

**CONNECTICUT**  
**Winner: Democratic**

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In the 2008 Presidential Election taking place in November, the state of Connecticut will be painted blue, in favor of the Democratic Candidate. While judging by the state demographics it would seem that the state would generally swing Republican, however between past election results and partisan makeup, it is easy to determine what this year's election result will be. Any Republican candidate would have little hope of winning this state.

In the past four elections, Connecticut has voted for the Democratic candidate for President. While the percentage for the democratic candidate averages out to be just over 50%, it still has been a clear victory for the Democratic Party. The seats in the United States senate has been filled by a Democrat since 1992, and even though one is currently filled by an Independent, one could argue the Joe Lieberman only left the Democratic Party and became an Independent because he lost the Democratic nomination. In the United States House of Representatives, in which Connecticut used to fill six seats but since 2002 has only filled five, the Republican vs. Democratic votes have been split relatively evenly since 1990. It is also readily apparent which districts house strongholds for the given parties. For example, district six voted Republican from 1990 until 2000, at which time the state underwent redistricting. Along those same lines, districts one and three have voted Democratic for U.S. House from 1990 until the last election in 2006.

At the state level, for both the State House and the State Senate, Connecticut has voted straight Democratic in the past four elections (from 2000 to 2006). The seat that seems to play odd-man-out year after year is that of the Governor of the state. In 1994, 1998, 2002 and 2006 the state voted overwhelmingly Republican for Governor. Even before that, in 1990, they elected an Independent. This could possibly be explained by the assumption that the undecided base wants more Republican values in the state; that they are fiscally conservative but socially liberal.

Judging by the state's demographic makeup, modern wisdom would have one believe that Connecticut would swing Republican in any election. A high average income level and relatively low level of poverty across the state, combined with a 15% total minority, it would appear that the state should vote red. However one thing against the Republican Party is the fact that is it a state located in the heart of the Northeastern United States, also known as a largely populated area of Democratic reign. Voter registration numbers, however, paint a different picture. In 2004, the voter registration of the state was comprised of a surprisingly large number of unaffiliated voters. 44% of registered voters were registered as "other" (not affiliated with any political party). This is a large base that that tends to swing towards the Democratic Party when it comes to national elections. Otherwise, the state is almost 33% liberal and 22% conservative.

The state that has not voted for a Republican Presidential candidate since 1992 is certainly not going to start again this year. In November, Connecticut will be giving all seven of its Electoral College votes to the Democratic Candidate.

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