

Connecticut earns a C for its civil forfeiture laws:

- Higher bar to forfeit: Moderate conviction provision applies in drug, identity theft and sex-trafficking cases, even if forfeiture is uncontested. It does not require conviction of the owner, only that a “person” be convicted. For other crimes, the owner must be convicted. Once the conviction provision is satisfied, property must be linked to the crime by clear and convincing evidence.
- Stronger protections for the innocent: The government must prove third-party owners knew about criminal activity connected to their property.
- Large profit incentive: In drug cases, 69.5% of forfeiture proceeds go to law enforcement (59.5% to police and 10% to prosecutors); none in all other cases.

Recent Reforms

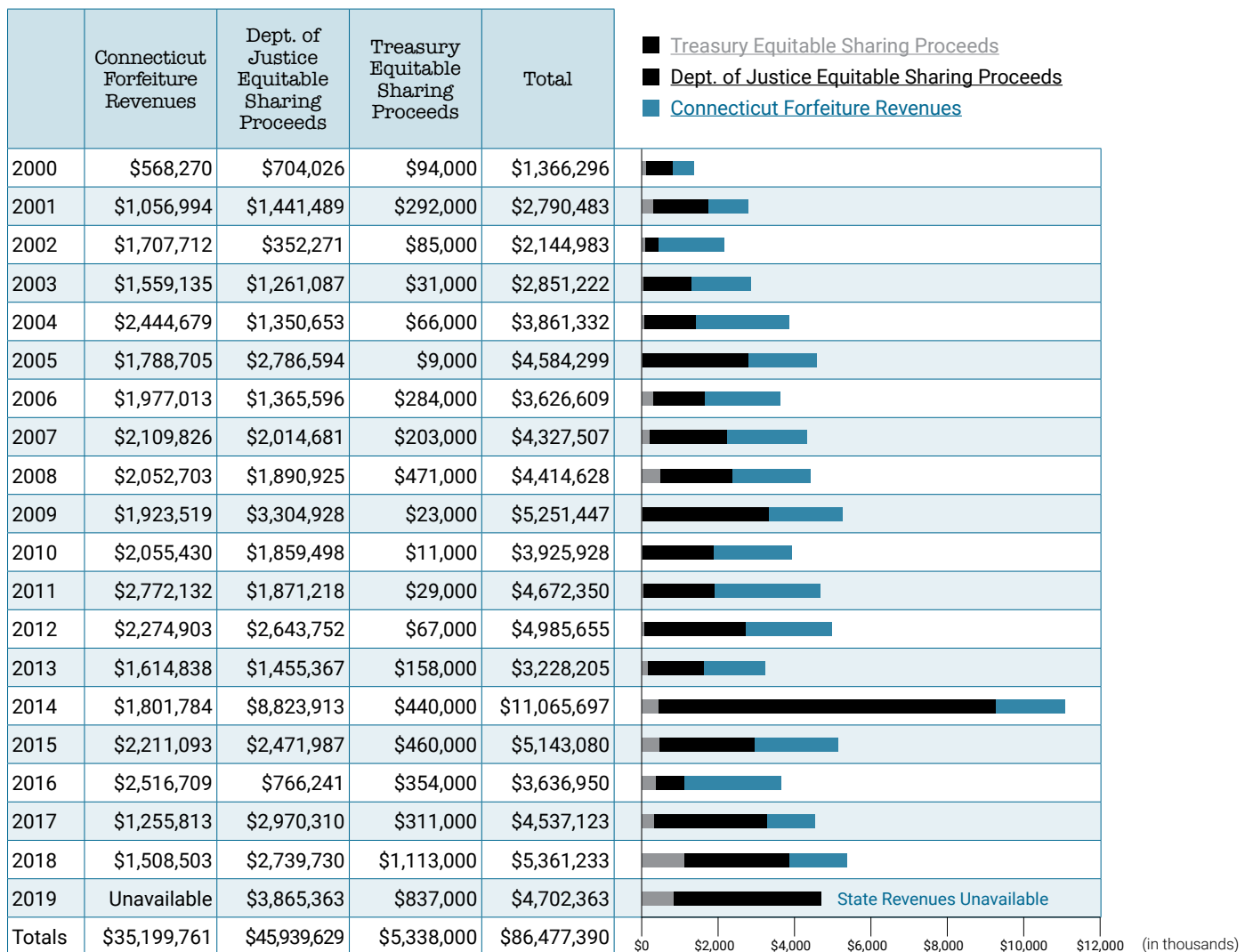
- (2017) HB 7146: Created moderate conviction provision.

State and Federal Forfeiture Revenues, 2000–2019

Between 2000 and 2018, Connecticut law enforcement agencies forfeited more than \$35 million under state law. Between 2000 and 2019, they generated an additional \$51 million from federal equitable sharing, for a total of at least \$86 million in forfeiture revenue. Connecticut ranks 28th for its participation in the Department of Justice’s equitable sharing program. The state does not prevent state and local agencies from using equitable sharing to circumvent state forfeiture law.

**At least \$86 million
in state and federal
forfeiture revenue**

2000–2019



All revenue figures include both civil and criminal forfeitures. Revenues are not adjusted for inflation.

Connecticut's Forfeiture Transparency and Accountability Report Card

Tracking Seized Property	C	Accessibility of Forfeiture Records	D
Accounting for Forfeiture Fund Spending	F	Penalties for Failure to File a Report	Incomplete[†]
Statewide Forfeiture Reports	F	Financial Audits of Forfeiture Accounts	F

[†] No reporting requirements to enforce.

For full transparency and accountability grades, visit www.ij.org/TransparencyReportCards.

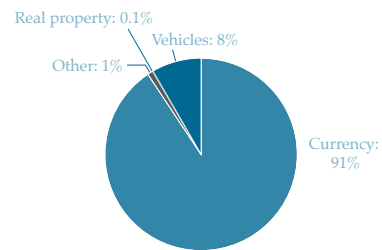
Forfeitures Under Connecticut Law: Key Facts

Median Value



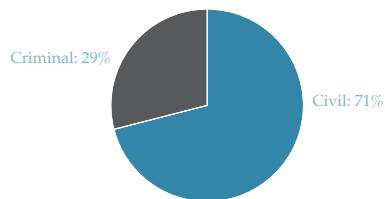
From 2015 to 2018, half of Connecticut's currency forfeitures were worth less than \$665.

Property Types



From 2000 to 2018, more than nine out of every 10 forfeitures in Connecticut were of currency.

Civil vs. Criminal



From 2000 to 2015, 71% of forfeited properties were processed under civil, not criminal, forfeiture laws.

Expenditures

UNKNOWN

Connecticut does not report how forfeiture funds are spent.

Data Notes

Property-level calendar-year proceeds were obtained via public records requests to the Connecticut Chief State's Attorney. Figures represent cash and property sold from forfeitures. Equitable sharing data are from DOJ's and Treasury's annual forfeiture reports. Due to differences in reporting and accounting practices, state figures may not match aggregate numbers produced by the state or cover the same 12-month period as the federal data.