

Family Well-Being Indicators for Larger Connecticut Cities and Towns, 2006-2008
(margins of error included for each estimate)

TOWNS	All People Below Federal Poverty Level	Children Under 18 Below Federal Poverty Level	Related Children Under 18 Below 200% of Federal Poverty Level*	Median Family Income	Home-ownership	Residents with Bachelor's Degree or Higher **
Connecticut	8.5% (+/-0.2)	11.5% (+/-0.5)	24.2% (+/-0.6)	\$84,657 (+/-593)	69.6% (+/-0.3)	34.8% (+/-0.3)
Berlin	4.9% (+/-2.7)	9.0% (+/-6.7)	9.2% (+/-7.3)	\$101,211 (+/-7,511)	90.3% (+/-3.4)	40.5% (+/-4.5)
Bloomfield	6.8% (+/-3.7)	0.8% (+/-0.9)	12.3% (+/-7.8)	\$83,144 (+/-4,876)	73.6% (+/-3.7)	33.5% (+/-3.4)
Branford	3.8% (+/-1.4)	4.9% (+/-4.0)	16.3% (+/-6.6)	\$80,582 (+/-7,342)	70.8% (+/-3.7)	42.6% (+/-4.0)
Bridgeport	20.3% (+/-1.8)	28.8% (+/-3.6)	57.4% (+/-4.2)	\$48,556 (+/-2,349)	46.6% (+/- 1.9)	15.3% (+/-1.4)
Bristol	7.4% (+/-1.7)	12.0% (+/-4.4)	26.5% (+/-6.3)	\$74,379 (+/-4,333)	65.1% (+/- 2.5)	19.9% (+/-1.6)
Cheshire	2.5% (+/-1.3)	2.9% (+/-2.7)	6.6% (+/-4.5)	\$120,260 (+/-8,917)	84.5% (+/-3.4)	51.6% (+/-3.3)
Danbury	7.0% (+/-1.6)	7.8% (+/-3.3)	23.3% (+/-5.3)	\$76,492 (+/-3,068)	62.8% (+/- 2.1)	31.0% (+/-2.2)
Darien	2.7% (+/-1.6)	2.4% (+/-2.3)	4.3% (+/-2.8)	\$200,000+ (N/A)	89.0% (+/-2.8)	75.1% (+/-3.0)
East Hartford	14.9% (+2.6)	27.6% (+/-6.5)	52.0% (+/-8.2)	\$56,982 (+/- 3,691)	58.5% (+/-2.8)	15.9% (+/-1.7)
East Haven	7.2% (+/-2.3)	10.8% (+/-6.2)	20.1% (+/-10.6)	\$73,416 (+/-5,320)	75.9% (+/-3.7)	21.3% (+/-2.4)
Enfield	7.2% (+/-2.0)	10.2% (+/-3.6)	21.3% (+/-5.4)	\$81,529 (+/-3,705)	75.7% (+/-2.4)	24.6% (+/-2.5)
Fairfield	3.0% (+/-0.8)	2.6% (+/-1.1)	6.2% (+/-2.0)	\$138,018 (+/-8,661)	86.5% (+/-2.0)	58.6% (+/-1.8)
Farmington	6.5% (+/-2.6)	9.5% (+/-5.8)	14.1% (+/-7.3)	\$102,284 (+/-6,215)	76.4% (+/-2.8)	49.6% (+/-3.3)
Glastonbury	3.1% (+/-1.4)	3.4% (+/-2.9)	7.4% (+/-3.9)	\$124,614 (+/-7,159)	86.0% (+/-2.4)	55.0% (+/-3.3)
Greenwich	3.6% (+/-1.0)	3.4% (+/-2.2)	11.3% (+/-4.3)	\$178,332 (+/-12,933)	74.2% (+/-2.4)	63.3% (+/-2.1)
Groton	5.0% (+/-1.3)	6.9% (+/-3.0)	21.5% (+/-6.1)	\$67,998 (+/-5,206)	54.1% (+/-2.6)	29.9% (+/-2.4)

TOWNS	All People Below Federal Poverty Level	Children Under 18 Below Federal Poverty Level	Related Children Under 18 Below 200% of Federal Poverty Level*	Median Family Income	Home-ownership	Residents with Bachelor's Degree or Higher **
Guilford	2.7% (+/-1.8)	1.4% (+/-1.9)	5.7% (+/-4.5)	\$117,105 (+/-10,144)	88.9% (+/-2.6)	52.1% (+/-3.9)
Hamden	6.3% (+/-1.4)	5.2% (+/-2.5)	20.3% (+/-4.3)	\$87,143 (+/-6,370)	68.1% (+/-2.4)	39.5% (+/-2.3)
Hartford	32.5% (+/-2.6)	45.9% (+/-4.8)	72.8% (+/-4.5)	\$31,785 (+/-2,131)	25.7% (+/-1.4)	13.7% (+/-1.5)
Manchester	8.5% (+/-1.9)	13.9% (+/-6.9)	31.2% (+/-8.0)	\$76,208 (+/-3,379)	61.4% (+/-2.2)	34.3% (+/-2.1)
Mansfield	15.1% (+/-5.0)	15.3% (+/-12.7)	24.8% (+/-14.6)	\$85,139 (+/-9,798)	70.6% (+/-5.1)	53.9% (+/-5.2)
Meriden	12.9% (+/-2.4)	19.4% (+/-5.5)	37.5% (+/-5.6)	\$68,179 (+/-4,962)	64.0% (+/-2.5)	18.2% (+/-2.0)
Middletown	11.4% (+/-2.6)	13.0% (+/-6.1)	29.0% (+/-8.6)	\$74,574 (+/-3,913)	55.4% (+/-2.8)	30.9% (+/-2.3)
Milford	4.4% (+/-1.1)	5.6% (+/-2.7)	9.3% (+/-3.3)	\$89,974 (+/-4,200)	77.4% (+/-2.0)	37.7% (+/-2.4)
Naugatuck	5.5% (+/-2.2)	7.6% (+/-4.4)	34.8% (+/-7.9)	\$71,355 (+/-3,674)	72.0% (+/-3.3)	21.6% (+/-3.0)
New Britain	17.8% (+/-2.1)	30.3% (+/-5.7)	54.5% (+/-6.5)	\$49,438 (+/-3,646)	45.3% (+/-2.2)	16.5% (+/-1.7)
New Haven	23.8% (+/-1.9)	30.5% (+/-4.2)	54.2% (+/-4.8)	\$46,915 (+/-3,486)	31.6% (+/-2.2)	31.0% (+/-1.6)
New London	12.5% (+/-2.7)	17.2% (+/-7.2)	52.7% (+/-11.6)	\$55,217 (+/-4,753)	37.8% (+/-4.0)	25.0% (+/-3.3)
New Milford	2.4% (+/-1.1)	1.9% (+/-2.1)	5.9% (+/-3.1)	\$100,706 (+/-6,130)	82.7% (+/-3.1)	35.1% (+/-3.2)
Newington	5.2% (+/-1.9)	5.1% (+/-3.2)	14.2% (+/-5.9)	\$83,403 (+/-4,401)	83.3% (+/-2.0)	30.9% (+/-2.3)
Newtown	2.9% (+/-1.3)	1.7% (+/-1.8)	5.1% (+/-2.9)	\$125,932 (+/-8,865)	89.6% (+/-3.0)	50.7% (+/-3.5)
North Haven	3.7% (+/-2.6)	6.7% (+/-8.2)	11.3% (+/-9.2)	\$90,411 (+/-7,809)	83.9% (+/-3.1)	35.5% (+/-3.3)
Norwalk	6.9% (+/-1.5)	10.1% (+/-4.0)	25.8% (+/-5.8)	\$90,994 (+/-3,837)	64.2% (+/-1.8)	37.9% (+/-2.0)
Norwich	15.6% (+/-3.2)	22.8% (+/-7.1)	47.5% (+/-8.8)	\$58,008 (+/-6,006)	56.9% (+/-3.0)	18.5% (+/-2.0)
Ridgefield	2.3% (+/-1.2)	1.9% (+/-2.1)	2.5% (+/-2.4)	\$168,564 (+/-16,874)	86.5% (+/-2.9)	70.4% (+/-4.1)

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Shelton	3.2% (+/-1.1)	3.3% (+/-2.3)	12.0% (+/-4.5)	\$100,124 (+/-5,062)	85.6% (+/-2.2)	30.6% (+/-2.8)
Simsbury	2.1% (+/-1.4)	2.0% (+/-2.5)	4.6% (+/-3.4)	\$129,497 (+/-7,259)	86.0% (+/-2.4)	59.2% (+/-3.3)
South Windsor	1.3% (+/-0.6)	0.0% (+/-1.0)	7.3% (+/-5.3)	\$102,471 (+/-5,635)	89.8% (+/-2.8)	44.0% (+/-3.7)
Southington	5.3% (+/-2.1)	6.6% (+/-4.0)	11.9% (+/-5.2)	\$93,822 (+/-6,104)	85.6% (+/-2.2)	34.9% (+/-2.6)
Stamford	9.7% (+/-1.5)	10.8% (+/-3.2)	24.6% (+/-4.2)	\$93,577 (+/-4,459)	58.5% (+/-1.9)	41.8% (+/-1.9)
Stratford	4.8% (+/-1.3)	3.8% (+/-2.0)	14.3% (+/-4.5)	\$82,226 (+/-5,046)	79.3% (+/-2.3)	27.5% (+/-2.2)
Torrington	10.5% (+/-2.3)	13.2% (+/-4.7)	26.0% (+/-6.2)	\$69,059 (+/-3,800)	65.1% (+/-3.4)	17.8% (+/-2.2)
Trumbull	2.6% (+/-1.2)	3.6% (+/-2.4)	4.5% (+/-2.6)	\$115,686 (+/-5,233)	92.6% (+/-1.5)	48.5% (+/-3.6)
Vernon	8.4% (+/-2.2)	9.2% (+/-4.2)	24.3% (+/-8.2)	\$78,380 (+/-4,731)	57.3% (+/-3.1)	31.0% (+/-3.3)
Wallingford	6.9% (+/-2.0)	9.7% (+/-4.7)	25.0% (+/-7.6)	\$88,332 (+/-4,910)	72.2% (+/-2.5)	31.2% (+/-2.7)
Waterbury	19.9% (+/-2.2)	32.7% (+/-4.4)	58.0% (+/-5.5)	\$49,175 (+/-2,440)	50.3% (+/-2.0)	15.2% (+/-1.4)
Watertown	3.7% (+/-1.7)	2.9% (+/-2.9)	6.0% (+/-4.1)	\$91,428 (+/-4,401)	81.2% (+/-4.0)	32.4% (+/-3.2)
West Hartford	4.9% (+/-1.1)	2.7% (+/-1.3)	12.7% (+/-3.7)	\$102,414 (+/-4,219)	74.4% (+/-1.9)	58.1% (+/-2.1)
West Haven	11.3% (+/-2.6)	16.8% (+/-6.5)	39.0% (+/-8.7)	\$61,440 (+/-4,477)	61.3% (+/-2.8)	21.1% (+/-2.1)
Westport	2.7% (+/-1.0)	3.2% (+/-1.9)	6.2% (+/-3.4)	\$187,153 (+/-21,202)	88.7% (+/-2.5)	73.0% (+/-3.4)
Wethersfield	3.2% (+/-1.3)	1.8% (+/-2.1)	10.9% (+/-5.5)	\$93,741 (+/-5,900)	78.0% (+/-3.1)	38.0% (+/-2.8)
Windham	22.1% (+/-5.4)	34.6% (+/-11.3)	71.9% (+/-9.5)	\$44,192 (+/-4,990)	50.7% (+/-4.7)	19.7% (+/-3.1)
Windsor	3.7% (+/-1.4)	3.0% (+/-2.2)	10.2% (+/-5.1)	\$87,433 (+/-6,408)	81.8% (+/-2.6)	38.9% (+/-3.4)
Connecticut	8.5% (+/-0.2)	11.5% (+/-0.5)	24.2% (+/-0.6)	\$84,657 (+/-593)	69.6% (+/-0.3)	34.8% (+/-0.3)

* 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) approaches Connecticut's Self-Sufficiency Standard, the state's official measure of the income necessary for a family to meet basic needs. However, in most areas of the state, the Self-Sufficiency Standard is far higher than 200% of the FPL. "Related children," who might also be considered "children in families," are those related to the head of household.

** "Residents with Bachelor's Degree or Higher" is a measure of adults aged 25 and older who have at least a Bachelor's degree.

Changes since 2000 estimates

For estimates of all people in poverty, there were statistically significant increases in the following towns, as compared to decennial Census estimates from 2000:

- East Hartford: from 10.3% in 2000 to 14.9% in 2006-2008.
- Enfield: from 4.0% in 2000 to 7.2% in 2006-2008
- Middletown: from 7.5% in 2000 to 11.4% in 2006-2008
- Norwich: from 11.5% in 2000 to 15.6% in 2006-2008
- Stamford: from 7.9% in 2000 to 9.7% in 2006-2008
- Torrington: from 7.4% in 2000 to 10.5% in 2006-2008
- Vernon : from 5.9% in 2000 to 8.4% in 2006-2008
- Wallingford: from 3.6% in 2000 to 6.9% in 2006-2008
- Waterbury: from 16.0% in 2000 to 19.9% in 2006-2008

There was a statistically significant increase in the estimate of poverty statewide in Connecticut -- 7.9% in 2000 to 8.5% in 2006-2008. There was a statistically significant decrease in the estimate of all people in poverty in New London - from 15.8% in 2000 to 12.5% in 2006-2008. There were no other statistically significant changes in estimates for all people in poverty.

CT Voices for Children did not assess the statistical significance of changes in Census estimates for other indicators.

Data notes

Source for all 2006-2008 indicators is U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-08 American Community Survey (ACS), released October 27, 2009. The ACS now provides detailed three-year demographic and socioeconomic estimates for cities and towns with populations of 20,000 and above. **Similar three-year estimates for smaller towns are not available from the Census Bureau.** The 2000 comparison data is from the 2000 decennial Census.

Margin of error. The numbers reported in ACS surveys are estimates because only a sample of the entire population is surveyed. The margin of error estimates the range of values within which the population's actual poverty rate, median income, etc. is likely to fall. For example, there is a 90% probability that the actual percentage of people in poverty in Meriden is between 10.5% and 15.3% (12.9% with a margin of error of +/-2.4%). Because margins of error around town estimates can be wide, comparisons between estimates for towns should be made with caution.

Comparing Data Over Time. Unless specifically noted in the comparison charts above, there were no statistically significant changes in Census estimates for all people in poverty between 2000 and 2006-2008 data as calculated at the 90% confidence interval. The numbers reported in Census surveys are estimates because only a sample of the entire population is surveyed. For this reason, estimates reported by the Census are published with additional data that allow us to estimate the range of values within which the population's actual poverty or uninsured rate is likely to fall. This enables us to determine whether or not the change in an estimate from one time period to the next is large enough to conclude that a change in the population has occurred, or whether the change in the estimate may have been due to random chance. For example, in the field of opinion polling, the "margin of error" of a poll helps to assess whether there has been a significant change in polling results over time. A change in Census estimates is called "statistically significant" if it is unlikely to have occurred by chance (this term describes the statistical evidence of change, not whether it is important or meaningful). Unless a change in Census estimates over time is statistically significant, it is not accurate to say, for example, that poverty rates have increased or declined.

CT Voices' use of ACS data is informed by the guidance of analysts at the Census Bureau, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, and Coalition on Human Needs.