

INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312**IF YOU HAVE BASIC METHODOLOGICAL QUESTIONS, PLEASE E-MAIL information@publicpolicypolling.com, OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

Murphy up 6 in Connecticut Senate race

Raleigh, N.C.-- PPP's newest poll of the Connecticut Senate race finds Democrat Chris Murphy expanding his lead to 6 points over Republican foe Linda McMahon, 48-42. Last month he led 48-44.

There's no doubt Murphy's image has taken a hit over the course of this campaign. Only 36% of voters say they have a favorable opinion of him to 44% with a negative one. That's down a net 15 points from July when he was at a 38/31 favorability spread. But voters aren't warming up to McMahon either- she has a 42% favorability rating with 49% of voters seeing her unfavorably, numbers basically identical to 42/48 a couple months ago. McMahon's done a good job of hitting Murphy but she hasn't done anything to prop herself up and in a race between an unpopular Democratic candidate and an unpopular Republican candidate in a state like Connecticut the Democrat is going to win.

The key question we asked on this poll was probably whether people wanted Democrats or Republicans in control of the Senate, and by a 50/38 margin folks say they want the Democrats in charge. That reality should help Murphy along as well.

McMahon actually leads the race with independents, 51-38. Her problem is that 20% of Republicans are supporting Murphy over her, similar to what we found her losing to Richard Blumenthal in 2010. You simply can't win as a Republican in Connecticut without holding your party base in line to a greater extent than that, but many GOP voters continue to find her unacceptable.

There's a huge gender gap on the race with Murphy leading 54-35 with women, while McMahon has a 49-41 advantage with men. If there was any thought that McMahon might be able to over perform with women that seems not to be the case.

“Chris Murphy again looks like the clear favorite in the Connecticut Senate race,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “The race might be closer than expected, but he’s still more than likely to emerge as the winner.”

PPP surveyed 801 likely Connecticut voters from September 24th to 26th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.5%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization.



Connecticut Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Chris Murphy?

Favorable..... 36%
Unfavorable 44%
Not sure 20%

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

Favorable..... 42%
Unfavorable 49%
Not sure 9%

Q3 The candidates for Senate are Democrat Chris Murphy and Republican Linda McMahon. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Chris Murphy 48%
Linda McMahon 42%
Undecided..... 10%

Q4 Would you rather that Democrats or Republicans had control of the US Senate?

Democrats 50%
Republicans 38%
Not sure 12%

Q5 Are you very excited, somewhat excited, or not at all excited about voting in the 2012 elections?

Very excited 53%
Somewhat excited 29%
Not at all excited 18%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of World Wrestling Entertainment?

Favorable..... 17%
Unfavorable 51%
Not sure..... 31%

Q7 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 11%
Somewhat liberal 23%
Moderate..... 37%
Somewhat conservative..... 21%
Very conservative 9%

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

Woman 51%
Man..... 49%

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 43%
Republican..... 26%
Independent/Other..... 32%

Q10 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 13%
White 75%
African-American 7%
Other..... 5%

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..... 16%
30 to 45..... 24%
46 to 65..... 40%
Older than 65..... 20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Murphy Favorability						
Favorable	36%	56%	55%	38%	8%	14%
Unfavorable	44%	28%	17%	42%	73%	71%
Not sure	20%	16%	28%	19%	19%	15%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
McMahon Favorability						
Favorable	42%	36%	19%	35%	72%	74%
Unfavorable	49%	58%	68%	58%	19%	18%
Not sure	9%	6%	13%	7%	9%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Murphy/McMahon						
Chris Murphy	48%	70%	70%	52%	15%	19%
Linda McMahon	42%	25%	16%	36%	75%	78%
Undecided	10%	5%	13%	12%	10%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Rather Dems or GOP Controlled Senate?						
Democrats	50%	79%	78%	53%	16%	10%
Republicans	38%	13%	13%	29%	75%	83%
Not sure	12%	8%	10%	18%	9%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Voter Enthusiasm						
Very excited	53%	75%	49%	45%	55%	63%
Somewhat excited	29%	20%	37%	30%	26%	22%
Not at all excited	18%	5%	14%	25%	19%	14%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
WWE Favorability						
Favorable	17%	22%	13%	14%	21%	29%
Unfavorable	51%	66%	71%	53%	31%	31%
Not sure	31%	12%	17%	33%	48%	40%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Murphy Favorability			
Favorable	36%	39%	32%
Unfavorable	44%	40%	48%
Not sure	20%	21%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McMahon Favorability			
Favorable	42%	38%	47%
Unfavorable	49%	51%	46%
Not sure	9%	11%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Murphy/McMahon			
Chris Murphy	48%	54%	41%
Linda McMahon	42%	35%	49%
Undecided	10%	11%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Rather Dems or GOP Controlled Senate?			
Democrats	50%	56%	44%
Republicans	38%	30%	47%
Not sure	12%	15%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Voter Enthusiasm			
Very excited	53%	50%	55%
Somewhat excited	29%	29%	29%
Not at all excited	18%	21%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
WWE Favorability			
Favorable	17%	15%	19%
Unfavorable	51%	54%	49%
Not sure	31%	31%	31%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Murphy Favorability				
Favorable	36%	55%	15%	27%
Unfavorable	44%	22%	65%	57%
Not sure	20%	24%	20%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McMahon Favorability				
Favorable	42%	23%	66%	49%
Unfavorable	49%	66%	24%	46%
Not sure	9%	11%	10%	5%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Murphy/McMahon				
Chris Murphy	48%	72%	20%	38%
Linda McMahon	42%	17%	73%	51%
Undecided	10%	11%	7%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Rather Dems or GOP Controlled Senate?				
Democrats	50%	79%	15%	40%
Republicans	38%	12%	75%	42%
Not sure	12%	9%	11%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Voter Enthusiasm				
Very excited	53%	59%	56%	42%
Somewhat excited	29%	29%	23%	33%
Not at all excited	18%	12%	20%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
WWE Favorability				
Favorable	17%	13%	27%	15%
Unfavorable	51%	65%	31%	50%
Not sure	31%	23%	41%	35%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Murphy Favorability					
Favorable	36%	38%	33%	44%	52%
Unfavorable	44%	53%	46%	21%	28%
Not sure	20%	10%	21%	34%	20%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
McMahon Favorability					
Favorable	42%	57%	44%	15%	22%
Unfavorable	49%	35%	48%	75%	58%
Not sure	9%	8%	8%	10%	20%





Crosstabs

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		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Murphy/McMahon					
Chris Murphy	48%	47%	46%	70%	47%
Linda McMahon	42%	43%	46%	17%	21%
Undecided	10%	10%	9%	13%	33%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Rather Dems or GOP Controlled Senate?					
Democrats	50%	52%	47%	66%	58%
Republicans	38%	43%	41%	14%	19%
Not sure	12%	5%	12%	20%	24%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Voter Enthusiasm					
Very excited	53%	62%	48%	78%	62%
Somewhat excited	29%	27%	31%	12%	28%
Not at all excited	18%	11%	21%	10%	10%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
WWE Favorability					
Favorable	17%	26%	16%	18%	7%
Unfavorable	51%	44%	53%	57%	43%
Not sure	31%	30%	31%	25%	50%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Murphy Favorability					
Favorable	36%	39%	29%	37%	39%
Unfavorable	44%	36%	47%	44%	45%
Not sure	20%	25%	24%	19%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McMahon Favorability					
Favorable	42%	47%	41%	41%	42%
Unfavorable	49%	42%	45%	54%	50%
Not sure	9%	11%	13%	5%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Murphy/McMahon					
Chris Murphy	48%	53%	40%	49%	49%
Linda McMahon	42%	33%	46%	42%	43%
Undecided	10%	14%	13%	8%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Rather Dems or GOP Controlled Senate?					
Democrats	50%	63%	45%	49%	47%
Republicans	38%	29%	39%	40%	40%
Not sure	12%	9%	17%	11%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Voter Enthusiasm					
Very excited	53%	62%	53%	50%	53%
Somewhat excited	29%	31%	24%	31%	28%
Not at all excited	18%	7%	23%	19%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
WWE Favorability					
Favorable	17%	24%	11%	20%	14%
Unfavorable	51%	55%	49%	50%	54%
Not sure	31%	21%	40%	30%	32%

