

CONNECTICUT

BUSINESS EMPLOYMENT CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN THE MEDIA

This publication lists start-ups, expansions, staff reductions, and layoffs reported by the media, both current and future. The report provides company name, the number of workers involved, date of the action, the principal product or service of the company, a brief synopsis of the action, and the source and date of the media article.

The Office of Research does not disclose information about individual companies which it collects as part of its statistical programs. This report is based only on information that has been publicly reported through the media for use by jobseekers, public policy makers, economic development professionals, and anyone with an interest in the Connecticut economy. While the Office of Research regularly monitors the media for announcement of business changes, some announcements may have been missed.

In addition to reports in the media, companies may be required to report on the WARN Act. Information about the WARN act is available here: <https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/progsupt/bussrvce/rrwarn.htm>. A listing of WARN notices is available here: <https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/progsupt/bussrvce/warnreports/warnreports.htm>. Information about the Department of Labor’s Rapid Response Unit is available here: <https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/progsupt/bussrvce/rrt.htm>.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS	2
LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS	5

WARN NOTICES



Acknowledgement: [Nestor Velez](#) has prepared this report for publication.

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN JANUARY 2026

- [Key Food to fill supermarket vacancy in Shelton shopping center](#)
- [Popular hot chicken restaurant opens new CT location Friday](#)
- [T.J. Maxx sets opening date for store at Shops at Stone Bridge in Cheshire](#)
- [Fast-growing chicken chain Birdcode opens in Cheshire, continuing CT expansion](#)
- [Hotels are on the rise in Connecticut. Here's what opened in 2025 and what's coming in 2026.](#)
- [Little Charm Eatery opens in Wallingford, serving Thai and Asian fusion cuisine](#)
- [New sports bar with familiar name set to open in Hartford](#)
- [Stew Leonard says he's eyeing New Haven area for new store. Here are some possible sites](#)
- [Yemeni coffee shop Qahwah House to open in Stamford as its first Connecticut location](#)
- [Crunch Fitness to expand Connecticut footprint with new Torrington and Southington locations](#)
- [Whole Foods sets opening date of Feb. 5 for new Cheshire store](#)
- [West Haven wooing Wegman's to open its second store in Connecticut](#)
- [Western retailer Boot Barn to open new Connecticut store in old Party City location](#)
- [Meriden board OKs new gas station at West Main Street and Chamberlain Highway](#)
- [First-time restaurant owners open Poke Kitchen in East Windsor shopping plaza](#)
- [Queen Street Pizza opens in Southington at former Renaldo's Apizza & Pasta](#)
- [Indian cybersecurity firm to establish regional U.S. HQ in CT following CI investment](#)
- [Former Bridgeport Stop & Shop to open in spring as self-storage — a plan that faced local opposition](#)
- [A CT drive-through business so popular staff serves customers in parking lots is opening new site](#)
- [Pizza chain Colony Grill announces sixth Connecticut location](#)
- [Mobile dirty soda shop based in Southington to open shops in Milford and Plainville](#)

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN FEBRUARY 2026

- [Stamford-based Webster Bank to be acquired by Banco Santander for \\$12.2 billion](#)
- [Trader Joe's in Hamden celebrates grand opening](#)
- [Shah's Halal Foods to open in Waterbury on Friday, adding to a growing trend in Connecticut](#)
- [TJ Maxx to close Meriden Mall store when Cheshire site opens in March](#)
- [Report: CT-based submarine manufacturer Electric Boat plans to hire 8,000 this year](#)
- [CT defense contractor to hire 8,000 workers in 2026. It's spending about \\$100M a year on training](#)
- [Massage Envy closes Connecticut location](#)
- [Here are the big-box retailers coming to Connecticut in 2026](#)
- [KPot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot, offering at-table cooking, under construction in Charter Oak Marketplace](#)
- [New supermarket to open in Waterbury](#)
- [New Haven schools partner with General Dynamics to hire manufacturing students](#)
- [Papa Johns pizzeria to open in ParkWay Plaza in Norwalk, is 7th location in state](#)
- [Utah-based dirty soda franchise opens first East Coast location on Brookfield's Federal Road](#)
- [Mexican restaurant chain Qdoba opens Watertown location as part of CT expansion](#)
- [New supermarket to open in Waterbury at former PetSmart location later this year](#)
- [From hot dog cart to café: Brothers open 2nd restaurant in south Glastonbury](#)

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN MARCH 2026

- [Company expanding operations in CT is hiring 200+ employees. It's due to a new location.](#)
- [Five Norwich area restaurants open for spring](#)
- [Groton-based submarine maker Electric Boat announces plans to hire 8,000: 'Unprecedented growth'](#)
- [Shelton's Fountain Square gets new restaurant with Korean barbecue steakhouse's opening](#)
- [West Hartford pasta shop plans Glastonbury market and cooking school](#)
- [Groton-based submarine maker Electric Boat announces plans to hire 8,000: 'Unprecedented growth'](#)

- [Town Fair Tire to convert former Rite Aid stores in Monroe, Naugatuck](#)
- [Not that Mona Lisa: Thomaston closure sparks mix-up with Wolcott restaurant](#)
- [New Connecticut warehouse is expected to employ up to 450 after April jobs event](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR JANUARY 2026

- [Shoreline bank seeks to close Madison branch in March](#)
- [Longtime CT diner, one of last of original drive-ins, closes. 'My heart is truly aching': customer](#)
- [Old Greenwich coffee shop Joe Studio Café closes after 6 years due to 'financial strain'](#)
- [Popular longtime CT bakery closes. Customers lament; owner insists 'do not worry about me.'](#)
- [CT Boot & Shoe closed in Torrington but shoes will again be offered at the old Howards Shoe Store](#)
- [Video game retailer resumes Connecticut store closings](#)
- [M&T Bank announces plan to close 10 branches at Stop & Shop stores in Connecticut](#)
- [Macy's to close Cheshire distribution centers, cutting nearly 1,000 Connecticut jobs](#)
- [Toy Maker Confirms Timeline For Enfield Exit After Nearly 50 Years](#)
- [South Windsor Facility To Close After New Wave Of Layoffs](#)
- [Macy's plans to lay off 57 employees in South Windsor, months after it laid off 106](#)
- [Norfolk pub closes Jan. 31 at the Royal Arcanum: 'This is the cornerstone of this community'](#)
- [Francesca's to close all stores nationwide, including 7 locations in Connecticut](#)
- [Westbrook Outlets redevelopment faces delays as more stores close](#)
- [Longtime Trumbull hibachi restaurant shuttered for good](#)
- [CT restaurant and ice cream shop to close next month. 'You guys are obviously loved,' a fan](#)
- [Amazon cuts about 16,000 corporate jobs in the latest round of layoffs](#)
- [Amazon announces 16,000 new layoffs, leaving questions about Connecticut jobs](#)
- [Two CT Saks Off 5th stores close as parent company shuttered most locations](#)
- [CT Boot & Shoe closed in Torrington but shoes will again be offered at the old Howards Shoe Store](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR FEBRUARY 2026

- [Pizza Hut to close 250 locations nationwide](#)
- [Children's Museum closes its doors after nearly 100 years](#)

- [CVS Health to lay off over 300 remote employees who report to Aetna HQ in Hartford](#)
- [CVS Health cuts 313 Aetna roles amid sector-wide retrenchment](#)
- [CT furniture maker hit by tariffs, trims workforce as demand softens](#)
- [Bloomfield-based health care giant Cigna plans to lay off 2,000 employees worldwide](#)
- [National Fast Food Chain With 50+ CT Locations Dramatically Downsizing](#)
- [Southport-Based Sports Company To Close, Lay Off 44 Employees: State Officials](#)
- [Stanley Black & Decker to close manufacturing plant in New Britain](#)
- [Papa Johns is closing hundreds of locations after weak sales](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR MARCH 2026

- [Red Robin potentially to close 20 restaurants by the end of the year](#)
- [National Restaurant Chain With Many CT Locations Downsizing](#)
- [Manchester daycare abruptly closes, leaving 40 families scrambling for childcare](#)
- [These Connecticut Eddie Bauer locations could close permanently](#)
- [Fairfield's Circle Diner closes after more than 20 years, official confirms](#)