

# Overview of Local Fixed Route Bus Service in Connecticut

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## 3.1 Data Source

Ridership, cost and fleet data for Connecticut transit properties is based on data collected by CTDOT as reported by the transit properties.

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## 3.2 Ridership Trends

Annual ridership information from 2007 to 2014 is shown in Table 11 and illustrated in Figures 14 and 15. This data is based on total system annual boardings. Full year ridership data for CTfastrak is not yet available since the service started less than a year ago.

All *CTtransit* Divisions have experienced a growth in ridership except for *CTtransit* Meriden and *CTtransit* Wallingford. Between 2007 and 2014, annual boardings on the *CTtransit* Waterbury Division grew by over 66 percent, *CTtransit* Bristol Division experienced growth by over 33 percent, and *CTtransit* New Britain increased by 21.5 percent. The *CTtransit* Hartford, New Haven and Stamford Divisions each experienced increases by 8.3 percent, 14.3 percent and 16.7 percent respectively. *CTtransit* Meriden experienced a 21 percent decline in annual boardings and *CTtransit* Wallingford fell by over four percent.

With one exception, annual boardings on non-*CTtransit* systems have increased over time. The exception is the Northwestern Connecticut Transit District, where annual boardings in that declined by 25 percent.

Between 2007 and 2014, boardings for the following non-*CTtransit* service providers increased as follows:

- Northeastern Connecticut Transit District saw a 93 percent increase
- Estuary Transit District experienced an 88 percent increase in annual boardings
- Windham Region Transit District's annual boardings grew by over 59 percent
- Middletown Area Transit annual boardings grew by nearly 47 percent
- Greater Bridgeport Authority increased by 40 percent
- Norwalk Transit District had a nearly 25 percent increase
- Milford Transit District's annual boardings rose by 22 percent
- Southeast Area Transit rose by 18 percent
- Housatonic Area Regional Transit experienced an almost 17 percent increase

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Table 11: Annual Boarding Trends by Transit Provider

Transit Provider	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	% Change 2007-2014
CTtransit - Hartford	13,761,908	14,135,569	13,820,881	13,529,989	14,223,248	14,971,487	14,715,760	14,902,798	8.3%
CTtransit - New Haven	8,338,138	8,598,344	8,933,612	8,633,788	8,797,490	9,453,992	9,562,320	9,526,686	14.3%
CTtransit - Stamford	3,080,685	3,285,089	3,341,841	3,241,825	3,185,174	3,422,864	3,630,949	3,595,554	16.7%
CTtransit - Waterbury	1,293,109	1,418,811	1,440,206	1,359,732	1,405,602	1,893,864	2,061,987	2,154,742	66.6%
CTtransit - Meriden	169,478	179,940	184,366	185,667	184,622	195,813	161,490	134,187	-20.8%
CTtransit - Wallingford	15,182	15,428	13,791	13,407	14,033	14,261	14,388	14,521	-4.4%
CTtransit - New Britain	786,712	774,797	735,260	703,180	826,526	895,525	908,120	956,226	21.5%
CTtransit - Bristol	100,205	111,822	121,729	112,071	112,472	129,263	67,659	133,673	33.4%
Greater Bridgeport Transit	4,427,697	4,064,480	4,790,572	4,726,733	4,946,257	5,259,599	5,298,806	6,197,806	40.0%
Norwalk Transit District	1,289,297	1,301,733	1,316,942	1,283,028	1,324,885	1,346,452	1,308,013	1,610,191	24.9%
South East Area Transit	833,180	910,452	895,205	886,695	891,890	1,027,633	894,591	986,877	18.4%
Housatonic Area Regional Transit	705,174	738,566	772,912	700,494	728,077	761,276	685,642	823,343	16.8%
Middletown Area Transit	268,834	331,310	339,993	311,767	301,448	295,570	378,072	394,744	46.8%
Windham Region Transit District	188,419	215,903	191,593	231,356	264,159	282,272	287,233	300,776	59.6%
Milford Transit District	125,473	129,034	128,617	145,846	156,670	155,404	140,078	153,268	22.2%
Northwestern Connecticut Transit District	141,343	140,237	132,633	114,194	112,862	108,320	95,362	105,911	-25.1%
Estuary Transit District	35,503	20,270	27,291	38,007	44,245	58,417	61,419	66,882	88.4%
Northeastern Connecticut Transit District	25,102	30,044	29,869	32,563	35,721	44,021	44,298	48,482	93.1%

Source: CTDOT  
CTfastrak not included.