

ECONOMIC DIGEST

Vol.31 No.2 A publication of Connecticut Department of Labor

FEBRUARY 2026

IN THIS ISSUE...

2026 Economic Outlook: Resilience in the Face of Adversity 1-5

Economic Indicators
 on the Overall Economy 5
 Individual Data Items 6-8
Comparative Regional Data 9
Economic Indicator Trends 10-11
Help Wanted OnLine 15
Business and Employment Changes Announced in the News Media 19
Labor Market Areas:
 Nonfarm Employment 12-17
 Sea. Adj. Nonfarm Employment 14
 Labor Force 18
 Hours and Earnings 19
Cities and Towns:
 Labor Force 20-21
 Housing Permits 22
Technical Notes 23
At a Glance 24

In December...

Nonfarm Employment

Connecticut 1,713,900
 Change over month -0.03%
 Change over year -0.13%

United States 159,526,000
 Change over month +0.03%
 Change over year +0.37%

Unemployment Rate

Connecticut 4.2%
 United States 4.4%

Consumer Price Index

United States 324.054
 Change over year +2.7%

2026 Economic Outlook: Resilience in the Face of Adversity

By Steven P. Lanza
 Associate Professor-in-Residence, UConn Department of Economics

Global economic developments in 2025—and the outlook for 2026—have been shaped by rising trade restrictions, policy uncertainty, volatile energy markets and a cooling labor market, particularly in the United States. Yet despite these headwinds, the global economy has shown notable resilience. Growth has slowed but remains positive, inflation has moderated from its recent peaks, and no major forecasting group anticipates a broad-based recession in 2026. What follows is a survey of the global, national, and Connecticut economies as they navigate this period of adjustment.

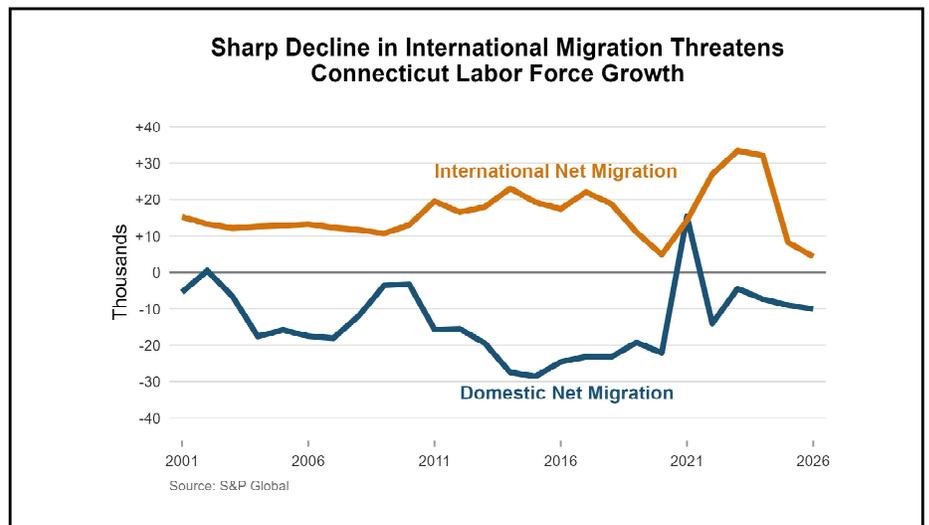
The Global Economy

Global economic developments in 2025—and the

outlook for 2026—have been dominated by increased trade restrictions originating in the United States. Despite the adversity, the consensus outlook calls for stable global economic growth in 2026 in the range of 2.9% to 3.3%. This pace is below the long-term average of roughly 3.5% to 4.0%, but it remains strong enough to avoid a global recession.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) projects global growth of 3.3% in 2026, while the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) offers a slightly less optimistic forecast of 2.9%.

Both organizations note the surprising resilience of the global economy in 2025 despite substantial headwinds. Trade tensions intensified over the course of the year, exacerbated



The Connecticut Economic Digest is published monthly by the Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research. Its purpose is to regularly provide users with a comprehensive source for the most current, up-to-date data available on the workforce and economy of the state, within perspectives of the region and nation.

The annual subscription is \$50. Send subscription requests to: *The Connecticut Economic Digest*, Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research, 200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114. Make checks payable to the Connecticut Department of Labor. Back issues are \$4 per copy. The Digest can be accessed free of charge from the DOL Web site. Articles from *The Connecticut Economic Digest* may be reprinted if the source is credited. Please send copies of the reprinted material to the Managing Editor. The views expressed by the authors are theirs alone and may not reflect those of the Connecticut Department of Labor.

This workforce product was funded in part by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The U.S. Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.

Managing Editor: Jungmin Charles Joo

Associate Editor: Erin C. Wilkins

We would like to acknowledge the contributions of many DOL Research staff and Rob Damroth to the publication of the Digest.

Connecticut Department of Labor

Danté Bartolomeo, Commissioner
Daryle Dudzinski, Deputy Commissioner
Mark Polzella, Deputy Commissioner

Patrick J. Flaherty, Director
Office of Research
200 Folly Brook Boulevard
Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114
Phone: (860) 263-6255
Fax: (860) 263-6263
E-Mail: dol.econdigest@ct.gov
Website: <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi>



by the U.S. abandonment of decades-long trade agreements and the imposition of elevated tariff rates. Adding to policy uncertainty were new immigration restrictions, led by the U.S. crackdown at its southern border and in major cities and mirrored by tighter migration rules across the European Union. The attack on Iran by the U.S. and Israel added to the uncertainty in early 2026.

In response to U.S. tariffs, many businesses front-loaded import orders ahead of tariff deadlines, cushioning the near-term economic impact. Firms also sought to preserve market share by absorbing some tariff costs through narrower profit margins. In advanced economies, investment in new technologies—particularly artificial intelligence (AI)—provided additional support, offsetting some of the drag from restrictive trade policies.

The outlook, however, points to slower growth as these temporary adjustments give way to more durable responses. As inventories are drawn down and firms find it increasingly difficult to absorb higher input costs, price increases are expected to feed through to the broader economy, weighing on both consumption and output.

In the United States—the primary source of the new tariffs—growth slowed from 2.8% in 2024 to 2.2% in 2025 and could decelerate further to as little as 1.7% in 2026. The rest of the world will feel the drag as well. Lower exports are projected to slow growth in the euro area from roughly 1.3–1.4% in 2025 to 1.2–1.3% in 2026. In China, which benefited from a surge in front-loaded trade volumes in early 2025, growth is expected to decline from 5.0% in 2025 to about 4.5% in 2026.

The inflation outlook is more mixed. In the United States, higher import prices and potentially energy costs are

expected to add to inflation through cost-push supply effects. For tariff-affected trading partners, by contrast, weaker export demand is likely to restrain price pressures through reduced aggregate expenditure.

Both the IMF and OECD assess global risks as tilted to the downside. Additional trade restrictions could further disrupt supply chains, reduce global output, and exacerbate policy uncertainty. Moreover, optimism surrounding AI could fade, potentially weighing on elevated equity valuations.

At the same time, there are upside risks. Frustration with the current chaotic trade environment could prompt landmark agreements that restore greater predictability to the global trading system. AI-driven productivity gains could ultimately prove large enough to more than offset any associated employment losses, although this could take longer than one year.

The U.S. Economy

The U.S. economy slowed in 2025 from its 2.8% real rate of growth in 2024 to 2.2%, according to the latest Commerce Department figures. The consensus among analysts calls for continued growth, if a somewhat less resilient performance in 2026.

The OECD and IMF assessments for U.S. GDP growth in 2026—1.7% and 2.4%, respectively—essentially bracket the range of domestic forecasts. S&P Global and the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia's Survey of Professional Forecasters (SPF) align more closely with the OECD's lower-end view, anticipating 1.5% and 1.8% growth, respectively. Meanwhile, the Conference Board and Deloitte Economic Research project 2.0% real GDP growth in 2026.

The Federal Reserve's own outlook leans somewhat more optimistic. FOMC participants, who had expected 2025 growth to reach only 1.7% (compared with the actual 2.2%), project a 2.3% increase in real GDP in 2026—essentially a continuation of 2025's performance, though still below the long-term U.S. trend. The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) Economic Forecasting Survey is the most optimistic of the group, anticipating a rebound to 2.5% growth.

Although forecasts cluster in the slow-to-moderate range, none anticipates an outright contraction in real U.S. output. WSJ survey participants peg the probability of a recession over the next year at 27%, while the Philly Fed's SPF places the odds at less than 25%. Nevertheless, the United States remains ground zero for the latest wave of protectionist policies, which are roiling global markets and reverberating domestically.

Household consumption, which accounts for roughly 70% of GDP, slowed noticeably in 2025 and is likely to fade further in 2026. Real consumer spending rose 2.9% in 2024 and 2.6% in 2025 but is expected to increase just 1.7% in 2026. Slower wage growth, diminishing job prospects, and stubbornly elevated prices have weighed heavily on consumer sentiment.

The University of Michigan's consumer sentiment index, which fell sharply during Covid and again during the post-pandemic inflation surge, has deteriorated once more amid heightened policy uncertainty. Business investment, which accounts for roughly 15% of GDP (excluding housing), tends to be strongly procyclical. Despite weak consumer sentiment, nonresidential fixed investment rose 4.2% in 2025, buoyed by the ongoing AI investment surge. While nonresidential structures remain soft, equipment spending accelerated early in 2025,

reflecting both tariff front-loading and the expansion of AI data centers. Outlays for intellectual property products—including software and other intangible assets—also remained strong.

Federal tax changes reinstating bonus depreciation for qualifying property should provide additional support. However, the extent to which these forces sustain investment growth in 2026 remains uncertain. S&P anticipates flat real investment, the SPF projects 2.4% growth, and Deloitte forecasts gains of up to 4%.

Residential investment continues to lag. Despite a persistent housing shortage, real residential investment has declined in two of the past three years and slipped another 2.2% in 2025. Forecasts for 2026 range from a 0.7% decline (S&P) to a 0.7% increase (Deloitte).

International trade remains a major source of uncertainty. The Supreme Court of the United States ruled in February that the administration's use of emergency economic powers to impose routine tariffs was unconstitutional. While the ruling constrains one policy avenue, the administration has indicated it will pursue alternative mechanisms. As a result, trade policy uncertainty persists.

Trade volume—exports plus imports of goods and services—accounts for approximately 25% of GDP. Although lower than in many advanced economies, this openness ratio underscores the importance of trade to U.S. growth. Real export growth slowed from 3.6% in 2024 to 1.7% in 2025, while import growth decelerated from 5.8% to 2.7%. Total trade volume growth fell to just over 2% in 2025 and is expected to stagnate in 2026, with export growth forecast between 0.5% and 2.2% and imports roughly flat.

The Federal Reserve's task became more complicated in

2025 as it confronted both rising prices—aggravated by the new tariff regime—and a slowing labor market. Aggressive easing risked reigniting inflation in an effort to support job growth, while aggressive tightening risked further weakening employment in order to contain price pressures.

The Fed ultimately chose a middle path, implementing three 0.25-percentage-point rate cuts late in 2025. Those moves reduced the target federal funds rate to 3.5%–3.75%.

Uncertainty persists. Many Fed watchers anticipated additional cuts in 2026, but that has been thrown in doubt by the war in the Middle East.

Fiscal policy is also poised to provide additional stimulus in 2026. The “one big beautiful bill” (OBBBA), enacted in 2025, restores bonus depreciation, raises the standard deduction, provides a temporary deduction for eligible seniors, and introduces new exemptions for tips and overtime income.

Labor market conditions have cooled steadily. Nonfarm job growth slowed from 2.2% in 2023 to 1.3% in 2024 and to 0.9% in 2025. The unemployment rate rose from roughly 3.5% at the start of 2023 to about 4.5% by the end of 2025. Job openings have declined markedly; whereas there were roughly two openings per unemployed worker in early 2022, by late 2025 there were slightly more unemployed workers than available positions.

Nominal wage growth eased from 4.0% in 2024 to 3.8% in 2025, while inflation slowed from 3.0% to 2.7%, allowing real wages to continue advancing modestly. Forecasts for 2026 suggest little improvement in employment growth, with projections ranging from zero to 0.4%, and the unemployment rate holding near 4.5%, partly reflecting constrained labor force growth amid tighter immigration enforcement.

The Connecticut Economy

Connecticut's economy has shown renewed vitality in the post-pandemic period. After stagnating between the 2007–08 financial crisis and the Covid downturn, real state GDP has grown at an average annual rate of 2.3% since 2021. In 2025, output again rose 2.3%, driven largely by productivity rather than employment gains.

With job growth of just 0.4% in 2025, most of the year's GDP increase reflected a 1.9% gain in productivity. The information sector—including telecommunications, data processing, and motion picture production—contributed 0.6 percentage points to overall growth. Financial activities and professional and business services each added roughly half a percentage point. Manufacturing contributed 0.2 points despite shedding 2,500 jobs, as output per worker rose 3.4%.

Employment growth slowed from about 14,000 jobs in 2024 to roughly 7,000 (year over year) in 2025. Even so, this pace remains close to the state's typical expansion-year average. Connecticut nearly surpassed its 2008 employment peak before experiencing a temporary setback in September; by the fourth quarter, payrolls were essentially flat compared with a year earlier.

Education and health services again led job growth, adding about 5,000 positions—almost entirely in health care—though well below the previous year's gain. Financial activities and professional and business services reversed prior losses, while leisure and hospitality added 1,100 jobs. Retail trade declined by 1,800 jobs amid continued e-commerce expansion.

The unemployment rate rose from just above 3.0% in mid-2024 to 4.2% at the end of 2025. The labor force participation rate, long in gradual decline due to aging demographics, fell more sharply

during 2025. Connecticut ranks 11th nationally in the share of foreign-born workers, leaving it particularly exposed to changes in immigration policy.

Wage growth remained solid. Nominal wages rose 4.6% in 2025 against 3.3% inflation, yielding a 1.3% real gain. Real wage growth was strongest in arts and entertainment, information, construction, and durable manufacturing, while nondurable manufacturing and accommodation and food services experienced declines.

So, what are the prospects for Connecticut output, jobs, and wages in 2026?

Against a backdrop of steady—though slowing—U.S. GDP growth and softer national employment gains, a deceleration in Connecticut's real GDP growth from 2.3% in 2025 to roughly 1.1% in 2026, accompanied by a reversal of recent job gains, would not be implausible. Such an outcome would be consistent with weakening national labor demand and ongoing uncertainty surrounding trade and immigration policy.

S&P Global, however, presents a more optimistic baseline. The firm projects real state GDP growth of 1.8% in 2026 and the addition of approximately 2,000 jobs. It also anticipates that inflation will ease from 3.3% in 2025 to 2.6% in 2026. Under that scenario, a forecasted 4.3% average nominal wage increase would translate into real wage growth of 1.7%—an improvement over the 1.3% gain recorded in 2025.

S&P expects health care—part of the broader educational and health services supersector—to once again lead employment gains. Health care payrolls are projected to rise by another 4,500 positions in 2026, following a 5,500-job increase in 2025. Given Connecticut's relatively old population and sustained

demand for medical services, continued expansion in this sector is consistent with long-term demographic trends.

Educational services, by contrast, faces renewed contraction. Employment is projected to decline by at least 1,500 jobs amid falling enrollments, tighter public budgets, and the expiration of federal Covid-era relief funds.

The largest projected losses are expected in the trade, transportation, and utilities (TTU) supersector, where employment could decline by roughly 4,000 positions. Continued erosion of brick-and-mortar retail due to e-commerce remains a structural headwind. In addition, weakened demand and overcapacity stemming from the pandemic-era logistics buildup are expected to constrain hiring in transportation and warehousing.

With one of the nation's oldest workforces and the 11th highest share of foreign-born workers, Connecticut is particularly vulnerable to restrictive immigration policies pursued by the Trump administration.

Births barely exceed deaths in the state, and Connecticut has long experienced net domestic out-migration (Graph on page 1). As a result, any meaningful population growth has depended heavily on international migration. Net international migration exceeded 30,000 in both 2023 and 2024 but dropped sharply to an estimated 8,000 in 2025 and is expected to decline further to roughly 4,000 in 2026.

Accordingly, the state's labor force is projected to contract by approximately 14,000 workers in 2026—just two years after finally regaining the workforce lost during the Covid recession. Despite slow to negligible job growth, this constrained labor supply is likely to keep the unemployment rate near its current 4% level, as reduced

labor availability offsets weaker hiring demand.

The limited availability of workers, combined with continued productivity improvements, helps explain why S&P expects real wage growth to accelerate from 1.3% in 2025 to 1.7% in 2026. Real wages are projected to increase across nearly all supersectors and major subsectors, except for agriculture.

For some industries—such as information (+4.6%) and professional and business services (+2.1%)—projected real wage gains represent a continuation of strong performance in 2025. For others—including accommodation and food services (+3.4%), real estate (+3.2%), and nondurable manufacturing

(+2.9%)—the anticipated gains mark a reversal of prior-year declines.

Productivity growth remains central to the outlook. Even with modest job creation, rising output per worker should allow real state GDP to outpace employment growth and remain positive. S&P's projected deceleration in output growth—from 2.3% in 2025 to 1.8% in 2026—would place Connecticut slightly below its post-Cold War average but well above the 0.3% annual growth rate the state has averaged over the past two decades.

Financial activities, manufacturing, and information together are expected to account for roughly two-thirds of Connecticut's GDP growth in 2026, underscoring the

continued importance of high-value, productivity-driven sectors to the state's economic trajectory.

Conclusion

Across the global, national, and state economies, the theme for 2026 is not rapid expansion but continued resilience. Growth is slowing, trade policy remains unsettled, and labor markets are cooling. Yet output continues to rise, inflation has eased from recent highs, and forecasters do not anticipate a recession. Much will depend on whether policy uncertainty diminishes and whether productivity gains—especially those tied to artificial intelligence—prove durable. For now, the outlook is one of slower but steady progress in the face of adversity. ■

GENERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	3Q	3Q	YoY CHG		2Q	QoQ CHG	
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025	NO.	%
General Drift Indicator (2007=100)*							
Leading	117.3	115.9	1.5	1.3	116.7	0.7	0.56
Coincident	100.8	98.8	2.0	2.0	100.2	0.6	0.61
Real Gross Domestic Product**							
<i>(Millions of chained 2017 dollars)</i>							
Connecticut	295,735	287,156	8,579	3.0	291,703	4,032	1.4
United States	24,026,834	23,478,570	548,264	2.3	23,770,976	255,858	1.1
New England	1,221,714	1,193,184	28,530	2.4	1,209,246	12,468	1.0
Per Capita Personal Income**							
<i>(Current \$, SAAR)</i>							
Connecticut	98,962	95,454	3,508	3.7	98,490	472	0.5
United States	76,513	73,488	3,025	4.1	76,018	495	0.7
New England	91,714	88,486	3,228	3.6	91,359	355	0.4
Philadelphia Fed's Coincident Index (2007=100)***							
	Dec	Dec	YoY CHG		Nov	MoM CHG	
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025	NO.	%
Connecticut	135.52	134.87	0.64	0.5	135.84	-0.32	-0.2
United States	148.73	146.04	2.68	1.8	148.41	0.32	0.2

Sources: *Dr. Steven P. Lanza, University of Connecticut, <https://steven-lanza.uconn.edu/the-connecticut-green-sheet/>
 U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis *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 2007 = 100.

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 decreased
over the year.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)					
TOTAL NONFARM	1,713.9	1,716.1	-2.2	-0.1	1,714.4
Natural Res & Mining	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5
Construction	63.5	63.1	0.4	0.6	63.8
Manufacturing	152.8	155.4	-2.6	-1.7	153.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	293.5	299.6	-6.1	-2.0	293.9
Information	30.3	30.5	-0.2	-0.7	30.3
Financial Activities	118.1	118.6	-0.5	-0.4	118.8
Professional and Business Services	224.1	221.4	2.7	1.2	223.4
Education and Health Services	372.2	371.7	0.5	0.1	372.0
Leisure and Hospitality	155.1	156.9	-1.8	-1.1	155.5
Other Services	66.3	64.1	2.2	3.4	65.9
Government*	237.5	234.3	3.2	1.4	237.0

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

Average weekly initial
claims rose from a year
ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
(Seasonally adjusted)					
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,935.7	1,955.6	-19.9	-1.0	1,937.7
Employed (000s)	1,855.3	1,893.2	-37.9	-2.0	1,860.6
Unemployed (000s)	80.4	62.5	17.9	28.6	77.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.2	3.2	1.0	---	4.0
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	64.0	65.0	-1.0	---	64.0
Employment-Population Ratio (%)	61.3	62.9	-1.6	---	61.5
Average Weekly Initial Claims (NSA)	5,694	5,495	198	3.6	2,885
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (% NSA)	1.66	1.65	0.01	---	1.71
	2025 (11mo.avg)	2024			3Q 2025
U-6 Rate (%)	8.2	7.1	1.1	---	7.8

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

The production worker
weekly earnings fell over
the year.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov	Oct
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025	2025
(Not seasonally adjusted)						
Production Worker Avg Wkly Hours	40.3	39.4	0.9	2.3	40.7	--
Prod. Worker Avg Hourly Earnings	28.98	31.66	-2.68	-8.5	28.99	--
Prod. Worker Avg Weekly Earnings	1,167.89	1,247.40	-79.51	-6.4	1,179.89	--
CT Mfg. Prod. Index (2012=100)	88.6	92.8	-4.19	-4.5	96.1	106.1
Production Worker Hours (000s)	3,716	3,791	-75	-2.0	3,781	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)*	176	192	-16	-8.2	198	230
CT Mfg. Prod. Index, 12-MMA (2012=100)	99.2	98.1	1.10	1.1	99.6	99.7

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; U.S. Department of Energy

*Latest two months are forecasted.

Personal income
increased 4.1 percent
from a year earlier.

INCOME

	3Q	3Q	CHANGE		2Q
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
(\$ Millions, SA, annualized)					
Personal Income	\$365,463.9	\$351,013.1	\$14,450.8	4.1	\$363,293.9
Wages and Salaries	\$158,720.1	\$153,107.1	\$5,613.0	3.7	\$157,491.6

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

New auto registrations increased over the year.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE		% CHG
				CURRENT	PRIOR	
New Housing Permits*	Dec 2025	720	-18.6	7,009	6,499	7.8
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	Nov 2025	2,090	3.7	24,968	24,917	0.2
Construction Contracts Index (1980=100)	Dec 2025	458.8	17.6	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	Dec 2025	15,150	5.9	195,485	197,258	-0.9
Exports (Bil. \$)	3Q 2025	4.33	3.2	12.94	12.94	0.0
S&P 500: Monthly Close	Dec 2025	6,845.50	16.4	---	---	---

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; Wisetrade.org

* Estimated by the Bureau of the Census

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

Business formation, seasonally adjusted, was up over the year.

	MO/QTR	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE		% CHG
				CURRENT	PRIOR	
STARTS						
Business Formation, SA	Dec 2025	4,431	7.3	49,256	46,592	5.7
Business Formation, NSA	Dec 2025	4,021	34.5	49,793	46,669	6.7
Department of Labor, NSA	2Q 2025	3,474	-10.7	7,848	8,253	-4.9
TERMINATIONS						
Department of Labor, NSA	2Q 2025	2,418	2.0	4,934	4,891	0.9

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

STATE REVENUES

Total all revenues was up from a year ago.

(Millions of dollars)	Dec	Dec	% CHG	YEAR TO DATE		% CHG
	2025	2024		CURRENT	PRIOR	
TOTAL ALL REVENUES*	2,361.0	2,227.2	6.0	29,081.2	25,351.9	14.7
Corporate Tax	196.4	220.7	-11.0	1,818.1	1,913.7	-5.0
Personal Income Tax	977.7	873.1	12.0	14,204.3	11,947.9	18.9
Real Estate Conv. Tax	28.1	26.5	6.0	371.4	276.6	34.3
Sales & Use Tax	703.6	671.3	4.8	7,218.3	6,534.0	10.5
Gaming Payments**	18.3	18.6	-1.5	218.9	213.4	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 was down over the year.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE		% CHG
				CURRENT	PRIOR	
Occupancy Rate (%)*	Dec 2025	51.8	1.8	62.0	61.3	1.1
Tourism Website Visitors	Dec 2025	278,769	-8.8	8,101,843	6,713,163	20.7
Air Passenger Count	Dec 2025	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Gaming Slots (Mil.\$)***	Dec 2025	851.5	-4.2	10,315.2	10,183.1	1.3

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.

***See page 23 for explanation

Compensation cost for the nation rose 3.4 percent over the year.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

Private Industry Workers (Dec. 2005 = 100)	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Dec	Sep	3-Mo	Dec	Dec	12-Mo
	2025	2025	% Chg	2025	2024	% Chg
UNITED STATES TOTAL	173.5	172.2	0.7	173.0	167.4	3.4
Wages and Salaries	176.2	175.0	0.7	175.9	170.2	3.3
Benefit Costs	166.9	165.7	0.7	166.2	160.7	3.4
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	174.2	168.4	3.5
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	175.8	170.0	3.4

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

U.S. inflation rate was up by 2.7 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	Dec 2025	324.054	2.7	0.0
Purchasing Power of \$ (1982-84=\$1.00)	Dec 2025	0.309	-2.6	0.0
Northeast Region	Dec 2025	337.880	3.3	0.2
New York-Newark-Jersey City	Dec 2025	350.003	3.4	0.4
Boston-Cambridge-Newton**	Nov 2025	347.892	2.8	-0.4
CPI-W (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	Dec 2025	317.014	2.6	-0.1

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

*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 fell to 6.19 percent over the month.

INTEREST RATES

(Percent)	Dec	Nov	Dec
	2025	2025	2024
Prime	6.83	7.00	7.65
Federal Funds	3.72	3.88	4.48
3 Month Treasury Bill	3.68	3.94	4.39
6 Month Treasury Bill	3.63	3.78	4.32
1 Year Treasury Note	3.54	3.66	4.23
3 Year Treasury Note	3.55	3.56	4.22
5 Year Treasury Note	3.70	3.67	4.25
7 Year Treasury Note	3.90	3.86	4.32
10 Year Treasury Note	4.14	4.09	4.39
20 Year Treasury Note	4.76	4.67	4.66
Conventional Mortgage	6.19	6.24	6.72

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Five states in the region gained jobs over the year.

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
Connecticut	1,713.9	1,716.1	-2.2	-0.1	1,714.4
Maine	654.1	658.3	-4.2	-0.6	654.2
Massachusetts	3,723.5	3,722.2	1.3	0.0	3,718.9
New Hampshire	705.6	711.6	-6.0	-0.8	706.6
New Jersey	4,402.2	4,393.2	9.0	0.2	4,396.5
New York	10,020.4	9,946.5	73.9	0.7	10,001.3
Pennsylvania	6,257.4	6,180.8	76.6	1.2	6,257.1
Rhode Island	513.1	514.5	-1.4	-0.3	513.6
Vermont	314.2	311.2	3.0	1.0	313.7
United States	159,526.0	158,942.0	584.0	0.4	159,476.0

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

LABOR FORCE

Five states in the region posted increases in the labor force from last year.

<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
Connecticut	1,935,670	1,955,642	-19,972	-1.0	1,937,746
Maine	705,956	709,449	-3,493	-0.5	705,116
Massachusetts	3,945,988	3,916,370	29,618	0.8	3,953,836
New Hampshire	775,626	775,293	333	0.0	774,977
New Jersey	4,913,773	4,903,331	10,442	0.2	4,909,414
New York	9,982,148	9,853,729	128,419	1.3	9,938,395
Pennsylvania	6,570,445	6,548,147	22,298	0.3	6,551,221
Rhode Island	590,401	591,426	-1,025	-0.2	591,084
Vermont	349,308	357,262	-7,954	-2.2	350,479
United States	171,495,000	168,506,000	2,989,000	1.8	171,541,000

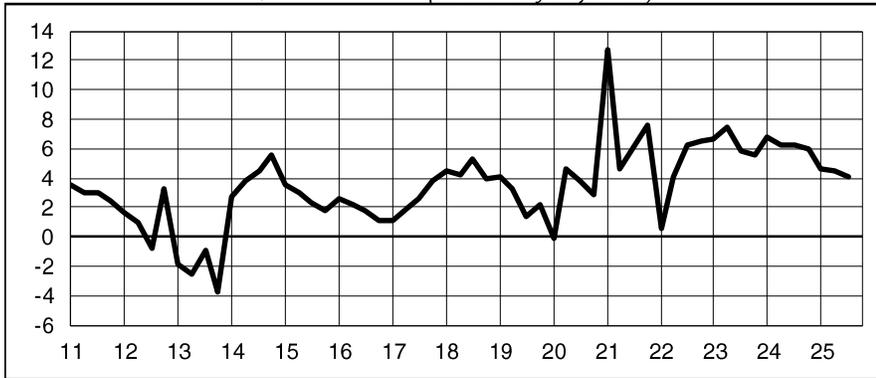
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

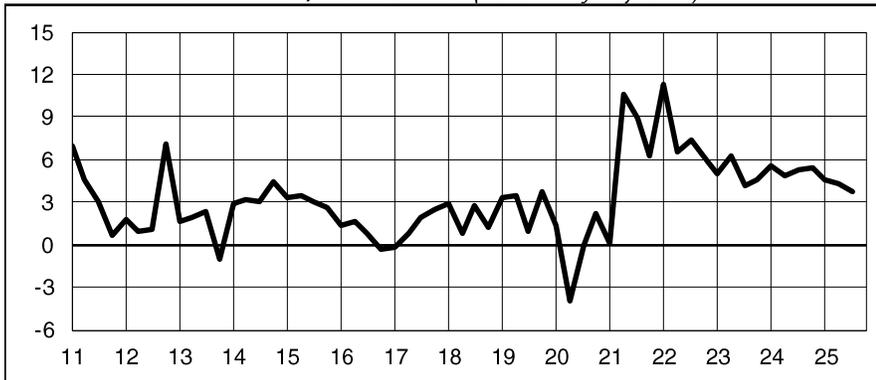
Seven states showed an increase in its unemployment rate over the year.

<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	Dec	Dec	CHANGE	Nov
	2025	2024		2025
Connecticut	4.2	3.2	1.0	4.0
Maine	3.2	3.4	-0.2	3.2
Massachusetts	4.8	4.1	0.7	4.7
New Hampshire	3.1	2.8	0.3	3.0
New Jersey	5.4	4.6	0.8	5.4
New York	4.6	4.4	0.2	4.5
Pennsylvania	4.2	3.7	0.5	4.2
Rhode Island	4.3	4.5	-0.2	4.3
Vermont	2.6	2.5	0.1	2.6
United States	4.4	4.1	0.3	4.5

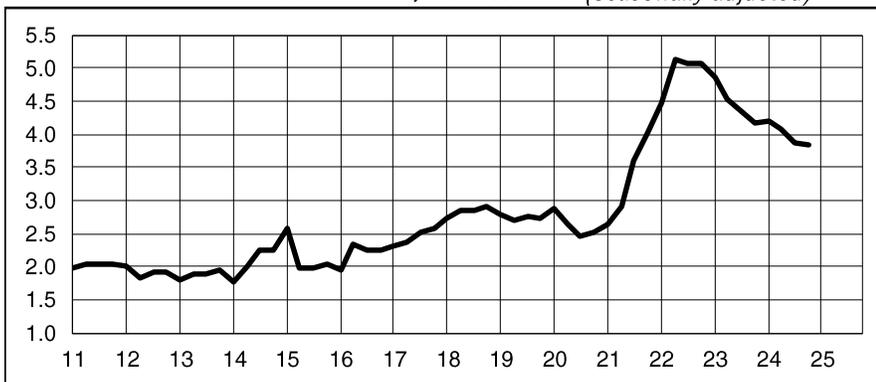
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

PERSONAL INCOME, YOY % CHG *(Seasonally adjusted)*

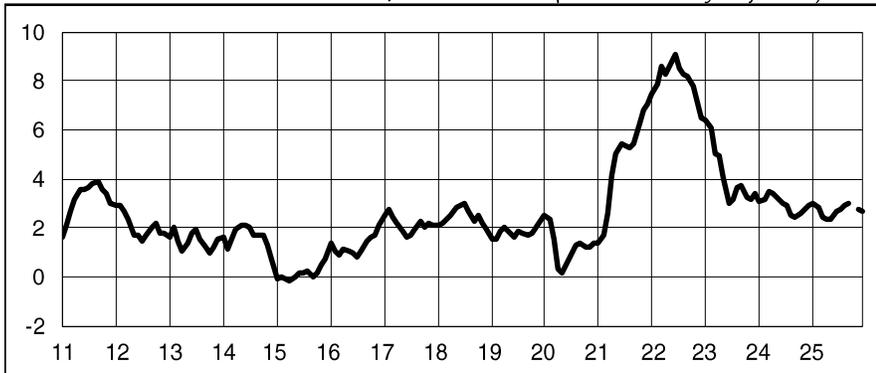
Quarter	2023	2024	2025
First	6.6	6.8	4.6
Second	7.5	6.2	4.4
Third	5.8	6.2	4.1
Fourth	5.6	5.9	

WAGES AND SALARIES, YOY % CHG *(Seasonally adjusted)*

Quarter	2023	2024	2025
First	4.9	5.5	4.6
Second	6.3	4.9	4.2
Third	4.2	5.3	3.7
Fourth	4.5	5.4	

U.S. EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX, YOY % CHG *(Seasonally adjusted)*

Quarter	2023	2024	2025
First	4.9	4.2	
Second	4.5	4.1	
Third	4.4	3.9	
Fourth	4.2	3.8	

U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, YOY % CHG *(Not seasonally adjusted)*

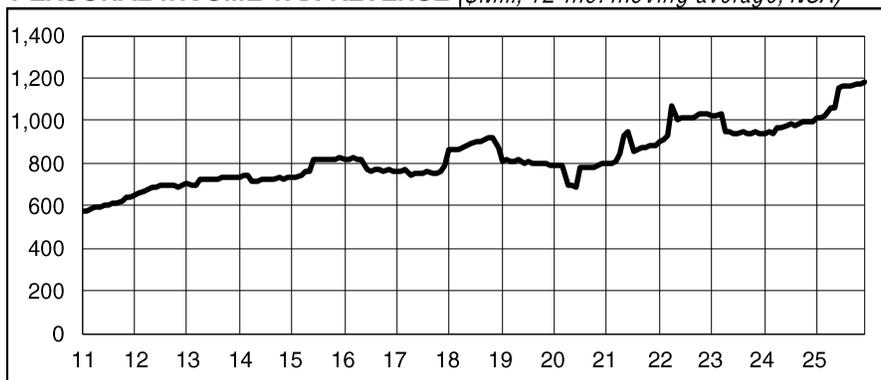
Month	2023	2024	2025
Jan	6.4	3.1	3.0
Feb	6.0	3.2	2.8
Mar	5.0	3.5	2.4
Apr	4.9	3.4	2.3
May	4.0	3.3	2.4
Jun	3.0	3.0	2.7
Jul	3.2	2.9	2.7
Aug	3.7	2.5	2.9
Sep	3.7	2.4	3.0
Oct	3.2	2.6	
Nov	3.1	2.7	2.7
Dec	3.4	2.9	2.7

TOTAL ALL REVENUES (\$Mil., 12-mo. moving average, NSA)



Month	2023	2024	2025
Jan	2,136.1	2,019.6	2,129.5
Feb	2,143.3	2,033.3	2,127.4
Mar	2,135.7	2,007.6	2,150.2
Apr	2,058.3	2,070.5	2,182.0
May	2,058.0	2,061.6	2,178.8
Jun	2,054.5	2,050.8	2,394.4
Jul	2,004.8	2,087.7	2,392.2
Aug	2,032.4	2,062.3	2,385.2
Sep	2,011.9	2,095.1	2,406.1
Oct	2,020.8	2,096.6	2,413.6
Nov	2,028.8	2,082.1	2,412.3
Dec	2,020.1	2,112.7	2,423.4

PERSONAL INCOME TAX REVENUE (\$Mil., 12-mo. moving average, NSA)



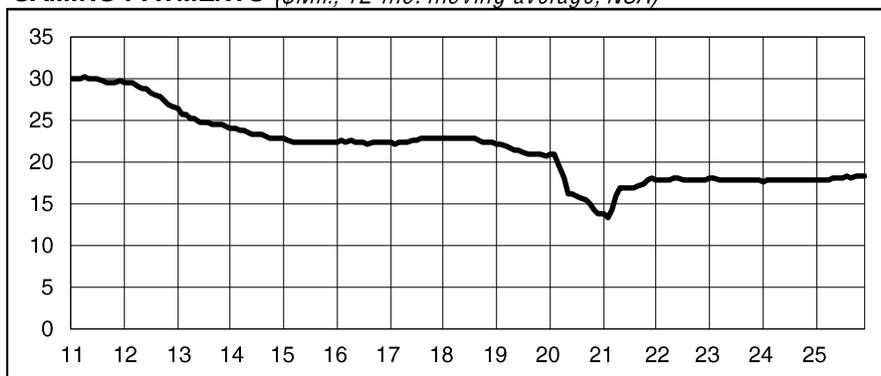
Month	2023	2024	2025
Jan	1,018.8	939.1	1,013.2
Feb	1,026.1	945.6	1,011.8
Mar	1,026.7	937.5	1,022.0
Apr	948.8	963.3	1,059.5
May	948.2	969.9	1,061.0
Jun	941.2	973.5	1,152.1
Jul	935.9	983.6	1,164.5
Aug	948.9	975.9	1,159.4
Sep	942.6	987.7	1,166.0
Oct	937.7	997.3	1,173.7
Nov	943.8	993.7	1,175.0
Dec	941.6	995.7	1,183.7

SALES AND USE TAX REVENUE (\$Mil., 12-mo. moving average, NSA)



Month	2023	2024	2025
Jan	557.2	524.6	534.2
Feb	559.5	524.9	535.0
Mar	561.0	512.4	547.2
Apr	561.5	538.4	536.2
May	565.2	527.5	530.2
Jun	516.3	514.9	604.3
Jul	511.5	535.4	592.3
Aug	520.6	521.6	590.7
Sep	509.4	540.3	598.2
Oct	522.3	531.2	598.8
Nov	521.8	522.5	598.8
Dec	519.0	544.5	601.5

GAMING PAYMENTS (\$Mil., 12-mo. moving average, NSA)



Month	2023	2024	2025
Jan	17.9	17.6	17.8
Feb	17.9	17.7	17.7
Mar	17.8	17.7	17.7
Apr	17.8	17.7	17.7
May	17.8	17.8	17.9
Jun	17.8	17.8	17.9
Jul	17.8	17.7	18.0
Aug	17.7	17.8	18.1
Sep	17.8	17.7	18.1
Oct	17.7	17.7	18.2
Nov	17.7	17.8	18.3
Dec	17.8	17.8	18.2

CONNECTICUT*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	1,727,200	1,729,400	-2,200	-0.1	1,734,100
TOTAL PRIVATE	1,485,700	1,491,400	-5,700	-0.4	1,490,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	216,800	219,000	-2,200	-1.0	220,300
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	63,300	62,900	400	0.6	66,600
MANUFACTURING	153,500	156,100	-2,600	-1.7	153,700
Durable Goods	121,400	122,500	-1,100	-0.9	121,600
Fabricated Metal.....	26,500	27,000	-500	-1.9	26,500
Machinery.....	13,000	13,100	-100	-0.8	13,000
Computer and Electronic Product.....	9,900	10,000	-100	-1.0	9,900
Transportation Equipment.....	47,800	47,600	200	0.4	47,800
Aerospace Product and Parts.....	28,300	29,000	-700	-2.4	28,300
Non-Durable Goods	32,100	33,600	-1,500	-4.5	32,100
Chemical.....	7,300	7,500	-200	-2.7	7,300
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	1,510,400	1,510,400	0	0.0	1,513,800
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	305,700	312,400	-6,700	-2.1	301,100
Wholesale Trade.....	61,300	61,500	-200	-0.3	60,600
Retail Trade.....	166,100	171,400	-5,300	-3.1	164,800
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers.....	21,400	21,900	-500	-2.3	21,500
Building Material.....	15,000	15,400	-400	-2.6	15,100
Food and Beverage Stores.....	41,100	41,600	-500	-1.2	41,000
General Merchandise Stores.....	30,000	31,300	-1,300	-4.2	29,700
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	78,300	79,500	-1,200	-1.5	75,700
Utilities.....	5,400	5,300	100	1.9	5,300
Transportation and Warehousing.....	72,900	74,200	-1,300	-1.8	70,400
INFORMATION	30,300	30,500	-200	-0.7	30,400
Telecommunications.....	5,700	5,800	-100	-1.7	5,600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	118,000	118,800	-800	-0.7	118,200
Finance and Insurance.....	98,300	98,900	-600	-0.6	98,500
Credit Intermediation and Related.....	19,600	19,700	-100	-0.5	19,600
Financial Investments and Related.....	23,700	23,600	100	0.4	23,700
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities....	55,000	55,600	-600	-1.1	55,200
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing.....	19,700	19,900	-200	-1.0	19,700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	222,900	220,100	2,800	1.3	225,200
Professional, Scientific.....	103,600	101,000	2,600	2.6	104,700
Legal Services.....	12,300	12,000	300	2.5	12,300
Computer Systems Design.....	21,400	21,400	0	0.0	21,400
Management of Companies.....	30,600	31,000	-400	-1.3	30,500
Administrative and Support.....	88,700	88,100	600	0.7	90,000
Employment Services.....	24,900	25,000	-100	-0.4	24,800
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	375,700	375,000	700	0.2	377,700
Educational Services.....	73,700	76,500	-2,800	-3.7	76,900
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	302,000	298,500	3,500	1.2	300,800
Hospitals.....	67,400	66,500	900	1.4	68,000
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities.....	60,100	58,500	1,600	2.7	59,200
Social Assistance.....	75,100	74,000	1,100	1.5	74,000
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	149,900	151,600	-1,700	-1.1	152,100
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation.....	26,200	24,800	1,400	5.6	26,900
Accommodation and Food Services.....	123,700	126,800	-3,100	-2.4	125,200
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places.	114,500	117,800	-3,300	-2.8	115,700
OTHER SERVICES	66,400	64,000	2,400	3.8	65,400
GOVERNMENT	241,500	238,000	3,500	1.5	243,700
Federal Government.....	17,200	18,500	-1,300	-7.0	17,300
State Government.....	75,700	74,200	1,500	2.0	77,100
Local Government.....	148,600	145,300	3,300	2.3	149,300

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2024.

BRIDGEPORT- STAMFORD- DANBURY LMA

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	411,300	411,600	-300	-0.1	412,700
TOTAL PRIVATE	365,400	366,500	-1,100	-0.3	366,100
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	40,800	40,900	-100	-0.2	41,500
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	14,200	13,900	300	2.2	15,000
MANUFACTURING	26,600	27,000	-400	-1.5	26,500
Durable Goods.....	19,600	19,800	-200	-1.0	19,600
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	370,500	370,700	-200	-0.1	371,200
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	69,500	71,900	-2,400	-3.3	68,600
Wholesale Trade.....	13,600	13,800	-200	-1.4	13,500
Retail Trade.....	44,600	46,400	-1,800	-3.9	44,300
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	11,300	11,700	-400	-3.4	10,800
INFORMATION	12,600	12,700	-100	-0.8	12,600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	34,700	34,800	-100	-0.3	34,500
Finance and Insurance.....	29,300	29,400	-100	-0.3	29,200
Credit Intermediation and Related.....	7,100	7,000	100	1.4	7,100
Financial Investments and Related.....	17,200	17,000	200	1.2	17,200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	61,500	60,200	1,300	2.2	61,800
Professional, Scientific.....	29,800	29,100	700	2.4	30,000
Administrative and Support.....	22,000	20,900	1,100	5.3	22,300
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	85,900	85,400	500	0.6	86,300
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	71,700	70,900	800	1.1	71,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	41,700	42,400	-700	-1.7	42,300
Accommodation and Food Services.....	32,600	33,100	-500	-1.5	32,900
OTHER SERVICES	18,700	18,200	500	2.7	18,500
GOVERNMENT	45,900	45,100	800	1.8	46,600
Federal.....	2,500	2,600	-100	-3.8	2,500
State & Local.....	43,400	42,500	900	2.1	44,100

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2024.

**HARTFORD-
WEST HARTFORD-
EAST HARTFORD LMA**

	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	617,900	616,600	1,300	0.2	620,300
TOTAL PRIVATE	517,500	516,900	600	0.1	518,900
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	81,400	81,800	-400	-0.5	82,700
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	22,800	22,200	600	2.7	23,900
MANUFACTURING	58,600	59,600	-1,000	-1.7	58,800
Durable Goods.....	48,700	49,300	-600	-1.2	48,900
Non-Durable Goods.....	9,900	10,300	-400	-3.9	9,900
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	536,500	534,800	1,700	0.3	537,600
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	104,100	105,100	-1,000	-1.0	102,600
Wholesale Trade.....	19,500	19,600	-100	-0.5	19,400
Retail Trade.....	53,800	54,700	-900	-1.6	53,400
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	30,800	30,800	0	0.0	29,800
Transportation and Warehousing.....	29,800	29,800	0	0.0	28,800
INFORMATION	5,600	5,800	-200	-3.4	5,600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	51,400	52,400	-1,000	-1.9	51,400
Depository Credit Institutions.....	4,700	4,700	0	0.0	4,700
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities....	35,800	36,200	-400	-1.1	35,900
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	79,300	78,800	500	0.6	80,200
Professional, Scientific.....	37,800	37,500	300	0.8	37,900
Management of Companies.....	13,100	13,100	0	0.0	13,100
Administrative and Support.....	28,400	28,200	200	0.7	29,200
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	121,600	119,700	1,900	1.6	121,800
Educational Services.....	15,800	15,800	0	0.0	16,300
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	105,800	103,900	1,900	1.8	105,500
Ambulatory Health Care.....	35,200	34,900	300	0.9	35,100
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	49,500	49,600	-100	-0.2	50,200
Accommodation and Food Services.....	41,100	42,700	-1,600	-3.7	41,700
OTHER SERVICES	24,600	23,700	900	3.8	24,400
GOVERNMENT	100,400	99,700	700	0.7	101,400
Federal.....	5,200	5,700	-500	-8.8	5,200
State & Local.....	95,200	94,000	1,200	1.3	96,200

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2024.

NEW HAVEN LMA

	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	298,200	298,600	-400	-0.1	299,500
TOTAL PRIVATE	264,400	264,600	-200	-0.1	265,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	30,100	30,300	-200	-0.7	30,700
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	10,300	10,400	-100	-1.0	10,900
MANUFACTURING	19,800	19,900	-100	-0.5	19,800
Durable Goods.....	13,800	13,800	0	0.0	13,800
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	268,100	268,300	-200	-0.1	268,800
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	59,000	61,000	-2,000	-3.3	58,700
Wholesale Trade.....	10,100	10,200	-100	-1.0	10,000
Retail Trade.....	25,900	27,100	-1,200	-4.4	26,000
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities.....	23,000	23,700	-700	-3.0	22,700
INFORMATION	3,300	3,400	-100	-2.9	3,300
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	10,800	10,800	0	0.0	10,800
Finance and Insurance.....	6,700	6,700	0	0.0	6,700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	33,700	32,400	1,300	4.0	33,500
Administrative and Support.....	16,900	16,300	600	3.7	16,900
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	92,900	92,100	800	0.9	93,600
Educational Services.....	35,500	36,300	-800	-2.2	36,800
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	57,400	55,800	1,600	2.9	56,800
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	23,800	23,900	-100	-0.4	24,100
Accommodation and Food Services.....	20,100	20,500	-400	-2.0	20,200
OTHER SERVICES	10,800	10,700	100	0.9	10,700
GOVERNMENT	33,800	34,000	-200	-0.6	34,100
Federal.....	4,500	4,900	-400	-8.2	4,500
State & Local.....	29,300	29,100	200	0.7	29,600

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2024.

HELP WANTED ONLINE

Connecticut HWOL: December 2025

Workforce Area	December	Industry Sector	Ads	Occupation	Ads
	2025				
	Total Ads	With Most Ads	Count	With Most Ads	Count
Eastern	6,128	Health Care and Social Assistance	2,178	Registered Nurses	495
North Central	25,420	Health Care and Social Assistance	5,339	Registered Nurses	1,371
Northwest	8,172	Health Care and Social Assistance	2,661	Registered Nurses	582
South Central	12,246	Health Care and Social Assistance	4,148	Registered Nurses	1,222
Southwest	14,082	Health Care and Social Assistance	3,745	Registered Nurses	1,199

Source: CT DOL Research Office Analysis of HWOL Data Series

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. The data can be used as a real-time measure of labor demand. For more information go to <https://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/hwol.asp>.

**NORWICH-NEW LONDON-
WILLIMANTIC LMA**

	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	128,400	128,700	-300	-0.2	128,900
TOTAL PRIVATE	100,700	101,300	-600	-0.6	100,900
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	24,800	25,000	-200	-0.8	25,000
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	3,400	3,500	-100	-2.9	3,600
MANUFACTURING	21,400	21,500	-100	-0.5	21,400
Durable Goods.....	18,500	18,500	0	0.0	18,500
Non-Durable Goods.....	2,900	3,000	-100	-3.3	2,900
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	103,600	103,700	-100	-0.1	103,900
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	20,700	21,400	-700	-3.3	20,400
Wholesale Trade.....	2,600	2,600	0	0.0	2,500
Retail Trade.....	14,100	14,600	-500	-3.4	14,100
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	4,000	4,200	-200	-4.8	3,800
INFORMATION	1,300	1,300	0	0.0	1,300
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,600	2,600	0	0.0	2,600
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	10,400	10,200	200	2.0	10,300
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	23,600	23,600	0	0.0	23,700
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	20,700	20,500	200	1.0	20,700
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	14,100	14,000	100	0.7	14,400
Accommodation and Food Services.....	12,400	12,300	100	0.8	12,500
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places.	10,700	10,900	-200	-1.8	10,800
OTHER SERVICES	3,200	3,200	0	0.0	3,200
GOVERNMENT	27,700	27,400	300	1.1	28,000
Federal.....	2,900	2,800	100	3.6	3,000
State & Local.....	24,800	24,600	200	0.8	25,000

**WATERBURY-
SHELTON LMA**

	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	161,900	163,700	-1,800	-1.1	162,400
TOTAL PRIVATE	140,400	142,400	-2,000	-1.4	140,700
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	25,600	26,100	-500	-1.9	26,200
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	8,000	8,100	-100	-1.2	8,600
MANUFACTURING	17,600	18,000	-400	-2.2	17,600
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	136,300	137,600	-1,300	-0.9	136,200
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	30,800	31,800	-1,000	-3.1	30,300
Wholesale Trade.....	6,600	6,700	-100	-1.5	6,500
Retail Trade.....	18,400	19,200	-800	-4.2	18,300
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	5,800	5,900	-100	-1.7	5,500
INFORMATION	4,600	4,600	0	0.0	4,600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	5,500	5,500	0	0.0	5,500
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	18,800	19,000	-200	-1.1	18,900
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	36,800	36,800	0	0.0	36,800
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	33,700	33,700	0	0.0	33,600
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	13,100	13,400	-300	-2.2	13,200
OTHER SERVICES	5,200	5,200	0	0.0	5,200
GOVERNMENT	21,500	21,300	200	0.9	21,700
Federal.....	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local.....	20,700	20,500	200	1.0	20,900

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2024.

MICROPOLITAN AREAS

	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT					
PUTNAM-NORTHEAST	28,900	28,800	100	0.3	29,000
TORRINGTON-NORTHWEST	38,100	38,100	0	0.0	38,200

NOTE: More industry detail data is available for the State and its five metropolitan and two micropolitan 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.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Labor Market Areas	Dec	Dec	CHANGE		Nov
	2025	2024	NO.	%	2025
BRIDGEPORT-STAMFORD-DANBURY.....	410,300	410,500	-200	0.0	410,900
HARTFORD-W.HARTFORD-E.HARTFORD.....	611,700	610,600	1,100	0.2	612,200
NEW HAVEN LMA.....	294,900	295,700	-800	-0.3	294,600
NORWICH-NEW LONDON-WILLIMANTIC.....	128,000	128,300	-300	-0.2	127,900
WATERBURY-SHELTON.....	160,400	162,100	-1,700	-1.0	160,700
PUTNAM-NORTHEAST*.....	28,900	28,800	100	0.3	29,000
TORRINGTON-NORTHWEST*.....	38,100	38,100	0	0.0	38,200

* Not seasonally adjusted

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2024.

Labor Market Area <i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	Dec 2025	Dec 2024	CHANGE		Nov 2025
				NO.	%	
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,920,100	1,953,700	-33,600	-1.7	1,944,400
	Employed	1,842,300	1,900,900	-58,600	-3.1	1,862,600
	Unemployed	77,900	52,800	25,100	47.5	81,800
	Unemployment Rate	4.1	2.7	1.4	---	4.2
Bridgeport-Stamford-Danbury	Civilian Labor Force	509,600	518,400	-8,800	-1.7	515,600
	Employed	489,800	505,000	-15,200	-3.0	494,700
	Unemployed	19,800	13,400	6,400	47.8	20,900
	Unemployment Rate	3.9	2.6	1.3	---	4.0
Hartford-W.Hartford-E.Hartford	Civilian Labor Force	606,900	616,600	-9,700	-1.6	614,800
	Employed	582,300	599,800	-17,500	-2.9	588,800
	Unemployed	24,600	16,800	7,800	46.4	26,000
	Unemployment Rate	4.1	2.7	1.4	---	4.2
New Haven	Civilian Labor Force	312,200	318,900	-6,700	-2.1	316,700
	Employed	299,800	310,500	-10,700	-3.4	303,500
	Unemployed	12,400	8,400	4,000	47.6	13,200
	Unemployment Rate	4.0	2.6	1.4	---	4.2
Norwich-New London-Willimantic	Civilian Labor Force	140,800	143,600	-2,800	-1.9	142,800
	Employed	135,200	139,800	-4,600	-3.3	136,900
	Unemployed	5,700	3,800	1,900	50.0	6,000
	Unemployment Rate	4.0	2.6	1.4	---	4.2
Putnam-Northeast	Civilian Labor Force	42,200	42,400	-200	-0.5	42,700
	Employed	40,400	41,200	-800	-1.9	40,800
	Unemployed	1,800	1,200	600	50.0	1,900
	Unemployment Rate	4.3	2.8	1.5	---	4.5
Torrington-Northwest	Civilian Labor Force	46,500	46,800	-300	-0.6	46,900
	Employed	44,700	45,600	-900	-2.0	45,000
	Unemployed	1,800	1,200	600	50.0	1,900
	Unemployment Rate	4.0	2.5	1.5	---	4.0
Waterbury-Shelton	Civilian Labor Force	237,200	242,200	-5,000	-2.1	240,100
	Employed	226,300	234,700	-8,400	-3.6	228,800
	Unemployed	10,900	7,500	3,400	45.3	11,300
	Unemployment Rate	4.6	3.1	1.5	---	4.7
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	170,723,000	167,746,000	2,977,000	1.8	171,467,000
	Employed	163,720,000	161,294,000	2,426,000	1.5	164,066,000
	Unemployed	7,003,000	6,452,000	551,000	8.5	7,401,000
	Unemployment Rate	4.1	3.8	0.3	---	4.3

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2024.

	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	Dec		CHG	Nov	Dec		CHG	Nov	Dec		CHG	Nov
	2025	2024	Y/Y	2025	2025	2024	Y/Y	2025	2025	2024	Y/Y	2025
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>												
PRODUCTION WORKER												
MANUFACTURING	\$1,167.89	\$1,247.40	-\$79.51	\$1,179.89	40.3	39.4	0.9	40.7	\$28.98	\$31.66	-\$2.68	\$28.99
DURABLE GOODS	1,201.70	1,311.16	-109.46	1,216.00	39.4	38.7	0.7	40.0	30.50	33.88	-3.38	30.40
NON-DUR. GOODS	1,061.24	1,064.48	-3.23	1,076.21	43.0	41.5	1.5	43.1	24.68	25.65	-0.97	24.97
CONSTRUCTION	1,722.71	1,560.21	162.50	1,644.30	42.4	39.3	3.1	40.6	40.63	39.70	0.93	40.50
ALL EMPLOYEES												
STATEWIDE												
TOTAL PRIVATE	1,350.99	1,311.78	39.21	1,350.48	33.8	33.8	0.0	34.0	39.97	38.81	1.16	39.72
GOODS PRODUCING	1,600.75	1,563.39	37.36	1,580.32	39.1	39.4	-0.3	38.8	40.94	39.68	1.26	40.73
Construction	1,744.86	1,590.19	154.67	1,679.07	39.0	37.7	1.3	38.3	44.74	42.18	2.56	43.84
Manufacturing	1,496.40	1,517.33	-20.93	1,493.60	40.0	39.7	0.3	40.0	37.41	38.22	-0.81	37.34
SERVICE PROVIDING	1,308.43	1,267.06	41.37	1,311.73	32.9	32.8	0.1	33.2	39.77	38.63	1.14	39.51
Trade, Transp., Utilities	1,037.34	1,003.75	33.59	1,053.77	32.9	32.6	0.3	33.2	31.53	30.79	0.74	31.74
Financial Activities	2,356.07	2,171.67	184.40	2,397.31	37.8	38.2	-0.4	38.4	62.33	56.85	5.48	62.43
Prof. & Business Serv.	1,654.26	1,676.33	-22.07	1,662.55	34.9	36.3	-1.4	35.7	47.40	46.18	1.22	46.57
Education & Health Ser.	1,244.86	1,176.55	68.31	1,226.74	33.5	32.7	0.8	33.2	37.16	35.98	1.18	36.95
Leisure & Hospitality	672.03	625.30	46.73	651.39	26.2	26.0	0.2	25.9	25.65	24.05	1.60	25.15
Other Services	832.10	871.07	-38.97	846.45	26.5	28.3	-1.8	27.5	31.40	30.78	0.62	30.78
LABOR MARKET AREAS: TOTAL PRIVATE												
Bridgeport-Stamford-Danbury	1,432.03	1,355.08	76.95	1,440.38	33.6	33.7	-0.1	34.1	42.62	40.21	2.41	42.24
Hartford-W.Hartford-E.Hartford	1,317.69	1,338.04	-20.35	1,315.12	33.9	34.3	-0.4	34.0	38.87	39.01	-0.14	38.68
New Haven	1,257.41	1,221.43	35.98	1,262.52	33.3	33.2	0.1	33.4	37.76	36.79	0.97	37.80
Norwich-New London-Willimantic	1,161.92	1,141.81	20.11	1,139.93	32.0	32.3	-0.3	31.7	36.31	35.35	0.96	35.96
Waterbury-Shelton	1,191.60	1,142.61	48.99	1,189.42	33.5	33.4	0.1	33.8	35.57	34.21	1.36	35.19

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2024.

BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN THE NEWS MEDIA

New Companies and Expansions

- Key Food to fill supermarket vacancy in Shelton shopping center
- Poke Bros. opens latest Hawaiian-inspired eatery in Southington's ShopRite Plaza
- T.J. Maxx sets opening date for store at Shops at Stone Bridge in Cheshire
- Fast-growing chicken chain Birdcode opens in Cheshire
- Little Charm Eatery opens in Wallingford, serving Thai and Asian fusion cuisine
- Yemeni coffee shop Qahwah House to open in Stamford as its first Connecticut location
- Crunch Fitness to expand with new Torrington and Southington locations
- Whole Foods opens new Cheshire store

Layoffs and Closures

- Old Greenwich coffee shop Joe Studio Café closes after 6 years
- M&T Bank announces plan to close 10 branches at Stop & Shop stores
- Macy's to close Cheshire distribution centers, cutting nearly 1,000 CT jobs
- Macy's plans to lay off 57 employees in South Windsor
- Francesca's to close all stores nationwide, including 7 locations in Connecticut
- Two CT Saks Off 5th stores close as parent company shutter most locations

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES BY TOWN

Town

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

DECEMBER 2025

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%	LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
NORWICH-NEW LONDON-WILLIMANTIC					TORRINGTON-NORTHWEST				
	140,838	135,186	5,652	4.0		46,538	44,696	1,842	4.0
BOZRAH	1,369	1,312	57	4.2	BARKHAMSTED	2,099	2,017	82	3.9
COLCHESTER	8,469	8,151	318	3.8	BURLINGTON	5,400	5,221	179	3.3
EAST LYME	9,168	8,846	322	3.5	CANAAN	580	550	30	5.2
FRANKLIN	966	917	49	5.1	COLEBROOK	836	795	41	4.9
GRISWOLD	6,489	6,223	266	4.1	CORNWALL	864	838	26	3.0
GROTON	17,601	16,971	630	3.6	GOSHEN	1,899	1,840	59	3.1
LEBANON	3,867	3,734	133	3.4	HARTLAND	1,152	1,115	37	3.2
LEDYARD	7,835	7,568	267	3.4	HARWINTON	3,236	3,136	100	3.1
LISBON	2,072	1,991	81	3.9	KENT	1,435	1,385	50	3.5
MONTVILLE	9,487	9,171	316	3.3	LITCHFIELD	4,506	4,346	160	3.6
NEW LONDON	13,480	12,824	656	4.9	MORRIS	1,276	1,230	46	3.6
NORTH STONINGTON	2,743	2,639	104	3.8	NEW HARTFORD	3,954	3,847	107	2.7
NORWICH	19,857	19,002	855	4.3	NORFOLK	848	822	26	3.1
PRESTON	2,393	2,300	93	3.9	NORTH CANAAN	1,449	1,396	53	3.7
SALEM	2,246	2,161	85	3.8	ROXBURY	1,382	1,350	32	2.3
SPRAGUE	1,580	1,506	74	4.7	SALISBURY	2,022	1,961	61	3.0
STONINGTON	9,493	9,145	348	3.7	SHARON	1,596	1,556	40	2.5
WATERFORD	10,141	9,745	396	3.9	TORRINGTON	19,669	18,808	861	4.4
WINDHAM	11,582	10,980	602	5.2	WARREN	727	706	21	2.9
					WASHINGTON	2,011	1,943	68	3.4
					WINCHESTER	5,438	5,170	268	4.9
PUTNAM-NORTHEAST					WATERBURY-SHELTON				
	51,005	48,818	2,187	4.3		237,176	226,284	10,892	4.6
ASHFORD	2,027	1,927	100	4.9	ANSONIA	10,464	9,913	551	5.3
BROOKLYN	4,130	3,964	166	4.0	BEACON FALLS	3,531	3,404	127	3.6
CANTERBURY	2,719	2,607	112	4.1	BETHLEHEM	1,811	1,721	90	5.0
CHAPLIN	1,299	1,241	58	4.5	BRISTOL	34,299	32,807	1,492	4.3
EASTFORD	920	887	33	3.6	CHESHIRE	13,974	13,510	464	3.3
HAMPTON	910	876	34	3.7	DERBY	6,569	6,230	339	5.2
KILLINGLY	9,051	8,632	419	4.6	MIDDLEBURY	3,999	3,857	142	3.6
PLAINFIELD	8,219	7,865	354	4.3	NAUGATUCK	18,285	17,460	825	4.5
POMFRET	2,285	2,218	67	2.9	OXFORD	7,134	6,891	243	3.4
PUTNAM	4,847	4,598	249	5.1	PLYMOUTH	6,551	6,260	291	4.4
SCOTLAND	803	778	25	3.1	PROSPECT	4,834	4,641	193	4.0
STERLING	1,733	1,631	102	5.9	SEYMOUR	9,455	9,055	400	4.2
THOMPSON	5,545	5,312	233	4.2	SHELTON	22,581	21,657	924	4.1
UNION	420	398	22	5.2	SOUTHBURY	9,831	9,453	378	3.8
VOLUNTOWN	1,537	1,491	46	3.0	THOMASTON	4,333	4,166	167	3.9
WOODSTOCK	4,559	4,394	165	3.6	WATERBURY	52,433	49,199	3,234	6.2
					WATERTOWN	12,459	11,962	497	4.0
					WOLCOTT	9,383	9,058	325	3.5
					WOODBURY	5,252	5,042	210	4.0

Not Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	1,920,100	1,842,300	77,900	4.1
UNITED STATES	170,723,000	163,720,000	7,003,000	4.1
Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	1,935,700	1,855,300	80,400	4.2
UNITED STATES	171,495,000	163,992,000	7,503,000	4.4

For the sake of simplicity, the federal Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford area is referred to in Connecticut DOL publications as the Hartford LMA. All Labor Market Areas (LMAs) in Connecticut except two are federally designated areas for developing labor statistics. The two nonfederal areas are Torrington-Northwest LMA and Putnam-Northeast LMA.

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	DEC 2025	YR TO DATE 2025	2024	TOWN	DEC 2025	YR TO DATE 2025	2024	TOWN	DEC 2025	YR TO DATE 2025	2024
Andover	0	0	0	Griswold	0	7	5	Preston	0	10	7
Ansonia	1	12	9	Groton	4	27	28	Prospect	0	4	4
Ashford	0	0	1	Guilford	2	23	43	Putnam	0	4	6
Avon	0	10	10	Haddam	0	14	75	Redding	1	5	6
Barkhamsted	1	5	12	Hamden	0	95	1	Ridgefield	0	10	30
Beacon Falls	0	3	7	Hampton	0	4	0	Rocky Hill	0	2	98
Berlin	5	89	22	Hartford	1	12	32	Roxbury	1	7	6
Bethany	0	0	1	Hartland	0	0	3	Salem	0	9	5
Bethel	3	80	102	Harwinton	1	20	21	Salisbury	0	8	5
Bethlehem	0	2	0	Hebron	0	13	13	Scotland	0	1	1
Bloomfield	0	28	67	Kent	0	8	9	Seymour	0	6	2
Bolton	0	1	1	Killingly	2	29	36	Sharon	0	4	12
Bozrah	0	3	4	Killingworth	1	11	6	Shelton	0	209	8
Branford	1	11	159	Lebanon	0	47	6	Sherman	1	11	13
Bridgeport	0	215	485	Ledyard	1	14	14	Simsbury	1	73	127
Bridgewater	0	4	1	Lisbon	0	4	6	Somers	0	7	6
Bristol	7	46	37	Litchfield	1	11	11	South Windsor	1	8	11
Brookfield	1	24	154	Lyme	1	2	1	Southbury	3	20	38
Brooklyn	2	31	12	Madison	1	28	28	Southington	0	51	53
Burlington	1	16	15	Manchester	0	28	26	Sprague	1	3	3
Canaan	0	0	1	Mansfield	215	220	288	Stafford	1	10	27
Canterbury	0	13	12	Marlborough	0	3	5	Stamford	4	1561	86
Canton	0	21	22	Meriden	1	25	25	Sterling	0	13	9
Chaplin	1	1	2	Middlebury	2	18	22	Stonington	2	39	31
Cheshire	7	94	96	Middlefield	0	8	6	Stratford	0	146	119
Chester	0	1	3	Middletown	2	17	20	Suffield	0	9	20
Clinton	0	23	13	Milford	9	129	128	Thomaston	0	0	2
Colchester	1	14	14	Monroe	0	15	15	Thompson	2	12	29
Colebrook	0	1	0	Montville	1	12	24	Tolland	12	55	15
Columbia	1	2	3	Morris	0	3	6	Torrington	0	4	15
Cornwall	0	0	5	Naugatuck	0	22	24	Trumbull	1	4	38
Coventry	3	20	17	New Britain	1	4	246	Union	0	0	2
Cromwell	0	11	10	New Canaan	1	38	21	Vernon	2	18	6
Danbury	12	78	18	New Fairfield	1	6	4	Voluntown	0	4	9
Darien	0	40	37	New Hartford	0	7	8	Wallingford	2	24	26
Deep River	0	1	9	New Haven	44	517	573	Warren	0	3	4
Derby	1	37	127	New London	2	8	12	Washington	0	5	6
Durham	0	4	4	New Milford	8	71	67	Waterbury	1	22	41
East Granby	4	53	2	Newington	1	8	130	Waterford	12	55	245
East Haddam	0	15	14	Newtown	0	57	18	Watertown	0	6	32
East Hampton	1	21	36	Norfolk	0	0	1	West Hartford	15	219	178
East Hartford	0	2	9	North Branford	0	9	7	West Haven	0	25	32
East Haven	0	4	5	North Canaan	0	3	0	Westbrook	0	11	9
East Lyme	4	44	48	North Haven	0	10	16	Weston	0	5	7
East Windsor	0	2	15	North Stonington	1	30	10	Westport	6	224	130
Eastford	0	4	4	Norwalk	2	176	339	Wethersfield	0	8	10
Easton	0	6	5	Norwich	1	79	15	Willington	0	3	7
Ellington	1	12	14	Old Lyme	3	30	20	Wilton	1	306	49
Enfield	1	4	6	Old Saybrook	0	45	32	Winchester	0	0	2
Essex	0	1	7	Orange	0	1	0	Windham	1	8	2
Fairfield	267	343	190	Oxford	1	31	13	Windsor	0	59	2
Farmington	1	18	243	Plainfield	1	17	12	Windsor Locks	0	2	3
Franklin	0	9	8	Plainville	0	6	13	Wolcott	1	19	21
Glastonbury	1	18	22	Plymouth	1	6	5	Woodbridge	0	26	15
Goshen	0	10	12	Pomfret	1	9	6	Woodbury	0	8	14
Granby	1	6	98	Portland	0	7	13	Woodstock	0	13	8
Greenwich	5	73	69								

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

Registrations and terminations of business entities as recorded with the U.S. Census Bureau 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 Census's business formations 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 two are federally-designated areas for developing labor statistics. For the sake of simplicity, the federal Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford area is referred to in Connecticut DOL publications as the Hartford LMA. The two nonfederal areas are Torrington-Northwest LMA and Putnam-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 5-8 for reference months or quarters)

Leading General Drift Indicator.....	1.3	CT Mfg. Production Index	-4.5	Occupancy Rate.....	1.8
Coincident General Drift Indicator.....	2.0	Production Worker Hours.....	-2.0	Tourism Website Visitors.....	-8.8
Connecticut Real GDP.....	3.0	Industrial Electricity Sales.....	-8.2	Air Passenger Count.....	NA
United States Real GDP.....	2.3	Personal Income	4.1	Gaming Slots.....	-4.2
New England Real GDP.....	2.4	UI Covered Wages	3.7	Employment Cost Index (U.S.)	
Connecticut PCPI.....	3.7			Total.....	3.4
United States PCPI.....	4.1	Business Activity		Wages & Salaries.....	3.3
New England PCPI.....	3.6	New Housing Permits.....	-18.6	Benefit Costs.....	3.4
Phil. Fed's CT Coincident Index....	0.5	Electricity Sales.....	3.7	Consumer Prices	
Phil. Fed's US Coincident Index...	1.8	Construction Contracts Index.....	17.6	U.S. City Average.....	2.7
		New Auto Registrations.....	5.9	Northeast Region.....	3.3
		Exports.....	3.2	NY-Newark-Jersey City.....	3.4
		S&P 500: Monthly Close.....	16.4	Boston-Cambridge-Newton...	2.8
Total Nonfarm Employment	-0.1	Business Starts		Interest Rates	
Labor Force.....	-1.0	Business Formation.....	7.3	Prime.....	-0.82 *
Employed.....	-2.0	Dept. of Labor.....	2.0	Conventional Mortgage.....	-0.53 *
Unemployed.....	28.6	Business Terminations			
Unemployment Rate	1.0 *	Dept. of Labor.....	2.0		
Labor Force Participation Rate...	-1.0 *	State Revenues	6.0		
Employment-Population Ratio...	-1.6 *	Corporate Tax.....	-11.0		
Average Weekly Initial Claims ..	3.6	Personal Income Tax.....	12.0		
Avg Insured Unempl. Rate	0.01 *	Real Estate Conveyance Tax..	6.0		
U-6 Rate	1.1 *	Sales & Use Tax.....	4.8		
Prod. Worker Avg Wkly Hrs	2.3	Gaming Payments.....	-1.5		
PW Avg Hourly Earnings	-8.5				
PW Avg Weekly Earnings	-6.4				

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

THE CONNECTICUT ECONOMIC DIGEST

February 2026

THE CONNECTICUT

ECONOMIC DIGEST

A publication of
 The Connecticut Departments of Labor



Mailing address:

Connecticut Economic Digest
Connecticut Department of Labor
Office of Research
200 Folly Brook Boulevard
Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114

The Connecticut Economic Digest
 is available on the internet at:
<http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi>

DO YOU WANT TO BE NOTIFIED BY EMAIL WHEN THE DIGEST IS PUBLISHED EACH MONTH?

Simply email to listserv@list.ct.gov with only the following in the body of the message, leave subject blank:
SUBSCRIBE DOL-CTEconomicDigest your_name
 (type in your name where it says your_name)

If you wish to have your name removed from our mailing list, please check here and return this page (or a photocopy) to the address at left.

If your address has changed, please check here, make the necessary changes to your address label and return this page to the address at left.

If you receive more than one copy of this publication, please check here and return this page from the duplicate copy to the address at left.