Community Compass

Building a Stronger New Haven Region
Through Civic Engagement, Investment and Leadership

Community COMPASS
Greater New Haven Region
Community Indicators Report

COMPASS Data Committee

Community Indicators Team

Spring 2003

DRAFT

United Way

Compiled with assistance from
Holt, Wexler & Farnam, LLP

Note to Reviewers

This is a working draft presentation and analysis of a set of community indicators defined by the Community Indicators Team since last fall.

We have incorporated features to make the document more accessible:

- There is a list of tall the indicators and page numbers in the front of the report for reference.
- The data is organized in **seven categories** and there are **lists of the indicators** included at the front of each category.
- Each indicator is presented on a separate page, each with a **key point** at the top, a few bulleted **Headlines** to get you started in thinking about the data, and then the data itself. Some indicators have longer discussions of the implications of the data for those who want to dig deeper.

This is a work in progress. Every effort has been made to correct any technical inaccuracies, but some may remain. If you have any issues questions regarding the data or the way the data is presented or described, please bring those to the attention of the Indicators Team. The Indicators Team will be reviewing and enhancing this report to incorporate comments.

A Note on Defining the Region:

- Most of the tables include 15 towns—the 12 COMPASS towns plus the rest of the South Central Connecticut Council of Governments towns (Meriden, Milford, and Wallingford). We did this because much of the data was already processed on this basis and also to expand the context and make the analysis useful to a wider audience (e.g. COG members).
- Many tables also analyze the data by the zones that the Data Analysis Work Group developed for grouping the COMPASS study region towns:
    - New Haven,
    - Inner Ring (East Haven, Hamden, and West Haven) and
    - Outer Ring (Bethany, Branford, Guilford, Madison, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Woodbridge)

As we go forward, if there is other data you would like to see, please bring that forward to the Team to see if it is available.

If you have any questions about the data, you can contact Carol Cangiano at the United Way (772-2010, x232; ccangiano@uwgnh.org) or Jim Farnam at Holt, Wexler & Farnam, LLP (203-772-2050 x13; farnam@hwfco.com).

Community Indicators Report
COMMUNITY COMPASS

Introduction

This is the **draft report** of the **Community Indicators Team**, which has guided the collection of existing data to provide an objective measurement of a wide variety of community conditions, patterns and trends in support of the Community COMPASS process.

Categories

The Community Indicators Team identified indicators of community well-being in the following categories identified in conjunction with the COMPASS Partners. The report is organized by these categories.

1. Demographics
2. Basic and Special Needs
3. Economic Health
4. Health and Safety
5. Education and Children/Youth
6. Engagement (Civic and Philanthropic)
7. Environment (Natural and Constructed)

Process

Drawing on extensive work with data both in the Greater New Haven community and nationally, the Community Indicators Team identified a set of indicators for each domain that can be analyzed to answer critical questions about the region. All the indicator data included here as well as additional data will be stored and updated on the DataHaven web site, a collaborative community project to make a wide range of community information available on-line (www.ctdatahaven.org).

Regional Definition

Community COMPASS is working to engage leaders and residents of a 12-town Greater New Haven region composed of the nine-town United Way of Greater New Haven region and the three shoreline towns of Branford, Guilford, and Madison that are closely connected to the remainder of the region.

The 15-town South Central Connecticut Planning Region of the South Central Regional Council of Governments includes these towns plus the communities of Meriden, Milford, and Wallingford. The COG region is also used by the Regional Growth Partnership for economic development planning and execution.

The remaining towns of the COG region are served by two other United Ways—United Way of Milford and United Way of Meriden-Wallingford.

Other common regional definitions include the 20 town region served by the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven and the 34 town South Central Unified Service Region used by most State agencies.

The analysis of community indicators incorporates all 15 towns of the South Central Connecticut Regional Planning Area to provide a wider context for the data and increase its utility across various planning processes. This 15-town region is the primary regional definition for the purposes of unified government action and regional economic development.

The Indicators

The agreed list of indicators developed by the Committee in consultation with the COMPASS Partners is contained on the cover of each section.

Community Indicators by Page Number

COMPASS Community Indicators

1. Demographics

Introduction

Discussion of population change, migration, household structure, density, and household mobility

What is the structure of families in our region?

1.1 Percentage of single parent households

1.2 Percentage of family households with grandparents as primary caregivers

1.3 Percentage of families with a single parent or both parents in the labor force

What is the demographic composition of our region?

1.4 Racial and Ethnic distribution

1.5 Percentage of population that is foreign born (total and arrived in last 10 years)

Demographic Trends: A Changing Region

Introduction

- The South Central Connecticut region has become a complex, interdependent social and economic unit in which the well-being of each community is increasingly tied to regional patterns and public policies.
- While New Haven remains a dynamic center, the majority of population and jobs are located in the surrounding communities that have a diverse pattern of land use and development.
- There are many definitions of the region within South Central Connecticut (see below). The United Way of Greater New Haven serves nine towns, but has reached out to engage three additional shoreline towns in the COMPASS process. The South Central Connecticut Council of Governments and the Regional Growth Partnership each include 15 towns, those twelve towns plus Milford, Wallingford, and Meriden. A toal of 22 towns are included in the DataHaven web site project, the COG towns plus the Lower Naugatuck Valley and Clinton.
- Most of the analyses in this indicator report include all 15 towns of the Council of Governments region in order to provide a full context for the region and data that is useful to a slightly wider area than those towns involved in COMPASS.
-

Selected Regional Definitions in South Central Connecticut

	COMPASS	United Way of Greater New Haven	Reg. Workforce Development Board*	South Central Reg. Council of Gov'ts	Regional Growth Partnership	Community Foundation	DataHaven Web Site
Ansonia						1	1
Bethany	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Branford	1		1	1	1	1	1
Cheshire						1	1
Clinton			1				1
Derby						1	1
East Haven	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Guilford	1		1	1	1	1	1
Hamden	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Madison	1		1	1	1	1	1
Meriden				1	1		1
Milford				1	1	1	1
New Haven	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
North Branford	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
North Haven	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Orange	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Oxford						1	1
Seymour						1	1
Shelton						1	1
Wallingford			1	1	1	1	1
West Haven	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Woodbridge	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Towns	12	9	14	15	15	20	22

* Before expansion of the RWDB region in July 2003.

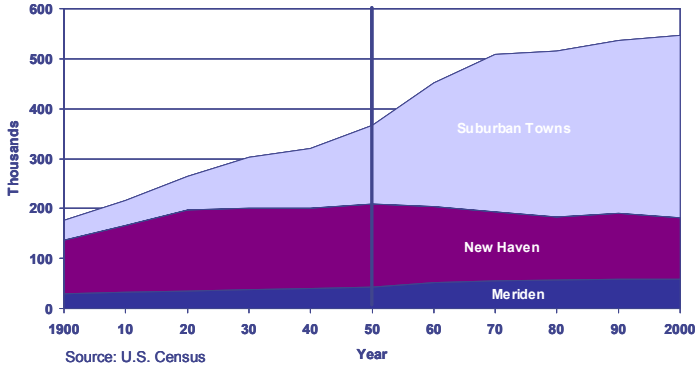
- For the purposes of analysis, the COMPASS project has grouped municipalities in South Central Connecticut into three zones in accordance with socio-economic and demographic characteristics:
- **New Haven** – New Haven, the region's central city, has a higher concentrations of minority and low-income households and lower ability to support needed services through local property taxes. Meriden, part of the COG region, shares many characteristics with New Haven.

- **Inner Ring Suburbs** – This group includes West Haven, Hamden, and East Haven. Though a diverse group, these are municipalities that are witnessing some of the same fiscal and social stresses as the central cities. West Haven and Hamden in particular are markedly more diverse and contain more assisted housing than the remaining towns in the region.
- **Outer Ring Suburbs** –This group includes the relatively affluent communities of Bethany, Branford, Guilford, Madison, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Woodbridge. These towns generally have higher incomes, are less racially diverse, and have higher equalized grand lists on a per capita basis[1] and thus a greater ability to finance municipal services through the property tax. While the towns at the lower economic levels within this group (e.g., Branford) have begun to see an increase in poverty and attendant social issues, the rest remain relatively unaffected by those issues.

Regional Key Map

This analysis also includes data on two additional communities outside the COMPASS regoion that are part of the SCRCOG region:

- **Smaller Cities** – These communities, Wallingford and Milford, are historically independent economic units that have grown strong economic bases that are integrated in the regional economy.



Population, COG Region, 1900-2000

Population Trends

Urban-Suburban Population Shifts Characterize the Region

- **Population shifts from New Haven to suburban towns continue unabated.** Beginning in the 1920s, with the advent of the automobile and an improved road network, the region's population began shifting to the suburbs. The trend accelerated in the era following World War II with the result that fully two-thirds of the COG 15-town region's residents now live in suburban areas.
- Population in the COMPASS region grew by 2% (6,610) between 1990 and 2000. This was considerably less than state (4%) or nation (13%). There was wide variation within the region (see table) with New Haven posting a 5% decline, while Madison was the fastest growing community with a 15% increase. In absolute terms, Hamden led the way with a 4,479-population increase, while New Haven had the greatest loss at -6,848.
-

[1] The equalized grand list is a measure developed by the State Office of Policy and Management which adjusts the taxable grand list of each municipality to account for the timing of property revaluations in order to produce a comparable figure.

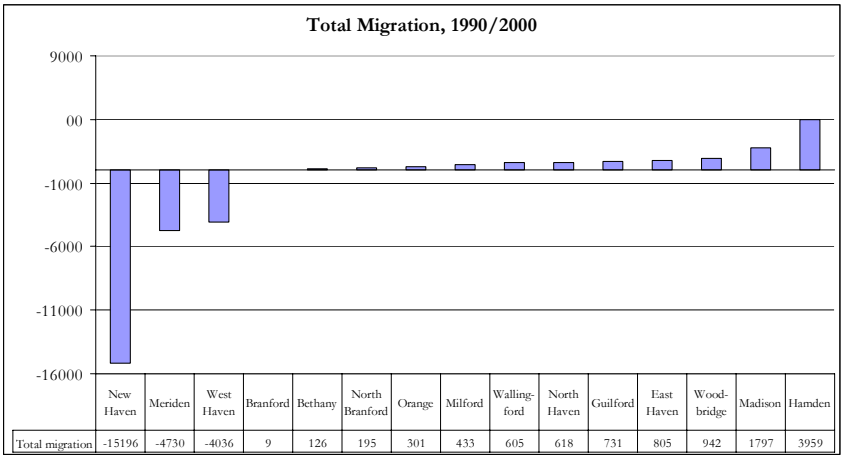
Migration

- **Migration out of New Haven, Net Population Loss in the Region between 1990-2000**. The COMPASS region as a whole had an out-migration of 2.5% of its 1990 population, losing a net total of 9,749 residents through migration by 2000.
- New Haven, showing a net out-migration of 15,196 residents, or 11.6% of its 1990 population (compared to a drop in overall population of 6,848).[2] This is followed by losses of 4,730 in Meriden, and 4,036 in West Haven.
- Three towns gained significant population through migration: Woodbridge, which saw a net in-migration of 942 residents (11.9% of their 1990 population), Madison, which experienced a net in-migration of 1,797 (11.6% of their 1990 population), and Hamden, which had a net in-migration of 3,959 new residents (7.6% of their 1990 population). The other 9 towns in the region experienced relatively little change.

Population Change by Zone, Region, and City/Town, 1990-2000

City / Town	Total Population 1990	Total Population 2000	Change	Percent Change
United States	248,709,873	281,421,906	32,712,033	13%
Connecticut	3,287,116	3,405,565	118,449	4%
New Haven	130,474	123,626	(6,848)	-5%
Inner Ring	132,599	137,462	4,863	4%
Outer Ring	123,541	132,136	8,595	7%
COMPASS Region	386,614	393,224	6,610	2%
COG Region	536,853	546,799	9,946	2%
Inner Ring				
East Haven	26,144	28,189	2,045	8%
Hamden	52,434	56,913	4,479	9%
West Haven	54,021	52,360	(1,661)	-3%
Outer Ring				
Bethany	4,608	5,040	432	9%
Branford	27,603	28,683	1,080	4%
Guilford	19,848	21,398	1,550	8%
Madison	15,485	17,858	2,373	15%
North Branford	12,996	13,906	910	7%
North Haven	22,247	23,035	788	4%
Orange	12,830	13,233	403	3%
Woodbridge	7,924	8,983	1,059	13%
Other COG Towns				
Meriden	59,479	58,244	(1,235)	-2%
Milford	49,938	52,305	2,367	5%
Wallingford	40,822	43,026	2,204	5%

Source: U.S. Census, 1990 and 2000



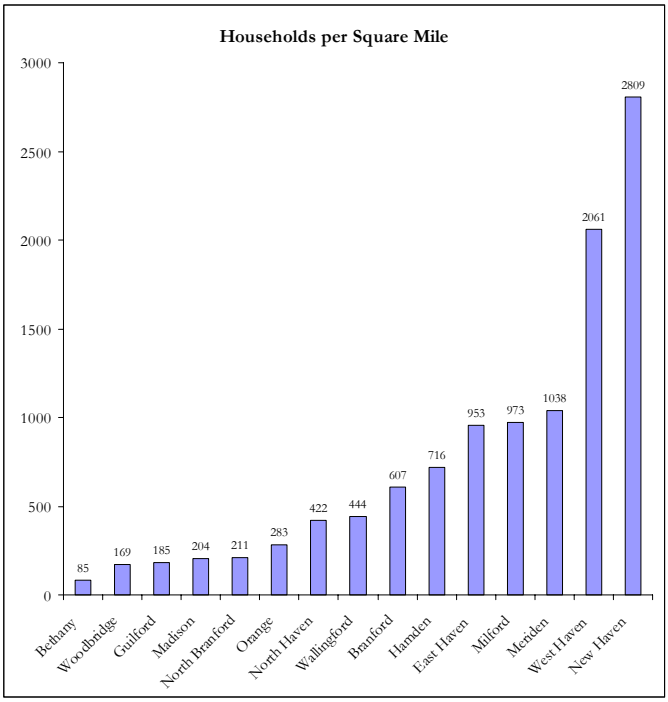
Aging Population with Younger Populations in the Urban Core

- **The region, like the state, has an aging population with shrinking youth and younger worker cohorts.** Specifically, the number of people in the 19-24 year age group declined by 14% (4,974) between 1990 and 2000. Although this shift is not unique to the New Haven region, it does present a significant challenge to workforce planners and policymakers, and represents a significant competitive disadvantage for area businesses. The problem is exacerbated by the fact that an increasing share of younger working age people are found in the inner-city and are more likely to be at risk for a variety of social problems. In addition, with high high school drop-out rates, they are more likely to lack the basic skills necessary to fill many entry-level jobs.
- The median age for the COG region is 36.7 years (with the COMPASS region likely at a similar level), yet the range of median ages varies greatly between communities. The median age of New Haven residents, 29.3, is dramatically lower than the rest of the region.
- Meriden, West Haven, and Hamden have median ages that are comparable with the region's median and considerably younger than the remaining towns, all of which have median ages that are higher than the region's median.

[2] Net in- and out-migration can be measured by adjusting total population gains and loses for gains or losses from births and deaths.

Population Density

- Population density varies greatly by town and zone (see chart).



Household Structure

- Household structure continued to change between 1990 and 2000 (see table below). The average household size in the region continued to decline in every town (from 2.66 to 2.57), reflecting the aging of the population and choices of living arrangements.
- New Haven, like other cities, showed a much higher percentage of households in one-person households and fewer family households.
- **The number and percent of families with children headed by single parents increased significantly** over the decade, from 26% to 33% of all families in the region, with an 80% increase in the Inner Ring (from 18% to 30% of all families with children) (see Indicator 1.1).
- **Households on the move.** Households within the region demonstrate fairly high household mobility rates, defined as the percentage of households that has moved within the town or into that town over the past 5 years. In nearly half of the region's towns (Milford, Hamden, West Haven, Orange, East Haven, Branford, and Woodbridge) 40% or more of the residents moved into their current home within the last 5 years. Milford, in particular has seen nearly 61% of its residents move into or within their town in the past 5 years.

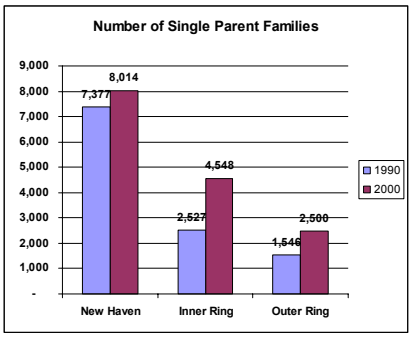
Household and Family Structure, 1990 and 2000

Year	1990	2000	Change	1990	2000	Change	1990	2000	Change*	1990	2000	Change*
Town	Households			Average Household Size			Percent Family Households			Percent Single Parent Households		
Bethany	1,552	1,755	13%	2.97	2.87	-3%	84%	83%	-1%	2%	11%	9%
Branford	11,663	12,543	8%	2.34	2.26	-3%	64%	61%	-3%	6%	21%	15%
East Haven	10,059	11,219	12%	2.59	2.49	-4%	72%	67%	-5%	5%	24%	19%
Guilford	7,181	8,151	14%	2.73	2.59	-5%	77%	74%	-3%	5%	13%	8%
Hamden	20,641	22,408	9%	2.43	2.35	-3%	68%	63%	-5%	5%	23%	18%
Madison	5,572	6,515	17%	2.75	2.72	-1%	79%	79%	0%	6%	11%	5%
Meriden	23,240	22,951	-1%	2.51	2.49	-1%	68%	65%	-3%	13%	30%	17%
Milford	18,851	20,900	11%	2.62	2.48	-5%	71%	67%	-4%	7%	19%	12%
New Haven	48,986	47,094	-4%	2.41	2.40	0%	57%	55%	-2%	26%	50%	24%
North Branford	4,481	5,132	15%	2.90	2.70	-7%	83%	75%	-8%	3%	15%	12%
North Haven	7,983	8,597	8%	2.77	2.65	-4%	80%	76%	-4%	3%	15%	12%
Orange	4,421	4,739	7%	2.88	2.77	-4%	86%	82%	-4%	3%	11%	8%
Wallingford	15,167	16,697	10%	2.63	2.52	-4%	73%	69%	-4%	6%	17%	11%
West Haven	21,284	21,090	-1%	2.48	2.42	-2%	66%	62%	-4%	10%	33%	23%
Woodbridge	2,747	3,103	13%	2.87	2.84	-1%	85%	82%	-3%	3%	10%	7%
Total, COG Region	203,828	212,894	4%	2.66	2.57	-3%	68%	65%	-3%	11%	27%	16%
Connecticut	1,230,479	1,301,670	6%	2.59	2.53	-2%	70%	68%	-2%			

* change in percentage points

Number of single parent households increasing

Indicator 1.1: Percentage of Single Parent Families



Why is this important? Mothers and fathers both play important roles in the growth and development of children. Both the number and the type of parents (i.e. biological, step) in a child's household can have strong effects on their well-being. Single-parent families tend to have much lower incomes than two-parent families, but recent research indicates that the income differential accounts for only about one-half of the negative effects of parent absence on many areas of child and youth well-being, including health, educational attainment and assessment, behavior problems and psychological well-being.[3]

Children who live absent their biological fathers are, on average, at least two to three times more likely to be poor, to use drugs, to experience educational, health, emotional and behavioral problems, to be victims of child abuse, and to engage in criminal behavior than their peers who live with their married, biological (or adoptive) parents. Children with involved, loving fathers are significantly more likely to do well in school, have healthy self-esteem, exhibit empathy and pro-social behavior, and avoid high-risk behaviors such as drug use, truancy, and criminal activity compared to children who have uninvolved fathers.[4]

Headlines

- In 2000, 15,062 (33%) of the COMPASS region's families with children were headed by single parents, up from 11,450 (26%) in 1990. 28% of families in the region were headed by single women and 5% by single men in 2000 (up from 24% and 2% in 1990).
- The number of single parent families in the Inner Ring jumped 80% (from 18% to 30% of all families), a major

Families with Own Children under 18, by Type

Area or Town	All Families		Single Parent Families with own Children under 18						
	1990	2000	1990	2000	Absolute change, 1990-2000	% of families, 1990	% of families, 2000	% Change, 1990-2000	Change in % points, 1990-2000
Connecticut	391,925	419,285	83,934	112,159	28,225	21%	27%	34%	5
New Haven	14,289	13,795	7,377	8,014	637	52%	58%	9%	6
Inner Ring	14,417	15,172	2,527	4,548	2,021	18%	30%	80%	12
Outer Ring	14,801	16,772	1,546	2,500	954	10%	15%	62%	4
COMPASS Region	43,507	45,739	11,450	15,062	3,612	26%	33%	32%	7
COG Region	61,784	64,410	15,079	19,969	4,890	24%	31%	32%	7
Inner Ring									
East Haven	2,729	3,164	368	783	415	13%	25%	113%	11
Hamden	5,397	5,994	708	1,490	782	13%	25%	110%	12
West Haven	6,291	6,014	1,451	2,275	824	23%	38%	57%	15
Outer Ring									
Bethany	600	706	27	84	57	5%	12%	211%	7
Branford	2,957	3,225	446	799	353	15%	25%	79%	10
Guilford	2,713	2,901	297	430	133	11%	15%	45%	4
Madison	1,987	2,546	251	296	45	13%	12%	18%	(1)
North Branford	1,670	1,815	128	265	137	8%	15%	107%	7
North Haven	2,403	2,666	222	349	127	9%	13%	57%	4
Orange	1,523	1,662	110	160	50	7%	10%	45%	2
Woodbridge	948	1,251	65	117	52	7%	9%	80%	2
Other COG Towns									
Meriden	7,575	7,192	2,028	2,721	693	27%	38%	34%	11
Milford	5,679	6,086	899	1,190	291	16%	20%	32%	4
Wallingford	5,023	5,393	702	996	294	14%	18%	42%	4

Source: 1990 and 2000 US Census.

[3] http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/demo/family/59FamilyStructure.htm

social change.

- While 58% of families with children in New Haven are headed by single parents (up form 52%), the number of such families grew by only 9%.
- There were increases of at least 50% in single female-headed households with children in eight suburbs between 1990-2000.

Definition Children in single parent families is the percentage of children (persons under age 18) who live in families headed by a person – male or female – without a spouse present in the home. These numbers include "own children" defined as never-married children under 18 who are related to the family head by birth, marriage or adoption.

Data Source U.S. Census, 1990, 2000.

[4] http://www.fatherhood.org/fatherfacts/topten.htm

Regional percentage of families with grandparents as primary caregivers is less than national average

Indicator 1.2: Percentage of Families with Grandparents as Primary Caregivers

Why is this important? Many grandparents do not plan to take on care-giving responsibilities (having already raised their families) and often end up making personal sacrifice to their own physical, emotional and financial health to take on the role of primary caregiver.

Headlines

- Since 1980, there has been a marked increase in the number of children living in the homes of their grandparents nationally (In 1970, it was 3%; in 1999, this had increased to 5% of all children).[5]
- In absolute terms, grandparents were primary caregivers in 2,700 families across the COMPASS region according to the 2000 Census.
- In percentage terms, grandparents were primary caregivers in 6% of New Haven families, 3% of East Haven, West Haven, and Bethany families. All other towns had rates of 2% or less.

Families with Grandparents as Primary Caregivers

Area	Number	Percent of COMPASS Region	Percent of Families with Children	Rank in COMPASS Region
COMPASS Zones				
New Haven	1,541	57%	6%	1
Inner Ring	884	33%	3%	
Outer Ring	275	10%	2%	
COMPASS Region	2,700	100%	4%	N/A
Inner Ring				
East Haven	258	10%	3%	2
Hamden	236	9%	2%	5
West Haven	391	14%	3%	3
Outer Ring				
Bethany	40	1%	3%	4
Branford	58	2%	1%	8
Guilford	31	1%	1%	10
Madison	33	1%	1%	9
North Branford	-	0%	0%	12
North Haven	72	3%	1%	7
Orange	12	0%	0%	11
Woodbridge	29	1%	1%	6
COG Region and Other COG Towns				
COG Region	3,412		3%	
Meriden	328		2%	
Milford	280		2%	
Wallingford	104		1%	

Trends Not available: The 1990 U.S. Census did not capture this indicator. The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 mandated that the decennial census collect data on this subject. Data from the 2000 U.S. Census will serve as a baseline.

Definition Grandparent caregivers have financial responsibility for the basic needs (food, shelter, clothing, day care, etc.) for any or all grandchildren living in the household.

Data Source US Census, 2000.

[5] Population Today Vol. 27, No. 12 (December 1999) Washington, DC: Population Reference Bureau.

Children under age 6 with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force

Indicator 1.3: Children under age 6 with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force

Why is this important? As an increasing number of two-parent families have both parents in the labor force, the demand for early child care and after school care has grown. Challenges that dual-working parents or single working parents face include lack of time spent at home with youth and keeping older youth occupied productively after school in order to avoid risky behaviors. The increased stress on families is also a contributing factor to poorer nutrition and other health issues.

Headlines

- 17,400 children under six in the region (63%) have working parents. The figure in the Inner Ring is 67%.
- The number of children in single parent families with their parent in the labor force grew 71% (107% in the Inner Ring).
- 74% of children under 6 in the region in single parent families have their parent in the labor force (up from 44%), and nine towns have over 80%.
- Nine of 12 towns across the region have seen increases in the percentage of children with a single parent or both parents in the labor force.

Children under Age 6 with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force

Data point	COMPASS Zones: New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region	Connecticut
2000 Data						
Children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	5514	6,111	5,775	17,400	25029	159876
% of children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	61%	67%	62%	63%	64%	62%
Children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	3,499	1,973	706	6,178	8,280	48,463
% of children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	69%	81%	89%	74%	75%	76%
1990 Data						
Children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	5256	5,932	5,052	16,240	23767	148631
% of children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	47%	57%	57%	53%	55%	56%
Children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	2,162	953	493	3,608	5,103	30,290
% of children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	37%	61%	69%	44%	48%	54%
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1990, 2000)						
Children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	258	179	723	1,160	1,262	11,245
% of children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	13%	10%	5%	10%	9%	6%
Children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	1,337	1,020	213	2,570	3,177	18,173
% of children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	32%	20%	20%	30%	26%	22%
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1990, 2000)						
Children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	5%	3%	14%	7%	5%	8%
Children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	62%	107%	43%	71%	62%	60%

Children under age 6 with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force -Town Detail

Data point	Inner Ring: East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Outer Ring: Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Other COG Towns: Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
2000 Data														
Children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	1198	2283	2630	268	1047	1037	815	839	794	615	360	3054	2456	2119
% of children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	69%	66%	68%	65%	59%	65%	53%	81%	55%	62%	68%	65%	67%	66%
Children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	365	556	1,052	35	223	89	43	124	121	40	31	1,250	455	397
% of children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	91%	87%	76%	85%	88%	85%	84%	100%	93%	73%	100%	72%	79%	83%
1990 Data														
Children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	1076	2376	2480	227	1127	965	505	572	864	458	334	3349	2137	2041
% of children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	52%	62%	55%	62%	57%	62%	49%	53%	60%	52%	63%	62%	56%	60%
Children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	104	222	627	24	115	131	19	50	76	53	25	732	456	307
% of children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	49%	74%	59%	100%	69%	71%	83%	62%	55%	78%	100%	54%	71%	72%
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1990, 2000)														
Children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	122	(93)	150	41	(80)	72	310	267	(70)	157	26	(295)	319	78
% of children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	16	4	12	3	2	2	4	27	(5)	10	5	2	11	6
Children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	261	334	425	11	108	(42)	24	74	45	(13)	6	518	(1)	90
% of children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	42	13	16	(15)	19	14	2	38	38	(5)	-	18	8	11
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1990, 2000)														
Children with a Single Parent or Both Parents in the Labor Force	11%	-4%	6%	18%	-7%	7%	61%	47%	-8%	34%	8%	-9%	15%	4%
Children living with a Single Parent who is in labor force	251%	150%	68%	46%	94%	-32%	126%	148%	59%	-25%	24%	71%	0%	29%

Definition: Children in families where all parents are in labor force (one parent for single parent families, both for married couple families)

Data Source U.S. Census, 1990, 2000.

Increasing ethnic diversity and continuing racial isolation across region

Indicator 1.4: Racial and Ethnic Distribution

Why is this important? The degree of racial and ethnic separation in South Central Connecticut is high. Diversity is a strength in an increasingly global economy.

Headlines

- **Connecticut and the South Central Region are becoming far more diverse places and the trend is expected to continue**. Across the COMPASS region, the percentage increase in population other than non-Hispanic White was 10%; and this group made up a total of 27% of the total population in 2000. Despite these changes, the region remains highly segregated.
- Although every community in the South Central Connecticut region saw an increase in their minority population between 1990 and 2000, the actual changes in the internal population distribution by race were quite small.[6] In no community in the Outer Ring did the African American proportion of the population increase by more than 0.7% and the African American percentage actually fell in three communities.
- The white, non-Hispanic population declined by more than 27,000 in the COMPASS Region—a 7.6 percent loss between 1990 and 2000. People of Hispanic ethnicity increased by 17,822 during the decade, the largest absolute increase for any group. During the same period, the Asian population nearly doubled, up 81 percent from its 1990 base of 7,642.

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin

	COMPASS Zones					
	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region	Connecticut
Data (2000)						
White	53,723	114,767	178,658	347,148	424,556	2,835,974
White Non-Hispanic	43,979	110,685	174,495	329,159	400,196	2,638,845
White Hispanic	9,744	4,082	4,163	17,989	24,360	197,129
African American	46,181	9,905	10,720	66,806	70,797	339,078
Asian	4,819	3,523	5,469	13,811	15,041	95,368
Other	18,903	5,153	4,970	29,026	36,405	289,646
Total	123,626	133,348	199,817	456,791	546,799	3,405,565
Hispanic	26,443	7,244	6,917	40,604	53,390	320,323
Percent Distribution, 2000						
White	43%	86%	89%	76%	78%	83%
White Non-Hispanic	36%	83%	87%	72%	73%	77%
White Hispanic	8%	3%	2%	4%	4%	6%
African American	37%	7%	5%	15%	13%	10%
Asian	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Other*	15%	4%	2%	6%	7%	9%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Hispanic	21%	5%	3%	9%	10%	9%
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1990, 2000)						
White	-23%	-5%	1%	-6%	-8%	-4%
White Non-Hispanic	-31%	-6%	0%	-8%	-8%	-4%
White Hispanic	53%	71%	54%	57%	47%	87%
African American	-2%	27%	77%	9%	11%	24%
Asian	49%	83%	121%	81%	88%	95%
Other*	92%	356%	353%	140%	132%	184%
Total	-5%	1%	7%	2%	2%	4%
Hispanic	62%	137%	105%	78%	75%	57%

*Census data for people of races other than White, Black or Asian saw a substantial increase in 2000 because the count allowed people to classify themselves as two races and people who did that are classified as other in this and the next chart.

[6] In the 2000 Census, people were given the option to designate two or more races for the first time making comparisons to earlier years more difficult. 2.3% of respondents chose two or more races in the region.

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin-Town Detail

	Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
2000 Data	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
White	26,475	43,996	38,824	4,790	26,976	20,550	17,255	13,419	21,418	12,450	8,205	46,734	48,967	40,774
White Non-Hispanic	25,754	42,812	36,521	4,713	26,424	20,209	17,070	13,258	21,127	12,312	8,110	40,709	47,740	39,458
White Hispanic	721	1,184	2,303	77	552	341	185	161	291	138	95	6,025	1,227	1,316
African American	396	8,840	8,530	92	386	200	72	165	512	104	135	3,754	989	441
Asian	539	2,007	1,525	77	781	352	306	128	775	508	458	796	1,217	753
Other	779	2,070	3,481	81	540	296	225	194	330	171	185	6,960	1,132	1,058
Total	28,189	56,913	52,360	5,040	28,683	21,398	17,858	13,906	23,035	13,233	8,983	58,244	52,305	43,026
Hispanic	1,228	2,425	4,757	102	737	455	240	250	433	190	138	12,296	1,750	1,946
Percent Distribution, 2000														
White	94%	77%	74%	95%	94%	96%	97%	96%	93%	94%	91%	80%	94%	95%
White Non-Hispanic	91%	75%	70%	94%	92%	94%	96%	95%	92%	93%	90%	70%	91%	92%
White Hispanic	3%	2%	4%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	10%	2%	3%
African American	1%	16%	16%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	2%	6%	2%	1%
Asian	2%	4%	3%	2%	3%	2%	2%	1%	3%	4%	5%	1%	2%	2%
Other*	3%	4%	7%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	12%	2%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Hispanic	4%	4%	9%	2%	3%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	21%	3%	5%
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1990, 2000)														
White	2%	-7%	-18%	7%	0%	5%	13%	4%	0%	0%	10%	-16%	0%	2%
White Non-Hispanic	2%	-7%	-18%	7%	0%	5%	13%	4%	0%	0%	10%	-16%	0%	2%
White Hispanic	101%	62%	95%	83%	77%	60%	21%	55%	48%	8%	14%	24%	37%	39%
African American	33%	94%	29%	77%	-14%	122%	-24%	16%	0%	22%	12%	61%	39%	24%
Asian	423%	112%	26%	-8%	119%	94%	467%	276%	153%	107%	52%	177%	240%	150%
Other*	286%	731%	466%	376%	297%	233%	463%	1041%	173%	4175%	781%	98%	198%	169%
Total	8%	9%	-3%	9%	4%	8%	15%	7%	4%	3%	13%	-2%	5%	5%
Hispanic	164%	157%	176%	85%	108%	128%	567%	273%	47%	79%	24%	60%	78%	63%

- **Regional towns differ widely in their ethnic and racial composition.** New Haven has the most diverse population mix of any regional town with the white, non-Hispanic share of total population accounting for 36 percent—the city's population is now predominantly minority. This is in marked contrast to Madison where almost 98 percent of the population is white, non-Hispanic. The town with the second highest minority population is West Haven where minorities account for about 30% of the population. In absolute terms, about 80 percent of the region's ethnic and minority populations reside in New Haven and the Inner Ring.
-
- The table at right documents the **Index of Minority Concentration**[7] for 1990 – 2000. All towns with the exceptions of Bethany and New Haven increased their proportion of the regional minority population, although changes in most cases were slight. New Haven, Hamden, Meriden, and West Haven all have significantly higher percentage of minority residents than the region as a whole.

Data Source U.S. Census, 1990, 2000.

Racial Concentration Index

Town	Minority Concentration Index 1990	Minority Concentration Index 2000
Bethany	0.26	0.24
Branford	0.21	0.29
East Haven	0.17	0.32
Guilford	0.16	0.21
Hamden	0.64	0.92
Madison	0.12	0.16
Meriden	0.95	1.12
Milford	0.26	0.33
New Haven	2.63	2.40
North Branford	0.14	0.17
North Haven	0.26	0.31
Orange	0.23	0.26
Walling-ford	0.27	0.31
West Haven	0.93	1.13
Woodbridge	0.30	0.36

Source: US Census

[7] The index of minority concentration is the percentage of minorities in a town divided by the percentage of minorities in the region.

Percentage of population that is foreign born and that arrived in the last ten years, is increasing in all towns in region

Indicator 1.5: Percentage of Population that is Foreign-Born (total and arrived in the last ten yrs)

Why is this important? This indicator can reflect growing diversity in the overall population of a community. A large foreign-born population enriches community but also increases the need for specific services within the community, especially schools.

Headlines

- The foreign-born population in the COMPASS region totaled 42,943 in 2000, a 39% increase since 1990. Largest numbers came from Latin America (31%), Southern Europe (12%), Eastern Asia (12%), and Eastern Europe (11%) (See next page).
- Nineteen percent of the region's foreign-born population has arrived in the past 10 years.
- Woodbridge (13%), New Haven (12%), and West Haven (11%) were home to the highest percentages of the foreign born population at the town level in 2000. All other towns were under 10%.
- Woodbridge (+72%), Milford (+62%), Branford (+60%) led the region growth between 1990 and 2000.
- Woodbridge (+4), New Haven (+4), and West Haven (+3) had the largest percentage point increases. Only Madison (-0.1) had a percentage point decrease.

Population that is Foreign Born

Data point	COMPASS Zones: New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region
2000 Data					
Number	14,350	12,192	15,852	42,394	47,647
% of Region	34%	29%	37%	100%	100%
% of Population	11.6%	9.1%	7.9%	9.3%	N/A
1990 Data					
Number	10,633	8,384	11,499	30,516	35,249
% of Region	35%	27%	38%	100%	100%
% of Population	8.2%	6.4%	6.2%	6.8%	N/A
Absolute Trends (1990, 2000)					
Absolute Change	3,717	3,808	4,353	11,878	12,398
Change in % of Region	-1.0%	1.3%	-0.3%		N/A
Percent Trends (1990, 2000)					
Percent Change	35%	45%	38%	39%	35%
Rank	8				N/A
Percentage Point Change	3.5%	2.8%	1.8%	2.5%	N/A
Foreign born population arriving in last 10 years					
Number	3,717	3,808	4,353	8,161	12,398
Percent	26%	31%	27%	19%	26%

Source: 1990 and 2000 US Census.

Definition The foreign-born population includes all people who were not U.S. citizens at birth. Foreign-born people are those who indicated they were either a U.S. citizen by naturalization or they were not a citizen of the United States. Note: Census 2000 does not ask about immigration status. The population includes all people who indicated that the United States was their usual place of residence. The foreign-born population includes: immigrants (legal permanent residents), temporary migrants (e.g., students), humanitarian migrants (e.g., refugees), and unauthorized migrants (people illegally residing in the U. S.).

Data Source U.S. Census, 2000.

Foreign Born, 2000

				Total by zone			% of Region Total		
		COMPASS Region	% of Regional Total	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring
	Total:	36575	100%	14,350	13,316	8,909	39%	36%	24%
	BY CONTINENT								
1	Europe:	12872	35%	3,270	4,992	4,610	25%	39%	36%
2	Americas:	12351	34%	7,081	3,875	1,395	57%	31%	11%
3	Asia:	9695	27%	3,394	3,699	2,602	35%	38%	27%
4	Africa:	1523	4%	520	738	265	34%	48%	17%
5	Oceania:	134	0%	85	12	37	63%	9%	28%
	Top 15 REGIONS								
1	Latin America:	11299	31%	6,810	3,602	887	60%	32%	8%
2	Southern Europe:	4387	12%	712	2,253	1,422	16%	51%	32%
3	Eastern Asia:	4125	11%	1,726	982	1,417	42%	24%	34%
4	Eastern Europe:	4036	11%	1,489	1,196	1,351	37%	30%	33%
5	South Central Asia:	2597	7%	700	1,095	802	27%	42%	31%
6	Northern Europe:	2566	7%	535	978	1,053	21%	38%	41%
7	South Eastern Asia:	1892	5%	583	1,108	201	31%	59%	11%
8	Western Europe:	1883	5%	534	565	784	28%	30%	42%
9	Western Asia:	1060	3%	364	514	182	34%	48%	17%
10	Northern America:	1052	3%	271	273	508	26%	26%	48%
11	Western Africa:	853	2%	288	449	116	34%	53%	14%
12	Northern Africa:	226	1%	57	97	72	25%	43%	32%
13	Southern Africa:	203	1%	61	79	63	30%	39%	31%
14	Australia and New Zealand S	134	0%	85	12	37	63%	9%	28%
15	Eastern Africa:	126	0%	46	70	10	37%	56%	8%
	TOP 20 COUNTRIES								
1	Italy	3124	9%	416	1,637	1,071	13%	52%	34%
2	Mexico	2954	8%	2,331	501	122	79%	17%	4%
3	China:	2611	7%	1,208	571	832	46%	22%	32%
	China, excluding Hong Ko	2068	6%	979	413	676	47%	20%	33%
4	Jamaica	1937	5%	1,140	760	37	59%	39%	2%
5	India	1670	5%	353	776	541	21%	46%	32%
6	United Kingdom	1580	4%	368	569	643	23%	36%	41%
7	Poland	1294	4%	474	328	492	37%	25%	38%
8	Germany	1287	4%	313	401	573	24%	31%	45%
9	Ecuador	1237	3%	868	205	164	70%	17%	13%
10	Korea	1059	3%	327	265	467	31%	25%	44%
11	Canada	1048	3%	267	273	508	25%	26%	48%
12	Colombia	985	3%	350	519	116	36%	53%	12%
13	Russia	797	2%	324	234	239	41%	29%	30%
14	Other Central America:	769	2%	487	267	15	63%	35%	2%
15	Portugal	725	2%	158	418	149	22%	58%	21%
16	Ireland	692	2%	125	332	235	18%	48%	34%
17	Other Eastern Europe	625	2%	245	210	170	39%	34%	27%
18	Philippines	598	2%	165	377	56	28%	63%	9%
19	Ukraine	572	2%	228	207	137	40%	36%	24%
20	Vietnam	479	1%	114	266	99	24%	56%	21%

More than 50% of region's population from this place in this zone

Plurality of population in this zone

COMPASS Community Indicators

2. Basic and Special Needs

How adequate is the amount of affordable housing in our region?

2.1 Percentage of homeowners or renters paying over 30 percent of annual household income on housing

What percentage of housing is owned?

2.2 Owner-occupancy rate

How many households receive public assistance?

2.3 Percentage of households receiving public assistance

What is available in the areas of subsidized housing and housing shelters?

2.4 Annual shelter clients

2.5 Percentage of housing units that are subsidized

Are people getting the food they need?

2.6 Percentage of households experiencing food insecurity

How large is the disabled population in the region?

2.7 Number of persons with disabilities

Context: Housing

- The Urban Core communities have older, denser housing stock and are home to nearly all of the Region's publicly-assisted housing units.
- Housing rents, prices and occupancy rates, among other trends, are driven by the age and diversity of housing stock located in the region. New Haven, Meriden, Milford, and West Haven have the highest percentage of pre-1950's housing stock. These structures tend to have a larger percentage of multi-family dwellings and be placed more densely together than newer construction.
- New Haven, Meriden, Hamden and West Haven have 74% of the region's units located in buildings of four or more units. These communities also are among the most densely populated in the region, with between 716 and 2,809 households per square mile.
- Fully 43% of the 13,020 permits for new housing development in the 1990's were concentrated in three communities—Wallingford, Milford, and Hamden—while another 20% were in the rapidly growing outer suburbs of Guilford, Madison, and North Branford.
- During this same period 1,807 demolitions took place in the region, with 75% of those demolitions taking place in New Haven and Meriden.

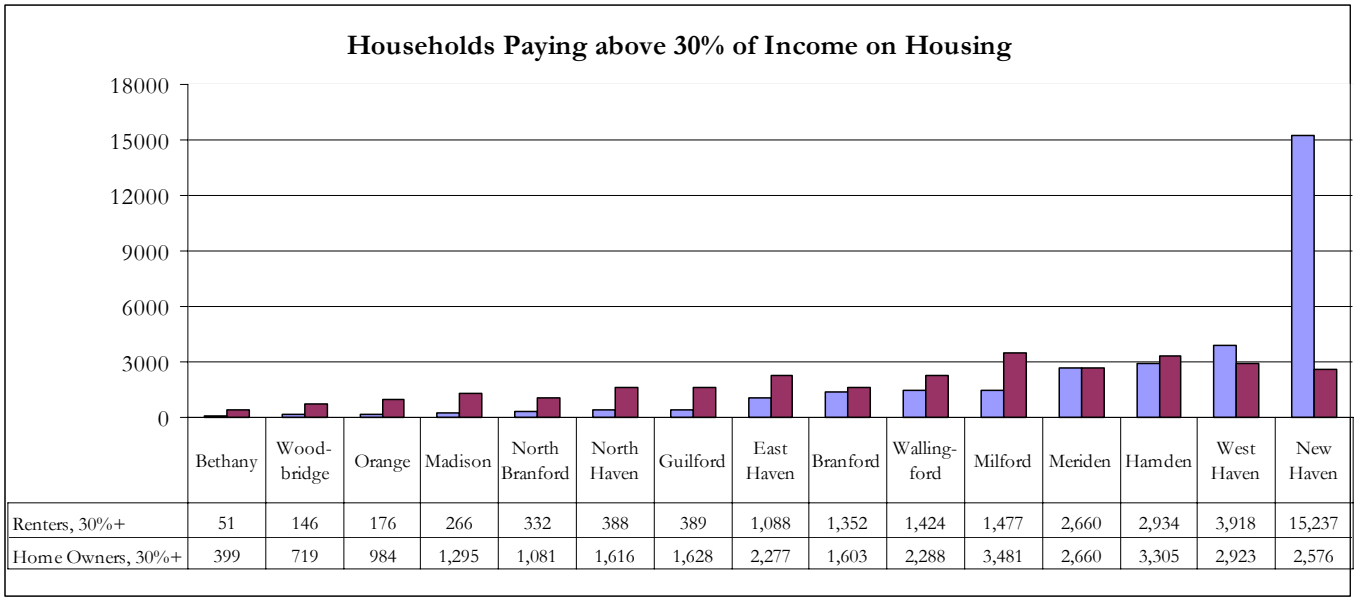
Across region, renters more likely to pay over 30 percent of household income on housing than homeowners

Indicator 2.1: Percentage of Homeowners or Renters Paying over 30 Percent of Household Income on Housing

Why is this important? This indicator measures housing affordability. Families or individuals who pay more than 30% of their annual income for housing are considered cost-burdened under federal and state housing policy based on research on household income and preferences. At housing costs over this level, households may have difficulty affording necessities such as food, clothing, transportation and medical care. The continued increase in affordable housing demand coupled with the diminishing supply of affordable units is increasing the challenge of finding housing for 30% or less of a household's income.

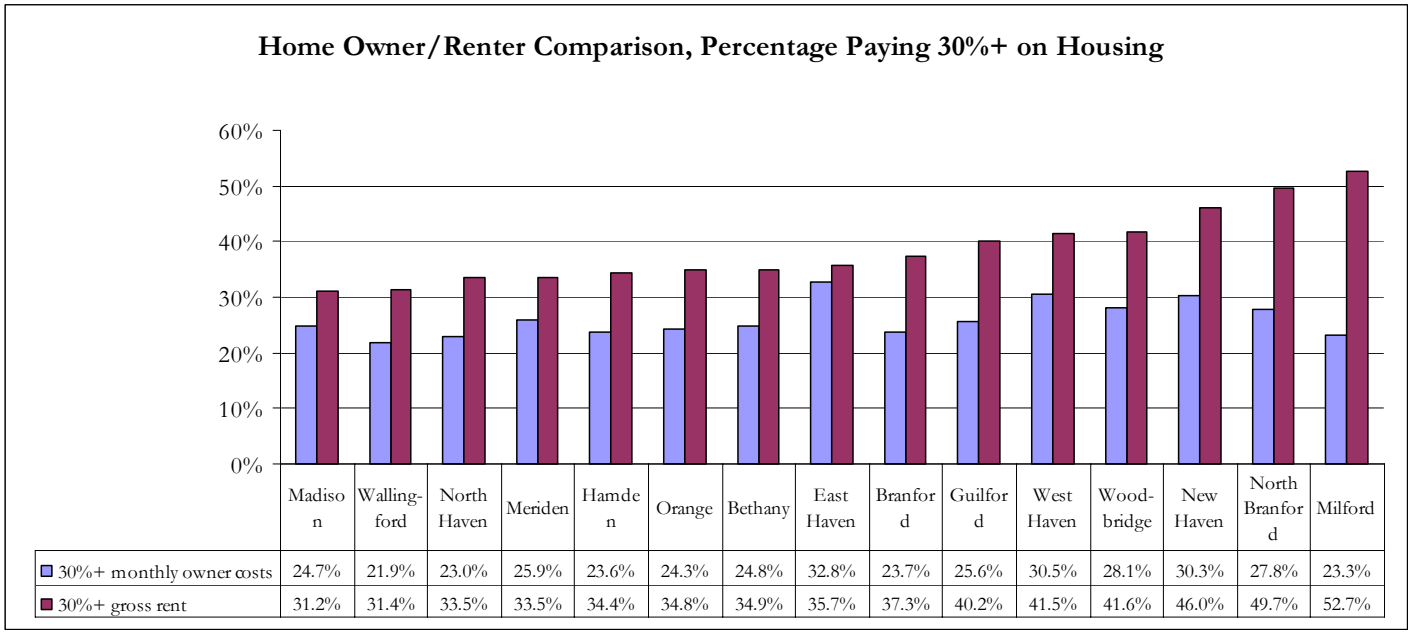
Headlines

- Across the region, 60,622 households (31,787 or 41% of households that rent, and 28,835 or 26% of homeowner households) expended over 30% of their income on housing in 2000. (See chart and table). This represents an overall 6% increase compared to 1990, almost all on the homeowner side of the equation.
- Although occasionally families choose to spend more than 30 percent of their incomes on housing, the fact that the average American household in 1999 devoted only about 20 percent of income for housing suggests that many families spend more than 30 percent out of necessity not choice (U.S. Millennial Housing Commission report).[8] Homeowners in the region are much less likely than renters to pay more than 30% of their income on housing.
- Although changes across the region for each category of community were mixed, Bethany, Woodbridge, and Orange all experienced double-digit increases in the number of renters who spend more than 30% of their income to live in those towns.



	Bethany	Wood-bridge	Orange	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Guilford	East Haven	Branford	Walling-ford	Milford	Meriden	Hamden	West Haven	New Haven
Renters, 30%+	51	146	176	266	332	388	389	1,088	1,352	1,424	1,477	2,660	2,934	3,918	15,237
Home Owners, 30%+	399	719	984	1,295	1,081	1,616	1,628	2,277	1,603	2,288	3,481	2,660	3,305	2,923	2,576

[8] The Millennial Housing Commission, *Meeting Our Nation's Housing Challenges* U.S. Government Printing Office (2002) pp. 19.



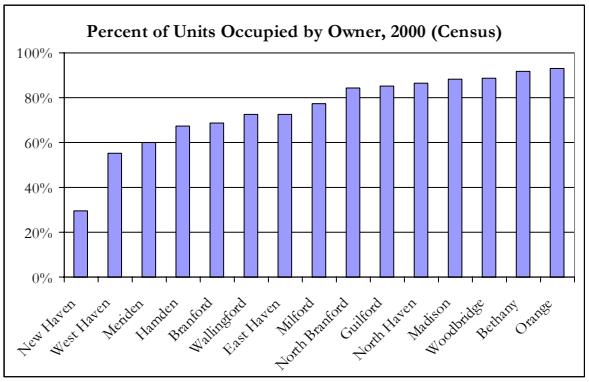
	Madison	Walling-ford	North Haven	Meriden	Hamden	Orange	Bethany	East Haven	Branford	Guilford	West Haven	Wood-bridge	New Haven	North Branford	Milford
30%+ monthly owner costs	24.7%	21.9%	23.0%	25.9%	23.6%	24.3%	24.8%	32.8%	23.7%	25.6%	30.5%	28.1%	30.3%	27.8%	23.3%
30%+ gross rent	31.2%	31.4%	33.5%	33.5%	34.4%	34.8%	34.9%	35.7%	37.3%	40.2%	41.5%	41.6%	46.0%	49.7%	52.7%

Definition Percentage of households in which over 30% of the household income is used to pay costs associated with housing occupancy.

Data Source U.S. Census, 1990, 2000.

Owner occupancy rate exceeds state rate in 10 towns; lags in urban areas

Indicator 2.2: Owner Occupancy Rate (Percentage of Owner-Occupied to Total Occupied Housing Units)



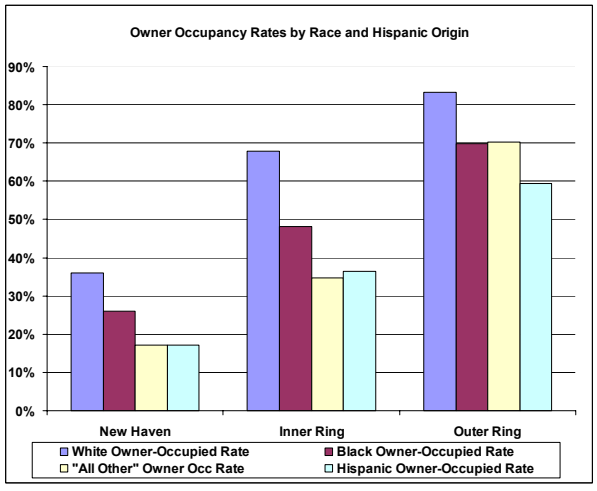
Why is this important? Increasingly, public officials, community leaders, and academics are looking to housing policy and the promotion of homeownership in particular, as a cornerstone strategy in fostering sustained community revitalization. Research is demonstrating that home ownership can help stabilize and maintain the vitality of a neighborhood or area, stimulating positive social and economic growth.[9] In addition, high rates of homeownership in a neighborhood promote community involvement, increase resident satisfaction and raise the neighborhood's image. According to Census data, buyers live in a community four times longer than renters.[10] Since homeowners are typically more invested in a community, social and political networks are more easily established, as are stable environments for children's development.[11]

Owner Occupancy Rate

	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region
2000 Data				
Occupied Housing Units	47,094	54,717	50,535	152,346
Owner-Occupied Units	13,927	34,869	41,836	90,632
% Owner-occupied	30%	64%	83%	59%
1990 Data				
Occupied Housing Units	49,019	51,984	45,600	146,603
Owner-Occupied Units	15,587	33,947	37,868	87,402
% Owner-occupied	32%	65%	83%	60%
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1990, 2000)				
Number of Units	-1,925	2,733	4,935	5,743
% Change	-4%	5%	11%	4%
Change in Percent	-2%	-2%	-0.3%	-0.1%

Headlines

- Homeownership rates are far higher in suburban areas where homeownership rates increased between 1990 and 2000, while the homeownership rate in New Haven decreased from 32% to 30% despite extensive efforts to encourage expanded homeownership. (A more relevant measure for New Haven given its housing stock of 2-4 unit buildings is the number of units in structures occupied by the owner. This number is thought to be as high as 70% although no agency tracks it in a consistent fashion).12
- Owner occupancy rate among African-American Households is below that of White households in all COMPAS analysis zones, with the discrepancy greater in New Haven and the Inner Ring.



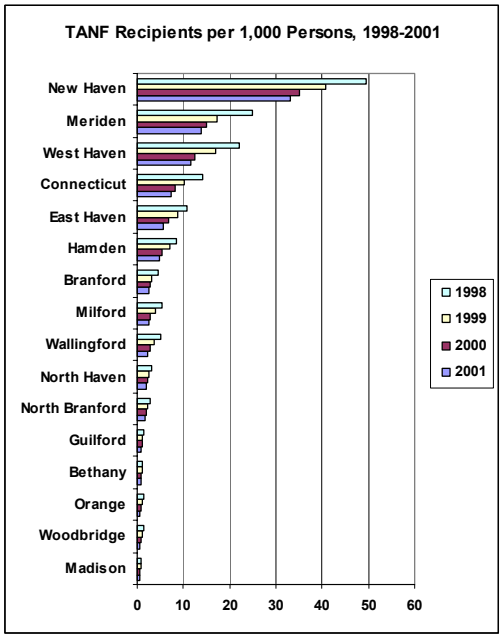
Definition Owner occupancy is defined as the percentage of existing housing units that are occupied by the owner. A housing unit is considered owner-occupied if the owner or co-owner lives in the unit even if it is mortgaged or not fully paid.

Data Source Census, 1990, 2000.

[9] Schill, 12.
[10] Revit, NW, 3.
[11] Rossi and Weber, National Survey of Families and Households, 1996. Data controlled for age and socio-economic factors. (NW Revit 3).
[12] New Haven Comprehensive Plan of Development, New Haven City Plan Department, Draft June 2003.

Percentage of households receiving public assistance declining under welfare reform

Indicator 2.3: Percentage of Households Receiving Public Assistance



Why is this important? The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (TANF) provides income support predominantly to women with young children. It was designed to give states flexibility to operate programs that provide income and other supports to poor families with children so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of their relatives. TANF promotes job preparation and work. With the imposition of time limits, households living in extreme poverty with young children are under pressure to get and keep a job while balancing the other demands of family life. This has increased the demand for services and the stress on families and children.

Headlines

- The number of TANF cases dropped 39% from 1998 to 2001, with the largest percentage reductions in the suburbs.
- Between 1998 and 2001, the proportion of TANF recipient cases in the COMPASS Region residing in New Haven increased from 73% to 77%.
- Many of those remaining in the program have multiple barriers to employment. 727 of the 2005 TANF clients associated with the New Haven area office subject to time limits have jobs with an average wage of $7.91 per hour and average monthly earned income of $786. Only 14% of the 2005 are employed for more than 24 hours per week.[13]

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, Cases

	By Zone						Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
Data point	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region	Connecticut	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
TANF: Total Cases																				
1998	6,187	1,940	314	8,441	10,402	47,928	302	476	1,162	6	125	31	15	38	68	18	13	1,461	283	217
1999	5,054	1,525	245	6,824	8,205	34,836	243	396	886	6	87	27	13	31	56	15	10	1,014	211	156
2000	4,336	1,157	211	5,704	6,844	28,053	190	313	654	4	78	24	10	28	49	10	8	873	150	117
2001	4,076	1,039	186	5,301	6,333	25,421	161	279	599	4	71	19	8	23	46	9	6	802	129	101
Rank 2001	1				N/A		5	4	3	15	8	11	13	10	9	12	14	2	6	7
% of Region	77%	20%	4%	100%			3%	4%	9%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	13%	2%	2%
TANF: Total cases - rate per population																				
1998	49.5				N/A	14.2	10.9	8.5	22.1	1.2	4.4	1.5	0.9	2.8	3.0	1.4	1.5	25.0	5.5	5.1
1999	40.7				N/A	10.3	8.7	7.0	16.9	1.2	3.0	1.3	0.7	2.2	2.4	1.1	1.1	17.4	4.1	3.6
2000	35.1				N/A	8.2	6.7	5.5	12.5	0.8	2.7	1.1	0.6	2.0	2.1	0.8	0.9	15.0	2.9	2.7
2001	33.2				N/A	7.4	5.7	4.9	11.5	0.8	2.5	0.9	0.4	1.6	2.0	0.7	0.7	13.8	2.5	2.3
Rank 2001	1				N/A	N/A	4	5	3	12	6	11	15	10	9	13	14	2	7	8
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1998, 2001)																				
Number	(2,111)	(901)	(128)		(4,069)	(22,507)	(141)	(197)	(563)	(2)	(54)	(12)	(7)	(15)	(22)	(9)	(7)	(659)	(154)	(116)
Rate per 1,000 H	(16.3)					(6.7)	(5.2)	(3.6)	(10.6)	(0.4)	(1.9)	(0.6)	(0.4)	(1.1)	(1.0)	(0.7)	(0.8)	(11.2)	(3.0)	(2.8)
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1998, 2001)																				
% Change	-34%	-46%	-41%	-37%	-39%	-47%	-47%	-41%	-48%	-33%	-43%	-39%	-47%	-39%	-32%	-50%	-54%	-45%	-54%	-53%

Definition The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (TANF) was signed into law on August 22, 1996. This federal legislation provides block grants to states to fund programs that provide services and benefits to needy families.

Data Source CT Dept of Social Services (http://www.dss.state.ct.us)

[13] CT Department of Social Services, Temporary Family Assistance Program Summary Report, January 7, 2003 http://www.dss.state.ct.us/pubs/

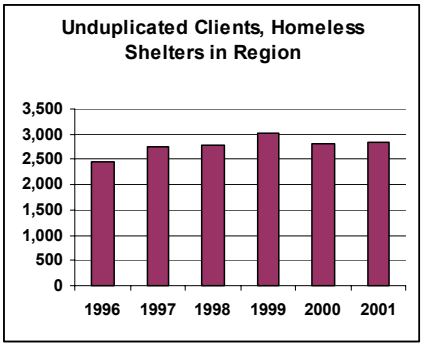
Increasing demand for available bed nights in homeless shelters across region; available temporary housing exceeds need

Indicator 2.4: Demand for Available Bed Nights in Homeless Shelters

Why is this important? Lack of stable housing arrangements interferes with employment, health care, mental health and substance abuse treatment, and social connection.

Headlines

- 2,851 Clients (unduplicated) used regional shelters in 2001. There are seven shelters in the region with a total of 199 beds.
- Demand for Columbus House was 111% of supply in 2001, part of an increase in demand that has continued through 2002 and 2003. The demand for bed nights in the region's homeless shelters is increasing with total demand exceeding supply at Columbus House since 2000 (see table).



Demand for Available Nights in Homeless Shelters

	Shelter Now Meriden	Beth El Milford	New Haven Family New Haven	CCA New Haven	Columbus New Haven	Life Haven New Haven	Wallingford Shelter Wallingford	Region
Beds								
2001	70	25	10	7	52	20	15	199
Demand*								
1998	84%	77%	75%	70%	93%	66%	-	83%
1999	93%	78%	75%	74%	99%	78%	-	89%
2000	59%	75%	48%	33%	105%	82%	31%	73%
2001	66%	71%	83%	74%	111%	95%	51%	83%

* demand is defined as total nights used plus turnaways divided by total bed nights available

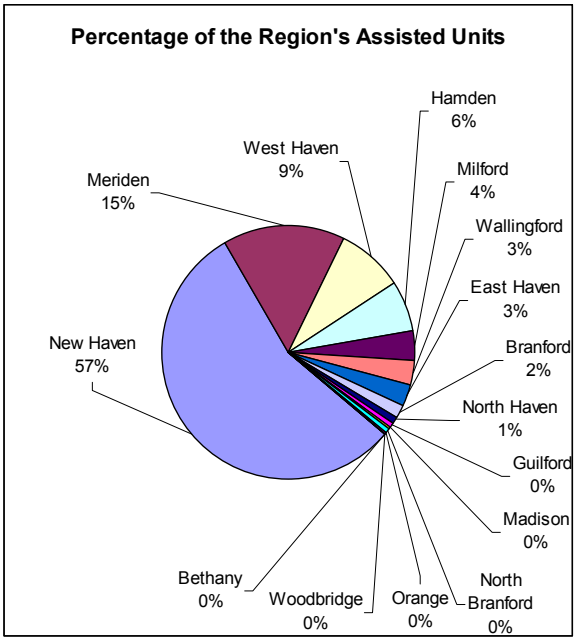
Definition Unduplicated count of persons using homeless shelters in South Central Connecticut.
Demand for beds is total bed nights used plus the total number of people turned away due to lack of space or for other causes divided by the total available bed nights (# of beds x 365).

Data Source Connecticut Department of Social Services Administrative Reports, 1998-2001.

Subsidized housing is centered in the cities

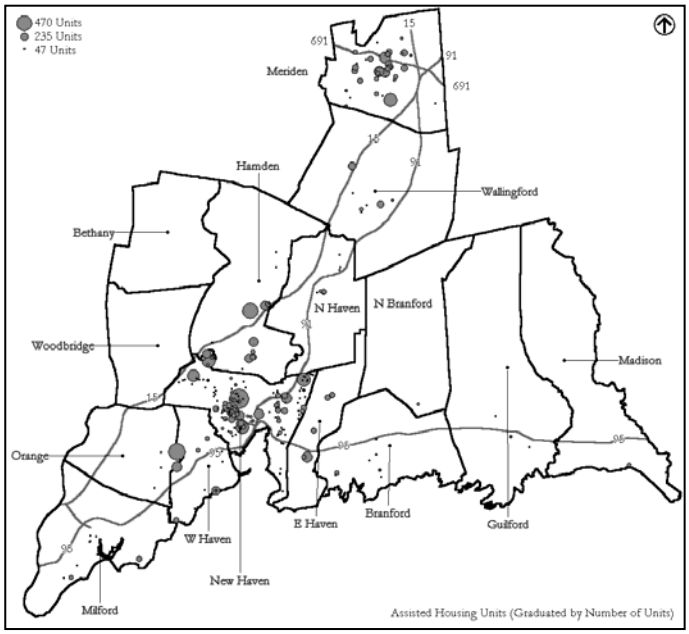
Indicator 2.5: Percentage of Housing Units that are Subsidized

Why is this important? Housing assistance can have a significant impact on the economic stability and well-being of low-income families. Individuals and households may require government assistance as a result of unemployment/low wages, disabilities, or other factors that impair self-sufficiency. Assisted housing has grown rapidly as a supportive housing arrangement for many frail individuals who need help with activities of daily living but do not need constant skilled nursing.



Headlines

- Assisted and affordable housing continues to be concentrated in the urban core, few resources are directed to affordable housing development, and the pace of development is slow.
- Affordable Housing is highly concentrated in the more urban communities. The result of the last 70 years of public intervention in the housing market to address housing affordability is reflected in the current distribution of publicly assisted housing units for low- and moderate- income households in the region.
- Assisted housing units make up 16% of the COG region's total housing units, yet 86% of the assisted units are located in the communities of New Haven (57%), Meriden (15%), West Haven (9%), and Hamden (6%). This concentration of assisted housing increases the demand for local services, accentuates economic segregation across local school districts and, depending on the response to assisted housing by other homeowners, may threaten the tax base of these communities.



Definition The proportion of housing units that receive any form of subsidy from the government that is not otherwise available to any person as of right (e.g. the mortgage interest deduction)

Data Source CT Department of Economic and Community Development, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Municipal Housing Authorities.

Food security remains an issue in Connecticut

Indicator 2.6: Percentage of Households Experiencing Food Insecurity

Why is this important? Food security is the most basic of needs. Lack of food impairs functioning at school, at work, and in the family.

Headlines

- Connecticut ranked 43rd in its level of food insecurity as measured by the U.S. Department of Agriculture with 8% of households with 280,000 persons experiencing food insecurity, 96,000 of them with hunger.
- 34, 906 persons in the South Central COG region received Food Stamps in 2000, 80% of them reside in New Haven and it inner ring suburbs.

Connecticut Food Security, Average 1998-2000

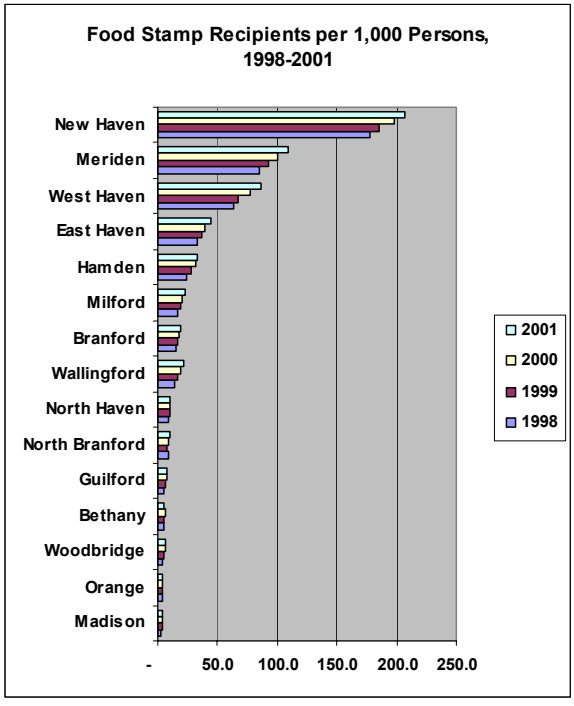
Factor	Total	Food Insecure	Food Insecure with Hunger
Percent of Households (%)	100.0	8.17	2.90
Number of Households (thousands)	1,299	105	38
Number of People in Households (thousands)	3,355	280	96
Rank (out of 51)	--	43t*	29

* tied ranking
Source: A. Sullivan and E. Choi (August 2002). Hunger and Food Insecurity in the Fifty States: 1998-2000. Waltham, MA: Food Security Institute, Center on Hunger and Poverty.

Definitions The USDA's Food Security Core Module (FSCM) is the first official household measure of food insecurity and hunger in the United States. It provides a consistent basis for comparing food insecurity and hunger prevalence over time and across different populations.

- **Food security** refers to assured access to enough food at all times for an active and healthy life. At a minimum, food security means having available nutritionally adequate and safe foods, and being able to acquire these foods in socially acceptable ways - without resorting to emergency food banks, scavenging, or stealing, for example.
- **Food insecurity** occurs whenever the availability of nutritionally adequate and safe food, or the ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways, is limited or uncertain.
- **Hunger** is defined as the uneasy or painful sensation caused by a recurrent or involuntary lack of food and is a potential, although not necessary, consequence of food insecurity. Over time, hunger may result in malnutrition.

Data Source A. Sullivan and E. Choi (August 2002). Hunger and Food Insecurity in the Fifty States: 1998-2000. Waltham, MA: Food Security Institute, Center on Hunger and Poverty



Nearly 100,000 persons in region reported having a disability

Indicator 2.7: Persons with Disabilities

Why is this important? With the passage if the Americans with Disabilities Act, community awareness of the rights and needs of persons with disabilities has expanded greatly. Many people who may have previously had lower-quality lives are now able to enjoy more of the freedoms that fully-abled people take for granted. As a community we are still coming to terms with what it means to be disabled.

Persons with Disabilities

Data point	By Zone: New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region	Connecticut
People	**123,626**	137,462	132,136	393,224	546,799	**3,405,565**
People with Disabilities	**26,343**	26,359	19,060	71,762	98,831	**590,427**
% Disabled of All People	**21%**	**19%**	**14%**	**18%**	**18%**	**17%**
Rank	**1**				N/A	N/A
% of Region	**37%**	**37%**	**27%**	**100%**	N/A	N/A
Total disabilities tallied	**44,502**	43,070	28,835	116,407	159,951	**946,887**
Total disabilities tallied for people 5 to 15	**1,882**	1,251	971	4,104	5,735	**36,906**
% of Total tallied	**4%**	**3%**	**3%**	**4%**	**4%**	**4%**
Total disabilities tallied for people 16 to 64	**32,103**	25,502	15,355	72,960	99,557	**596,198**
% of Total tallied	**72%**	**59%**	**53%**	**63%**	**62%**	**63%**
Employment Disabitity	**11,198**	10,109	6,366	27,673	38,141	**235,521**
% of Total tallied for people 16 to 64	**35%**	**40%**	**41%**	**38%**	**38%**	**40%**
Total disabilities tallied for people 65 and over	**10,517**	16,317	12,509	39,343	54,659	**313,783**
% of Total tallied	**24%**	**38%**	**43%**	**34%**	**34%**	**33%**

Headlines

- In 2000, 71,762 persons in the region reported having a total of 116,407 discrete disabilities.
- Of the total number of working age people with disabilities (aged 16-64), 27,673 had an employment disability.
- Disabled persons tend to reside in more urbanized areas where services and transportation are more convenient.

Persons with Disabilities- Town Detail

Data point	Inner Ring: East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Outer Ring: Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Other COG Towns: Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
People	**28,189**	**56,913**	**52,360**	**5,040**	**28,683**	**21,398**	**17,858**	**13,906**	**23,035**	**13,233**	**8,983**	**58,244**	**52,305**	**43,026**
People with Disabilities	**5,763**	**10,120**	**10,476**	**622**	**5,274**	**2,673**	**1,739**	**1,857**	**4,067**	**1,845**	**983**	**11,886**	**8,803**	**6,380**
% Disabled of All People	**20%**	**18%**	**20%**	**12%**	**18%**	**12%**	**10%**	**13%**	**18%**	**14%**	**11%**	**20%**	**17%**	**15%**
Rank	**1**	**9**	**3**	**9**	**2**	**9**	**13**	**11**	**7**	**10**	**16**	**1**	**3**	**7**
% of Region	**8.0%**	**14.1%**	**14.6%**	**0.9%**	**7.3%**	**3.7%**	**2.4%**	**2.6%**	**5.7%**	**2.6%**	**1.4%**	**16.6%**	**12.3%**	**8.9%**
Total disabilities tallied	**9,162**	**16,782**	**17,126**	**950**	**7,972**	**3,754**	**2,399**	**2,866**	**6,664**	**2,676**	**1,554**	**19,833**	**14,074**	**9,637**
Total disabilities tallied for people 5 to 15	**243**	**581**	**427**	**63**	**226**	**139**	**90**	**85**	**189**	**64**	**115**	**905**	**445**	**281**
% of Total tallied	**3%**	**3%**	**2%**	**7%**	**3%**	**4%**	**4%**	**3%**	**3%**	**2%**	**7%**	**5%**	**3%**	**3%**
Total disabilities tallied for people 16 to 64	**5,699**	**9,172**	**10,631**	**566**	**4,731**	**2,046**	**1,148**	**1,627**	**3,289**	**1,281**	**667**	**12,960**	**7,983**	**5,654**
% of Total tallied	**62%**	**55%**	**62%**	**60%**	**59%**	**55%**	**48%**	**57%**	**49%**	**48%**	**43%**	**65%**	**57%**	**59%**
Employment Disabitity	**2,366**	**3,344**	**4,399**	**267**	**2,050**	**927**	**420**	**642**	**1,312**	**495**	**253**	**4,545**	**3,641**	**2,282**
% of Total tallied for people 16 to 64	**42%**	**36%**	**41%**	**47%**	**43%**	**45%**	**37%**	**39%**	**40%**	**39%**	**38%**	**35%**	**46%**	**40%**
Total disabilities tallied for people 65 and over	**3,220**	**7,029**	**6,068**	**321**	**3,015**	**1,569**	**1,161**	**1,154**	**3,186**	**1,331**	**772**	**5,968**	**5,646**	**3,702**
% of Total tallied	**35%**	**42%**	**35%**	**34%**	**38%**	**42%**	**48%**	**40%**	**48%**	**50%**	**50%**	**30%**	**40%**	**38%**

Definition "People with Disabilities" includes all people who reported a disability on the long Census survey form (1-in-6 sample survey). The "total disabilities tallied" includes all disabilities for all people, i.e. if one person has two disabilities; the tally is two (this is also interpolated from the 1-in-6 sample).

Data Source 2000 U.S. Census.

COMPASS Community Indicators

3. Economic Health

What is the state of the regional economy?

Introductory discussion drawn from Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS of the Regional Growth Partnership

What is the income/poverty gap?

3.1 Prosperity Index

3.2 Median family (and household) income

3.3 Percentage of population living in poverty

What is the state of the regional workforce?

3.4 Percentage of workers making less than self-sufficiency wages

3.5 Unemployment Rate

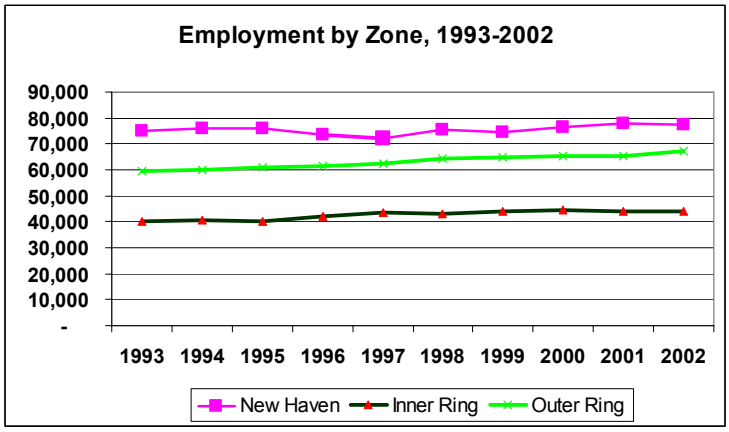
What is the local capacity to support services?

3.6 Net Equalized Grand List per capita

What is the state of the regional economy?

The following data is derived from the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) recently prepared by the Regional Growth Partnership with the assistance of Mt Auburn Associates and the Connecticut Economic Resource Center (CERC).

- **During the 1990s, the regional economy grew at a slower rate than both the state and the nation.** Total gross regional product (GRP) growth during the decade was slightly less than 20 percent in contrast to the state (33 percent) and the U.S. (38 percent). This relatively slow growth rate creates a host of challenges for regional economic development efforts.
- Employment growth in the city of New Haven and the balance of the region has been moving in opposite directions over the past few decades. Since the early 1980s, the rate of new job formation in the city has lagged behind that of the state. While the suburban towns have outperformed the state average, New Haven has yet to evidence any sign of job recovery and today still remains mired in a 10-year job slump. While jobs in other towns in the region have increased by almost 30 percent since 1980, New Haven has lost more than 10 percent of its 1980 job base, resulting in a 40 percentage point job growth difference between the urban center and the suburban towns.



- Since 1993, New Haven and the Inner and Outer Rings have all grown slowly (see table).

Employment by Zone and Town, 1993-2002

Area or Town	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
New Haven	74,920	75,830	76,150	73,450	72,040	75,510	74,670	76,550	77,920	77,209
Inner Ring	40,220	40,760	40,300	41,950	43,500	43,130	43,940	44,410	43,930	44,109
Outer Ring	59,490	60,160	61,030	61,330	62,520	64,320	64,910	65,510	65,170	67,457
COMPASS Region	174,630	176,750	177,480	176,730	178,060	182,960	183,520	186,470	187,020	188,775
Inner Ring										
East Haven	5,730	6,310	6,340	6,460	6,720	6,560	6,060	6,960	6,810	6,988
Hamden	18,860	18,640	18,250	19,110	19,050	18,970	19,600	19,710	19,680	19,793
West Haven	15,630	15,810	15,710	16,380	17,730	17,600	18,280	17,740	17,440	17,328
Outer Ring										
Bethany	1,060	1,090	1,030	970	990	1,020	1,000	1,030	1,050	1,078
Branford	12,160	12,720	13,490	14,350	13,920	14,040	13,680	13,890	13,640	13,833
Guilford	5,610	5,370	5,280	5,520	5,720	6,110	6,390	6,150	6,280	6,468
Madison	4,380	4,420	4,760	4,800	4,850	4,980	5,020	5,050	4,950	5,481
North Branford	2,800	2,880	2,720	2,970	3,510	4,170	4,430	4,870	5,020	4,981
North Haven	22,840	22,660	22,910	21,650	22,180	22,090	21,670	21,490	21,540	22,527
Orange	7,800	8,180	7,930	8,080	8,370	8,750	9,100	9,350	9,540	9,776
Woodbridge	2,840	2,840	2,910	2,990	2,980	3,160	3,620	3,680	3,150	3,313

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor, June Reports

The region demonstrates large and growing disparities of prosperity between its suburban and urban communities.

Indicator 3.1: Prosperity Index

Why is this important? An important indicator of an urban area's social health is the gap between the incomes of urban and suburban communities.[14] Some urban analysts have argued that regions where the gap between urban and suburban incomes is small have greater economic progress as an entire metropolitan area. In particular, regions with closely equivalent incomes between cities and suburbs experience greater job increases and higher per-capita incomes.

Headlines

- In the South Central Connecticut Region, there are great disparities between the prosperity of communities in the urban core and those in the suburbs.
- In the Mumford Prosperity Index of selected metropolitan areas, the New Haven-Meriden Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) ranked 27th in 1990 and dropped to 53rd in 2000.
- The central city areas (New Haven and Meriden) dropped in rank from 142nd to 262nd respectively (Table 1). Thus, the prosperity level of the region and central city fell in relation to the rest of the nation and the disparity in this region between the suburbs and the central city areas grew slightly, with the suburban areas ranking nearly 12 times higher than the central city areas.
- The New Haven-Meriden region had the seventh greatest city-suburban disparity in the nation by this measure in 2000, up from 12th in 1990.[15] At the same time, Hartford improved from 11th down to 17th most disparate, largely because of a decline in the suburban ranking—the Hartford central city ranked 311 out of 331 metro area central cities. Bridgeport was the second most disparate in the nation. Detail on selected regions is outlined in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Urban / Suburban Disparity in Overall Prosperity

As Measured by Mumford Prosperity Index, 1990 and 2000, Selected Metropolitan Areas

Area	2000					1990				
	Overall Prosperity Ranking			Ratio of City Rank to Suburban Rank		Overall Prosperity Ranking			Ratio of City Rank to Suburban Rank	
	Metro	City	Suburban	Disparity Index: City to Suburban	National Disparity Rank in	Metro	City	Suburban	Disparity Index: City to Suburban	National Disparity Rank in
Bridgeport	30	291	10	29.10	2	25	250	10	25.00	5
New Haven-Meriden	**53**	***262***	**22**	**11.91**	**7**	**27**	***142***	**12**	**11.83**	**12**
Waterbury	129	255	30	8.50	12	66	169	25	6.76	17
Hartford	35	311	48	6.48	17	16	282	23	12.26	11
Stamford-Norwalk	1	4	1	4.00	28	1	1	1	1.00	157
New London-Norwich, CT-RI	66	187	94	1.99	69	57	189	73	2.59	56
Springfield, MA	165	198	135	1.47	100	129	188	94	2.00	77

14 Rusk, David Cities Without Suburbs, The Woodrow Wilson Center Press (1995) p. 31.

15 It is important to note, however, that the structure of town boundaries in Connecticut creates units of analysis that are not comparable to regions in which the central city has historically annexed adjacent areas as they grew. For instance, to make a true comparison between Phoenix, Arizona and New Haven, one might have to aggregate New Haven and its adjacent suburban areas to create a comparable unit of economic analysis.

This Index was also calculated for the towns in South Central Connecticut, which provides a relative measure of prosperity within the region (see table below). The more urban communities both ranked lowest and fell in prosperity over the decade. The Outer Ring suburbs had constant high scores over the decade.

Prosperity Index for South Central CT Towns, 1990-2000
Sorted by Degree of Change, 1990-2000

	1990	2000	Rank 2000	Change
Milford	(1.0)	1.4	9	2.4
North Haven	2.9	3.6	6	0.7
North Branford	1.7	2.3	7	0.7
Wallingford	(0.2)	0.4	11	0.7
East Haven	(1.3)	(1.1)	12	0.2
Branford	1.8	1.9	8	0.1
Guilford	4.0	4.0	4	0.0
Bethany	4.9	4.9	3	0.0
Woodbridge	5.0	5.0	1	0.0
Madison	4.0	4.0	4	0.0
Orange	5.0	5.0	1	(0.0)
New Haven	(2.8)	(2.9)	14	(0.2)
West Haven	(2.6)	(2.8)	13	(0.2)
Meriden	(2.8)	(3.0)	15	(0.2)
Hamden	1.4	0.6	10	(0.9)

Definition The "Prosperity Index" (developed by the Lewis Mumford Center at the State University of New York in Albany) compares the center cities, suburbs, and regions in all 331 U.S. metropolitan areas on this measure. The Prosperity Index includes measures of % of population with bachelor degree, median household income, % owner occupied housing units, poverty, vacancy status, Per Capita income, management and professional occupations, and unemployment. For data and methodology, go to the Lewis Mumford Center web site at: http://mumford1.dyndns.org/cen2000/CityProfiles/Citiesstate.htm. The purpose was to determine the difference in prosperity between the central cities compared to their suburbs and regions as a whole.

Data Source State University of New York, Albany, Lewis Mumford Center. (http://mumford1.dynds.org/cen2000/CityProfiles/Citiesstate.htm)

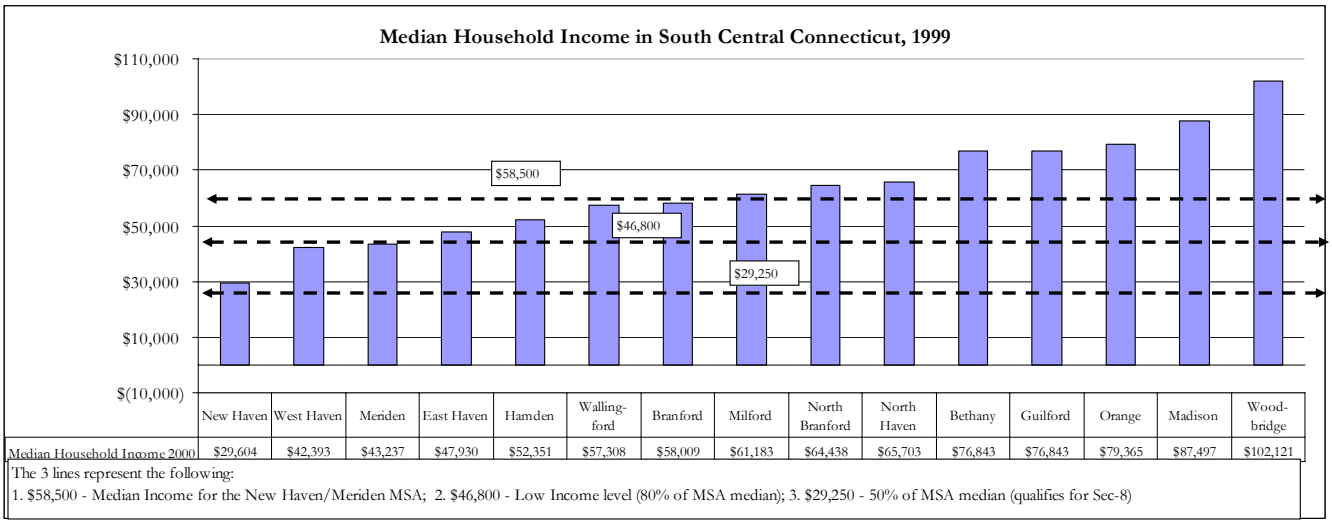
Some growth, some decline in real household income

Indicator 3.2: Median household income

Why is this important? While this measure is considered a good indicator of general economic health, it does not distinguish between family and non-family households. Furthermore, it does not differentiate between one and two-earner families. Also, the changing "typical" household nature renders time-series comparisons inadequate; for example, between 1960 and 1996, the share of non-family households grew from 15 percent to 30 percent of all households. Race of households affects median household income and should be considered: the median household income of black households is about 63% of white households. [NOTE: CONSIDER ADDING MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME as WELL].

Headlines

- Real Incomes fell in the Urban Core: Table above shows that between 1989 and 1999, real median incomes (as adjusted for inflation) fell in New Haven, West Haven, Meriden, and Hamden. New Haven, West Haven, Meriden, East Haven, Hamden, Wallingford, and Branford have median incomes that fall below the regional median income. Milford, North Branford, North Haven, Bethany, Guilford, Orange, Madison, and Woodbridge have median incomes higher than the regional median.
- The median income for households in the outer-ring suburbs (North Branford, North Haven, Bethany, Guilford, Orange, Madison, and Woodbridge) ranges from $64,438 to $102,121.



	New Haven	West Haven	Meriden	East Haven	Hamden	Walling-ford	Branford	Milford	North Branford	North Haven	Bethany	Guilford	Orange	Madison	Wood-bridge
Median Household Income 2000	$29,604	$42,393	$43,237	$47,930	$52,351	$57,308	$58,009	$61,183	$64,438	$65,703	$76,843	$76,843	$79,365	$87,497	$102,121

The 3 lines represent the following:
1. $58,500 - Median Income for the New Haven/Meriden MSA; 2. $46,800 - Low Income level (80% of MSA median); 3. $29,250 - 50% of MSA median (qualifies for Sec-8)

- The median household in New Haven earns a small fraction of that, or $ 29,604. (Table above). Twenty percent of New Haven households have incomes of less than $10,000, and 44.1 percent have incomes of less than $25,000.[16]
- The figure above illustrates how the communities of South Central Connecticut compare to three income measures (not adjusted for family size): (1) the median income for the New Haven/Meriden MSA; (2) the low income standard (defined as 80% of the median income for the MSA); and (3) The qualifying income for Housing Assistance through HUD's section 8

16 Bay Area Economics *Draft Market Analysis for Market-Rate Units in the Quinnipiac Terrance Redevelopment Community* (2002) pp. 2

program (50% of the Median income for the MSA), which is also often referred to as "very low income."

Regional Incomes 1989 - 1999

Town	1989 Median Income (adjusted)	1999 Median Income	% of Regional Median Income
New Haven	$ 32,377	$ 29,604	50.6%
West Haven	$ 44,810	$ 42,393	72.5%
Meriden	$ 45,423	$ 43,237	73.9%
East Haven	$ 46,688	$ 47,930	81.9%
Hamden	$ 52,451	$ 52,351	89.5%
Wallingford	$ 53,666	$ 57,308	98.0%
Branford	$ 54,664	$ 58,009	99.2%
Milford	$ 55,371	$ 61,183	104.6%
North Branford	$ 63,721	$ 64,438	110.2%
North Haven	$ 61,651	$ 65,703	112.3%
Bethany	$ 71,897	$ 76,843	131.4%
Guilford	$ 70,390	$ 76,843	131.4%
Orange	$ 77,799	$ 79,365	135.7%
Madison	$ 77,610	$ 87,497	149.6%
Woodbridge	$ 88,648	$ 102,121	174.6%

Source: US Census 2000

Definition The median divides incomes of all households into two equal parts: one-half of the cases falling below and another half above the median household income. Household income is the sum of all household members' income. Each individual's income encompasses wage or salary income; net self-employment income; interest, dividends, or net rental or royalty income; social security or railroad retirement income; supplemental security income; public assistance or welfare payments; retirement or disability income; and all other income.

Data Source US Census, 1990, 2000.

Poverty increasing in region over last decade by 17%

Indicator 3.3: Percentage Population Living in Poverty

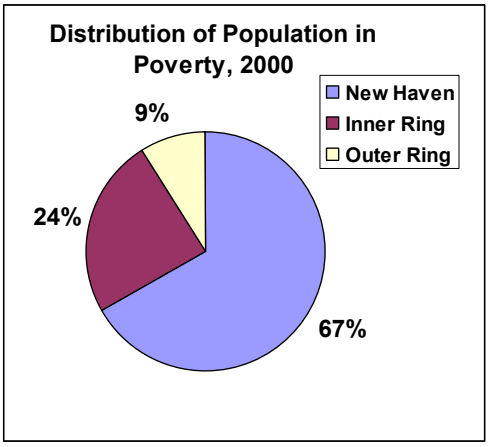
Why is this important? Individuals and households living in poverty have difficulty securing basic needs such as housing, clothing and shelter. Poverty not only affects stability in a household, but children who grow up in poverty are more likely to have unmet nutritional needs, live in substandard housing, be victims of crime and violence, and have unequal access to educational opportunities. Growing up in poverty is associated with lower occupational status and a lower wage rate as an adult.

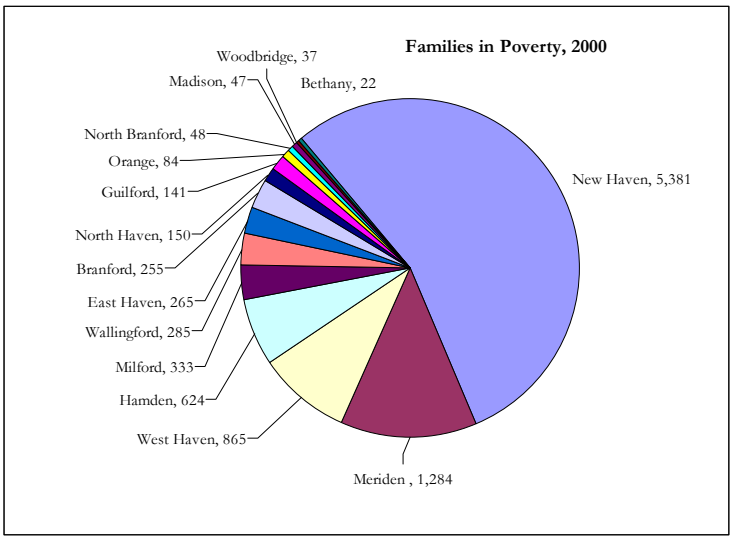
Population below Poverty Level

.	1990		2000		% Change
City / Town	#	%	#	%	1990-2000
Connecticut	217,347	7%	259,514	8%	19%
New Haven	25,481	21%	27,613	24%	8%
Inner Ring	6,652	5%	10,085	8%	52%
Outer Ring	3,185	3%	3,732	3%	17%
COMPASS Region	35,318	10%	41,430	11%	17%
COG Region	42,658	8%	51,203	10%	20%
Inner Ring					
East Haven	1,263	5%	1,453	5%	15%
Hamden	2,199	4%	4,158	8%	89%
West Haven	3,190	6%	4,474	9%	40%
Outer Ring					
Bethany	141	3%	129	3%	-9%
Branford	962	4%	1,170	4%	22%
Guilford	583	3%	646	3%	11%
Madison	233	2%	229	1%	-2%
North Branford	266	2%	223	2%	-16%
North Haven	542	3%	799	4%	47%
Orange	296	2%	332	3%	12%
Woodbridge	162	2%	204	2%	26%
Other COG Towns					
Meriden	4,266	7%	6,306	11%	48%
Milford	1,836	4%	1,936	4%	5%
Wallingford	1,238	3%	1,531	4%	24%

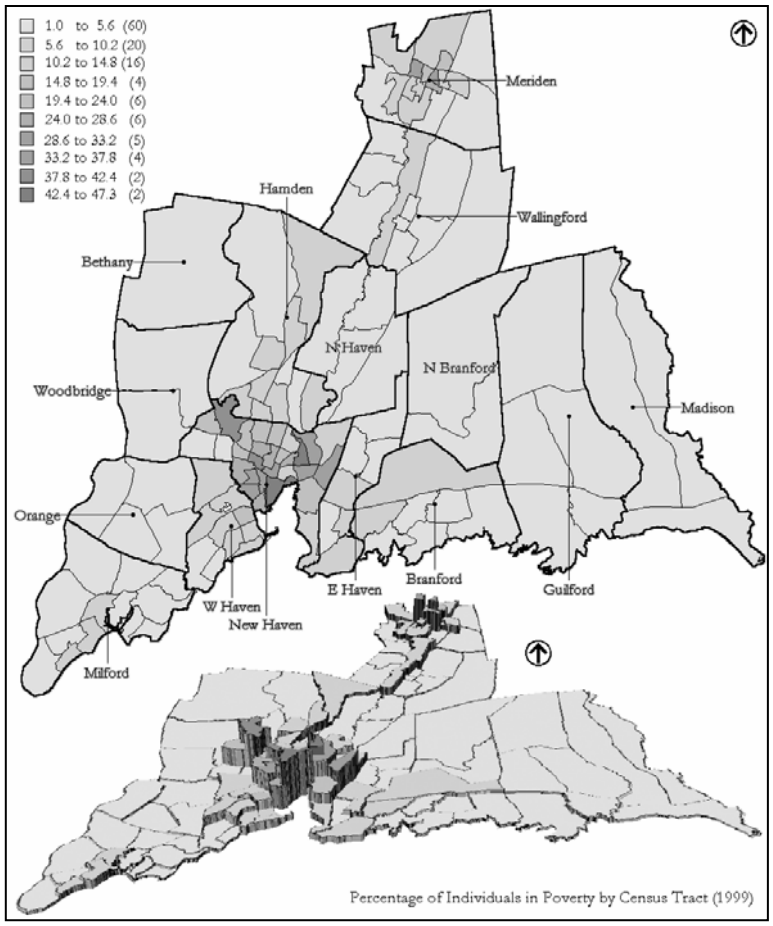
Headlines

- Following one of the most prosperous decades in memory, the poverty rate in the region increased during the 1990-2000 period. Perhaps more than any other metric, the disparate poverty rates in the region tell of growing inequity.
- Between 1990 and 2000, the number of individuals that live in poverty in the region increased from 35,318 (10%) to 41,430 (11%) (The 2003 Federal Poverty Rate is set at $15,260 for a family of 3).
- Poverty is concentrated in the urban core. In 2000, nearly two-thirds of the population in poverty lived in New Haven.
- Other pockets of poverty were found in Meriden (11%), West Haven (9%), and Hamden (8%). The interregional differences in poverty rates approach a 20-fold gap—New Haven, at 24.4%, has a rate almost 20 times that of Madison at 1.3%.
- Poverty increased most significantly in the Inner Ring communities of Hamden (+89%) and West Haven (+40%).
- For Child poverty, see section on Education and Children / Youth.





Percentage of Individuals in Poverty, by Census Tract, 1999



Definition The poverty level was developed by the Social Security Administration during the 1960's to create a measure of poverty. The threshold is calculated by taking the minimum food budget as stated by the US Department of Agriculture and multiplied by three. Many feel this estimate is biased against working families because it considers only a family's before-tax money income, ignoring the cost of childcare, social security, taxes, and transportation.

Data Source US Census, 1990, 2000.

Percentage of workers making less than self-sufficiency wages concentrated in certain towns across region

Indicator 3.4: Percentage of Workers Making Less than Self-Sufficiency Wages

Why is this important? Individuals who are not making "self-sufficient" wages have difficulty meeting basic living needs such as housing, clothing, food and shelter. This percentage of the population is also at greater risk of living in poverty. Training and education are key to moving individuals from lower wage jobs to occupations and workplaces that will eventually, if not immediately pay "self-sufficiency" wages.

Headlines

- Almost one-third of households make an annual income of less than $40,000.
- A worker would need to earn $17.03 per hour (yearly about $35,000) to afford a two-bedroom apartment in Connecticut.[17]

Percentage of Workers Making Less than Self-Sufficiency Wages

	COMPASS Zones				
Data Points	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region
Total Households	47,104	53,983	49,705	150,792	209,440
Households with Less Than $20,000 Annual Income	10,457	8,492	5,298	24,247	32,773
% of HHs	22%	16%	11%	16%	16%
Households with Less Than $40,000 Annual Income	18,747	17,221	11,314	47,283	64,964
% of HHs	40%	32%	23%	31%	31%

Percentage of Workers Making Less than Self-Sufficiency Wages-Town Detail

	Inner Ring			Outer Ring							Other COG Towns		
Data Points	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Total Households	11,244	22,180	20,559	1,716	12,267	7,831	6,566	5,138	8,351	4,633	3,203	22,795	20,005	15,848
Households with Less Than $20,000 Annual Income	1732	3327	3433	148	1742	752	565	534	952	394	211	3738	2681	2108
% of HHs	15%	15%	17%	9%	14%	10%	9%	10%	11%	9%	7%	16%	13%	13%
Households with Less Than $40,000 Annual Income	3,553	6,698	6,970	329	3,631	1,645	1,228	1,166	2,004	843	468	7,591	5,621	4,469
% of HHs	32%	30%	34%	19%	30%	21%	19%	23%	24%	18%	15%	33%	28%	28%

Definition Income based on private projections from Census data. An income of $40,000 annual household income was used as a proxy for "Self-sufficiency" wages based on the Connecticut Self-Sufficiency Standard developed for the Office of Policy and Management. That standard measures how much individuals and families must earn to cover housing, childcare, transportation, food, and other expenses if they do not receive any public or private subsidies.

Data Source CEDS Plan (based on commercial income estimates).

[17] "Out of Reach," National Low Income Housing Coalition, Washington, D.C., 2002.

High rates of unemployment (higher than national rate) are concentrated in certain towns of the region.

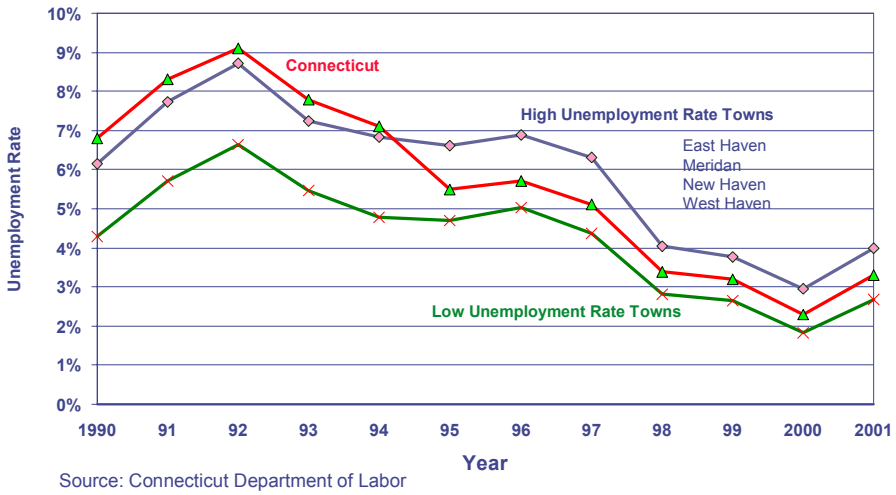
Indicator 3.5: Unemployment Rate

Why is this important? The unemployment rate is usually considered a good general indicator of economic health. An unemployment rate from 4% to 6% is considered healthy. A lower rate is seen as inflationary due to the upward pressure on salaries, while a higher rate might decrease consumer spending. Three caveats associated with this measure are: 1) the rate does not include underemployed individuals; 2) it usually differs substantially by race; 3) the rate does not reflect the changes in the size of the total labor force.

Headlines

- Generally, the region's unemployment rate has tracked with the national rate.
- Certain towns in the region: New Haven, East Haven and West Haven have generally higher rates of unemployment while the rest of the towns in the region have lower rates of unemployment than the national rate.
- The unemployment rate in the City of New Haven has consistently been two to three percentage points higher than both the region and the state throughout much of the past decade.

Figure 2: Urban Areas had Higher Unemployment than the Suburban Towns



Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

Definition The unemployment rate is the percentage of the civilian labor force that actively seeks work but is unable to find it at a given time. The rate is determined in a monthly survey by the CT Department of Labor.

Data Source State: CT Department of Labor (http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/laus/lmlau.htm)
National: U.S. Dept of Labor (http://www.bls.gov/lau/)

Significant disparities in Net Equalized Grand List per Capita between suburban and urban communities across region

Indicator 3.6: Net Equalized Grand List Per Capita

Why is this important? A region's property tax base and the income of its residents are major indicators of town's financial wealth. This figure also provides a measure of a community's ability to pay for infrastructure and education. It is a result of land use, housing, and economic development markets and policies.

Headlines

- A large range in Net Equalized Grand List Per Capita was apparent throughout the region: it varied from $152,049 in Madison to $35,165 in New Haven in 1999.
- The significant disparity between the urban and suburban communities in the region widened between 1995 to 1999, with the top figure growing from 3.6 to 4.3 times New Haven's figure.

Equalized Net Grand List per Capita (sorted by 1999 values)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	% Change, 1995-1999
Madison	116,293	122,159	125,662	123,359	152,049	31%
Orange	121,848	123,283	121,146	141,727	151,202	24%
Woodbridge	122,768	120,452	129,046	133,945	145,376	18%
North Haven	114,344	112,843	118,106	125,963	130,201	14%
Guilford	98,555	99,967	110,263	117,922	128,466	30%
Branford	89,870	92,826	97,774	101,486	110,492	23%
Milford	86,219	87,280	90,814	99,852	109,560	27%
Bethany	95,158	104,353	103,464	117,816	107,423	13%
Wallingford	76,079	76,012	83,870	87,192	90,589	19%
North Branford	66,842	68,711	69,584	72,417	78,062	17%
Hamden	56,824	56,485	58,034	61,159	68,311	20%
East Haven	49,914	52,332	50,886	51,600	58,515	17%
West Haven	42,710	46,063	43,912	48,192	51,485	21%
New Haven	32,597	y31,761	30,929	33,912	35,165	8%

Definition The reported taxable grand list adjusted to reflect differing dates of reassessment across towns using real estate sales data.

Data Source State of Connecticut, Office of Policy Management

COMPASS Community Indicators

4. Health and Safety

What are the major health issues?

4.1 Infant mortality rate

4.2 Low birth weight rate

4.3 Cumulative AIDS cases

4.4 Child asthma hospitalization rate

4.5 Leading Causes of Death

4.6 Healthy Lifestyles

Do residents of the region have access to health care?

4.7 Number of HUSKY enrollees

What are the major safety issues in the home and community?

4.8 Family violence rate

4.9 Substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect

4.10 Crime Rates

4.11 Juvenile Violent Crime Rate

NOTE on Health Data: The COMPASS Data Analysis Work Group recognizes the need to compile additional data and work with public health officials to collect data to track chronic diseases and conditions which contribute to disease, disability, and premature death that may be preventable through efforts to encourage more healthy lifestyles among persons of all ages.

Considerable attention is now focused on the "obesity epidemic" in Connecticut because obesity and lack of physical activity is a major contributor to rising rates of diabetes and to heart disease, the leading cause of death. Efforts to reduce smoking continue but the rate of youth smoking remains high. More than one in seven children was overweight in the United States in 1999-2000; triple the rate of the 1960s. Children who are overweight are at an increased risk of developing type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular problems, orthopedic abnormalities, gout, arthritis, and skin problems. Children and adolescents who are overweight are at risk for becoming overweight adults. (See www.childtrendsdatabank.org)

The infant mortality rate decreased in most towns

Indicator 4.1: Infant Mortality Rate (3-Year Average)

Why is this important? This rate is often used as an indicator of the level of overall child wellbeing in a region reflecting economic, environmental and social conditions/disparities or the quality of prenatal and postnatal health care for mothers and infants. Disparities in birth outcomes by income, race, and ethnicity persist.

Headlines

- The 1997-1999 was 6.4 per 1,000 live births for the COG region;[18] it declined 1.3 or 11 deaths from the 1994-96 average.
- New Haven and West Haven had the highest rates in 1996, 12.2 and 10.6 respectively, but both saw significant drops in the 1999
- East Haven saw the greatest increase in 1999, 300%, or 9 deaths. Note: There were 8 infant deaths in 1999 in East Haven, 3 in 1998 and 1 in 1997; this could be a statistical anomaly.
- For the 1999 average, the top five cities accounted for 80% of the regional total (43.7) of infant deaths: New Haven – 18.3, Milford – 5.3, East Haven – 4.0, West Haven – 4.0, Meriden 3.3.
- Significant racial disparities existed in 1999, although these have been reduced since then through efforts such as New Haven Healthy Start.

Infant Mortality Rate, 3yr Average

			Inner Ring				Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	Connecticut	COG Region	New Haven	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Data (1997-1999)																	
Infant Mortality Rate	6.8	6.4	9.8	11.7	2.2	5.6	**	6.3	**	**	**	**	**	**	4.0	8.5	1.9
Rank	N/A	N/A	2	1	7	5	**	4	**	**	**	**	**	**	6	3	8
White	6.8	6.4	9.9	11.9	2.1	5.6	**	6.2	**	**	**	**	**	**	4.2	8.4	1.9
Black	14.4	13.1	16.2	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Hispanic	8.3	6.6	6.9	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Infant Deaths 3yr Ave.	293	44	18	4	1	4	-	2	1	1	1	2	-	-	3	5	1
% of Region	N/A	N/A	42%	9%	3%	9%	0%	5%	2%	2%	2%	4%	0%	0%	8%	12%	2%
% White	71%	60%	22%	100%	100%	50%	0%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	100%	88%	67%
% Black	26%	37%	75%	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	0%
% Hispanic	17%	16%	20%	33%	25%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	20%	0%	33%
Data (1994-1996)																	
Infant Mortality Rate	7.2	7.7	12.2	2.7	7.3	10.6	**	2.9	**	**	**	**	**	**	6.9	6.4	2.4
Rank	N/A	N/A	1	7	3	2	**	6	**	**	**	**	**	**	4	5	8
White	7.2	7.7	12.2	2.7	7.3	10.6	**	2.9	**	**	**	**	**	**	6.9	6.4	2.4
Black	15.9	14.9	14.5	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Hispanic	8.0	7.2	7.8	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Infant Deaths 3yr Ave.	324	54	23	1	4	8	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	6	4	1
% of Region	N/A	N/A	42%	2%	8%	14%	2%	2%	1%	0%	2%	2%	2%	1%	12%	7%	2%
% White	71%	64%	42%	100%	54%	61%	100%	100%	100%	0%	67%	75%	100%	100%	100%	92%	100%
% Black	26%	34%	55%	0%	46%	39%	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	25%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
% Hispanic	13%	12%	16%	0%	8%	13%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	26%	0%	0%
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1996, 1999)																	
Infant Mortality Rate	(0.4)	(1.3)	(2.3)	9.1	(5.1)	(5.0)	**	3.4	**	**	**	**	**	**	(2.9)	2.1	(0.5)
Infant Deaths 3yr Ave	(31)	(11)	(5)	3	(3)	(4)	(1)	1	-	1	-	-	(1)	(0)	(3)	1	(0)
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1996, 1999)																	
Infant Mortality Rate	-9%	-20%	-20%	300%	-69%	-48%	-100%	100%	0%	N/A	0%	25%	-100%	-100%	-47%	33%	-25%

** - Data is not reported for populations with less than 300 births.

Definition The number of infant deaths for the period divided by the total number of births; this number is multiplied by 1000 to get infant deaths/1000 live births. An infant death occurs within the first year of life.

Data Source CT Department of Health Registration Reports (1999 is latest year available).

[18] A three year rolling average is used due to the low number of deaths which skew annual figures. Even with this, rates for smaller areas can vary great due to the randomness of infant deaths, requiring careful interpretation of infant death rate data.

Low birth weight rates increased overall and faster in the region than the state

Indicator 4.2: Low birth weight Infants

Why is this important? An infant's birth weight is a critical factor in his or her survival, growth, and development. Babies who are very low in birth weight (less than 1500 grams, or 3 pounds 4 ounces) have a 25 percent chance of dying before age one. Mortality among heavier, but still low birth weight, babies (between 1500 and 2499 grams) are much lower at around two percent, though still higher than those who are born above that weight (about one-quarter of one percent).

Infants born at a low birth weight are also at increased risk of long-term disability and impaired development. Infants born under 2500 grams are more likely than heavier infants to experience delayed motor and social development. Children aged 4-17 who were born at a low birth weight were more likely to be enrolled in special education classes, to repeat a grade, or to fail school than children who were born at a normal birth weight.

Low Birth Weight

	COMPASS Zones					
	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region	Connecticut
Data (1997-1999)						
Low Birthweight Infants 3yr Total	627	384	238	1,249	1,662	9,795
% of Region	50.2%	30.7%	19.1%	100.0%	N/A	N/A
Low Birthweight Rate 3yr Average	112.2				80.6	75.3
Rank	1				N/A	N/A
White	32.3				50.6	49.4
Black	124.9				118.8	119.3
Hispanic	95.5				87.3	90.3
Data (1994-1996)						
Low Birthweight Infants 3yr Total	588	337	376	1,301	1,542	9,468
% of Region	45.2%	25.9%	28.9%	100.0%	N/A	N/A
Low Birthweight Rate 3yr Average	104.2				72.7	70.3
Rank	1				N/A	N/A
White	32.5				45.2	46.5
Black	117.9				111.3	115.8
Hispanic	84.5				82.8	88.7
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1996, 1999)						
Low Birthweight Rate 3yr Average	7.9				8.0	4.9
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1996, 1999)						
Low Birthweight Infants 3yr Total	0.1				0.1	0.0

Nationally, the percentage of infants who were low birth weight (under 2,500 grams, or 5 pounds 8 ounces) declined between 1970 and 1980, but has been increasing since that time to 7.8 percent by 2002 (preliminary estimate). Research indicates that this increase is in part the result of the increase in multiple births during this time. (**www.childtrendsdatabank.org**) The strongest indicators of low birth weight are the mother's age – a larger percentage of births to women under age 15 or over age 44 occur. The use of alcohol and tobacco also greatly increase the likelihood of delivering a low birth weight baby. The number of low birth weight infants reflects the availability and quality of prenatal and postnatal health care for mothers and infants.

Headlines

- Overall, rates for the region increased by 8%, 60% faster than the state, which increased by 5%.
- Racial disparity evident: In every population, the rate of low birth weight infants born to black mothers was significantly higher than those for white mothers, ranging from 70% higher (Hamden) to 287% higher (New Haven).

Definition Low birth weight is less than 2,500kg or about 5lb. 8oz. Race and ethnicity are the mother's and are not reported for every birth. Low birth weight rate is calculated as the number of infants per 1,000 births.

Data Source Connecticut Department of Health: Registration Reports.

Vast majority of cumulative AIDS cases are in New Haven

Indicator 4.3: Cumulative AIDS Cases

Why is this important? In 2001, there were 40 million people worldwide living with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. The cumulative number of AIDS cases indicates the prevalence of the epidemic in that region (how many individuals are infected) as well as the medical needs surrounding treatment. Both households and communities are affected by the number of individuals with AIDS. In order for a community to combat the spread of AIDS, it must address a matrix of its medical, economic and basic social needs.

Headlines

- New Haven has had 71.9% of all AIDS cases arising in the region; West Haven is second largest with 7.3% of cases.
- Newly reported AIDS cases in New Haven went down during the 1990's (see chart)

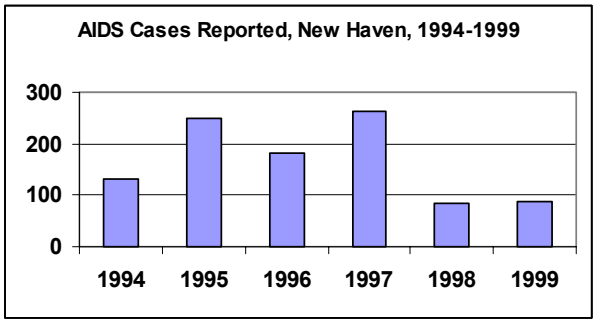
[NOTE TO REVIEWERS: This indicator is under development]

Cumulative AIDS Cases by Town of Residence

Data (2001)	Bethany	Branford	East Haven	Guilford	Hamden	Madison	Meriden	Milford	New Haven	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Wallingford	West Haven	Woodbridge	Region
Number	8	64	65	13	112	16	177	80	2,152	8	18	4	46	217	13	2,993
% of Region	0.3%	2.1%	2.2%	0.4%	3.7%	0.5%	5.9%	2.7%	71.9%	0.3%	0.6%	0.1%	1.5%	7.3%	0.4%	100%
Rank	13	7	6	11	4	10	3	5	1	13	9	15	8	2	11	N/A

Definition This indicator includes the total number of AIDS cases that have been reported; statewide, 49.2% of these AIDS patients have died.

Data Source Connecticut Department of Public Health.



Asthma rate and severity has worsened; more serious in urban areas

Indicator 4.4: Child Asthma Hospitalization Rate

Why is this important?

Nationally one in ten children in families receiving welfare had asthma in 2001, nearly twice the national average. The Connecticut Department of Public Health recently released its Statewide Asthma Plan to mobilize communities to combat increasing rates of asthma in both children and adults.

Asthma is the most common chronic illness affecting children. At least one-third of the 24.7 million people diagnosed with asthma are children under the age of 18. Asthma is a leading cause of hospitalization among children under age 15 and leads to 10 million days of missed school each year. This condition can also negatively affect children's academic performance because of doctor's visits during school hours, lack of concentration while at school because of nighttime attacks, and decreased attentiveness or involvement at school because of the side effects of some medications.

While most cases of childhood asthma are mild or moderate, asthma can cause serious and sometimes life-threatening health risks when it is not controlled. The illness can be controlled by using medication and avoiding "attack triggers" like: cigarette smoke; allergens such as pollen, mold, animal dander, feathers, dust, food and cockroaches; respiratory infections and colds; and exposure to cold air or sudden temperature change. With the proper treatment and care, most children with asthma can have active and healthy childhoods.

Trend: The percentage of children with asthma nationally has increased over the past two decades, from three percent in 1981 to six percent in 2001.

Differences by Race and Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic black children are somewhat more likely than non-Hispanic white and Hispanic children to have asthma. Nearly eight percent of non-Hispanic black children had asthma in 2001, compared to six percent of non-Hispanic whites and four percent of Hispanics.

Differences by Age: Asthma varies little with age. In 2001, five percent of children ages 0 to 4, seven percent of children ages 5 to 10, and a little under six percent of children ages 11 to 17 had asthma. (See Table 1)

Differences by Poverty Status: The percentage of children with asthma does not vary by poverty status (around six percent in 2001). (National data and discussion based on www.ChildtrendsDatabank.org)

Headlines

- Rates of hospitalization for asthma were considerably higher in New Haven and West Haven than in other towns. Rates were also considerably higher in 2000 than in 1993.

Hospitalizations of Children for Asthma

	Rate per 1,000			Number of Hospitalizations		
	1993	1998	2000	1993	1998	2000
Connecticut	22	20.6	N/A	2780	2608	N/A
New Haven	64.3	83.6	78.12	340	442	425
Inner Ring						
East Haven	13.3	24.5	18.94	12	22	20
Hamden	21.7	37.5	24.61	37	64	49
West Haven	32.5	52.3	53.41	64	103	110
Outer Ring						
Guilford	N/A	N/A	14.67	N/A	N/A	13
North Haven	18.8	18.8	13.92	14	14	12
Other COG Towns						
Meriden	21	23.1	13.97	52	57	36
Milford	22	13.2	10.23	40	24	20
Wallingford	12	13.2	10.43	19	21	18

Source: CT Department of Public Health

Heart Disease remains the major cause of death in New Haven

Indicator 4.5: Leading Causes of Death

Why is this important? Understanding the leading causes of death in the community and the differential rates of death between groups and areas supports planning for preventive health initiatives.

NOTE: This Indicator is under development. Through a partnership with COMPASS Partners and other health providers, a fuller analysis of the causes of death in the region will be conducted.

Headlines

- Heart disease remains by far the leading cause of death in New Haven.
- .Cancer was consistently the second highest cause of death

Leading Cause of Death in New Haven, 1997-2000

	1997		1998		1999		2000	
Cause of Death	Rate*	Rank	Rate	Rank	Rate	Rank	Rate	Rank
Diseases of the Heart	275.1	1	250.6	1	225.3	1	237	1
Malignant Neoplasms	187	2	179.3	2	186.2	2	177.9	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	52	3	49.8	3	65.1	3	55.8	3
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	-	-	-	-	32.9	4	44.5	4
Renal Failure	-	-	-	-	19.9	7	29.1	5
Pneumonia	32.2	4	29.9	5	19.9	7	26.7	6
Diabetes Mellitus	19.2	7	28.4	6	14.6	8	23.5	7
Septicemia	12.3	9	20.7	8	22.9	6	22.6	8
AIDS	26.1	6	19.2	9	25.3	5	21	9
Accidents *	32.2	4	43..7	4	11.5	10	12.9	10
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	26.8	5	22.9	7	-	-	-	-

Source: New Haven Health Department, Annual Reports of Vital Statistics.
* Rate per 100,000 persons

Definition The primary cause of death as listed on the death certificate.

Data Source Connecticut Department of Public Health, Registration Reports; New Haven Health Department, Annual Reports of Vital Statistics

Healthy Lifestyles Reduce the Risk and Cost of Disease

Indicator 4.6: Healthy Lifestyles Indicator Needed

Why is this important? Many chronic diseases are either preventable or can be managed to minimize their impact on a person's quality of life and on the cost of health care. Personal behaviors like smoking, alcohol and other substance abuse, overeating, and lack of physical activity are major contributors to health problems.

NOTE: In this place, the COMPASS Indicators Team will seek to develop regional and local indicators of healthy lifestyles to assess and track our progress in this area.

See also Indicator 5.9 Percentage of students passing all 4 physical fitness tests for a related indicator.

In all towns across region, number of children under 19 on HUSKY A is increasing

Indicator 4.7: Number of Children under 19 on HUSKY A

Why is this important? Children without health insurance are less likely to have a regular health care provider; less likely to have a regular dentist or to have had a dental visit in the last year; and more likely to be in fair or poor health than low-income, privately-insured children.

Headlines

- As of 2002, there were 29,382 children under 19 on HUSKY A –a 15% increase since 1998.
- In absolute terms, New Haven (+1,758), Meriden (+928) and Hamden (+617) led the region.
- In percentage terms, Bethany (+178%), Orange (+94%) and Madison (+70%) led the region.
- New Haven is home to 65% of the COMPASS region's total HUSKY A enrollees. West Haven holds a 11% share. All other towns have a 6% or less share of the regional total.

Number of Children Under 19 Enrolled in HUSKY A

	COMPASS Zones				
	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region
Data (2002)					
Number	19,243	7,958	2,181	29,382	37,982
Rank	1				N/A
% of Region	65%	27%	7%	100%	N/A
Data (1998)					
Number	17,485	6,524	1,451	25,460	32,652
Rank	1				N/A
% of Region	69%	26%	6%	100%	N/A
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1998 - 2002)					
Number	1,758	1,434	730	3,922	5,330
Rank	1				N/A
As % of Region Change	45%				N/A
White	(55)	(87)	(61)	(203)	(369)
Black	(182)	(46)	(1)	(229)	(244)
Other	(11)	(15)	(2)	(28)	(36)
Hispanic	(112)	(23)	(2)	(137)	(248)
Regional Share	(0)	1%	2%	0%	N/A
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1998 - 2002)					
Percent Change	10%	22%	50%	15%	16%
Rank	12				N/A

Number of Children Under 19 Enrolled in HUSKY A-Town Detail

	Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Data (2002)														
Number	1,316	2,323	4,319	75	750	284	155	279	423	126	89	6,069	1,441	1,090
Rank	4	3	2	12	5	7	9	8	6	10	11			
% of Region	3%	6%	11%	0%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	16%	4%	3%
Data (1998)														
Number	991	1,706	3,827	27	536	201	91	212	262	65	57	5,141	1,156	895
Rank	4	3	2	12	5	8	9	7	6	10	11			
% of Region	3%	5%	12%	0%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	16%	4%	3%
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1998 - 2002)														
Number	325	617	492	48	214	83	64	67	161	61	32	928	285	195
Rank	4	2	3	11	5	7	9	8	6	10	12			
As % of Region Change	6%	12%	9%	1%	4%	2%	1%	1%	3%	1%	1%	17%	5%	4%
White	(23)	(24)	(40)	(1)	(17)	(13)	(9)	(6)	(8)	(6)	(1)	(83)	(43)	(40)
Black	(1)	(20)	(25)	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(13)	(1)	(1)
Other	(1)	(6)	(8)	-	(2)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3)	(1)	(4)
Hispanic	(4)	(3)	(16)	-	-	-	-	-	(2)	-	-	(100)	(3)	(8)
Regional Share	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1998 - 2002)														
Percent Change	33%	36%	13%	178%	40%	41%	70%	32%	61%	94%	56%	18%	25%	22%
Rank	9	8	11	1	7	6	3	10	4	2	5			

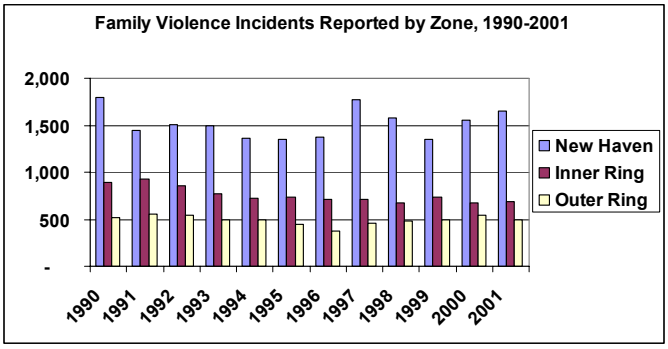
Definition The HUSKY Plan is Connecticut's Medicaid program to provide very low-income children of Connecticut under the age of 19 with basic health insurance.

Data Source Children's Health Council of Connecticut.

Regional rate of family violence is similar to that of state; Family violence is concentrated in certain cities of the region

Indicator 4.8: Family Violence Incident Rate

Why is this important? Family violence affects all communities and cuts across racial, ethnic, and economic lines. National surveys of mothers indicate that 87% of children have witnessed abuse in homes where there is domestic violence. Children who experience this in their homes suffer trauma even if they, themselves are not physically harmed. This exposure can limit children's cognitive development and their ability to form close attachments. They may also experience anxiety, fear, sleep disruption, and have problems in school. They are also much more likely to become abusive partners or victims of abuse in adolescence and/or adulthood.



Headlines

- Reported family violence incidents declined in the mid-1990's but have increased in the last three years. It is not possible to know whether this is due to increased outreach by agencies that results in more reports or to increased violence.
- In 2001, the COG region has a somewhat higher rate (26 per 1,000) of family violence than the state of Connecticut (22 per 1000). Because many cases go unreported, it is difficult to gauge accuracy.
- New Haven had the highest percentages of family violence in the region (54 per 1,000). All other towns in the COMPASS region had fewer than 25 cases per 1,000.
- The Inner Ring communities were more affected by family violence than the Outer Ring and have seen a fairly consistent number of reports over the last nine years (see figure).

Family Violence - Reported Incidents and Rate, 2001

	COMPASS Zones						Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region	Connecticut	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Number	1645	692	491	2,828	3,899	20,927	199	227	266	8	193	70	58	53	74	29	6	655	197	219
Rank	1				N/A	N/A	2	5	4	11	3	7	7	6	9	10	12	2	7	5
% of Region	58%	24%	17%	100%	N/A	N/A	7%	8%	9%	0%	7%	2%	2%	2%	3%	1%	0%			
Rate	54				26	22	24	15	18	5	23	11	11	13	11	7	2	40	13	18
Rank	1				N/A	N/A	2	5	4	11	3	7	7	6	9	10	12	2	8	6

Definition The family violence rate consists of the reported cases of domestic violence divided by the total number of households with two or more members and multiplied by 1000 to get a rate of crimes per 1000 people. Family violence crimes include: murder, manslaughter, forcible rape, forcible sodomy, forcible fondling, aggravated assault, aggravated stalking (1996-present), simple assault, simple stalking, threat/intimidation & arson (1992-1995).

Data Source Connecticut Department of Public Safety.

Substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect declined across the region and the state in the last decade

Indicator 4.9: Substantiated Cases of Child Abuse/Neglect

Why is this important? Abuse increases the chances that a child will have poor social, emotional and academic outcomes. Abused children that reach adolescence are more likely to participate in risky behaviors such as delinquency, crime, early and unprotected sexual activity, and drug and alcohol use. Adult victims of child abuse may suffer emotional and mental health disorders, and are more likely rather than other adults to abuse their own children.

Headlines

- Between 1997 and 2002, the number and rate of substantiated cases of child abuse/neglect fell dramatically. It should be noted that in this period, the number of substantiated cases declined faster than the number of reports of child abuse. Some of this change may be attributed to the fact that the Connecticut Department of Children and Families changed its criteria for substantiating cases.
- Notable declines in substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect were seen in West Haven (66%), New Haven (62%), Branford (62%), and Hamden (59%).

Children Substantiated as Abused, Neglected or Uncared For

	COMPASS Zones						Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region	Connecticut	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
2002 Data																				
Number	830	366	85	1,281	1,962	11,861	86	102	178	N/A	43	N/A	N/A	16	26	N/A	N/A	485	94	102
% of Regi	65%	29%	7%	100%	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	0
Rate	28.2				14.5	13.5	12.6	8.0	14.0	N/A	6.5	N/A	N/A	4.2	4.6	N/A	N/A	33.2	7.5	9.2
1997 Data																				
Number	2,201	903	310	3,414	4,487	21,506	134	251	518	12	113	49	26	18	50	22	20	665	202	206
% of Regi	64%	26%	9%	100%	N/A	N/A	3.0%	5.6%	11.5%	0.3%	2.5%	1.1%	0.6%	0.4%	1.1%	0.5%	0.4%	14.8%	4.5%	4.6%
Rate	67.6				33.5	25.1	21.5	21.4	41.7	8.7	18.5	8.8	5.4	5.1	9.4	6.7	8.3	42.0	16.8	19.5
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1997, 2002)																				
Number	(1,371)	(537)	(225)	(2,133)	(2,525)	(9,645)	(48)	(149)	(340)	N/A	(70)	N/A	N/A	(2)	(24)	N/A	N/A	(180)	(108)	(104)
Rate	(39.4)				(19.1)	(11.6)	(8.9)	(13.4)	(27.7)	N/A	(12.0)	N/A	N/A	(0.8)	(4.9)	N/A	N/A	(8.8)	(9.3)	(10.4)
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1990, 2000)																				
Number	-62%	-59%	-73%	-62%	-56%	-45%	-36%	-59%	-66%	N/A	-62%	N/A	N/A	-11%	-48%	N/A	N/A	-27%	-53%	-50%

NOTE: Data for towns with less than 10 substantiated cases are not reported to preserve confidentiality.

Definition A child is considered a victim if an investigation by the state child welfare agency classifies his/her case as either "substantiated" or "indicated" child maltreatment. Substantiated cases are those in which an allegation of maltreatment or risk of maltreatment was supported or founded according to state law or policy. Indicated cases are those in which an allegation of maltreatment or risk of maltreatment could not be substantiated, but there was reason to suspect maltreatment or the risk of maltreatment.

Data Source CT Department of Children and Families: Town Reports.

Over the past decade, national, state and regional crime rates have declined significantly but crime is still concentrated in certain cities of the region

Indicator 4.10: Crime Rates

Indicator 4.11: Juvenile Violent Crime Rates

Why is this important? Crime rates are an indicator of the safety of a community and its quality of life. Many crimes go unreported and many are not resolved with an arrest. The youth crime rate is associated with poor community relationships, parental neglect, family dysfunction, criminality in the family, substance abuse by youth, and family poverty.

Headlines

- From 1990 to 2001, the region witnessed significant declines in overall crime rates (-46%), violent crime (-47%) and property crime (-45%). The state of Connecticut also had declines of about 42-46% in all three categories. The national crime rate declined by 18% overall, violent crime declined by 21% and property crime declined by 18%.
- Going against regional, state and national trends from 1990 to 2001, Branford displayed *increases* in overall crime (52%), violent crime (235%), and property crime (47%). Guilford (433%) and East Haven (24%) also displayed significant increases in violent crime rates.
- In 2001, New Haven had a 53% reduction in crime, with its rate falling from 16,104 to 7,983 (still far higher than the rest of the region).
- From 1994-1999 Connecticut witnessed a decline in juvenile arrest rates (5%). New Haven' juvenile arrest rate remains more than four times the state rate.
- Going against state trends, Branford/East Haven/Guilford/Madison/North Branford (47%), Milford/Orange/West Haven (24%) and New Haven (13%) all had significant percentage increases in juvenile arrests in this period, though relatively low absolute arrest increases.

Crime Rates (Reported crime incidents per 100,000 people)

Data Points	COMPASS Zones: New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region	Connecticut
2001 Data						
Crimes	9,925	4,758	2,637	17,320	22,572	106,791
% of Region	57%	27%	15%	100%	N/A	N/A
Crime Rate	7,983	3,461	2,233	4,405	4,213	3,118
Rank	1				N/A	N/A
Violent Crimes	1,915	330	109	2,354	2,562	11,492
% of Region	81%	14%	5%	100%	N/A	N/A
Violent Crime Rate	1,540	240	92	599	478	336
Rank	1				N/A	N/A
Property Crimes	8,010	4,428	2,528	14,966	20,010	95,299
% of Region	54%	30%	17%	100%	N/A	N/A
Property Crime Rate	6,442	3,221	2,140	3,806	3,734	2,782
Rank	1				N/A	N/A
1990 Data						
Crimes	21,012	7,161	3,645	31,818	39,114	177,068
% of Region	66.0%	22.5%	11.5%	100.0%	N/A	N/A
Crime Rate	16,104	5,400	3,036	8,230	7,460	5,387
Rank	1				N/A	N/A
Violent Crimes	3,991	372	117	4,480	4,766	18,201
% of Region	89%	8%	3%	100%	N/A	N/A
Violent Crime Rate	3,059	281	97	1,159	909	554
Rank	1				N/A	N/A
Property Crimes	17,021	6,789	3,528	27,338	34,348	158,867
% of Region	62%	25%	13%	100%	N/A	N/A
Property Crime Rate	13,046	5,120	2,938	7,071	6,551	4,833
Rank	1				N/A	N/A
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1990, 2001)						
Crime, %Change	-53%	-34%	-28%	-46%	-42%	-40%
Violent Crime, % Change	-52%	-11%	-7%	-47%	-46%	-37%
Property Crime, %Change	-53%	-35%	-28%	-45%	-42%	-40%

Juvenile Arrests for Violent Crime, 3yr. Annual Average

Key: Decreasing; Increasing or Otherwise Noteworthy

	New Haven	Milford, Orange, West Haven	Meriden, Wallingford	Branford, East Haven, Guilford, Madison, North Branford	Connecticut
Data (1998-1999)					
3yr. Annual Average	238	34	12	17	1405
3yr. Rate	2024.4	306	127.3	173.6	443.5
Data (1992-1994)					
3yr. Annual Average	208	26	13	9	1474
3yr. Rate	1690.6	233.9	133.2	85.6	460.5
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1994, 1999)					
3yr. Annual Average	12.6%	23.5%	-8.3%	47.1%	-4.9%
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1994, 1999)					
3yr. Annual Average	30	8	-1	8	-69
3yr. Rate	333.8	72.1	-5.9	88	-17

Crime Rates (Reported crime incidents per 100,000 people)-Town Detail

	Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
Data Points	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
2001 Data														
Crimes	833	1,600	2,325		952	353	156	135	627	414		2,329	2,078	845
% of Region	5%	9%	13%		5%	2%	1%	1%	4%	2%				
Crime Rate	2,938	2,795	4,415		3,300	1,640	869	965	2,706	3,111		3,976	3,950	1,953
Rank	7	8	2		5	11	13	12	9	6		3	4	10
Violent Crimes	71	94	165		57	16	6	2	20	8		101	74	33
% of Region	3%	4%	7%		2%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%				
Violent Crime Rate	250	164	313		198	74	33	14	86	60		172	141	76
Rank	3	6	2		4	10	12	13	8	11		5	7	9
Property Crimes	762	1,506	2,160		895	337	150	133	607	406		2,228	2,004	812
% of Region	5%	10%	14%		6%	2%	1%	1%	4%	3%				
Property Crime Rate	2,688	2,631	4,102		3,103	1,566	835	951	2,620	3,051		3,804	3,810	1,877
Rank	7	8	2		5	11	13	12	9	6		4	3	10
1990 Data														
Crimes	1,022	2,884	3,255		628	569	421	240	906	881		3,142	2,649	1,505
% of Region	3%	9%	10%		2%	2%	1%	1%	3%	3%				
Crime Rate	3,909	5,500	6,025		2,275	2,867	2,719	1,847	4,073	6,867		5,283	5,305	3,687
Rank	8	4	3		12	10	11	13	7	2		6	5	9
Violent Crimes	57	103	212		17	3	15	9	41	32		169	78	39
% of Region	1%	2%	5%		0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%				
Violent Crime Rate	218	196	392		62	15	97	69	184	249		284	156	96
Rank	5	6	2		12	13	9	11	7	4		3	8	10
Property Crimes	965	2,781	3,043		611	566	406	231	865	849		2,973	2,571	1,466
% of Region	4%	10%	11%		2%	2%	1%	1%	3%	3%				
Property Crime Rate	3,691	5,304	5,633		2,214	2,852	2,622	1,778	3,888	6,617		4,998	5,148	3,591
Rank	8	4	3		12	10	11	13	7	2		6	5	9
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1990, 2001)														
Crime, %Change	-18%	-45%	-29%		52%	-38%	-63%	-44%	-31%	-53%		-26%	-22%	-44%
Violent Crime, % Change	25%	-9%	-22%		235%	433%	-60%	-78%	-51%	-75%		-40%	-5%	-15%
Property Crime, %Change	-21%	-46%	-29%		46%	-40%	-63%	-42%	-30%	-52%		-25%	-22%	-45%

Definition

A municipality's crime rate is generally defined as the number of crimes per unit of population.

Violent Crimes – Violent crime includes reported incidents of Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault.

Property Crimes – Property Crime includes reported incidents of Burglary, Larceny/Theft and Motor Vehicle Theft.

Crimes – Total crime includes the property crime total and the violent crime total.

Crime Rates – Rates are incidents per 100,000 people.

Juvenile Arrests for Violent Crime, 3yr. Annual Average – The number of youths ages 10-17 arrested for a violent crime (see above). The rate is per 100,000 youths ages 10-17.

Data Source

Crime Rates – U.S. Department of Justice: Bureau of Justice Statistics (http://149.101.22.40/dataonline/Search/Crime/Crime.cfm)

Juvenile Arrests – Connecticut Department of Public Safety Reports and Unpublished Data as reported in Kids Count Data Book

COMPASS Community Indicators

5. Education and Children/Youth

What is the level of economic and care support for pre-school aged children?

5.1 Non-adequate prenatal care

5.2 Percentage of children under 5 years living below the poverty level

5.3 Percentage of students receiving free/reduced price meals

5.4 Child care supply versus demand

What is the level of preparedness of children entering schools?

5.5 Percentage of Kindergarteners who attended preschool, nursery school or Head Start

5.6 Percentage of K-12 students with non-English home language

What is the level of academic success in school?

5.7 Percentage of 4th and 8th grade students meeting state goal on CMT in reading

5.8 Cumulative 4-year drop-out rate for graduating class

What are the major challenges for young people as they become adults?

5.9 Percentage of students passing all 4 physical fitness tests

5.10 Teen pregnancy rate (ages 15-17)

What level of education do we attain?

5.11 Percentage below high school graduate of population 25 years and over

5.12 Percentage with bachelor's degree or above of population 25 years and over

Mothers with non-adequate pre-natal care decreased more in the region (26%) than in the state (17%) between 1994 and 1999

Indicator 5.1: Non-Adequate Pre-natal Care

Why is this important? Prenatal care, which consists of a risk assessment, treatment for medical conditions and education, contributes to reductions in illness, disability, and death by identifying and mitigating potential risks and helping women to address behavioral factors, such as smoking and alcohol use that contribute to poor birth outcomes. Prenatal care is more likely to be effective when started early in pregnancy.

Headlines

- In 1999, 587 mothers in the COMPASS region received non-adequate pre-natal care. Changes in the definition of this indicator prevent comparisons over time.
- In 1999, New Haven with 311 (39%), Meriden with 119 (15%) and West Haven with 83 (10%) had the most mothers receiving non-adequate pre-natal care.
- In 1999, the racial/ethnic breakdown across the region was 36% White, 21% Hispanic, 26% Black, and 5% Other. Compared to the statewide racial/ethnic breakdown, the region had 14% fewer White, 3% fewer Hispanic, and 12% more Black mothers experiencing non-adequate care.

Non-Adequate Prenatal Care, 1999

	COMPASS Zones						Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region	Connecticut	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Number	311	177	99	587	797	5,308	33	61	83	2	23	20	16	9	21	3	5	119	40	51
% of Region	53%	30%	17%	100%	N/A	N/A	4%	8%	10%	0%	3%	3%	2%	1%	3%	0%	1%	15%	5%	6%
White	52	84	78	214	331	2,667	27	28	29	1	16	18	14	8	14	3	4	53	25	39
Black	116	37	2	155	167	784	-	16	21	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	11	1	-
Other	11	11	5	27	33	264	1	3	7	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	2	2	2
Hispanic	97	17	7	121	175	1,259	2	4	11	-	3	1	2	-	1	-	-	44	2	8

Definition Non-adequate prenatal care is based on timing of the first prenatal visit, total number of prenatal visits and length of gestation. Women with non-adequate prenatal care are those beginning in the second or third trimester of pregnancy or receiving none at all. Data on Non-Adequate Prenatal Care released from the Connecticut Department of Health is based on a modified Kessner Index. 1999 data reflects a change in the measuring system for non-adequate prenatal care; data is now based on the adequacy of prenatal care utilization. The sum of racial/ethnic subtotals does not equal the total number as some mothers choose not to report race/ethnicity.

Data Source CT Department of Public Health.

Percentage of children under 5 living below the poverty level is decreasing for the region, but there are mixed trends at the town level

Indicator 5.2: Children under 5 Living Below the Poverty Level

Why is this important? Being raised in poverty ($15,260 in 2003 for a family of three) puts children at increased risk for a wide range of problems. For young children, growing up in poverty is associated with lower cognitive abilities and school achievement and with impaired health and development. For adolescents, growing up in poverty is associated with a lower probability of graduating from high school. Poor children are also more likely than other children to have behavioral and emotional problems. Finally, growing up in poverty is associated with lower occupational status and a lower wage rate as an adult. The problems associated with being raised in severe poverty (less than 50 percent of the poverty threshold) are correspondingly worse.

Indicator 5.3, Percentage of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch, collected annually through school districts, provides a means to track trends in poverty between Census surveys. (Research references available at http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/income/poverty/4Poverty.htm)

Headlines

- In 2000, there were 3,787 children under five years old in poverty in the region, an 8% decrease since 1990.
- Both the inner Ring and Outer Ring saw increases (21% and 33% respectively) while New Haven saw a 15% decrease. Very few young poor children live in the Outer Ring.

Poverty Status of Children Under 5 Years Old

	1989				1999				Change 1989-1999	
	Below Poverty Level	Above Poverty Level	Total	% Below Poverty Level	Below Poverty Level	Above Poverty Level	Total	% Below Poverty Level	% Change, Total Children	% Change, Below Poverty
New Haven	3,416	6,304	9,720	35%	2,897	5,444	8,341	35%	-14%	-15%
Inner Ring	574	8,103	8,677	7%	693	6,888	7,581	9%	-13%	21%
Outer Ring	148	7,142	7,290	2%	197	7,514	7,711	3%	6%	33%
COMPASS Region	4,138	21,549	25,687	16%	3,787	19,846	23,633	16%	-8%	-8%
COG Region	5,104	31,202	36,306	14%	4,797	28,293	33,090	14%	-9%	-6%
Inner Ring										
East Haven	79	1,647	1,726	5%	61	1,502	1,563	4%	-9%	-23%
Hamden	164	3,068	3,232	5%	206	2,664	2,870	7%	-11%	26%
West Haven	331	3,388	3,719	9%	426	2,722	3,148	14%	-15%	29%
Outer Ring										
Bethany	6	315	321	2%	3	324	327	1%	2%	-50%
Branford	74	1,594	1,668	4%	75	1,436	1,511	5%	-9%	1%
Guilford	25	1,227	1,252	2%	60	1,249	1,309	5%	5%	140%
Madison	-	847	847	0%	8	1,177	1,185	1%	40%	NA
North Branford	7	886	893	1%	-	888	888	0%	-1%	-100%
North Haven	21	1,152	1,173	2%	47	1,209	1,256	4%	7%	124%
Orange	8	670	678	1%	-	745	745	0%	10%	-100%
Woodbridge	7	451	458	2%	4	486	490	1%	7%	-43%
Other COG Towns										
Meriden	603	3,988	4,591	13%	785	3,088	3,873	20%	-16%	30%
Milford	254	2,973	3,227	8%	86	2,934	3,020	3%	-6%	-66%
Wallingford	109	2,692	2,801	4%	139	2,425	2,564	5%	-8%	28%

Definition Families are considered to be in poverty if their pre-tax money income is less than a money income threshold that varies by family size and composition (In 2003, the level is an annual income of $15,260 for a family of 3).

Data Source US Census 1990, 2000.

Towns across region demonstrating mixed trends in the percentage of students receiving free/reduced-price meals

Indicator 5.3: Percentage of Students of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals

Why is this important? This is an indicator of poverty that is available on an annual basis. Children attending public schools qualify for free meals if their families' incomes are at or below 130% of the federal poverty level. Reduced-price meals are available to students whose families have incomes above this amount but below 185% of the federal poverty level. The is a better indicator of the number of families that are challenged to meet their needs than the poverty level which is set arbitrarily low. (See Indicator 5.2 for brief discussion of importance of poverty as a correlate with many social issues).

Headlines

- More than or nearly half of all students were eligible for free/reduced-price meals in three districts-- New Haven (58%), Meriden (49%), and West Haven (43%). All other towns in the region were below 24% (2001 data). The smallest percentages occurred in Madison (1%), Bethany (2%), and Orange (2%).
- Between 1999 and 2001, the largest percentage increases occurred in North Branford (+62%), North Haven (+49%), and Guilford (+18%).
- Over the same time period, the largest percentage decreases occurred in Woodbridge (-88%), Bethany (-61%), and Madison (-44%).

Percentage of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Lunch

			Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	Connecticut	New Haven	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Data (2001)																
Percentage	23%	58%	18%	23%	43%	2%	12%	5%	1%	9%	9%	2%	4%	49%	14%	11%
Rank	N/A	1	4	3	2	11	5	8	12	7	6	10	9			
Data (1999)																
Percentage	24%	56%	22%	22%	48%	6%	11%	4%	2%	5%	6%	2%	30%	43%	15%	10%
Rank	N/A	1	5	4	2	8	6	10	12	9	7	11	3			
Percent Trends (1999, 2001)																
Percentage Change	-3%	3%	-18%	5%	-11%	-61%	8%	18%	-44%	62%	49%	5%	-88%	14%	-7%	6%
Rank of Change	N/A	7	9	5	8	11	4	3	10	1	2	6	12			

Definition The percentage of students who were identified as meeting the income criteria for federal free or reduced-priced meal or milk programs. Districts not participating in these programs were required to report students meeting the eligibility criteria. Figures are not comparable to the percentage of students receiving free/reduced-priced meals reported in profiles prior to 1999-2000.

Data Source Connecticut Department of Education, Strategic School Profiles.

Regional availability of childcare for both age groups higher than state average in 6 towns across region

Indicator 5.4: Available Child Care Slots per 1,000 Children (Ages 0-2 and Ages 3-4)

Why is this important? Access to quality child care is an issue of importance to the growing number of dual-income families and single parents in the region. It is also a major barrier for women transitioning from welfare to work. In Connecticut, the cost of infant and toddler care ranges from $7,000 to $15,000 annually and the cost of care for three and four-year olds ranges from $6,800 to $10,000.[19] If child care is too expensive, families may be forced to make do with inadequate or poor quality care. (This indicator does not reflect the quality of child care being offered). Research has shown that children's successful social and emotional development is related to the presence of consistent, nurturing caregivers. Child care professionals, meanwhile, struggle to provide the best possible care in a system that is burdened by low wages and high turnover rates. With the passage of the federal No Child Left Behind act, schools and communities are putting increased focus on high quality pre-school experience as a proven method that is critical to closing the achievement gaps in our state and preparing children to succeed in school.

Headlines

- Statewide, there are 174 available childcare slots per 1,000 children ages 0-2 and an estimated 955 slots for children ages 3-4.
- Child care for children ages 0-2 is in short supply. Seven towns in the COMPASS region are estimated to have greater supply than the statewide average while five have less. This is in part a function of families using centers outside their town, particularly in New Haven.
- Child care for children ages 3-4 is more available. For children ages 3-4, five of the 12 COMPASS towns appear to have more slots than children, again in part because they may be net "importers" of students. This is also related to the higher ability to pay for the cost of pre-school in these communities.
- Branford, North Haven, Orange, and Woodbridge exceed the state slot ratios for both age groups.

Available Child Care Slots per 1,000 Children

			Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	Connecticut	New Haven	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
2000 Data, Ages 0-2																
Slots per 1,000 Children	174	124	76	206	132	67	262	181	143	268	268	598	353	138	232	340
Rank	N/A	10	11	6	9	12	5	7	8	3	3	1	2			
Versus Connecticut	N/A	(50)	(98)	32	(42)	(107)	88	7	(31)	94	94	424	179	(36)	58	166
Versus Connecticut	N/A	71%	44%	118%	76%	39%	151%	104%	82%	154%	154%	344%	203%	79%	133%	195%
2000 Data, Ages 3-4																
Slots per 1,000 Children	955	904	600	919	776	810	1,116	873	1,089	936	1,119	1,483	1,910	829	1,172	1,377
Rank	N/A	8	12	7	11	10	4	9	5	6	3	2	1			
Versus Connecticut	N/A	(51)	(355)	(36)	(179)	(145)	161	(82)	134	(19)	164	528	955	(126)	217	422
Versus Connecticut	N/A	95%	63%	96%	81%	85%	117%	91%	114%	98%	117%	155%	200%	87%	123%	144%

Definition Information on available childcare slots refer to those at licensed facilities (centers, group homes and family day care) serving children below 'school-age'. Slots for Infants, toddlers, and preschool kids are counted. The source for population data used in the calculation is the 2000 Census.

Data Sources United Way of Connecticut, Child Care Infoline, and US Census, 2000.

[19] CT Voices for Children website: http://info.med.yale.edu/chldstdy/CTvoices/kidslink/kidslink2/index.html

In 2001, 9 of 15 towns across region have greater rates of children receiving early education than state average (75%)

Indicator 5.5: Kindergarteners who Attended Preschool, Head Start, or Nursery School

Why is this important? Quality child care is an especially important factor in early development: children from all backgrounds who have received high quality child care score higher on tests of both cognitive and social skills in their early school years than children in poor quality care. Low-income children who receive high quality early education score significantly higher on tests of reading and math from primary grades through middle adolescence. The quality and stability of childcare is also a critical factor to a parent's ability to work. Preschool also offers screening for health, behavioral, developmental and related issues that can facilitate early intervention when problems are discovered.

Headlines

- From 1997-2001, 8 towns demonstrated growing rates of early education and 11 towns had larger rates of increase than the state (7%). Milford (17%) and New Haven (16%) demonstrated the largest rates of increase.
- In 2001, 9 towns across the region had higher rates of children receiving early education than the state average (75%).
- In 2001, 70% or fewer kindergartners had a preschool experience in New Haven (64%), Hamden (63%), West Haven (67%), East Haven (70%) and Meriden (70%).
- In 2001, Madison (95%), Orange, (95%) Milford (91%), Bethany (90%) and North Branford (90%) had the highest rates.
- NOTE: Woodbridge value of 21% for 2001 is from the published school profile but appears to be a data anomaly that may either be an error or a small class with few preschool attendees.

Kindergarteners who Attended Preschool, Head Start, or Nursery School

			Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	Connecticut	New Haven	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Data (2001)																
Percentage	64%	75%	70%	63%	67%	90%	87%	82%	95%	90%	83%	95%	21%	70%	91%	84%
Rank	13	8	9	11	10	3	5	7	1	3	6	1	12			
Data (1997)																
Percentage	55%	70%	68%	61%	65%	96%	85%	90%	95%	88%	73%	95%	93%	72%	78%	84%
Rank	15	9	10	12	11	1	7	5	2	6	8	2	4			
Percent Trends (1997, 2001)																
Percentage Change	16%	7%	3%	3%	3%	-7%	2%	-9%	0%	2%	14%	0%	-77%	-3%	17%	0%
Rank of Change	3	2	5	3	4	10	6	11	8	7	1	8	12			

Definition The percentage of 3- to 5-year-old children (not yet enrolled in kindergarten) whose parents report on their Kindergarten application as having participated in an early childhood care and education program (including day care centers, Head Start programs, preschools, nursery schools, and pre-kindergartens. As self-reported data with no consistent standards across districts, the data is not considered a hard measure.

Data Source Connecticut Department of Education, Strategic School Profiles.

Percentage of K-12 students with non-English home language above state percentage in New Haven and Meriden (2001)

Indicator 5.6: Percentage of K-12 Students with Non-English Home Language

Why is this important? In some cases, non-English home language may place both job-seeking adults and young students at a disadvantage as they must gain language skill as at the same time that they learn other skills necessary for work and education. Children from households with adults who report having some difficulty with English are more likely to live in poverty and are also more likely to be concentrated in under-resourced schools in high poverty communities. They are more likely to have academic problems in learning to read and write. Positively, a large non-English home language population can also indicate cultural diversity within a community (including within the student body of the local school system), provided that resources are in place to overcome any lack of English-language ability.

Headlines

- In 2001, there were 31% of students in New Haven and 26% of students in Meriden from families in which English is not the home language. All other towns were under 9%.

Percentage of K-12 Students with Non-English Home Language, 2001

			Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	Connecticut	New Haven	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Percentage	23%	31%	5%	9%	13%	4%	6%	1%	2%	2%	5%	5%	7%	26%	4%	6%
Rank	N/A	1	7	3	2	9	5	12	11	10	7	6	4			

Definition The percentage of students in grades kindergarten through 12 who met at least two of the following criteria: (1) the language that the student learned first was not English; (2) the primary language spoken by the student's parents, guardians, or other people with whom the student lived was not English; (3) the primary language spoken by the student at home was not English.

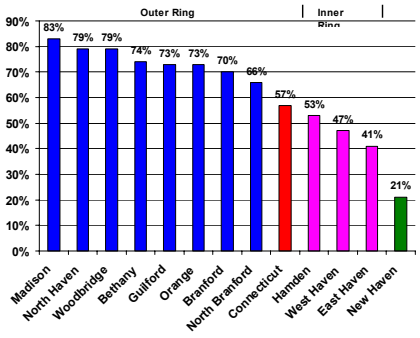
Data Source Connecticut Department of Education, Strategic School Profiles.

Student performance is improving, but the urban/suburban gap is large and widening

Indicator 5.7: Percentage of 4th and 8th Grade Students Meeting State Goal on the Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) in Reading

Why is this important? The Connecticut Mastery Test is administered annually to Connecticut students in grades 4, 6, and 8. This exam measures academic preparation in three areas: reading, writing, and mathematics. Reading skills are critical to a student's success in school and in the workforce. Parent education, language proficiency, family structure, and the community's socioeconomic status are strong predictors of student achievement in reading.

% Meeting State Standard on CMT in 4th Grade Reading



Headlines

- Reading scores have been improving across the region, with 10 districts exceeding the state level.
- New Haven scores have increased, especially for 8th graders, but still lag far behind state levels and levels in regional towns. Hamden (53%), East Haven (41%), and West Haven (47%) are the next lowest performance scores and are close to the state level (57%).
- More affluent districts had the highest gains in fourth grade scores from 1997-2001, widening the gap between urban and suburban districts.

4th and 8th Grade CMT, % of Students achieving State Goal

			Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	Connecticut	New Haven	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Orange	Wallingford
4th Grade Data (2001)																
Percentage	21%	57%	41%	53%	47%	74%	70%	73%	83%	66%	79%	73%	79%	48%	73%	67%
Rank	15	N/A	14	11	13	4	7	5	1	10	2	5	2	12	5	8
4th Grade Data (1997)																
Percentage	19%	N/A	39%	49%	48%	N/A	66%	64%	70%	63%	71%	73%	67%	44%	73%	61%
Rank	14	N/A	13	10	11	N/A	5	6	3	7	2	1	4	12	1	8
4th Grade Percent Trends (1997, 2001)																
Percentage Point Ch	2%	N/A	2%	4%	-1%	N/A	4%	9%	13%	3%	8%	0%	12%	4%	0%	6%
Rank of Change	11	N/A	12	7	14	N/A	9	4	1	10	5	13	2	8	13	6
8th Grade Data (2001)																
Percentage	29%	N/A	61%	59%	63%	N/A	80%	84%	89%	82%	85%	N/A	N/A	45%	N/A	75%
Rank	12	N/A	9	10	8	N/A	5	3	1	4	2	N/A	N/A	11	N/A	6
8th Grade Data (1997)																
Percentage	23%	N/A	55%	55%	63%	N/A	79%	79%	81%	75%	75%	N/A	N/A	55%	N/A	70%
Rank	12	N/A	9	9	8	N/A	2	2	1	4	4	N/A	N/A	9	N/A	6
8th Grade Percent Trends (1997, 2001)																
Percentage Point Ch	6%	N/A	6%	4%	0%	N/A	1%	5%	8%	7%	10%	N/A	N/A	-10%	N/A	5%
Rank of Change	5	N/A	6	9	11	N/A	10	8	2	3	1	N/A	N/A	12	N/A	7

Definition Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) measures academic preparation in reading, writing and mathematics. The tests are administered annually to Connecticut students in grades 4, 6 and 8. Individual student performance is compared to an absolute standard of specific learning or skills. Mastery standards and goals have been set for each content area of the test.

Data Source Connecticut Department of Education, Strategic School Profiles.

Declining cumulative drop-out rates across state; only 3 of 15 towns on the rise

Indicator 5.8: 4-Year Cumulative Drop-Out Rate

Why is this important? A good education provides the foundation for young people to realize their fullest potential as productive, successful members of the community. Young people who drop out of high school are not likely to have the minimum skills and credentials necessary to function in today's increasingly complex society and technological workplace. The completion of high school is required for accessing post-secondary education and is a minimum requirement for most jobs. High school dropouts are more likely than high school completers to be unemployed. Further, a high school diploma leads to higher income and occupational status. Studies have found that young adults with low education and skill levels are more likely to live in poverty and to receive government assistance. This is partly related to young women dropping out of school and having children and then becoming dependent upon public assistance. High school dropouts are likely to stay on public assistance longer than those with at least a high school degree. Further, high school dropouts are more likely to become involved in crime.[20]

Headlines

- In 2001, the state's cumulative drop-out rate was 11%.
- As a whole, the state witnessed a 29% decline in drop-out rates in the period from 1997-2001.
- In both 1997 and 2001, New Haven, West Haven, and Meriden consistently had the top three highest cumulative drop-out rates in the region and were above the state average. In 2001, Meriden (20%), New Haven (18%) and West Haven (14%) were first, second and third highest in the region, respectively.
- However, New Haven, West Haven and Meriden also witnessed significant improvement in the period from 1997-2001: West Haven decreased from 32% to 14%, New Haven decreased from 30% to 18% and Meriden decreased from 23% to 20%. Other notable decreases in the drop-out rate for this period occurred in Branford (-64%), Guilford (-52%) and North Branford (-48%).
- From 1997-2001, Madison (22%), North Haven (11%) and Wallingford (4%) had the only increasing drop-out rates in the region.

4-Year Cumulative Drop-Out Rate

			Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	Connecticut	New Haven	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Data (2001)																
Percentage	11%	18%	7%	11%	14%	N/A	8%	3%	4%	5%	10%	N/A	N/A	20%	8%	7%
Rank	N/A	2	9	4	3	N/A	7	12	11	10	5	N/A	N/A	1	6	8
Data (1997)																
Percentage	16%	30%	8%	11%	32%	N/A	21%	5%	3%	10%	9%	N/A	N/A	23%	10%	7%
Rank	N/A	2	9	5	1	N/A	4	11	12	6	8	N/A	N/A	3	7	## ###
Percent Trends (1997, 2001)																
Percentage Change	-29%	-40%	-15%	-5%	-57%	N/A	-64%	-52%	22%	-48%	11%	N/A	N/A	-12%	-16%	4%
Rank of Change	N/A	8	6	4	11	N/A	12	10	1	9	2	N/A	N/A	5	7	3

Definition Percentage of students entering 9th grade that do not graduate high school (finish 12th grade). Measurement period – 4 years.

Data Source Connecticut Department of Education, Strategic School Profiles.

[20] http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/eduskills/attendance/1HighSchoolDropout.htm

Following regional and state trends, percentage of students passing all 4 fitness tests increasing in 13 of 15 towns across Region

Indicator 5.9: Percentage of Students Passing All 4 Physical Fitness Tests

Why is this important? The President's Physical Fitness Test, administered annually throughout the country to children in grades 4, 6, 8, and 10 consists of four parts: sit and reach, sit-ups, pull-ups and a one-mile run. To pass the test, students must meet or exceed the national standards of performance established for boys and girls based on age. Low levels of physical activity are a major contributing factor to the dramatic rise in the number of children who are overweight/obese.

Headlines

- In the period from 1997-2001, both the region and the state witnessed an increase in the percentage of students passing these physical fitness tests.
- In the period from 1997-2001, with the exception of Milford (-6%) and Wallingford (-2%), all cities in the region witnessed an increase in the percentage of children passing all 4 physical fitness tests.
- In both 1997 and 2001, 7 of 15 towns in the region either met or surpassed the state's percentage of students passing all 4 physical fitness tests (34% in 2001, 28% in 1997).

Physical Fitness / % of students passing all 4 tests

			Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	Connecticut	New Haven	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Data (2001)																
Percentage	34%	30%	28%	33%	23%	49%	39%	50%	46%	49%	34%	46%	26%	23%	25%	33%
Rank	N/A	10	11	8	15	3	6	1	4	2	7	5	12	14	13	9
Data (1997)																
Percentage	28%	14%	27%	31%	18%	34%	25%	33%	35%	43%	21%	38%	13%	22%	26%	33%
Rank	N/A	14	8	7	13	4	10	6	3	1	12	2	15	11	9	5
Percent Trends (1997, 2001)																
Percentage Change	22%	114%	5%	6%	29%	43%	51%	53%	31%	16%	63%	20%	104%	3%	-6%	-2%
Rank of Change	N/A	1	13	11	8	6	5	4	7	10	3	9	2	14	12	15

Definition To obtain this percentage, the number of students who met the standards on all four tests was divided by the number of students who took all four tests.

Data Source Connecticut Department of Education, Strategic School Profiles.

Teen pregnancy rate in decline for 9 of 12 towns across region

Indicator 5.10: Teen Pregnancy Rate (live births to teens per 1,000 persons under ages 15-17)

Why is this important? Teen pregnancy and parenting threatens the development of teen parents as well as their children. Teen mothers are less likely to obtain adequate prenatal care and are less likely to have the financial resources, social supports and parenting skills needed for healthy child development. Children born to teen parents are more likely to suffer poor health, experience learning and behavior problems, live in poverty, and become teen parents themselves. Teens that give birth are more likely to come from economically disadvantaged families and communities, and poor academic achievement is a key predictor of teen pregnancy.

Headlines

- There were a total of 228 births to teens between ages 15-17 in 1999 across the region.
- From 1996-1999, the state's teen pregnancy rate per 1,000 girls age 15-17 (three year rolling average) declined by 19%. Branford (113%), Guilford (66%) and Meriden (5%) witnessed an increase in teen pregnancy rates over this period.
- In the period from 1996-1999, teen pregnancy rates for each of the different racial groups improved slightly more than the overall teen pregnancy rate. Hispanics improved by 20%, Blacks by 22%, and Whites by 27%. However, there were still some mixed results for these racial groups in towns across the region. Hispanics had a significantly higher rate in New Haven and increasing rates in the inner ring suburbs.
- In 1999, New Haven (59), Meriden (46) and West Haven (30) had the first, second and third highest rates, respectively, of teen pregnancy in the region.

Teen Pregnancy Rate, Girls Age 15-17, Three Year Rolling Average

			Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	Connecticut	New Haven	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
1999 Data (1996-1999 3 year average)																
Rate	21	59	10	8	30	3	12	5	4	2	5	-	2	46	10	7
Rank	N/A	1	5	7	3	12	4	10	11	13	9	-	14	2	6	8
White	7	11	8	3	13	-	8	5	4	2	3	-	2	11	9	4
Black	46	51	-	15	33	-	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	53	-	-
Hispanic	73	80	53	21	66	-	17	-	-	-	**	-	-	108	10	46
1996 Data (1993-1996 3 year average)																
Rate	26	76	22	11	36	-	6	3	-	4	9	1	2	43	10	9
Rank	N/A	1	4	5	3	-	9	11	-	10	8	13	12	2	6	7
White	9	13	16	3	23	-	3	2	-	4	7	1	2	14	9	7
Black	59	65	418	35	51	-	-	-	-	-	35	-	-	51	65	-
Hispanic	90	100	33	16	53	-	39	19	-	-	**	-	-	107	23	52
1996-1999 Trends																
Percent	-19%	-22%	-54%	-30%	-18%	**	113%	66%	**	-40%	-39%	**	-13%	5%	-8%	-28%
White	-27%	-17%	-52%	16%	-44%	**	139%	89%	**	-38%	-52%	**	-22%	-21%	3%	-44%
Black	-22%	-21%	**	-57%	-36%	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	4%	**	**
Hispanic	-20%	-20%	61%	32%	24%	**	-58%	**	**	**	**	**	**	1%	-59%	-11%

Definition Given the relatively low incidence of teen births in the general population, the number of births to persons ages 15-17 is given *per thousand* people ages 15-17. Data was rolled into a 3-year average to avoid wide variation in rate produced by an increase of a few births annually.

Data Source Connecticut Department of Public Health, Registration Reports and Appendices.

State and region demonstrate decreasing percentage of population (25 years and over) that are not high school graduates

Indicator 5.11: Percentage below high school graduate of population 25 years and over

Why is this important? Adults age 25 and over who are not high school graduates have lower earning potentials, as earning potential is directly related to the years of education an individual receives. As a result, students who do not complete high school are at an increased risk of living in poverty and are more likely to have poor social outcomes including delinquency, drug and alcohol abuse and early pregnancy, compared with peers who graduate.

Headlines

- Both the state and regional percentages of high school graduates in the population improved over the period from 1990 to 2000.
- Over the last decade, every city in the region demonstrated improvement.
- In 2000, Meriden, East Haven, and West Haven had the first, second and third highest (respectively) percentages of people without a high school diploma. However, Meriden (-11%), East Haven (-9%) and West Haven (-8%) demonstrated notable improvement between 1990 and 2000.
- Hispanic adults showed less improvement than other groups.

Percentage below high school graduate of population 25 years and over

			Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	Connecticut	New Haven	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
2000 Data																
Total		23%	18%	11%	18%	4%	9%	5%	3%	11%	13%	7%	6%	19%	11%	13%
Rank	N/A	1	3	7	3	14	10	13	15	7	5	11	12	2	7	5
White	19%	33%	25%	16%	30%	10%	13%	8%	6%	14%	17%	11%	7%	29%	17%	19%
Black	26%	28%	4%	14%	16%	0%	12%	23%	19%	8%	15%	25%	7%	29%	10%	17%
Asian	15%	6%	22%	5%	6%	0%	8%	11%	2%	0%	17%	2%	1%	11%	15%	13%
Other	45%	51%	41%	28%	33%	0%	17%	5%	42%	0%	18%	73%	0%	49%	15%	30%
Hispanic	41%	47%	27%	22%	32%	23%	18%	11%	30%	6%	19%	11%	0%	44%	16%	36%
1990 Data																
Total	22%	30%	27%	15%	26%	11%	14%	9%	7%	16%	18%	11%	7%	30%	18%	20%
Rank	N/A	1	3	9	4	11	10	13	14	8	6	11	14	1	6	5
White	19%	25%	27%	15%	26%	11%	14%	9%	7%	16%	18%	11%	7%	26%	18%	20%
Black	33%	35%	25%	16%	22%	54%	25%	9%	0%	8%	10%	7%	12%	38%	23%	11%
Asian	18%	11%	13%	9%	14%	0%	12%	0%	56%	41%	18%	0%	4%	58%	7%	19%
Other	52%	51%	30%	30%	22%	0%	0%	21%	0%	0%	6%	100%	0%	53%	7%	50%
Hispanic	46%	46%	28%	22%	33%	0%	8%	28%	0%	32%	19%	23%	0%	53%	20%	36%
2000-1990 Trends																
Total	-7%	-7%	-9%	-4%	-8%	-7%	-5%	-4%	-4%	-5%	-5%	-4%	-1%	-11%	-7%	-7%
Rank	N/A	4	2	11	3	4	8	11	11	8	8	11	15	1	4	4

Definition Data on educational attainment were derived from answers to Census long-form questionnaire Item 9, which was asked of a sample of the population 25 years old and over. People are classified according to the highest degree or level of school completed

Data Source US Census, 2000.

Improvements in state and region overall; racial/ethnic groups demonstrate mixed results in towns across region

Indicator 5.12: Percentage bachelor's degree or above of population 25 years and over

Why is this important? Adults with a bachelor's degree or above have a higher earning potential over the long-term than their counterparts with only a high school diploma and are at less risk of living in poverty. They are also more likely to become active participants in the community.

Headlines

- **In the period from 1990 to 2000,** every town across the region except for New Haven (-3%) and Meriden (-1%) demonstrated improvement. **The state also improved by 2%.**
- The region compared favorably with the state overall. 10 of 15 towns either met or surpassed the state's percentage of the population with a bachelor's degree or above (29%).

Population 25+ with Bachelor's Degree or higher, by COMPASS Zone

			Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	Connecticut	New Haven	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
2000 Data																
Total	29%	23%	17%	35%	18%	47%	38%	49%	56%	27%	32%	45%	60%	14%	29%	28%
Rank	N/A	12	14	7	13	4	6	3	2	11	8	5	1	15	9	10
White	29%	46%	13%	35%	19%	37%	31%	40%	40%	23%	26%	42%	52%	18%	22%	21%
Black	14%	12%	27%	22%	15%	16%	46%	56%	0%	48%	36%	35%	13%	9%	24%	41%
Asian	57%	77%	34%	75%	64%	67%	60%	75%	82%	100%	59%	63%	80%	55%	61%	66%
Other	8%	8%	11%	14%	9%	0%	29%	35%	38%	51%	31%	0%	100%	5%	26%	12%
Hispanic	11%	11%	20%	23%	10%	56%	26%	36%	29%	20%	43%	48%	73%	6%	25%	11%
1990 Data																
Total	27%	26%	14%	32%	17%	41%	33%	43%	46%	25%	26%	43%	56%	15%	23%	22%
Rank	N/A	8	15	7	13	5	6	3	2	10	8	3	1	14	11	12
White	28%	34%	14%	33%	17%	41%	33%	43%	45%	25%	26%	42%	56%	16%	23%	22%
Black	12%	11%	32%	22%	12%	31%	23%	80%	76%	41%	37%	46%	25%	14%	23%	44%
Asian	51%	76%	56%	64%	59%	73%	39%	76%	44%	0%	39%	85%	81%	0%	63%	56%
Other	8%	10%	9%	24%	19%	0%	49%	48%	50%	0%	18%	0%	0%	8%	25%	7%
Hispanic	12%	14%	15%	27%	23%	42%	43%	44%	52%	16%	14%	38%	64%	6%	23%	17%
1990-2000 Trends																
Total	2%	-3%	3%	3%	1%	6%	5%	6%	10%	2%	6%	2%	4%	-1%	6%	6%
Rank	N/A	9	9	9	14	2	7	2	1	12	2	12	8	14	2	2

-
- Woodbridge (60%), Madison (56%) and Guilford (49%) demonstrated the highest percentage of people with bachelor's degrees or above in the region.

Definition Data on educational attainment were derived from answers to Census long-form questionnaire Item 9, which was asked of a sample of the population 25 years old and over. People are classified according to the highest degree or level of school completed.

Data Source US Census, 2000.

COMPASS Community Indicators

6. Engagement (Civic and Philanthropic)

What is our level of civic and philanthropic engagement?

6.1 Percentage of total eligible voters who voted in elections

6.2 Philanthropic giving (*as collected by COMPASS Household Survey*)

6.3 Volunteerism (*as collected by COMPASS Household Survey*)

Voter registration increased and voter turnout was greater in national elections than local ones

Indicator 6.1: Percentage of total eligible voters who voted in elections

Why is this important? Voter turnout is commonly used as an indicator of civic health. Voter participation rates can be directly correlated with the degree to which people are connected with their communities. A basic civic responsibility is voting for the officials who contribute to the daily operation of local and state government. A higher voter turnout rate creates more accountability between citizens and officials, who implement the policy that can lead to increased investment in social capital, like education, and sustainable practices within the community. Because some groups of people tend to be more likely to vote than others (e.g., college graduates, senior citizens, higher income groups), the primary consequence of low voter turnout is that power to influence public policy gets concentrated in the hands of certain groups at the expense of others in the community.

Percentage of total eligible voters who voted in elections

	COMPASS Zones					
	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region	Connecticut
Data (2000 National Election)						
Voters	37,174	57,546	71,587	166,307	233,187	1,474,103
% of Registered	67%	73%	81%	75%	75.5%	77.5%
% of Eligible	40%	65%	52%	52%	56.6%	58.1%
Vorter Registration	55,590	78,398	88,278	222,266	308,880	1,901,203
% of Eligible	60%	89%	64%	70%	75.0%	
Data (1999 Municipal Election)						
Voters	18,872	35,188	38,158	92,218	131,340	723,490
% of Registered	37%	48%	46%	44%	45.1%	40.8%
% of Eligible	20%	33%	39%	31%	31.8%	28.5%
Voter Registraion	50,582	73,972	83,630	208,184	291,170	1,772,720
% of Eligible	54%	70%	86%	70%	70.6%	69.9%
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1999, 2000)						
Voter Registration	5,008	4,426	4,648	14,082	17,710	128,483
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1999, 2000)						
Voter Registration	10%	6%	6%	7%	6%	7%

Headlines

- Participation in local elections is very low, ranging from an estimated 20% of eligible voters in New Haven to 39% I the Outer Ring. These numbers doubled in the presidential election.
- From 1999-2000, voter registration increased 7% in the region. New Haven saw the greatest absolute increase in registration, 5,008 voters or 10%.

Percentage of total eligible voters who voted in elections-Town Detail

	Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Data (2000 National Election)														
Voters	11,510	26,124	19,912	2,993	14,504	12,047	10,113	6,527	12,275	7,931	5,197	21,496	24,552	20,832
% of Registered	69.9%	80.7%	67.4%	86.9%	79.6%	81.9%	80.6%	78.4%	79.6%	85.3%	82.3%	72.0%	79.6%	80.3%
% of Eligible	53.2%	58.6%	50.1%	83.4%	65.1%	77.1%	80.2%	64.0%	70.2%	81.2%	81.9%	49.8%	61.4%	64.8%
Vorter Registration	16,477	32,382	29,539	3,444	18,213	14,718	12,548	8,325	15,412	9,300	6,318	29,843	30,828	25,943
% of Eligible	76.2%	72.6%	74.3%	96.0%	81.8%	94.2%	99.5%	81.6%	88.1%	95.2%	99.5%	69.2%	77.1%	80.8%
Data (1999 Municipal Election)														
Voters	7,470	14,954	12,764	2,220	7,316	4,691	5,649	2,387	6,933	5,905	3,057	10,758	15,533	12,831
% of Registered	46.0%	50.6%	45.3%	63.1%	42.2%	34.7%	48.4%	29.3%	47.7%	65.4%	52.0%	37.9%	53.4%	50.3%
% of Eligible	34.7%	33.7%	31.9%	62.2%	32.8%	30.2%	45.2%	23.5%	39.6%	60.3%	48.4%	24.8%	39.0%	40.0%
Voter Registraion	16,231	29,550	28,191	3,518	17,335	13,531	11,663	8,137	14,538	9,030	5,878	28,396	29,101	25,489
% of Eligible	75.4%	66.6%	70.4%	98.6%	77.8%	87.1%	93.4%	80.1%	83.1%	92.2%	93.1%	65.5%	73.0%	79.5%
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1999, 2000)														
Voter Registration	246	2,832	1,348	(74)	878	1,187	885	188	874	270	440	1,447	1,727	454
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1999, 2000)														
Voter Registration	2%	10%	5%	-2%	5%	9%	8%	2%	6%	3%	7%	5%	6%	2%

Definition Voter Turnout is the percentage of the number of people who voted in an election over the total eligible (all persons over 18).

Data Source CT Secretary of State: Elections Division; Population from Census, 2000

Indicator 6.2: Philanthropic Giving (*as collected by COMPASS Household Survey*)

Indicator 6.3: Volunteerism (*as collected by COMPASS Household Survey*)

Why are these important? Social connectedness is a strong predictor of the perceived quality of life in a community, more closely linked than even the community's income or educational level. Both philanthropic giving and volunteerism are indicators of an individual's level of connectedness and concern for others in his/her community. Various aspects of generosity go together: people who are generous with their purse are also generous with their time.[21] In addition to indicating the civic health of a community, philanthropic giving and volunteerism can effect positive and needed change in a community.

For Regional Data on Philanthropic Giving and Volunteerism, see results of COMPASS Household Survey.

[21] Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey Executive Summary prepared by the Saguaro Seminar: Civic Engagement in America, John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, Cambridge, 2000.

COMPASS Community Indicators

7. Environment (Natural and Constructed)

Is our region a pleasant place to live?

7.1 Air Quality Indicators

Are cultural attractions, parks, and recreational opportunities available?

7.2 Cultural attraction availability (*as collected by COMPASS Household Survey*)

7.3 Recreational services/facilities availability (*as collected by COMPASS Household Survey*)

What are the strengths and weaknesses of our transportation system?

7.4 Commuters traveling to work by means other than driving self

7.5 Travel time to work (percentage over 30 minutes)

Air pollution in New Haven County is "moderate."

Indicator 7.1: Air Quality Indicators for New Haven County (ranked nationally)

Why is this important? Air quality directly affects human health, ecosystem health, and visibility. The Air Quality of an area is determined from several major pollutants: carbon monoxide (CO), ozone (O3), and particulate matter (PM-10) are among the most serious indicators. Rapid development of a region is directly linked with increases in energy consumption and automobile use, both of which significantly impact air quality. Carbon monoxide (CO) in particular, deprives people of necessary oxygen, and particularly affects children, pregnant women, and those with cardiovascular and pulmonary disease.

Headlines

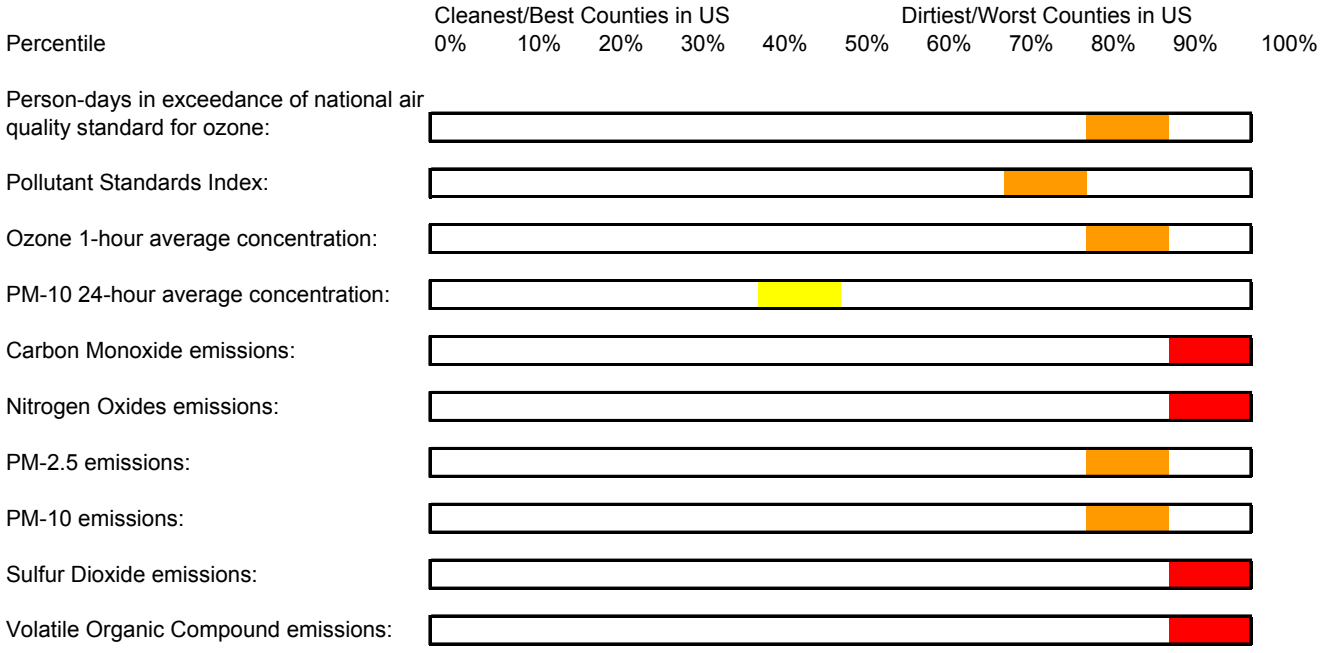
- New Haven County air quality is moderate as measured by the Pollutant Standards Index.
- Air quality in New Haven County is over the 90% percentile in four key pollutants.

Air Quality in New Haven County

Percentage of days with good air quality:	75
Percentage of days with moderate air quality:	25
Percentage of days with unhealthful air quality:	1
Maximum PSI level in 2000	133
Median PSI level in 2000	39
90th Percentile PSI level in 2000	61

Pollutant Standards Index	
0 - 50	Good
50 - 100	Moderate
100 - 200	Unhealthful
200 - 300	Very Unhealthful
300 - 500	Hazardous

Air Quality Rankings for New Haven County



Definition A comparison of Air Quality in New Haven County to the rest of the nation.

Data Source Scorecard.org

Indicator 7.2: Cultural Attraction Availability

Indicator 7.3: Recreational Services/Facilities Availability

Regional data indicators will be developed in the COMPASS Household Survey.

Commuters are driving by themselves more.

Indicator 7.4: Commuters Traveling by Means Other Than Driving Self

Why is this important? Commuters who commute by means other than driving themselves help to reduce road congestion and air pollution.

Headlines

- Between 1990 and 2000, the number of commuters not using single-occupancy vehicles (SOVs) (18.8%) declined for the region by 7,943 or 2.0 percentage points, which is approximately the state average.
- Madison was the only city to have an increase in commuters not using SOVs; however, there was a decrease in the *percentage* of commuters who don't use SOVs (1.5 percentage points).
- New Haven had the highest percentage of commuters not using SOVs, 42.6%.
- New Haven was the only city to not have a decrease in the percentage of commuters who don't use SOVs (it had 1.5 percentage point increase).

Commuters Traveling by Means Other Than Driving Single Occupant Vehicle

	COMPASS Zones					
	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region	Connecticut
Data (2000)						
Commuters	46,592	66,351	65,265	178,208	253,811	1,589,405
Not commuting in SOV	19,864	11,514	6,456	37,834	47,275	275,929
% Not Commuting in SOV	42.6%	17.4%	9.9%	21.2%	18.6%	17.4%
% of Region	52.5%	30.4%	17.1%	100.0%	N/A	N/A
Data (1990)						
Commuters	54,954	67,583	64,204	186,741	263,345	1,628,322
Not commuting in SOV	22,581	12,703	8,138	43,422	54,900	326,071
% Not Commuting in SOV	41.1%	18.8%	12.7%	23.3%	20.8%	20.0%
% of Region	52.0%	29.3%	18.7%	100.0%	N/A	N/A
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1990, 2000)						
Commuters	(8,362)	(1,232)	1,061	(8,533)	(9,534)	(38,917)
Not commuting in SOV	(2,717)	(1,189)	(1,682)	(5,588)	(7,625)	(50,142)
% Not Commuting in SOV	1.5%	-1.4%	-2.8%	-2.0%	-2.2%	-2.7%
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1990, 2000)						
Commuters	-15%	-2%	2%	-5%	-4%	-2%
Not commuting in SOV	-12%	-9%	-21%	-13%	-14%	-15%

Commuters Traveling by Means Other Than Driving Single Occupant Vehicle-Town Detail

	Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Data (2000)														
Commuters	13,949	26,553	25,849	2,380	15,199	10,781	8,348	7,094	11,286	6,077	4,100	26,836	27,138	21,629
Not commuting in SOV	1,978	4,475	5,061	230	1,556	1,143	1,083	580	1,039	507	318	3,999	3,219	2,223
% Not Commuting in SOV	14.2%	16.9%	19.6%	9.7%	10.2%	10.6%	13.0%	8.2%	9.2%	8.3%	7.8%	14.9%	11.9%	10.3%
% of Region	4.2%	9.5%	10.8%	0.5%	3.3%	2.4%	2.3%	1.2%	2.2%	1.1%	0.7%	8.5%	6.9%	4.7%
Data (1990)														
Commuters	13,424	26,702	27,457	2,512	15,161	10,517	7,230	7,129	11,674	6,348	3,633	29,474	25,821	21,309
Not commuting in SOV	2,072	4,697	5,934	295	2,067	1,388	1,045	663	1,679	656	345	4,772	4,034	2,672
% Not Commuting in SOV	15.4%	17.6%	21.6%	11.7%	13.6%	13.2%	14.5%	9.3%	14.4%	10.3%	9.5%	16.2%	15.6%	12.5%
% of Region	3.8%	8.6%	10.8%	0.5%	3.8%	2.5%	1.9%	1.2%	3.1%	1.2%	0.6%	8.7%	7.3%	4.9%
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1990, 2000)														
Commuters	525	(149)	(1,608)	(132)	38	264	1,118	(35)	(388)	(271)	467	(2,638)	1,317	320
Not commuting in SOV	(94)	(222)	(873)	(65)	(511)	(245)	38	(83)	(640)	(149)	(27)	(773)	(815)	(449)
% Not Commuting in SOV	-1.3%	-0.7%	-2.0%	-2.1%	-3.4%	-2.6%	-1.5%	-1.1%	-5.2%	-2.0%	-1.7%	-1.3%	-3.8%	-2.3%
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1990, 2000)														
Commuters	4%	-1%	-6%	-5%	0%	3%	15%	0%	-3%	-4%	13%	-9%	5%	2%
Not commuting in SOV	-5%	-5%	-15%	-22%	-25%	-18%	4%	-13%	-38%	-23%	-8%	-16%	-20%	-17%

Definition Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) is any vehicle with one occupant, including motorcycles but not bicycles.

Data Source US Census, 1990, 2000.

More commuters are traveling 30 minutes or more to work.

Indicator 7.5: Travel Time to Work

Why is this important? This indicator measures the accessibility of jobs relative to the location of population. As a result, commute time is a key factor in measuring job accessibility in a given location. Traffic congestion can be costly in terms of wasted time and fuel in major metropolitan areas, decreasing worker productivity and the delivery of goods. Public transportation can take drivers off the road, thereby improving the commute times of transit riders and automobile users alike.

Travel Time to Work

	COMPASS Zones					
	New Haven	Inner Ring	Outer Ring	COMPASS Region	COG Region	Connecticut
Data (2000)						
Commuters	46,592	68,186	96,755	211,533	249,711	1,589,405
Travelling 30 min or more	10,663	18,703	25,525	54,891	65,666	489,153
% Travelling 30 min or more	22.9%	27.4%	26.4%	25.9%	26.3%	30.8%
% of Region	19.4%	34.1%	38.9%	11.2%	N/A	N/A
Data (1990)						
Commuters	54,954	68,439	96,119	219,512	263,345	1,628,322
Travelling 30 min or more	11,512	16,816	24,266	52,594	65,093	482,023
% Travelling 30 min or more	22.9%	24.6%	25.2%	24.0%	24.7%	29.6%
% of Region	21.9%	32.0%	37.3%	10.9%	N/A	N/A
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1990,2000)						
Commuters	(8,362)	(253)	636	(7,979)	(13,634)	(38,917)
Travelling 30 min or more	(849)	1,887	1,259	2,297	573	7,130
% Travelling 30 min or more	(2.5)	2.1	1.6	0.3	1.6	1.2
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1990,2000)						
Commuters	-17.9%	-0.4%	0.7%	-3.8%	-5.2%	-2.4%
Travelling 30 min or more	-8.0%	10.1%	4.9%	4.2%	0.9%	1.5%

Source: 1990 and 2000 US Census.

Headlines

- The COMPASS region saw a loss of 7,979 commuters and a stable number traveling 30 minutes or more (only 0.3 percentage point increase).
- From 1990 to 2000, 3 of 15 towns had decreases in commuters traveling 30 minutes or more that outpaced their decreases in commuters. New Haven had a decrease in the number of people traveling 30 minutes or more (-7.4%) but it is overshadowed by the decrease in commuters (-15.2%). No city had an increase in commuters that exceeded (in percentage terms) their increase in commuters traveling 30 minutes or more.
- Meriden had one of the highest drops in both commuters and commuters traveling 30 minutes or more: from 2,638 (9%) in 1990 to 1,326 (19.2%) in 2000.

Travel Time to Work- Town Detail

	Inner Ring			Outer Ring								Other COG Towns		
	East Haven	Hamden	West Haven	Bethany	Branford	Guilford	Madison	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Woodbridge	Meriden	Milford	Wallingford
Data (2000)														
Commuters	13,949	26,553	25,849	2,380	15,199	10,781	8,348	7,094	11,286	6,077	4,100	26,836	27,138	21,629
Travelling 30 min or more	3,327	6,271	6,031	1,068	4,925	4,565	4,056	2,186	2,169	1,393	1,047	5,580	7,747	5,685
% Travelling 30 min or more	23.9%	23.6%	23.3%	44.9%	32.4%	42.3%	48.6%	30.8%	19.2%	22.9%	25.5%	20.8%	28.5%	26.3%
% of Region	5.1%	9.5%	9.2%	1.6%	7.5%	7.0%	6.2%	3.3%	3.3%	2.1%	1.6%	8.5%	11.8%	8.7%
Data (1990)														
Commuters	13,424	26,702	27,457	2,512	15,161	10,517	7,230	7,129	11,674	6,348	3,633	29,474	25,821	21,309
Travelling 30 min or more	2,779	6,552	5,648	912	4,767	4,367	3,473	2,120	2,374	1,378	742	6,906	6,401	5,162
% Travelling 30 min or more	20.7%	24.5%	20.6%	36.3%	31.4%	41.5%	48.0%	29.7%	20.3%	21.7%	20.4%	23.4%	24.8%	24.2%
% of Region	4.3%	10.1%	8.7%	1.4%	7.3%	6.7%	5.3%	3.3%	3.6%	2.1%	1.1%	10.6%	9.8%	7.9%
Trends ABSOLUTE CHANGE (1990,2000)														
Commuters	525	(149)	(1,608)	(132)	38	264	1,118	(35)	(388)	(271)	467	(2,638)	1,317	320
Travelling 30 min or more	548	(281)	383	156	158	198	583	66	(205)	15	305	(1,326)	1,346	523
% Travelling 30 min or more	3.1	(0.9)	2.8	8.6	1.0	0.8	0.6	1.1	(1.1)	1.2	5.1	(2.6)	3.8	2.1
Trends PERCENTAGE CHANGE (1990,2000)														
Commuters	3.9%	-0.6%	-5.9%	-5.3%	0.3%	2.5%	15.5%	-0.5%	-3.3%	-4.3%	12.9%	-9.0%	5.1%	1.5%
Travelling 30 min or more	19.7%	-4.3%	6.8%	17.1%	3.3%	4.5%	16.8%	3.1%	-8.6%	1.1%	41.1%	-19.2%	21.0%	10.1%

Source: 1990 and 2000 US Census.

Definition Commuters are people who do not work at home.

Data Source US Census, 1990, 2000