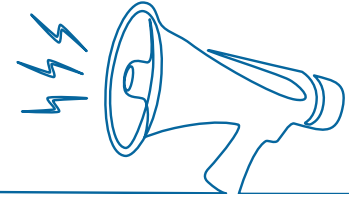




# The Voice of Municipalities

## CCM Public Policy Issue Bulletin



### What is CCM?

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is a member driven organization that is a valuable resource and advocate for municipal government. Representing 168 municipalities in Connecticut - from the large cities to the rural towns - we provide their collective voice and strength on multiple fronts.

Each municipality throughout the state has its own unique and complex challenges. When they come together at CCM, we see an outstanding amount of strength and legitimacy at the local, state and federal levels.

Recognized as one of the top lobbying organizations in Connecticut, CCM is the leading voice on municipal issues at the Capitol and beyond. But we are much more than that.

### CCM Resources and Services

CCM provides comprehensive communications and public relations to its member towns through a variety of channels. CCM publishes its quarterly Connecticut Town & City magazine, which is a publication to promote municipal innovation, policy news, and membership highlights. In addition, CCM has a strong presence on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram and is successfully building its brand through our podcast, [The Municipal Voice](#). Collaborating with [WNHHL 103.5 FM](#), The Municipal Voice is a leading source for municipal news across the state of Connecticut.

The Municipal Resource and Service Center (MRSC) offers robust services to our member towns and cities, providing local officials with the tools to educate and improve their communities. Here are a few of CCM's signature programs:

- Education and training, including our highly successful [Certified Connecticut Municipal Official \(CCMO\)](#) program;
- Research and information services, including our [Municipal Labor Relations \(MLR\) Data Service](#), annual Salary Survey, and state budget updates;
- Networking events such our [annual convention and exposition](#); and
- Money-saving programs with CCM's business partners.

[Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency \(CIRMA\)](#) is CCM's largest service offered to municipalities and is Connecticut's leading provider of municipal risk financing and risk management services.

### Collaborating for the Common Good...

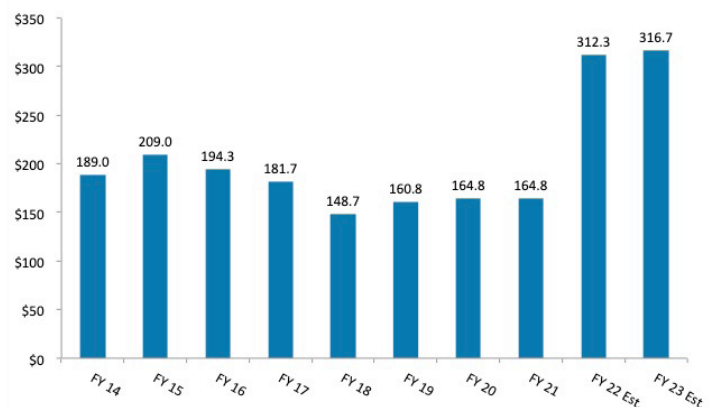
...is not only a tagline, but is a practice that allows CCM to stand above the rest. Building relationships among our membership, our state and federal governments, and other organizations with a focus in making Connecticut a better place to work and live.

Never was the strength of this relationship more apparent than during the COVID-19 Pandemic. CCM worked hand-in-hand with the Governor's Office and state agencies in crafting the Executive Orders that impacted municipalities to make sure that government continued to be accessible and effective for its residents at the local level. This experience forged a trust between municipalities and the state that helped us work together on longstanding issues that had previously been out of reach.

Working with legislative leaders from both parties and the Governor's Office, CCM successfully advocated for more funding for the state's PILOT program, which helps off-set the loss in revenue by reimbursing municipalities for tax-exempt property. The State and College and Hospital PILOT programs had been chronically underfunded since their inception and this infusion of additional dollars is critical for sustaining municipal services and addressing a broken property tax system.

Another initiative where CCM collaborated with

**PILOT: State-Owned Property and Private Colleges & Hospitals**  
(Millions \$)



other stake holders, was on HVAC and air filtration reimbursement to improve air quality in our schools.

This cooperation resulted in a set aside of \$75 million in funding for school HVAC upgrades and allows HVAC projects to be eligible under the school construction grant program. It also established a working group to study and make recommendations related to indoor air quality within school buildings, to ensure there is an appropriate balance between increased air quality while not becoming a costly and administrative burden on municipalities.

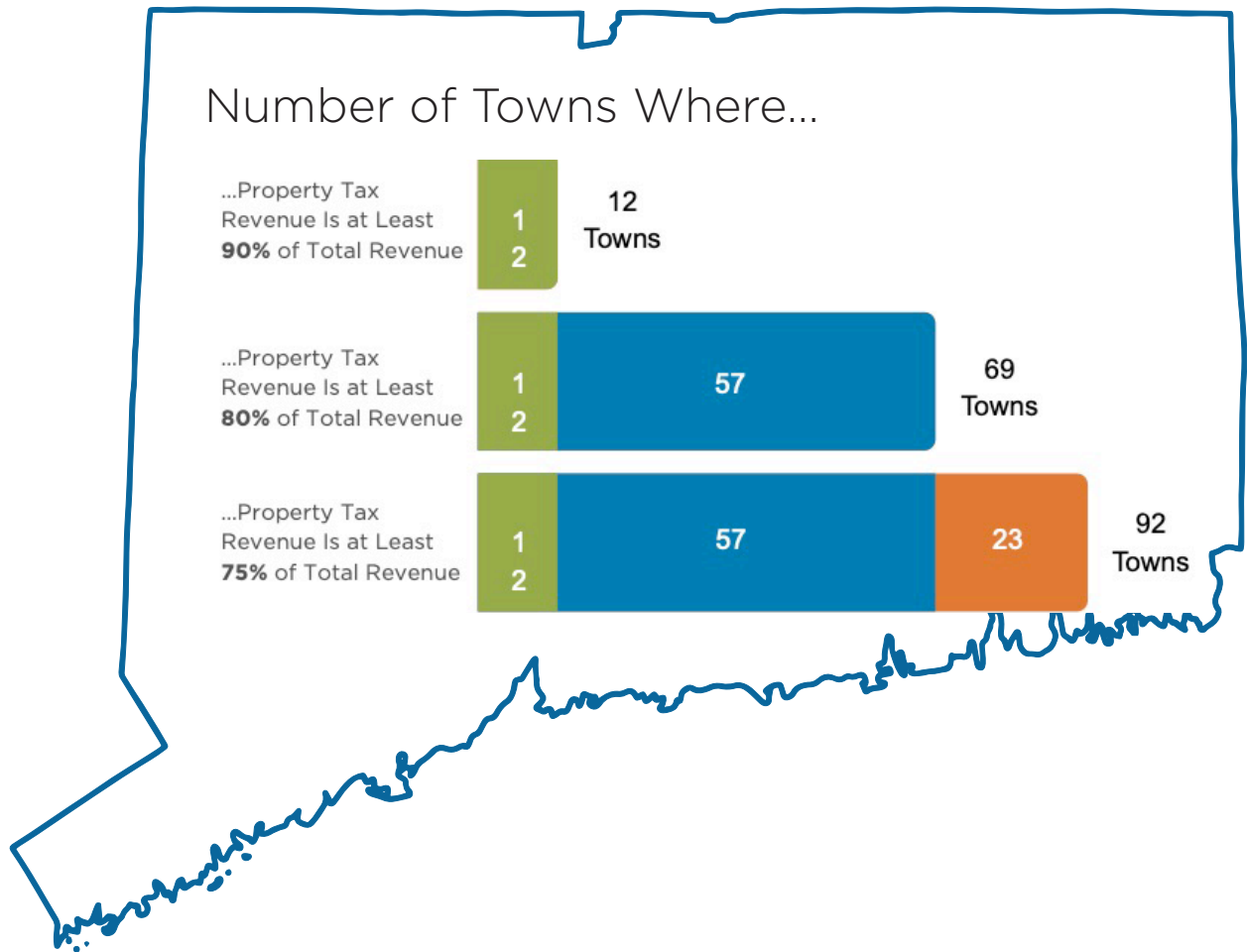
### Mandates and Balancing the Need

CCM often works to ensure proper balance, especially relating to unfunded or underfunded mandates that have been placed on municipalities. There are currently over 1,400 state mandates that directly impact towns and cities. These are requirements that the state has set but has not provided the necessary finances to carry out that mandate. In isolation

some of these mandates are considered “minor”, but cumulatively these mandates add significant costs to municipal operations. This forces local governments to increase property taxes to cover the costs of these mandates, reduce or eliminate local services or cancel or limit needed infrastructure improvements. Coupled with tax-exempt properties, and other exemptions many cities and towns are at the fiscal breaking point for delivering quality services and educational opportunities.

### Ready and Willing Partner

CCM's is a ready and willing partner to assist in the development of public policy at the state and local level. Together we can collectively develop innovative and strategic plans and proposals that provide a positive step toward the future of municipal government. In that effort, we are committed to working with all of our partners - both in state government and outside stakeholders - to make Connecticut an attractive place to live and work.



Public Policy  
and Advocacy

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