



## NEW POLL: Connecticut voters support accessible, fully funded elections and stronger voting rights protections

As Connecticut lawmakers consider numerous legislative proposals on voting rights and election administration, Connecticut voters across the political spectrum strongly support robust, secure, and accessible elections policies, according to a new survey of registered voters by SurveyUSA conducted in March 2023 on behalf of Secure Democracy USA.

### Connecticut voters support fully funding state elections

To ensure local election officials have the resources to do their job and run smooth elections, **71% of Connecticut voters support legislators taking action to fully fund the state's elections**, with just 15% opposed and 14% unsure. Favorability for fully funded elections was found across partisan affiliation, with support from 82% of Democrats, 63% of Republicans, and 63% of Independents. Additionally, Connecticut voters are clear that they support providing resources to local election officials to ensure early voting goes smoothly, with **71% favoring providing funding to ensure Connecticut voters can cast a ballot before Election Day**.

### Connecticut voters support early voting opportunities

The poll found that **72% support providing Connecticut voters with at least 10 days to cast a ballot early in-person before Election Day**, including 87% of Democrats, 54% of Republicans, and 69% of Independents. Additionally, the poll found support for weekend early voting opportunities: **70% of Connecticut voters support providing at least four weekend days to cast a ballot during the early voting period**.

### Connecticut voters support same-day registration during early voting

The poll found **71% of Connecticut voters support allowing same-day registration for voters during the early voting period**, similar to the current process that allows voters to register on Election Day. Support for this policy includes 85% of Democrats, 54% of Republicans, and 69% of Independents.

### Connecticut voters support improving vote by mail policies

To ensure every eligible voter can cast their ballot how they choose, **68% of Connecticut voters support allowing all registered voters to request an absentee ballot** and **60% support establishing a permanent absentee voter**

**list**, so that any registered who wants to vote absentee in every election doesn't have to keep reapplying before every single election.

Additionally, there is strong support in making voting by mail more accessible, with **69% of voters supporting providing prepaid return postage for absentee ballots**, as the state did temporarily in 2020, and **72% supporting allowing eligible voters to fix small errors, such as a missing signature on their ballot envelope, to ensure their legal vote is not tossed out.**

### **Connecticut voters support restoring voting rights to formerly incarcerated individuals**

The poll found **63% of Connecticut voters support guaranteeing the eligibility to vote for all citizens 18 and older, including citizens who are completing a sentence outside of prison, such as on probation or parole.**

### **Connecticut voters support additional voting rights protections**

The poll found **75% of Connecticut voters support the Connecticut Voting Rights Act**, which would protect voters from unequal barriers that can prevent Black and Latino residents from having the same freedom to vote as everyone else. Voters across the political spectrum endorse the Connecticut Voting Rights Act, with support from 86% of Democrats, 62% of Republicans, and 74% of Independents.

Additionally, **74% of those polled reported that they want their local legislator to prioritize passing the Connecticut Voting Rights Act**, including 87% of Democrats, 60% of Republicans, and 71% of Independents.

The poll also found that Connecticut voters want the state to take action on providing these protections from discrimination or intimidation, with **81% supporting the legislature take action to pass state laws that protect voters to be able to cast their ballot without interference, instead just depending on the federal voting protections.** Additionally, **90% of Connecticut voters want their representative to prioritize making sure all Connecticut voters can exercise their freedom to vote without discrimination or unnecessary barriers to the ballot.**

#### Methodology

*SurveyUSA interviewed 1,050 adults from the entire state of Connecticut online from March 23, 2023 to March 28, 2023, using a sample provided by Lucid Holdings LLC of New Orleans. Of the adults, 863 were identified by SurveyUSA as being registered to vote and were asked substantive questions in the poll. Data is weighted to US Census targets for gender, age, ethnicity, education, and home ownership, and to Connecticut's voter registration by party statistics. [View the full polling results here.](#)*

#### About Secure Democracy USA

*Secure Democracy USA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(4) organization that works to build confidence in our elections and improve voter access across the United States. We educate policymakers and the public about what it takes to safeguard our voting systems. We use survey and messaging research to inform our strategy and we collaborate with state leaders, election administrators, policy experts, and allies to ensure that all eligible citizens have the freedom to vote how they choose.*