

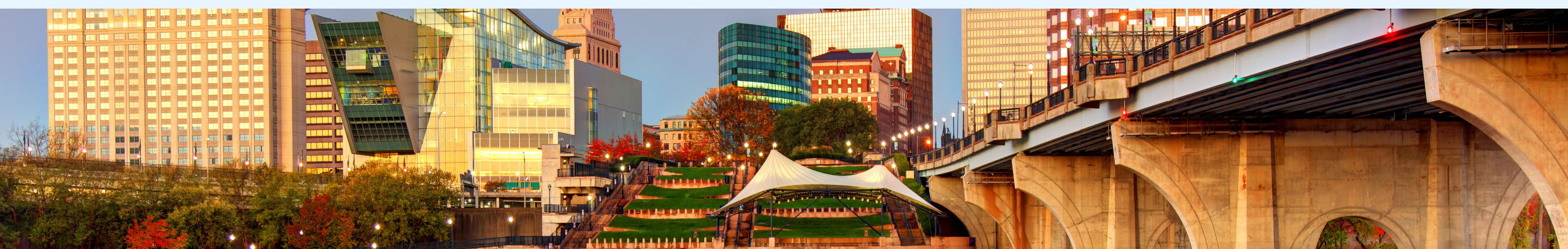
DATA CENTERS IN CONNECTICUT: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Recently, data center operations and proposed projects have received a significant amount of attention from Connecticut policymakers, pundits, and economic analysts. In May, the *Hartford Business Journal* reported, “A Norwalk-based data center operator, 365 Data Centers, has partnered with a national real estate investment firm to develop roughly 200 megawatts of high-density data centers across the United States, potentially including one in Trumbull. ... the companies said they plan to identify, convert and build a portfolio of high-density facilities capable of supporting AI workloads and other advanced applications.”

PROPOSED AND PASSED RESTRICTIONS ON DATA CENTERS

- * Connecticut House Bill 5469: Introduced by the Energy and Technology Committee in March, this proposed bill targets large-scale, energy-intensive data centers ostensibly to prevent grid strain and local utility price hikes. An analysis by the *CT Mirror* notes that the legislation “would have established regulations for data centers that are located next to, and draw electricity from, an existing power plant such as Millstone Nuclear Power Station. Ultimately, lawmakers said that interest in the issue faded as it became clear that Connecticut’s high electricity costs were dissuading developers from wanting to locate data centers in the state.”
- * Senate Bill 1292: Introduced in February 2025 in the Connecticut General Assembly, SB 1292 aimed to establish strict state oversight over energy and water consumption. The proposed legislation targeted specialized artificial intelligence data centers, requiring quarterly resource reporting to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and mandatory efficiency standards. Although the bill reached the Senate calendar during the 2025 legislative session, it was not enacted into law prior to adjournment.
- * Local Municipal Moratoriums: Municipalities in Connecticut have enacted local restrictions to pause data center construction while establishing zoning, noise, and health standards. Enacted in May, Morris’ data center moratorium will remain in place for two years, while West Haven’s moratorium restricts data center development for a year. These two localities are following the lead of Groton, “which approved a one-year moratorium in 2022 after a proposal was floated to build a data center tied to the Millstone nuclear power facility.”



DATA CENTER DANGERS SIGNIFICANTLY OVERSTATED

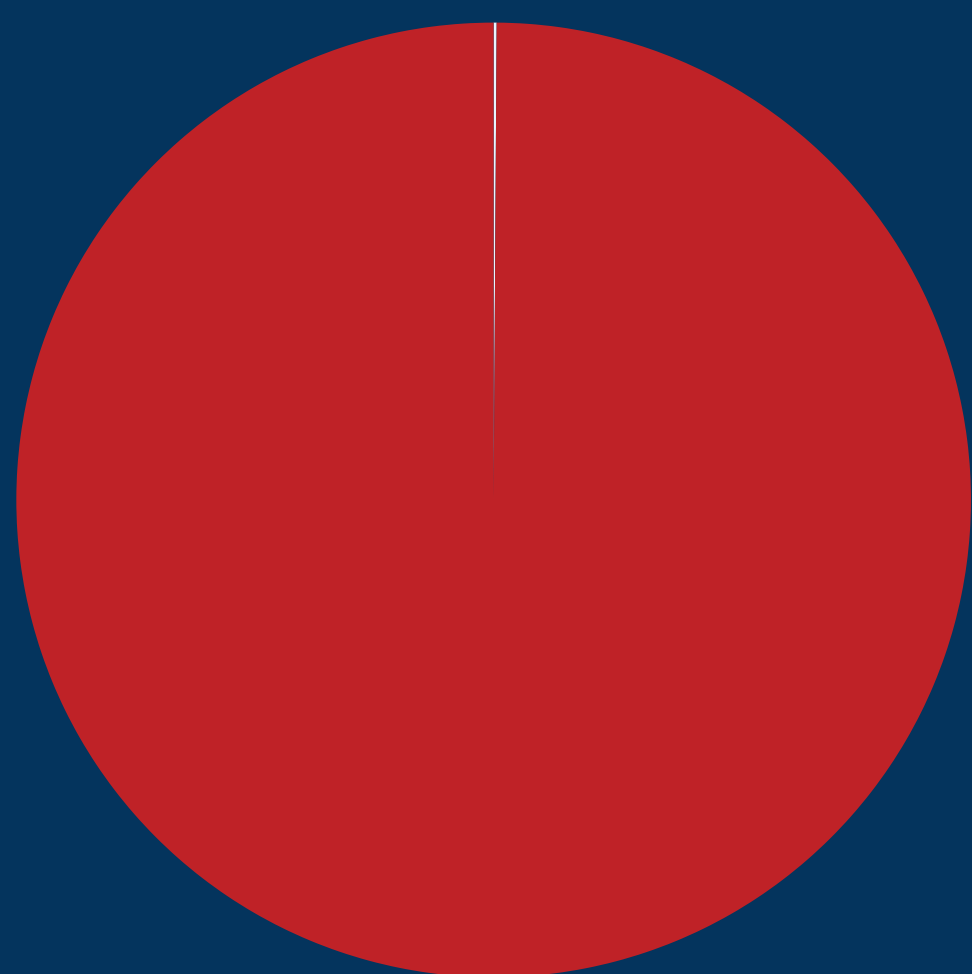
Advocates of bans or restrictions often cite supposedly excessive water or electricity consumption by new data center operations. For example, Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) has stated, “consumers in any state deserve protection against data centers swallowing power and sending prices sky high.” The truth is data centers account for a small proportion of water and electricity use in Connecticut.

DATA CENTER MYTH V. REALITY



CT WATER USAGE, 2025

- Data Center Water Consumption
- All Other Consumption



MYTH:

Data centers are using up a significant percentage of water.

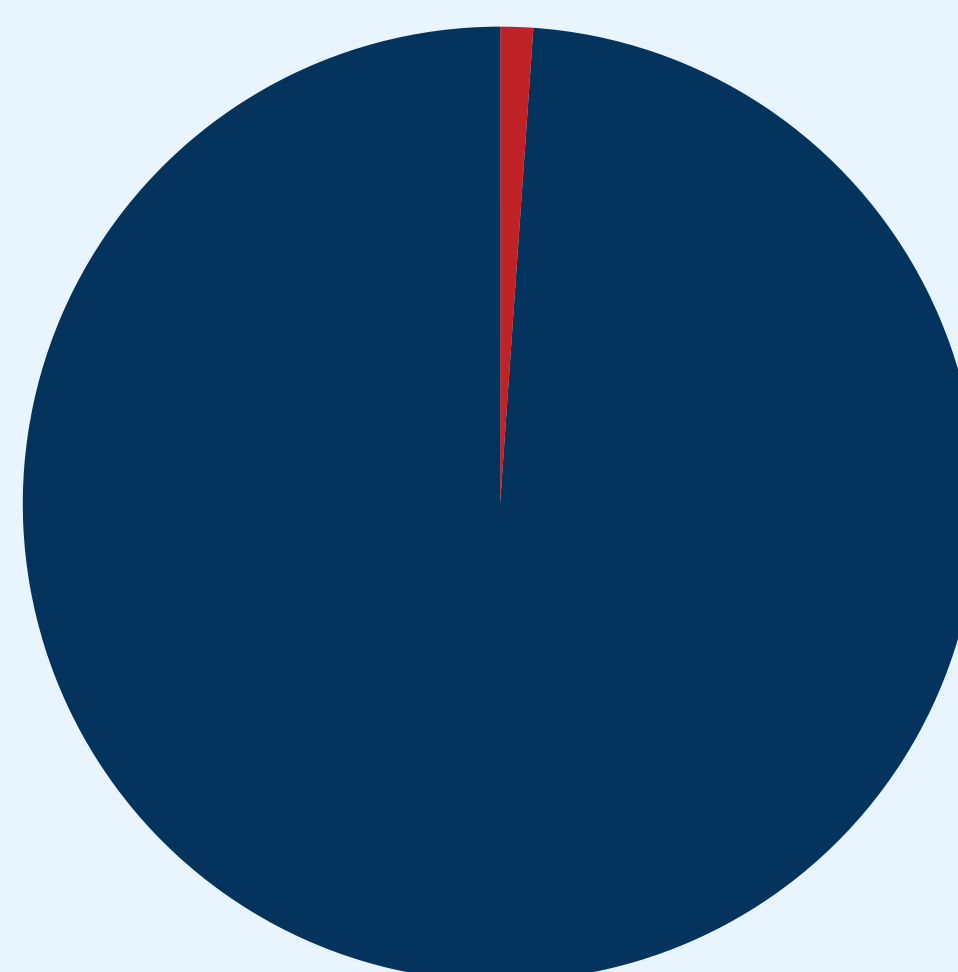
REALITY:

In Connecticut, data centers accounted for **0.1 percent** of all water consumption in 2025.

Brookings Institution data center water use estimates; Baxtel data center count; U.S. Geological Survey state-level aggregate water consumption figures.

CT ELECTRICITY USAGE, 2025

- Data Center Electricity Consumption
- All Other Consumption



MYTH:

Data centers are using up a significant percentage of electricity.

REALITY:

In Connecticut, data centers accounted for **1.1 percent** of all electricity consumption in 2025.

Electric Choice data center power consumption figures; U.S. Energy Information Administration state-level net generation figures.

To learn more about the long-term projected water and electricity demands of data centers, visit the Q&A section at protectingtaxpayers.org/datacenters

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