

CT DCJ Fact Sheet: The Windham Judicial District

The Windham Judicial District (JD) serves 15 towns in the northeastern part of the state. The local GA court (GA-11) is located in the Danielson section of the town of Killingly. Windham, the largest town in the District, contains Willimantic, an older urban center with approximately 17,100 residents.

About 117,000 people live in towns within the Windham JD, making it the smallest District in the state by population. Covering just over 512 square miles, the Windham Judicial district has the second lowest population density among JDs, after the Litchfield JD.



Ranked by per capita income, Windham JD towns are among the poorest in the state.

Pomfret, the most affluent town in the JD has an estimated per capita income of \$41,442. This compares with the statewide figure of \$43,056.

Eight towns in the District had per capita incomes lower than \$35,000. The town of Windham had the lowest per capital income in the state - \$20,064 - edging out the city of Hartford. Windham's low ranking was due in large part to Willimantic, where per capita income was estimated at \$17,294.

Only 15% of the District residents identify as members of minority communities. Hispanics are the largest minority group the District. They comprise 70% of the minority population. The Windham Judicial District MA



Danielson

Each year, the FBI releases its Uniform Crime Report (UCR) which details the number of major crimes reported by state and local jurisdictions in the previous calendar year. In the UCR report, violent crimes includes murder, nonnegligent manslaughter, robbery, aggravated assault and rape. Property crimes include larcenies, burglaries and motor vehicle theft.

According to 2018 UCR data, towns in the Windham

JD experienced relatively low rates of violent and property crime.

Crime and	crime	rates	per	10.000	residents.	2018
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	Violent	Violent	Property	Property
	crime	crime rate	crimes	crime rate
Windham	37	15.4	214	89.0
Putnam	28	29.6	128	135.1
Plainfield	24	15.6	78	50.7
Killingly	18	10.4	92	53.1
Thompson	7	7.5	29	31.0
Canterbury	6	12.2	13	26.3
Sterling	3	9.2	9	27.6
Brooklyn	2	2.6	33	43.7
Woodstock	2	2.6	13	17.1
Chaplin	1	4.2	5	21.2
Pomfret	1	2.5	2	5.0
Scotland	1	6.1	6	36.7
Ashford	0	0.0	11	25.5
Eastford	0	0.0	4	23.5
Hampton	0	0.0	6	32.4
Windham JD	130	11.3	643	56.0
Willimantic	30	17.3	112	64.6

Source: CT DESPP, 2018 UCR data

In recent years, police departments in the Windham Judicial district have made fewer criminal arrests and motor vehicle arrests. Motor vehicle infractions do not count as arrests. 2020 data reflects the impact of the Covid par

Annual	arrests
	Criminal

	Criminal	MV
	arrests	arrests
2017	2,150	1,611
2018	1,990	1,507
2019	1,665	1,270
2020	1,444	1,096

Source: CJIS

the impact of the Covid pandemic.

Many towns in the Windham JD are too small to sustain a municipal police force. As a result, the State Police play a large, public safety role in the District. Only one town, Plainfield, has a fully independent police department. Putnam and Windham, maintain their own police patrols in only parts of the town with the State Police patrolling the remainder. All other towns in the District rely, solely, on State Troopers for their public safety needs. In terms of criminal arrests the Willimantic police, in Windham, were the most active police agency in the District.

Arrests by local police, 2019

	Criminal	MV	Police
	arrests	arrests	type
Willimantic PD	670	358	223
State Police Troop D	597	638	2,135
Plainfield PD	195	173	73
Putnam PD	185	97	66
ECSU Police	15	3	1
All othe agencies	3	1	4
Windham JD	1,665	1,270	2,502
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The town of Windham falls within the jurisdiction of State Police Troop K. It is estimated that Troop K makes several hundred arrests each year that are handled by the Windham JD.

Cases - GA-11 Danielson

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	Cases	Cases
	added	Disposed
FY 16	2,634	2,646
FY 17	2,505	2,659
FY 18	2,420	2,348
FY 19	2,134	2,042
FY 20	1,616	1,201

The bulk of criminal cases in the Windham JD are handled at the GA-11 in Danielson. The number of cases added each year has dropped consistently over the past five years. Between 2016 and 2019, the number of new cases

Source: CT Judicial Branch

has declined by almost 20%.

Most serious cases in the district are generally transferred to the Part A Court. These cases are usually more complex, require deeper investigation and are more likely to go to trial.

Part A cases,	Windham JD
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		Cases	Cases				
Fiscal	Cases	disposed	disposed	Cases			
Year	Added	w/o Trial	w/trial	disposed			
FY 16	144	139	2	141			
FY 17	76	149	4	153			
FY 18	65	67	1	68			
FY 19	99	46	4	50			
FY 20	49	55	2	52			

Source: CT Judicial Branch

In fiscal year 2019, the Part A court in Windham disposed 50 cases. The vast majority of these cases were disposed without trial. Statewide, fewer than 4% of Part A cases are disposed at trial.

Although no level of crime is acceptable, the towns in the Windham JD are fortunate to experience crime rates that are considerably lower than the state average.

Crime and crime rates per 10,000 residents, 2018

	Violent Violent Property Property Popula				
	crimes	crime rate	crimes	crime rate	2018 est.
Hartford JD	1,815	30.4	13,211	221.6	596,181
New Haven JD	1,642	34.1	10,698	222.2	481,355
Fairfield JD	1,129	34.9	5,843	180.5	323,682
Waterbury JD	554	24.1	5,768	251.4	229,458
New Britain JD	524	16.6	6,154	194.8	315,937
Stamford-Norwalk	491	13.2	4,724	127.0	372,039
New London JD	385	15.0	2,593	100.8	257,191
Ansonia-Milford	248	10.8	4,000	174.8	228,835
Danbury JD	157	8.1	1,702	88.2	192,890
Windham JD	130	11.3	643	56.0	114,784
Litchfield JD	108	7.2	1,309	87.8	149,121
Middlesex JD	89	5.5	1,623	99.5	163,180
Tolland JD	76	5.3	846	59.0	143,488
Statewide	7,348	20.6	59,114	165.7	3,568,141

Source: CT DESPP, UCR