

10 Best Towns for Families: 2011



Trumbull, Connecticut

Population: 36,167

Median Income: \$93,986

Median Home Price: \$344,000

Households with Kids: 41%

Student/Teacher Ratio: 17:1

Great Schools Rating: 9

It's the simple pleasures that Martha Jankovic-Mark loves most about this picturesque enclave, 60 miles north of Manhattan: strolling along the Long Island Sound, going sledding on the nearby hills in winter or hiking in summertime on the Pequonnock River Valley trails. "We just like getting the family together for good old-fashioned fun," says Martha, 51, a part-time lawyer who volunteers on the city council. She and husband Larry, 52, also appreciate the academic and sports programs at Trumbull's schools. Children Jon, 20, Alex, 17, and Larissa, 15, have participated in everything from mock congressional hearings to robotics team competitions to skating tournaments. "All the kids have formed relationships with their teachers and coaches, and have seen up close the commitment they bring to their work," says Larry, a software engineer. "It's inspiring, and they've been enriched by it." Adds Martha: "Some people say New Englanders are chilly, but people here are warm and really help each other out. Trumbull is a jewel."

Good Deeds

The volunteer group Trumbull Community Women works nonstop all year every year, holding food drives for the needy, raising money for schools and veterans organizations, and tidying up the town by collecting trash along roads and hiking trails.

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