KEY FINDINGS

Housing

- 40% of housing is subsidized
- 65% of households rent their home
- 81% of housing units are in multifamily buildings

Affordability

- 22% of households spend between 30% and 50% of their income on housing
- 27% of households spend more than half of their income on housing
- $25.04 the hourly wage needed to afford a 2-bedroom apartment

Population

- 31 the median age of residents
- 85% of residents are people of color (BIPOC)
- +0.3% projected population change from 2020 to 2040

HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

Throughout this report, a series of graphs like the one below are used to show how Hartford compares to other towns in the state on a variety of measures.

ABOUT THE HOUSING DATA PROFILES

The Partnership for Strong Communities' Housing Data Profiles are a free resource to help Connecticut residents, developers, legislators, municipal officials, and others make data-informed decisions. Profiles are available for every town and county in the state. To learn more, please visit pschousing.org or housingprofiles.pschousing.org to view the interactive version of the profiles.

DATA NOTES

Data comes from the 2016-2020 American Community Survey unless stated otherwise. Percentages may differ slightly or not sum to exactly 100% due to rounding.
Overall, 65% of Connecticut’s occupied housing stock is comprised of single-family housing, while 35% is multifamily housing (2+ units in structure). Most single-family homes are occupied by homeowners, while most multifamily units are occupied by renters.

In Hartford, 19% of occupied homes are single-family, and 81% are multifamily. Owners live in 66% of Hartford’s 10,626 single-family homes, and renters live in 73% of its 44,561 multifamily homes.

Growth is slow in the state, which has seen a 41% decrease in building permits between 1990 and 2021.

In Hartford, there were 405 building permits issued in 1990, compared to 11 issued in 2021, representing a 97% decrease.

Source: Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development
76%

Older homes are prone to falling into disrepair, and often carry environmental risks such as lead paint. An aging housing stock can be a sign of poor housing quality.

5.8%

Households that use electricity spend 3.6% of their income on energy (5.1% for fuel oil/coal and 6.7% for gas).

40%

The CT Department of Housing calculates the percentage of affordable units in a municipality annually for the Affordable Housing Appeals List. Affordable units are units that are subsidized below market-rate through programs like Housing Choice Vouchers or CHFA/USDA mortgages.

Of the 51,822 total units in Hartford, 20,897 are considered to be affordable.
PEOPLE BURDENED BY COST OF HOUSING

49%

Households that are cost-burdened spend more than 30% of their income on housing. Severely cost-burdened spend more than 50% on housing.

RENTERS BURDENED BY COST OF HOUSING

59%

OWNERS BURDENED BY COST OF HOUSING

39%

RENTERS’ HOUSING COSTS AS PERCENT OF INCOME

29%

OWNERS’ HOUSING COSTS AS PERCENT OF INCOME

19%
HOUSING WAGE

$25.04

Each year, the National Low Income Housing Coalition calculates the “housing wage,” the hourly wage needed to afford a two-bedroom rental home without paying more than 30% of income on housing.

Hartford is included in the Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford HMFA. Hartford’s housing wage is lower than the state housing wage of $27.80.

HOUSING PRESERVATION UNITS

24%

Hartford has 8,150 federally assisted housing units, of which 24% are at risk of loss within the next 5 years.
TOTAL POPULATION
122,549

PEOPLE OF COLOR
85%

Connecticut population is becoming increasingly diverse, but the BIPOC population is concentrated in certain municipalities, especially Connecticut's cities. In Hartford, 85% of residents are BIPOC, while 15% are white.

MEDIAN AGE
31

POPULATION CHANGE, 2020 TO 2040
+0.3%

In the next twenty years, Hartford's population is projected to grow from 126,443 to 126,846.
The average household size in Hartford has declined between 2000 and 2020.

Understanding who lives in our towns provides insight into the housing and service needs for each community such as accessibility, transportation, child care, and education. Compared to Connecticut, Hartford has fewer households with someone older than 60 and more households with school-age children.