

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Blumenthal Up on McMahon By Double Digits**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Contrary to polls in the last week showing Linda McMahon closing to a single-digit deficit behind Richard Blumenthal in the Connecticut Senate race, PPP's first measure of the race since January shows the Democrat still well ahead, though not by the 20-point-plus edge he had had in the spring. The state's popular Democratic Attorney General leads the Republican WWE executive, 53-41, among likely voters.

Blumenthal is the rare Democrat whose party is more unified than the GOP is, and who is not getting beaten badly with independents. He ties at 45% with unaffiliateds, and is pulling 84% of his party to McMahon's 79% of Republicans because the Democrat is getting 15% crossover support to McMahon's 11%. With 41% of voters claiming to be Democrats, 31% independents, and only 28% Republicans, those advantages fuel Blumenthal's healthy lead.

The two candidates' personal numbers are exactly flipped, Blumenthal with a strong 53-39 favorability rating to McMahon's 39-53. Voters also diverge in how they perceive the candidates' suitability for office. 63% believe Blumenthal fit to serve, but only 47% think that of McMahon, with 44% explicitly saying she is unfit to be a senator.

There is an enthusiasm gap in the Nutmeg State, but not quite as high as in many other states. President Obama beat John McCain by 22 points in 2008, but the 2010 electorate reports having cast ballots for Obama by only a 15-point margin over McCain. If the voter set matched 2008's, and everything else were true, Blumenthal would be up 56-38.

"Connecticut is a Democratic state to begin with and Richard Blumenthal is confounding many of the trends giving his party's candidates trouble in other states," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "Most Democratic candidates are getting beaten badly with independents. Blumenthal is not. Most Democratic candidates are losing more Democrats than they're winning Republicans. Blumenthal doesn't fall in that category either. He still looks solid with four weeks to go."

PPP surveyed 810 likely Connecticut voters from September 30<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.4%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

[Complete results are attached, and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com)



## Connecticut Survey Results

**Q1** The candidates for US Senate are Democrat Richard Blumenthal and Republican Linda McMahon. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

*Richard Blumenthal*..... 53%  
*Linda McMahon* ..... 41%  
*Undecided*..... 7%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Richard Blumenthal?

*Favorable*..... 53%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 39%  
*Not sure*..... 9%

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Linda McMahon?

*Favorable* ..... 39% *Not sure* ..... 8%  
*Unfavorable*..... 53%

**Q4** Do you think Richard Blumenthal is or is not fit to hold public office?

*Fit*..... 63%  
*Not fit* ..... 29%  
*Not sure* ..... 7%

**Q5** Do you think Linda McMahon is or is not fit to hold public office?

*Fit*..... 47%  
*Not fit* ..... 44%  
*Not sure* ..... 9%

**Q6** Do you approve or disapprove of Barack Obama's job performance?

*Approve* ..... 45%  
*Disapprove*..... 47%  
*Not sure* ..... 8%

**Q7** Who did you vote for President in 2008?

*John McCain*..... 39%  
*Barack Obama*..... 54%  
*Someone else/Don't remember* ..... 7%

**Q8** If you are a liberal, press 1. If a moderate, press 2. If a conservative, press 3.

*Liberal*..... 19%  
*Moderate*..... 49%  
*Conservative*..... 32%

**Q9** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 47%  
*Man*..... 53%

**Q10** 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*..... 41%  
*Republican*..... 28%  
*Independent/Other*..... 31%

**Q11** If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

*White* ..... 77%  
*Other*..... 23%

**Q12** 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*..... 8%  
*30 to 45*..... 25%  
*46 to 65*..... 43%  
*Older than 65*..... 24%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Blumenthal/McMahon</b>				
Richard Blumenthal	53%	15%	82%	37%
Linda McMahon	41%	82%	10%	49%
Undecided	7%	3%	8%	14%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Blumenthal Favorability</b>				
Favorable	53%	21%	77%	38%
Unfavorable	39%	72%	14%	46%
Not sure	9%	8%	9%	16%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>McMahon Favorability</b>				
Favorable	39%	75%	12%	46%
Unfavorable	53%	17%	81%	41%
Not sure	8%	8%	7%	12%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Blumenthal Fitness</b>				
Fit	63%	37%	84%	54%
Not fit	29%	55%	10%	36%
Not sure	7%	9%	6%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>McMahon Fitness</b>				
<b>Fit</b>	47%	83%	21%	49%
<b>Not fit</b>	44%	12%	68%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	5%	11%	9%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	45%	4%	77%	30%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	91%	14%	53%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	5%	9%	17%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Blumenthal/McMahon</b>				
<b>Richard Blumenthal</b>	53%	95%	60%	17%
<b>Linda McMahon</b>	41%	3%	31%	79%
<b>Undecided</b>	7%	2%	10%	5%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Blumenthal Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	53%	85%	61%	20%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	39%	8%	30%	71%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	7%	9%	9%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>McMahon Favorability</b>				
Favorable	39%	8%	28%	74%
Unfavorable	53%	86%	62%	19%
Not sure	8%	6%	10%	7%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Blumenthal Fitness</b>				
Fit	63%	91%	72%	33%
Not fit	29%	6%	21%	56%
Not sure	7%	3%	7%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>McMahon Fitness</b>				
Fit	47%	15%	38%	80%
Not fit	44%	77%	51%	14%
Not sure	9%	8%	10%	6%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
Approve	45%	84%	53%	10%
Disapprove	47%	9%	36%	86%
Not sure	8%	7%	10%	4%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Blumenthal/McMahon</b>			
Richard Blumenthal	53%	60%	46%
Linda McMahon	41%	34%	47%
Undecided	7%	6%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Blumenthal Favorability</b>			
Favorable	53%	60%	46%
Unfavorable	39%	31%	46%
Not sure	9%	9%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>McMahon Favorability</b>			
Favorable	39%	37%	41%
Unfavorable	53%	56%	51%
Not sure	8%	8%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Blumenthal Fitness</b>			
Fit	63%	69%	58%
Not fit	29%	23%	35%
Not sure	7%	8%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>McMahon Fitness</b>			
<b>Fit</b>	47%	40%	53%
<b>Not fit</b>	44%	49%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	10%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	45%	49%	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	43%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	7%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Blumenthal/McMahon</b>				
<b>Richard Blumenthal</b>	53%	84%	15%	45%
<b>Linda McMahon</b>	41%	11%	79%	45%
<b>Undecided</b>	7%	4%	6%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Blumenthal Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	53%	80%	20%	45%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	39%	13%	69%	45%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	7%	10%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>McMahon Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	39%	13%	76%	40%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	53%	79%	19%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	8%	5%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Blumenthal Fitness</b>				
<b>Fit</b>	63%	85%	35%	60%
<b>Not fit</b>	29%	10%	55%	32%
<b>Not sure</b>	7%	5%	11%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>McMahon Fitness</b>				
<b>Fit</b>	47%	22%	80%	51%
<b>Not fit</b>	44%	67%	15%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	11%	4%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	45%	72%	14%	38%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	18%	81%	54%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	10%	5%	8%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Blumenthal/McMahon</b>			
Richard Blumenthal	53%	53%	52%
Linda McMahon	41%	42%	37%
Undecided	7%	5%	11%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Blumenthal Favorability</b>			
Favorable	53%	53%	53%
Unfavorable	39%	40%	34%
Not sure	9%	7%	13%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>McMahon Favorability</b>			
Favorable	39%	40%	36%
Unfavorable	53%	54%	51%
Not sure	8%	6%	13%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Blumenthal Fitness</b>			
Fit	63%	64%	61%
Not fit	29%	30%	28%
Not sure	7%	6%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>McMahon Fitness</b>			
<b>Fit</b>	47%	48%	44%
<b>Not fit</b>	44%	45%	42%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	7%	14%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	45%	44%	49%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	49%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	7%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Blumenthal/McMahon</b>					
<b>Richard Blumenthal</b>	53%	53%	43%	55%	58%
<b>Linda McMahon</b>	41%	33%	50%	39%	35%
<b>Undecided</b>	7%	13%	7%	5%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Blumenthal Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	53%	57%	41%	55%	59%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	39%	36%	51%	36%	31%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	7%	8%	9%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>McMahon Favorability</b>					
Favorable	39%	33%	50%	38%	32%
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Fit	63%	53%	56%	69%	65%
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	Base	Age			
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<b>McMahon Fitness</b>					
Fit	47%	40%	59%	46%	40%
Not fit	44%	53%	35%	44%	51%
Not sure	9%	7%	6%	10%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
Approve	45%	53%	38%	47%	47%
Disapprove	47%	33%	57%	45%	44%
Not sure	8%	13%	4%	8%	8%

