

2024 END OF YEAR REPORT



CHRIS 
MURPHY
U.S. SENATOR FOR CONNECTICUT

2024 BY THE NUMBERS



Throughout 2024, Chris traveled across Connecticut to meet with residents and hear their stories. It's those conversations with people living in every corner of our state that fuel his work in the U.S. Senate. This report outlines the efforts Chris led in Washington this year and the results he delivered for the people of Connecticut.

This year, Chris:



Introduced or co-sponsored nearly 370 pieces of legislation, including 68 bills or resolutions as the lead sponsor



Completed his eighth Walk Across Connecticut: four days, 64 miles, 16 towns, and hundreds of people along the way



Traveled across the state, hosting 117 town halls, roundtables, listening sessions and more with Connecticut residents



Responded and reached out to Connecticut residents through over 383,000 calls, emails, and letters



Returned nearly \$2 million to constituents, including owed Social Security payments, veterans' benefits, tax refunds, and other savings from federal agencies



Helped over 3,300 constituents work through federal issues and get their owed benefits

BRINGING FEDERAL DOLLARS & GOOD-PAYING JOBS TO CONNECTICUT

The laws Chris helped pass over the last four years – the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, the CHIPS and Science Act – are continuing to pay dividends for Connecticut. This year, Chris helped deliver hundreds of millions of dollars in funding to support important projects and create thousands of good-paying jobs in our state.



To name just a few, these projects include:

- **\$700 million** in Climate Pollution Reduction Grants to lower energy costs and cut pollution
- **\$290 million** in Federal-State Partnership grants to upgrade railways across the state, including:
 - **\$172 million** to improve reliability on the New Haven Main Line
 - **\$102 million** to build a double track on a portion of the Hartford Line
- **\$125 million** to improve the I-91, I-691, and Route 15 interchange in Meriden
- **\$77.8 million** in LIHEAP funds to reduce heating costs for low-income families in Connecticut
- **\$39 million** to modernize the New Haven Port Authority and New London State Pier
- **\$21.7 million** in RAISE Grants for transportation projects in the Norwalk, Naugatuck, and Hartford areas
- **\$16 million** to remove lead paint from homes in Bridgeport, Norwich, and Waterbury
- **\$10 million** for new clean energy manufacturing facility in Farmington
- **\$35 million** in congressionally directed spending to help workers learn new skills, expand access to mental health services, support small businesses, give kids better educational opportunities, and upgrade aging water infrastructure

MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER



In the two years since Congress passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), Chris has been laser-focused on making sure its implementation is as impactful as possible. The Biden Administration has awarded millions of dollars to states and local communities for community violence intervention, expanded mental health services and school safety efforts, successfully increased the number of background checks, and cracked down on gun traffickers.

Since passage:

- More than **500** defendants have been charged using BSCA's new gun trafficking and straw purchasing laws
- **776** firearms sales to individuals under 21 who are prohibited from purchasing guns were stopped thanks to the enhanced background check
- The DOJ has awarded **\$94 million** for community violence intervention programs
- **14** states are already using or plan to use BSCA funding to increase use of red flag laws
- **\$570 million** has been awarded to help hire and train mental health professionals to work in schools
- **\$85 million** awarded to help schools identify students who need mental health care and help them access that care

MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER

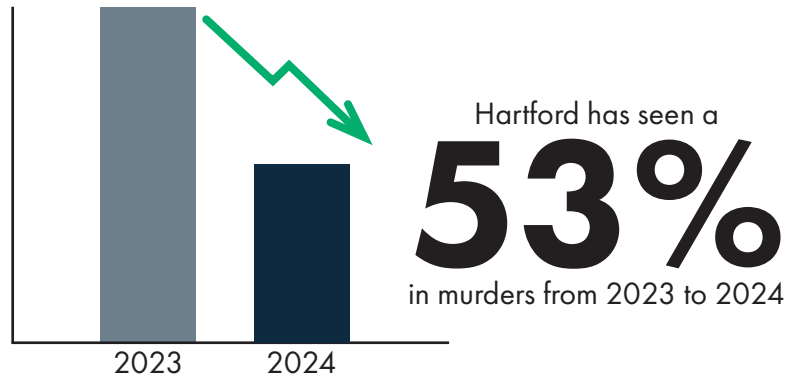
Violent crime rates, including gun murders, have dropped significantly across the country, including in Connecticut, but too many lives are still being lost to gun violence. Chris won't stop fighting until we end this uniquely American epidemic.

A CLOSER LOOK: CRIME REDUCTION IN HARTFORD

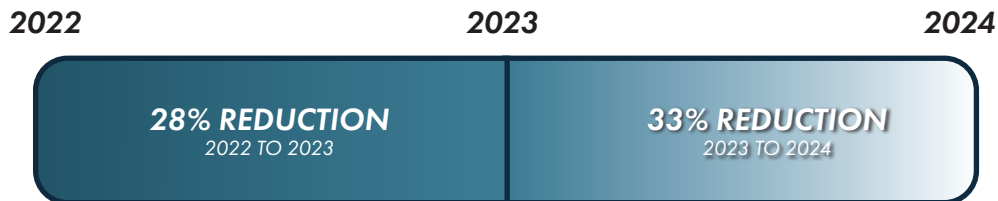
Hartford is trending towards the **lowest** number of shooting victims since that data was first published in 2006.

Since 2022:

- Shooting assaults have **decreased by 33%**
- Robberies have **dropped by 13%**



Shooting victims, both fatal and non-fatal, have come down each year 2022-2024:



As of most-recently updated data, August 2024.

FBI QUARTERLY CRIME DATA

2024 data range covers January to June 2024, and was published September 2024. Percentage changes are relative to the same time period in 2023.

↓ Violent crime decreased by **10%**

↓ Robbery decreased by **17%**

↓ Murder decreased by **22%**

↓ Aggravated assault decreased by **13%**

BUILDING MORE SOCIAL CONNECTION

Chris believes policymakers cannot continue to ignore the unraveling of our local communities as well as the growing feelings of social isolation and powerlessness felt by so many Americans. This year, he continued his leadership on finding ways government can help build a society where everyone can live a good life and build strong relationships with family, friends and community.



Chris addressed the crowd at the first-ever Creating Community Summit at NXTHVN in New Haven.

Many groups in Connecticut are already doing the work of bringing people together. In March, Chris convened non-profit leaders, state and local officials, community organizers, and other stakeholders from across the state for the first-ever Creating Community Summit where people shared their best practices and discussed challenges. Bishop William J. Barber II, co-chair of the Poor People's Campaign, delivered a keynote address and Surgeon General Vivek Murthy provided virtual remarks to the crowd.

The half-day event featured panel discussions on how social isolation impacts young adults and how we can build healthy downtowns and support third places.

Chris also hosted a series of conversations with experts to explain how the Biden administration shifted power back to the American people and away from greedy corporations and billionaires. This included digging into the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) crackdown on the collusion of oil companies to the DOJ's case against agriculture monopolies.

Government needs to do more to give power back to people and local communities, and the conversations Chris had this year with Connecticut families and national stakeholders have been critical to informing this work going forward.

FIGHTING FOR WORKERS

Chris is the Senate's leader on bipartisan legislation to limit the use of non-compete clauses, which prohibit workers from getting a better job somewhere else. This year, the FTC finalized a rule banning employers from imposing non-competes on their employees, but employers are holding it up in litigation. Chris brought FTC Chair Lina Khan to Hartford for a listening session with workers, labor leaders, and state officials on how the rule will help raise wages, foster innovation, and give workers in Connecticut more economic freedom.



Job Corps is the largest free residential education and job training program for young adults, but it's in need of some serious updates. After visiting Job Corps students and instructors in Hartford, Chris introduced new legislation, the *Job Corps for the Next Generation Act*, to increase access to programming and improve student outcomes.

Chris also led a bipartisan effort to call out Amazon for its mistreatment of drivers in the company's Delivery Service Partner (DSP) program. These drivers

dress in Amazon uniforms, drive Amazon trucks, and deliver Amazon packages, and yet the company does not consider them employees and fights against their right to organize. Chris also urged the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to reach a decision in several cases brought by these drivers, and in October, the NLRB filed a complaint against Amazon accusing the company of illegally refusing to negotiate with Teamsters representing delivery drivers.



Murphy Leads Bipartisan Senate Group Challenging Working Conditions of Amazon Drivers

MAKING HOUSING **MORE AFFORDABLE**

Connecticut has one of the tightest rental markets in the country, with just a 3.5 percent vacancy rate. That means renters, particularly those who use housing vouchers, often have to choose between living in poor conditions or risk not being able to secure another affordable place to live. That's why Chris teamed up with Sen. John Fetterman to introduce the Tenants' Right to Organize Act.

The legislation would:

- Guarantee the right to establish and participate in tenant organizations
- Protect tenants from eviction or harassment in response to their participation in legitimate tenant organizations or exercising their rights
- Requires public housing agencies and owners to recognize legitimate tenant organizations and respond meaningfully to their concerns
- Provide dedicated funding to support tenant organizing and capacity building

From young people to working families to seniors, everyone – across the country but especially in our state – is feeling the housing crunch. Solving this crisis requires federal, state, and local governments to work together, and Chris is committed to being part of the solution. He teamed up with State Representative Jason Rojas to propose a range of potential policy solutions that would spur the construction of more affordable homes, help first-time home buyers, and drive down costs.

Chris supports expanding and improving tax credits for building new affordable housing stock, increasing investment in and flexibility for voucher programs, and incentivizing towns to remove discriminatory and burdensome zoning laws.



In October, Chris announced a \$2 million federal grant to the Connecticut Housing Authority to support affordable housing and called on his colleagues in Washington to do more to address the housing crisis.

PUTTING PATIENTS FIRST

Far too many people can't afford the prescription drugs they need to live. That's why the Inflation Reduction Act, passed in 2022, gave Medicare a new authority to negotiate the price of 10 of the most expensive drugs millions of seniors rely on. After months of negotiations, the White House announced this year the cost of those drugs will drop up to 80 percent.

As a member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, Chris called out Big Pharma for inflating the cost of prescription drugs. He asked the CEOs of Johnson & Johnson and Bristol Myers Squibb why they spend billions more on stock buybacks and dividends than research development all while charging sky high prices for life-saving medications.

CT INSIDER

Murphy: Prospect Medical is 'making a disgusting fortune' at patients' expense

Chris also shed light on the dangerous involvement of private equity in health care. At a committee hearing and in a speech on the Senate floor, Chris detailed how Prospect Medical Holdings bought Rockville General, Manchester Memorial, and Waterbury Hospital and have since run them into the ground, making out-of-state executives richer at the expense of patients, doctors, and nurses in Connecticut.



SIGNED INTO LAW: THE NATIONAL PLAN TO END PARKINSON'S ACT

Anyone living with Parkinson's or caring for a loved one battling the disease knows how difficult and devastating a diagnosis can be. All across Connecticut, Chris has met with families who are impacted, and for years, he has introduced legislation to unite the federal government in a mission to cure and prevent Parkinson's, alleviate financial and health burdens on American families, and reduce government spending over time. This summer, Dr. Emmanuel Bilirakis and Honorable Jennifer Wexton National Plan to End Parkinson's Act, which Chris co-led in the Senate with Republican Senator Shelley Moore Capito, was signed into law.

A FUN SUMMER FOR ALL KIDS

The summer months give kids an important chance to reset and prepare for back-to-school, but not every family can afford to send their kids to camp or a summer program.

Back in 2021, Chris led an effort to make sure the American Rescue Plan included funding to give more kids the opportunity for a fun summer after a really tough school year. Thanks to those federal dollars, Connecticut's summer enrichment program helped thousands of kids and families.



But that funding is running out, and Chris believes we shouldn't abandon such a successful initiative that has changed so many young people's lives. In July, he introduced the Summer for All Act, legislation to provide high-quality summer enrichment opportunities to kids and families who otherwise would not have access to these programs.

HELPING KIDS SUCCEED **IN SCHOOL**

While the summer helps set kids up for success, the school year is when the bulk of the growth and learning happens. Smartphones in the classroom are a massive distraction from learning and socializing with other students, and feed into our kids' addiction to technology. Some schools in Connecticut have seen improved student mental health and academic outcomes after implementing policies that limit phones in the classroom. Chris teamed up with Senator Mitt Romney of Utah to introduce the Smart Kids Not Smartphones Act.

The legislation would:

- Recognize and celebrate schools that implement smartphone bans during instructional time while still allowing for reasonable exceptions
- Direct relevant agencies to publish guidance on best practices

Chris also reintroduced the MAGNET Act, legislation to improve and expand upon the federal Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP) grant, and the Fair Play for Women Act to promote gender equity in college and K-12 sports.



PROTECTING THE FUTURE OF **LONG ISLAND SOUND**

Eight years ago, Chris published a comprehensive funding plan outlining the ways the federal government should support Long Island Sound and the people in Connecticut who rely on it. It was an ambitious vision to protect the Sound's future, and the good news is that we have shattered many of those goals, including securing \$40 million annually for the Long Island Sound Geographic Program.

But the Sound and its coastal communities are facing new challenges as sea levels rise and storms grow more frequent and severe. That's why Chris rolled out his new Long Island Sound Investment Plan 2.0, informed by feedback from environmental advocates, fishermen, oyster farmers, marine researchers, submarine manufacturers, and Connecticut residents who rely on the Sound for both work and recreation.

The new and improved plan lays out investments and policy goals to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy, improve coastal resilience, support the blue economy, and increase access to and education about the beauty of Long Island Sound.



FIGHTING FOR SAFER ROADS

In 2024, Connecticut saw a tragic rise in roadway deaths, including the deaths of a Connecticut State Trooper and ConnDOT worker, both of whom were killed on the job. Every year, Chris walks across the state, and this year, he spoke with a group of road construction workers who noticed an uptick in dangerous driving behavior.

There is no perfect solution to eliminate traffic accidents completely, but there is more the government can do to protect people on roadways. Chris sent a letter to Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg about the Department's efforts to address dangerous driving behaviors and how federal and state governments can work together to make roads safer for pedestrians, bikers, and drivers.



HELPING CONNECTICUT FARMERS

Connecticut farmers have always been the lifeblood of our rural communities, but they have faced an incredibly challenging year. Extreme flooding and droughts left many of our small farms struggling to recover because they don't qualify for traditional crop insurance or existing disaster relief programs.



To help small farms in our state weather future storms, Chris introduced the Save Our Small Farms Act, legislation to expand coverage and assistance, lower costs for small farmers, and direct the USDA to develop more responsive coverage options.

RESPONDING TO DEVASTATING FLOODING

This summer, western Connecticut was hit with historic flooding that left hundreds of homes, towns, and small businesses with catastrophic damage. As Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee that funds the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Chris spoke directly with FEMA Administrator Criswell about the magnitude of devastation and dire challenges Connecticut would face and successfully pushed for a major disaster declaration from the White House.



No amount of money will undo the damage done, but Chris is fighting for more federal dollars to ease the burden placed on families and communities and provide assistance to towns working to restore roads, bridges, rail and other essential infrastructure across our state.

STANDING UP FOR **REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**

In the two years since the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, Chris has been fighting to safeguard reproductive rights for people in Connecticut and across the country. He co-sponsored legislation to protect access to IVF and other assisted reproductive technology, but passage of that bill was blocked by Senate Republicans.

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We have it all in West Hartford.

Sen. Chris Murphy Listens To Concerns Regarding Reproductive Healthcare

Chris also voted for passage of the Reproductive Freedom for Women Act, legislation that would affirm support for protecting access to reproductive health care, and the Right to Contraception Act, both of which were blocked by Senate Republicans.

The right to abortion is safe in Connecticut, but under a Trump administration, that right will be at risk. Chris will keep fighting to make sure it is protected under federal law.



UPDATE ON THE COAST GUARD MUSEUM

As Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security, Chris has been focused on making sure the Coast Guard Museum in New London becomes a reality. To date, he has helped secure nearly \$140 million in federal funding to support the project and related infrastructure investments in the city.

This fall, local and state leaders and members of the New London community came together to celebrate the progress and get an update on the plan for the museum's ongoing construction and opening in 2026.



SUPPORTING CONNECTICUT VETERANS

We owe a duty of care to the brave men and women who served our country. Too often, veterans are forced to wait months to receive claim and pension exams to access disability benefits earned in service. Chris led the Connecticut congressional delegation in pushing the Veterans Benefits Administration on how they plan to speed up the scheduling process and get veterans their benefits quicker.



SUPPORTING CONNECTICUT VETERANS

Women veterans face distinct challenges, including higher rates of suicide and sexual assault or harassment, that often don't receive the attention they require. Chris sent two letters urging the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to prioritize mental and physical healthcare resources for women veterans who experienced sexual trauma during their service and to take immediate action to address alarming trends in women veterans' suicide rates.

CT INSIDER

Sen. Chris Murphy calls for VA to do more as suicide rate spikes among female veterans

FINDING BIPARTISAN COMPROMISES

From the *Bipartisan Safer Communities Act* to the *Electoral Count Reform Act*, Chris has been at the center of key bipartisan negotiations in Congress. In 2024, he continued his streak as a dealmaker, working with Republican Senator James Lankford of Oklahoma and Independent Senator Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona on a bipartisan compromise to strengthen border security and reform the asylum system. While the bill ultimately did not pass, Chris remains committed to working across the aisle to make our asylum system fairer and our border more secure.

 **mirror**

**Flexing bipartisan bona fides,
Chris Murphy hopeful despite
defeat**

A NOTE FROM **SENATOR MURPHY**



From helping constituents get their owed tax refunds to delivering billions of federal dollars for our state to writing a bipartisan border security bill, we got a lot done for the people of Connecticut this year. In spite of the partisan fighting and gridlock in Washington, I'm really proud of what my office accomplished.

Representing this state in the U.S. Senate is the best job in the world, and I'm so grateful to have been elected to a third term earlier this year. There is no doubt the next four years will be full of tough fights. But rest assured, I will stand up for Connecticut values every single day and work with whoever it takes to make a difference for the people in our state.

Thank you for your support, and wishing you a happy new year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Murphy".



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