

Survey of 500 Likely Voters
August 9-10, 2006

Election 2006: Connecticut Governor	
Jodi Rell (R)	57%
John DeStefano (D)	35%

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Connecticut Governor: Rell by 22, still Rell (R) 57%, DeStefano (D) 35%

August 14, 2006

Though political junkies have been preoccupied with the [Senate race](#) in Connecticut and the stunning upset victory over Senator Lieberman in the recent Democratic primary, there is also a race for Governor here. In that less-suspenseful contest it looks like the incumbent will enjoy a much easier road to reelection.



Republican Governor Jodi Rell

Popular Republican Governor Jodi Rell now leads her Democratic opponent, New Haven Mayor John DeStefano, 57% to 35%. Post-convention, the Democrat has gained a bit as undecided voters make up their minds, but it's not helping him close the gap. The Governor has gained a few points too, and her lead now is the same as it was in [July](#).

Rell is one of the nation's most popular Governors. She is viewed favorably by 76%, unfavorably by 22%, with only 2% "not sure" what to think of her. Only 7% view her "very" unfavorably.

DeStefano is viewed favorably by 47%, unfavorably by 38%. Fifteen percent (15%) of likely voters don't know him well enough yet to give an opinion. Rell is viewed favorably by a majority of Republicans, of Democrats, and of unaffiliated voters. But DeStefano wins favor only from most Democrats.

Thirty-seven percent (37%) of Connecticut voters say the economy is their top issue among six we listed. Many, 23%, say the war in Iraq is their top issue, and 16% mention national security. (The poll was conducted August 9-10; Americans heard about the recently foiled terrorist plot to bomb American airliners August 10.)

Many Democrats (39%) also say the economy tops their list. But, unsurprisingly given the controversy about it in the recent primary, for many Iraq looms larger: 30% of Democrats award it priority.

Sixty percent (60%) of all voters say President Bush's handling of the war is poor. Only 8% regard his performance as excellent, 13% regard it as good.

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Scott Rasmussen, president of Rasmussen Reports, has been an independent pollster for more than a decade.

The telephone survey of 500 Likely Voters was conducted by Rasmussen Reports August 9-10, 2006. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.5 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence. (see Methodology)

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