to baseball loyalties, the divide is pretty even, with the Boston Red Sox claiming a narrow lead of 37% of the state’s fans over the New York Yankees’ 34%. Only 6% root for the New York Mets.

The state is much more clearly New England in football fandom. The Patriots are beloved by 38%, followed by the New York Giants’ 23% and the New York Jets’ 6%, not much higher than the Pittsburgh Steelers’ and Dallas Cowboys’ 5%.

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 think same-sex marriage should be legal or illegal?

Legal..... 55%
Illegal 32%
Not sure 13%

Q2 Which of the following best describes your opinion on gay marriage: gay couples should be allowed to legally marry, or gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not legally marry, or there should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship?

Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry 47%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry 34%
There should be no recognition of a gay couple's relationship 16%
Not sure 3%

Q3 Has the legalization of gay marriage in Connecticut had a positive or negative impact on your life, or has it not had any impact at all?

Positive impact..... 13%
Negative impact 18%
No impact at all 70%

Q4 Would you rather that UConn stayed in the Big East or moved to the ACC?

Would like UConn to stay in the Big East..... 41%
Would like them to move to the ACC 19%
Not sure 41%

Q5 Is your favorite Major League Baseball team the Atlanta Braves, Boston Red Sox, Chicago Cubs, New York Mets, New York Yankees, or Philadelphia Phillies?

Braves 2%
Red Sox..... 37%
Cubs 3%
Mets..... 6%
Yankees..... 34%
Phillies 1%
Someone else/Not a baseball fan 16%

Q6 Is your favorite NFL team the Dallas Cowboys, New England Patriots, New York Giants, New York Jets, Pittsburgh Steelers, or Philadelphia Eagles?

Cowboys..... 5%
Patriots 38%
Giants 23%
Jets 6%
Steelers..... 5%
Eagles..... 3%
Someone else/Not a football fan 20%

Q7 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%

Q8 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%





Q9 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%

Q10 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White 80%
Other..... 20%

Q11 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
Same-sex Legal/Illegal						
Legal	55%	84%	81%	59%	30%	11%
Illegal	32%	5%	9%	23%	56%	81%
Not sure	13%	11%	10%	18%	13%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition						
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	47%	86%	76%	49%	20%	3%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	34%	8%	15%	35%	58%	49%
There should be no recognition of a gay couple's relationship	16%	7%	6%	12%	21%	44%
Not sure	3%	-	2%	4%	1%	4%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Has Legal Gay Marriage Had Pos/Neg/No Impact on You?						
Positive impact	13%	48%	16%	8%	4%	4%
Negative impact	18%	5%	13%	16%	22%	36%
No impact at all	70%	48%	71%	76%	75%	60%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Should UConn Stay in Big East or Move to ACC?						
Would like UConn to stay in the Big East	41%	42%	39%	46%	38%	37%
Would like them to move to the ACC	19%	21%	15%	20%	23%	13%
Not sure	41%	37%	47%	34%	39%	50%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Fave MLB Team						
Braves	2%	-	1%	2%	2%	6%
Red Sox	37%	33%	36%	36%	44%	32%
Cubs	3%	-	1%	6%	4%	3%
Mets	6%	8%	8%	4%	4%	9%
Yankees	34%	43%	35%	36%	30%	28%
Phillies	1%	-	1%	2%	2%	4%
Someone else/Not a baseball fan	16%	16%	17%	14%	14%	19%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Fave NFL Team						
Cowboys	5%	-	4%	6%	7%	5%
Patriots	38%	36%	38%	37%	45%	30%
Giants	23%	26%	27%	22%	19%	23%
Jets	6%	6%	7%	7%	6%	5%
Steelers	5%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%
Eagles	3%	-	1%	4%	2%	7%
Someone else/Not a football fan	20%	29%	19%	20%	14%	24%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Same-sex Legal/Illegal			
Legal	55%	63%	46%
Illegal	32%	24%	41%
Not sure	13%	13%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition			
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	47%	57%	36%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	34%	29%	40%
There should be no recognition of a gay couple's relationship	16%	10%	22%
Not sure	3%	3%	2%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Has Legal Gay Marriage Had Pos/Neg/No Impact on You?			
Positive impact	13%	16%	9%
Negative impact	18%	12%	24%
No impact at all	70%	72%	67%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Should UConn Stay in Big East or Move to ACC?			
Would like UConn to stay in the Big East	41%	41%	41%
Would like them to move to the ACC	19%	12%	26%
Not sure	41%	48%	33%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Fave MLB Team			
Braves	2%	1%	3%
Red Sox	37%	37%	38%
Cubs	3%	4%	3%
Mets	6%	8%	4%
Yankees	34%	34%	34%
Phillies	1%	2%	1%
Someone else/Not a baseball fan	16%	15%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Fave NFL Team			
Cowboys	5%	6%	4%
Patriots	38%	40%	37%
Giants	23%	22%	24%
Jets	6%	6%	7%
Steelers	5%	4%	6%
Eagles	3%	1%	4%
Someone else/Not a football fan	20%	21%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Same-sex Legal/Illegal				
Legal	55%	70%	32%	56%
Illegal	32%	17%	57%	30%
Not sure	13%	14%	11%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition				
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	47%	64%	22%	48%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	34%	21%	57%	30%
There should be no recognition of a gay couple's relationship	16%	13%	20%	18%
Not sure	3%	3%	1%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Has Legal Gay Marriage Had Pos/Neg/No Impact on You?				
Positive impact	13%	20%	2%	13%
Negative impact	18%	15%	23%	16%
No impact at all	70%	65%	75%	72%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Should UConn Stay in Big East or Move to ACC?				
Would like UConn to stay in the Big East	41%	40%	39%	45%
Would like them to move to the ACC	19%	19%	18%	18%
Not sure	41%	41%	42%	37%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Fave MLB Team				
Braves	2%	3%	1%	1%
Red Sox	37%	31%	43%	42%
Cubs	3%	2%	5%	4%
Mets	6%	7%	6%	6%
Yankees	34%	41%	29%	29%
Phillies	1%	1%	4%	-
Someone else/Not a baseball fan	16%	16%	12%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Fave NFL Team				
Cow boys	5%	6%	3%	5%
Patriots	38%	32%	44%	42%
Giants	23%	25%	24%	19%
Jets	6%	7%	7%	4%
Steelers	5%	5%	4%	5%
Eagles	3%	3%	4%	-
Someone else/Not a football fan	20%	20%	15%	24%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Same-sex Legal/Illegal			
Legal	55%	52%	65%
Illegal	32%	36%	18%
Not sure	13%	12%	18%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition			
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	47%	46%	53%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	34%	38%	20%
There should be no recognition of a gay couple's relationship	16%	15%	20%
Not sure	3%	1%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Has Legal Gay Marriage Had Pos/Neg/No Impact on You?			
Positive impact	13%	11%	20%
Negative impact	18%	18%	15%
No impact at all	70%	71%	65%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Should UConn Stay in Big East or Move to ACC?			
Would like UConn to stay in the Big East	41%	40%	43%
Would like them to move to the ACC	19%	18%	20%
Not sure	41%	41%	38%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Fave MLB Team			
Braves	2%	2%	3%
Red Sox	37%	42%	18%
Cubs	3%	4%	3%
Mets	6%	5%	10%
Yankees	34%	33%	40%
Phillies	1%	2%	-
Someone else/Not a baseball fan	16%	13%	28%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Fave NFL Team			
Cow boys	5%	5%	5%
Patriots	38%	41%	28%
Giants	23%	25%	18%
Jets	6%	5%	10%
Steelers	5%	4%	10%
Eagles	3%	2%	5%
Someone else/Not a football fan	20%	18%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Same-sex Legal/Illegal					
Legal	55%	59%	57%	58%	43%
Illegal	32%	28%	24%	34%	42%
Not sure	13%	12%	19%	9%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gay Marriage/Civ. Unions/No Recognition					
Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry	47%	54%	47%	49%	38%
Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not marry	34%	28%	34%	33%	41%
There should be no recognition of a gay couple's relationship	16%	9%	16%	15%	22%
Not sure	3%	9%	2%	2%	-

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Has Legal Gay Marriage Had Pos/Neg/No Impact on You?					
Positive impact	13%	29%	8%	14%	5%
Negative impact	18%	9%	17%	18%	23%
No impact at all	70%	62%	75%	68%	72%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Should UConn Stay in Big East or Move to ACC?					
Would like UConn to stay in the Big East	41%	55%	44%	40%	30%
Would like them to move to the ACC	19%	12%	22%	17%	22%
Not sure	41%	33%	34%	43%	48%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Fave MLB Team					
Braves	2%	2%	3%	1%	3%
Red Sox	37%	27%	37%	39%	40%
Cubs	3%	7%	4%	3%	2%
Mets	6%	7%	5%	6%	6%
Yankees	34%	38%	34%	34%	32%
Phillies	1%	1%	3%	1%	1%
Someone else/Not a baseball fan	16%	18%	15%	16%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Fave NFL Team					
Cowboys	5%	5%	8%	4%	3%
Patriots	38%	34%	38%	39%	41%
Giants	23%	22%	17%	26%	24%
Jets	6%	5%	7%	7%	4%
Steelers	5%	7%	6%	5%	4%
Eagles	3%	1%	6%	1%	3%
Someone else/Not a football fan	20%	26%	18%	19%	21%

