

## CONNECTICUT

Voters in Connecticut this year will elect a governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general. All 36 seats in the State Senate and all 151 seats in the House will be on the ballot as well. Democrats are expected to maintain control of the Governor's Office, Office of the Attorney General, and the legislature.

### Governor

#### Democratic Nominee

#### [Governor Ned Lamont](#)

Governor Ned Lamont (D) is seeking his second term as Connecticut's head of state. Lamont was not primaried and now faces Bob Stefanowski (R), whom he defeated in the 2018 general election. Lamont won four years ago by a narrow margin—less than 45,000 votes—but has held a large lead in polling this cycle.

Lamont worked as a newspaper editor before entering the cable television industry. He ran for Connecticut State Senate in 1990 but lost to William Nickerson (R). He later served on the Greenwich town finance board and chaired the State Investment Advisory Council.

In his first year as governor, Lamont garnered low approval ratings, but these rose dramatically after the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. One publicly available poll conducted in March 2021 showed that over 70% of respondents [approved](#) of his handling of COVID-19. His overall approval rating climbed to over 55% by this time, almost double his 28.1% approval rating of December 2019. Connecticut was the first state to [vaccinate](#) 50% of its adult population.

He [touts](#) Connecticut's education system, which was ranked number three in the nation by Education Week in 2020. During Lamont's time in office, Connecticut has invested \$11 million in funding for summer programs and significantly increased education cost-sharing grants.

Lamont takes [credit](#) for Connecticut's status as having the fourth-lowest violent crime rate in the nation, pointing out investments his administration has made in public safety funding and first responder support and training.

He has [labeled](#) his rival, Stefanowski, as an "extremist" on issues which have taken center stage in the national political debate such as abortion and gun control. The candidates, along with Independent Rob Hotaling, held their first debate on September 27. Another debate will be held on November 1.

*Trivia: The Lamont Library at Harvard University is named after the governor's family.*