



Budget Problems in Bethlehem?



- * Less money is available from the State of Connecticut ...
- * Because less money is available from Washington DC ...
- * Because money is being diverted to the war in Iraq and Afghanistan ...

By July 2011, Connecticut's 'de facto' contribution to wars in Iraq and Afghanistan is \$29.8 BILLION!

Note: The term 'de facto' is used because all this money was borrowed, adds to the deficit and restricts our ability to fund needed services

The 'de facto' contribution for your town and some of the major metropolitan areas are shown below:

All Connecticut	\$29.8 Billion
Greenwich	\$ 981.1 Million
Hartford	\$ 489.0 Million
New Haven	\$ 593.1 Million
New London	\$ 140.6 Million
Stamford	\$1148.9 Million
Waterbury	\$ 596.0 Million

Bethlehem's

De-facto contribution to these wars, since 2001, is estimated to be:

\$ 34.4 Million!

Note: This town specific may vary from National Priorities Project estimates

In Fiscal Year 2011, Connecticut's share of cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan is estimated at \$4.1 Billion. Instead of war, we could have:

- 1,600,000 Children Receiving Low-Income Healthcare for One Year OR
- 51,647 Elementary School Teachers for One Year OR
- 64,703 Firefighters for One Year OR
- 508,938 Military Veterans Receiving VA Medical Care for One Year OR
- 539,721 People Receiving Low-Income Healthcare for One Year OR
- 58,267 Police or Sheriff's Patrol Officers for One Year OR
- 418,467 Scholarships for University Students for One Year OR
- 745,399 Students receiving Pell Grants of \$5550



Estimates of the cost of the War in Iraq for towns, cities and counties across the U.S are based on those from www.nationalpriorities.org.

- 1) Total costs of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan allocated by Congress to date – which include funding through the end of the current fiscal year on September 30, 2011 – are **\$1.26 trillion, with \$797.3 billion to Iraq and \$459.8 billion to Afghanistan**. These figures include both military and non-military spending such as reconstruction. Spending includes only incremental costs – those additional funds that are expended due to the war. For example, soldiers' regular pay is not included but combat pay is included. **Potential future costs, such as future medical care for soldiers and veterans wounded in the war, are not included.** These figures also do not include additional interest payments on the national debt that will result from higher deficits due to war spending.
- 2) The state share of the total is based on how much each state contributes in tax revenues, according to IRS data. **This is 2.5% for Connecticut.**
- 3) The local-level costs are based on **allocating the state share to towns based on median local-level town, city or county income.**

Estimated Cost of War in Iraq (Million \$) = (Median Household Income for Town) * (Number of Households in Town) / 1,000,000 * 0.397
Bethlehem: Median Household Income for Town = \$68542 and 1262 Households

Flyers for all other Connecticut towns at: <http://www.hopeoutloud.org/towncost.html>

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Prepared by: The Connecticut Coalition for Peace and Justice (CCPJ)