# **Fitch**Ratings

### RATING ACTION COMMENTARY

# Fitch Affirms Connecticut's IDR at 'A+', Rates \$800MM GO Bonds 'A+'; Outlook Stable

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Fitch Ratings - New York - 08 Dec 2020: Fitch Ratings has assigned an 'A+' rating to \$800 million in State of Connecticut GO bonds, 2021 series A. The bonds are expected to be offered by negotiated sale on or about Dec. 15, 2020.

In addition, Fitch has affirmed the state's Issuer Default Rating (IDR) and outstanding GO bonds at 'A+' and affirmed the ratings on bonds linked to the IDR as listed at the end of this release.

The Rating Outlook is Stable.

### **SECURITY**

The GO bonds are supported by the full faith and credit of the state pledged to payment of principal and interest.

# ANALYTICAL CONCLUSION

Connecticut's 'A+' IDR reflects Fitch's expectation that the state's wealthy and mature economy will likely experience relatively limited growth over time, challenging the state in matching revenues to expenditures. The long-term liability burden is among the highest for U.S. states, and carrying costs for liabilities, while a moderate burden on the state resources, limit expenditure flexibility compared with most states. Connecticut, like all states, benefits from substantial fiscal resilience and recent budgetary management improvements are supporting stronger fiscal performance as the state confronts the ongoing budgetary uncertainty triggered by the coronavirus pandemic.

### **ECONOMIC RESOURCE BASE**

Connecticut has a diverse and mature economic base anchored by large finance sectors and important manufacturing, education and health sectors. The impact of the Great Recession on Connecticut was severe, and economic growth in the recovery that followed trailed that of the U.S. Prior to the coronavirus pandemic, growth had begun to advance in key finance and manufacturing sectors. The state remains the wealthiest in the U.S. as measured by per capita personal income.

# **KEY RATING DRIVERS**

### Revenue Framework: 'a'

The state's largest tax revenue source, personal income tax (PIT), is subject to considerable cyclicality, although the state has instituted measures to shield the general fund from its volatility. Sales, corporate income, transportation and gaming taxes further diversify the revenue base. Absent tax policy changes, underlying revenues are expected to grow only modestly over time, consistent with the state's diverse but mature economic profile. The state has unlimited legal ability to levy taxes.

# **Expenditure Framework: 'aa'**

Connecticut's natural pace of spending growth is expected to outpace revenues, requiring ongoing budget controls. The state has consistently demonstrated the ability to cover its comparatively high fixed costs, including making full actuarial contributions to pensions for

more than a decade, and it benefits from the large degree of budget autonomy common to states.

# Long-Term Liability Burden: 'a'

The state's long-term liability burden is elevated and among the highest for U.S. states, but still considered moderate. Long-term debt consists primarily of GO and transportation borrowings, with much of GO borrowing undertaken on behalf of local schools. Net pension liabilities are a more significant burden, with the state carrying obligations for state retirees as well as for local school teachers.

# **Operating Performance: 'aa'**

Gap-closing capacity is strong and resilience has improved given a strengthened BRF deposit mechanism, the revenue volatility cap, enacted in 2018. Budget management powers and strong fiscal monitoring, including frequent revenue and budget forecasting, allows the state to identify budget under-performance and address emerging gaps.

# **RATING SENSITIVITIES**

Factors that could, individually or collectively, lead to a positive rating action/upgrade:

- --Consistently stronger economic and revenue growth during the post-pandemic economic recovery, resulting in baseline revenue growth consistently closer to inflation and raising Fitch's assessment for revenue growth prospects.
- --Evidence that Connecticut's recent budget management changes, including its strengthened reserve funding mechanism and an expenditure cap, improve the state's ability to manage economic and revenue cyclicality and raise Fitch's assessment of operating performance.
- --Success in gradually lowering its elevated liability burden while managing comparatively high fixed cost burden.

Factors that could, individually or collectively, lead to a negative rating action/downgrade:

- --Erosion of existing budget management practices, including taking actions during the current period of fiscal stress that further elevate the state's liability burden or materially enlarge structural challenges.
- --Challenges in effectively responding to a return to economic contraction, consistent with Fitch's coronavirus downside scenario, triggering greater than anticipated, sustained and deep revenue declines and materially eroding the state's gap-closing capacity.

## **BEST/WORST CASE RATING SCENARIO**

International scale credit ratings of Sovereigns, Public Finance and Infrastructure issuers have a best-case rating upgrade scenario (defined as the 99th percentile of rating transitions, measured in a positive direction) of three notches over a three-year rating horizon; and a worst-case rating downgrade scenario (defined as the 99th percentile of rating transitions, measured in a negative direction) of three notches over three years. The complete span of best- and worst-case scenario credit ratings for all rating categories ranges from 'AAA' to 'D'. Best- and worst-case scenario credit ratings are based on historical performance. For more information about the methodology used to determine sector-specific best- and worst-case scenario credit ratings, visit [https://www.fitchratings.com/site/re/10111579].

### **CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS**

Sector-Wide Coronavirus Implications

The outbreak of coronavirus and related government containment measures worldwide has created an uncertain environment for U.S. state and local governments and related entities. Fitch's ratings are forward-looking in nature, and Fitch will monitor the severity and duration of the budgetary impact on state and local governments and incorporate revised expectations for future performance and assessment of key risks. While the initial phase of economic recovery has been faster than expected, GDP in the U.S. is projected to remain below its 4Q19 level until at least 4Q21. In its baseline scenario, Fitch assumes strong GDP growth in 3Q20 followed by a slower recovery trajectory from 4Q20 onward

amid persisting social distancing behavior and restrictions, high unemployment and a further pullback in private-sector investment.

Additional details, including key assumptions and implications of the baseline scenario and a downside scenario, are described in the reports titled, "Fitch Ratings Coronavirus Scenarios: Baseline and Downside Cases - Update"

(https://www.fitchratings.com/research/sovereigns/fitch-ratings-coronavirus-scenarios-baseline-downside-cases-update-08-09-2020), published on Sept. 8, 2020 and "Fitch Ratings Updates Coronavirus Scenarios for U.S. State and Local Tax-Supported Issuers" (https://www.fitchratings.com/research/us-public-finance/fitch-ratings-updates-coronavirus-scenarios-for-us-state-local-tax-supported-issuers-01-10-2020), published on Oct. 1, 2020 on www.fitchratings.com..

# Federal Aid Provides Some Support for State Budgets

Federal aid measures since the pandemic's onset are benefiting state budgets and economies, although details remain fluid and the possibility of additional federal aid is uncertain even as the public health crisis continues. The Families First Coronavirus Response Act, enacted in March 2020, included a 6.2% increase in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) for Medicaid for every quarter of the national public health emergency. FMAP is the rate at which the federal government reimburses states for Medicaid spending. The ultimate value of the FMAP rate increase will depend primarily on the state's actual Medicaid spending and the length of the national public health emergency, which the federal Department of Health and Human Services Secretary extended effective Oct. 23 for 90 days. Under this provision, Connecticut is expecting to receive a total of \$556 million through the last two quarters of fiscal 2020 and through the first three quarters of fiscal 2021.

Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, also enacted last March, the U.S. Treasury department distributed \$150 billion to state and local governments from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) using a population-based formula. The statute limits the use of the CRF to coronavirus expense reimbursement through Dec. 31, 2020 rather than to offset anticipated state tax revenue losses. Connecticut's entire \$1.38 billion allocation from the CRF was distributed to the state, which in turn has targeted the funds to testing, school and municipal public health needs, business support and a range of other pandemic-related expenses.

# Coronavirus - Connecticut Economic Update

Economic implications of the pandemic and related public health measures have been significant for Connecticut as in all states. Labor market effects early in the crisis were more severe in Connecticut than for the nation as a whole, consistent with the region. Since then Connecticut has not yet recouped the earlier job declines despite solid progress toward recovery. Non-farm payrolls fell 17% at the start of the pandemic (from February to April), more severe than the national decline (13%). Since April, Connecticut's jobs recovery (66% of jobs regained through October) has been ahead of the national recovery (58%) and ahead of neighboring states, and its official monthly unemployment rate of 6.1% in October was notably below the national 6.9% rate that month. However, when the unemployment rate is adjusted to include labor force exits, Connecticut's 10.1% Fitch-adjusted unemployment rate was modestly above the national Fitch-adjusted rate of 9.1%. Fitch notes that economic and employment data remain volatile, and state economic performance is likely to be closely tied to public health conditions, which remain difficult to forecast while the pandemic persists.

# Coronavirus - Connecticut Liquidity and Budgetary Updates

Fitch anticipates that Connecticut, consistent with all states, will address any short-term liquidity pressure through the current period with no interruption in timely payments for key operating expenses, including debt service. Connecticut's overall liquidity situation has remained solid through the course of the pandemic, supported by factors including revenue collections that have exceeded the severe declines expected earlier in the pandemic and continue to overperform, a BRF balance at its statutory maximum of 15% of net general fund appropriations, and the additional lift provided by unspent federal CRF funds.

Although the adopted biennial budget for fiscal years 2020 and 2021 had forecast a fiscal 2020 surplus of \$141 million, the first post-pandemic update in April lowered the outlook to a \$934 million deficit, triggered by expected revenue losses. Thereafter, the outlook progressively improved, with the fiscal year ultimately ending with a \$39 million surplus. Revenues net of BRF deposits ended the year 1.4% below forecast. Most major tax revenues ended the year below target with the exception of the pass-through entities tax, and underperformance was further offset by enhanced FMAP receipts and the unexpected receipt of federal grant funds that had been budgeted in fiscal 2021. Following the fiscal 2020 closeout, the BRF balance expanded by a net \$507 million, to just over \$3 billion, at the statutory maximum of 15% of net general fund appropriations.

For fiscal 2021, the state remains well-positioned to address near-term fiscal challenges despite continued uncertainty. Liquidity continues to be solid. Through much of fiscal 2021 to date, the state treasurer reports that weekly available cash balances have run well ahead

of forecast, aided by the higher BRF balance and by remaining unspent CRF monies. As of the week of Nov. 14, available cash of about \$5.4 billion was more than \$600 million higher than forecast.

The biennial budget for fiscal 2020-2021 anticipated a surplus of \$166 million in fiscal 2021 at budget enactment in early 2019. As with fiscal 2020 experience, the initially expected severe fiscal shock of the pandemic has gradually lessened. Before policy actions, the nearly \$2.1 billion deficit forecast by the comptroller as of August narrowed to \$879 million as of November. The tax revenue outlook is almost \$781 million higher, with improvement across nearly all major categories. Expected spending trends have also been favorable, with deficiencies for fixed cost needs offset by higher lapses driven by lower Medicaid utilization trends. The projected deficit excludes the potential impact of a \$200 million deficit mitigation plan proposed by the governor, portions of which require legislative approval. Any deficit not addressed by further policy actions will be absorbed by the BRF.

A more significant challenge lies ahead from the fiscal 2022-2023 biennial budget, which the legislature will consider early next year. Absent additional federal aid or continued improvements in the tax revenue outlook, the state is expecting budget gaps for both years to exceed \$2 billion before policy actions to balance the budget, although precise forecast figures have not been announced. Baseline gaps are driven by continued forecast revenue weakness, higher fixed costs including some that had been covered by federal relief funds in the current biennium, and by scheduled statutory increases in transfers to the transportation fund and for municipal aid. Despite the magnitude of the challenges the state faces in the next biennium, Fitch views the state as having a significant margin of financial resilience to address upcoming gaps, including through policy actions and the remaining BRF balance after a fiscal 2021 draw. The governor's executive budget is due in February.

### **CREDIT PROFILE**

Connecticut has a diverse, mature and wealthy economic base, with flat to modestly declining population trends over time and an aging demographic profile, consistent with many other states in the region. The state's diverse economy includes a sophisticated, defense-related manufacturing sector, important finance and insurance sectors in Fairfield County and Hartford, respectively, health and education institutions, and tourism linked in part to Indian gaming in the state's southeast.

In contrast to past economic expansions, the state's employment performance in the expansion that ended with the coronavirus pandemic had been unusually slow. The state's unemployment rate has historically run below the U.S. rate but exceeded the nation for much of the last recovery. The unemployment rate was 3.9% in 2019, matching the 3.9% rate for the U.S. Personal income per capita ranks highest among the states, at 138% of the national level, although annual growth in aggregate personal income has been below the nation since 2011.

## **REVENUE FRAMEWORK**

Tax revenues for general fund needs are diverse, with PIT, CIT and sales taxes serving as the primary tax sources. PIT receipts are particularly important, but the component derived from non-withholding is volatile, affecting state financial performance. An inflationary-adjusted revenue volatility cap enacted in 2017 partly addressed this cyclicality by directing non-withholding revenue (estimates and final component of the PIT and a pass-through entity tax, explained below) above the cap to the BRF. A separate, statutorily-enacted revenue cap that limits appropriations to a level below expected revenue began in fiscal 2020, with appropriations set at 99.5% of spending. The revenue cap, required to reach 98% in fiscal 2026, is phased in at 0.25% increments. The separate STF receives a range of transportation-related receipts as well as resources from the general fund.

Historical growth in revenues, after adjusting for the estimated effect of tax policy changes, has been below inflation and well below the pace of national GDP growth, due to contractions in the important financial services sector as well as the maturity of the state's economy.

The state has an unlimited legal ability to raise tax revenues. Tax rate competitiveness is more of a factor in Connecticut than in some other states due to the nature of its taxpayer base, its relatively small size, and its proximity to neighboring states' urban employment centers. Passage of the federal Tax Cut and Jobs Act (TCJA) heightened this concern, as the limit on the deduction for state and local taxes increased residents' effective tax burden. In 2018, the state enacted legislation to mitigate the effects of TCJA on state taxpayers by creating a revenue-neutral tax on pass-through entities, offset by a personal income tax credit.

Transportation revenues, while statutorily dedicated for transportation needs, have been subject in the past to frequent diversion for general operations. To reduce diversions, voters approved a constitutional amendment in November 2018 that restricts moneys collected in the STF to transportation purposes. Despite this, the state has modified the timing of changes in transfers to support the STF, scaling back the deposit of motor vehicle sales taxes to the STF until fiscal 2022.

# **EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK**

As with many smaller states, Connecticut's scope of spending is very broad, with the state responsible for delivering or funding numerous services routinely handled at the local level in other states. Formula funding for local schools and subsidies for higher education highlight the state's role in education, which extends as well to making teacher pension contributions and funding school capital. Municipal aid is also significant, although previous sharing of sales tax revenue was suspended through fiscal year 2021 and was instead funded through targeted general fund grants. The planned return of sales tax revenue sharing in fiscal 2022 is a contributor to the state's projected out-year budget gaps.

The state's constitutional cap on expenditure growth, excluding appropriations for certain fixed or federal requirements, limits increases in annual appropriations to the CAGR of personal income over the past five calendar years or of the annual growth in the U.S. consumer price index less food and energy, whichever is greater. This cap, in concert with comparatively weak forecast revenue growth, results in the state's need to limit annual growth in expenditures.

The fiscal challenge of Medicaid is common to all U.S. states and the nature of the program as well as federal government rules limit the states' options in managing the pace of spending growth. Federal action to revise Medicaid's programmatic and financial structure appears less likely in the near term given divided control in Congress. As with all federal initiatives, Medicaid remains subject to regulatory changes that could affect various aspects of the program.

The state retains solid ability to cut spending despite successive budgetary adjustments during recent biennia. Statute requires swift response in the event of forecast

underperformance, either through rescissions, allotment cuts, or with legislative concurrence, depending on the size of the projected deficit. Fitch believes agreements with its collective bargaining units, particularly with the state employee bargaining agent coalition (SEBAC), have successfully lowered growth in annual expenditures but nevertheless may restrain the state's flexibility to adjust expenditures. SEBAC's current contract extended the agreement on pension and healthcare benefits from fiscal 2022 to fiscal 2027 and provided layoff protection through June 30, 2021 for existing employees. The wage agreement remains in effect through fiscal 2021.

The state's relatively high carrying costs for debt service, actuarial pension contributions, and other post-employment benefits (OPEB), totaling 21.3% of governmental expenditures in fiscal 2019, continue to constrain policy options. Debt service includes GO bonds issued in 2014 to eliminate a longstanding GAAP deficit. Appropriations were pledged in a 2014 bond issue whereby the state covenanted to amortize this deficit, now at \$680 million as of June 30, 2019, by fiscal 2028. The state made one payment toward this goal in fiscal 2016 and a second payment in fiscal 2020.

Prior to the pandemic, the fiscal 2020-2021 budget achieved annual savings beginning in fiscal 2020 through revisions to the SEBAC agreement which re-amortizes a portion of the outstanding unfunded pension liability for the state employee retirement system (SERS) and through reforms to TRS that also extend the amortization period (discussed in greater detail below.) Pension changes also included phasing in a level dollar amortization method, a more conservative approach than the level percentage of payroll method in place previously in Connecticut and used by most major state plans. Carrying costs in fiscal 2019 included the state's commitment to match the 3% employee contribution to the state's OPEB trust fund; this contribution totaled \$120 million. Despite a growing OPEB trust fund, benefits continue to be paid on a pay-go basis.

### **LONG-TERM LIABILITY BURDEN**

Connecticut's long-term liability burden for debt and net pension liabilities adjusted to Fitch's standard 6.0% return assumption is amongst the highest for a U.S. state at 25.9% of 2019 personal income as of Fitch's 2020 State Pension Update report, a burden which Fitch views as elevated. Based on more recent data, including the current transaction and a recent issue of UConn bonds, Fitch estimates long-term debt \$26 billion, or 9.2% of 2019 personal income, and the state's total adjusted liability burden approximates 25.6% of 2019 personal income.

Almost 70% of outstanding debt is GO, including a large share issued for local school capital needs. GO borrowing includes \$2.2 billion in pension bonds (POBs) issued in 2008 to improve the funded ratio of the TRS and \$434 million of remaining GO bonds issued by Hartford as part of the contract assistance agreement between the state and the city. Annual new debt issuance is limited to \$1.9 billion per year under a state-enacted bond cap, excluding UCONN and Connecticut State Colleges and University 2020 higher education borrowing, as well as borrowing for refunding purposes.

Both of the state's two major pension systems have relatively low funded ratios driven by past weak contribution practices, despite changes since then that position them better to make funding progress going forward. Both plans have received nearly full actuarial contributions for over a decade, the TRS under a covenant linked to the GO pension bonds. As part of the 2020-2021 biennial budget, the state re-amortized the TRS unfunded liability, lowering the actuarially determined contribution (ADC) by \$183 million and \$188 million during the biennium and by similar amounts going forward. In conjunction with the TRS re-amortization, the investment return assumption was lowered to 6.9% from 8.0%, well below the level of most major plans.

The 2019 budget act also extended SERS' amortization period to 27.9 years from 22.8 years, which was ultimately agreed to by SEBAC and approved by the legislature. The extension follows multiple other revisions for SERS which extended the state's closed amortization period, lowered the return assumption to 6.9%, revised benefits, increased employee pension contributions for all existing members, revised the COLA formula and timing for post-2022 retirees, and created a new hybrid defined benefit/defined contribution tier for all new employees.

The state's fiscal 2019 audit reported a net OPEB liability of \$19.9 billion (7.2% of 2019 personal income), inclusive of recent changes to collective bargaining agreements and healthcare benefit assumptions. The state is pursuing a range of policy changes to lower this liability. The state's OPEB trust had a market value of almost \$1.6 billion as of Sept. 30, 2020.

### **OPERATING PERFORMANCE**

Connecticut's financial resilience is built on very strong powers to address budgetary weakness, including administrative and legislative actions to reduce spending, a willingness to raise revenues, and strengthened reserve funding mechanisms. Budget performance is carefully managed, including through consensus forecasting, monthly revenue monitoring,

and disciplined mechanisms to respond to identified budgetary weakness. Budgetary challenges have been historically driven by economic and revenue underperformance in the context of fixed costs that consume a large share of budgetary resources.

Comparatively weak economic and revenue performance during much of the long economic expansion of the last decade had limited the state's ability to swiftly rebuild its BRF balance, leaving expenditure cuts and revenue increases as the state's primary sources of financial resilience. This situation changed during the fiscal 2018-2019 biennium, when the state's new revenue volatility cap mechanism enabled it to shift revenue overperformance into the BRF. The BRF grew from \$213 million in fiscal 2017 (1.1% of net general fund appropriations) to \$2.5 billion in fiscal 2019 (13.0% of net general fund appropriations), and to almost \$3.1 billion (unaudited) in fiscal 2020 (15.3% of net general fund appropriations, above the 15.0% statutory maximum).

The volatility cap threshold is adjusted annually by a formula of compound annual growth in personal income over the prior five-year period, gradually increasing the threshold for BRF deposits. The threshold amount may also be modified by a three-fifths majority of the General Assembly in response to changes in state or federal tax law or significant adjustments to economic growth or tax collections. If the BRF reaches a balance of 15% of the next year's projected net general fund appropriations, no additional deposits are required and the excess is redirected to reducing state liabilities. This provision has been triggered by the sizable fiscal 2020 deposit, with almost \$62 million over the threshold to be transferred to SERS to reduce pension liabilities. The BRF may be drawn upon to cure a prior fiscal year deficit or if estimated general fund revenues decline by 1% or more from the forecast used to enact the budget. Future legislation can also assign surplus balances to other uses.

# Fitch Analytical Stress Test for Connecticut

The Fitch Analytical Stress Test (FAST) scenario analysis tool relates historical tax revenue volatility to GDP to support the assessment of operating performance under Fitch's criteria. FAST is not a forecast, but represents Fitch's estimate of possible revenue behavior in a downturn based on historical revenue performance. Actual revenue declines will vary from FAST results, which provide a relative sense of the risk exposure of a particular state compared to other states.

Connecticut has a level of financial resilience that Fitch assesses as very strong. Fitch expects it would manage through a period of fiscal stress under Fitch's coronavirus baseline and downside scenarios, while maintaining an adequate level of flexibility during an

eventual recovery. The current coronavirus baseline scenario results in a first-year decline in Connecticut revenues of 18%, followed by a 7% increase and cumulative result over the three-year scenario of an 8% decline. This is weaker than the state median decline of 14% in the first year and negative 3% over the three-year scenario reflecting the state's higher historical susceptibility to national economic downturns. Similarly, in the downside scenario, Connecticut's first-year decline would be 19%, followed by another decline of 5% in the second year. The cumulative three-year decline of 19% under Fitch's downside scenario is below than the median 12% decline for all states.

Despite the challenges posed by its slow recovery from the Great Recession, the state's budget management has generally improved in recent biennia, with a greater reliance on structural solutions and continued full actuarial pension contributions. Budgetary management improvements included establishing mechanisms to bolster balances in the BRF, protect the general fund from PIT cyclicality, and moderate annual growth in expenditures and debt issuance through statute in addition to bond covenants that impose limitations through June 30, 2023.

# **Related Ratings**

In conjunction with affirmation of the state's IDR, Fitch has affirmed the following ratings linked to the state's IDR:

- --University of Connecticut state debt service commitment bonds, subject to annual appropriation, at 'A';
- --Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority state supported revenue bonds at 'A';
- --Capital Region Development Authority (formerly known as the Capital City Economic Development Authority) appropriation-backed parking and energy fee revenue bonds, 2004 series B and series 2018 refunding bonds at 'A';
- --Connecticut Development Authority general fund obligation bonds series 2004A and 2006A at 'A';

--Connecticut Innovations general fund obligation bonds series 2014A at 'A'.

The Rating Outlook is Stable.

In addition to the sources of information identified in Fitch's applicable criteria specified below, this action was informed by information from Lumesis.

# REFERENCES FOR SUBSTANTIALLY MATERIAL SOURCE CITED AS KEY DRIVER OF RATING

The principal sources of information used in the analysis are described in the Applicable Criteria.

### **ESG CONSIDERATIONS**

Unless otherwise disclosed in this section, the highest level of ESG credit relevance is a score of '3'. This means ESG issues are credit-neutral or have only a minimal credit impact on the entity, either due to their nature or the way in which they are being managed by the entity. For more information on Fitch's ESG Relevance Scores, visit www.fitchratings.com/esg.

### **RATING ACTIONS**

ENTITY/DEBT	RATING			PRIOR
Connecticut, State of (CT) [General Government]	LT IDR	A+ Rating Outlook Stable	Affirmed	A+ Rating Outlook Stable
<ul> <li>Connecticut,</li> <li>State of (CT)</li> <li>/General</li> <li>Obligation -</li> <li>Unlimited Tax/1</li> <li>LT</li> </ul>	LT	A+ Rating Outlook Stable	Affirmed	A+ Rating Outlook Stable

ENTITY/DEBT	RATING			PRIOR
<ul><li>Connecticut,</li><li>State of (CT)</li><li>/Special Capital</li></ul>	LT	A Rating Outlook Stable	Affirmed	A Rating Outlook Stable

### **VIEW ADDITIONAL RATING DETAILS**

### **FITCH RATINGS ANALYSTS**

# **Douglas Offerman**

Senior Director

**Primary Rating Analyst** 

+1 212 908 0889

Fitch Ratings, Inc.

Hearst Tower 300 W. 57th Street New York, NY 10019

# Karen Krop

Senior Director
Secondary Rating Analyst
+1 212 908 0661

### **Eric Kim**

Senior Director
Committee Chairperson
+1 212 908 0241

# **MEDIA CONTACTS**

# Sandro Scenga

**New York** 

+1 212 908 0278

sandro.scenga@thefitchgroup.com

Additional information is available on www.fitchratings.com

### **APPLICABLE CRITERIA**

U.S. Public Finance Tax-Supported Rating Criteria (pub. 27 Mar 2020) (including rating assumption sensitivity)

### **APPLICABLE MODELS**

Numbers in parentheses accompanying applicable model(s) contain hyperlinks to criteria providing description of model(s).

FAST States & Locals - Fitch Analytical Stress Test Model, v2.4.0 (1)

# **ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES**

**Dodd-Frank Rating Information Disclosure Form** 

**Solicitation Status** 

**Endorsement Policy** 

### **ENDORSEMENT STATUS**

Capital City Economic Development Authority	EU Endorsed
Capital Region Development Authority (CT)	EU Endorsed
Connecticut Development Authority (CT)	EU Endorsed
Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority (CT)	EU Endorsed
Connecticut Innovations, Inc. (CT)	EU Endorsed
Connecticut, State of (CT)	EU Endorsed
University of Connecticut (CT)	EU Endorsed

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