Housing Data Profiles

Population, Age, & Race

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>55,189</td>
<td>52,360</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households</td>
<td>20,137</td>
<td>21,090</td>
<td>-5%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>-2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average household size</td>
<td>2.59</td>
<td>2.42</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>-2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average family size</td>
<td>3.28</td>
<td>3.06</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Median age for those living in West Haven is 36.2 years old, 4.2 years younger than CT’s median age of 40.4 years old.

Race and Ethnicity: West Haven

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Racial and Ethnic Groups</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino (of any race)</td>
<td>11,334</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>28,906</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>10,996</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian and Alaska Native</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>2,166</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other/Multi-Race</td>
<td>1,745</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2011-15 American Community Survey

Household Income

West Haven's annual median household income in 2015 was $50,846, 28% less than Connecticut’s median household income of $70,331. It is 18% less than New Haven County’s median household income of $61,640. West Haven’s median household income ranks 159 (1=highest, 169=lowest) among CT’s 169 municipalities.

Source: 2011-15 American Community Survey

Aging of the Population

West Haven is one of the 48 Connecticut municipalities projected to see a rise in their school-age population between 2020 and 2030. Many municipalities will see declines over 15%. In West Haven, the projected increase is 19%. Meanwhile the 65+ population for West Haven is projected to increase by 10%.

Source: CT State Data Center
**Housing Data Profiles | 2**

**West Haven**

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**Characteristics of Housing Stock**

### Tenure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>West Haven</th>
<th>New Haven County</th>
<th>Connecticut</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>22,290</td>
<td>362,351</td>
<td>1,491,786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner-Occupied</td>
<td>11,110</td>
<td>204,886</td>
<td>906,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter-Occupied</td>
<td>9,027</td>
<td>121,142</td>
<td>446,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>2,153</td>
<td>36,323</td>
<td>139,203</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: 2011-15 American Community Survey*

West Haven saw its number of housing units decrease by 0% from 2000 to 2015. Renters live in 40% of West Haven’s housing stock, compared to 33% for New Haven County and 30% for Connecticut.

### Units in Structure

Overall, 66% of CT’s occupied housing stock is comprised of single-family housing, while 33% is multifamily housing (2+ units in structure) and 1% is mobile homes.

In West Haven, 54% of occupied homes are single-family, 46% are multifamily (2+ units in structure), and 0% are mobile homes. Renters live in 83% of West Haven’s 9,174 multifamily homes, and owners occupy 87% of its 10,867 single-family homes.

### Year Built

CT’s housing stock varies in age, with 22% built before 1939, 36% built from 1940 to 1969 and 42% built from 1970 on.

In West Haven, 29% of the housing stock was built prior to 1939, 40% was built between 1940 and 1969 and the remaining 30% was built after 1970. Shifting demographics indicate that housing built from 1970 on may not meet the needs of CT’s current and future residents.

### Bedrooms

A majority of homes in CT have 3 or more bedrooms, with 37% having 3 bedrooms and 22% having 4 or more. 42% of the homes in the state have 2 or fewer bedrooms.

Over 47% of homes in West Haven have 3 or more bedrooms, while 53% have 2 or fewer bedrooms. Towns and cities that have larger homes with more bedrooms offer fewer housing options for younger workers or downsizing Baby Boomers.

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**Housing Units by Number of Bedrooms**

*Source: 2011-15 American Community Survey*
Housing Costs for Owners and Renters

Affordability

Across CT, 50% of renters and 32% of owners spend more than 30% of their income on housing. In West Haven, 60% of renters spend more than 30% of their income on housing, while 44% of owners do the same. Households that spend more than 30% of their income on housing may have little left over for necessities such as transportation, food, health care, etc.

Home Value

The value of homes in Connecticut has risen significantly over the last 15 years, putting home ownership out of reach for many middle-class households. In West Haven, 80% of homes were valued under $150,000 in 2000, compared to 20% now. The median home value in West Haven is now $200,800, an increase of 72% since 2000.

Gross Rent

According to 2011-15 American Community Survey data, 59% of West Haven’s 9,027 rental units have a gross rent over $1,000 per month and 12% have a gross rent under $750 per month.

Rental Units by Gross Rent:

West Haven

Source: 2011-2015 American Community Survey

Housing Costs & Income

Owner Households: West Haven

The average homeowner household in West Haven has a median income of $75,528

Households with a Mortgage

Median Income: $84,806
Median Monthly Owner Costs: $1,964

Households w/out a Mortgage

Median Income: $49,191
Median Monthly Owner Costs: $883

Median Income
Renter Households = $33,388
34% less than the median income of all households.

Median Gross Rent = $1,084
39% of income spent on rent; 61% of income for all other expenses.

Source: 2011-2015 American Community Survey

Renter Households: West Haven

Median Gross Rent = $1,084
Median Income
Renter Households = $33,388
34% less than the median income of all households.

Source: 2011-15 American Community Survey

Housing Costs as a % of Household Income: West Haven

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner-Occupied</th>
<th># Units</th>
<th>% Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spending &lt;30%</td>
<td>6,103</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spending &gt;=30%</td>
<td>4,922</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not computed</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Renter Occupied</th>
<th># Units</th>
<th>% Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spending &lt;30%</td>
<td>3,264</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spending &gt;=30%</td>
<td>5,435</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not computed</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2011-15 American Community Survey

In Connecticut, incomes among those who own their homes tend to be much higher than incomes for renter households. However, incomes for owners who no longer pay a mortgage also tend to be lower than for those paying a mortgage, as those no longer paying a mortgage may be retired and living on fixed incomes.

Source: 2011-2015 American Community Survey
Housing Wage

2017 Housing Wage: West Haven

$25.48

West Haven is included in the New Haven-Meriden Metro Area.

Each year, the National Low Income Housing Coalition calculates the “housing wage,” the hourly wage needed for a household to afford a typical 2-bedroom apartment in metro areas throughout the United States.

Connecticut’s housing costs are typically high, ranking #8 in 2017 with a housing wage of $24.72.

Building Permits

Connecticut saw a sharp decline in building permits following the crash of the housing market in the mid-2000s. As the housing market slowly recovers, statewide building permits have increased by small amounts since 2011, with permits for multifamily units at levels not seen for a decade. Building permits issued, however, remain well below the levels seen in the 1980s and 1990s.

Grand List

Real Property Grand List Values, 2008-16: West Haven

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Real Property</th>
<th>% Change, 2008-16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>$2,718,400,799</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$2,283,983,594</td>
<td>-16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Connecticut housing prices declined precipitously after the 2008 financial crisis and have not rebounded to pre-crisis levels, particularly in municipalities - 113 of 169 - where housing stock is dominated by single-family homes. Across the state, 152 municipalities have seen either no change in real property grand lists, or declines, forcing most to raise mill rates, reduce services, or both.

Source: CT Department of Economic and Community Development

Affordable Housing Appeals List

Each year the CT Department Of Housing surveys municipalities in the state to determine the number of affordable units each has. The data is compiled for the Affordable Housing Appeals List. The following housing units are counted as affordable in West Haven in 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assisted Units Counted in 2016 Appeals List: West Haven</th>
<th>Calculation of % of Total Units Assisted: West Haven</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,024 Governmentally Assisted Units</td>
<td>2,911 ÷ 22,446 = 13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,476 Tenant Rental Assistance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>411 CHFA/USDA Mortgages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 0 Deed Restricted Units</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,911 Total Assisted Units</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Housing Data Profiles are produced by the Partnership for Strong Communities.

For more details about the information presented or to use any of the graphics in the Housing Data Profiles, please contact: Charles Patton, Senior Policy Analyst, charles@pschousing.org.
# Analysis of Housing Conditions

## Key Stats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stat</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Population</td>
<td>55,189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households</td>
<td>20,137</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Projected Change in Population from 2020-2030 | 5-19 Year Olds: 19%  
65+ Year Old: 10% |
| Median Household Income       | All Households: $50,846  
Owners: $75,528  
Renters: $33,388 |
| Housing Units                 | Total Units: 22,290  
Owner-Occupied: 50%  
Renter-Occupied: 40%  
Vacant: 10% |
| Single-Family/Multifamily     | Single Family: 54%  
Multifamily: 46% |
| Median Home Value             | $200,800                                                                |
| Median Gross Rent             | $1,084                                                                 |
| Households Spending 30% or More on Housing | All Households: 51%  
Owners: 44%  
Renters: 60% |
| Housing Built 1970 or Later   | 30%                                                                     |
| 2016 Affordable Housing Appeals List | Assisted Units: 13%  
% Change in Total Real Property, 2008-2016 | -16% |

## West Haven's Housing Data Profile: The Story Behind the Numbers

West Haven, like most of Connecticut’s cities and first-ring suburbs, has a low-to-moderate median household income, relatively low housing costs, a substantial if aging supply of units for teachers, nurses, electricians, firefighters and town workers, but a still too narrow range of housing choices for Baby Boomers seeking to downsize and Millennials and young families seeking to move to town.

Housing remains expensive in West Haven relative to the median household income. Statewide, 50% of renters and 32% of homeowners spend 30% or more of their household incomes on housing. In West Haven, where the $50,846 median household income is lower than the statewide median of $70,331, 60% of the town’s renters and 44% of its homeowners spend 30% or more of their income on housing.

West Haven is one of the few Connecticut municipalities that could see an increase in school enrollment through 2030 because of unusual anticipated growth in school-age (5-19) population of 19% from 2020 to 2030. At the same time, its population is getting much older, with a projected increase of 10% in the 65+ population from 2020 to 2030, potentially leading to the need for smaller, denser, more affordable homes closer to the town center, services and, if possible, transit connections.

West Haven is among the third of Connecticut municipalities where single-family homes do not dominate its housing stock (54%) and there is substantial multifamily housing to offer (53% of the units are 0-2 bedrooms, compared to 42% statewide). Many towns in Connecticut built the bulk of their homes after 1970 to accommodate the needs of new Baby Boomer families then in their 20s. In West Haven, only 30% of homes were built in 1970 or after.

Now in their 60s, those families are seeking more modest homes. But their attempts to sell are being met by few offers because few young families can afford to move to those towns, flattening median sales prices and stunting the growth of Grand Lists – the towns’ total value of real property – and thus property tax revenues needed to pay for increasingly expensive services. From 2008 through 2016 (latest OPM figures), 150 towns experienced negative growth in real property values, 2 had no growth and 7 had only slight growth of 2 percent or less. The total real property Grand List in West Haven declined significantly by 16% from 2008 through 2016.

Across the state, 138 of the 169 municipalities have affordable homes totaling less than 10% of their housing stock. These are the kinds of homes increasingly sought by young professionals, families, town workers, downsizing Baby Boomers and others. In West Haven, 13% of the homes are affordable, according to the state’s 2016 Affordable Housing Appeals List.
Data Sources & Notes

Page 1

- Populations, Age, & Race
  - DP-1 - Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000, Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data
  - DP05 - ACS Demographic And Housing Estimates, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

- Note: Due to rounding throughout the profile, some results may not appear to correspond with the values in tables, charts and text.

- Age & Income
  - Median Household Income

- Aging of Population

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- Tenure, Units in Structure, Year Built, Bedrooms
  - DP04 - Selected Housing Characteristics, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

- Tenure note: Universe is all housing units. Total housing stock includes vacant units.

- Units in Structure notes: Multifamily includes all units with 2+ units in structure. Does not include boats, RVs, vans, etc. Universe is occupied housing units (does not include vacant units).

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- Affordability
  - DP04 - Selected Housing Characteristics, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Note: Percent income spent on housing costs is not calculated for some households, noted in chart as “Not computed.”

- Home Value
  - B25075 - Value, Universe: Owner-occupied housing units, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

- Gross Rent
  - DP04 - Selected Housing Characteristics, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

- Housing Costs & Income
  - Median Household Income by Tenure
  - Median Household Income for Owner-Occupied Households by Mortgage Status
  - Median Monthly Housing Costs by Mortgage Status, Median Gross Rent
    - DP04 - Selected Housing Characteristics, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Note: Median Gross Rent data suppressed for some geographies by Census Bureau, reasons for suppression may vary.

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- Housing Wage
  - Out of Reach 2017, 2-Bedroom Housing Wage, National Low Income Housing Coalition

- Grand Lists
  - Total Grand Lists by Town, 2008 and 2014, CT Office of Policy and Management

- Building Permits
  - Connecticut New Housing Authorizations in 2016, Construction Report: Housing Production & Permits, CT Dept. of Economic and Community Development

- Affordable Housing Appeals List
  - 2016 Affordable Housing Appeals List, CT Dept. of Housing