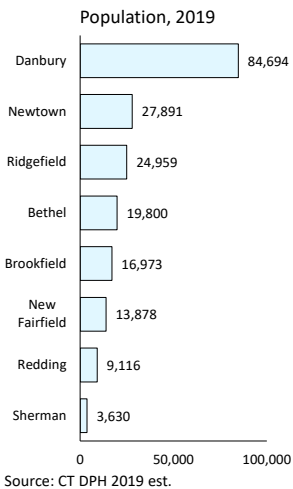
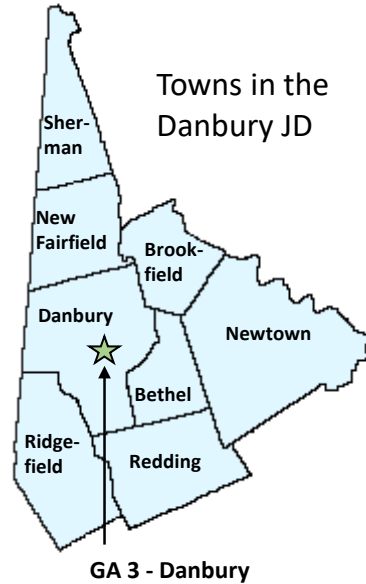




# CT DCJ Fact Sheet: The Danbury Judicial District

The Danbury Judicial District (JD) serves eight towns in the western part of the state. Included in the District is a single Geographic Area (GA) court, GA 3 in Danbury. The District is bordered on its west by New York State. The JD also contains a high-security state prison, Garner Correctional Institution, in Newtown.



Each year, the FBI releases Uniform Crime Report data (UCR) which details the number of major crimes reported to state and local jurisdictions during the previous calendar year. In this data, murders, robberies, aggravated assaults and rape are grouped as violent crimes. Property crimes are larcenies, burglaries and motor vehicle theft.

The incidence of crime in the Danbury Judicial District varies significantly across the eight-town area. While the city of Danbury is home to only about 42% of the JD's population, it accounted for 85% of the District's violent crime and 65% of its property crime 2018.

Crime and crimes rates per 10,000 residents, 2018

	Violent crimes	Violent crime rate	Property crimes	Property crime rate
Danbury	133	16.9	1,162	147.5
Newtown	6	2.3	123	46.7
Brookfield	5	3.0	159	96.5
Bethel	4	2.1	144	75.7
New Fairfield	3	2.0	22	15.0
Sherman	3	7.4	6	14.9
Redding	2	2.3	28	32.2
Ridgefield	1	0.4	58	23.3
Danbury JD	157	8.1	1,702	88.2

Source: 2018 UCR data

Approximately 200,000 people live in the Danbury JD. Danbury, the largest town in the District, is home to about 42% of District residents; it is also home to approximately three-quarters of the JD's minority residents.

When measured against the per capita income of the state, all towns in the Danbury JD, with the exception of Danbury proper, are more affluent than the statewide average.

Major arresting agencies in the Danbury JD

Agency	Arrests 2019		Arrests 2020	
	Criminal	MV	Criminal	MV
Danbury PD	1,290	579	1,049	426
CSP Troop A	459	1,014	290	503
Newtown PD	154	321	85	93
Brookfield PD	144	94	99	34
Bethel PD	143	124	135	120
Ridgefield PD	99	116	54	65
Redding PD	28	51	20	12
New Fairfield PD	13	2	9	1

Source: CT Judicial Branch

In terms of the volume of criminal arrests, the Danbury Police Department is the most active law enforcement agency in the District. In 2020, the Danbury Police Department made 55% of all criminal arrests and 33% of all motor vehicle arrests, district-wide.

According to CT Judicial Branch data, police agencies made 2,500 criminal arrests in 2018. In addition, they made about 2,300 motor vehicle arrests. The lower totals for 2020 reflect the impact of the Covid pandemic.

Arrests in the Danbury JD

Year	Criminal arrests	MV arrests
2018	2,577	2,284
2019	2,334	2,302
2020	1,743	1,254

Source: CT Judicial Branch

Compared to judicial districts around the state, the Danbury JD was the 9<sup>th</sup> largest in terms of population and the 10<sup>th</sup> busiest in criminal arrests.

Arrests by JD, 2019

Judicial District	Criminal arrests	MV arrests	JD pop., 2019 est.
Hartford JD	16,918	10,390	589,513
New Haven JD	11,308	8,041	472,223
Waterbury JD	6,954	3,627	223,414
New Britain JD	6,427	4,737	311,685
Fairfield JD	5,570	3,488	320,921
New London JD	5,550	4,435	265,206
Stamford-Norwalk	4,393	2,720	380,341
Ansonia-Derby JD	3,949	2,862	231,329
Middlesex JD	2,657	1,934	162,436
<b>Danbury JD</b>	<b>2,334</b>	<b>2,302</b>	<b>200,941</b>
Litchfield JD	2,317	2,278	139,775
Tolland JD	1,680	1,814	150,721
Windham JD	1,480	1,173	116,782

Source: CJIS

Most people who are arrested in CT are released with either a promise-to-appear (PTA) agreement

Arraignments from lock-ups

Judicial District	Arraignments from lock-up
Hartford JD	6,143
New Haven JD	5,397
Waterbury JD	3,637
Fairfield JD	2,986
New Britain JD	2,781
New London JD	2,757
Ansonia-Milford JD	1,897
Stamford-Norwalk	1,812
Middlesex JD	1,075
Windham JD	1,040
Litchfield JD	892
<b>Danbury JD</b>	<b>754</b>
Tolland JD	634

Source: CT Judicial Branch

or after paying a bond. Typically fewer than 25% of people are unable to meet these release conditions. As a result they are held in Judicial Branch lock-ups until they can be arraigned before a judge. At arraignment, judges may impose new release conditions.

The bulk of cases disposed in CT courts each year are handled in 19 Geographic Area courts. GA-3, in Danbury, disposes about 2,200 cases in a typical year. More serious cases are generally transferred to the Part A court at the Judicial District.

Cases - GA-3 Danbury

	Transfer		
	Added	to JD	Disposed
FY 16	2,769	394	2,274
FY 17	2,566	324	2,141
FY 18	2,561	393	2,163
FY 19	2,389	348	2,214
FY 20	1,531	275	1,361

Source: CT Judicial Branch

In recent years, between 300 and 400 case have been deemed serious enough to warrant transfer to the District Part A court.

Part A cases, Danbury JD

Fiscal Year	Cases Added	Cases disposed		Cases disposed
		w/o Trial	w/trial	
FY 16	394	410	8	418
FY 17	324	332	6	338
FY 18	393	356	3	359
FY 19	348	337	3	340
FY 20	275	277	5	282

Source: CT Judicial Branch

Although the Part A court in Danbury handles over several hundred cases a year, only a small fraction of these cases are disposed at trial. Statewide, only about 4% Part A cases are disposed at trial.

Although even low levels of crime are unacceptable, the towns in the Danbury JD are fortunate to much have lower crime rates than the state average. With this in mind, it is notable that one of the most notorious crimes in recent memory, the Sandy Hook elementary school massacre occurred in Newtown in 2012.

Reported crime by Judicial District, 2018

	Violent crimes	Violent crime rate	Property crimes	Property crime rate
Hartford JD	1,815	30.4	13,211	221.6
New Haven JD	1,642	34.1	10,698	222.2
Fairfield JD	1,129	34.9	5,843	180.5
Waterbury JD	554	24.1	5,768	251.4
New Britain JD	524	16.6	6,154	194.8
Stamford-Norwalk	491	13.2	4,724	127.0
New London JD	385	15.0	2,593	100.8
Ansonia-Milford	248	10.8	4,000	174.8
<b>Danbury JD</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>1,702</b>	<b>88.2</b>
Windham JD	130	11.3	643	56.0
Litchfield JD	108	7.2	1,309	87.8
Middlesex JD	89	5.5	1,623	99.5
Tolland JD	76	5.3	846	59.0

Source: CT DESPP, UCR