# Distressed Municipalities

DECD Methodology**:** Weighted components are summed to measure the rank of the 169 towns. For each component, every town is ranked from 1 to 169, with the least distressed town scoring 1 and most distressed 169. The 25 towns with the highest total scores are designated distressed municipalities.

# DECD’s components, sources, and weights

1. Per capita income 2022 from the American Community Survey, US Census, weight 1.
2. Percent of population in poverty, 2022, from the American Community Survey, US Census, weight 1.
3. Average unemployment rate 2023, from CT Dept. of Labor, weight 2.
4. Percent change in population from 2010 to 2020, from the Decennial Census, weight 1.
5. Percent change in employment from 2013 to 2023, from CT Dept. of Labor, weight 1.
6. Percent change in per capita income from 2012 to 2022, from the American Community Survey, US Census, weight 1.
7. Percent of house stock built before 1939 in 2022, from the American Community Survey, US Census, weight 1/3.
8. Percent of population with high school degree or higher in 2022, from the American Community Survey, US Census, weight 1.
9. Per Capita Adjusted Equalized Net Grand List for 2025-2026, CT Dept. of Education, weight 1.

According to C.G.S. Section 32-9p, a distressed municipality should be based on “high unemployment and poverty, aging housing stock and low or declining rates of growth in job creation, population, and per capita income.”

DECD additionally included 1) Level of Per Capita Income, 2) % of population with high school degree and higher and 3) Per Capita Adjusted Equalized Net Grand List (AENGL) to arrive at its ranking.

Data sources: US Census American Community Survey (5-yr estimates) for 2012 and 2022, US Census 2010 and Census 2020, CT Dept. of Labor, CT. Dept. of Education.

Prepared by DECD

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