

CONNECTICUT'S UNEMPLOYMENT DEBT CRISIS

CONNECTICUT BORROWED

\$888
MILLION

from the federal government to pay record-high pandemic-related unemployment benefit claims.

TO DATE,

\$425
MILLION

in loan repayments have been made, with employers covering \$300 million and federal COVID relief funds repaying \$125 million (plus \$26 million in interest).

EMPLOYERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REMAINING

\$463
MILLION

loan balance—and face four years of tax hikes, beginning this fall, to cover those repayments.

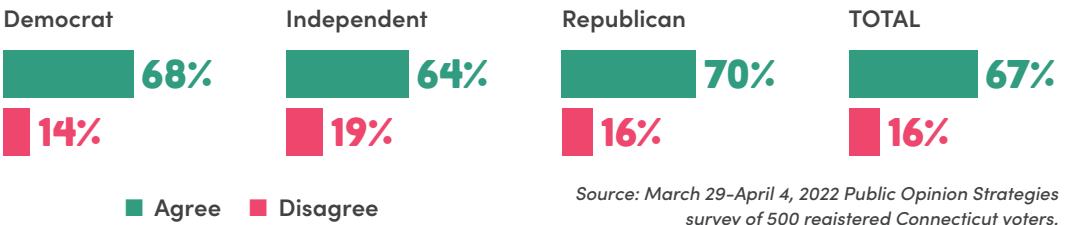
PROJECTED UNEMPLOYMENT TAX HIKES

State and federal unemployment taxes (average per employee)



Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

SHOULD CONNECTICUT USE FEDERAL COVID RELIEF FUNDS TO LOWER THE UNEMPLOYMENT FUND DEBT?



Source: March 29–April 4, 2022 Public Opinion Strategies survey of 500 registered Connecticut voters.

We cannot afford to further burden employers, particularly hard hit small businesses, as they attempt to recover and grow after two years of disruptions.

Lawmakers must help employers attract, train, and retain workers—not further punish them for a recession they did not cause.

Let's put federal pandemic relief funds to good use by paying down the unemployment loan debt, easing the burden on employers, and helping drive Connecticut's recovery.

