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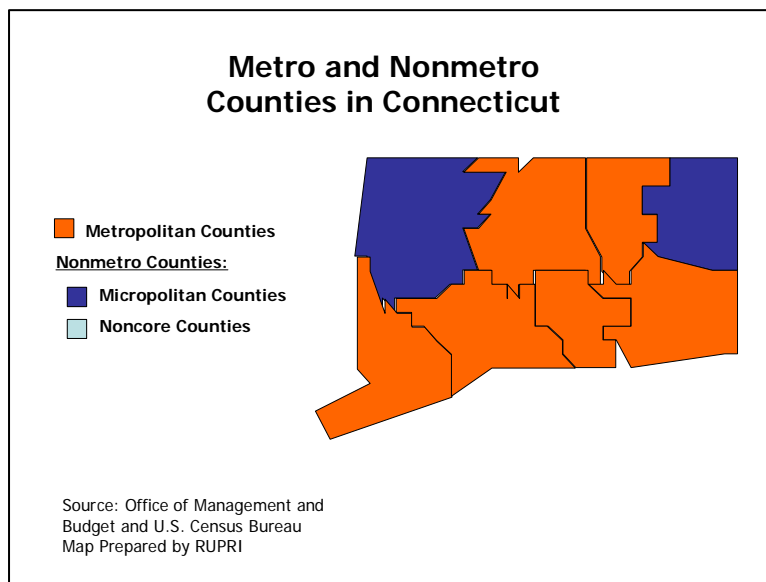
Demographic and Economic Profile

Connecticut

Updated December 2006

Metro and Nonmetro Counties in Connecticut

Based on the most recent listing of core based statistical areas by the Office of Management and Budget, 6 counties in Connecticut are part of metropolitan areas, and 2 counties are part of micropolitan areas¹. The micropolitan category defines counties that include an urban area with a population of 10,000 to 49,999 plus surrounding counties that are linked through commuting ties. These areas often represent important economic and trade centers in rural areas. Using these classifications and the population estimates for 2005, 91.3 percent of Connecticut residents live in metropolitan areas, and 8.7 percent live in micropolitan areas.



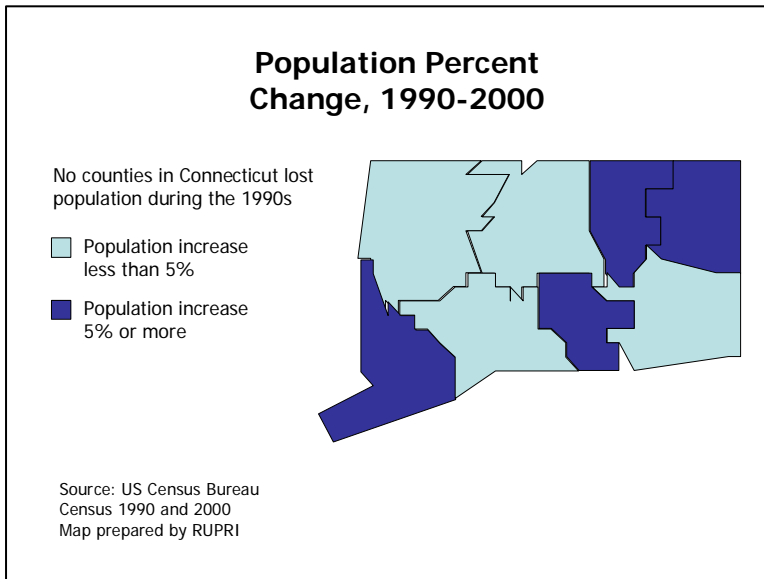
¹ Because Connecticut has no noncore counties, the term “nonmetropolitan” will refer to the micropolitan portion of Connecticut.

Population

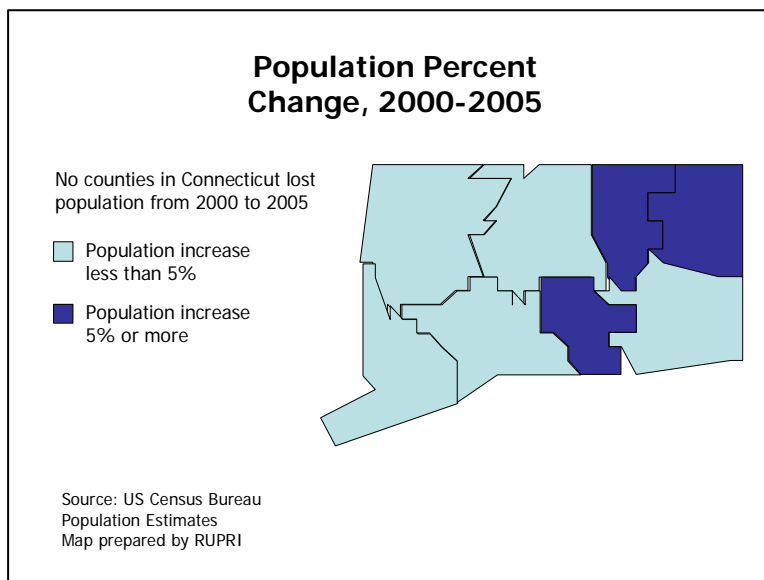
Connecticut's population in July of 2005 was 3,510,297, up 3.1 percent from the 2000 Census. During the 1990s, the population in Connecticut increased 3.6 percent. Nationally, population increased 13.1 percent during the 1990s, and 5.3 percent from April 2000 to July 2005. The population growth in Connecticut's micropolitan areas outpaced the metropolitan areas in both time periods.

Percent Change in Population		
Area:	1990-2000	2000-2005
U.S.	13.1%	5.3%
Connecticut	3.6%	3.1%
Metropolitan	3.4%	2.9%
Nonmetropolitan	5.3%	5.0%
Micropolitan	5.3%	5.0%
Noncore	n/a	n/a

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



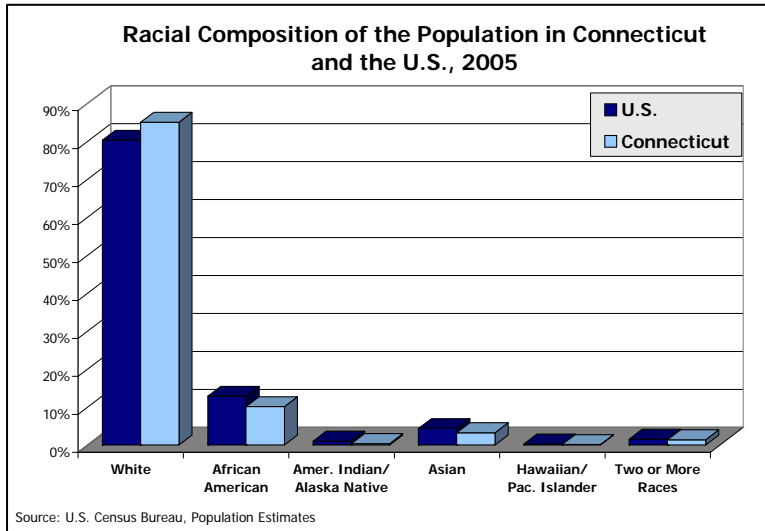
During the 1990s, no counties in Connecticut lost population. The fastest growth was in Middlesex County in the Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford Metropolitan Area, with a population increase of 8.3 percent during the 1990s.



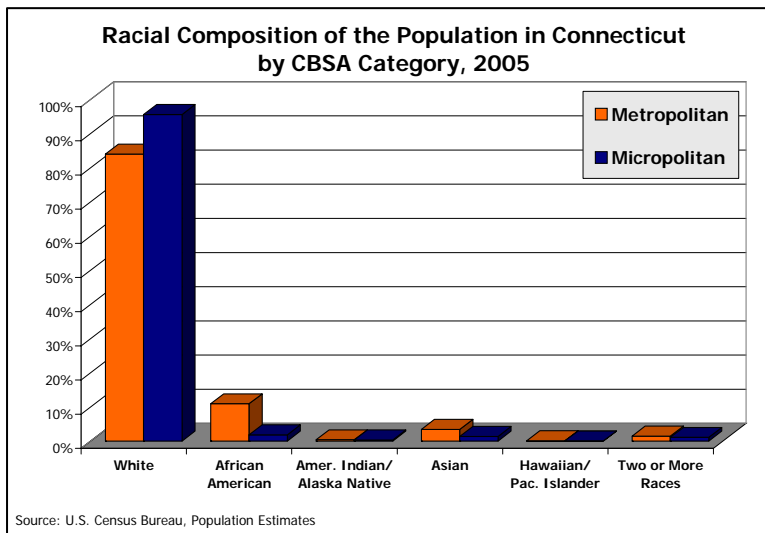
From 2000 to 2005, no counties in Connecticut lost population. The fastest growth during this time period was in Tolland County, in the Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford Metropolitan Area, with a population increase of 8.3 percent during this time period.

Race / Ethnicity

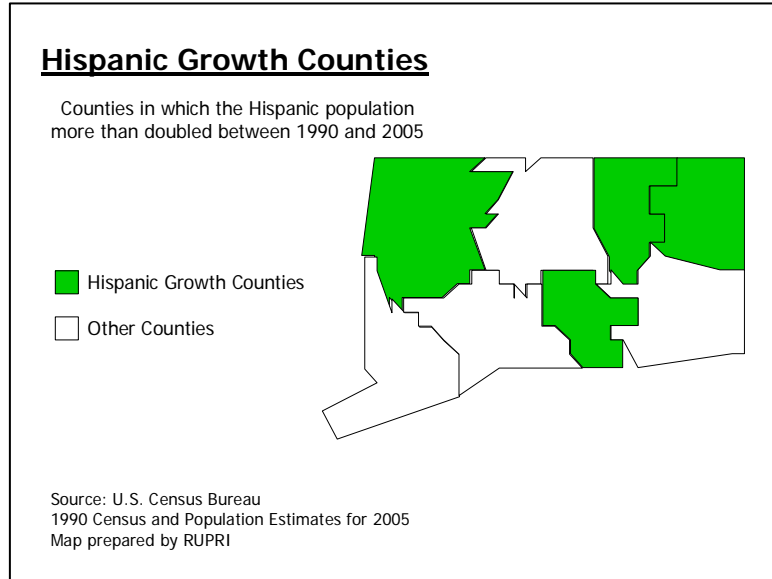
The population in Connecticut is 84.9 percent white and 10.1 percent African American. Nationally, the population is 80.2 percent white and 12.8 percent African American (2005 Census Bureau population estimates).



Within Connecticut, the metropolitan population is 83.9 percent white and 10.9 percent African American, and the micropolitan population is 95.5 percent white and 1.8 percent African American.



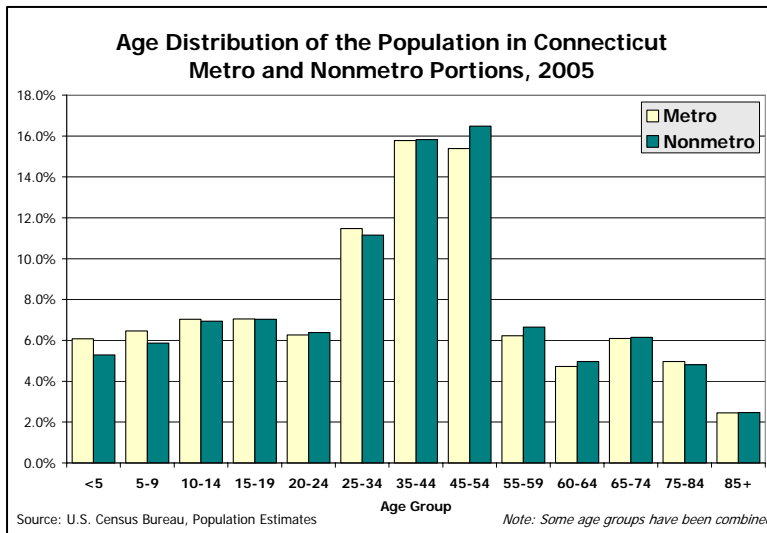
People of Hispanic origin make up 10.9 percent of Connecticut’s population, and 14.4 percent of the total U.S. population. Many areas have experienced significant growth in the Hispanic population over the past decade and a half. In four Connecticut counties, shown in the map below, the Hispanic population more than doubled between 1990 and 2005.



In three Connecticut counties, Hispanics account for more than 10 percent of population: Fairfield (14.0%), Hartford (12.8%), and New Haven (12.0%).

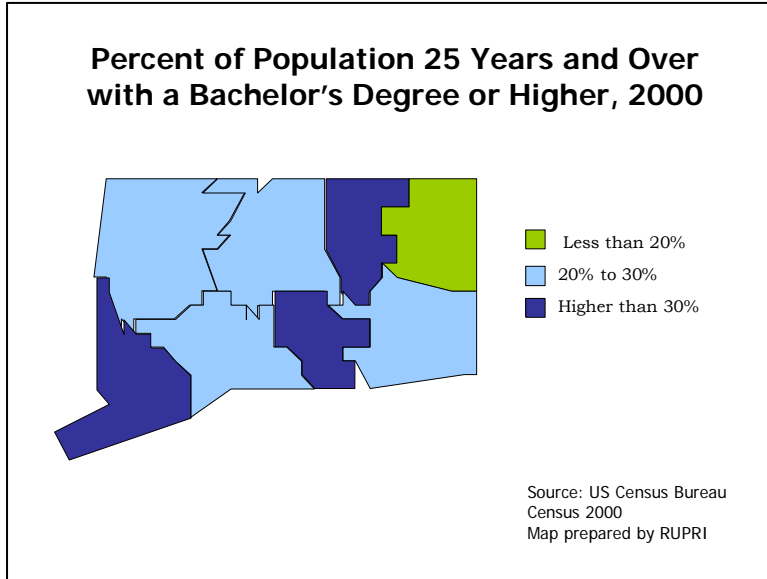
Age

The chart below shows the age distribution of the metro and nonmetro populations in Connecticut. The population distributions are similar in both portions of Connecticut, though the percent in the 45 to 54 group is higher in the nonmetro portion.

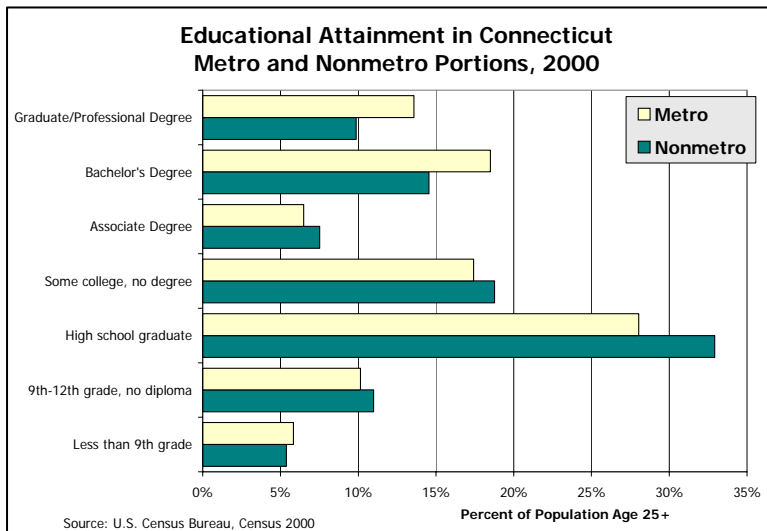


Educational Attainment

The percent of the population age 25 and over that has earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher is 24.4 percent in the U.S. and 31.4 percent in Connecticut. In metro areas of Connecticut, this statistic is 32.1 percent, compared to 24.4 percent in the nonmetro areas.

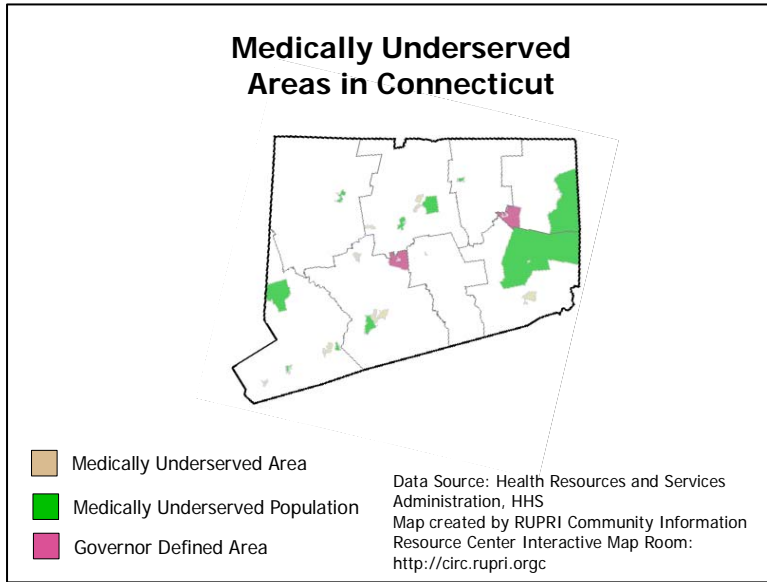


The chart below compares the educational attainment of Connecticut's metro and nonmetro populations. The percent of the population with high educational attainment (B.S. or higher) is greater in the metro areas, while the percent of the population with only a high school diploma is greater in the nonmetro areas.

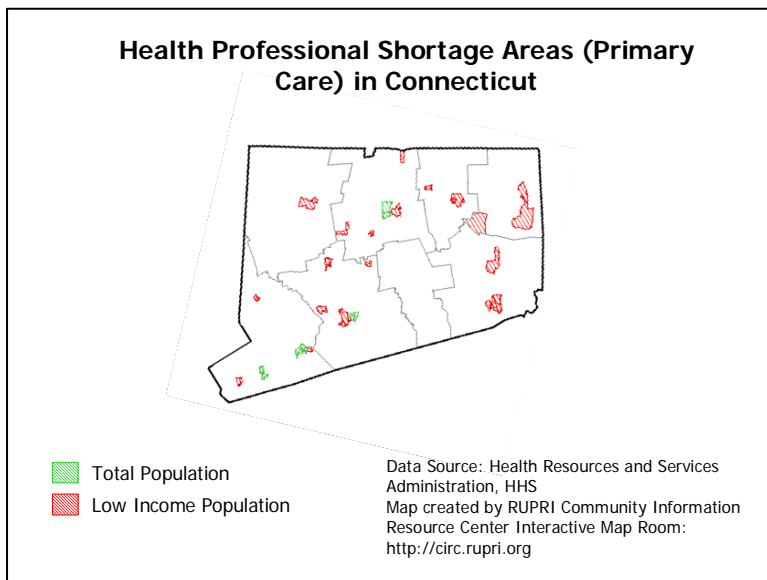


Health Services

The designation of areas or populations as medically underserved is based on an index of four variables - the ratio of primary care physicians per 1,000 population, the infant mortality rate, the percent of the population with incomes below the poverty level, and the percent of the population age 65 and over (Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS). Within Connecticut, several areas of the state are considered medically underserved, shown in the map below.

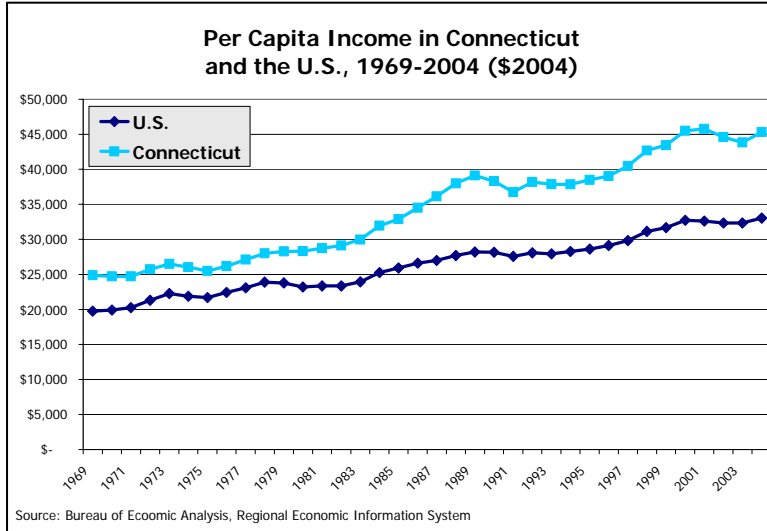


Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) are those areas that “may have shortages of primary medical care, dental or mental health providers and may be urban or rural areas, population groups, or medical or other public facilities” (Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS). Within Connecticut, several areas in the state are designated as primary care HPSAs for the total or low income population.

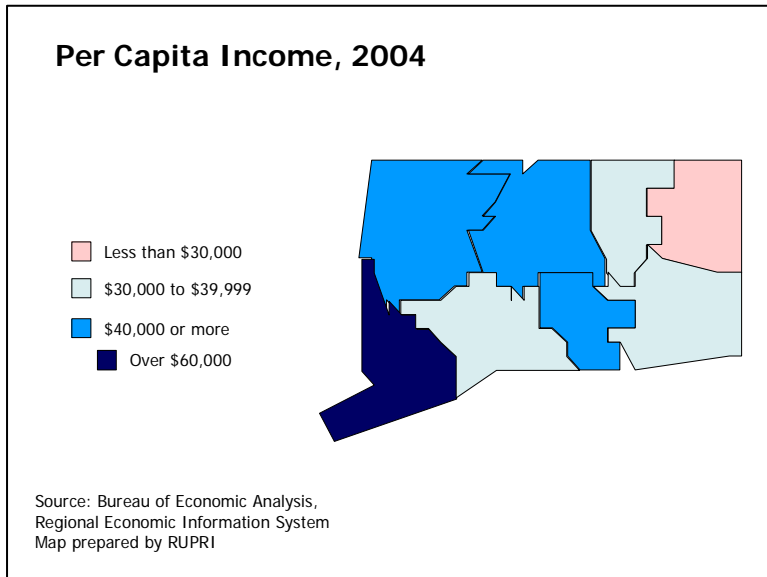


Per Capita Income

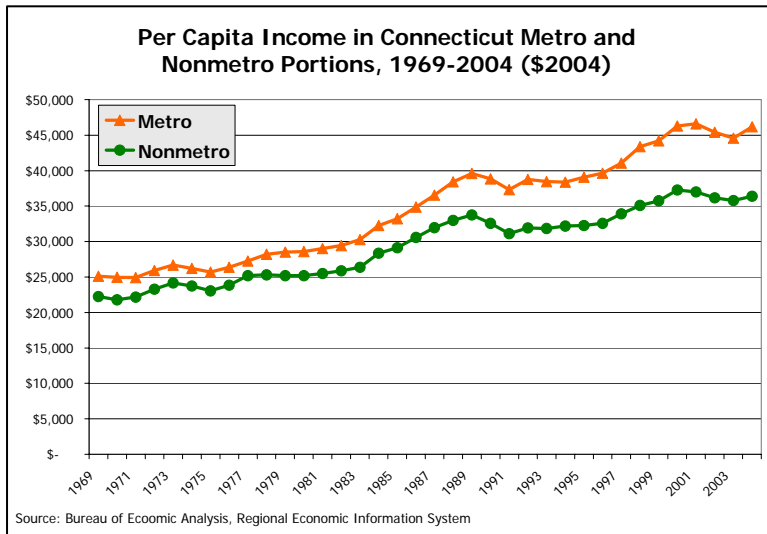
Per capita income in Connecticut has exceeded the national per capita income over the past several decades. In 2004, per capita income in Connecticut was \$45,318, compared to \$33,050 for the U.S.



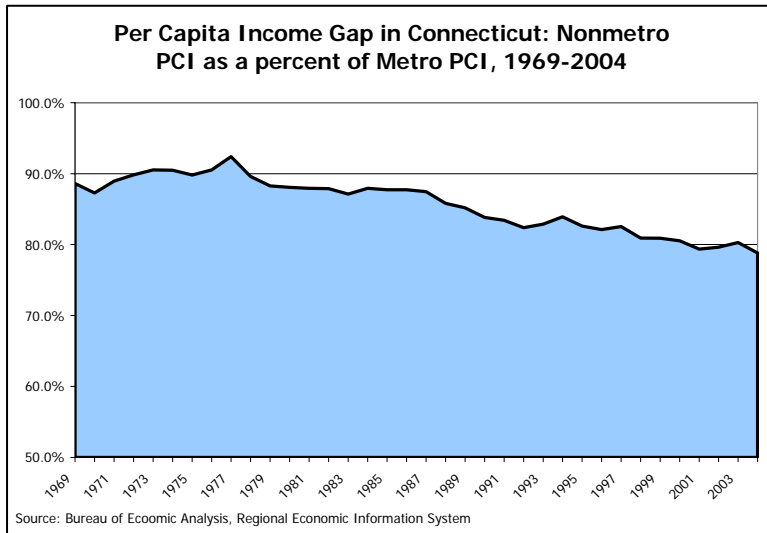
Within Connecticut, 2004 per capita income ranged from \$29,993 in Windham County to \$62,979 in Fairfield County.



Nonmetro per capita income in Connecticut has lagged behind metro per capita income over the past several decades. In 2004, metro per capita income was \$46,167, compared to \$36,388 in nonmetro areas.

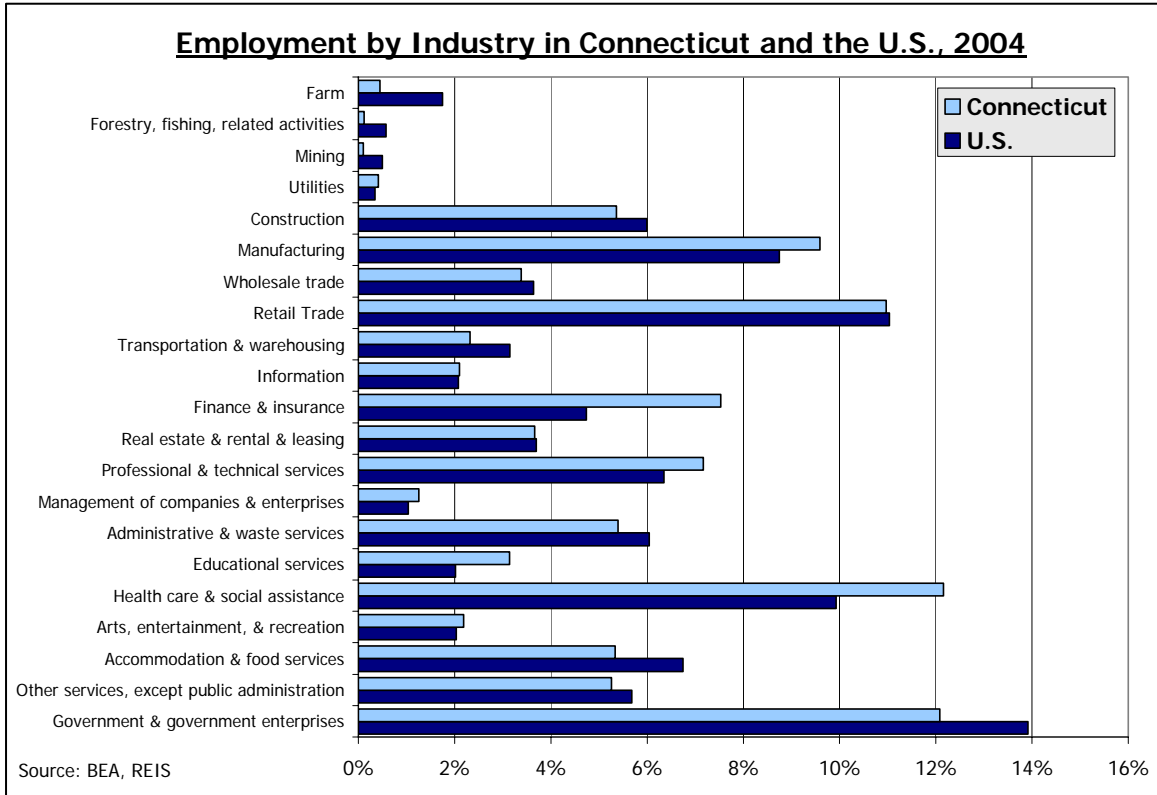


The per capita income gap is measured with nonmetro per capita income as a percent of metro per capita income. In Connecticut the gap was at its smallest in 1977, when nonmetro per capita income was 92.4 percent of metro per capita income. By 2004, though, nonmetro per capita income had fallen to 78.8 percent of metro per capita income.

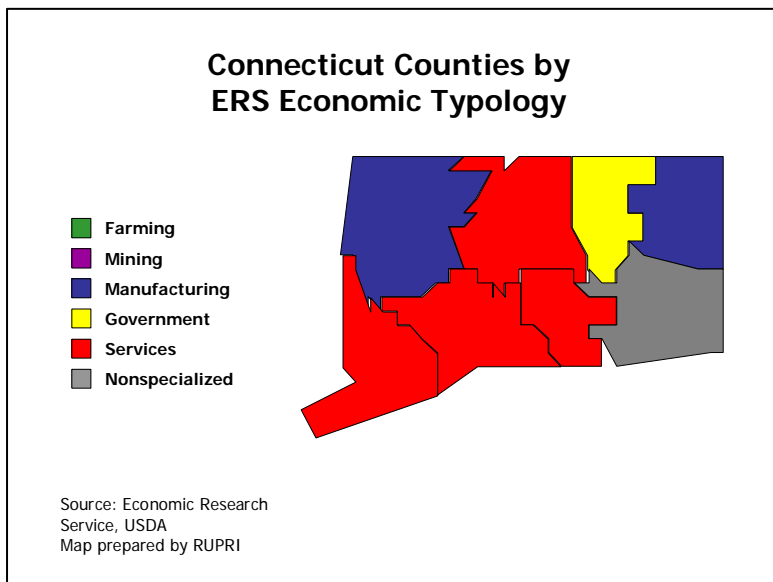


Employment

In 2004, health care and social assistance accounted for the largest share of employment in Connecticut (12.2%). Nationally, government and government enterprises accounted for the largest share of employment (13.9%). Government and government enterprises was the second largest employment sector in Connecticut (12.1%).



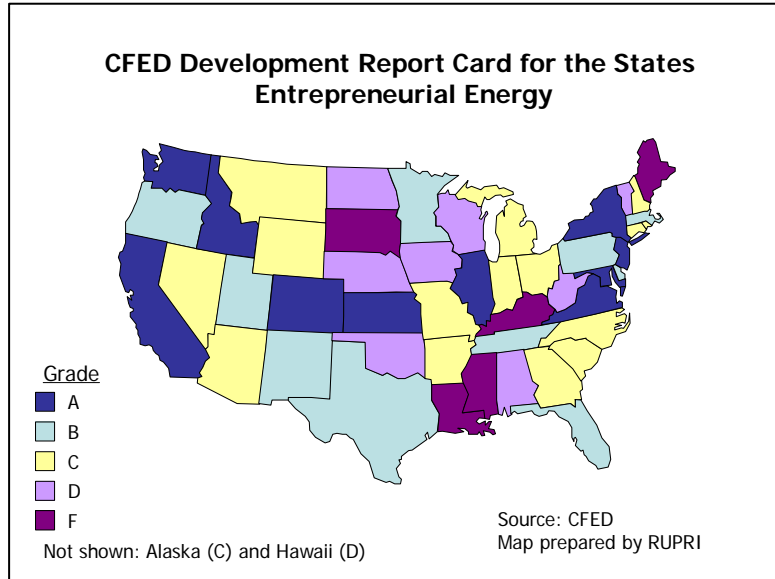
The ERS Economic Typology classifies counties into one of five industry categories of specialization or as nonspecialized. The map to the right shows the classification of Connecticut counties by this typology.



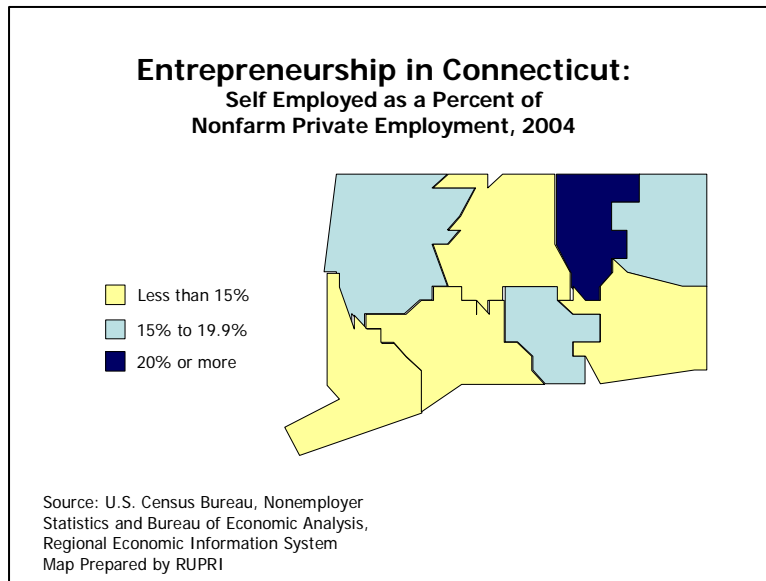
Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship is an important component to economic development today. Unfortunately, data that allow us to measure entrepreneurial activity and trends is difficult to ascertain, particularly at the county level. The 2004 *CFED Development Report Card for the States* rates each state on its entrepreneurial energy, “evaluating the extent to which new firms are generated and whether they

are contributing to employment growth.” While this is a state-level ranking, it provides useful insight as to how a state is performing. Connecticut’s ranking is “C”.

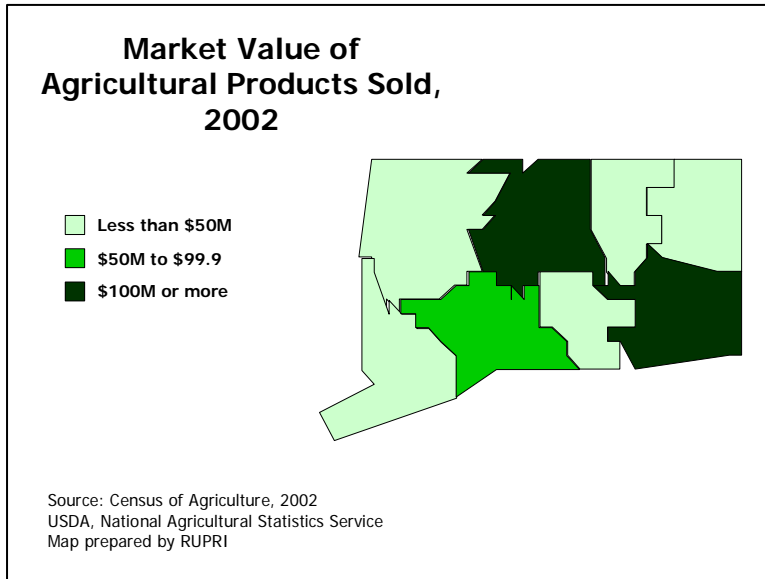


As mentioned, county level indicators of entrepreneurship are difficult to ascertain, but a good indicator is the proportion of workers that are self employed. The map below shows self employed workers as a percent of nonfarm private employment in the county.



Agriculture

Agriculture plays an important role in several parts of Connecticut. The map below shows the market value of agricultural products sold in 2002 in Connecticut counties. In New London and Hartford Counties, the value was over \$100 million.



Data Sources and References

Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System

<http://www.bea.gov/beat/regional/reis/>

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

<http://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm>

CFED Development Report Card for the States

<http://drc.cfed.org/>

Economic Research Service, USDA, 2004 County Typology

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Rurality/Typology/>

Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, Designations of Health Professional Shortage Areas and Medically Underserved Areas and Populations

<http://www.bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage/>

National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

2002 Census of Agriculture

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Census_of_Agriculture/index.asp

Office of Management and Budget, Statistical Area Definitions and Guidance on Their Uses

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/bulletins/fy05/b05-02.html>

RUPRI Community Information Resource Center Interactive Map Room

<http://circ.rupri.org/>

U.S. Census Bureau

Census 2000

<http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html>

Population Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Area Classifications

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/estimates/metrodef.html>

Nonemployer Statistics

<http://www.census.gov/epcd/nonemployer/>

Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saibe/saibe.html>

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