2020 Housing Data Profiles

LITCHFIELD COUNTY





KEY FINDINGS

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6%

of housing is subsidized

19%

of households rent their home

23%

of housing units are in multifamily buildings

Affordability

18%

of households spend between 30% and 50% of their income on housing 13%

of households spend more than half of their income on housing \$22.69

the hourly wage needed to afford a 2-bedroom apartment

Population

46

the median age of residents

11%

of residents are people of color (BIPOC)

-9%

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 **Litchfield County** compares to **other counties** 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 2014-2018 American Community Survey unless stated otherwise. Percentages may differ slightly or not sum to exactly 100% due to rounding.

SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES AS PERCENT OF ALL HOMES

77%

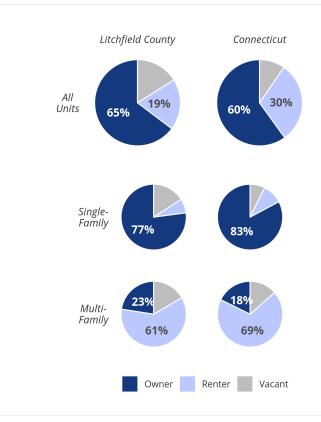


PERCENT OF ALL HOMES OCCUPIED BY OWNERS

65%

Overall, 64% 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 Litchfield County, 77% of occupied homes are single-family, and 23% are multi-family. Owners live in 77% of Litchfield County's 67,958 single-family homes, and renters live in 61% of its 19,846 multifamily homes.



CHANGE IN BUILDING PERMITS, 1990-2017

-83%

Growth is slow in the state, which has seen a 42% decrease in building permits between 1990 and 2017.

In Litchfield County, there were 825 building permits issued in 1990, compared to 142 issued in 2017, representing a 83% decrease.



Source: Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development



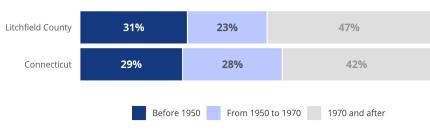
UNITS BUILT BEFORE 1970

53%

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.



Age of units



SPENDING ON ENERGY AS PERCENT OF TOTAL INCOME

3.3%

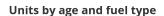
Households that use electricity spend 3.8% of their income on energy (3.4% for fuel oil/coal and 3.1% for gas).

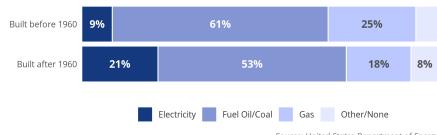
AFFORDABLE HOMES AS A SHARE OF ALL HOUSING UNITS

6%

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 87,550 total units in Litchfield County, 5,033 are considered to be affordable.

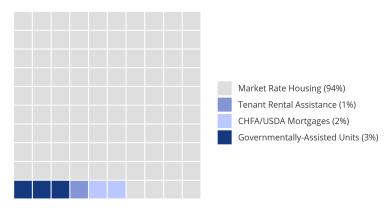




Source: United States Department of Energy



Affordable units by type



Source: Connecticut Department of Housing

PEOPLE BURDENED BY COST OF HOUSING

31%

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



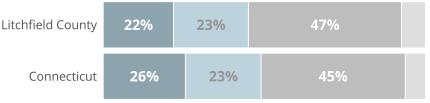
RENTERS BURDENED BY COST OF HOUSING

53%

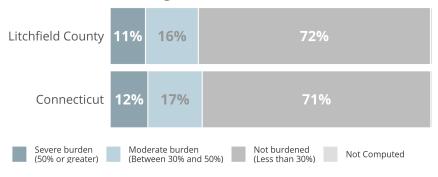
OWNERS BURDENED BY COST OF HOUSING

28%

Housing cost burden for renters



Housing cost burden for owners



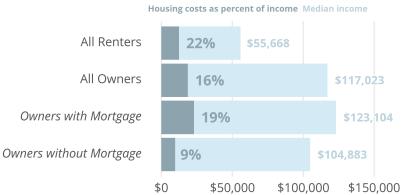
RENTERS' HOUSING COSTS AS PERCENT OF INCOME

22%

OWNERS' HOUSING COSTS AS PERCENT OF INCOME

16%

Housing costs as percent of income





HOUSING WAGE

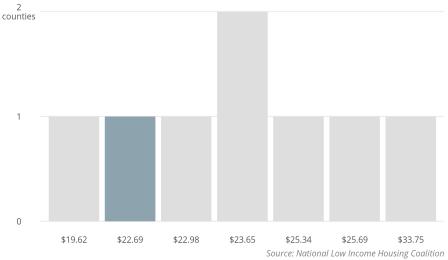
\$22.69

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.

Litchfield County's housing wage is lower than the state housing wage of \$26.42.



2020 Housing Data Profiles

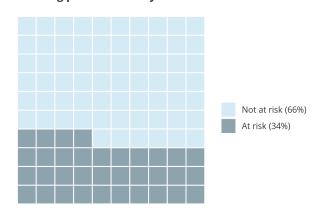


HOUSING PRESERVATION UNITS

34%

Litchfield County has 2,656 federally assisted housing units, of which 34% are at risk of loss within the next 5 years.

Housing preservation by risk

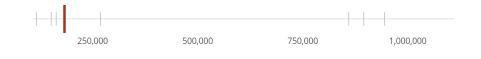


Source: National Housing Preservation Database



TOTAL POPULATION

183,031



PEOPLE OF COLOR

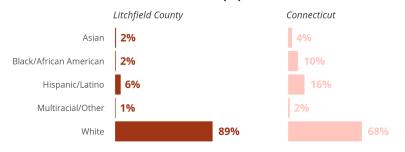
11%

Connecticut population is becoming increasingly diverse, but the BIPOC population is concentrated in certain municipalities, especially Connecticut's cities. In Litchfield County, 11% of residents are BIPOC, while 89% are white.

Litchfield County is less diverse than Connecticut



The largest race/ethnicity group in Litchfield County is White at 89% of the population



MEDIAN AGE

46

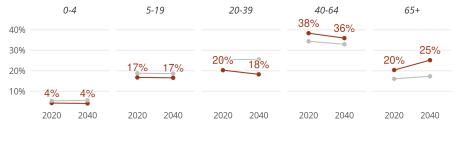
20 30 40 50 60

POPULATION CHANGE, 2020 TO 2040

-9%

In the next twenty years, Litchfield County's population is projected to shrink from 186,611 to 170,303.

People age 65+ are projected to grow the most in the next 20 years in Litchfield County



Litchfield County

Connecticut

Source: Connecticut Data Center

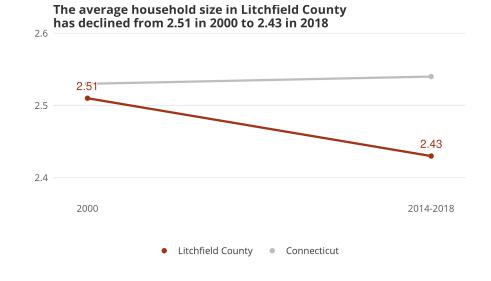


AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE

2.43



The average household size in Litchfield County has declined between 2000 and 2018.



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, Litchfield County has more households with someone older than 60 and fewer households with school-age children.

Household types as a percent of total Householder living alone Litchfield County 28% Connecticut 28% Households with someone older than 60 Litchfield County 47% Connecticut 40% Households with someone under 18 Litchfield County 26% Connecticut 30%

