THE CONNECTICUT
ECONOMIC DIGEST

Vol.23 No.4 A joint publication of the Connecticut Department of Labor & the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

APRIL 2018

IN THIS ISSUE...

In February...

Nonfarm Employment
Connecticut..................... 1,692,000
Change over month .... +0.15%
Change over year .... +0.48%

United States 148,177,000
Change over month .... +0.21%
Change over year .... +1.56%

Unemployment Rate
Connecticut............................ 4.6%
United States 4.1%

Consumer Price Index
United States 248.991
Change over year .... +2.2%

Connecticut Exports: 2017 in Review

By Laura Jaworski, Office of International and Domestic Business Development, DECD

2017 was a year in which international relations dominated the news headlines. Whether it was talk of the renegotiation of NAFTA and other free trade agreements, the status of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, currency manipulation and commodity dumping, the threat of a nuclear armed North Korea or entry and/or withdrawal from global pacts, geopolitics was front and center. Recently, President Trump signed an order on new tariffs on imported steel and aluminum. With such tariff increases, analysis must happen as to the potential impact on the defense industry, its subcontractors and supply chain. Will trade partners retaliate? What will be the impact on sales? As a defense-oriented state, Connecticut must monitor the evolution of such discussions. In the meantime, a review of the state's 2017 export position follows.

Annual Export Figures

In 2017, Connecticut's commodity exports totaled $14.75 billion, a 2.53% increase and positive upswing from the $14.39 billion registered in 2016. It is important to note, as significant as commodity exports are, they omit service exports, for which the collection of data is inexact and unavailable at the state level. All U.S. states face this data gap. This means that export figures for a state like Connecticut- with a large concentration of insurance, financial and other services- understate the true magnitude of its overall export value.[1]

Data indicates that 5,717 companies exported from Connecticut in 2014. 89% of these companies were small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with fewer than 500 employees. SMEs account for 23% of Connecticut commodity exports. In 2015, 70,038 U.S. jobs were supported by goods exported from Connecticut.[2]

Connecticut's export ranking among the states has held steady for many years. As in previous years, in 2017 Connecticut ranked 27th in the U.S. Texas, California, Washington, New York and Illinois were the top five export states in 2017, ranked in terms of export commodity dollars. Among all the states, West Virginia experienced the greatest percentage increase in 2017 at 42.29%, likely due to a surge in the state's coal and natural gas exports.

U.S. Exports

U.S. commodity exports rebounded in 2017 and totaled more than $1.54 trillion in 2017, representing a 6.60% increase over the $1.45 trillion recorded in 2016. Due to geographic proximity and NAFTA, it should come as no surprise that Canada and Mexico were the top two destinations for U.S. exports in

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2017, followed by China, Japan and the United Kingdom.

New England Exports

In New England in 2017, only Massachusetts' exports value ranked higher than Connecticut's, as has been the case since 2005. As a regional trading block, New England's commodity exports totaled more than $55.25 billion in 2017, a 5.11% increase from 2016. The top five export destinations for New England commodities were Canada, Mexico, Germany, China and the United Kingdom.

Connecticut Export Composition

Connecticut's top export commodities mirror the state's advanced manufacturing strengths and there is a demonstrated consistency among the state's top exports. 2017 was no exception. Last year at the two-digit Harmonized System (HS) commodity code level, Connecticut's top five export commodities were (1) aircraft, spacecraft and parts thereof; (2) industrial machinery, including computers; (3) optic, photo, medical or surgical instruments; (4) electric machinery, sound equipment, TV equipment, parts and (5) special classification provisions, not elsewhere specified or indicated (Nesoi). The bulk of special classification provisions were composed of exports of repaired imports. Please refer to the associated Chart 1 for greater visibility as to the state's export strengths and composition.

Drilling down an additional layer into the HS commodity codes for greater export insight reveals the transportation sector's dominance of Connecticut exports in the aerospace and defense industry. At the four-digit HS level, the state's top exports included civilian aircraft, engines, parts; exports of repaired imports; and turbojets, turbopropellers.

To put these figures into national and regional context, the U.S. and New England states' top export commodities were similar to Connecticut's. In 2017, the top five U.S. export commodities were (1) industrial machinery, including computers; (2) electric machinery, sound equipment, TV equipment, parts; (3) mineral fuel, oil, bitumin substances, mineral wax; (4) aircraft, spacecraft and parts thereof and (5) vehicles, except railway or tramway, and parts. In 2017, the New England region's top five export commodities were (1) electric machinery, sound equipment, TV equipment, parts; (2) industrial machinery, including computers; (3) optic, photo, medical or surgical instruments; (4) aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof and (5) natural or cultured pearls, precious stones, precious metal clad materials, imitation jewelry and coins.

State Export Partners

The state's top ten commodity export destinations were France, Canada, Germany, the United Kingdom, Mexico, China, the Netherlands, Japan, Korea and Singapore (Chart 2). Connecticut exported over $1 billion to each of its top five trade partners in 2017, with over $2.11 billion directed to France. Among the state's top ten partners, all but two experienced export increases, the most significant percentage increases belonging to the United Kingdom (45.72%) and South Korea (47.10%). Connecticut exports of aircraft, spacecraft, parts and organic chemicals increased substantially to the U.K., while state exports of electric machinery; stone, plaster, cement; and railway, tramway stock and traffic signal equipment increased markedly to South Korea, perhaps due to build-out and ramp up for the infrastructure and events of the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympics.

Chart 1. CT - Top 10 Export Commodities in 2017

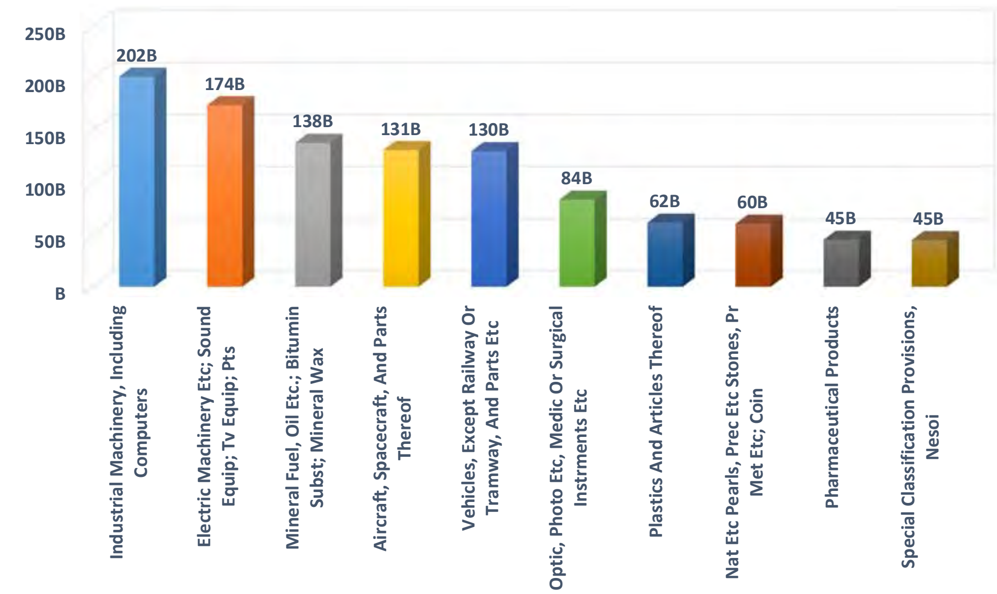
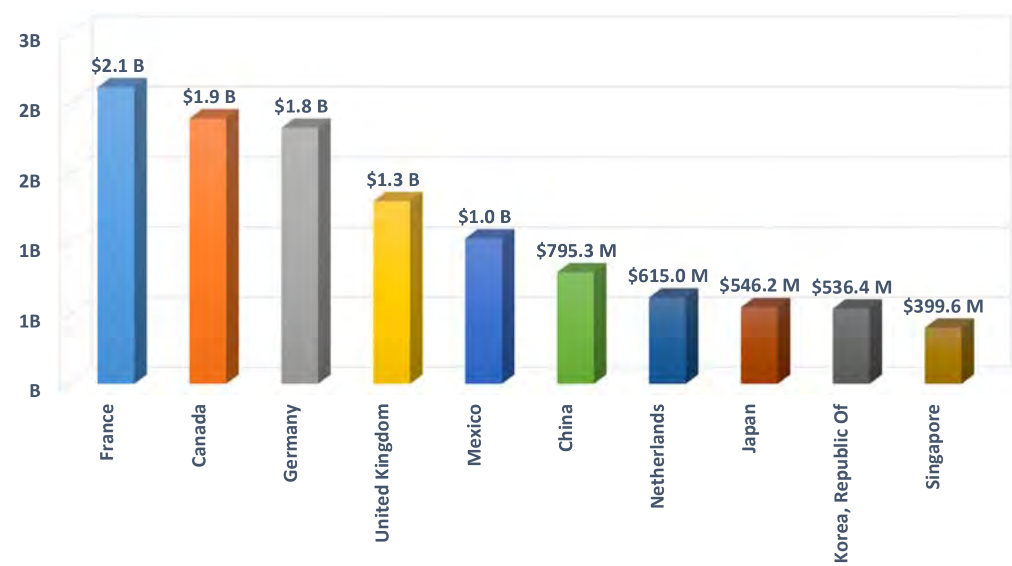


Chart 2. CT's Top 10 Partner Countries in 2017



State Trade Expansion Promotion (STEP) Grant

The state and federal government continue to partner to develop export opportunities. To that end, DECD administers a State Trade Expansion Promotion (STEP) grant award from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The program's goals are to increase the number of small business exporters and increase export sales. In conjunction with organizations such as the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT), local U.S. Department of Commerce Export Assistance Center (USEAC), Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and others, DECD directs STEP funds towards small businesses for export development and training opportunities, company participation in foreign and domestic trade shows and trade missions, website translation, as well as other export initiatives and events.

For more information about DECD's international programs and services, including STEP grant activities, eligibility standards, program guidelines and application procedures, please contact Laura Jaworski at 860-500-2368 or laura.jaworski@ct.gov. ■

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1 WISER database, http://www.wisertrade.org.

2 "Connecticut Exports, Jobs, & Foreign Investment," U.S. Department of Commerce International Trade Administration, https://www.trade.gov/mas/ian/statereports/states/ct.pdf, March 7, 2018.

Connecticut's Path to More Affordable Housing

By Al Sylvestre, Research Analyst, DOL

Securing affordable housing in Connecticut's expensive residential market is a significant challenge for the state's workforce. What follows is a brief overview of some of the conundrum's components and some methods land use planners and policy makers employ to smooth the path to more affordable housing.

Challenges

According to the Partnership for Strong Communities, Connecticut has the sixth highest housing cost in the US while nearly a third of the population in 102 of its 169 cities and towns are spending at least 30% of their incomes on housing as shown on the map. As the housing cost burden rises with age, more households headed by persons over age 60 in a state with the sixth oldest population in the nation will find their incomes stretched more thinly. As people with disabilities and those above age 60 re-enter or remain in the workforce longer, access to housing becomes more difficult because:

- Fewer unmodified homes in the northeast are accessible to older residents who must cope with stairs and narrow doorways;
- Half of Connecticut's population older than 60 live in automobile-dependent communities;
- Members of the baby boom generation (born 1946-1964) will have difficulty selling their large homes to offspring who cannot afford to buy them; and
- Younger generations are uncertain about home ownership that is inconsistent with their desire to live in smaller homes or move out of state to find better-paying jobs.

As baby boomers live and work longer, mobility impairment becomes an independent-living barrier, as younger people move to densely populated areas and out of state.

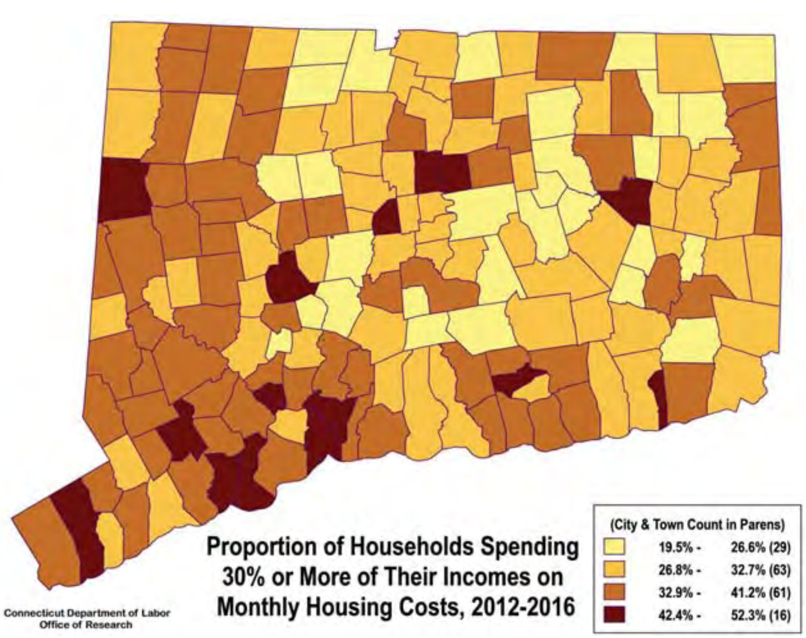
For the so-called millennial generation (born 1985-2003), housing affordability challenges are manifested in the same and different ways as their elders'. The 2008-2010 recession slowed household formation raising the question:

- Will millennials buy or rent their elders' homes?

While:

- The Urban Land Institute says 13% of millennials live in central cities and
- Many do not want the expense and inconvenience of car ownership;

Substantial student loan debt has caused some millennials to delay home purchase decisions. Others may opt for condominium rather than detached-house ownership that requires more maintenance and is likely to be farther away from transportation.



Elements of Successful Affordable Housing Production

To overcome affordable housing barriers, planners, developers, and elected leaders of Connecticut's cities and towns must educate their communities about the need for such housing. Community-building consultant David Fink stated that:

- Grand list (the municipality's combined value of real and personal property) losses or stagnation affect 152 of Connecticut's 169 cities and towns;
- Half of the two million people living in New York who were born between 1985 and 2003 will relocate;
- In the town of Fairfield, 86% of its housing is for single family use while 2% of its housing is affordable to people earning less than 80% of area median income (AMI).

In early 2018, the Partnership for Strong Communities brought together planning and development professionals with public officials to discuss the methods they use to increase affordable housing production.

The town of Fairfield's community development office strives to attract affordable housing by making it an economic development goal. Framing the issue as one of local control and oversight promotes discussion and action on affordable housing. This approach helps persuade Fairfield residents that it is in their interest to support affordable housing production. As a result, community groups develop consensus on the town's approach to affordable housing. From those discussions, an inclusionary zoning ordinance proposal requiring a 10% set-aside of affordable units in developments of ten or more residences was written.

The town of Bethel's affordable housing production experience includes working with its housing authority while developers have used provisions of CGS 8-30g[1] to produce affordable units. In addition to establishing an affordable housing trust fund, Bethel won an incentive housing zone (IHZ) grant from the state Office of Policy and Management to plan for a zoning ordinance supporting affordable housing. Town leaders discussed transit oriented development with community participants resulting in a TOD plan calling for both the elderly and young people to benefit from a 20% set-aside of affordable units that included increasing density from 10 to 30 units per acre. Building rental housing is another solution to Bethel's affordable housing shortage.

New Canaan's affordable housing includes 113 recently-built units, 34 (30%) of which are affordable; town officials worked with developers and the housing authority to expand the number from 34 to 40 (35%). The town planning and zoning commission (TPZ) chairman familiarized himself with CGS 8-30g to identify parcels suitable for affordable housing. New Canaan's housing authority used 8-30g provisions to develop affordable housing on its property. Finally, the town established an affordable housing trust funded by a 1% assessment on all town-issued building permits.

Recognition of its affordable housing need led Newtown to encourage developments of greater density in the five villages that comprise the town as its elected leaders persuade town residents that this is path to ensuring a prosperous future for Newtown's younger generations to establish families of their own. To that end, the town commissioned a build-out study to determine Newtown's development potential. The study found that large-lot zoning impedes affordable housing production. As a result, the TPZ met with developers to discuss ways to increase affordable housing production. Newtown then won an IHZ grant to find affordable housing locations and facilitate implementation of its plan of conservation and development (POCD).

Conclusion

While land use planning, legislation, and technical elements of affordable housing development are essential to increasing its availability, community engagement and acceptance from elected officials as well as municipal boards and commissions are essential to more affordable housing production. Education about the benefits of making homes affordable across the income spectrum will overcome concerns about the character and location of such housing. Community engagement with patience and openness brought affordable housing to a variety of communities with more opportunities to come. ■

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1 Connecticut General Statute Section 8-30g is the affordable housing statute that permits developers to use an appeals process for an affordable-housing . . . development application denial that requires the subject municipality—in which less than 10% of its housing is . . . affordable to households earning 60% to 80% of median income—to demonstrate that it is making substantial efforts to provide such housing in order to prevail in its denial of the application. "Median income" means . . . the lesser of the state median income or the area median income for the area in which the municipality containing the affordable housing development is located, as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (Connecticut General Statutes Chapter 126).

GENERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

(Seasonally adjusted)	4Q 2017	4Q 2016	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	3Q 2017
General Drift Indicator (1996=100)*					
Leading	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Coincident	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Farmington Bank Business Barometer (1992=100)**	135.8	135.7	0.1	0.1	135.8
Philadelphia Fed's Coincident Index (July 1992=100)*** *(Seasonally adjusted)*	**Feb 2018**	**Feb 2017**			**Jan 2018**
Connecticut	124.09	120.30	3.8	3.2	124.13
United States	122.34	118.96	3.4	2.8	122.02

*Sources: *Dr. Steven P. Lanza, University of Connecticut **Farmington Bank ***Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia*

General Drift Indicators are composite measures of the four-quarter change in three coincident (Connecticut Manufacturing Production Index, nonfarm employment, and real personal income) and three leading (housing permits, manufacturing average weekly hours, and initial unemployment claims) economic variables, and are indexed so 1996 = 100.

The **Farmington Bank Business Barometer** is a measure of overall economic growth in the state of Connecticut that is derived from non-manufacturing employment, real disposable personal income, and manufacturing production.

The **Philadelphia Fed's Coincident Index** summarizes current economic condition by using four coincident variables: nonfarm payroll employment, average hours worked in manufacturing, the unemployment rate, and wage and salary disbursements deflated by the consumer price index (U.S. city average).

Total nonfarm employment increased over the year.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	%	Jan 2018
TOTAL NONFARM	1,692.0	1,683.9	8.1	0.5	1,689.4
Natural Res & Mining	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6
Construction	58.6	58.7	-0.1	-0.2	57.1
Manufacturing	163.1	157.6	5.5	3.5	163.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300.2	298.7	1.5	0.5	300.2
Information	30.6	31.9	-1.3	-4.1	30.7
Financial Activities	128.7	128.3	0.4	0.3	128.0
Professional and Business Services	220.1	218.6	1.5	0.7	221.1
Education and Health Services	337.9	333.5	4.4	1.3	337.6
Leisure and Hospitality	155.8	156.2	-0.4	-0.3	154.7
Other Services	65.6	64.8	0.8	1.2	65.5
Government*	230.8	235.0	-4.2	-1.8	230.7

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor ** Includes Native American tribal government employment*

Average weekly initial claims rose from a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

(Seasonally adjusted)	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	%	Jan 2018
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,908.2	1,925.1	-16.9	-0.9	1,909.9
Employed (000s)	1,821.2	1,831.1	-9.9	-0.5	1,823.2
Unemployed (000s)	86.9	94.0	-7.1	-7.6	86.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.6	4.9	-0.3	---	4.5
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	65.9	66.7	-0.8	---	66.0
Employment-Population Ratio (%)	62.9	63.4	-0.5	---	63.0
Average Weekly Initial Claims	3,729	3,421	308	9.0	3,409
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	2.38	2.46	-0.08	---	2.33
	2017	**2016**			**3Q 2017**
U-6 Rate (%)	10.1	10.8	-0.7	---	9.8

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

The production worker weekly earnings rose over the year.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

(Not seasonally adjusted)	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	%	Jan 2018	Dec 2017
Production Worker Avg Wkly Hours	41.0	41.0	0.0	0.0	40.3	--
Prod. Worker Avg Hourly Earnings	25.09	24.79	0.30	1.2	25.66	--
Prod. Worker Avg Weekly Earnings	1,028.69	1,016.39	12.30	1.2	1,034.10	--
CT Mfg. Prod. Index, NSA (2009=100)	89.7	91.2	-1.5	-1.6	86.0	92.3
Production Worker Hours (000s)	3,670	3,809	-140	-3.7	3,607	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)*	232	239	-6.8	-2.8	220	241
CT Mfg. Prod. Index, SA (2009=100)	96.1	97.5	-1.4	-1.5	89.3	94.7

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; U.S. Department of Energy
**Latest two months are forecasted.*

Personal income for third quarter 2018 is forecasted to increase 1.6 percent from a year earlier.

INCOME

(Seasonally adjusted) (Annualized; $ Millions)	3Q* 2018	3Q 2017	CHANGE NO.	%	2Q* 2018
Personal Income	$256,013	$251,951	4,062	1.6	$254,992
UI Covered Wages	$114,733	$111,984	2,750	2.5	$114,040

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis
**Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor*

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

New auto registrations increased over the year.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	YEAR TO DATE PRIOR	% CHG
New Housing Permits*	Feb 2018	470	168.6	809	487	66.1
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	Jan 2018	2,695	6.4	2,695	2,533	6.4
Construction Contracts Index (1980=100)	Feb 2018	219.4	-0.6	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	Feb 2018	16,606	22.3	34,627	31,945	8.4
Exports (Bil. $)	4Q 2017	3.90	5.5	14.76	14.39	2.5
S&P 500: Monthly Close	Feb 2018	2,713.83	14.8	---	---	---

Sources: Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development; U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration; Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; F.W. Dodge; Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles; Wisertrade.org

** Estimated by the Bureau of the Census*

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

Net business formation, as measured by starts minus stops registered with the Department of Labor, was up over the year.

	MO/QTR	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	YEAR TO DATE PRIOR	% CHG
STARTS						
Secretary of the State	Jan 2018	3,117	14.2	3,117	2,729	14.2
Department of Labor	3Q 2017	2,239	-2.1	8,116	7,883	3.0
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	Jan 2018	1,520	36.3	1,520	1,115	36.3
Department of Labor	3Q 2017	1,526	-12.3	4,684	5,555	-15.7

Sources: Connecticut Secretary of the State; Connecticut Department of Labor

STATE REVENUES

Total revenues were up from a year ago.

(Millions of dollars)	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	% CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	YEAR TO DATE PRIOR	% CHG
TOTAL ALL REVENUES*	1,094.4	1,003.8	9.0	3,859.5	2,941.9	31.2
Corporate Tax	24.3	16.1	50.9	49.0	43.3	13.2
Personal Income Tax	583.0	527.7	10.5	2,497.9	1,531.9	63.1
Real Estate Conv. Tax	10.7	12.1	-11.6	26.9	29.5	-8.8
Sales & Use Tax	357.5	318.0	12.4	899.9	810.6	11.0
Gaming Payments**	21.0	20.9	0.7	40.7	41.8	-2.6

Sources: Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; Division of Special Revenue
**Includes all sources of revenue; Only selected sources are displayed; Most July receipts are credited to the prior fiscal year and are not shown. **See page 23 for explanation.*

TOURISM AND TRAVEL

Gaming slots rose over the year.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	YEAR TO DATE PRIOR	% CHG
Occupancy Rate (%)*	Feb 2018	53.4	2.5	50.0	49.6	0.8
Major Attraction Visitors**	Feb 2018	272,287	-5.6	518,480	548,332	-5.4
Air Passenger Count	Feb 2018	464,795	6.2	934,000	898,541	3.9
Gaming Slots (Mil.$)***	Feb 2018	1,019.8	0.1	2,004.3	2,048.0	-2.1

Sources: Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation and Ports; Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism; Division of Special Revenue
**STR, Inc. Due to layoffs, Info Center Visitors data are no longer published.*
***Attraction participants expanded from 6 to 23 beginning with July 2014 data*
****See page 23 for explanation*

Compensation cost for the nation rose 2.6 percent over the year.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

Private Industry Workers *(Dec. 2005 = 100)*	Seasonally Adjusted Dec 2017	Sep 2017	3-Mo % Chg	Not Seasonally Adjusted Dec 2017	Dec 2016	12-Mo % Chg
UNITED STATES TOTAL	130.6	130.0	0.5	130.5	127.2	2.6
Wages and Salaries	130.7	129.9	0.6	130.6	127.1	2.8
Benefit Costs	130.5	130.0	0.4	130.2	127.3	2.3
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	132.0	128.7	2.6
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	131.7	128.3	2.7

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

U.S. inflation rate was up by 2.2 percent over the year.

CONSUMER NEWS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	MO/QTR	LEVEL	% CHANGE Y/Y	P/P*
CONSUMER PRICES				
CPI-U (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	Feb 2018	248.991	2.2	0.5
Purchasing Power of $ (1982-84=$1.00)	Feb 2018	0.402	-2.2	-0.5
Northeast Region	Feb 2018	263.260	1.7	0.4
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	Feb 2018	272.214	1.7	0.5
Boston-Brockton-Nashua**	Jan 2018	272.229	2.8	1.1
CPI-W (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	Feb 2018	242.988	2.3	0.4

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; The Conference Board
**Change over prior monthly or quarterly period*
***The Boston CPI can be used as a proxy for New England and is measured every other month.*

Conventional mortgage rate rose to 4.33 percent over the month.

INTEREST RATES

(Percent)	Feb 2018	Jan 2018	Feb 2017
Prime	4.50	4.50	3.75
Federal Funds	1.42	1.41	0.66
3 Month Treasury Bill	1.59	1.43	0.53
6 Month Treasury Bill	1.79	1.62	0.65
1 Year Treasury Note	1.96	1.80	0.82
3 Year Treasury Note	2.36	2.15	1.47
5 Year Treasury Note	2.60	2.38	1.90
7 Year Treasury Note	2.78	2.51	2.22
10 Year Treasury Note	2.86	2.58	2.42
20 Year Treasury Note	3.02	2.73	2.76
Conventional Mortgage	4.33	4.03	4.17

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

All nine states in the region gained jobs over the year.

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
Connecticut	1,692.0	1,683.9	8.1	0.5	1,689.4
Maine	626.1	622.5	3.6	0.6	623.7
Massachusetts	3,636.4	3,597.3	39.1	1.1	3,622.7
New Hampshire	682.8	673.4	9.4	1.4	680.0
New Jersey	4,178.0	4,114.8	63.2	1.5	4,162.2
New York	9,601.9	9,492.3	109.6	1.2	9,573.9
Pennsylvania	6,005.9	5,924.5	81.4	1.4	5,995.5
Rhode Island	498.9	492.6	6.3	1.3	497.7
Vermont	313.8	313.5	0.3	0.1	314.2
United States	148,177.0	145,896.0	2,281.0	1.6	147,864.0

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

LABOR FORCE

Six states posted increases in the labor force from last year.

(Seasonally adjusted)	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
Connecticut	1,908,190	1,925,146	-16,956	-0.9	1,909,934
Maine	699,744	698,922	822	0.1	699,711
Massachusetts	3,669,596	3,651,878	17,718	0.5	3,659,563
New Hampshire	747,182	746,182	1,000	0.1	746,570
New Jersey	4,506,605	4,523,440	-16,835	-0.4	4,508,665
New York	9,692,497	9,676,575	15,922	0.2	9,701,691
Pennsylvania	6,410,846	6,443,096	-32,250	-0.5	6,413,906
Rhode Island	557,339	552,941	4,398	0.8	556,621
Vermont	345,939	344,817	1,122	0.3	345,116
United States	161,921,000	159,997,000	1,924,000	1.2	161,115,000

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

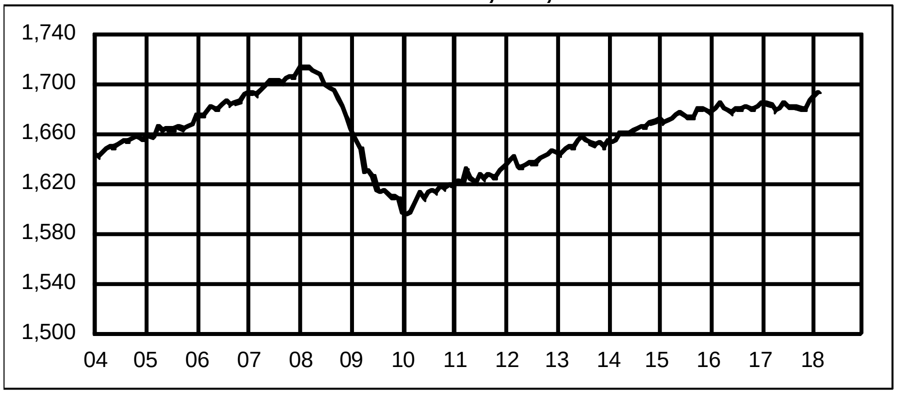
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Seven states showed a decrease in its unemployment rate over the year.

(Seasonally adjusted)	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE	Jan 2018
Connecticut	4.6	4.9	-0.3	4.5
Maine	2.9	3.3	-0.4	3.0
Massachusetts	3.5	3.9	-0.4	3.5
New Hampshire	2.6	2.8	-0.2	2.6
New Jersey	4.6	4.6	0.0	4.7
New York	4.6	4.7	-0.1	4.7
Pennsylvania	4.8	5.1	-0.3	4.8
Rhode Island	4.5	4.5	0.0	4.5
Vermont	2.8	3.1	-0.3	2.9
United States	4.1	4.7	-0.6	4.1

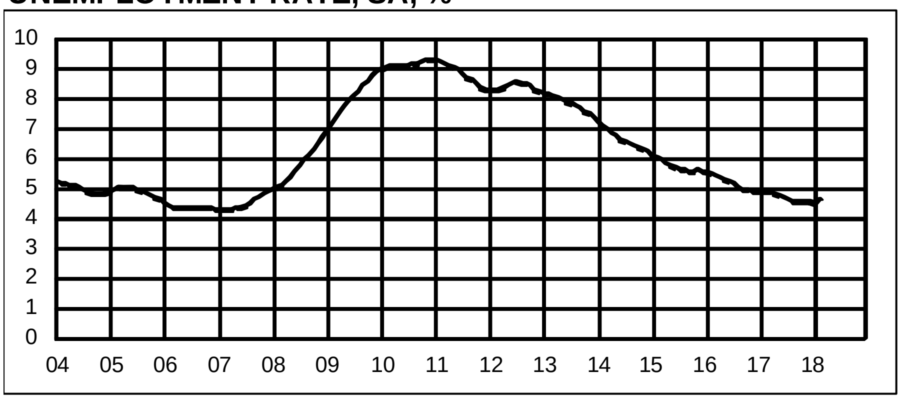
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT, SA, 000s



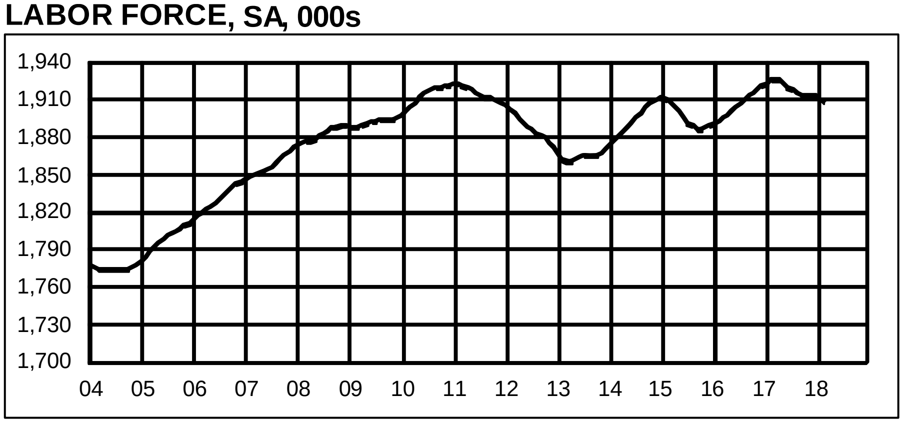
Month	2016	2017	2018
Jan	1,676.4	1,683.5	1,689.4
Feb	1,679.2	1,683.9	1,692.0
Mar	1,683.9	1,682.2	
Apr	1,678.6	1,678.4	
May	1,678.3	1,679.2	
Jun	1,676.3	1,683.9	
Jul	1,679.9	1,680.2	
Aug	1,679.7	1,680.8	
Sep	1,680.7	1,681.4	
Oct	1,679.0	1,679.6	
Nov	1,678.9	1,679.9	
Dec	1,680.3	1,685.6	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, SA, %



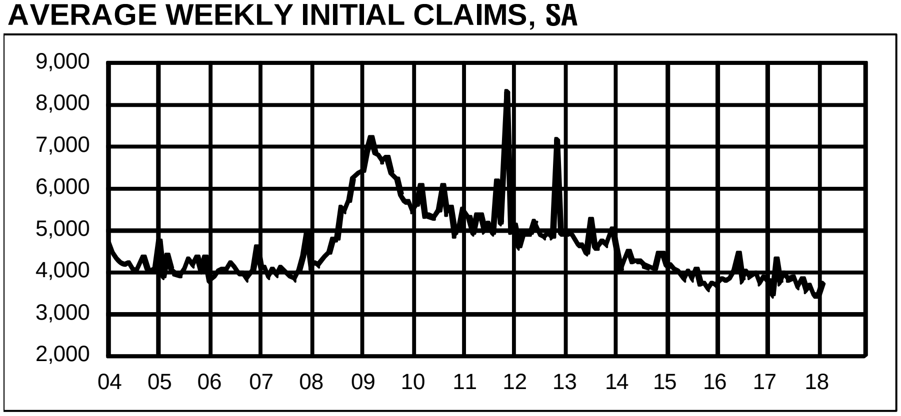
Month	2016	2017	2018
Jan	5.5	4.9	4.5
Feb	5.5	4.9	4.6
Mar	5.4	4.9	
Apr	5.3	4.8	
May	5.3	4.7	
Jun	5.2	4.7	
Jul	5.1	4.6	
Aug	5.0	4.5	
Sep	5.0	4.5	
Oct	4.9	4.5	
Nov	4.9	4.5	
Dec	4.9	4.5	

LABOR FORCE, SA, 000s



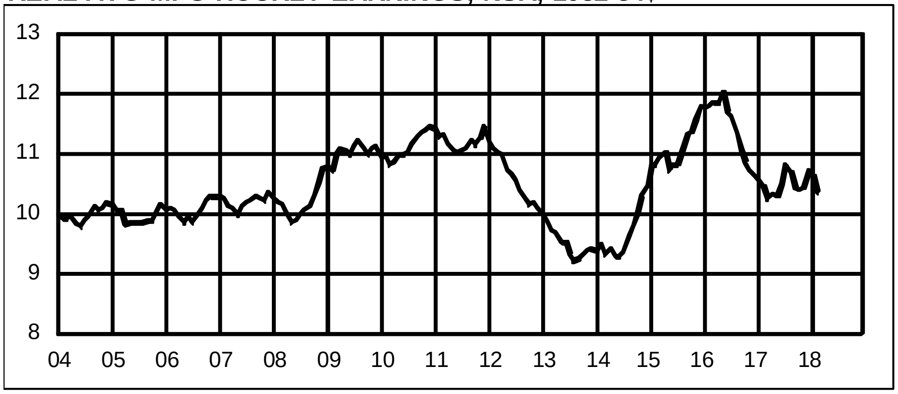
Month	2016	2017	2018
Jan	1,890.4	1923.0	1,909.9
Feb	1,892.5	1925.1	1,908.2
Mar	1,894.9	1925.8	
Apr	1,897.6	1925.0	
May	1,900.6	1922.9	
Jun	1,903.9	1919.9	
Jul	1,906.9	1917.0	
Aug	1,909.7	1914.3	
Sep	1,912.2	1912.8	
Oct	1,914.6	1912.0	
Nov	1,917.2	1912.3	
Dec	1,920.2	1912.6	

AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS, SA



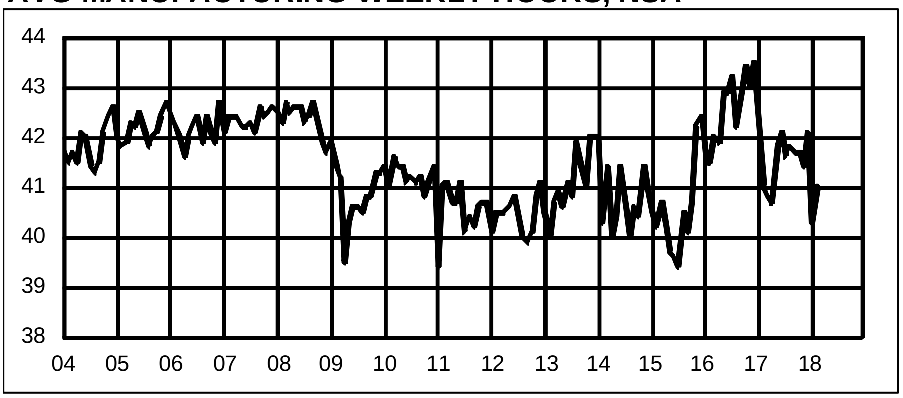
Month	2016	2017	2018
Jan	3,656	3,763	3,409
Feb	3,804	3,421	3,729
Mar	3,743	4,266	
Apr	3,821	3,736	
May	3,991	3,929	
Jun	4,423	3,820	
Jul	3,752	3,858	
Aug	3,990	3,611	
Sep	3,846	3,812	
Oct	3,961	3,523	
Nov	3,716	3,668	
Dec	3,860	3,413	

REAL AVG MFG HOURLY EARNINGS, NSA, 1982-84$



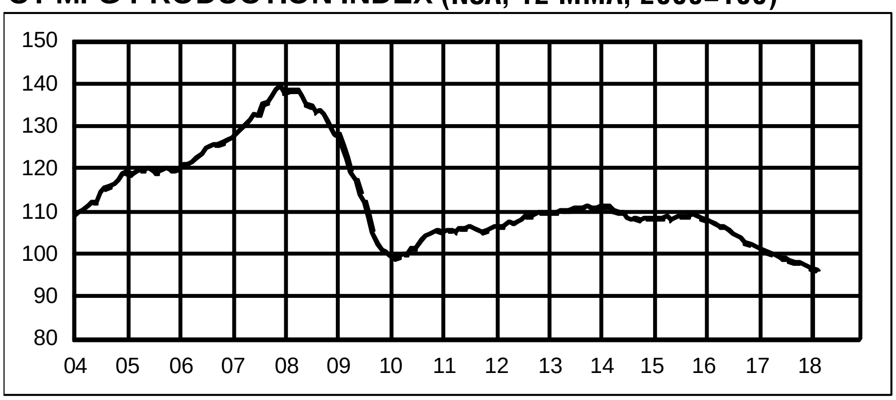
Month	2016	2017	2018
Jan	$11.74	$10.52	$10.61
Feb	$11.76	$10.44	$10.33
Mar	$11.83	$10.22	
Apr	$11.82	$10.31	
May	$12.01	$10.25	
Jun	$11.68	$10.47	
Jul	$11.62	$10.81	
Aug	$11.34	$10.68	
Sep	$11.03	$10.40	
Oct	$10.84	$10.35	
Nov	$10.70	$10.39	
Dec	$10.60	$10.69	

AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS, NSA



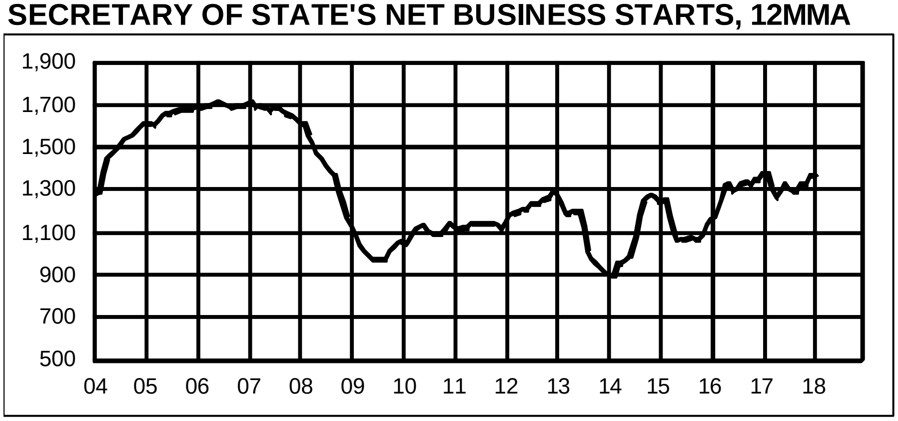
Month	2016	2017	2018
Jan	41.6	42.1	40.3
Feb	41.5	41.0	41.0
Mar	42.0	40.8	
Apr	41.9	40.7	
May	42.9	41.8	
Jun	42.9	42.1	
Jul	43.2	41.6	
Aug	42.2	41.8	
Sep	42.9	41.7	
Oct	43.4	41.7	
Nov	43.0	41.4	
Dec	43.5	42.1	

CT MFG PRODUCTION INDEX (NSA, 12 MMA, 2009=100)



Month	2016	2017	2018
Jan	107.8	101.2	96.2
Feb	107.4	100.7	96.1
Mar	106.8	100.0	
Apr	106.3	99.5	
May	106.5	99.2	
Jun	105.5	99.0	
Jul	104.5	98.7	
Aug	103.9	98.5	
Sep	103.4	97.8	
Oct	102.4	97.7	
Nov	102.3	97.4	
Dec	101.8	96.9	

SECRETARY OF STATE'S NET BUSINESS STARTS, 12MMA



Month	2016	2017	2018
Jan	1,153	1,370	1,366
Feb	1,163	1,375	
Mar	1,242	1,305	
Apr	1,315	1,257	
May	1,324	1,289	
Jun	1,285	1,325	
Jul	1,294	1,300	
Aug	1,329	1,290	
Sep	1,339	1,292	
Oct	1,322	1,329	
Nov	1,347	1,323	
Dec	1,344	1,368	

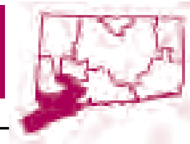
CONNECTICUT

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**1,666,100**	**1,656,600**	**9,500**	**0.6**	**1,661,800**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**1,432,400**	**1,418,300**	**14,100**	**1.0**	**1,430,700**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**214,100**	**209,700**	**4,400**	**2.1**	**213,300**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**52,300**	**52,800**	**-500**	**-0.9**	**51,100**
MANUFACTURING	**161,800**	**156,900**	**4,900**	**3.1**	**162,200**
Durable Goods	**127,000**	**123,000**	**4,000**	**3.3**	**127,500**
Fabricated Metal	29,300	29,500	-200	-0.7	29,300
Machinery	13,300	13,400	-100	-0.7	13,400
Computer and Electronic Product	11,600	11,300	300	2.7	11,700
Transportation Equipment	45,400	42,900	2,500	5.8	45,300
Aerospace Product and Parts	30,600	28,600	2,000	7.0	30,300
Non-Durable Goods	**34,800**	**33,900**	**900**	**2.7**	**34,700**
Chemical	8,000	7,600	400	5.3	7,900
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**1,452,000**	**1,446,900**	**5,100**	**0.4**	**1,448,500**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**294,700**	**292,900**	**1,800**	**0.6**	**300,700**
Wholesale Trade	62,900	62,000	900	1.5	63,400
Retail Trade	178,800	179,900	-1,100	-0.6	184,100
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	21,200	21,200	0	0.0	21,200
Building Material	14,200	14,000	200	1.4	14,200
Food and Beverage Stores	43,700	43,800	-100	-0.2	44,500
General Merchandise Stores	27,000	27,600	-600	-2.2	28,100
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	53,000	51,000	2,000	3.9	53,200
Utilities	5,100	5,500	-400	-7.3	5,100
Transportation and Warehousing	47,900	45,500	2,400	5.3	48,100
INFORMATION	**30,500**	**31,900**	**-1,400**	**-4.4**	**30,500**
Telecommunications	7,000	7,600	-600	-7.9	7,000
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**127,800**	**127,400**	**400**	**0.3**	**127,200**
Finance and Insurance	108,200	108,100	100	0.1	107,600
Credit Intermediation and Related	24,200	24,600	-400	-1.6	24,100
Financial Investments and Related	23,900	23,600	300	1.3	23,600
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	60,100	59,900	200	0.3	59,900
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	19,600	19,300	300	1.6	19,600
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**214,800**	**213,100**	**1,700**	**0.8**	**214,900**
Professional, Scientific	97,800	96,800	1,000	1.0	96,900
Legal Services	13,000	12,700	300	2.4	12,700
Computer Systems Design	25,300	25,400	-100	-0.4	25,400
Management of Companies	31,600	32,100	-500	-1.6	32,200
Administrative and Support	85,400	84,200	1,200	1.4	85,800
Employment Services	27,700	27,400	300	1.1	27,900
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	**340,200**	**333,900**	**6,300**	**1.9**	**333,300**
Educational Services	68,800	67,000	1,800	2.7	61,500
Health Care and Social Assistance	271,400	266,900	4,500	1.7	271,800
Hospitals	58,500	58,300	200	0.3	58,800
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	62,000	61,800	200	0.3	61,600
Social Assistance	58,200	57,100	1,100	1.9	57,700
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**145,900**	**145,700**	**200**	**0.1**	**146,000**
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	21,200	23,200	-2,000	-8.6	21,900
Accommodation and Food Services	124,700	122,500	2,200	1.8	124,100
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places	113,900	111,700	2,200	2.0	113,200
OTHER SERVICES	**64,400**	**63,700**	**700**	**1.1**	**64,800**
GOVERNMENT	**233,700**	**238,300**	**-4,600**	**-1.9**	**231,100**
Federal Government	18,000	18,000	0	0.0	18,100
State Government	64,600	67,200	-2,600	-3.9	62,800
Local Government**	151,100	153,100	-2,000	-1.3	150,200

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2017.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment*

BRIDGEPORT - STAMFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT……………	**397,200**	**398,800**	**-1,600**	**-0.4**	**396,800**
TOTAL PRIVATE…………………………………	**354,000**	**354,900**	**-900**	**-0.3**	**354,000**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES…………	**39,800**	**40,100**	**-300**	**-0.7**	**39,200**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING.….	**10,500**	**10,900**	**-400**	**-3.7**	**9,900**
MANUFACTURING……………………………	**29,300**	**29,200**	**100**	**0.3**	**29,300**
Durable Goods………………………………	**23,000**	**22,800**	**200**	**0.9**	**23,100**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES…………	**357,400**	**358,700**	**-1,300**	**-0.4**	**357,600**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES…..	**69,400**	**69,800**	**-400**	**-0.6**	**70,900**
Wholesale Trade………………………………	13,800	13,300	500	3.8	13,800
Retail Trade……………………………………	45,900	46,700	-800	-1.7	47,400
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities….	9,700	9,800	-100	-1.0	9,700
INFORMATION…………………………………	**12,000**	**12,200**	**-200**	**-1.6**	**12,000**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES………………………	**39,900**	**39,900**	**0**	**0.0**	**39,500**
Finance and Insurance………………………	33,500	33,800	-300	-0.9	33,300
Credit Intermediation and Related………..	8,400	8,800	-400	-4.5	8,400
Financial Investments and Related……….	17,200	17,300	-100	-0.6	17,200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**62,500**	**63,700**	**-1,200**	**-1.9**	**62,200**
Professional, Scientific………………………	30,400	29,900	500	1.7	30,000
Administrative and Support…………………	20,800	22,300	-1,500	-6.7	20,900
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES…..	**73,800**	**72,900**	**900**	**1.2**	**73,000**
Health Care and Social Assistance………..	60,900	60,600	300	0.5	61,000
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY………………	**39,500**	**39,000**	**500**	**1.3**	**40,000**
Accommodation and Food Services……….	31,100	30,600	500	1.6	31,300
OTHER SERVICES……………………………	**17,100**	**17,300**	**-200**	**-1.2**	**17,200**
GOVERNMENT ………………………………	**43,200**	**43,900**	**-700**	**-1.6**	**42,800**
Federal…………………………………………	2,500	2,500	0	0.0	2,500
State & Local…………………………………	40,700	41,400	-700	-1.7	40,300

DANBURY LMA

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT……………	**77,800**	**76,800**	**1,000**	**1.3**	**77,700**
TOTAL PRIVATE…………………………………	**67,200**	**66,200**	**1,000**	**1.5**	**67,500**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES…………	**11,700**	**11,500**	**200**	**1.7**	**11,700**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES…………	**66,100**	**65,300**	**800**	**1.2**	**66,000**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES…..	**17,600**	**17,100**	**500**	**2.9**	**17,700**
Retail Trade……………………………………	12,900	12,400	500	4.0	12,900
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**9,800**	**9,400**	**400**	**4.3**	**9,800**
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY………………	**7,400**	**7,400**	**0**	**0.0**	**7,400**
GOVERNMENT ………………………………	**10,600**	**10,600**	**0**	**0.0**	**10,200**
Federal…………………………………………	700	700	0	0.0	700
State & Local…………………………………	9,900	9,900	0	0.0	9,500

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2017.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

HARTFORD LMA

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**571,100**	**565,800**	**5,300**	**0.9**	**571,500**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**484,900**	**478,100**	**6,800**	**1.4**	**486,600**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**76,300**	**74,800**	**1,500**	**2.0**	**76,300**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**17,400**	**17,900**	**-500**	**-2.8**	**17,600**
MANUFACTURING	**58,900**	**56,900**	**2,000**	**3.5**	**58,700**
Durable Goods	**49,100**	**47,200**	**1,900**	**4.0**	**48,900**
Non-Durable Goods	**9,800**	**9,700**	**100**	**1.0**	**9,800**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**494,800**	**491,000**	**3,800**	**0.8**	**495,200**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**89,800**	**89,000**	**800**	**0.9**	**92,200**
Wholesale Trade	18,100	18,000	100	0.6	18,200
Retail Trade	53,400	54,300	-900	-1.7	55,300
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	18,300	16,700	1,600	9.6	18,700
Transportation and Warehousing	17,400	15,700	1,700	10.8	17,800
INFORMATION	**10,300**	**10,600**	**-300**	**-2.8**	**10,300**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**56,400**	**56,700**	**-300**	**-0.5**	**56,400**
Depository Credit Institutions	6,200	6,100	100	1.6	6,200
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	38,300	38,800	-500	-1.3	38,400
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**73,700**	**72,000**	**1,700**	**2.4**	**73,600**
Professional, Scientific	35,000	34,400	600	1.7	34,400
Management of Companies	10,400	10,300	100	1.0	10,600
Administrative and Support	28,300	27,300	1,000	3.7	28,600
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	**109,600**	**107,700**	**1,900**	**1.8**	**108,700**
Educational Services	14,300	14,100	200	1.4	12,700
Health Care and Social Assistance	95,300	93,600	1,700	1.8	96,000
Ambulatory Health Care	31,700	31,300	400	1.3	32,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**46,900**	**45,600**	**1,300**	**2.9**	**47,000**
Accommodation and Food Services	41,100	39,200	1,900	4.8	41,100
OTHER SERVICES	**21,900**	**21,700**	**200**	**0.9**	**22,100**
GOVERNMENT	**86,200**	**87,700**	**-1,500**	**-1.7**	**84,900**
Federal	5,300	5,400	-100	-1.9	5,400
State & Local	80,900	82,300	-1,400	-1.7	79,500

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Seasonally Adjusted

Labor Market Areas	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
BRIDGEPORT-STAMFORD LMA	**407,900**	**408,300**	**-400**	**-0.1**	**406,500**
DANBURY LMA	**79,000**	**78,300**	**700**	**0.9**	**78,700**
HARTFORD LMA	**576,500**	**571,900**	**4,600**	**0.8**	**578,000**
NEW HAVEN LMA	**284,600**	**284,500**	**100**	**0.0**	**283,100**
NORWICH-NEW LONDON LMA	**130,900**	**129,900**	**1,000**	**0.8**	**130,300**
WATERBURY LMA	**66,700**	**66,900**	**-200**	**-0.3**	**66,700**
ENFIELD LMA**	**45,100**	**45,200**	**-100**	**-0.2**	**45,200**
TORRINGTON-NORTHWEST LMA**	**32,600**	**33,100**	**-500**	**-1.5**	**32,400**
DANIELSON-NORTHEAST LMA**	**26,900**	**27,100**	**-200**	**-0.7**	**27,100**

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2017.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes*

***** Unofficial seasonally adjusted estimates produced by the Connecticut Department of Labor***

NEW HAVEN LMA

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**281,000**	**281,600**	**-600**	**-0.2**	**276,000**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**245,400**	**245,300**	**100**	**0.0**	**241,200**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**33,500**	**33,100**	**400**	**1.2**	**33,200**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**9,700**	**9,700**	**0**	**0.0**	**9,300**
MANUFACTURING	**23,800**	**23,400**	**400**	**1.7**	**23,900**
Durable Goods	**17,200**	**17,000**	**200**	**1.2**	**17,300**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**247,500**	**248,500**	**-1,000**	**-0.4**	**242,800**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**50,900**	**50,700**	**200**	**0.4**	**52,000**
Wholesale Trade	11,700	11,500	200	1.7	11,800
Retail Trade	29,500	29,800	-300	-1.0	30,400
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	9,700	9,400	300	3.2	9,800
INFORMATION	**3,500**	**3,700**	**-200**	**-5.4**	**3,500**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**12,400**	**12,400**	**0**	**0.0**	**12,400**
Finance and Insurance	8,700	8,700	0	0.0	8,700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**29,700**	**30,200**	**-500**	**-1.7**	**30,100**
Administrative and Support	14,800	14,200	600	4.2	14,800
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	**82,500**	**80,400**	**2,100**	**2.6**	**77,700**
Educational Services	31,700	30,600	1,100	3.6	27,200
Health Care and Social Assistance	50,800	49,800	1,000	2.0	50,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**22,200**	**24,000**	**-1,800**	**-7.5**	**21,600**
Accommodation and Food Services	19,200	20,100	-900	-4.5	18,700
OTHER SERVICES	**10,700**	**10,800**	**-100**	**-0.9**	**10,700**
GOVERNMENT	**35,600**	**36,300**	**-700**	**-1.9**	**34,800**
Federal	4,900	4,800	100	2.1	4,900
State & Local	30,700	31,500	-800	-2.5	29,900

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2017.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Value less than 50*

HELP WANTED ONLINE

CT online labor demand fell 4,600 in February

The Conference Board's Help Wanted OnLine (HWOL) data reported that there were 68,500 advertisements for Connecticut-based jobs in February 2018, a 6.3 percent decrease over the month and a 4.2 percent decrease over the year. There were 3.60 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in Connecticut's labor force, while nationally it was 2.93 percent. Among the New England states, Massachusetts had the highest labor demand rate (3.86), while Rhode Island had the lowest rate (2.71).

(Seasonally adjusted)	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	Jan 2018
CT Vacancies (000s)	68.5	71.5	73.1
Hartford Vac. (000s)	27.3	28.3	28.1
Labor Demand Rate *			
Connecticut	3.60	3.76	3.84
United States	2.93	2.84	3.04
Maine	2.87	2.55	3.00
Massachusetts	3.86	3.83	3.84
New Hampshire	3.20	3.19	3.22
Rhode Island	2.71	2.66	2.68
Vermont	3.25	3.22	3.33

** A percent of advertised vacancies per 100 persons in labor force*
Source: The Conference Board

The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine® *Data Series (HWOL) measures the number of new, first-time online jobs and jobs reposted from the previous month for over 16,000 Internet job boards, corporate boards and smaller job sites that serve niche markets and smaller geographic areas. Background information and technical notes and discussion of revisions to the series are available at: www.conference-board.org/data/helpwantedonline.cfm.*

NORWICH-NEW LONDON-WESTERLY, CT-RI LMA

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**128,300**	**126,700**	**1,600**	**1.3**	**127,700**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**97,500**	**95,300**	**2,200**	**2.3**	**97,100**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**22,100**	**20,500**	**1,600**	**7.8**	**21,900**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**3,700**	**3,800**	**-100**	**-2.6**	**3,600**
MANUFACTURING	**18,400**	**16,700**	**1,700**	**10.2**	**18,300**
Durable Goods	**15,000**	**13,400**	**1,600**	**11.9**	**14,900**
Non-Durable Goods	**3,400**	**3,300**	**100**	**3.0**	**3,400**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**106,200**	**106,200**	**0**	**0.0**	**105,800**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**22,800**	**22,600**	**200**	**0.9**	**23,400**
Wholesale Trade	2,500	2,500	0	0.0	2,500
Retail Trade	16,200	15,800	400	2.5	16,800
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	4,100	4,300	-200	-4.7	4,100
INFORMATION	**1,300**	**1,300**	**0**	**0.0**	**1,300**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**3,000**	**2,900**	**100**	**3.4**	**2,900**
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**8,900**	**8,600**	**300**	**3.5**	**8,800**
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	**20,700**	**21,100**	**-400**	**-1.9**	**20,000**
Health Care and Social Assistance	18,000	18,100	-100	-0.6	18,000
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**15,200**	**14,800**	**400**	**2.7**	**15,300**
Accommodation and Food Services	13,600	12,800	800	6.3	13,600
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places	11,400	10,900	500	4.6	11,400
OTHER SERVICES	**3,500**	**3,500**	**0**	**0.0**	**3,500**
GOVERNMENT	**30,800**	**31,400**	**-600**	**-1.9**	**30,600**
Federal	2,900	2,800	100	3.6	2,900
State & Local**	27,900	28,600	-700	-2.4	27,700

WATERBURY LMA

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**65,500**	**65,600**	**-100**	**-0.2**	**65,500**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**55,500**	**55,300**	**200**	**0.4**	**55,700**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**10,100**	**10,000**	**100**	**1.0**	**10,100**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**2,500**	**2,300**	**200**	**8.7**	**2,500**
MANUFACTURING	**7,600**	**7,700**	**-100**	**-1.3**	**7,600**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**55,400**	**55,600**	**-200**	**-0.4**	**55,400**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**12,200**	**12,600**	**-400**	**-3.2**	**12,600**
Wholesale Trade	1,900	1,900	0	0.0	1,900
Retail Trade	8,600	8,900	-300	-3.4	8,900
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	1,700	1,800	-100	-5.6	1,800
INFORMATION	**600**	**600**	**0**	**0.0**	**600**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**2,000**	**2,000**	**0**	**0.0**	**2,000**
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**5,700**	**5,300**	**400**	**7.5**	**5,500**
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	**17,200**	**17,100**	**100**	**0.6**	**17,200**
Health Care and Social Assistance	15,400	15,400	0	0.0	15,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**5,200**	**5,200**	**0**	**0.0**	**5,300**
OTHER SERVICES	**2,500**	**2,500**	**0**	**0.0**	**2,400**
GOVERNMENT	**10,000**	**10,300**	**-300**	**-2.9**	**9,800**
Federal	500	500	0	0.0	500
State & Local	9,500	9,800	-300	-3.1	9,300

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2017.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.*

SMALLER LMAS*

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT					
ENFIELD LMA	44,700	44,800	-100	-0.2	44,800
TORRINGTON-NORTHWEST LMA	31,500	31,900	-400	-1.3	31,500
DANIELSON-NORTHEAST LMA	26,500	26,600	-100	-0.4	26,700

NOTE: More industry detail data is available for the State and its nine labor market areas at: http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/202/covered.htm. The data published there differ from the data in the preceding tables in that they are developed from a near-universe count of Connecticut employment covered by the unemployment insurance (UI) program, while the data here is sample-based. The data drawn from the UI program does not contain estimates of employment not covered by unemployment insurance, and is lagged several months behind the current employment estimates presented here.

*** State-designated Non-CES areas**

SPRINGFIELD, MA-CT NECTA**

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**333,100**	**329,400**	**3,700**	**1.1**	**327,300**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**270,200**	**265,100**	**5,100**	**1.9**	**267,600**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**39,200**	**38,300**	**900**	**2.3**	**39,500**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**10,400**	**9,400**	**1,000**	**10.6**	**10,700**
MANUFACTURING	**28,800**	**28,900**	**-100**	**-0.3**	**28,800**
Durable Goods	**19,300**	**19,400**	**-100**	**-0.5**	**19,300**
Non-Durable Goods	**9,500**	**9,500**	**0**	**0.0**	**9,500**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**293,900**	**291,100**	**2,800**	**1.0**	**287,800**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**60,200**	**59,000**	**1,200**	**2.0**	**60,900**
Wholesale Trade	11,900	11,300	600	5.3	12,000
Retail Trade	34,800	34,200	600	1.8	35,400
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	13,500	13,500	0	0.0	13,500
INFORMATION	**3,200**	**3,300**	**-100**	**-3.0**	**3,300**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**16,300**	**16,100**	**200**	**1.2**	**16,300**
Finance and Insurance	12,800	12,800	0	0.0	12,800
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	8,500	8,600	-100	-1.2	8,500
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**26,600**	**26,400**	**200**	**0.8**	**26,400**
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	**83,700**	**80,800**	**2,900**	**3.6**	**80,500**
Educational Services	16,100	15,400	700	4.5	13,000
Health Care and Social Assistance	67,600	65,400	2,200	3.4	67,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**28,300**	**28,500**	**-200**	**-0.7**	**28,000**
OTHER SERVICES	**12,700**	**12,700**	**0**	**0.0**	**12,700**
GOVERNMENT	**62,900**	**64,300**	**-1,400**	**-2.2**	**59,700**
Federal	6,000	6,100	-100	-1.6	6,100
State & Local	56,900	58,200	-1,300	-2.2	53,600

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2017.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

**** New England City and Town Area**

(Not seasonally adjusted)	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	Jan 2018
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,895,000	1,915,900	-20,900	-1.1	1,889,300
	Employed	1,797,900	1,812,100	-14,200	-0.8	1,789,600
	Unemployed	97,100	103,800	-6,700	-6.5	99,700
	Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.4	-0.3	---	5.3
BRIDGEPORT-STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	461,300	470,200	-8,900	-1.9	460,500
	Employed	438,100	444,900	-6,800	-1.5	436,800
	Unemployed	23,300	25,200	-1,900	-7.5	23,600
	Unemployment Rate	5.0	5.4	-0.4	---	5.1
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	106,900	108,100	-1,200	-1.1	107,000
	Employed	102,300	102,900	-600	-0.6	102,200
	Unemployed	4,600	5,200	-600	-11.5	4,800
	Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.8	-0.5	---	4.5
DANIELSON-NORTHEAST LMA	Civilian Labor Force	43,600	43,700	-100	-0.2	43,500
	Employed	41,200	41,100	100	0.2	41,000
	Unemployed	2,400	2,600	-200	-7.7	2,500
	Unemployment Rate	5.5	6.0	-0.5	---	5.7
ENFIELD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	50,400	50,500	-100	-0.2	49,600
	Employed	47,800	47,700	100	0.2	47,100
	Unemployed	2,600	2,800	-200	-7.1	2,600
	Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.5	-0.4	---	5.1
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	624,000	626,800	-2,800	-0.4	623,800
	Employed	592,200	593,300	-1,100	-0.2	590,900
	Unemployed	31,900	33,500	-1,600	-4.8	32,900
	Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.3	-0.2	---	5.3
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	324,800	329,500	-4,700	-1.4	321,100
	Employed	308,700	312,300	-3,600	-1.2	304,400
	Unemployed	16,100	17,300	-1,200	-6.9	16,700
	Unemployment Rate	5.0	5.2	-0.2	---	5.2
NORWICH-NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	142,900	143,300	-400	-0.3	142,600
	Employed	135,600	135,500	100	0.1	135,100
	Unemployed	7,400	7,800	-400	-5.1	7,600
	Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.5	-0.3	---	5.3
TORRINGTON-NORTHWEST LMA	Civilian Labor Force	46,500	47,600	-1,100	-2.3	46,900
	Employed	43,900	44,900	-1,000	-2.2	44,300
	Unemployed	2,600	2,700	-100	-3.7	2,600
	Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.8	-0.3	---	5.6
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	110,700	112,200	-1,500	-1.3	110,400
	Employed	103,400	104,500	-1,100	-1.1	103,000
	Unemployed	7,300	7,700	-400	-5.2	7,400
	Unemployment Rate	6.6	6.8	-0.2	---	6.7
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	161,494,000	159,482,000	2,012,000	1.3	160,037,000
	Employed	154,403,000	151,594,000	2,809,000	1.9	152,848,000
	Unemployed	7,091,000	7,887,000	-796,000	-10.1	7,189,000
	Unemployment Rate	4.4	4.9	-0.5	---	4.5

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2017.

(Not seasonally adjusted)	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHG Y/Y	Jan 2018	AVG WEEKLY HOURS Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHG Y/Y	Jan 2018	AVG HOURLY EARNINGS Feb 2018	Feb 2017	CHG Y/Y	Jan 2018
PRODUCTION WORKER												
MANUFACTURING	**$1,028.69**	**$1,016.39**	**$12.30**	**$1,034.10**	**41.0**	**41.0**	**0.0**	**40.3**	**$25.09**	**$24.79**	**$0.30**	**$25.66**
DURABLE GOODS	**1,109.38**	**1,061.34**	**48.04**	**1,100.32**	**42.8**	**42.0**	**0.8**	**41.6**	**25.92**	**25.27**	**0.65**	**26.45**
NON-DUR. GOODS	**732.78**	**849.32**	**-116.54**	**802.99**	**34.5**	**37.3**	**-2.8**	**35.8**	**21.24**	**22.77**	**-1.53**	**22.43**
CONSTRUCTION	**1,062.42**	**1,067.25**	**-4.83**	**1,077.11**	**36.1**	**36.4**	**-0.3**	**36.9**	**29.43**	**29.32**	**0.11**	**29.19**
ALL EMPLOYEES												
STATEWIDE												
TOTAL PRIVATE	**1,059.19**	**1,032.90**	**26.29**	**1,066.13**	**33.7**	**33.0**	**0.7**	**33.6**	**31.43**	**31.30**	**0.13**	**31.73**
GOODS PRODUCING	**1,262.54**	**1,197.10**	**65.44**	**1,278.03**	**39.1**	**38.1**	**1.0**	**39.0**	**32.29**	**31.42**	**0.87**	**32.77**
Construction	1,152.17	1,134.86	17.31	1,178.34	36.6	35.8	0.8	36.8	31.48	31.70	-0.22	32.02
Manufacturing	1,302.00	1,228.10	73.90	1,314.99	40.0	39.4	0.6	39.8	32.55	31.17	1.38	33.04
SERVICE PROVIDING	**1,025.00**	**1,003.77**	**21.23**	**1,030.38**	**32.8**	**32.1**	**0.7**	**32.7**	**31.25**	**31.27**	**-0.02**	**31.51**
Trade, Transp., Utilities	846.29	855.56	-9.27	841.43	32.4	31.9	0.5	32.4	26.12	26.82	-0.70	25.97
Financial Activities	1,725.15	1,690.32	34.84	1,775.85	37.1	36.5	0.6	37.3	46.50	46.31	0.19	47.61
Prof. & Business Serv.	1,261.67	1,242.49	19.18	1,273.28	34.5	34.6	-0.1	34.6	36.57	35.91	0.66	36.80
Education & Health Ser.	927.37	919.04	8.33	943.80	32.7	31.9	0.8	32.5	28.36	28.81	-0.45	29.04
Leisure & Hospitality	462.09	416.98	45.11	454.14	25.7	23.8	1.9	25.3	17.98	17.52	0.46	17.95
Other Services	784.69	777.85	6.84	774.08	30.7	30.6	0.1	31.1	25.56	25.42	0.14	24.89
LABOR MARKET AREAS: TOTAL PRIVATE												
Bridgeport-Stamford	1,139.82	1,145.56	-5.74	1,138.31	33.0	32.6	0.4	33.1	34.54	35.14	-0.60	34.39
Danbury	953.50	989.86	-36.36	943.84	34.2	31.9	2.3	34.0	27.88	31.03	-3.15	27.76
Hartford	1,081.65	1,054.10	27.55	1,113.02	34.1	33.4	0.7	34.1	31.72	31.56	0.16	32.64
New Haven	1,023.38	977.77	45.61	1,013.60	33.4	32.1	1.3	33.2	30.64	30.46	0.18	30.53
Norwich-New London	893.02	813.70	79.32	877.14	32.1	31.6	0.5	31.7	27.82	25.75	2.07	27.67
Waterbury	863.74	824.11	39.63	855.68	34.8	33.9	0.9	34.2	24.82	24.31	0.51	25.02

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2017.

BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN THE NEWS MEDIA

New Companies and Expansions

- Aldi will open its much-anticipated new store in the former Toys 'R' Us space on Dixwell Avenue in Hamden. The store is expected to bring 50 jobs to Hamden.
- Farmington Bank is opening its first Manchester office at 299 W. Middle Turnpike.
- Farmers Insurance has opened its first office in New Britain.
- Bonchon Chicken has opened at 170 College Street in downtown New Haven.
- Max Pizza opened its sixth location at the site of the former Plantsville Pizza in Southington.

Layoffs and Closures

- L.J. Edwards Furniture closed in Brookfield.
- Toys "R" Us will shut or sell all of its 735 stores in the United States.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES BY TOWN

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

FEBRUARY 2018

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
BRIDGEPORT-STAMFORD	**461,305**	**438,051**	**23,254**	**5.0**
Ansonia	9,219	8,602	617	6.7
Bridgeport	69,518	64,233	5,285	7.6
Darien	8,527	8,206	321	3.8
Derby	6,734	6,334	400	5.9
Easton	3,820	3,667	153	4.0
Fairfield	28,795	27,559	1,236	4.3
Greenwich	28,399	27,362	1,037	3.7
Milford	29,980	28,645	1,335	4.5
Monroe	10,056	9,605	451	4.5
New Canaan	8,253	7,975	278	3.4
Norwalk	50,433	47,904	2,529	5.0
Oxford	7,123	6,808	315	4.4
Redding	4,401	4,237	164	3.7
Ridgefield	11,687	11,264	423	3.6
Seymour	8,952	8,475	477	5.3
Shelton	22,090	20,932	1,158	5.2
Southbury	8,654	8,243	411	4.7
Stamford	69,687	66,396	3,291	4.7
Stratford	27,128	25,592	1,536	5.7
Trumbull	17,896	17,101	795	4.4
Weston	4,290	4,147	143	3.3
Westport	12,470	12,049	421	3.4
Wilton	8,377	8,078	299	3.6
Woodbridge	4,814	4,636	178	3.7
DANBURY	**106,913**	**102,286**	**4,627**	**4.3**
Bethel	10,809	10,370	439	4.1
Bridgewater	847	808	39	4.6
Brookfield	9,302	8,953	349	3.8
Danbury	47,457	45,309	2,148	4.5
New Fairfield	7,137	6,858	279	3.9
New Milford	15,314	14,609	705	4.6
Newtown	14,174	13,576	598	4.2
Sherman	1,872	1,802	70	3.7
ENFIELD	**50,394**	**47,844**	**2,550**	**5.1**
East Windsor	6,621	6,251	370	5.6
Enfield	23,386	22,228	1,158	5.0
Somers	5,204	4,953	251	4.8
Suffield	7,656	7,303	353	4.6
Windsor Locks	7,527	7,109	418	5.6
HARTFORD	**624,023**	**592,161**	**31,862**	**5.1**
Andover	1,962	1,870	92	4.7
Ashford	2,591	2,455	136	5.2
Avon	9,455	9,126	329	3.5
Barkhamsted	2,343	2,213	130	5.5
Berlin	11,857	11,328	529	4.5
Bloomfield	11,462	10,883	579	5.1
Bolton	3,184	3,075	109	3.4
Bristol	33,305	31,313	1,992	6.0
Burlington	5,705	5,439	266	4.7

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
HARTFORD cont...				
Canton	5,734	5,500	234	4.1
Chaplin	1,255	1,191	64	5.1
Colchester	9,517	9,084	433	4.5
Columbia	3,273	3,125	148	4.5
Coventry	7,886	7,528	358	4.5
Cromwell	7,993	7,644	349	4.4
East Granby	3,119	2,970	149	4.8
East Haddam	5,049	4,803	246	4.9
East Hampton	7,743	7,426	317	4.1
East Hartford	27,277	25,634	1,643	6.0
Ellington	9,479	9,006	473	5.0
Farmington	14,223	13,681	542	3.8
Glastonbury	18,992	18,386	606	3.2
Granby	6,780	6,542	238	3.5
Haddam	5,099	4,892	207	4.1
Hartford	53,491	49,011	4,480	8.4
Hartland	1,170	1,104	66	5.6
Harwinton	3,254	3,092	162	5.0
Hebron	5,594	5,346	248	4.4
Lebanon	4,111	3,889	222	5.4
Manchester	33,106	31,448	1,658	5.0
Mansfield	12,659	12,129	530	4.2
Marlborough	3,616	3,475	141	3.9
Middletown	26,207	24,976	1,231	4.7
New Britain	36,868	34,302	2,566	7.0
New Hartford	3,999	3,831	168	4.2
Newington	17,399	16,645	754	4.3
Plainville	10,616	10,012	604	5.7
Plymouth	6,728	6,304	424	6.3
Portland	5,530	5,263	267	4.8
Rocky Hill	11,594	11,194	400	3.5
Scotland	973	919	54	5.5
Simsbury	13,380	12,920	460	3.4
Southington	24,704	23,551	1,153	4.7
South Windsor	14,173	13,602	571	4.0
Stafford	6,896	6,484	412	6.0
Thomaston	4,780	4,523	257	5.4
Tolland	8,655	8,329	326	3.8
Union*	463	447	16	3.5
Vernon	17,428	16,512	916	5.3
West Hartford	34,406	33,228	1,178	3.4
Wethersfield	14,130	13,476	654	4.6
Willington	3,677	3,507	170	4.6
Windham	12,460	11,675	785	6.3
Windsor	16,672	15,853	819	4.9

All Labor Market Areas (LMAs) in Connecticut except three are federally-designated areas for developing labor statistics. For the sake of simplicity, the federal Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk NECTA is referred to in Connecticut DOL publications as the Bridgeport-Stamford LMA, and the Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford NECTA is the Hartford LMA. The northwest part of the state is now called Torrington-Northwest LMA. Five towns which are part of the Springfield, MA area are published as the Enfield LMA. The towns of Eastford and Hampton and other towns in the northeast are now called Danielson-Northeast LMA.

LABOR FORCE CONCEPTS

The **civilian labor force** comprises all state residents age 16 years and older classified as employed or unemployed in accordance with criteria described below. Excluded are members of the military and persons in institutions (correctional and mental health, for example).

The **employed** are all persons who did any work as paid employees or in their own business during the survey week, or who have worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a family member. Persons temporarily absent from a job because of illness, bad weather, strike or for personal reasons are also counted as employed whether they were paid by their employer or were seeking other jobs.

The **unemployed** are all persons who did not work, but were available for work during the survey week (except for temporary illness) and made specific efforts to find a job in the prior four weeks. Persons waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES BY TOWN

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

FEBRUARY 2018

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
NEW HAVEN	**324,844**	**308,720**	**16,124**	**5.0**
Bethany	3,134	2,988	146	4.7
Branford	16,077	15,349	728	4.5
Cheshire	15,691	15,123	568	3.6
Chester	2,355	2,258	97	4.1
Clinton	7,260	6,958	302	4.2
Deep River	2,894	2,746	148	5.1
Durham	4,315	4,143	172	4.0
East Haven	15,845	14,940	905	5.7
Essex	3,349	3,202	147	4.4
Guilford	12,889	12,466	423	3.3
Hamden	35,275	33,735	1,540	4.4
Killingworth	3,813	3,684	129	3.4
Madison	9,062	8,742	320	3.5
Meriden	32,114	30,145	1,969	6.1
Middlefield	2,519	2,407	112	4.4
New Haven	64,266	60,387	3,879	6.0
North Branford	8,269	7,856	413	5.0
North Haven	13,376	12,806	570	4.3
Old Saybrook	5,065	4,859	206	4.1
Orange	7,281	6,998	283	3.9
Wallingford	26,297	25,120	1,177	4.5
West Haven	30,029	28,310	1,719	5.7
Westbrook	3,669	3,499	170	4.6
*NORWICH-NEW LONDON-WESTERLY, CT PART	**126,785**	**120,380**	**6,405**	**5.1**
Bozrah	1,432	1,382	50	3.5
Canterbury	2,916	2,753	163	5.6
East Lyme	8,696	8,290	406	4.7
Franklin	1,072	1,030	42	3.9
Griswold	6,352	5,975	377	5.9
Groton	18,438	17,666	772	4.2
Ledyard	8,021	7,682	339	4.2
Lisbon	2,370	2,237	133	5.6
Lyme	1,227	1,169	58	4.7
Montville	9,417	8,915	502	5.3
New London	12,083	11,239	844	7.0
No. Stonington	2,948	2,814	134	4.5
Norwich	20,290	19,184	1,106	5.5
Old Lyme	3,786	3,612	174	4.6
Preston	2,440	2,313	127	5.2
Salem	2,170	2,049	121	5.6
Sprague	1,632	1,531	101	6.2
Stonington	9,841	9,411	430	4.4
Voluntown	1,487	1,414	73	4.9
Waterford	10,167	9,713	454	4.5

*Connecticut portion only. For whole NECTA,including RI part, see below.

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
NORWICH-NEW LONDON-WESTERLY, CT-RI	**142,941**	**135,563**	**7,378**	**5.2**
RI part (Hopkinton and Westerly)	16,156	15,183	973	6.0

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
TORRINGTON-NORTHWEST	**46,463**	**43,896**	**2,567**	**5.5**
Canaan	694	667	27	3.9
Colebrook	834	779	55	6.6
Cornwall	759	724	35	4.6
Goshen	1,608	1,536	72	4.5
Kent	1,483	1,412	71	4.8
Litchfield	4,671	4,476	195	4.2
Morris	1,400	1,328	72	5.1
Norfolk	891	837	54	6.1
North Canaan	1,677	1,593	84	5.0
Roxbury	1,307	1,252	55	4.2
Salisbury	1,776	1,705	71	4.0
Sharon	1,464	1,401	63	4.3
Torrington	19,042	17,813	1,229	6.5
Warren	777	741	36	4.6
Washington	1,996	1,934	62	3.1
Winchester	6,084	5,699	385	6.3
WATERBURY	**110,658**	**103,364**	**7,294**	**6.6**
Beacon Falls	3,446	3,273	173	5.0
Bethlehem	1,966	1,844	122	6.2
Middlebury	3,851	3,690	161	4.2
Naugatuck	17,195	16,151	1,044	6.1
Prospect	5,602	5,320	282	5.0
Waterbury	50,380	46,195	4,185	8.3
Watertown	12,886	12,272	614	4.8
Wolcott	9,821	9,358	463	4.7
Woodbury	5,513	5,261	252	4.6
DANIELSON-NORTHEAST	**43,583**	**41,166**	**2,417**	**5.5**
Brooklyn	4,147	3,946	201	4.8
Eastford	957	911	46	4.8
Hampton	1,021	973	48	4.7
Killingly	9,669	9,111	558	5.8
Plainfield	8,785	8,239	546	6.2
Pomfret	2,507	2,416	91	3.6
Putnam	4,899	4,598	301	6.1
Sterling	2,051	1,919	132	6.4
Thompson	5,291	5,033	258	4.9
Woodstock	4,256	4,020	236	5.5

* Not official BLS estimates, but were produced using BLS methodology

Not Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	**1,895,000**	**1,797,900**	**97,100**	**5.1**
UNITED STATES	**161,494,000**	**154,403,000**	**7,091,000**	**4.4**
Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	**1,908,200**	**1,821,200**	**86,900**	**4.6**
UNITED STATES	**161,921,000**	**155,215,000**	**6,706,000**	**4.1**

LABOR FORCE CONCEPTS (Continued)

The **unemployment rate** represents the number unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

With the exception of those persons temporarily absent from a job or waiting to be recalled to one, persons with no job and who are not actively looking for one are counted as "not in the labor force".

Over the course of a year, the size of the labor force and the levels of employment undergo fluctuations due to such seasonal events as changes in weather, reduced or expanded production, harvests, major holidays and the opening and closing of schools. Because these seasonal events follow a regular pattern each year, their influence on statistical trends can be eliminated by adjusting the monthly statistics. **Seasonal Adjustment** makes it easier to observe cyclical and other nonseasonal developments.

Town

HOUSING PERMIT ACTIVITY BY TOWN

TOWN	FEB 2018	YR TO DATE 2018	YR TO DATE 2017
Andover	0	0	1
Ansonia	na	na	na
Ashford	na	na	na
Avon	2	2	3
Barkhamsted	na	na	na
Beacon Falls	na	na	na
Berlin	1	2	0
Bethany	na	na	na
Bethel	5	18	12
Bethlehem	na	na	na
Bloomfield	0	0	0
Bolton	1	2	1
Bozrah	na	na	na
Branford	1	3	1
Bridgeport	7	12	13
Bridgewater	0	0	0
Bristol	0	1	1
Brookfield	0	1	1
Brooklyn	0	1	1
Burlington	2	3	3
Canaan	na	na	na
Canterbury	na	na	na
Canton	0	0	1
Chaplin	na	na	na
Cheshire	1	2	2
Chester	0	0	1
Clinton	1	2	2
Colchester	0	6	2
Colebrook	na	na	na
Columbia	0	0	1
Cornwall	na	na	na
Coventry	0	0	2
Cromwell	0	0	4
Danbury	4	11	26
Darien	2	5	8
Deep River	0	0	0
Derby	na	na	na
Durham	0	0	1
East Granby	1	1	0
East Haddam	0	1	0
East Hampton	2	4	3
East Hartford	0	0	0
East Haven	na	na	na
East Lyme	0	1	2
East Windsor	1	123	3
Eastford	na	na	na
Easton	0	1	0
Ellington	8	15	11
Enfield	0	0	1
Essex	0	1	1
Fairfield	7	13	8
Farmington	0	1	1
Franklin	na	na	na
Glastonbury	2	4	6
Goshen	na	na	na
Granby	0	0	17
Greenwich	9	17	18
Griswold	1	2	0
Groton	na	na	na
Guilford	na	na	na
Haddam	0	0	0
Hamden	na	na	na
Hampton	na	na	na
Hartford	0	0	0
Hartland	0	0	0
Harwinton	na	na	na
Hebron	1	1	2
Kent	0	3	0
Killingly	na	na	na
Killingworth	0	1	1
Lebanon	0	0	2
Ledyard	na	na	na
Lisbon	na	na	na
Litchfield	na	na	na
Lyme	0	1	0
Madison	na	na	na
Manchester	7	8	1
Mansfield	1	1	2
Marlborough	0	0	0
Meriden	na	na	na
Middlebury	na	na	na
Middlefield	1	1	0
Middletown	1	2	14
Milford	14	25	30
Monroe	0	0	2
Montville	na	na	na
Morris	na	na	na
Naugatuck	na	na	na
New Britain	2	2	0
New Canaan	1	3	7
New Fairfield	0	0	1
New Hartford	na	na	na
New Haven	279	280	4
New London	3	5	6
New Milford	na	na	na
Newington	0	0	2
Newtown	2	2	1
Norfolk	na	na	na
North Branford	na	na	na
North Canaan	na	na	na
North Haven	na	na	na
North Stoningto	na	na	na
Norwalk	3	16	79
Norwich	7	7	12
Old Lyme	na	na	na
Old Saybrook	15	30	1
Orange	na	na	na
Oxford	7	7	1
Plainfield	na	na	na
Plainville	0	0	1
Plymouth	na	na	na
Pomfret	na	na	na
Portland	0	0	0
Preston	0	0	1
Prospect	2	4	2
Putnam	na	na	na
Redding	0	0	0
Ridgefield	1	2	0
Rocky Hill	0	1	1
Roxbury	na	na	na
Salem	na	na	na
Salisbury	na	na	na
Scotland	na	na	na
Seymour	na	na	na
Sharon	na	na	na
Shelton	3	7	11
Sherman	0	0	1
Simsbury	0	1	2
Somers	0	0	1
South Windso	8	14	1
Southbury	na	na	na
Southington	1	5	8
Sprague	0	0	0
Stafford	1	1	0
Stamford	1	6	0
Sterling	na	na	na
Stonington	na	na	na
Stratford	2	2	3
Suffield	3	3	5
Thomaston	na	na	na
Thompson	na	na	na
Tolland	1	1	2
Torrington	na	na	na
Trumbull	1	1	1
Union	0	0	1
Vernon	7	15	20
Voluntown	0	0	0
Wallingford	1	2	2
Warren	na	na	na
Washington	na	na	na
Waterbury	0	0	24
Waterford	na	na	na
Watertown	na	na	na
West Hartford	6	12	12
West Haven	na	na	na
Westbrook	2	2	2
Weston	1	2	0
Westport	4	11	7
Wethersfield	0	0	1
Willington	0	0	0
Wilton	0	0	2
Winchester	na	na	na
Windham	1	1	1
Windsor	1	1	2
Windsor Lock	2	4	4
Wolcott	1	1	1
Woodbridge	na	na	na
Woodbury	0	0	2
Woodstock	na	na	na

For further information on the housing permit data, contact Kolie Sun of DECD at (860) 270-8167.

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

Registrations and terminations of business entities as recorded with the Secretary of the State and the Connecticut Department of Labor (DOL) are an indication of new business formation and activity. DOL business starts include new employers which have become liable for unemployment insurance taxes during the quarter, as well as new establishments opened by existing employers. DOL business terminations are those accounts discontinued due to inactivity (no employees) or business closure, and accounts for individual business establishments that are closed by still active employers. The Secretary of the State registrations include limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, and foreign-owned (out-of-state) and domestic-owned (in-state) corporations.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index (CPI), computed and published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. It is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs and other goods and services that people buy for their day-to-day living. The Northeast region is comprised of the New England states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

The Employment Cost Index (ECI) covers both wages and salaries and employer costs for employee benefits for all occupations and establishments in both the private nonfarm sector and state and local government. The ECI measures employers' labor costs free from the influences of employment shifts among industries and occupations. The base period for all data is December 2005 when the ECI is 100.

GAMING DATA

Indian Gaming Payments are amounts received by the State as a result of the slot compact with the two Federally recognized tribes in Connecticut, which calls for 25 percent of net slot receipts to be remitted to the State. Indian Gaming Slots are the total net revenues from slot machines only received by the two Federally recognized Indian tribes.

HOURS AND EARNINGS ESTIMATES

Production worker earnings and hours estimates include full- and part-time employees working within manufacturing industries. Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month. Average hourly earnings are affected by such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings. These data are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

INITIAL CLAIMS

Average weekly initial claims are calculated by dividing the total number of new claims for unemployment insurance received in the month by the number of weeks in the month. A minor change in methodology took effect with data published in the March 1997 issue of the DIGEST. Data have been revised back to January 1980.

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Primarily a measure of unemployment insurance program activity, the insured unemployment rate is the 13-week average of the number of people claiming unemployment benefits divided by the number of workers covered by the unemployment insurance system.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

Labor force estimates are a measure of the work status of people who live in Connecticut. Prepared under the direction of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the statewide estimates are the product of a signal-plus noise model, which uses results from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey of Connecticut households, counts of claimants for unemployment benefits, and establishment employment estimates. The 2015 LAUS Redesign includes improved time-series models for the census divisions, states, select substate areas, and the balances of those states; an improved real-time benchmarking procedure to the national Current Population Survey (CPS) estimates; an improved smoothed seasonal adjustment procedure; and improved treatment of outliers. Non-modeled area estimation improvements include: updated Dynamic Residency Ratios (DRR); more accurate estimates for all-other employment; more accurate estimation of agricultural employment; and improved estimation of non-covered agricultural unemployment. Handbook estimation is now done at the city/town level instead of at the Labor Market Area (LMA) level in Connecticut, which better reflects local conditions. The Redesign also introduces estimation inputs from the American Community Survey (ACS) to replace inputs that were previously obtained from the decennial census long-form survey. Labor force data, reflecting persons employed by place of residence, are not directly comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series. In the labor force estimates, workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. The labor force data also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics and the self-employed. Because of these conceptual differences, total labor force employment is almost always different from nonfarm wage and salary employment.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

All Labor Market Areas (LMAs) in Connecticut except three are federally-designated areas for developing labor statistics. For the sake of simplicity, the federal Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk NECTA is referred to in Connecticut DOL publications as the Bridgeport-Stamford LMA, and the Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford NECTA is the Hartford LMA. The northwest part of the state is now called Torrington-Northwest LMA. Five towns which are part of the Springfield, MA area are published as the Enfield LMA. The towns of Eastford and Hampton and other towns in the northeast are now called Danielson-Northeast LMA. Industry employment and labor force data estimates contained in Connecticut Department of Labor publications are prepared following the same statistical procedures developed by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, whether for federally designated or state-determined areas.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

Nonfarm employment estimates are derived from a survey of businesses to measure *jobs* by industry. The estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary employees who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Excluded from these estimates are proprietors, self-employed workers, private household employees and unpaid family workers. In some cases, due to space constraints, all industry estimates are not shown. These data are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

UI COVERED WAGES

UI covered wages is the total amount paid to those employees who are covered under the Connecticut's Unemployment Insurance (UI) law for services performed during the quarter. The fluctuations in the 1992-93 period reflect the effect of the changes in the tax law and the massive restructuring in the state's economy.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS AT A GLANCE

(Percent change from prior year; see pages 4-8 for reference months or quarters)

Leading General Drift Indicator	**NA**
Coincident General Drift Indicator	**NA**
Farmington Bank Bus. Barometer	**+0.1**
Phil. Fed's CT Coincident Index	**+3.2**
Total Nonfarm Employment	**+0.5**
Labor Force	-0.9
Employed	-0.5
Unemployed	-7.6
Unemployment Rate	**-0.3***
Labor Force Participation Rate	-0.8
Employment-Population Ratio	-0.5
Average Weekly Initial Claims	**+9.0**
Avg Insured Unempl. Rate	**-0.08***
U-6 Rate	**-0.7***
Prod. Worker Avg Wkly Hrs, Mfg	**0.0**
PW Avg Hourly Earnings, Mfg	**+1.2**
PW Avg Weekly Earnings, Mfg	**+1.2**
CT Mfg. Production Index	**-1.6**
Production Worker Hours	-3.7
Industrial Electricity Sales	-2.8
Personal Income	**+1.6**
UI Covered Wages	**+2.5**

Business Activity	
New Housing Permits	+168.6
Electricity Sales	+6.4
Construction Contracts Index	-0.6
New Auto Registrations	+22.3
Exports	+5.5
S&P 500: Monthly Close	+14.8
Business Starts	
Secretary of the State	+14.2
Dept. of Labor	-2.1
Business Terminations	
Secretary of the State	+36.3
Dept. of Labor	-12.3
State Revenues	**+9.0**
Corporate Tax	+50.9
Personal Income Tax	+10.5
Real Estate Conveyance Tax	-11.6
Sales & Use Tax	+12.4
Gaming Payments	+0.7

**Percentage point change; **Less than 0.05 percent; NA = Not Available*

Tourism and Travel	
Occupancy Rate	+2.5
Major Attraction Visitors	-5.6
Air Passenger Count	+6.2
Gaming Slots	+0.1
Employment Cost Index (U.S.)	
Total	+2.6
Wages & Salaries	+2.8
Benefit Costs	+2.3
Consumer Prices	
U.S. City Average	+2.2
Northeast Region	+1.7
NY-NJ-Long Island	+1.7
Boston-Brockton-Nashua	+2.8
Interest Rates	
Prime	+0.75*
Conventional Mortgage	+0.16*

THE CONNECTICUT
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Economic and Community Development

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