

1. **10% of the housing is affordable in only 31 of 169 CT municipalities.** The 31 tend to have the most overburdened school districts. Lower-income families cannot afford housing in the districts with the most resources, leading to concentrations of poverty in our cities.
2. A well-documented 2009 Century Foundation study of Montgomery County, Maryland – which uses inclusionary zoning to ensure affordable housing access to good schools – showed that over 5 to 7 years, **students in public housing who were randomly assigned to low-poverty elementary schools significantly outperformed their peers** in public housing who attended moderate-poverty schools in both math and reading. By the end of elementary school, the large **achievement gap was cut in half for math and by one-third for reading** between children in public housing who attended the district's most advantaged schools and their non-poor students in the district.
3. There is **a shortage of low-cost housing options**: while renting households have increased to 32% from 30% in 2007, there has been a decline in 2BR and 3BR units.
4. CT is 47th among the states since 2000 in units build per capita. **Undersupply of housing inflates prices.** Housing is plenty expensive in the cities, but even more so in the suburbs.
5. On average CT's **urban districts have nearly ¼ of students switch districts during a school year - 58% of them because of housing issues.** Children who move tend to fall behind, fail and drop out. Highly-mobile children **underperform in reading and math and are more likely to exhibit behavioral problems.**
6. **27% of renting households – over 100,000 households – spend over 50% of their income on housing.** There is little left for food, clothing, healthcare, transportation.
7. 51% of renting households – over 200,000 households – paid 30% AMI for housing, up from 36% in 2000. Research indicates that **those who spend more than 30% for housing are far more likely to have fair or poor health, and twice as likely to have depression.**
8. Families stuck in concentrated poverty have **little access to nutritious food, fewer community services like soccer and Girl Scouts, fewer safe parks and other recreational activities.**
9. **From 2000-2010, rental prices rose 45% while renters' income grew 7%.** The statewide "housing wage" is \$23.37 per hour (over \$48,000/year) - 7th highest in the nation. Nearly half the occupations in CT – including machinists, police dispatchers, EMTs, medical technicians, beginning teachers, secretaries, nurses - pay on average way less than that.
10. **Family homelessness increased 15% last year.**
11. **Pre-1970 housing is likely to have lead paint, asbestos and allergens like mold** from broken pipes and dust mites. Asthma is the leading cause of absenteeism in CT's urban schools. When low-income families are stuck with few affordable housing options, landlords have little incentive to keep apartments in good condition.