

# Ridgefield

## Connecticut

Town Hall  
400 Main Street  
Ridgefield, CT 06877  
(203) 431-2700

*Belongs to*  
Fairfield County  
Danbury Labor Market Area  
Housatonic Valley Economic Dev. Region  
Housatonic Valley Planning Area

Incorporated in 1708

### Demographics

<i>Population (1998)</i>				<i>Race/Ethnicity (1998)</i>			
	<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>State</i>		<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>State</i>
1980	20,120	807,143	3,107,580	White	20,939	636,147	2,648,212
1990	20,919	827,645	3,287,116	Black	136	82,879	274,213
1998	22,009	836,207	3,271,239	Asian Pacific	442	25,592	73,304
2003	22,619	843,924	3,272,149	Native American	37	939	5,952
'98-'03 Growth	2.77%	0.92%	0.03%	Other	5	1,610	5,336
				Hispanic (any race)	450	89,040	264,222
Land Area (sq. miles)	34.43	625.85	4,845	<i>Poverty Rate (1990)</i>	1.84%	6.09%	6.61%
Pop./ Sq. Mile (1998)	639.24	1,336.11	653	<i>Educational Attainment (1990)</i>			
Per Capita Inc. (1998)	\$49,292	\$37,252	\$27,078	Persons Age 25 or Older	<i>Town</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>State</i>
Households (1998)	7,967	308,221	1,229,087	High School Graduate	2,176	15.4%	648,366
Median Age (1997)	39.9	38.1	37.2	Some College	3,083	21.8%	495,696
				Bachelors or More	7,962	56.3%	597,693
<i>Age Distribution (1998)</i>							
	<i>0-4</i>	<i>5-17</i>	<i>18-24</i>	<i>25-49</i>	<i>50-64</i>	<i>65+</i>	<i>Total</i>
Male	697 6%	1,963 18%	873 8%	3,916 36%	2,227 21%	1,057 10%	10,733
Female	688 6%	1,852 16%	829 7%	4,334 38%	2,255 20%	1,318 12%	11,276
County Total	54,813 7%	139,006 17%	64,748 8%	322,604 39%	137,401 16%	117,635 14%	836,207
State Total	216,119 7%	550,400 17%	280,101 9%	1,257,928 38%	499,093 15%	467,598 14%	3,271,239

### Economics

<i>Business Profile (1997)</i>					<i>Top Five Grand List (1997)</i>		
<i>Sector</i>	<i>Firms</i>	<i>% of Total</i>	<i>Emp.</i>	<i>% of Total</i>		<i>Amount</i>	<i>% of Total</i>
Agriculture	61	4.0%	203	1.6%	Boehringer Ingelheim Pharm., Inc.	\$142,989,732	6.53%
Const. and Mining	186	12.2%	592	4.5%	Schlumberger Tech Corp/Well Surv. Cor	\$21,503,590	0.98%
Manufacturing	70	4.6%	3,396	26.1%	S.V.G. Lithography Systems, Inc.	\$12,722,150	0.58%
Trans. And Utilities	28	1.8%	126	1.0%	Connecticut Light & Power Company	\$8,787,760	0.40%
Trade	309	20.2%	2,051	15.7%	Copps Hill Shopping Association	\$8,106,660	0.37%
Finance, Ins. and Real Estate	133	8.7%	686	5.3%	Grand List Total (1996)	\$2,189,299,573	
Services	734	48.0%	5,753	44.1%	<i>Top Five Major Employers (1997)</i>		
Government	7	0.5%	228	1.7%	Boehringer Ingelheim Pharm. Inc	Norco Inc.	
Total	1,528	100.0%	13,035	100.0%	Silicon Valley Group	Village Bank & Trust Co.	
					Schlumberger Doll Research		
						<i>Town</i>	<i>State</i>
					<i>Retail Sales (1996)</i>	\$171,068,070	\$30,837,967,729

### Education

<i>1995-1996 School Year</i>				<i>Connecticut Mastery Test Percent Above Goal</i>						
	<i>Town</i>	<i>State</i>		<i>Grade 4</i>		<i>Grade 6</i>		<i>Grade 8</i>		
				<i>Town</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>State</i>	
Total Students	4,289	461,203		Reading	75	55	84	60	87	64
Total Expenditures Per Pupil	\$8,744	\$8,300		Math	83	59	75	52	83	51
Average Teacher's Salary	\$58,402	\$48,598		Writing	67	46	50	46	83	51
Students Attending Public School	92.1%	89.2%								
Student/Teacher Ratio	16.0	14.5		<i>Average SAT Score</i>		<i>Town</i>	<i>State</i>			
Grads Pursuing Post-Sec. Education	92.3%	75.8%		Verbal		564	503			
High School Dropout Rate	1.1%	4.6%		Math		566	499			
<i>Average Class Size</i>										
Kindergarten 17.9	Grade 2	23.4								
Grade 5 23.5	Grade 7	23.4	High School	21.4						

**Connecticut Town Profiles 1998-1999**

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## Government

Government Form	Selectman- Town Meeting		Annual Debt Service (1996)	\$3,622,041	
Total Revenue (1996)	\$54,571,650	Total Expenditures (1996)	\$52,456,255	As % of Expenditures	6.9%
Tax Revenue	\$47,428,203	Education	\$35,305,488	Equalized Grand List (1996)	\$3,246,874,808
Non-tax Revenue	\$4,663,152	Other	\$17,150,767	Per Capita	\$148,953
Intergovernmental	\$2,480,295	Total Indebtness (1996)	\$20,199,385	As % of State Average	191.0%
Per Capita Tax (1996)	\$2,078	As % of Expenditures	38.5%	Date of Last Revaluation	10/ 1/96
As % of State Average	146.0%	Per Capita	\$927	Moody's Bond Rating (1997)	Aa1
		As % of State Average	89.0%	Actual Mill Rate (1997)	20.91
				Equalized Mill Rate (1996)	14.37
				% of Grand List Com/Ind (1995)	13.4%

## Housing

Housing Stock (1997)	Town	County	State	Sales Price Distribution (1996)	Town	County	State
Existing Units (total)	8,632	335,017	1,374,566	Number of Sales			
% Single Unit	85.7%	64.2%	62.9%	Less than \$100,000	72	4,504	22,254
New Permits Auth. (1997)	130	2,045	9,349	\$100,001-\$200,000	65	4,830	20,713
As % Existing Units	1.51%	0.61%	0.68%	\$200,001-\$300,000	157	3,211	6,600
Demolitions (1997)	0	449	1,193	\$300,001-\$400,000	131	1,901	2,730
Residential Sales (1996)	642	17,795	56,333	\$400,001 or More	217	3,349	4,036
Average Price	\$383,221	\$314,650	\$194,596	1996 Characteristics			
Median Price	\$347,000	\$221,000	\$138,000	Owner Occupied Dwellings	6,252	208,121	807,559
				Housing Stock Age - Pre-1950	19.5%	34.1%	33.9%
				Subsidized Housing Units	157	30,502	148,930

## Labor Force

1997	Town	County	State	Commuters (1990)	Commuters into Town from	Town Residents Commuting to	
Labor Force	11,948	446,996	1,723,300	1. Ridgefield	2818	Ridgefield	2818
Employed	11,710	427,779	1,635,400	2. Danbury	1205	New York	2210
Unemployed	238	19,217	87,900	3. New York	400	Danbury	1450
Unemployment Rate	2.0%	4.3%	5.1%	4. Bethel	336	Stamford	1181
Total Employment	8,500	411,650	1,581,700	5. Brookfield	259	Wilton	629
Manufacturing	1,800	75,610	265,850	6. Redding	246	Norwalk	589
'92-'97 Growth Rate	16.0%	5.7%	4.3%	7. New Fairfield	207	Greenwich	262
Daytime Population	8,763	472,065	1,740,247	8. Newtown	186	New Canaan	204
				9. Wilton	148	Westport	197
				10. New Milford	141	New Milford	168

## Quality of Life

	Town	State	Library (1996-1997)	Town	Residential Utilities
Banks (1997)	11	1,378	Total Volumes	94,795	Electric Provider
Lodging (1997)	7	756	Circulation Per Capita	12.9	Connecticut Light & Power
Day Care Facilities (1998)	15	1,651			1-800-286-2000
Infant Mortality Rate Per 1,000 Res. (1995)	0.358	0.099	Distance to Major Cities	Miles	Gas Provider
Crime Rate (1996) Per 1,000 Residents	7.2	40	Hartford	53	Yankee Gas Company
% Open Land (1990)	69.6%	68.8%	Boston	147	1-800-989-0900
			New York City	50	Water Provider
			Providence	114	Bridgeport Hydraulic Company
Hospitals (1997)	0	16			1-800-732-9678
Total Beds	0	2,184			Cable Provider
					Comcast Cablevision of Danbury, Inc.
					203-792-0900