

CEA & CCM Local Property Tax Responsibility Survey
April 2017
600 Modeled 2018 Voters

TOTAL
N= 600

Gender

Men 48
Women 52

Region

Fairfield..... 24
Hartford 25
New Haven 23
Rest of State..... 28

Party Registration

Democrat 38
Republican 26
Unaffiliated 36

Q1. Before we begin, I need to know if I have reached you on a cell phone, and if so, are you in a place where you can talk safely? **[IF NOT ON A CELL PHONE, ASK:]** “Do you own a cell phone?”

Yes, cell and can talk safely 49
Yes, cell and cannot talk safely **[CALL BACK]** 0
No, not on cell, but own one 44
No, not on cell, and do not own one 7
(Don't know/Refused) **[TERMINATE]** 0

Q2. Do you support or oppose using local property taxes to balance the state budget deficit? **[IF ANSWER]:** Do you feel that way strongly or not-so-strongly? **[IF UNDECIDED] Well, if you had to decide, which way would you lean?**

Support- strongly 9
Support - not strongly 5
Undecided - lean support..... 4

Support..... 18
Undecided 14
Oppose..... 67

Undecided - lean oppose..... 3
Oppose - not strongly 10
Oppose - strongly 54

(Refused) 1

TOTAL
N= 600

Q3. The state of Connecticut has a teacher retirement plan funded by taxpayers, and teachers are also required to contribute. Which level of government do you think should be required to help fund the retirement plan:

[ROTATE CHOICES] – the Connecticut state government or your local city and town government?

[IF ANSWER]: Do you feel that way strongly or not-so-strongly?

| | |
|---|----|
| State - strongly | 46 |
| State - not strongly | 12 |
| City/town - not strongly | 6 |
| City/town - strongly | 11 |
| (Both... but if you had to choose) | 10 |
| (Neither... but if you had to choose) | 9 |
| (Don't know) | 6 |
| State..... | 58 |
| City /town | 17 |

Q4. SSA: Local property taxes, collected by our local towns and cities, have not gone to help balance the state budget. There is a plan at the state legislature to use some of our local property taxes to fund the teacher retirement plan in order to help fix the deficit in the state budget. What do you think: should our local property taxes be used to balance the state budget and reduce the state deficit, or should our local taxes not be used this way?

[IF ANSWER]: Do you feel that way strongly or not-so-strongly?

[IF UNDECIDED]: *Well, if you had to decide, which way would you lean?*

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Should - strongly | 11 |
| Should- not strongly..... | 7 |
| Undecided – lean should | 2 |
| Should | 20 |
| Undecided | 8 |
| Should not | 72 |
| Undecided – lean should NOT..... | 5 |
| Should NOT - not strongly | 10 |
| Should NOT - strongly | 56 |
| (Refused) | 0 |

TOTAL
N= 600

Q5. SSB (with priorities): Local property taxes, collected by our local towns and cities, help support local priorities like public education, police and fire services, and other things.
Our local property taxes have not gone to help balance the state budget. There is a plan at the state legislature to use some of our local property taxes to fund the teacher retirement plan in order to help fix the deficit in the state budget. What do you think: should our local property taxes be used to balance the state budget and reduce the state deficit, or should our local taxes not be used this way?

[IF ANSWER]: Do you feel that way strongly or not-so-strongly?

[IF UNDECIDED] *Well, if you had to decide, which way would you lean?*

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Should - strongly | 6 |
| Should - not strongly..... | 6 |
| Undecided - lean should..... | 5 |
| Should | 17 |
| Undecided | 9 |
| Should not..... | 74 |
| Undecided - lean should NOT | 6 |
| Should NOT - not strongly | 8 |
| Should NOT - strongly | 60 |
| (Refused) | 1 |

Q4/5. Combined

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Should - strongly | 9 |
| Should - not strongly..... | 7 |
| Undecided - lean should..... | 3 |
| Should | 19 |
| Undecided | 8 |
| Should not..... | 73 |
| Undecided - lean should NOT | 6 |
| Should NOT - not strongly | 9 |
| Should NOT - strongly | 58 |
| (Refused) | 0 |

TOTAL
N= 600

Q6. Do you want YOUR state senator to vote FOR or AGAINST this proposal that would take local property taxes to help fund the teacher retirement system and balance the state budget deficit?

For..... 18
Against 69
(Don't Know)..... 12

Q7. Would you definitely vote for, probably vote for, probably not vote for, or definitely not vote for a legislative candidate who voted to use local property taxes to help balance the state budget?

Definitely vote for..... 7
Probably vote for 13

Probably NOT vote for 23
Definitely NOT vote for 41

(Don't know) 16

Vote for..... 20
Not vote for..... 64

6/7.COMBINED

FOR /Vote for 15
FOR /NOT vote for 1

AGAINST /Vote for 3
AGAINST /NOT vote for 59

(Don't know on either ballot) 22

TOTAL
N= 600

Finally, I would like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

- Q8.** Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent or something else? **[IF REPUBLICAN/DEMOCRAT:]** Do you consider yourself a strong or a not-so-strong (Republican/Democrat)? **[IF INDEPENDENT:]** Would you say you lean more towards the Republicans or more towards the Democrats?

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Strong Democrat | 23 |
| Not-so-strong Democrat | 9 |
| Independent - lean Democrat | 7 |
| Democrat | 40 |
| Independent | 25 |
| Republican | 30 |
| Independent - lean Republican | 5 |
| Not-so-strong Republican | 6 |
| Strong Republican | 18 |
| (Other) | 3 |
| (Don't know) | 0 |
| (Refused)..... | 2 |

- Q9.** What is the last year of schooling that you have completed?

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| 1 - 11th Grade | 1 |
| High School Graduate | 16 |
| Non-College Post H.S..... | 2 |
| Some College | 23 |
| College Graduate | 39 |
| Post-Graduate School | 19 |
| (Refused)..... | 0 |

TOTAL
N= 600

Q10. Just to make sure we have a representative sample, could you please tell me whether you are from a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking background?

[IF “NO”, ASK:] What is your race - white, black, Asian, or something else?

| | |
|--|----|
| White | 76 |
| Black/African American..... | 8 |
| Spanish speaking/Latino (Puerto Rican, Mexican, etc.) | 7 |
| Asian | 2 |
| Native American | 0 |
| Pacific Islander | 0 |
| Arab American..... | 0 |
| (Other)..... | 3 |
| (Don't know / Refused) | 4 |

Race on file

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Caucasian | 85 |
| African-American | 7 |
| Hispanic..... | 6 |
| Asian | 2 |
| Unknown | 0 |

Age

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| 18 - 24 | 7 |
| 25 - 29 | 5 |
| 30 - 34 | 4 |
| 35 - 39 | 6 |
| 40 - 44 | 5 |
| 45 - 49 | 9 |
| 50 - 54 | 8 |
| 55 - 59 | 13 |
| 60 - 64 | 13 |
| 65 - 69 | 6 |
| 70 - 74 | 10 |
| 75 & older | 14 |
| (don't know) | 0 |

Media Market

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| New York..... | 24 |
| Hartford – New Haven | 76 |