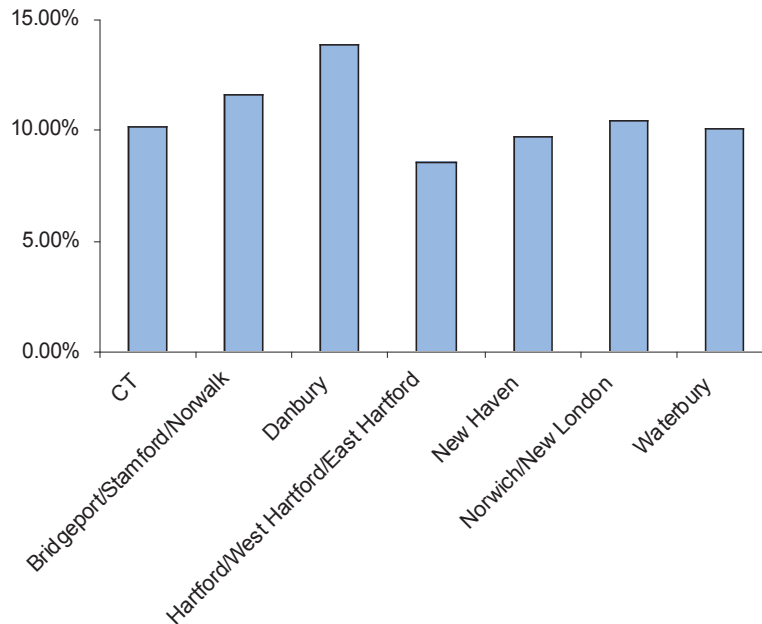


## Danbury and Windham County lead the state in uninsured rates

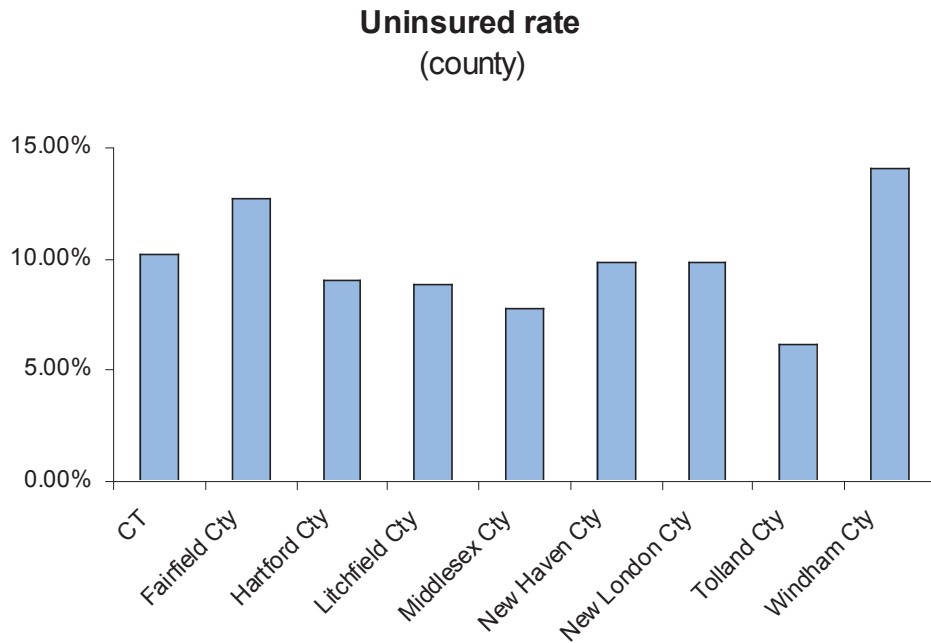
New report underscores variability across the state and the need for health reform

A new report from the US Census finds that last year almost 14% of Danbury area residents under age 65 were uninsured, the highest rate among Connecticut's metropolitan areas. The highest and lowest rate cites varied by over 60%. Surprisingly uninsured rates in the New Haven (9.8%) and Hartford (8.6%) areas were below the statewide average of 10.2%. All were considerably below the US average of 17.1%. Bridgeport had the highest number of uninsured residents at 91,881 followed by Hartford at 81,904. Statewide, this survey found 310,597 uninsured residents.

**Uninsured rate**  
 (metropolitan areas)



Among counties, Windham County had by far the highest uninsured rate at 14.1%, over twice the rate of Tolland County at 6.2%. Windham was closely followed by Fairfield County at 12.7%. CT's six other counties had rates below the statewide average. Fairfield County led the state with 100,134 uninsured residents, followed by New Haven County at 72,273 and Hartford County at 68,708.



The numbers are from the Census's 2008 American Community Survey which for the first time asked respondents about their health insurance status. The statewide number and rate of uninsured in this survey are similar to results of other Census surveys. As unemployment rates have increases substantially in Connecticut since last year, it is likely that the current uninsurance rate is higher.

### Bottom Line:

The health and financial security of over 300,000 CT residents, one in ten of us, is at risk because they lack health coverage. This study underscores the need for federal health care reform.

Source: 2008 American Community Survey, US Census