STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Health Statistics and Surveillance,
Surveillance Analysis and Reporting Unit

Ned Lamont
Governor

Manisha Juthani, MD
Commissioner

ESTIMATED POPULATIONS IN CONNECTICUT AS OF JULY 1, 2022

Population estimates for Connecticut's nine county-equivalent planning regions and 169 towns for 2022 were prepared for distribution by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), Surveillance Analysis and Reporting unit within the Health Statistics and Surveillance section.

Method of Estimation

Town population estimates for July 1, 2022, were released by the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program in May 2023.[1,2,3] Vintage 2022 is the first estimate release from the Census Bureau that uses the county-equivalent planning regions in lieu of historical counties.[4] Vintage 2022 estimates for state, county-equivalent planning region, town, and borough were adopted as official state population estimates without modification.

Each year, the Population Estimates Program utilizes current data on births, deaths, migration, and group quarters to calculate population change over time to produce a post-censal time series of population estimates that begins with the April 1, 2020, census and extends through the vintage year. The Population Estimates Program continues to revise its methods for estimating post-censal population estimates[1,3,5] in response to the novel challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, pandemic-related delays in the release of decennial 2020 census data products, and the Census Bureau's implementation of a Disclosure Avoidance System.[6]

2022 Population Estimates

The July 1, 2022 population estimate for the state of Connecticut is 3,626,205.[1,3,5] The 2022 estimate was 20,608 persons higher than the July 1, 2021 population estimate of 3,605,597.[7]

ESTIMATED POPULATION OF CONNECTICUT AS OF JULY 1, 2022

Estimated Population	Change in Population, 2021-2022	
	Number	Percent
3,626,205	20,608	0.57%

For 2022, the Department of Public Health has determined that the estimates released by the Census Bureau overestimate the population of Connecticut by about 0.6% due to overestimation of the population in towns that contain large group quarters facilities, such as colleges and prisons.[8,9,10] Nonetheless, the Vintage 2022 town estimates have been certified as the 2022 town estimates to remain consistent with other Census Bureau data products and component geographies, such as the American Community Survey and the metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas.[11] See notes section for more information.

CONNECTICUT POPULATION ESTIMATES AS OF JULY 1, 2022

	Estimated Population	Change in Population, 2021-2022	
		Number	Percent
State			
CONNECTICUT	3,626,205	20,608	0.57
Planning Region			
CAPITOL	981,447	7,224	0.74
GREATER BRIDGEPORT	327,286	1,428	0.44
LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY	176,622	1,942	1.11
NAUGATUCK VALLEY	454,083	4,154	0.92
NORTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT	96,196	805	0.84
NORTHWEST HILLS	113,234	961	0.86
SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT	573,244	2,969	0.52
SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT	280,403	-289	-0.10
WESTERN CONNECTICUT	623,690	1,414	0.23
Town			
ANDOVER	3,150	17	0.54
ANSONIA	18,923	108	0.57
ASHFORD	4,222	36	0.86
AVON	18,871	23	0.12
BARKHAMSTED	3,667	20	0.55
BEACON FALLS	6,126	93	1.54
BERLIN	20,197	84	0.42
BETHANY	5,277	-11	-0.21
BETHEL	20,684	147	0.72
BETHLEHEM	3,409	23	0.68
BLOOMFIELD	21,560	80	0.37
BOLTON	4,834	15	0.31
BOZRAH	2,420	3	0.12
BRANFORD	28,148	-28	-0.10
BRIDGEPORT	148,377	44	0.03
BRIDGEWATER	1,652	-6	-0.36
BRISTOL	61,330	669	1.10
BROOKFIELD	17,543	61	0.35
BROOKLYN	8,502	14	0.16
BURLINGTON	9,710	119	1.24
CANAAN	1,081	3	0.28
CANTERBURY	5,102	42	0.83
CANTON	10,091	8	0.08
CHAPLIN	2,156	13	0.61
CHESHIRE	28,994	366	1.28
CHESTER	3,757	5	0.13
CLINTON	13,399	-1	-0.01
COLCHESTER	15,572	71	0.46
COLEBROOK	1,369	12	0.88
COLUMBIA	5,258	12	0.23
CORNWALL	1,573	2	0.13
COVENTRY	12,285	80	0.66
CROMWELL	14,317	15	0.10
DANBURY	86,967	208	0.24
DARIEN	21,926	426	1.98

DEEP RIVER	4,445	-17	-0.38
DERBY	12,358	84	0.68
DURHAM	7,207	-24	-0.33
EAST GRANBY	5,218	38	0.73
EAST HADDAM	8,949	-16	-0.18
EAST HAMPTON	12,960	86	0.67
EAST HARTFORD	50,718	-13	-0.03
EAST HAVEN	27,682	-122	-0.44
EAST LYME	18,788	-61	-0.32
EAST WINDSOR	11,176	15	0.13
EASTFORD	1,675	15	0.90
EASTON	7,630	36	0.47
ELLINGTON	16,977	347	2.09
ENFIELD	41,245	-786	-1.87
ESSEX	6,793	34	0.50
FAIRFIELD	62,871	922	1.49
FARMINGTON	26,728	83	0.31
FRANKLIN	1,881	19	1.02
GLASTONBURY	35,199	145	0.41
GOSHEN	3,203	38	1.20
GRANBY	11,041	88	0.80
GREENWICH	63,638	124	0.20
GRISWOLD	11,509	102	0.89
GROTON	37,743	-713	-1.85
GUILFORD	22,019	-12	-0.05
HADDAM	8,670	141	1.65
HAMDEN	60,809	-114	-0.19
HAMPTON	1,738	10	0.58
HARTFORD	120,686	110	0.09
HARTLAND	1,908	17	0.90
HARWINTON	5,562	54	0.98
HEBRON	9,121	55	0.61
KENT	3,051	67	2.25
KILLINGLY	17,837	95	0.54
KILLINGWORTH	6,239	-29	-0.46
LEBANON	7,132	24	0.34
LEDYARD	15,456	120	0.78
LISBON	4,242	44	1.05
LITCHFIELD	8,279	109	1.33
LYME	2,401	57	2.43
MADISON	17,565	-54	-0.31
MANCHESTER	59,461	35	0.06
MANSFIELD	31,949	5,592	21.22
MARLBOROUGH	6,109	16	0.26
MERIDEN	60,242	-275	-0.45
MIDDLEBURY	7,807	123	1.60
MIDDLEFIELD	4,248	-26	-0.61
MIDDLETOWN	48,729	1,621	3.44
MILFORD	52,679	289	0.55
MONROE	18,796	32	0.17
MONTVILLE	17,891	-587	-3.18
MORRIS	2,267	8	0.35
NAUGATUCK	31,705	272	0.87
NEW BRITAIN	74,396	555	0.75
NEW CANAAN	20,775	43	0.21

NEW FAIRFIELD	13,536	-9	-0.07
NEW HARTFORD	6,698	30	0.45
NEW HAVEN	138,915	3,834	2.84
NEW LONDON	27,980	345	1.25
NEW MILFORD	28,275	93	0.33
NEWINGTON	30,356	-9	-0.03
NEWTOWN	27,577	55	0.20
NORFOLK	1,594	7	0.44
NORTH BRANFORD	13,464	-34	-0.25
NORTH CANAAN	3,209	24	0.75
NORTH HAVEN	24,114	-55	-0.23
NORTH STONINGTON	5,174	37	0.72
NORWALK	91,401	207	0.23
NORWICH	40,009	-5	-0.01
OLD LYME	7,684	107	1.41
OLD SAYBROOK	10,535	-28	-0.27
ORANGE	14,258	12	0.08
OXFORD	12,941	173	1.35
PLAINFIELD	15,143	184	1.23
PLAINVILLE	17,479	34	0.19
PLYMOUTH	11,711	52	0.45
POMFRET	4,307	36	0.84
PORTLAND	9,429	-33	-0.35
PRESTON	4,840	38	0.79
PROSPECT	9,435	91	0.97
PUTNAM	9,302	75	0.81
REDDING	8,746	11	0.13
RIDGEFIELD	25,007	-4	-0.02
ROCKY HILL	20,712	-34	-0.16
ROXBURY	2,279	10	0.44
SALEM	4,326	126	3.00
SALISBURY	4,239	127	3.09
SCOTLAND	1,577	9	0.57
SEYMOUR	16,809	130	0.78
SHARON	2,724	49	1.83
SHELTON	41,897	423	1.02
SHERMAN	3,537	16	0.45
SIMSBURY	24,935	128	0.52
SOMERS	9,843	-436	-4.24
SOUTH WINDSOR	26,783	16	0.06
SOUTHBURY	19,979	183	0.92
SOUTHINGTON	43,753	253	0.58
SPRAGUE	2,958	8	0.27
STAFFORD	11,449	37	0.32
STAMFORD	136,188	-121	-0.09
STERLING	3,623	46	1.29
STONINGTON	18,480	53	0.29
STRATFORD	52,477	209	0.40
SUFFIELD	15,731	-131	-0.83
THOMASTON	7,468	15	0.20
THOMPSON	9,315	89	0.96
TOLLAND	14,577	66	0.45
TORRINGTON	35,563	206	0.58
TRUMBULL	37,135	185	0.50
UNION	793	12	1.54

VERNON	30,625	299	0.99
VOLUNTOWN	2,592	38	1.49
WALLINGFORD	44,017	-177	-0.40
WARREN	1,352	3	0.22
WASHINGTON	3,666	33	0.91
WATERBURY	115,016	1,205	1.06
WATERFORD	19,603	50	0.26
WATERTOWN	22,183	73	0.33
WEST HARTFORD	64,271	298	0.47
WEST HAVEN	55,004	-290	-0.52
WESTBROOK	6,860	50	0.73
WESTON	10,354	18	0.17
WESTPORT	27,427	148	0.54
WETHERSFIELD	27,129	5	0.02
WILLINGTON	5,544	16	0.29
WILTON	18,457	-3	-0.02
WINCHESTER	10,240	23	0.23
WINDHAM	24,399	37	0.15
WINDSOR	29,453	77	0.26
WINDSOR LOCKS	12,537	6	0.05
WOLCOTT	16,190	30	0.19
WOODBRIDGE	9,051	6	0.07
WOODBURY	9,802	41	0.42
WOODSTOCK	8,312	91	1.11

Notes:

(1) U.S. Census Bureau, December 2022, Methodology for the United States Population Estimates: Vintage 2022, Nation, States, Counties, and Puerto Rico – April 1, 2020, to July 1, 2022. https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/technical-documentation/methodology/2020-2022/methods-statement-v2022.pdf

(2) These town population estimates count incarcerated individuals in their place of incarceration, consistent with the U.S. Census Bureau's decision to maintain its practice of counting prisoners at the correctional facility. While Connecticut passed legislation in 2021 that requires the reallocation of most incarcerated persons to their place of residence prior to incarceration, this reallocation is limited to the purposes of determining state legislative and municipal voting districts. The Census Bureau will not make any changes to the official decennial census counts as a result of state legislative redistricting and therefore Census Bureau products based on decennial 2020 census data will count prisoners in their place of incarceration.

(3) U.S. Census Bureau, May 2023, Methodology for the Subcounty Total Resident Population Estimates (Vintage 2022): April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022. https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/technical-documentation/methodology/2020-2022/2022-subco-meth.pdf

(4) U.S. Census Bureau adoption of Connecticut Planning Regions as county-equivalents: https://www2.census.gov/geo/pdfs/reference/ct_county_equiv_change.pdf

(5) The Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program recently adapted its methodology for developing the annual population estimates in response to data availability issues stemming from the impact of COVID-19 on 2020 census operations and other complicating factors. In particular, a "blended base" approach was adopted to create the base population (or starting point) for the post-2020 population estimates. This approach integrates several sources of data into the estimates base, rather than relying strictly on the results of the latest decennial census. https://www.census.gov/data/academy/webinars/2022/methodology-updates-vintage-2022-estimates.html

(6) The Census Bureau has implemented a "powerful new disclosure avoidance system (DAS) designed to withstand modern re-identification threats [to] protect 2020 census data products … based on a framework for assessing privacy risk known as differential privacy." https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/decade/2020/planning-management/process/disclosure-avoidance.html

(7) Backus, K (2022) Town-level Population Estimates for Connecticut, July 1, 2021. Connecticut Department of Public Health, Health Statistics and Surveillance, Statistics Analysis & Reporting, Hartford, CT.

(8) Minor variations in the Census Bureau's estimates of state, county, and town populations are expected to occur between years as part of the estimation process. However, the COVID-19 pandemic and pandemic-related delays in the release of decennial 2020 census data products have created novel challenges for accurately estimating annual town populations, such as the following:

- The Census Bureau has needed to develop new methods to estimate post-censal population totals. These new methods will continue to be refined throughout this decade.

- The delayed identification of aberrant decennial census data which requires correction, such a geographic boundary or assignment errors.

- The identification of incomplete or inaccurate reporting of inputs for the post-censal estimation process, such as building permits or group quarters counts.

As a result of the above, towns may experience annual shifts in their certified population totals as methodological changes and input corrections are incorporated over time.

(9) Group quarters (GQ) populations are reported to the Census Bureau by the Department of Public Health as part of the Federal-State Cooperative for Population Estimates program's Group Quarters Report (GQR). Each year, the Department gathers counts of persons living in individual group quarters facilities from prison statistics, the state's annual nursing home survey, or direct communication with colleges and other institutional facilities. From these counts, the Census Bureau calculates the population change at the town-level and applies that change factor to the census base count without consideration of the actual counts reported.

- The 2021 GQR, which provides counts for 2020 and 2021, was not requested by the Census Bureau as historically there is minimal change in the year following the decennial census. As a result, no GQ change was applied, and the census base GQ counts were held constant for the Vintage 2021 estimates.

- The 2022 GQR, which provides counts for 2020, 2021, and 2022, was requested by the Census Bureau and the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 change in GQ counts were applied to the census base. Several GQ facilities accurately reported lower counts for 2020 due to COVID-19 followed by increases for 2021 and 2022 as the state rebounded from the pandemic. When the Census Bureau calculated the change factors, the GQ populations for several towns had sizeable increases that were applied to the pre-pandemic decennial census base counts. As a result, the GQ counts reflected our COVID-19 rebound without first accounting for the GQ decline that occurred between the April 1, 2020, decennial census and the annual 2020 count. Towns with a 2020 GQ dip followed by a rebound have an overestimate of the GQ population in the Vintage 2022 estimates.

- The 2023 GQR was submitted to the Census Bureau with GQ counts for April 1, 2020, as well as 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023. By providing the April 1, 2020, counts, the Census Bureau will now be able to apply the population loss between the decennial census and the 2020 count before the rebound reflected in the counts for 2021 and later. The Vintage 2023 estimates released in May 2024 will incorporate the revised GQ inputs and more accurately reflect the town populations in 2022.

In sum, the timing of the pandemic shutdown in Connecticut in the months following the decennial 2020 census necessitated revising the annual GQR submission to include April 1, 2020, group quarters counts.

(10) For 2022, the Department of Public Health has determined that the estimates released by the Census Bureau overestimate the populations of select towns that contain large group quarters facilities, such as colleges and prisons. The collective impact on Connecticut is an overestimate of approximately 20,000-25,000 people. The following eleven towns have been identified as artificially high (1% or greater) based on evaluation of the Department's annual group quarters reporting for prisons and colleges: Mansfield (~32%), New Haven (~3%), Enfield (~2%), New London (~2%), Windham (~2%), Montville (~1.5%), New Britain (~1.5%), Somers (~1.5%), East Lyme (~1%), Hamden (~1%), and Middletown (~1%).

(11) The Vintage 2022 town estimates released by the Census Bureau have been certified as the 2022 town estimates to remain consistent with other Census Bureau data products and component geographies, such as the American Community Survey and the metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas. As such, users of the 2022 estimates should be aware of the known accuracy issues identified above. If consistency with other 2022 census data products is not required, DPH recommends holding the 2021 town estimates constant for 2022 fiscal and planning purposes.

For a detailed explanation of the known errors in the Vintage 2022 estimates, see the CT Data Collaborative's blog post at https://www.ctdata.org/blog/known-errors-in-the-census-bureaus-vintage-2022-population-estimates.

Citation:

Backus, K (2023) Town-level Population Estimates for Connecticut, July 1, 2022. Connecticut Department of Public Health, Health Statistics and Surveillance, Surveillance Analysis & Reporting, Hartford, CT.

For further information please contact:

Connecticut Department of Public Health
Health Statistics and Surveillance Section, Surveillance Analysis and Reporting Unit
410 Capitol Avenue, MS#11PSI, P.O. Box 340308, Hartford, CT 06134-0308
Phone: (860) 509-7342   E-mail: DPH.VitalStats@ct.gov

These estimates are also available at:

https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Health-Information-Systems--Reporting/Population/Population-Statistics