



# DataHaven

## The Thirtieth Year

DataHaven 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event (Photo: Harold Shapiro)



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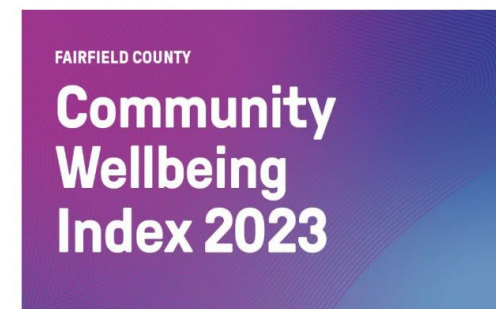
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**DataHaven**  
The Thirtieth Year

# About DataHaven

- Non-profit 501(c)3 organization with a 30-year history of public service to Connecticut
- Mission is to empower people to create thriving communities by collecting and ensuring access to data on **well-being, equity, and quality of life**
- We provide technical assistance to over 200 agencies per year on the use of federal, state, and local data
- Formal affiliate of the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership of the Urban Institute (Washington, DC)
- Our **DataHaven Community Wellbeing Survey** has interviewed 50,000 randomly-selected adults in Connecticut since 2015



**Fairfield County Community Wellbeing Index**  
Indicators of well-being, equity, and quality of life in Fairfield County neighborhoods



**Connecticut Town Equity Reports**  
Reports featuring disaggregated local data on well-being and equity for all 169 CT towns



**Health Equity in Connecticut 2023**  
Report and data graphics about key social drivers of health and health outcomes in Connecticut

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**BREAKING NEWS** CT man sentenced to 70 years in prison for fatally sta  
girlfriend in 2019 in front of her young son October 2, 2023 at 6:58 pm

LOCAL NEWS

**SUBSCRIBER ONLY**

**A CT city wants 35% of its area covered by a tree canopy. A \$6 million federal grant should help.**

The federal dollars are part of a \$15.4 million investment in Connecticut



[Donate](#)

## Health inequities persist in Connecticut: 14,000 excess deaths among Black population

Connecticut Public Radio | By [Sujata Srinivasan](#)

Published August 25, 2023 at 5:15 AM EDT

LOCAL NEWS

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**To address mental health issues, Hartford offers free access to app**

Residents will receive free one-year subscription to Headspace

The Hartford skyline on Thursday, Aug. 31, 2023. (Aaron Flaum/Hartford Courant)

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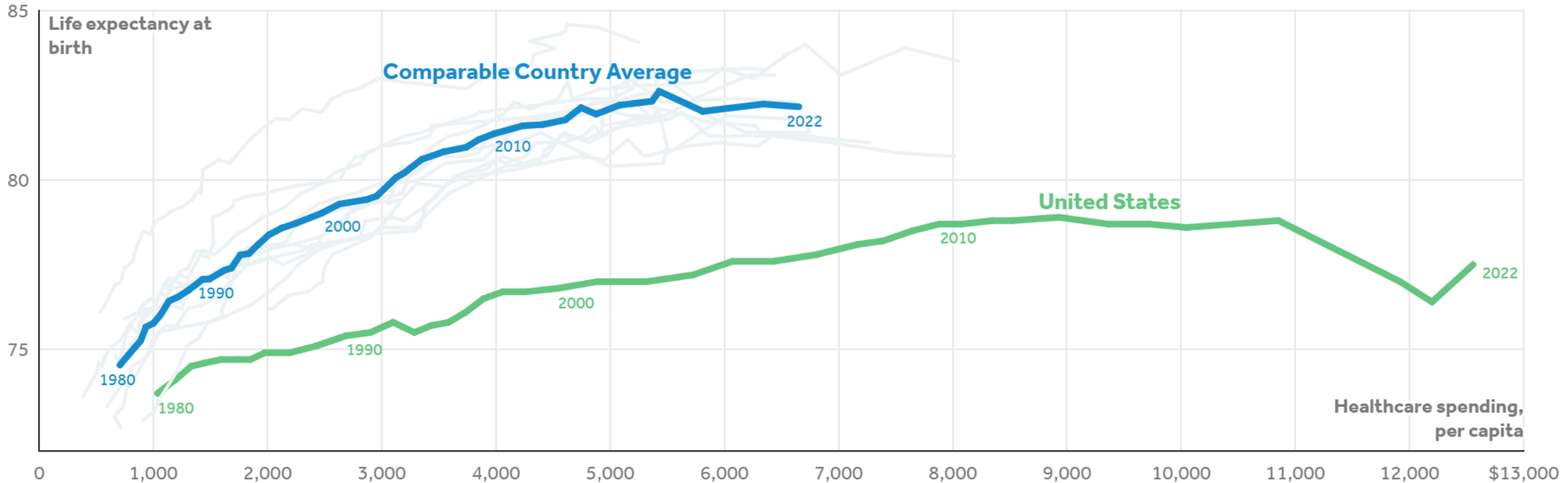
**MONEY**

## United Way: A family of four needs \$126,000 a year to survive in CT

New report shows basic needs are four times the federal poverty level

# Wealth and Inequality

Life expectancy and healthcare spending per capita, 1980-2022



Notes: Comparable countries include: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, and the U.K. See Methods [section](#) of "How does U.S. life expectancy compare to other countries?"

Source: KFF analysis of [CDC](#), [OECD](#), [Australian Bureau of Statistics](#), [Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare](#), [Statistics Canada](#), and [U.K. Office for National Statistics](#) data • [Get the data](#) • [PNG](#)

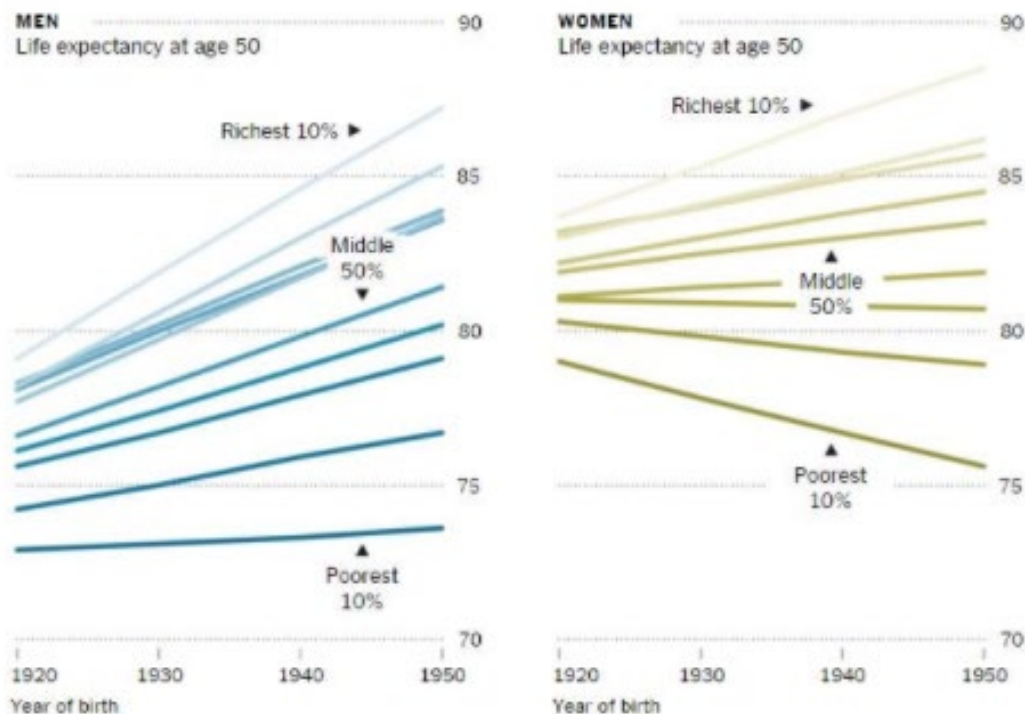


Mark Abraham @urbandata · 12 Feb 2016

Gap in **life expectancy** between US rich & poor has more than doubled:  
[nytimes.com/2016/02/13/hea...](https://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/13/health/inequality-life-expectancy.html) #inequality #phealth

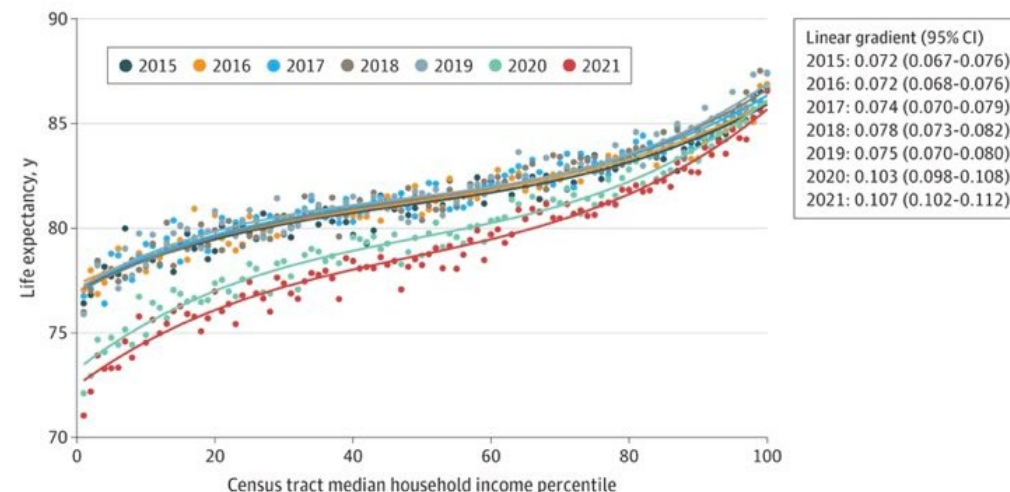
## An Expanding Longevity Gap

Wealthier Americans tend to live longer than poorer Americans. Despite advances in medicine and education, the difference in life span between the richest and the poorest has more than doubled since the 1970s.



Sources: Brookings Institution; U. of Michigan Health and Retirement Study  
By The New York Times

**Figure 2. Life Expectancy in California by Census Tract Median Household Income Percentile, 2015-2021**



Schwandt et al. July 7, 2022. <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2794146>

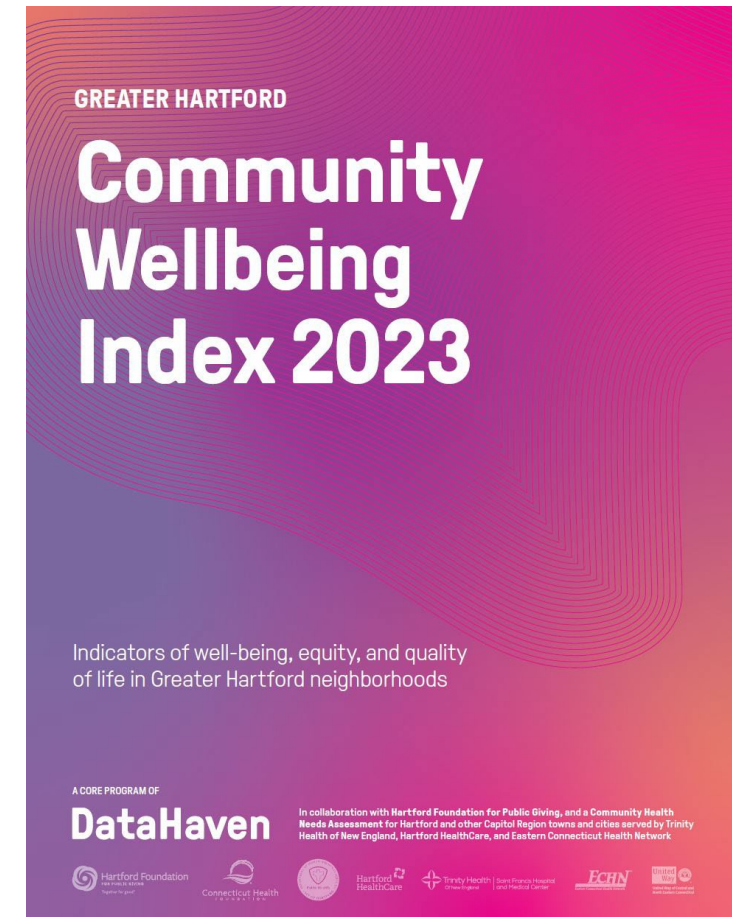
According to a DataHaven analysis, in the state's five largest cities, the number of deaths increased by 45% from 2019 to 2020, while in the remaining 164 towns, they increased by about 20%.



- **Community Wellbeing Index 2023**
  - [ctdatahaven.org/reports](https://ctdatahaven.org/reports)
- **Town Equity Reports**
  - [ctdatahaven.org/equityreports](https://ctdatahaven.org/equityreports)
- **Health Equity in Connecticut 2023**
  - [ctdatahaven.org/healthequity2023](https://ctdatahaven.org/healthequity2023)
- **Connecticut City Neighborhood Profiles**
  - [ctdatahaven.org/communities](https://ctdatahaven.org/communities) or [ctdatahaven.org/data-dashboard](https://ctdatahaven.org/data-dashboard)

# Community Wellbeing Index: Measurement as a Unifier

- Involves 300 Advisory Council and Research Advisory Committee members; 100 public and private funders; 25 co-authors of the report
- Informed by **quantitative** and **qualitative** data
- Includes our analysis of many federal, state, and local public data sources (e.g., census microdata, criminal justice records, all CT hospital records)
- Includes analysis of our DataHaven Community Wellbeing Survey's live interviews of nearly 50,000 randomly-selected CT adults in 2012, 2015, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022



<https://www.ctdatahaven.org/reports/>

FIGURE 4G  
Since the moratorium eviction was lifted, monthly filings have surpassed  
prepandemic levels  
MONTHLY EVICTION FILINGS, GREATER NEW HAVEN, JAN 2020 TO OCT 2022

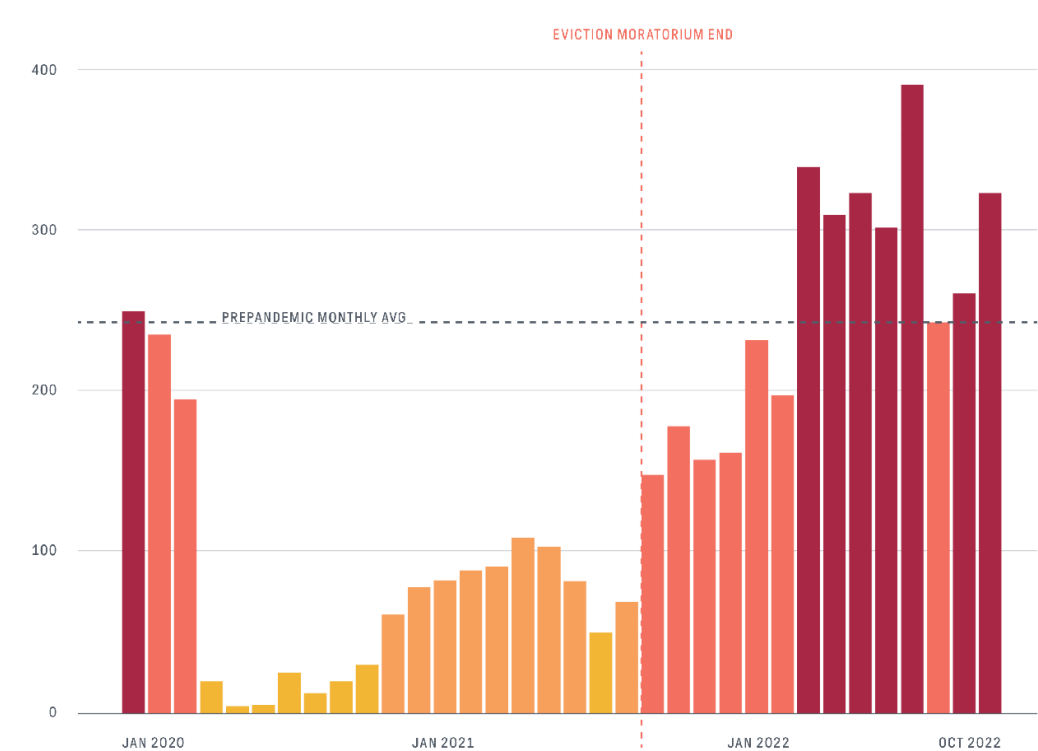


TABLE 4C  
Severe cost burden and eviction  
SEVERE COST BURDEN (2020) AND EVICTION FILINGS (JAN-OCT 2022) FOR RENTER HOUSEHOLDS

LOCATION	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS	SEVERE COST BURDEN RATE	RENTER HOUSEHOLDS	RENTER SEVERE COST BURDEN RATE	SEVERELY BURDENED RENTER HOUSEHOLDS	TOTAL EVICTION FILINGS	EVICTION FILINGS PER 10K
Connecticut	1.4M	16%	470K	25%	116K	19,426	413
Greater New Haven	176K	18%	71K	27%	19K	2,929	411
New Haven	49K	26%	35K	29%	10K	1,703	482
Inner Ring	53K	18%	20K	25%	5K	885	434
East Haven	11K	17%	3K	23%	1K	126	457
Hamden	22K	17%	8K	25%	2K	344	427
West Haven	20K	20%	10K	26%	3K	415	433
Outer Ring	75K	13%	16K	23%	3K	341	220
Milford	22K	13%	6K	21%	1K	142	249

As of February 2024, evictions are still above the prepandemic average, according to DataHaven’s monthly indicator tracking

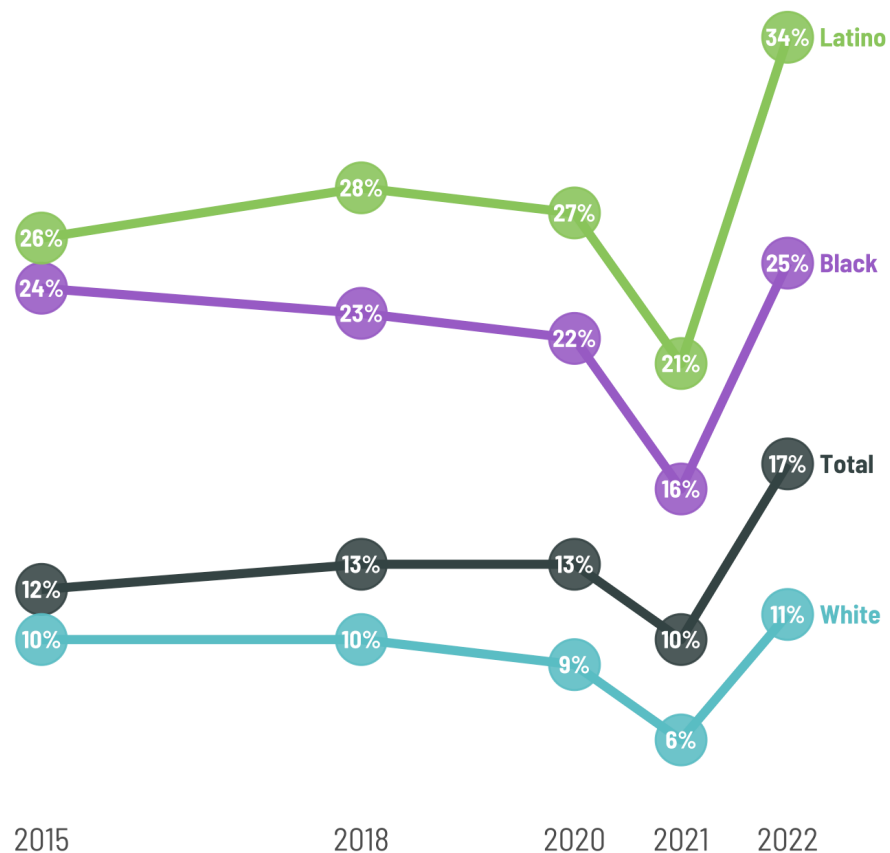
# DataHaven The Thirtieth Year

# Community Wellbeing Index

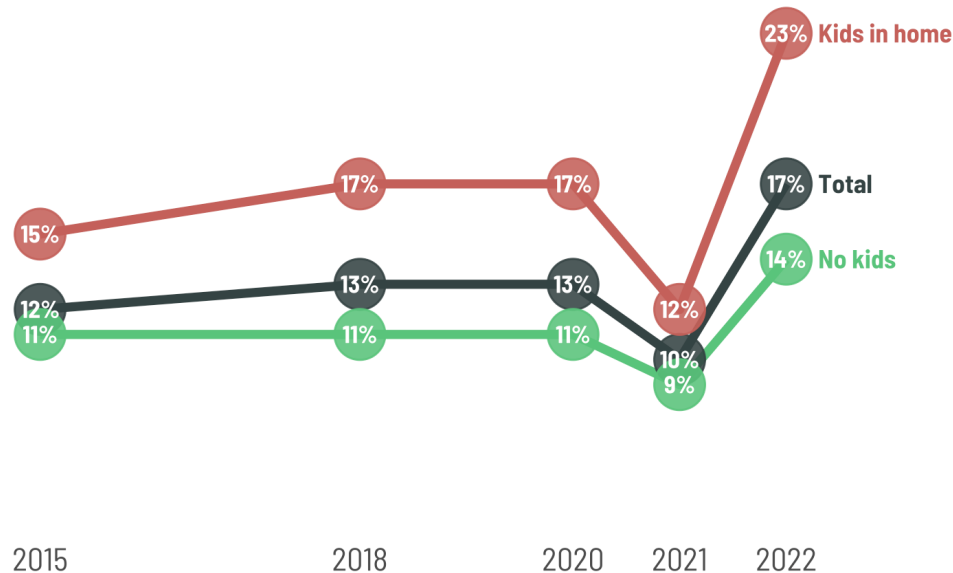
**As Pandemic Relief Programs Fade, Black and Latino Adults and Adults Who Live With Children Are Hit Hard by Food Insecurity.**

Share of adults reporting food insecurity by race/ethnicity and presence of children, Connecticut, 2015–2022

Race/Ethnicity



Children in home



Source: 2015–2022 DataHaven Community Wellbeing Survey



# Community Wellbeing Index

TABLE 8C

## Views of local community assets

SHARE OF ADULTS, GREATER HARTFORD, 2021

LOCATION	GOOD PARKS	HIGH QUALITY RECREATIONAL FACILITIES	SAFE BIKING	STORES IN WALKING DISTANCE	AFFORDABLE, HIGH QUALITY PRODUCE
Connecticut	78%	74%	68%	56%	76%
Greater Hartford	81%	79%	77%	56%	77%
Hartford	47%	73%	63%	81%	48%
BY DEMOGRAPHIC WITHIN GREATER HARTFORD					
Male	82%	83%	79%	58%	80%
Female	81%	75%	77%	54%	76%
Ages 18-34	74%	79%	78%	68%	69%
Ages 35-49	80%	79%	77%	54%	74%
Ages 50-64	82%	79%	78%	52%	83%
Ages 65+	89%	75%	76%	46%	87%
White	87%	78%	79%	48%	84%
Black	67%	81%	74%	76%	67%
Latino	68%	74%	77%	65%	63%

Source: DataHaven Greater Hartford Community Wellbeing Index 2023

TABLE 7C

Gun violence

SHARE OF ADULTS, BY CITY (2021) AND CONNECTICUT BY DEMOGRAPHIC (2022)

LOCATION	AFRAID OF GUN VIOLENCE	RELATIVE SHOT IN PAST YEAR	WITNESSED SHOOTING IN PAST YEAR
Connecticut	15%	4%	5%
New Haven*	47%	5%	13%
Wealthy towns	2%	1%	2%
Suburban towns	5%	2%	3%
Rural towns	6%	5%	2%
Urban Periphery towns	15%	4%	6%
Urban Core towns	44%	6%	11%
White	10%	2%	3%
Black	29%	5%	5%
Latino	33%	10%	13%

\*2021 survey data; all others are 2022

## Experiences of discrimination

SHARE OF ADULTS REPORTING BEING TREATED UNFAIRLY IN THE PAST 3 YEARS BY SCENARIO, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, 2021

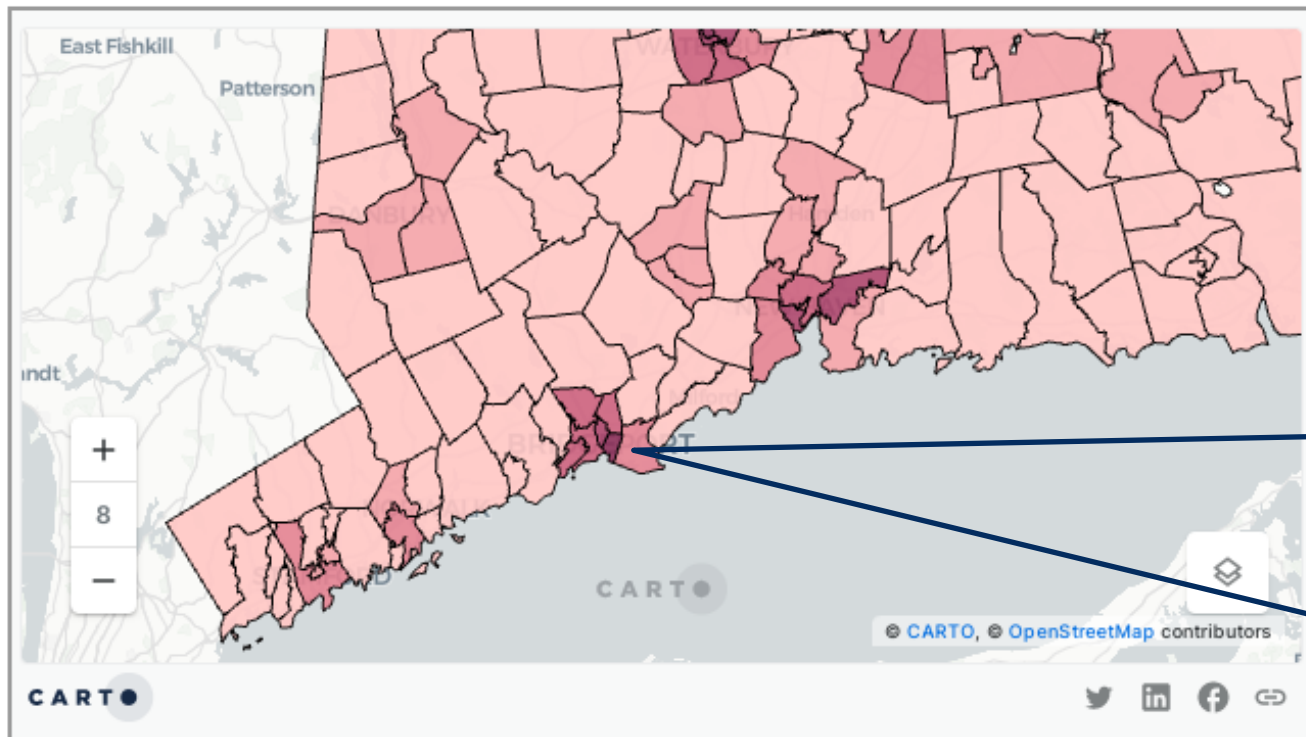
LOCATION	ACCESSING HEALTH CARE	AT WORK OR LOOKING FOR WORK	INTERACTING WITH POLICE
Connecticut	7%	9%	4%
Fairfield County	7%	8%	4%
White	5%	5%	1%
Black	10%	16%	9%
Latino	10%	13%	9%

Source: DataHaven Fairfield County Community Wellbeing Index 2023

- In Greenwich, 39% of Black or Latino residents reported experiencing discrimination in healthcare at some point in their life, compared to 3% of White residents
- Statewide, 14% of straight and cisgender adults reported experiencing discrimination, compared to 34% of LGBTQ+ and 37% of transgender adults



# Why Measure Wellbeing?

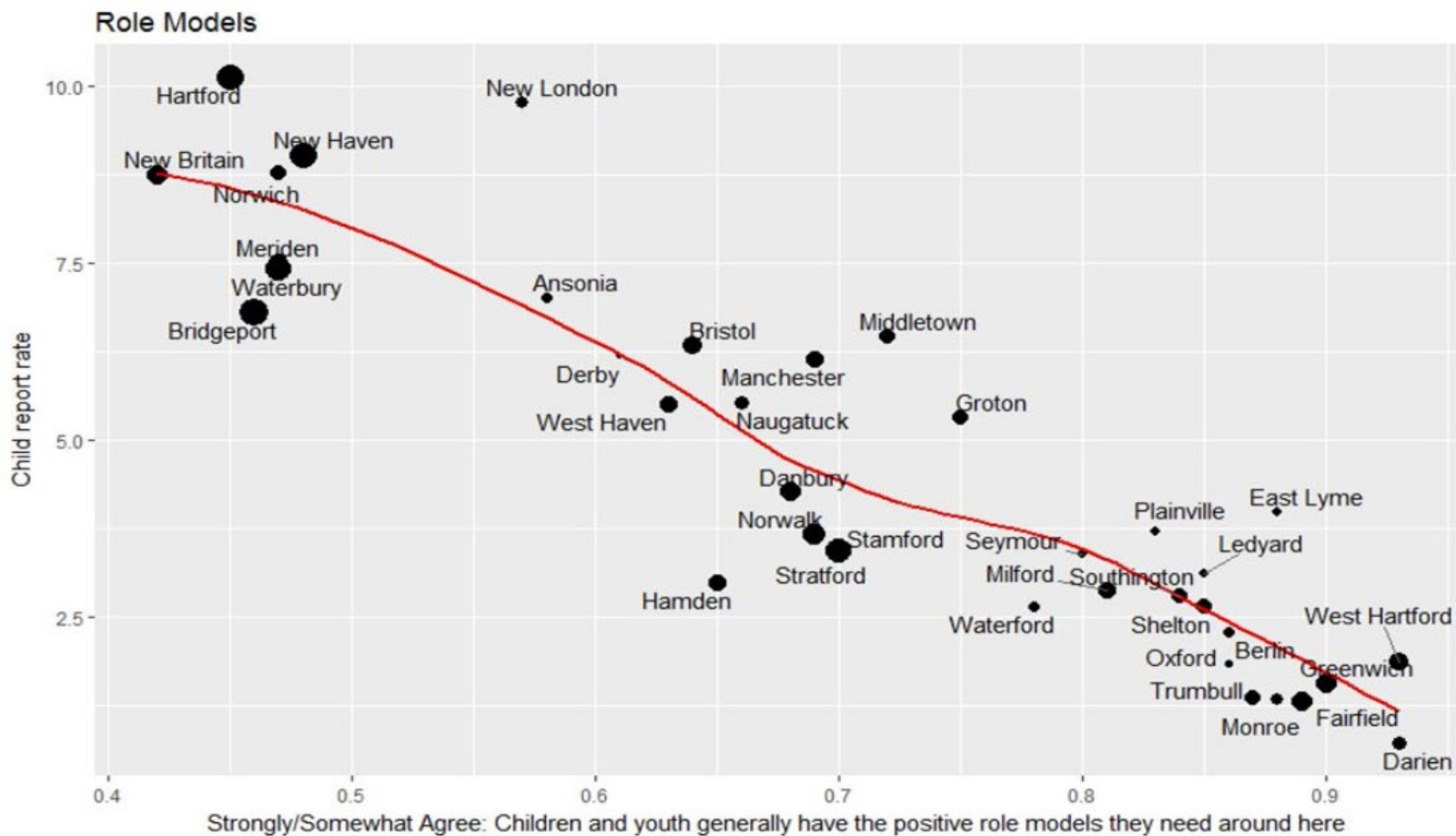


**Percent of adults who do not trust their neighbors:**

- 1% in Old Greenwich ZIP code**
- 2% in Southport area of Fairfield**
- 10% in Central Greenwich ZIP code**
- 27% in New London**
- 59% in East End of Bridgeport**

MRP estimates using DataHaven Community Wellbeing Survey pooled data.

Source: DataHaven website, "Neighborhood Distrust by ZIP Code DataHaven Community Wellbeing Survey MRP Estimates 2022 7-year average"

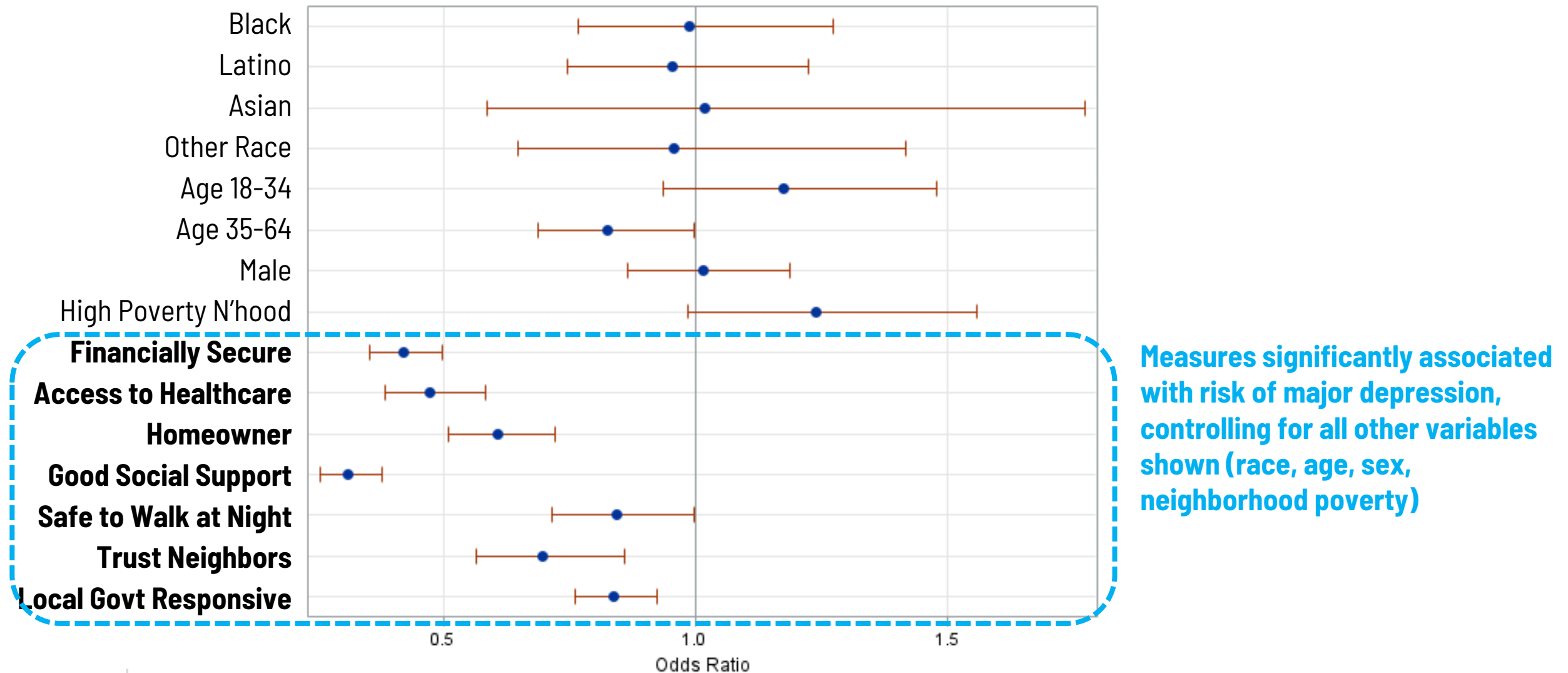


“These measures seem to be capturing something very important in communities, over and above the kind of demographic data we get from the Census. It may not just be that residents in some places are poorer or have high unemployment, but that they feel their communities have fewer role models and services for kids.”  
-Kelley Fong, Ph.D.

Source: Analysis of 2015 DataHaven Community Wellbeing Survey and CTDCF data by Kelley Fong, Harvard University

# Why Measure Wellbeing?

Odds of Major Depression Risk (based on PHQ-2), with 95% Confidence Intervals



# Contextualizing the data

**“No persons of any race  
other than the white race  
shall use or occupy any  
building or any lot...”**

- Dryad's Grove development,  
West Hartford, July 1941

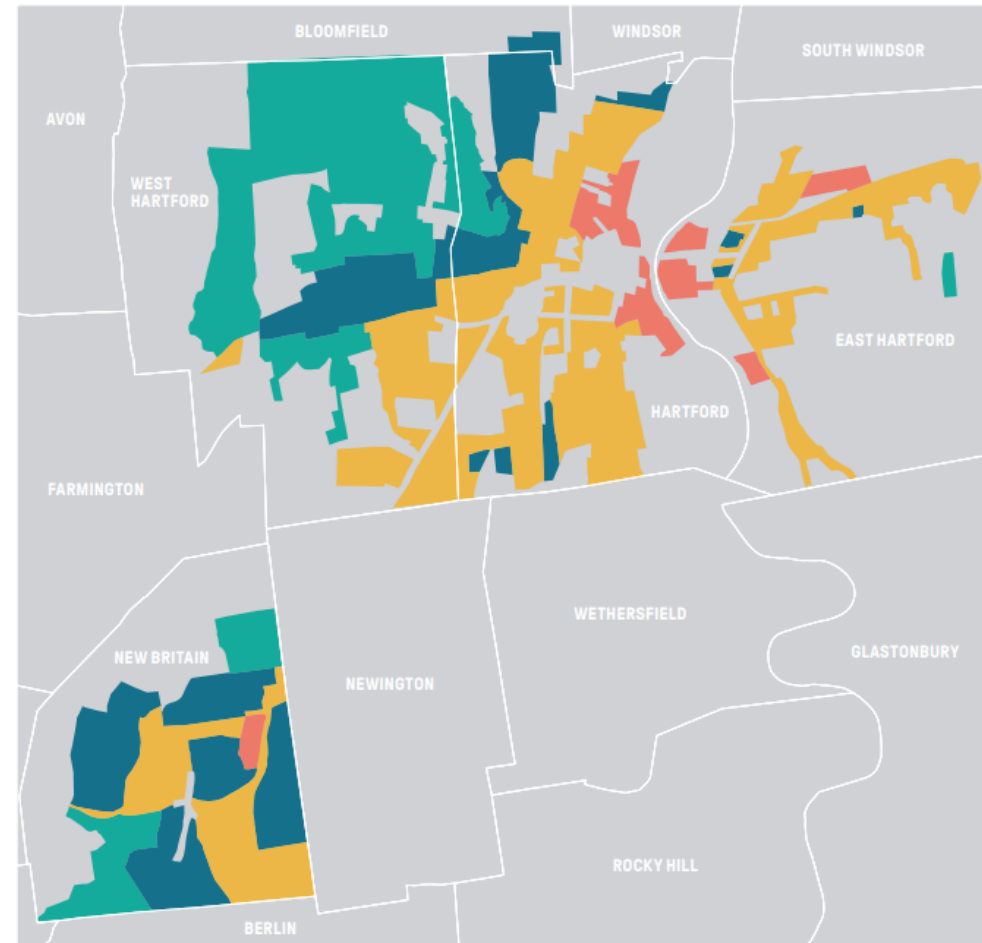
*Map Source: DataHaven Greater Hartford  
Community Wellbeing Index 2019*

*Quote Source: Dougherty et al, Trinity College*

FIG 2.18

**The patterns in 1930s redlining maps are still present today**

HOLC REDLINED AREAS OF HARTFORD, NEW BRITAIN, AND NEIGHBORING TOWNS, 1937



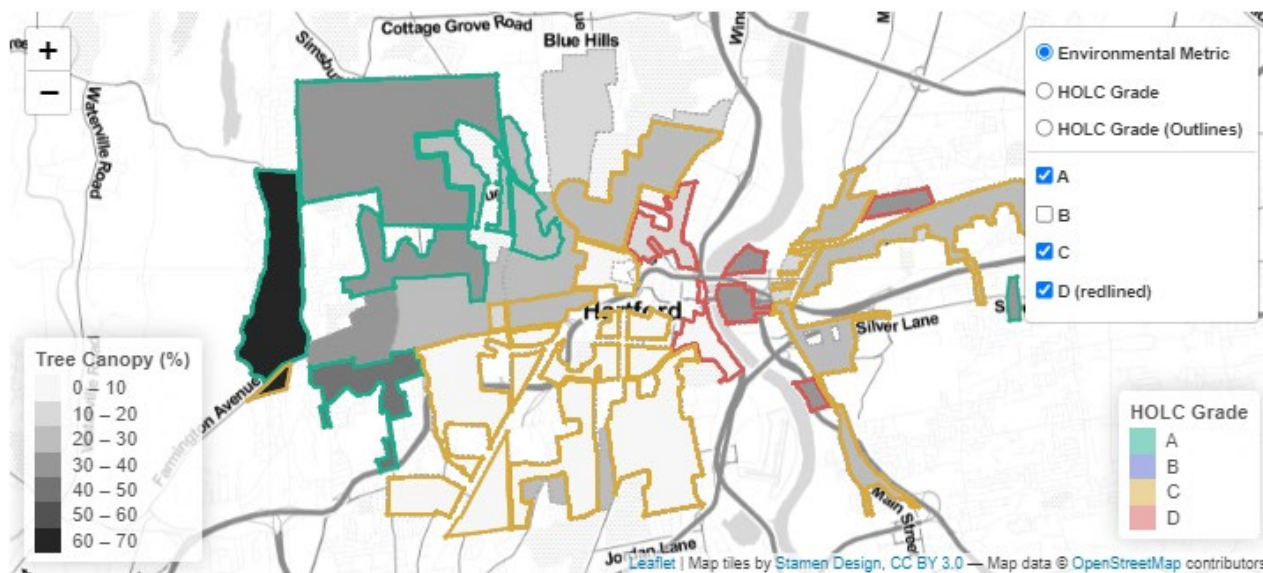
HOLC GRADE  
A - BEST  
B - STILL DESIRABLE  
C - DEFINITELY DECLINING  
D - HAZARDOUS



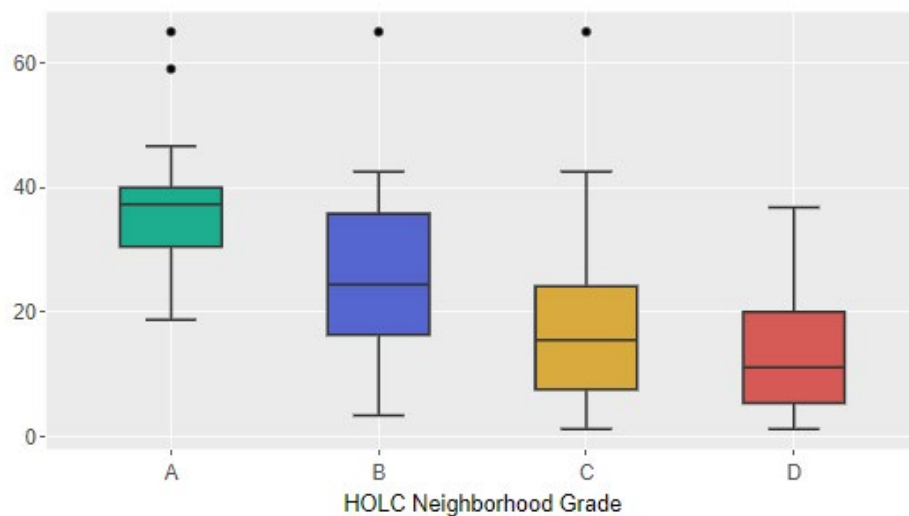
## RAND Environmental Racism Data Tool (2022), Hartford, CT

### Tree Canopy Coverage in 2016:

- **37% in A-Grade areas**
- **11% in D-Grade areas**



Percent Tree Canopy Coverage by HOLC grade in Hartford, CT (2016)





## Diabetes prevalence among women age 50+, by Race/Ethnicity and Connecticut Town Type

Town Type	White	Black	Latino
Wealthy	3%	22%	19%
Suburban	10%		
Rural	11%		
Urban Periphery	13%		
Urban Core	17%	28%	25%
All Areas	12%	27%	20%

# 2023 Health Equity Report



## Health Equity in Connecticut 2023

FIG 2

**Black, Latino, and low-income adults face greater than average barriers to good health and healthcare**

SHARE OF ADULTS, 2021



Didn't get healthcare when needed in past year:

(% of adults in CT)

9% straight  
9% cisgender

19% LGBTQ+

39% transgender

# 2023 Health Equity Report

## Health Equity in Connecticut 2023

FIG 3

### Adults in Bridgeport and Hartford may be at elevated risk for poor health outcomes

SHARE OF ADULTS, 2021



# 2023 Health Equity Report

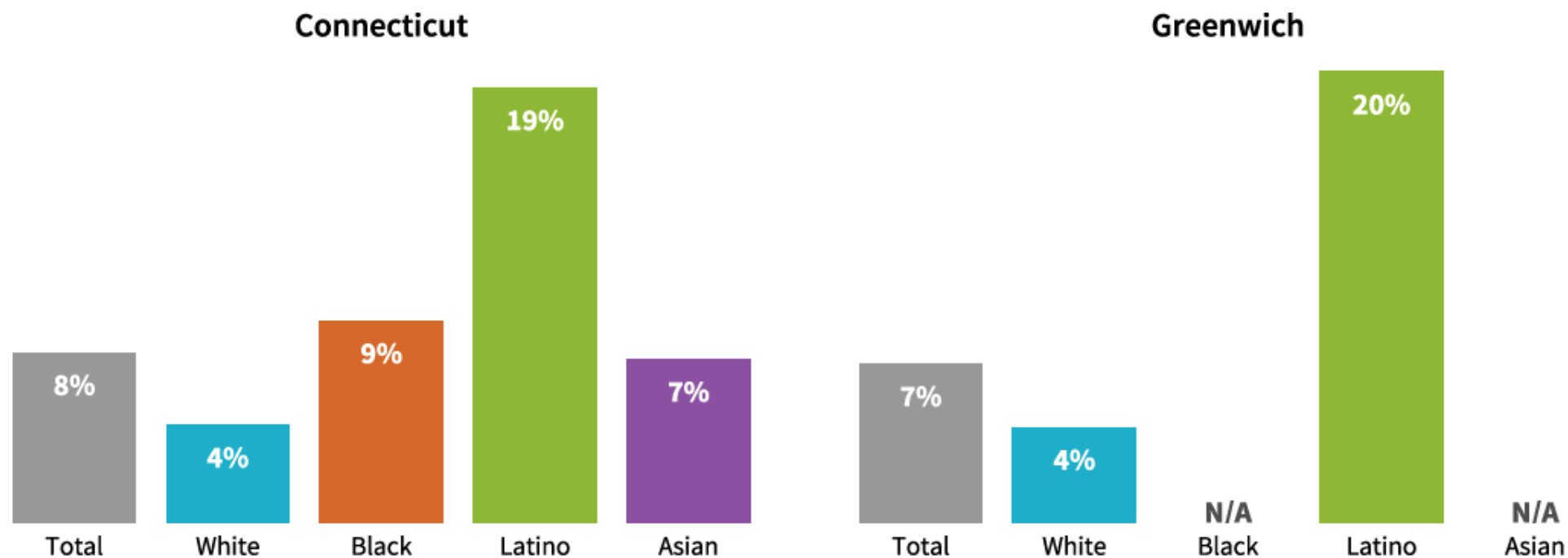


While all demographic groups in Connecticut fare better than those same groups nationally, the ACMR for Black people in Connecticut is 21 percent higher than it is for white people. This means that Connecticut on the whole is healthier than the national average, but both statewide and nationwide, poor health outcomes are disparately experienced by Black populations (SEE FIGURE 11).

If Black people in Connecticut had the same mortality rates as white people, we estimate that there would have been about 14,000 fewer deaths in the Black community between 2017 and 2022. In other words, there were 14,000 excess deaths in the Black population in this time period. We estimate that 1,300 of those deaths were due to COVID-19 alone. Those 14,000 deaths translate to about 150,000 life years lost in the Black community over a six-year period.<sup>48</sup>

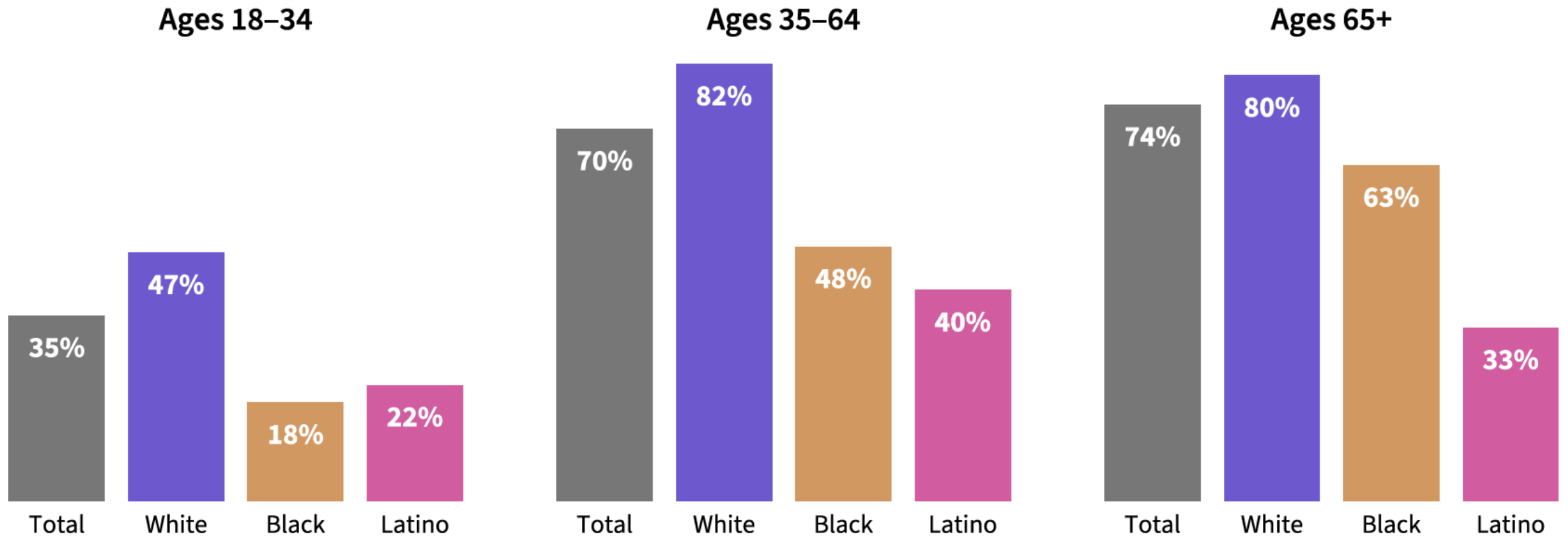
If white people died at the same rate as Black people in Connecticut, in that same six-year window, an additional 226,000 white people statewide would have died, amounting to 3.1 million additional life years lost.

**FIGURE 15: UNINSURED RATE AMONG ADULTS AGES 19–64 BY RACE/ETHNICITY, 2019**



Source: Greenwich Town Equity Report 2021

**FIGURE 5: HOMEOWNERSHIP RATES BY AGE AND RACE/ETHNICITY OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD, CAPITOL REGION COG, 2021  
(WITH PROXY AREA)**





- Residents and advocates
- Town-level committees on inclusion, anti-racism, declaring racism a public health crisis, equity and sustainability
- Town-level elected officials and candidates
- Non-profit organizations, and other programs that serve residents in a geographic area
- K-12 schools and higher education ([ctdatahaven.org/classroom](https://ctdatahaven.org/classroom))
- State legislators (DataHaven has also produced legislative district profiles)

EMILY TANG-LEE

## Empowering community through data

I grew up in Brooklyn in a scrappy refugee family, one that didn't have much money but that valued education. My experience is one I see reflected in the Stamford community, in families across the city.

My mom worked as an admin at a large company and my dad was a taxi driver. We were a family eligible for free lunch. My parents tried to keep worries about money to themselves, but even in elementary school I knew that to ask for a school trip was to ask my parents to pay for something we might not be able to afford. Mom and dad's engagement with teachers was through report cards and parent-teacher conferences. No one told them to join a parent-teacher organization and, besides, they didn't have time or energy to spare. My parents' English was good enough but not their first language and as I got older, I often found myself at the computer, inputting data on my parents' behalf.

Through my parents' encouragement and my own hard work, I forged a path to higher education, going through New York City's specialized public schools, then to the Top 25 liberal arts college Hamilton, and finally to Johns Hopkins for my master's degree.



Contributed photo

Emily Tang-Lee

My parents are wonderful parents who set me and my brother up for success, despite their income. But it took an inordinate amount of effort to get us to where we are today, and I wonder what would have happened to us if we didn't have the good fortune of having my parents, who were at least armed with information they could use to guide us on our education journey. What happens to the other children, who are equally bright?

This is where a quality education, nonprofit organizations and local government come in.

I feel so lucky to call Stamford my home. There is a vibrant community of do-gooders, philanthropists, and political activists here, all working toward a brighter future for our neighbors. But even as I'm buoyed by optimism, the data shows a lack of equity and opportunity. If we are to be responsible to our neighbors, we ought to

address these issues.

A recent report by DataHaven, a Connecticut-based nonprofit that empowers people to create thriving communities through data, points to a few indicators of well-being that should sound the alarm bells for us all.

This is what the report found for Stamford:

► **43 percent of all households are cost-burdened**, meaning they spend 30 percent or more of their total income on housing costs. After keeping a roof over your head and food on the table, this leaves little else, or nothing at all, for low-income families to invest in their futures.

► **There is a gulf in median household income between groups**. While median household income for white households is \$124,000, for Black families in Stamford it's less than half that — \$49,000. Similarly, the median household income of a Latino household is

\$55,000. Racial disparities in employment, pay and education are the through line.

In a high-cost area such as our own, we must find ways to grow the earning potential of our neighbors through "tried and true" solutions such as workforce development, wage growth, and high-quality public education, while keeping our

hearts and minds open to innovative solutions offered through public-private partnerships, nonprofit organizations, and community leaders.

► **Nearly 1 in 5 people age 5 and older is "linguistically isolated,"** meaning they speak English less than "very well," making it more challenging to take advantage of essential services such as health care, social services or school. With limited access to even basic needs, the path to success narrows.

It is my hope that this data will drive us to action — to volunteer or contribute to your neighborhood association or local nonprofits, to support your candidate of choice in local elections, or simply to share this article for greater awareness. Through collective action we can ensure a thriving community that offers equitable opportunity for all.

*Emily Tang-Lee serves on the board of directors of Inspirica, a Stamford-based nonprofit organization serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity. She is married to Ben Lee, a member of Stamford's Board of Representatives running for the Board of Education, and mother of two children.*

Published in Stamford Advocate, October 15, 2021



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