



# Connecticut Estate Information

Connecticut Council for Philanthropy

## Quick facts on charitable bequests made through estates settled in Connecticut in 2010

**Total Estates** 292 Connecticut residents left total estates of \$2.3 billion or 1.7% of the \$130 billion total estates left in the U.S. Due primarily to increases in the filing threshold, the number of estate tax returns and assets decreased significantly from 2009 (633 estates/\$5.2 billion).

**Estates Requested** 56 Connecticut residents made charitable bequests (gifts to charity through a person’s will) totaling nearly \$156 million or 1.3% of the \$12 billion dollars bequeathed to charity in the U.S.

**Average Estate** The average Connecticut estate of \$7.7 million was lower than the U.S. average of \$8.6 million.

**Average Bequest** The average of Connecticut charitable bequests was \$2.8 million compared to the U.S. average of \$3.9 million.

**Estates With Bequests** 19% of Connecticut estates included a charitable bequest, compared to 20% of all estates.

**% of Estates Requested** Of those who left charitable bequests, Connecticut residents bequeathed an average of 20% of their estates to charity; the U.S. average was 27%.

**Avg. of Assets Distributed** An average of 7% of the assets from all estates settled in Connecticut was distributed in charitable bequests compared to the U.S. average of 9%.

*Please see “Facts on Connecticut Estates” for a five-year comparison of the above information.*

**Note 1.** The total amount bequeathed to charity in Connecticut does not reflect planned gifts such as charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts, foundations, etc. whose creation often results from estate planning.

**Note 2.** Estate Tax Legislation  
In 2001 Congress passed legislation that gradually raised the estate tax threshold until 2010 when the estate tax was scheduled to be repealed. On December 17, 2010, the estate tax was retroactively reinstated for 2010 (but with an elect-out option) and the threshold was raised to \$5 million for 2010, 2011 and 2012 along with a decrease in the estate tax rate. In 2001, estate tax was assessed on those who died leaving a taxable estate of more than \$675,000. The threshold change dates are listed below:

Year:	2002	2004	2006	2009	2010
Estate Tax Exemption:	\$1 million	\$1.5 million	\$2 million	\$3.5 million	Repealed



# Facts on Connecticut Estates\*

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## Five-Year Comparison: 2006-2010 IRS Estate Tax Returns

**How much are we leaving in estates in Connecticut?**  
(Average size of gross estate)

Year	CT's National Rank	CT Returns / U.S. Returns	CT Average / U.S. Average
2010	23	292 / 38,373	\$7.7 million / \$8.6 million
2009	13	633 / 33,515	\$8.1 million / \$5.8 million
2008	14	779 / 38,373	\$5.9 million / \$6.0 million
2007	13	770 / 38,031	\$5.5 million / \$5.3 million
2006	11	1,015 / 48,643	\$4.8 Million / \$4.3 million

**How much are those who leave bequests to charity bequeathing?**  
(Returns with bequests & amt bequeathed)

Year	Connecticut Returns / U.S. Returns	CT Total Bequeathed / U.S. Total Bequeathed
2010	56 / 3,061	\$156 million / \$12 billion
2009	140 / 6,242	\$227.6 million / \$16.5 billion
2008	257 / 7,214	\$516 million / \$29 billion
2007	183 / 7,672	\$243 million / \$20.2 billion
2006	197 / 9,447	\$470.8 million / \$18.1 billion

**What is the average amount being bequeathed to charities?**  
(Average amount bequeathed)

Year	Connecticut's National Rank	CT Average / U.S. Average
2010	32	\$2,786,000 / \$3,911,000
2009	32	\$1,626,000 / \$2,647,000
2008	26	\$2,008,805 / \$4,017,778
2007	30	\$1,326,000 / \$2,636,000
2006	6	\$2,390,000 / \$1,920,000

**How many of us who leave estates make charitable bequests?**  
(% of estate tax returns with bequests)

Year	Connecticut's National Rank	CT % / U.S. %
2010	25	19% / 20%
2009	13	22% / 19%
2008	2	33% / 19%
2007	19	24% / 20%
2006	30	19% / 19%

**Among those who make bequests, how much of their estates are bequeathed to charities?**  
(Avg. % of donors' gross estate bequeathed)

Year	Connecticut's National Rank	CT Average / U.S. Average
2010	35	20% / 27%
2009	42	13% / 30%
2008	22	30% / 39%
2007	30	22% / 31%
2006	22	28% / 28%

**How much of what we leave in our estates is bequeathed to charities?**  
(Avg % of total gross estates' amounts reported that were bequeathed as a % of all estates)

Year	Connecticut's National Rank	CT Average / U.S. Average
2010	27	7% / 9%
2009	36	4% / 8%
2008	17	11% / 13%
2007	29	6% / 10%
2006	17	10% / 9%

\* In 2001 Congress passed legislation that gradually raised the estate tax threshold until 2010 when the estate tax was scheduled to be repealed. On December 17, 2010, the estate tax was retroactively reinstated for 2010 (but with an elect-out option) and the threshold was raised to \$5 million for 2010, 2011 and 2012 along with a decrease in the estate tax rate. In 2001, estate tax was assessed on those who died leaving a taxable estate of more than \$675,000.

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