

MARCH 2000

- Connecticut's economy has now officially shifted into an expansionary gear. (article, pp.1-4)
- Industry clusters: tourism impact up. (p.3)
- Nonfarm employment increased by 4,400 in January, and was 24,200 higher than a year ago. (p.6)
- Unemployment rate in January: 2.2 percent, down from prior month and from last year. (p.6)
- January's new housing permits were up 7.2 percent over the year. (p.7)
- Initial unemployment claims declined 8.6 percent from last January. (p.6)

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Expansion at Last!

By Jungmin Charles Joo, Associate Research Analyst

Connecticut's economy in 1999 not only continued to grow at a solid pace, but it finally recovered all 158,000 jobs lost during the last recession (1989-92) and has now officially shifted into an expansionary gear. Although last year's jobs grew at a slower rate than in 1998 and less than the nation grew in 1999 (2.2%), there was a net increase of 28,300 new jobs, or a solid growth of 1.7 percent. The unemployment rate fell to 3.2 percent last year, which was one full percentage point below the nation's low 4.2 percent. Also, real personal income in Connecticut reached its highest level yet in the 1990s. Except for 1991, the income of State residents rose faster than the cost of living every year of the decade.

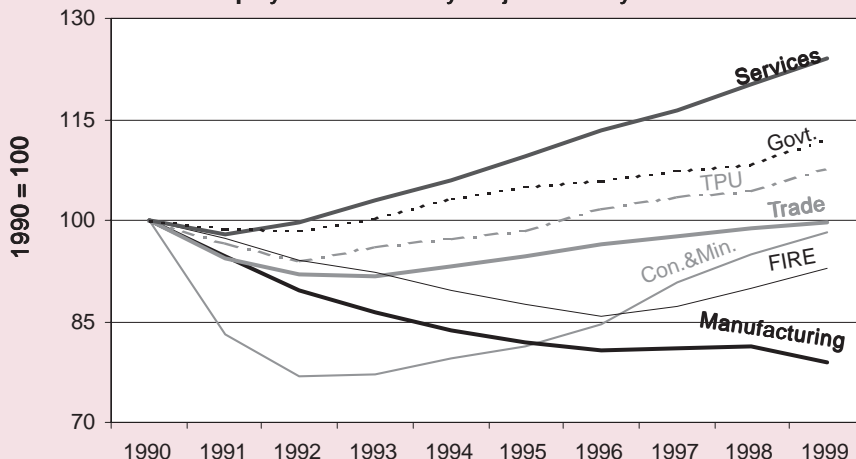
Among other positive economic indicators, the number of initial claims for unemployment in 1999 was at its lowest since the pre-recession level in 1988. Last year's number of new automobile

registrations processed was even higher than the all time high record in 1998; last year's state tax collections were also the highest in the nineties; and the number of commercial airline passengers, increasing for the sixth consecutive year, finished the decade at a new high. (See page 4 for a full page of annual Connecticut economic indicators for the entire past decade.)

Construction Tops in Job Growth Again

The construction industry division once again led in percentage job growth last year, as the continuously expanding economy, along with relatively low inflation and low interest rates, helped to lift the housing market further. Despite a slight decline, last year's new housing permit activity level remained above 10,000. During the last decade, the index of construction contracts reached its highest in 1999. As the chart below also shows, after losing so

Connecticut Employment Trends by Major Industry Division: 1990-99



ECONOMIC DIGEST

The Connecticut Economic Digest is published monthly by the Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research and the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, Public and Government Relations Division. 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 views expressed by authors are theirs alone and do not necessarily reflect those of the Departments of Labor or Economic and Community Development.

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1999 Labor Market Area Employment by Major Industry Division

MIDLMA	1999 Employment (000s)									
	Bridgeport	Danbury	Danielson	Hartford	Low.Riv.	N. Haven	N. London	Stamford	Torrington	Waterbury
Total	187.1	88.8	21.0	612.0	9.8	259.2	140.1	209.6	30.3	87.6
Con.&Min.	6.6	4.0	0.9	21.5	0.4	9.9	4.9	6.3	2.2	3.4
Mfg.	37.6	19.1	5.5	91.5	2.8	39.8	23.9	25.7	6.2	18.1
TPU	7.2	2.9	0.5	27.1	0.4	16.5	7.2	10.4	0.6	4.1
Trade	42.0	21.3	5.3	123.4	2.1	54.5	28.0	44.8	6.7	18.3
Whole	9.6	3.5	1.1	29.0	0.4	13.7	2.6	11.4	0.7	3.1
Retail	32.4	17.8	4.2	94.5	1.7	40.8	25.4	33.4	5.9	15.1
FIRE	11.5	5.3	0.6	73.2	0.3	12.9	3.8	26.9	0.9	3.9
Serv.	60.9	25.4	5.0	179.4	3.0	93.1	35.7	77.3	10.3	26.9
Govt.	21.3	10.7	3.1	95.8	0.9	32.4	36.6	18.1	3.5	13.1
1998 to 1999 Employment Growth Percent Changes										
Total	0.4	0.8	2.9	1.3	4.3	1.1	1.8	1.9	2.7	1.0
Con.&Min.	3.1	5.3	0.0	6.4	0.0	1.0	4.3	5.0	0.0	3.0
Mfg.	-3.8	-3.0	-1.8	-3.3	-3.4	-0.5	-2.0	-5.9	1.6	-3.7
TPU	2.9	3.6	0.0	2.7	0.0	1.2	5.9	0.0	-25.0	10.8
Trade	0.0	-1.8	6.0	0.0	5.0	0.4	1.4	0.9	4.7	2.2
Whole	-5.0	-2.8	22.2	-1.7	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	-12.5	0.0
Retail	1.6	-1.7	2.4	0.6	6.2	0.5	1.2	1.2	3.5	2.0
FIRE	9.5	10.4	0.0	2.7	0.0	-5.1	2.7	6.7	0.0	8.3
Serv.	0.8	1.2	6.4	2.6	11.1	2.4	2.3	3.8	5.1	-0.4
Govt.	1.9	4.9	0.0	2.9	12.5	2.5	3.1	1.7	2.9	6.5

many jobs during the last recession, this small but dynamic sector made a dramatic turnaround in the last decade.

Strong employment growth over the year also occurred in the government industry division, particularly in the local government sector. During the 1990s, this division was second to services in producing the highest average annual gains in jobs, primarily due to the inclusion of Native American tribal-run casinos in this industry division.

The manufacturing industry division clearly fared worst among the nine major industry divisions over the year, losing jobs after showing increases for two consecutive years. Most of the deterioration occurred in the durable-goods industries, among which the change in trend was most severe in fabricated metal products,

industrial machinery and equipment, and electronic and other electrical equipment. Although the average weekly hours of production workers in manufacturing dipped, the inflation-adjusted average hourly earnings not only rose over the year, but also were the highest seen in the last ten years.

The services industry division continued to chug along, pumping the biggest number of jobs into the State economy over the year. The business services industry, mostly driven by the Internet and computer-related sectors, continued to dominate this division's rapid job growth. Services sector jobs also grew more rapidly than in any other division, which contrasted sharply with the decline in manufacturing during the nineties.

The finance, insurance, and real estate (FIRE) industry division

ANNUAL REVISIONS TO NONFARM EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

Every year, nonfarm employment estimates are revised during the annual "benchmarking" process. The benchmarking reanchors the sample-based estimates to the universe levels, which account for approximately 98% of all Connecticut nonfarm employment. This year the revised statewide employment level for March 1999 was 4,000 higher than originally estimated, an upward revision of 0.2 percent. March is used because it is the most recent month for which the universe benchmark data are available when the revision process begins.

Monthly labor force estimates, like the nonfarm employment estimates, are considered preliminary and are also revised annually after the end of each calendar year to correspond with the annual average of the findings from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly canvas of households throughout the nation. Unlike the preliminary monthly estimates, which are produced using a regression model designed by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the degree of statistical error can be calculated on the survey data, and is smallest for annual averages. Therefore, the annual average estimates from the CPS become the official estimates, and are used to replace the monthly preliminary numbers. For 1999, the annual average unemployment rate for Connecticut was revised upward by two-tenths of a percentage point, from 3.0 percent (based on the preliminary monthly data) to 3.2 percent. Monthly estimates have been adjusted to reflect this change.

The revised series are available by contacting Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research at (860) 263-6290.

gained momentum last year, having begun its recovery as late as 1997 (albeit not all the jobs lost in the last downturn are recovered yet). Employment in the transportation and public utilities (TPU) industry division came back even stronger last year. While the retail trade division added more jobs, the wholesale trade division's employment actually dropped slightly last year for the first time in six years. Nevertheless, the trade industry division as a whole has steadily regained jobs over the years, with employment getting back up to the level seen in 1990.

All Ten LMA Jobs Up

All ten labor market areas (LMAs) in Connecticut added jobs again last year. As the table on page 2 shows, the Lower River LMA experienced the largest percentage job growth last year, while Bridgeport's grew the least.

Among the ten labor market areas, the largest construction job growth occurred in the Hartford LMA last year. All but the Torrington Area experienced job losses in manufacturing over the year; the largest decline was in the Stamford Area. Only the Danbury

area lost wholesale and retail trade jobs, while only the New Haven LMA shed finance, insurance, and real estate jobs over the year. All the areas in the State added services jobs, except Waterbury, which actually experienced a slight drop in services employment in 1999. The government sector overall fared well across all ten areas from a year ago.

Y2K: A Good Millennial Start?

One concern that still remains is that of labor shortages in the State for *skilled* workers. Unemployment is already about as low as it can be, and the labor force level fell for the second year in a row as the number of state residents in the labor force who were working actually declined slightly in 1999. Nevertheless, the new millennium is off to a good start with January jobs showing 1.5 percent growth from a year ago. Despite the inflationary threat looming on the horizon, with the Y2K bug now behind us and the New Economy ushering us into a brave new world, Connecticut's economic expansion may prove to be resilient. ■

HOUSING UPDATE

January Housing Permits Up 7.2 Percent

Commissioner James F. Abromaitis of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development announced that Connecticut communities authorized 803 new housing units in January 2000, a 7.2 percent increase compared to January of 1999 when 749 units were authorized.

The Department further indicated that the 803 units permitted in January 2000 represent an increase of 23.9 percent from the 648 units permitted in December 1999.

Reports from municipal officials throughout the state

indicate that Fairfield County with 252.7 percent showed the greatest percentage increase in January compared to the same month a year ago. New London County followed with a 44.7 percent increase.

Fairfield County documented the largest number of new, authorized units in January with 388. New Haven County followed with 139 units and Hartford County had 83 units. Stamford led all Connecticut communities with 307 units, followed by Hamden with 54 and Middletown with 22. ■

For more information on housing permits, see tables on pages 21-22.

Industry Clusters

Tourism Impact Up

A recently released study revealed record increases in the impact of the state's "We're Full of Surprises" tourism marketing campaign. The seventh annual benchmark study measured the effectiveness of a year-long advertising and public relations effort to encourage visitation to Connecticut by residents of the Greater New York metropolitan area.

Major findings include:

- Nearly \$100 million dollars in spending generated by visitors – a 46% increase over 1998
- Approximate return on investment of \$40 for each dollar spent to market visitation to state
- Inquiries to 1-800 CT BOUND increased by 24%, to 286,471
- Conversion rate (those who called and came) sustained at an all-time high of 57.8%
- 88% of visitors likely to return

In addition, the study recorded specific spending increases in the categories of "shopping", which rose by 41%; "lodging", up 24.3%; and "dining", up 6.4%. The study only tracks spending by visitors from the Greater New York area who called the hotline number, therefore does not reflect *additional* spending from those who did not inquire, or those who visited the state's website (www.ctbound.org).

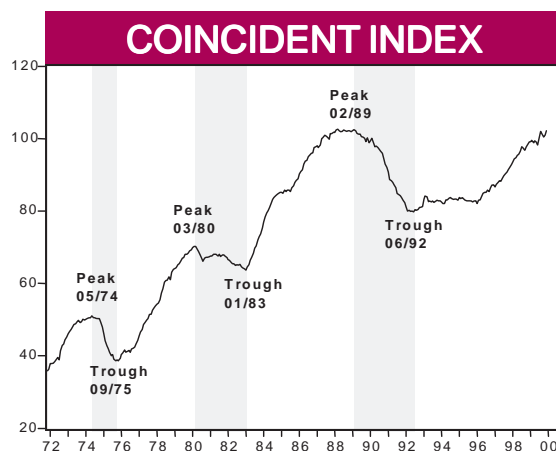
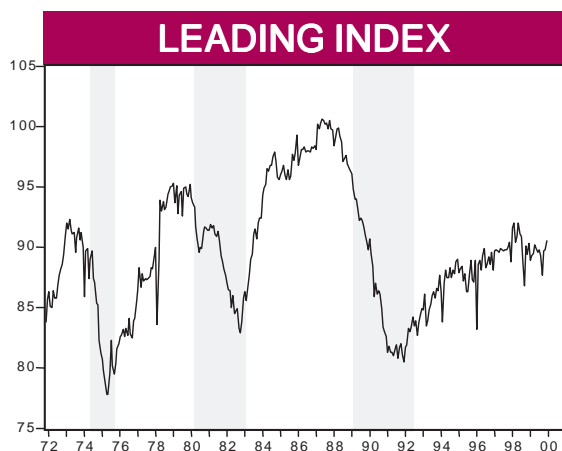
In 1999 the state tourism strategy included finetuning its marketing message to reflect the world-class and unique attributes Connecticut offers as a vacation destination. ■

For copies of the report, contact Barbara Cieplak at the Office of Tourism, 860-270-8088.

Annual Connecticut Economic Indicators, 1990-1999

Indicator \ Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	98-99
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (000s)											
Statewide											
Total, All Industries.....	1,623.5	1,555.2	1,526.2	1,531.1	1,543.7	1,561.5	1,583.6	1,612.6	1,643.4	1,671.7	1.7%
Construction & Mining.....	62.9	52.2	48.3	48.6	50.0	51.1	53.1	57.1	59.7	61.8	3.5%
Construction.....	61.9	51.4	47.4	47.6	49.3	50.4	52.4	56.3	58.9	61.0	3.6%
Mining.....	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0%
Manufacturing.....	341.0	322.5	305.7	294.1	285.1	279.0	274.8	276.1	276.9	269.0	-2.9%
Durable.....	252.0	235.9	221.5	210.6	201.4	196.3	193.7	194.1	194.8	187.5	-3.7%
Nondurable.....	89.0	86.5	84.2	83.6	83.7	82.8	81.1	82.1	82.1	81.5	-0.7%
Transportation & Public Utilities.....	72.4	70.0	68.0	69.5	70.4	71.3	73.7	75.0	75.7	78.0	3.0%
Trade.....	360.3	339.5	331.3	330.3	335.4	341.0	347.0	351.5	355.8	359.7	1.1%
Wholesale.....	86.0	81.6	77.5	75.3	76.1	77.9	80.5	82.4	82.8	82.1	-0.8%
Retail.....	274.3	257.9	253.8	255.0	259.3	263.1	266.6	269.2	273.0	277.6	1.7%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate.....	151.6	147.5	142.4	139.8	135.6	132.5	130.2	132.1	136.5	140.7	3.1%
Services.....	425.0	415.9	423.1	438.1	449.9	465.7	482.0	495.0	511.0	526.8	3.1%
Government.....	210.4	207.6	207.4	210.7	217.2	220.9	222.8	225.7	227.8	235.7	3.5%
Labor Market Areas											
Bridgeport.....	192.1	181.7	176.0	175.7	178.0	178.9	179.8	184.3	186.3	187.1	0.4%
Danbury.....	84.9	81.6	81.3	81.8	82.8	83.2	83.8	85.8	88.1	88.8	0.8%
Danielson.....	18.7	17.9	17.8	18.2	18.8	19.6	20.3	19.9	20.4	21.0	2.9%
Hartford.....	639.9	607.8	588.3	585.5	586.5	584.5	590.2	597.8	603.9	612.0	1.3%
Lower River.....	8.9	8.7	8.3	8.6	8.7	8.7	9.3	9.3	9.4	9.8	4.3%
New Haven.....	254.6	241.7	237.0	238.4	238.9	241.0	244.7	249.4	256.5	259.2	1.1%
New London.....	126.1	120.4	121.7	124.1	128.4	131.6	132.6	136.2	137.6	140.1	1.8%
Stamford.....	189.8	181.9	179.3	183.6	185.2	190.4	196.1	201.5	205.6	209.6	1.9%
Torrington.....	28.0	27.1	26.6	27.0	27.1	27.6	27.6	28.6	29.5	30.3	2.7%
Waterbury.....	84.5	82.0	79.6	80.1	80.5	82.0	83.9	85.8	86.7	87.6	1.0%
UNEMPLOYMENT											
Labor Force (000s).....	1,833.2	1,841.4	1,819.5	1,784.4	1,737.3	1,711.1	1,718.5	1,722.6	1,698.5	1,691.6	-0.4%
Employed (000s).....	1,738.7	1,716.2	1,680.8	1,672.6	1,640.6	1,616.9	1,619.8	1,634.8	1,641.5	1,638.1	-0.2%
Unemployed (000s).....	94.5	125.1	138.7	111.8	96.8	94.3	98.7	87.9	57.0	53.4	-6.3%
Unemployment Rate.....	5.2%	6.8%	7.6%	6.3%	5.6%	5.5%	5.7%	5.1%	3.4%	3.2%	-0.5%
Average Weekly Initial Claims.....	5,428	6,673	6,094	5,334	4,998	4,795	4,345	3,902	3,743	3,723	-0.5%
Hartford Help Wanted (1987=100).....	34	21	25	29	33	34	35	36	36	33	-8.3%
Insured Unemployment Rate.....	2.86%	3.96%	3.91%	3.53%	3.39%	3.10%	2.80%	2.31%	2.06%	2.00%	
MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY											
Average Weekly Hours.....	42.0	41.8	41.7	42.1	42.8	42.8	42.5	42.6	42.7	42.4	-0.7%
Average Hourly Earnings.....	\$11.53	\$11.99	\$12.46	\$13.01	\$13.53	\$13.71	\$14.01	\$14.46	\$14.83	\$15.33	3.4%
Average Weekly Earnings.....	\$484.26	\$501.18	\$519.58	\$547.72	\$579.08	\$586.79	\$595.43	\$616.00	\$633.24	\$649.99	2.6%
Production Index (1982=100).....	120.8	117.3	116.7	112.8	114.2	119.6	120.7	123.0	126.1	126.6	0.4%
INCOME (mil.\$)											
Personal Income.....	\$87,002	\$87,837	\$92,749	\$95,588	\$98,966	\$104,777	\$110,550	\$117,460	\$123,431	\$130,497	5.7%
UI Covered Wages.....	\$46,932	\$47,217	\$49,122	\$50,081	\$51,621	\$54,190	\$57,188	\$61,768	\$66,328	\$70,344	6.1%
BUSINESS ACTIVITY											
New Housing Permits.....	7,804	7,702	8,259	8,969	9,443	8,307	7,714	9,054	11,541	10,794	-6.5%
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)*.....	26,828	26,776	26,742	26,931	27,887	27,851	28,387	28,432	28,956	29,826	3.0%
Retail Sales (bil.\$)*.....	\$27.05	\$26.75	\$27.01	\$28.47	\$29.98	\$31.23	\$33.19	\$35.54	\$38.53	\$40.09	4.0%
Construction Contracts (1980=100).....	191.5	188.2	180.1	203.3	203.5	216.2	242.6	265.7	246.7	289.1	17.2%
New Auto Registrations.....	106,157	95,870	139,225	176,372	211,724	189,962	177,464	178,599	212,060	228,895	7.9%
Air Cargo Tons.....	91,243	104,416	110,508	117,930	127,454	115,040	130,536	135,294	141,825	149,934	5.7%
Business Starts, Avg (DOL).....	783	706	697	742	826	810	833	868	831	871	4.8%
Business Terminations, Avg (DOL).....	999	1,020	1,003	996	976	953	1,056	969	1,019	972	-4.6%
STATE TAX COLLECTIONS (mil.\$)											
Total All Taxes.....	\$1,864.9	\$2,154.4	\$2,455.1	\$2,587.2	\$2,759.8	\$2,901.9	\$3,000.1	\$3,228.6	\$3,373.6	\$3,545.2	5.1%
Corporate Tax.....	\$248.1	\$205.4	\$228.8	\$234.7	\$231.6	\$258.2	\$218.9	\$217.9	\$215.2	\$194.4	-9.7%
Personal Income Tax.....	NA	\$531.9	\$852.1	\$942.8	\$950.6	\$1,009.9	\$1,095.4	\$1,249.1	\$1,348.6	\$1,473.1	9.2%
Real Estate Conveyance Tax.....	\$26.2	\$27.2	\$28.7	\$32.7	\$34.6	\$33.2	\$37.4	\$48.4	\$55.0	\$61.0	10.9%
Sales & Use Tax.....	\$1,022.7	\$896.9	\$814.8	\$859.1	\$944.8	\$979.2	\$1,034.5	\$1,103.3	\$1,166.4	\$1,218.3	4.4%
TOURISM AND TRAVEL											
Tourism Inquiries.....	76,924	105,795	97,772	173,912	290,344	332,612	373,985	293,467	265,626	310,406	16.9%
Info Center Visitors.....	NA	NA	NA	NA	397,296	538,535	545,026	550,958	605,939	602,013	-0.6%
Major Attraction Visitors (000s).....	NA	NA	1,844.8	1,843.1	1,856.7	1,930.1	1,648.9	1,752.4	2,017.7	1,969.0	-2.4%
Hotel-Motel Occupancy.....	NA	NA	57.6%	58.9%	63.6%	70.5%	70.4%	74.0%	73.7%	73.2%	-0.7%
Air Passenger Count (000s).....	4,889.8	4,453.3	4,579.5	4,570.7	4,662.5	4,998.0	5,377.8	5,421.9	5,636.5	6,335.8	12.4%

* 1999 total is estimated using December data forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor; NA: Not Available



The distance from peak to trough, indicated by the shaded areas, measures the duration of an employment cycle recession. The vertical scale in both charts is an index with 1987=100.

Connecticut Economy Enters New Year With Continued Strength

The Connecticut coincident and leading employment indexes both ended the year higher than a year earlier with the release of (preliminary) December 1999 data. The coincident index reached a new peak in the current expansion, rising by 3.1 percent on a year-over-year basis. The current level of the coincident index has not been seen since March 1989, near the peak of the last expansion. The leading index was also higher over the past year, but only by 0.2 percent. The leading index does end the year at its highest level since July 1998.

The coincident index, a gauge of current employment activity, continues its strong performance over the past four years. (See the accompanying chart.) The leading index, a barometer of future employment activity, continues, in contrast, to dance along a plateau established in late 1996. In sum, the Connecticut economy continues to experience a healthy expansion. No sign currently signals an imminent reversal of the good times. The leading index, however,

has remained in neutral for over three years. We will continue to monitor movements in the leading index, as it provides a signal on the future of the Connecticut economy.

The Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board has ratcheted up his inflation concerns a couple of notches with the fourth interest rate increase in a year at the February Federal Open Market Committee meeting. Fed watchers expect more to come. Greenspan plans to engineer another soft landing and continue the current unprecedented expansion. And as noted before in this column, the future of the national expansion plays a crucial role in the future of the Connecticut expansion.

Connecticut also derives an extra kick from Federal Reserve policy actions, because interest rate increases can generate re-trenchment in the stock markets. Connecticut residents not only have the highest per capita income in the country but also draw significant income from the stock market. So declining asset values

could trigger reduced spending in Connecticut that potentially slows the economy.

In summary, the coincident employment index rose from 99.0 in December 1998 to 102.1 in December 1999. All four components of the index point in a positive direction on a year-over-year basis with higher nonfarm employment, higher total employment, a lower total unemployment rate, and a lower insured unemployment rate.

The leading employment index rose from 90.3 in December 1998 to 90.5 in December 1999. Four index components sent positive signals on a year-over-year basis with a lower short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, lower initial claims for unemployment insurance, a higher average workweek of manufacturing production workers, and higher Hartford help wanted advertising. One component sent a negative signal on a year-over-year basis with lower total housing permits. ■

Source: Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut. Developed by Pami Dua [Economic Cycle Research Center; NY, NY] and Stephen M. Miller [(860) 486-3853, Storrs Campus]. Stan McMillen, Kathryn Parr, and Hulya Varol [(860) 486-3022, Storrs Campus] provided research support.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF EMPLOYMENT

Total employment increased by 24,200, or 1.5 percent, over the year.

EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISION

	JAN		CHANGE		DEC
	2000	1999	NO.	%	1999
<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>					
TOTAL NONFARM	1,685.1	1,660.9	24.2	1.5	1,680.7
Private Sector	1,445.5	1,429.0	16.5	1.2	1,442.2
Construction and Mining	64.5	61.6	2.9	4.7	63.0
Manufacturing	264.7	272.9	-8.2	-3.0	266.9
Transportation, Public Utilities	79.7	77.8	1.9	2.4	78.9
Wholesale, Retail Trade	362.4	358.4	4.0	1.1	361.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	141.0	139.9	1.1	0.8	141.7
Services	533.2	518.4	14.8	2.9	530.4
Government	239.6	231.9	7.7	3.3	238.5

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

The unemployment rate dropped from a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The number of initial claims declined over the year.

	JAN		CHANGE		DEC
	2000	1999	NO.	%	1999
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	2.2	3.3	-1.1	---	2.8
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,705.9	1,690.8	15.1	0.9	1,697.1
Employed (000s)	1,668.7	1,635.6	33.1	2.0	1,649.9
Unemployed (000s)	37.3	55.2	-17.9	-32.4	47.2
Average Weekly Initial Claims	3,825	4,184	-359	-8.6	3,127
Help Wanted Index -- Htfd. (1987=100)	32	33	-1	-3.0	36
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	1.89	2.08	-0.19	---	1.88

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; The Conference Board

Both production worker weekly earnings and output increased over the year.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

	JAN		CHANGE		DEC	NOV
	2000	1999	NO.	%	1999	1999
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>						
Average Weekly Hours	42.6	41.8	0.8	1.9	43.3	--
Average Hourly Earnings	\$15.67	\$15.03	\$0.64	4.3	\$15.71	--
Average Weekly Earnings	\$667.54	\$628.25	\$39.29	6.3	\$680.24	--
CT Mfg. Production Index (1982=100)*	127.9	123.3	4.6	3.7	129.5	126.8
Production Worker Hours (000s)	6,511	6,570	-59	-0.9	6,691	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)**	451	430	21.0	4.9	489	484

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

*This new and improved index replaced the Manufacturing Output Index; Seasonally adjusted.

**Latest two months are forecasted. See June 1999 Digest article for explanation; methodology or historical data back to 1982 is available by contacting the Connecticut Department of Labor, at (860)263-6293.

Personal income for second quarter 2000 is forecasted to increase 5.9 percent from a year earlier.

INCOME (Quarterly)

	2Q*		CHANGE		1Q*
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>					
<i>(Annualized; \$ Millions)</i>					
Personal Income	\$137,023	\$129,428	\$7,595	5.9	\$135,092
UI Covered Wages	\$73,506	\$69,326	\$4,180	6.0	\$72,284

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis: January 2000 release

*Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

Housing permits were up 7.2 percent from a year ago.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %		YEAR TO DATE %	
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
New Housing Permits	JAN 2000	803	7.2	803	749	7.2
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	NOV 1999	2,271	0.8	27,033	26,223	3.1
Retail Sales (Bil. \$)	NOV 1999	2.99	6.4	34.81	32.89	5.8
Construction Contracts						
Index (1980=100)	JAN 2000	141.3	-34.1	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	JAN 2000	20,875	-14.3	20,875	24,372	-14.3
Air Cargo Tons	DEC 1999	14,318	3.9	149,934	141,825	5.7

Sources: 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; Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation and Ports

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

Net business formations as measured by starts minus stops registered with the Secretary of the State were 1,718 for January.

	JAN 2000	% CHANGE		YEAR TO DATE		% CHG
		M/M	Y/Y	CURRENT	PRIOR	
STARTS						
Secretary of the State	2,205	0.8	20.9	2,205	1,824	20.9
Department of Labor	778	52.3	5.7	778	1,427	-45.5
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	487	-45.8	37.2	487	355	37.2
Department of Labor	1,427	179.8	-2.3	1,427	1,461	-2.3

Sources: Connecticut Secretary of the State -- corporations and other legal entities
Connecticut Department of Labor -- unemployment insurance program registrations

STATE TAX COLLECTIONS

Overall tax collections were up 6.1 percent through the fiscal year to January. The largest gains were from the real estate conveyance tax, up 11.5 percent, and personal income tax, up 8.0 percent.

(Millions of dollars)	JAN 2000	JAN 1999	% CHG	FISCAL YEAR TOTALS %		
				1999-00	1998-99	CHG
TOTAL ALL TAXES*	1,025.0	935.8	9.5	4,570.4	4,309.5	6.1
Corporate Tax	14.7	20.8	-29.3	209.1	236.0	-11.4
Personal Income Tax	493.5	472.5	4.4	1,966.6	1,821.1	8.0
Real Estate Conv. Tax	8.8	7.7	1.1	69.8	62.6	11.5
Sales & Use Tax	335.1	332.6	0.8	1,573.5	1,499.1	5.0

Source: Connecticut Department of Revenue Services
*Includes all sources of tax revenue; Only selected taxes are displayed; Most July collections are credited to the prior fiscal year and are not shown.

TOURISM AND TRAVEL

Inquiries were up 9.2 percent. Cold weather and rescheduling of events reduced major attraction visitors.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %		YEAR TO DATE %	
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
Tourism Inquiries	JAN 2000	5,625	9.2	5,625	5,153	9.2
Info Center Visitors	JAN 2000	20,102	-3.1	20,102	20,752	-3.1
Major Attraction Visitors	JAN 2000	62,067	-17.6	62,067	75,361	-17.6
Hotel-Motel Occupancy*	NOV 1999	71.1	-1.4	74.1	75.2	-1.1
Air Passenger Count	DEC 1999	550,836	13.1	6,335,804	5,636,541	12.4

Sources: Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation and Ports; Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development; Connecticut Lodging & Attractions Association

*Hotel-Motel Occupancy rate changes are in percentage points.

Compensation costs rose 3.4 percent over the year for the nation and the Northeast.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX (Quarterly)

Private Industry Workers (June 1989=100)	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	DEC 1999	SEP 1999	3-Mo % Chg	DEC 1999	DEC 1998	12-Mo % Chg
UNITED STATES TOTAL	144.5	143.0	1.0	144.6	139.8	3.4
Wages and Salaries	142.3	140.9	1.0	142.2	137.4	3.5
Benefit Costs	150.1	148.1	1.4	150.2	145.2	3.4
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	144.3	139.5	3.4
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	140.9	136.4	3.3

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

Consumer confidence for the U.S. increased 12.3 percent from its year-ago level.

CONSUMER NEWS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	JAN 2000	DEC 1999	JAN 1999	% CHG M/M Y/Y	
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1982-1984=100)					
All Urban Consumers					
U.S. City Average	168.7	168.3	164.3	0.2	2.7
Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar: (1982-84=\$1.00)	\$0.593	\$0.594	\$0.609	-0.2	-2.6
Northeast Region	176.1	175.5	171.4	0.3	2.7
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	179.2	178.6	175.0	0.3	2.4
Boston-Brockton-Nashua*	180.2	---	174.1	---	3.5
Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers					
U.S. City Average	165.5	165.1	161.0	0.2	2.8
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE (1985=100)					
U.S.	144.7	141.7	128.9	2.1	12.3
New England	144.1	142.9	136.8	0.8	5.3

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

Rates were uniformly higher in January from their year-ago levels, including a higher conventional 30-year mortgage rate of 8.21 percent.

INTEREST RATES

(Percent)	JAN 2000	DEC 1999	JAN 1999
Prime	8.50	8.50	7.75
Federal Funds	5.45	5.30	4.63
3 Month Treasury Bill	5.34	5.23	4.34
6 Month Treasury Bill	5.52	5.43	4.36
1 Year Treasury Bill	6.12	5.84	4.51
3 Year Treasury Note	6.49	6.14	4.61
5 Year Treasury Note	6.58	6.19	4.60
7 Year Treasury Note	6.70	6.38	4.80
10 Year Treasury Note	6.66	6.28	4.72
30 Year Treasury Bond	6.63	6.35	5.16
Conventional Mortgage	8.21	7.91	6.79

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

COMPARATIVE REGIONAL DATA

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

<i>(Seasonally adjusted: 000s)</i>	JAN	JAN	CHANGE		DEC
	2000	1999	NO.	%	1999
Connecticut	1,685.1	1,660.9	24.2	1.5	1,680.7
Maine	592.9	578.9	14.0	2.4	593.1
Massachusetts	3,267.9	3,199.4	68.5	2.1	3,264.3
New Hampshire	614.3	598.1	16.2	2.7	610.7
New Jersey	3,901.9	3,836.2	65.7	1.7	3,896.5
New York	8,556.7	8,374.3	182.4	2.2	8,530.7
Pennsylvania	5,630.9	5,541.9	89.0	1.6	5,580.6
Rhode Island	466.1	458.9	7.2	1.6	467.6
Vermont	293.9	288.1	5.8	2.0	292.2
United States	130,292.0	127,378.0	2,914.0	2.3	129,905.0

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

New Hampshire led the region with the strongest job growth over the year.

LABOR FORCE

<i>(Seasonally adjusted: 000s)</i>	JAN	JAN	CHANGE		DEC
	2000	1999	NO.	%	1999
Connecticut	1,705.9	1,690.8	15.1	0.9	1,697.1
Maine	692.6	658.5	34.1	5.2	686.9
Massachusetts	3,298.3	3,264.6	33.7	1.0	3,293.7
New Hampshire	682.5	656.9	25.6	3.9	677.3
New Jersey	4,221.3	4,167.3	54.0	1.3	4,236.4
New York	8,971.7	8,878.6	93.1	1.0	8,929.7
Pennsylvania	5,996.3	5,948.6	47.7	0.8	5,969.1
Rhode Island	504.8	498.3	6.5	1.3	507.1
Vermont	340.9	332.7	8.2	2.5	339.3
United States	140,910.0	139,232.0	1,678.0	1.2	140,108.0

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

Maine experienced the strongest labor force growth in the region from a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

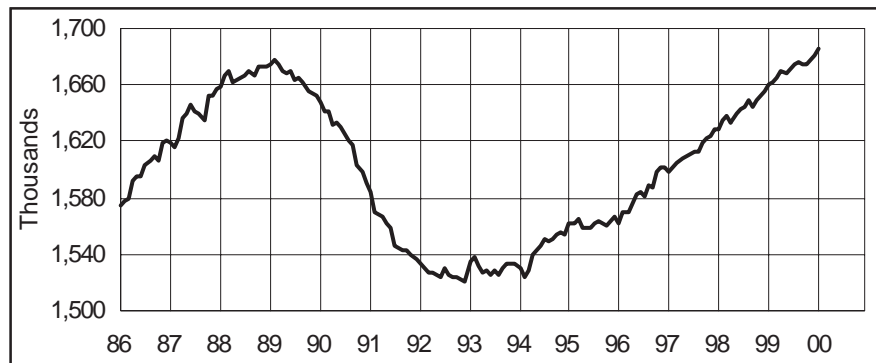
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	JAN	JAN	CHANGE	DEC
	2000	1999		1999
Connecticut	2.2	3.3	-1.1	2.8
Maine	3.6	4.1	-0.5	3.7
Massachusetts	2.9	3.2	-0.3	3.2
New Hampshire	2.6	3.1	-0.5	2.4
New Jersey	3.9	4.6	-0.7	4.2
New York	4.9	5.4	-0.5	4.8
Pennsylvania	4.0	4.5	-0.5	4.2
Rhode Island	3.8	4.7	-0.9	3.8
Vermont	2.7	3.3	-0.6	2.7
United States	4.0	4.3	-0.3	4.1

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

Connecticut posted the lowest January unemployment rate in the region.

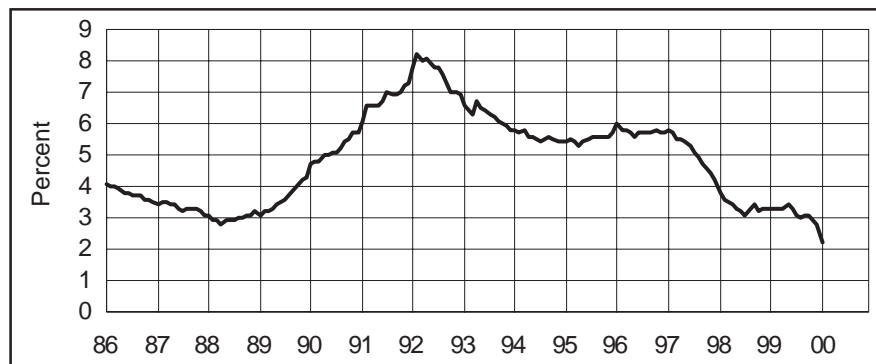
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



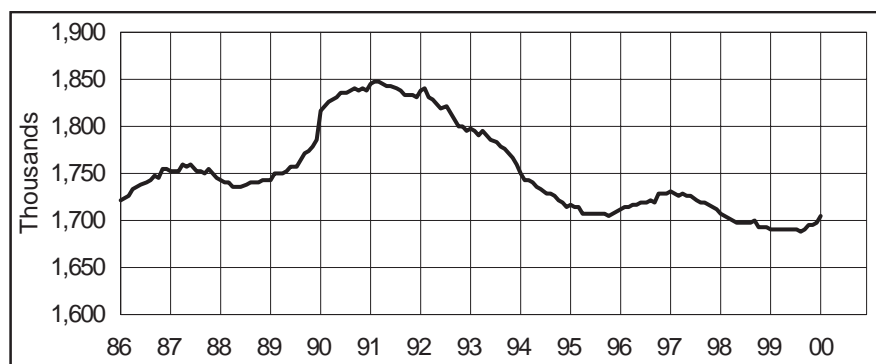
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	1,628.8	1,660.9	1,685.1
Feb	1,634.5	1,662.5	
Mar	1,637.6	1,665.1	
Apr	1,633.8	1,669.1	
May	1,639.5	1,668.8	
Jun	1,642.3	1,670.7	
Jul	1,644.7	1,675.2	
Aug	1,648.6	1,676.2	
Sep	1,645.1	1,674.3	
Oct	1,649.8	1,674.7	
Nov	1,653.0	1,678.2	
Dec	1,655.8	1,680.7	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



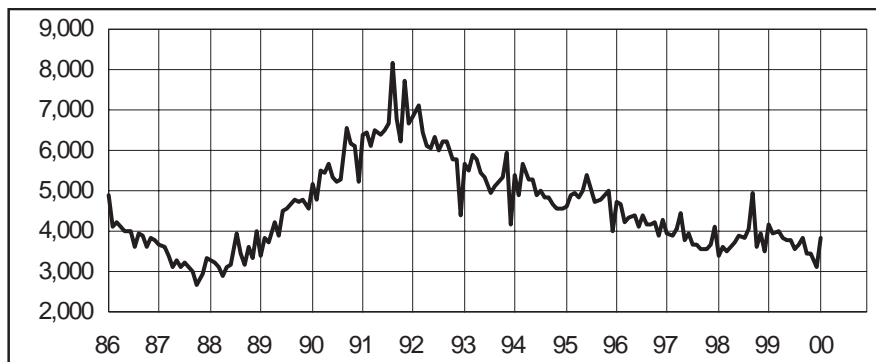
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	3.8	3.3	2.2
Feb	3.6	3.3	
Mar	3.5	3.3	
Apr	3.4	3.3	
May	3.3	3.4	
Jun	3.2	3.3	
Jul	3.1	3.1	
Aug	3.2	3.0	
Sep	3.4	3.1	
Oct	3.2	3.1	
Nov	3.3	2.9	
Dec	3.3	2.8	

LABOR FORCE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	1,707.4	1,690.8	1,705.9
Feb	1,704.2	1,689.9	
Mar	1,703.4	1,689.9	
Apr	1,699.1	1,690.8	
May	1,698.5	1,690.4	
Jun	1,697.7	1,690.3	
Jul	1,697.1	1,689.7	
Aug	1,696.8	1,688.9	
Sep	1,699.3	1,690.2	
Oct	1,693.6	1,694.2	
Nov	1,692.7	1,696.0	
Dec	1,691.7	1,697.1	

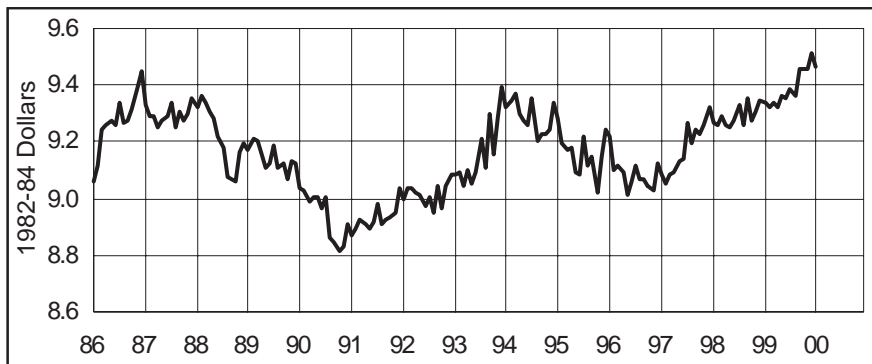
AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	3,404	4,184	3,825
Feb	3,602	3,933	
Mar	3,499	4,011	
Apr	3,619	3,841	
May	3,721	3,789	
Jun	3,884	3,800	
Jul	3,828	3,561	
Aug	4,069	3,688	
Sep	4,946	3,836	
Oct	3,594	3,460	
Nov	3,971	3,446	
Dec	3,502	3,127	

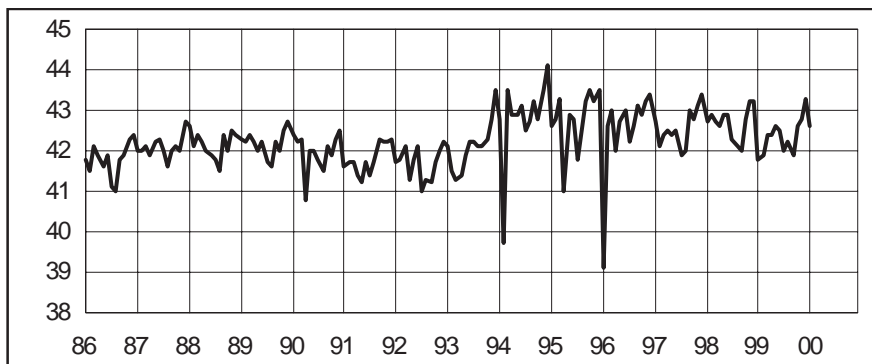
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

REAL AVG MANUFACTURING HOURLY EARNINGS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



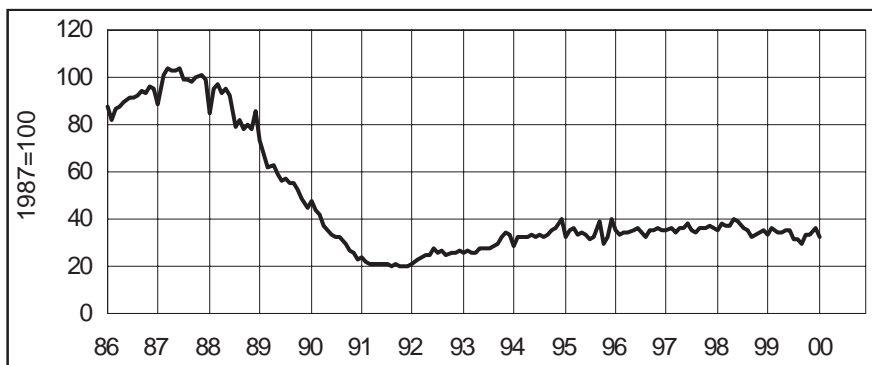
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	\$9.27	\$9.34	\$9.47
Feb	9.26	9.32	
Mar	9.29	9.34	
Apr	9.26	9.32	
May	9.25	9.36	
Jun	9.27	9.36	
Jul	9.33	9.39	
Aug	9.26	9.36	
Sep	9.36	9.46	
Oct	9.28	9.46	
Nov	9.30	9.46	
Dec	9.35	9.52	

AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



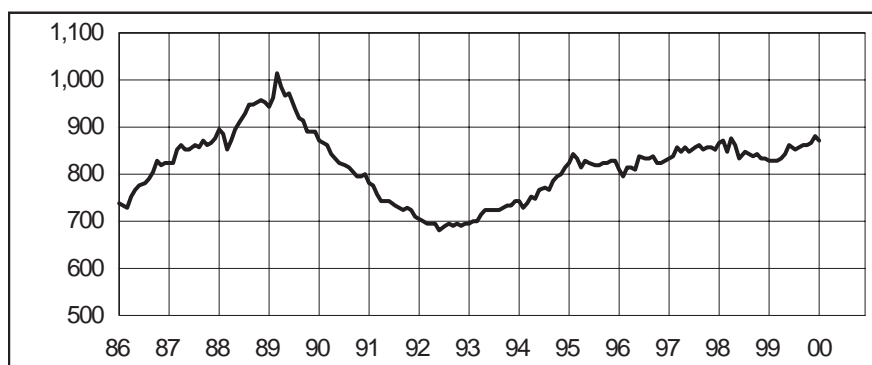
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	42.7	41.8	42.6
Feb	42.9	41.9	
Mar	42.7	42.4	
Apr	42.6	42.4	
May	42.9	42.6	
Jun	42.9	42.5	
Jul	42.3	42.0	
Aug	42.1	42.2	
Sep	42.0	41.9	
Oct	42.8	42.6	
Nov	43.2	42.8	
Dec	43.2	43.3	

HARTFORD HELP WANTED INDEX *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	35	33	32
Feb	38	36	
Mar	37	34	
Apr	37	34	
May	40	35	
Jun	39	35	
Jul	36	31	
Aug	35	31	
Sep	32	30	
Oct	33	33	
Nov	34	33	
Dec	35	36	

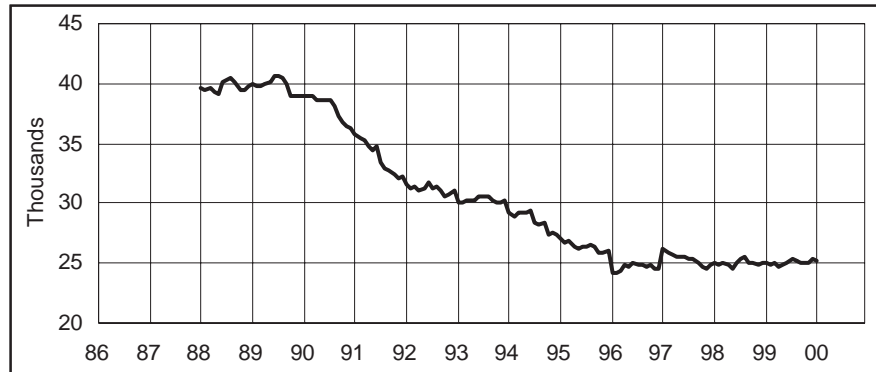
DOL NEWLY REGISTERED EMPLOYERS *(12-month moving average)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	868	831	871
Feb	870	828	
Mar	846	829	
Apr	878	834	
May	861	843	
Jun	836	861	
Jul	849	854	
Aug	841	856	
Sep	838	861	
Oct	845	860	
Nov	836	868	
Dec	832	881	

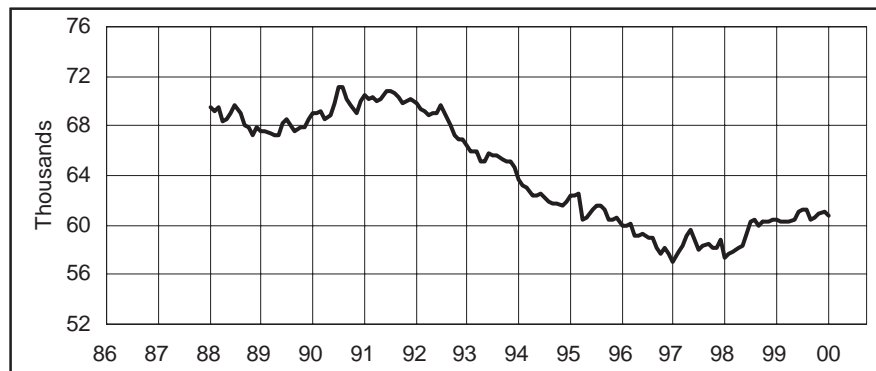
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

DEPOSITORY BANKING (SIC 60) EMPLOYMENT *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



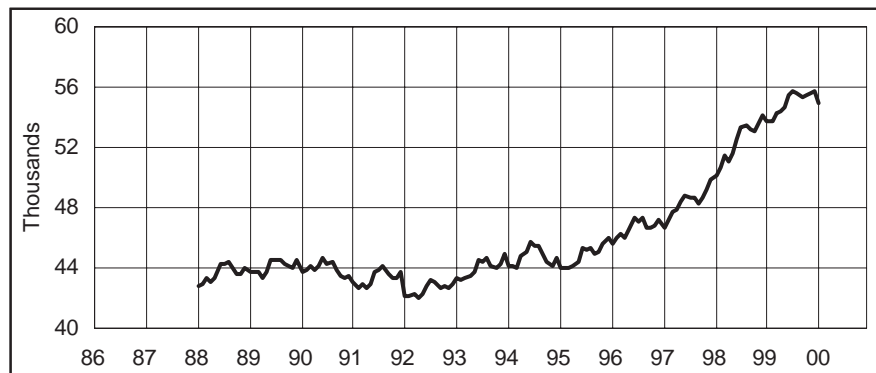
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	25.1	25.1	25.2
Feb	24.8	24.9	
Mar	25.1	25.0	
Apr	24.8	24.7	
May	24.5	24.8	
Jun	25.0	25.1	
Jul	25.4	25.3	
Aug	25.6	25.2	
Sep	25.0	25.0	
Oct	25.0	25.0	
Nov	24.9	25.1	
Dec	25.1	25.3	

INSURANCE CARRIERS (SIC 63) EMPLOYMENT *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



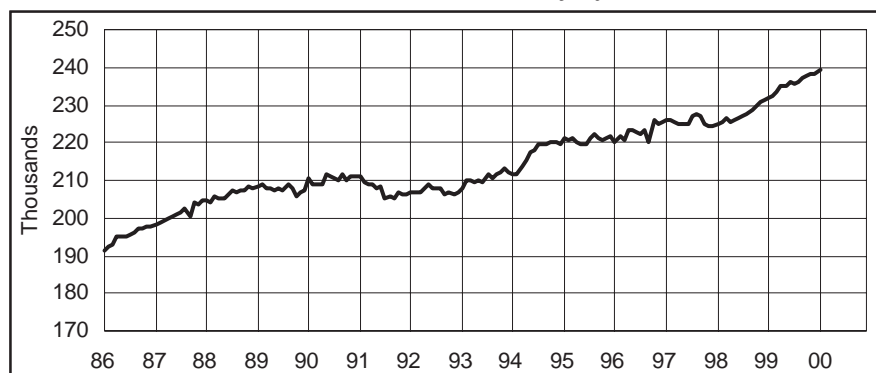
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	57.4	60.4	60.8
Feb	57.6	60.3	
Mar	57.9	60.2	
Apr	58.1	60.3	
May	58.4	60.4	
Jun	59.3	61.1	
Jul	60.2	61.2	
Aug	60.4	61.3	
Sep	60.0	60.5	
Oct	60.2	60.6	
Nov	60.2	61.0	
Dec	60.4	61.1	

OTHER FIN., INS., REAL EST. EMPLOYMENT *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	50.1	53.7	54.9
Feb	50.6	53.8	
Mar	51.4	54.2	
Apr	51.0	54.4	
May	51.6	54.7	
Jun	52.5	55.5	
Jul	53.4	55.7	
Aug	53.4	55.6	
Sep	53.2	55.3	
Oct	53.1	55.5	
Nov	53.6	55.6	
Dec	54.2	55.7	

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT* *(Seasonally adjusted)*

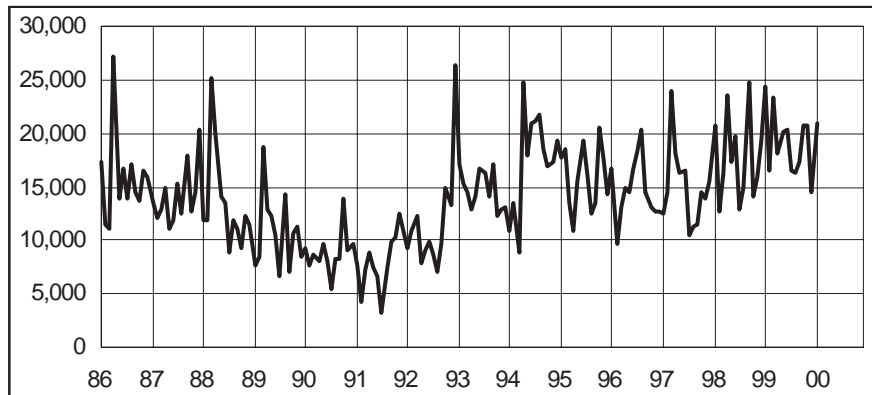


Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	225.0	231.9	239.6
Feb	225.3	232.4	
Mar	226.7	233.3	
Apr	225.5	234.8	
May	226.0	235.2	
Jun	226.5	235.9	
Jul	227.2	235.6	
Aug	227.8	236.3	
Sep	228.6	237.1	
Oct	229.7	237.7	
Nov	230.9	238.2	
Dec	231.6	238.5	

*Includes Indian tribal government employment

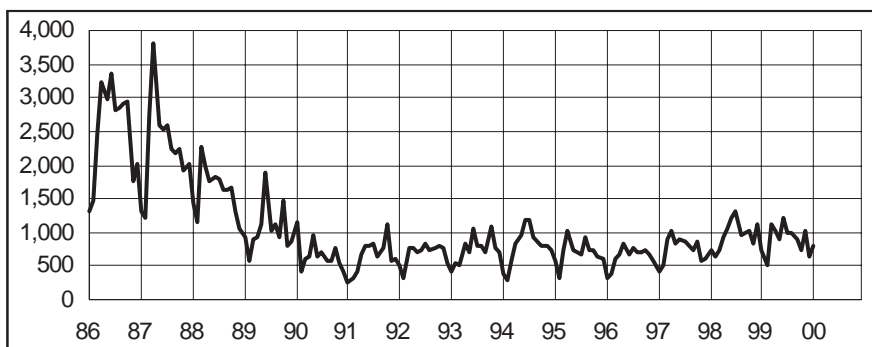
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

NEW AUTO REGISTRATIONS PROCESSED *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



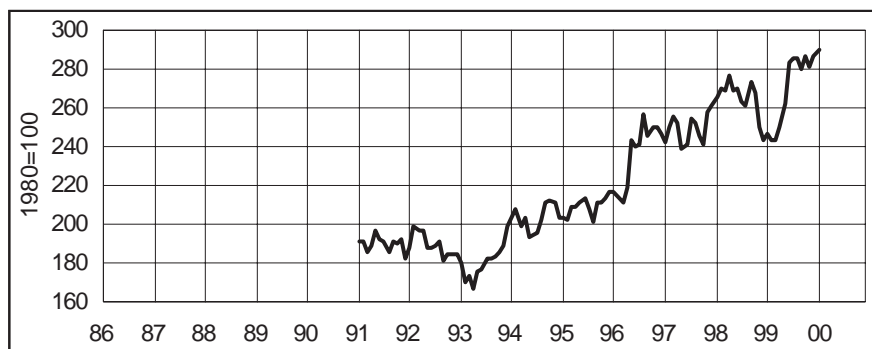
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	20,753	24,372	20,875
Feb	12,604	16,524	
Mar	16,313	23,425	
Apr	23,500	18,173	
May	17,300	20,089	
Jun	19,813	20,254	
Jul	12,812	16,596	
Aug	14,992	16,219	
Sep	24,688	17,331	
Oct	14,106	20,729	
Nov	15,806	20,666	
Dec	19,373	14,517	

NEW HOUSING PERMITS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



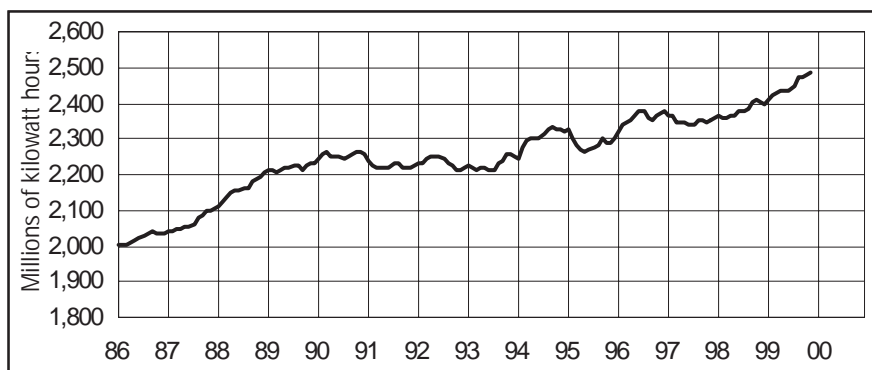
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	737	749	803
Feb	647	518	
Mar	747	1,105	
Apr	928	1,026	
May	1,051	886	
Jun	1,203	1,230	
Jul	1,297	977	
Aug	976	991	
Sep	984	894	
Oct	1,025	747	
Nov	817	1,023	
Dec	1,129	648	

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS INDEX *(12-month moving average)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	265.7	246.7	290.5
Feb	270.5	242.8	
Mar	268.8	243.6	
Apr	276.3	250.4	
May	269.1	262.3	
Jun	270.4	283.2	
Jul	263.4	286.0	
Aug	260.8	285.8	
Sep	273.0	280.5	
Oct	268.3	286.6	
Nov	249.9	281.6	
Dec	243.1	287.0	

ELECTRICITY SALES *(12-month moving average)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	2,366	2,412	
Feb	2,357	2,424	
Mar	2,357	2,431	
Apr	2,364	2,437	
May	2,365	2,438	
Jun	2,376	2,436	
Jul	2,379	2,450	
Aug	2,384	2,475	
Sep	2,401	2,476	
Oct	2,409	2,482	
Nov	2,405	2,486	
Dec	2,399		

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

CONNECTICUT



Not Seasonally Adjusted

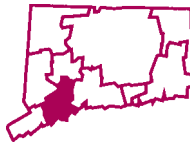
	JAN	JAN	CHANGE		DEC
	2000	1999	NO.	%	1999
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	1,659,500	1,633,300	26,200	1.6	1,708,700
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	323,600	328,500	-4,900	-1.5	331,100
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	58,100	56,000	2,100	3.8	63,400
MANUFACTURING	265,500	272,500	-7,000	-2.6	267,700
Durable	184,800	190,700	-5,900	-3.1	186,400
Lumber & Furniture	6,100	5,800	300	5.2	6,000
Stone, Clay & Glass	2,700	2,700	0	0.0	2,800
Primary Metals	9,200	9,500	-300	-3.2	9,300
Fabricated Metals	33,000	34,400	-1,400	-4.1	33,500
Machinery & Computer Equipment	32,600	33,600	-1,000	-3.0	32,800
Electronic & Electrical Equipment	26,700	27,500	-800	-2.9	26,800
Transportation Equipment	48,100	49,900	-1,800	-3.6	48,700
Instruments	20,200	21,000	-800	-3.8	20,200
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6,200	6,300	-100	-1.6	6,300
Nondurable	80,700	81,800	-1,100	-1.3	81,300
Food	8,000	8,000	0	0.0	8,100
Textiles	2,100	2,100	0	0.0	2,300
Apparel	3,400	3,900	-500	-12.8	3,500
Paper	8,000	7,700	300	3.9	8,100
Printing & Publishing	25,000	25,600	-600	-2.3	25,100
Chemicals	21,800	22,000	-200	-0.9	21,900
Rubber & Plastics	10,500	10,600	-100	-0.9	10,600
Other Nondurable Manufacturing	1,900	1,900	0	0.0	1,700
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	1,335,900	1,304,800	31,100	2.4	1,377,600
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	78,900	77,000	1,900	2.5	79,500
Transportation	47,400	45,200	2,200	4.9	48,000
Motor Freight & Warehousing	12,400	11,700	700	6.0	12,700
Other Transportation	35,000	33,500	1,500	4.5	35,300
Communications	18,900	19,200	-300	-1.6	18,900
Utilities	12,600	12,600	0	0.0	12,600
TRADE	358,300	353,800	4,500	1.3	375,200
Wholesale	80,800	81,400	-600	-0.7	82,100
Retail	277,500	272,400	5,100	1.9	293,100
General Merchandise	26,500	27,400	-900	-3.3	29,500
Food Stores	53,200	52,600	600	1.1	53,900
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	27,600	26,800	800	3.0	27,500
Restaurants	76,700	74,800	1,900	2.5	80,800
Other Retail Trade	93,500	90,800	2,700	3.0	101,400
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE.	140,900	139,200	1,700	1.2	142,100
Finance	52,500	51,300	1,200	2.3	53,000
Banking	25,200	25,100	100	0.4	25,300
Securities	14,000	13,100	900	6.9	14,000
Insurance	72,100	71,800	300	0.4	72,500
Insurance Carriers	60,800	60,400	400	0.7	61,100
Real Estate	16,300	16,100	200	1.2	16,700
SERVICES	522,000	506,500	15,500	3.1	535,800
Hotels & Lodging Places	11,000	10,500	500	4.8	11,400
Personal Services	18,700	18,600	100	0.5	18,600
Business Services	111,600	105,200	6,400	6.1	115,500
Health Services	159,000	157,800	1,200	0.8	160,000
Legal & Engineering Services	54,700	53,800	900	1.7	55,000
Educational Services	43,500	41,500	2,000	4.8	46,600
Other Services	123,500	119,100	4,400	3.7	128,700
GOVERNMENT	235,800	228,300	7,500	3.3	245,000
Federal	22,600	22,400	200	0.9	23,300
**State, Local & Other Government	213,200	205,900	7,300	3.5	221,700

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

*Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

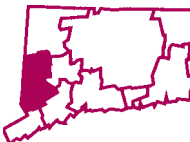
BRIDGEPORT LMA



	JAN 2000	JAN 1999	Not Seasonally Adjusted		DEC 1999
			CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	185,600	183,100	2,500	1.4	191,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	43,600	44,400	-800	-1.8	44,300
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	6,100	5,900	200	3.4	6,900
MANUFACTURING	37,500	38,500	-1,000	-2.6	37,400
Durable Goods	30,300	31,200	-900	-2.9	30,200
Fabricated Metals	4,500	4,500	0	0.0	4,500
Industrial Machinery	6,200	6,200	0	0.0	6,200
Electronic Equipment	5,400	5,900	-500	-8.5	5,300
Nondurable Goods	7,200	7,300	-100	-1.4	7,200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	142,000	138,700	3,300	2.4	147,100
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	7,300	7,400	-100	-1.4	7,200
TRADE	42,500	41,400	1,100	2.7	44,000
Wholesale	9,200	9,700	-500	-5.2	9,500
Retail	33,300	31,700	1,600	5.0	34,500
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	11,700	11,200	500	4.5	11,800
SERVICES	59,100	57,900	1,200	2.1	62,300
Business Services	13,600	13,300	300	2.3	15,300
Health Services	20,800	20,200	600	3.0	20,900
GOVERNMENT	21,400	20,800	600	2.9	21,800
Federal	2,100	2,100	0	0.0	2,200
State & Local	19,300	18,700	600	3.2	19,600

For further information on the Bridgeport Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

DANBURY LMA



	JAN 2000	JAN 1999	Not Seasonally Adjusted		DEC 1999
			CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	88,500	87,200	1,300	1.5	91,300
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	23,000	23,200	-200	-0.9	23,100
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	3,900	3,800	100	2.6	4,100
MANUFACTURING	19,100	19,400	-300	-1.5	19,000
Durable Goods	10,300	10,500	-200	-1.9	10,200
Machinery & Electric Equipment	5,300	5,400	-100	-1.9	5,300
Instruments & Related	2,900	3,000	-100	-3.3	2,800
Nondurable Goods	8,800	8,900	-100	-1.1	8,800
Chemicals	3,700	3,600	100	2.8	3,700
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	65,500	64,000	1,500	2.3	68,200
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	2,900	3,000	-100	-3.3	3,000
TRADE	21,000	21,200	-200	-0.9	22,400
Wholesale	3,500	3,400	100	2.9	3,500
Retail	17,500	17,800	-300	-1.7	18,900
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	5,600	5,100	500	9.8	5,600
SERVICES	25,200	24,200	1,000	4.1	26,000
GOVERNMENT	10,800	10,500	300	2.9	11,200
Federal	800	900	-100	-11.1	800
State & Local	10,000	9,600	400	4.2	10,400

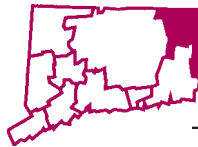
For further information on the Danbury Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

DANIELSON LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	JAN	JAN	CHANGE		DEC
	2000	1999	NO.	%	1999
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	21,200	20,500	700	3.4	21,500
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	6,400	6,200	200	3.2	6,500
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	1,000	800	200	25.0	1,000
MANUFACTURING	5,400	5,400	0	0.0	5,500
Durable Goods	2,200	2,300	-100	-4.3	2,200
Nondurable Goods	3,200	3,100	100	3.2	3,300
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	14,800	14,300	500	3.5	15,000
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	500	500	0	0.0	600
TRADE	5,300	5,100	200	3.9	5,400
Wholesale	1,100	1,000	100	10.0	1,100
Retail	4,200	4,100	100	2.4	4,300
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	600	600	0	0.0	600
SERVICES	5,200	4,900	300	6.1	5,200
GOVERNMENT	3,200	3,200	0	0.0	3,200
Federal	100	100	0	0.0	100
State & Local	3,100	3,100	0	0.0	3,100

For further information on the Danielson Labor Market Area contact Noreen Passardi at (860) 263-6299.

HARTFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	JAN	JAN	CHANGE		DEC
	2000	1999	NO.	%	1999
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	603,400	600,800	2,600	0.4	621,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	110,000	111,800	-1,800	-1.6	113,200
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	20,400	18,900	1,500	7.9	22,600
MANUFACTURING	89,600	92,900	-3,300	-3.6	90,600
Durable Goods	71,400	74,000	-2,600	-3.5	72,200
Primary & Fabricated Metals	17,500	18,000	-500	-2.8	17,700
Industrial Machinery	13,200	13,800	-600	-4.3	13,400
Electronic Equipment	6,400	6,300	100	1.6	6,300
Transportation Equipment	25,600	27,300	-1,700	-6.2	26,000
Nondurable Goods	18,200	18,900	-700	-3.7	18,400
Printing & Publishing	7,700	7,800	-100	-1.3	7,800
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	493,400	489,000	4,400	0.9	508,200
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	27,000	26,700	300	1.1	27,600
Transportation	16,100	15,900	200	1.3	16,600
Communications & Utilities	10,900	10,800	100	0.9	11,000
TRADE	122,200	122,500	-300	-0.2	127,100
Wholesale	28,500	28,900	-400	-1.4	28,900
Retail	93,700	93,600	100	0.1	98,200
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	73,600	72,900	700	1.0	74,000
Deposit & Nondeposit Institutions	12,000	12,000	0	0.0	12,000
Insurance Carriers	48,800	48,000	800	1.7	48,800
SERVICES	178,100	174,100	4,000	2.3	181,600
Business Services	38,000	35,000	3,000	8.6	37,900
Health Services	57,400	58,500	-1,100	-1.9	57,800
GOVERNMENT	92,500	92,800	-300	-0.3	97,900
Federal	7,900	8,000	-100	-1.3	8,200
State & Local	84,600	84,800	-200	-0.2	89,700

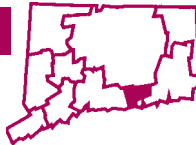
For further information on the Hartford Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

LOWER RIVER LMA

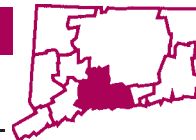


	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				
	JAN 2000	JAN 1999	CHANGE		DEC 1999
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	10,100	9,400	700	7.4	9,900
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	3,300	3,200	100	3.1	3,100
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	400	400	0	0.0	400
MANUFACTURING	2,900	2,800	100	3.6	2,700
Durable Goods	2,400	2,300	100	4.3	2,400
Electronic Equipment	700	700	0	0.0	700
Other Durable Goods	1,700	1,600	100	6.3	1,700
Nondurable Goods	500	500	0	0.0	300
Rubber & Plastics	300	300	0	0.0	200
Other Nondurable Goods	200	200	0	0.0	100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	6,800	6,200	600	9.7	6,800
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	300	400	-100	-25.0	300
TRADE	2,100	1,900	200	10.5	2,100
Wholesale	400	400	0	0.0	400
Retail	1,700	1,500	200	13.3	1,700
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	400	400	0	0.0	400
SERVICES	3,100	2,700	400	14.8	3,100
GOVERNMENT	900	800	100	12.5	900
Federal	100	*	*	--	100
State & Local	800	800	0	0.0	800

* Less than 50

For further information on the Lower River Labor Market Area contact Noreen Passardi at (860) 263-6299.

NEW HAVEN LMA



	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				
	JAN 2000	JAN 1999	CHANGE		DEC 1999
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	255,600	253,200	2,400	0.9	264,200
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	48,800	49,300	-500	-1.0	50,000
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	8,900	8,900	0	0.0	10,000
MANUFACTURING	39,900	40,400	-500	-1.2	40,000
Durable Goods	25,400	25,600	-200	-0.8	25,400
Primary & Fabricated Metals	6,800	6,900	-100	-1.4	6,800
Electronic Equipment	5,600	5,500	100	1.8	5,600
Nondurable Goods	14,500	14,800	-300	-2.0	14,600
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,800	5,600	200	3.6	5,800
Chemicals & Allied	5,600	5,600	0	0.0	5,600
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	206,800	203,900	2,900	1.4	214,200
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	16,300	16,600	-300	-1.8	16,600
Communications & Utilities	8,700	9,100	-400	-4.4	8,600
TRADE	53,100	52,900	200	0.4	56,600
Wholesale	13,500	13,300	200	1.5	13,900
Retail	39,600	39,600	0	0.0	42,700
Eating & Drinking Places	10,900	10,900	0	0.0	11,800
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	12,600	12,800	-200	-1.6	13,000
Finance	4,000	4,000	0	0.0	4,100
Insurance	6,400	6,700	-300	-4.5	6,600
SERVICES	92,400	89,800	2,600	2.9	95,100
Business Services	11,900	11,700	200	1.7	13,000
Health Services	29,500	29,600	-100	-0.3	29,800
GOVERNMENT	32,400	31,800	600	1.9	32,900
Federal	5,600	5,600	0	0.0	5,900
State & Local	26,800	26,200	600	2.3	27,000

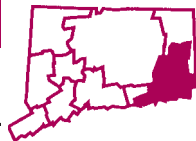
For further information on the New Haven Labor Market Area contact Jungmin Charles Joo at (860) 263-6293.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

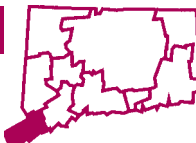
NEW LONDON LMA



	Not Seasonally Adjusted				
	JAN 2000	JAN 1999	CHANGE NO.	DEC 1999	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	138,100	136,600	1,500	1.1	140,600
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	28,400	28,700	-300	-1.0	28,800
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	4,700	4,700	0	0.0	5,000
MANUFACTURING	23,700	24,000	-300	-1.3	23,800
Durable Goods	13,200	13,800	-600	-4.3	13,400
Primary & Fabricated Metals	2,100	2,200	-100	-4.5	2,200
Other Durable Goods	11,100	11,600	-500	-4.3	11,200
Nondurable Goods	10,500	10,200	300	2.9	10,400
Paper & Allied	800	800	0	0.0	800
Other Nondurable Goods	8,400	8,000	400	5.0	8,300
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	109,700	107,900	1,800	1.7	111,800
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	7,200	7,100	100	1.4	7,100
TRADE	27,200	26,700	500	1.9	28,200
Wholesale	2,500	2,400	100	4.2	2,500
Retail	24,700	24,300	400	1.6	25,700
Eating & Drinking Places	7,300	7,000	300	4.3	7,500
Other Retail	17,500	17,300	200	1.2	18,200
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3,800	3,700	100	2.7	3,800
SERVICES	34,900	34,200	700	2.0	35,700
Personal & Business Services	6,500	6,400	100	1.6	6,600
Health Services	11,500	11,400	100	0.9	11,600
GOVERNMENT	36,600	36,200	400	1.1	37,000
Federal	2,900	2,800	100	3.6	2,800
State & Local	33,700	33,400	300	0.9	34,200
**Local	29,400	29,200	200	0.7	29,800

For further information on the New London Labor Market Area contact Lincoln Dyer at (860) 263-6292.

STAMFORD LMA



	Not Seasonally Adjusted				
	JAN 2000	JAN 1999	CHANGE NO.	DEC 1999	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	209,300	205,300	4,000	1.9	212,900
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	31,400	31,600	-200	-0.6	31,900
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	6,000	5,700	300	5.3	6,500
MANUFACTURING	25,400	25,900	-500	-1.9	25,400
Durable Goods	12,400	12,700	-300	-2.4	12,400
Industrial Machinery	3,400	3,400	0	0.0	3,300
Electronic Equipment	1,900	2,000	-100	-5.0	1,900
Nondurable Goods	13,000	13,200	-200	-1.5	13,000
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,500	5,900	-400	-6.8	5,500
Chemicals & Allied	3,600	3,600	0	0.0	3,600
Other Nondurable	3,900	3,700	200	5.4	3,900
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	177,900	173,700	4,200	2.4	181,000
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	10,200	10,400	-200	-1.9	10,200
Communications & Utilities	3,000	3,100	-100	-3.2	2,900
TRADE	45,000	44,900	100	0.2	46,800
Wholesale	11,300	11,300	0	0.0	11,600
Retail	33,700	33,600	100	0.3	35,200
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	27,700	25,800	1,900	7.4	27,700
SERVICES	77,000	74,500	2,500	3.4	78,000
Business Services	24,100	23,200	900	3.9	23,900
Engineering & Mgmt. Services	11,500	11,100	400	3.6	11,700
Other Services	41,400	40,200	1,200	3.0	42,400
GOVERNMENT	18,000	18,100	-100	-0.6	18,300
Federal	2,000	2,000	0	0.0	2,100
State & Local	16,000	16,100	-100	-0.6	16,200

For further information on the Stamford Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepki at (860) 263-6278.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

TORRINGTON LMA

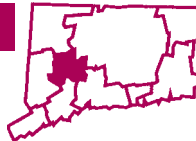


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	JAN	JAN	CHANGE		DEC
	2000	1999	NO.	%	1999
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	29,800	29,500	300	1.0	30,800
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	8,100	8,500	-400	-4.7	8,300
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	2,000	2,000	0	0.0	2,200
MANUFACTURING	6,100	6,500	-400	-6.2	6,100
Durable Goods	3,900	4,300	-400	-9.3	3,900
Primary & Fabricated Metals	500	500	0	0.0	500
Industrial Machinery	900	1,200	-300	-25.0	900
Electronic Equipment	200	400	-200	-50.0	200
Other Durable Goods	2,300	2,200	100	4.5	2,300
Nondurable Goods	2,200	2,200	0	0.0	2,200
Rubber & Plastics	1,300	1,300	0	0.0	1,300
Other Nondurable Goods	900	900	0	0.0	900
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	21,700	21,000	700	3.3	22,500
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	500	700	-200	-28.6	600
TRADE	6,600	6,300	300	4.8	7,100
Wholesale	700	700	0	0.0	800
Retail	5,900	5,600	300	5.4	6,300
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE.	900	900	0	0.0	900
SERVICES	10,200	9,700	500	5.2	10,400
GOVERNMENT	3,500	3,400	100	2.9	3,500
Federal	200	200	0	0.0	200
State & Local	3,300	3,200	100	3.1	3,300

For further information on the Torrington Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepiski at (860) 263-6278.

WATERBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	JAN	JAN	CHANGE		DEC
	2000	1999	NO.	%	1999
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	87,000	85,000	2,000	2.4	89,500
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	21,400	21,000	400	1.9	21,700
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	3,200	3,000	200	6.7	3,500
MANUFACTURING	18,200	18,000	200	1.1	18,200
Durable Goods	14,200	14,200	0	0.0	14,200
Primary Metals	900	900	0	0.0	900
Fabricated Metals	6,400	6,300	100	1.6	6,400
Machinery & Electric Equipment	4,200	4,200	0	0.0	4,100
Nondurable Goods	4,000	3,800	200	5.3	4,000
Paper, Printing & Publishing	1,200	1,200	0	0.0	1,200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	65,600	64,000	1,600	2.5	67,800
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	4,100	3,800	300	7.9	4,100
TRADE	18,500	17,800	700	3.9	19,400
Wholesale	3,200	3,100	100	3.2	3,200
Retail	15,300	14,700	600	4.1	16,200
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE.	4,000	3,600	400	11.1	4,000
SERVICES	25,900	25,700	200	0.8	27,000
Personal & Business	6,100	6,200	-100	-1.6	6,700
Health Services	10,400	10,500	-100	-1.0	10,600
GOVERNMENT	13,100	13,100	0	0.0	13,300
Federal	900	800	100	12.5	900
State & Local	12,200	12,300	-100	-0.8	12,400

For further information on the Waterbury Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepiski at (860) 263-6278.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

*Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>		EMPLOYMENT	JAN	JAN	CHANGE		DEC
		STATUS	2000	1999	NO.	%	1999
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force		1,680,600	1,666,200	14,400	0.9	1,681,900
	Employed		1,635,300	1,602,800	32,500	2.0	1,642,900
	Unemployed		45,300	63,400	-18,100	-28.5	39,000
	Unemployment Rate		2.7	3.8	-1.1	---	2.3
BRIDGEPORT LMA	Civilian Labor Force		212,000	210,800	1,200	0.6	213,000
	Employed		205,300	201,000	4,300	2.1	207,100
	Unemployed		6,700	9,800	-3,100	-31.6	5,900
	Unemployment Rate		3.2	4.6	-1.4	---	2.8
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force		107,900	106,500	1,400	1.3	108,600
	Employed		106,000	103,600	2,400	2.3	106,900
	Unemployed		1,900	2,900	-1,000	-34.5	1,600
	Unemployment Rate		1.8	2.7	-0.9	---	1.5
DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force		32,700	32,100	600	1.9	32,200
	Employed		31,600	30,400	1,200	3.9	31,300
	Unemployed		1,100	1,600	-500	-31.3	900
	Unemployment Rate		3.3	5.1	-1.8	---	2.8
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force		569,300	568,200	1,100	0.2	570,900
	Employed		552,700	545,500	7,200	1.3	556,600
	Unemployed		16,600	22,700	-6,100	-26.9	14,200
	Unemployment Rate		2.9	4.0	-1.1	---	2.5
LOWER RIVER LMA	Civilian Labor Force		12,500	11,500	1,000	8.7	12,100
	Employed		12,200	11,100	1,100	9.9	11,900
	Unemployed		300	400	-100	-25.0	200
	Unemployment Rate		2.1	3.2	-1.1	---	1.6
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force		267,700	265,800	1,900	0.7	269,300
	Employed		260,500	256,100	4,400	1.7	263,200
	Unemployed		7,200	9,600	-2,400	-25.0	6,100
	Unemployment Rate		2.7	3.6	-0.9	---	2.3
NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force		149,700	148,500	1,200	0.8	148,800
	Employed		145,400	142,400	3,000	2.1	145,000
	Unemployed		4,300	6,000	-1,700	-28.3	3,800
	Unemployment Rate		2.9	4.1	-1.2	---	2.6
STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force		192,700	189,300	3,400	1.8	191,400
	Employed		189,400	184,700	4,700	2.5	188,400
	Unemployed		3,300	4,700	-1,400	-29.8	3,100
	Unemployment Rate		1.7	2.5	-0.8	---	1.6
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force		39,000	38,200	800	2.1	38,900
	Employed		38,200	36,900	1,300	3.5	38,300
	Unemployed		900	1,300	-400	-30.8	700
	Unemployment Rate		2.2	3.3	-1.1	---	1.7
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force		114,100	112,200	1,900	1.7	113,800
	Employed		110,300	107,000	3,300	3.1	110,800
	Unemployed		3,700	5,200	-1,500	-28.8	3,000
	Unemployment Rate		3.3	4.7	-1.4	---	2.6
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force		139,621,000	137,943,000	1,678,000	1.2	139,941,000
	Employed		133,357,000	131,339,000	2,018,000	1.5	134,696,000
	Unemployed		6,264,000	6,604,000	-340,000	-5.1	5,245,000
	Unemployment Rate		4.5	4.8	-0.3	---	3.7

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

MANUFACTURING HOURS AND EARNINGS

	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	JAN		CHG	DEC	JAN		CHG	DEC	JAN		CHG	DEC
	2000	1999	Y/Y	1999	2000	1999	Y/Y	1999	2000	1999	Y/Y	1999
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>												
MANUFACTURING	\$667.54	\$628.25	\$39.29	\$680.24	42.6	41.8	0.8	43.3	\$15.67	\$15.03	\$0.64	\$15.71
DURABLE GOODS	685.29	639.50	45.79	703.28	43.1	42.1	1.0	43.9	15.90	15.19	0.71	16.02
Lumber & Furniture	510.76	491.42	19.34	522.49	41.9	41.4	0.5	41.5	12.19	11.87	0.32	12.59
Stone, Clay and Glass	614.47	560.73	53.74	646.68	43.0	43.4	-0.4	47.1	14.29	12.92	1.37	13.73
Primary Metals	687.19	580.87	106.33	692.80	45.6	42.9	2.7	45.4	15.07	13.54	1.53	15.26
Fabricated Metals	616.33	579.77	36.56	631.19	43.1	41.8	1.3	43.5	14.30	13.87	0.43	14.51
Machinery	729.71	692.80	36.91	749.72	43.8	43.3	0.5	45.3	16.66	16.00	0.66	16.55
Electrical Equipment	535.85	503.71	32.14	554.26	41.7	40.2	1.5	43.2	12.85	12.53	0.32	12.83
Trans. Equipment	889.94	807.71	82.23	906.98	44.1	42.2	1.9	44.2	20.18	19.14	1.04	20.52
Instruments	607.10	602.62	4.47	630.05	40.5	42.8	-2.3	42.2	14.99	14.08	0.91	14.93
Miscellaneous Mfg	658.01	617.02	40.99	674.95	42.7	41.3	1.4	43.1	15.41	14.94	0.47	15.66
NONDUR. GOODS	627.33	600.24	27.09	625.99	41.6	41.0	0.6	41.9	15.08	14.64	0.44	14.94
Food	531.25	512.93	18.32	565.53	42.5	41.1	1.4	44.6	12.50	12.48	0.02	12.68
Textiles	469.48	459.73	9.75	509.04	38.8	39.7	-0.9	42.0	12.10	11.58	0.52	12.12
Apparel	356.40	333.90	22.50	356.17	40.0	37.9	2.1	40.2	8.91	8.81	0.10	8.86
Paper	751.41	721.18	30.22	750.32	44.7	44.6	0.1	45.2	16.81	16.17	0.64	16.60
Printing & Publishing	652.04	599.83	52.21	642.80	40.2	38.5	1.7	40.1	16.22	15.58	0.64	16.03
Chemicals	766.73	777.24	-10.50	748.60	41.2	43.3	-2.1	41.2	18.61	17.95	0.66	18.17
Rubber & Misc. Plast.	554.20	519.55	34.65	551.46	42.5	41.3	1.2	42.0	13.04	12.58	0.46	13.13
CONSTRUCTION	801.57	772.23	29.35	840.42	39.8	39.1	0.7	41.4	20.14	19.75	0.39	20.30

LMAs

	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	JAN		CHG	DEC	JAN		CHG	DEC	JAN		CHG	DEC
	2000	1999	Y/Y	1999	2000	1999	Y/Y	1999	2000	1999	Y/Y	1999
MANUFACTURING												
Bridgeport	\$650.82	\$633.13	\$17.69	\$699.60	40.6	41.3	-0.7	44.0	\$16.03	\$15.33	\$0.70	\$15.90
Danbury	654.86	609.53	45.33	651.35	40.7	40.5	0.2	41.7	16.09	15.05	1.04	15.62
Danielson	516.65	490.30	26.35	531.94	40.3	39.7	0.6	41.3	12.82	12.35	0.47	12.88
Hartford	724.63	673.93	50.70	748.94	43.6	42.2	1.4	44.5	16.62	15.97	0.65	16.83
Lower River	544.58	520.61	23.97	551.33	41.1	40.8	0.3	40.9	13.25	12.76	0.49	13.48
New Haven	636.88	602.12	34.76	656.43	41.9	41.1	0.8	43.3	15.20	14.65	0.55	15.16
New London	687.91	655.01	32.90	704.25	42.1	41.8	0.3	43.1	16.34	15.67	0.67	16.34
Stamford	545.30	537.42	7.88	542.24	39.4	39.0	0.4	39.9	13.84	13.78	0.06	13.59
Torrington	590.24	542.34	47.90	590.63	42.1	41.4	0.7	41.8	14.02	13.10	0.92	14.13
Waterbury	665.85	635.36	30.49	667.97	45.7	44.0	1.7	44.8	14.57	14.44	0.13	14.91

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

NEW HOUSING PERMITS

	JAN		CHANGE Y/Y		YTD		CHANGE YTD		DEC
	2000	1999	UNITS	%	2000	1999	UNITS	%	1999
	Connecticut	803	749	54	7.2	803	749	54	7.2
Counties:									
Fairfield	388	110	278	252.7	388	110	278	252.7	121
Hartford	83	117	-34	-29.1	83	117	-34	-29.1	162
Litchfield	16	22	-6	-27.3	16	22	-6	-27.3	53
Middlesex	62	43	19	44.2	62	43	19	44.2	72
New Haven	139	369	-230	-62.3	139	369	-230	-62.3	117
New London	55	38	17	44.7	55	38	17	44.7	51
Tolland	44	38	6	15.8	44	38	6	15.8	54
Windham	16	12	4	33.3	16	12	4	33.3	18

HOUSING PERMIT ACTIVITY BY TOWN

TOWN	JAN 2000	YR TO DATE 2000	1999	TOWN	JAN 2000	YR TO DATE 2000	1999	TOWN	JAN 2000	YR TO DATE 2000	1999
Andover	2	2	1	Griswold	1	1	1	Preston	1	1	0
Ansonia	3	3	0	Groton	9	9	7	Prospect	3	3	4
Ashford	0	0	1	Guilford	7	7	7	Putnam	2	2	1
Avon	3	3	12	Haddam	4	4	0	Redding	3	3	0
Barkhamsted	1	1	0	Hamden	54	54	3	Ridgefield	6	6	9
Beacon Falls	4	4	4	Hampton	1	1	0	Rocky Hill	3	3	2
Berlin	6	6	6	Hartford	3	3	4	Roxbury	0	0	0
Bethany	1	1	0	Hartland	0	0	0	Salem	1	1	1
Bethel	1	1	2	Harwinton	0	0	0	Salisbury	0	0	0
Bethlehem	0	0	1	Hebron	5	5	5	Scotland	2	2	0
Bloomfield	1	1	2	Kent	0	0	0	Seymour	0	0	2
Bolton	2	2	1	Killingly	1	1	0	Sharon	1	1	0
Bozrah	0	0	0	Killingworth	0	0	3	Shelton	5	5	15
Branford	2	2	1	Lebanon	0	0	2	Sherman	0	0	4
Bridgeport	4	4	0	Ledyard	2	2	1	Simsbury	1	1	6
Bridgewater	0	0	0	Lisbon	1	1	2	Somers	2	2	1
Bristol	4	4	3	Litchfield	1	1	0	South Windsor	2	2	7
Brookfield	1	1	4	Lyme	1	1	0	Southbury	2	2	0
Brooklyn	0	0	2	Madison	1	1	3	Southington	14	14	11
Burlington	3	3	2	Manchester	5	5	1	Sprague	0	0	0
Canaan	0	0	0	Mansfield	3	3	3	Stafford	0	0	2
Canterbury	0	0	0	Marlborough	2	2	2	Stamford	307	307	7
Canton	3	3	0	Meriden	3	3	4	Sterling	0	0	1
Chaplin	1	1	1	Middlebury	0	0	1	Stonington	7	7	10
Cheshire	2	2	1	Middlefield	1	1	2	Stratford	1	1	4
Chester	2	2	0	Middletown	22	22	8	Suffield	1	1	2
Clinton	4	4	4	Milford	19	19	112	Thomaston	0	0	1
Colchester	6	6	3	Monroe	5	5	11	Thompson	0	0	1
Colebrook	0	0	0	Montville	6	6	1	Tolland	8	8	10
Columbia	0	0	0	Morris	0	0	0	Torrington	1	1	8
Cornwall	0	0	0	Naugatuck	6	6	1	Trumbull	0	0	3
Coventry	4	4	8	New Britain	0	0	0	Union	1	1	1
Cromwell	8	8	2	New Canaan	5	5	1	Vernon	4	4	1
Danbury	11	11	8	New Fairfield	2	2	1	Voluntown	1	1	0
Darien	2	2	0	New Hartford	0	0	0	Wallingford	11	11	9
Deep River	1	1	0	New Haven	2	2	195	Warren	0	0	0
Derby	1	1	2	New London	0	0	0	Washington	1	1	1
Durham	3	3	4	New Milford	5	5	6	Waterbury	2	2	5
East Granby	0	0	1	Newington	0	0	5	Waterford	3	3	2
East Haddam	3	3	2	Newtown	5	5	16	Watertown	5	5	3
East Hampton	5	5	5	Norfolk	0	0	0	West Hartford	1	1	0
East Hartford	1	1	1	North Branford	1	1	3	West Haven	3	3	2
East Haven	2	2	2	North Canaan	0	0	0	Westbrook	2	2	7
East Lyme	12	12	4	North Haven	2	2	0	Weston	1	1	1
East Windsor	4	4	0	No. Stonington	1	1	0	Westport	3	3	3
Eastford	0	0	1	Norwalk	11	11	8	Wethersfield	0	0	6
Easton	0	0	0	Norwich	0	0	2	Willington	2	2	0
Ellington	11	11	5	Old Lyme	3	3	2	Wilton	4	4	2
Enfield	8	8	4	Old Saybrook	2	2	1	Winchester	0	0	0
Essex	3	3	4	Orange	1	1	1	Windham	2	2	2
Fairfield	4	4	4	Oxford	5	5	2	Windsor	2	2	4
Farmington	2	2	11	Plainfield	4	4	1	Windsor Locks	0	0	0
Franklin	0	0	0	Plainville	3	3	1	Wolcott	0	0	4
Glastonbury	7	7	21	Plymouth	1	1	1	Woodbridge	2	2	1
Goshen	0	0	0	Pomfret	0	0	1	Woodbury	0	0	1
Granby	4	4	3	Portland	2	2	1	Woodstock	3	3	0
Greenwich	7	7	7								

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

DOL newly registered employers are those businesses newly registered with the Labor Department's unemployment insurance program (including reopened accounts) during the month. DOL discontinued employers are those accounts that are terminated due to inactivity (no employees) or business closure. Registrations and terminations of business entities as recorded with the Secretary of the State are an indication of new business formation and activity. These 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. *There is no separate consumer price index for Connecticut or any area within the state.*

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 June 1989 when the ECI is 100.

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.

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 multiple variable coefficient regression 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. Due to the small size of the sample taken in Connecticut, the CPS results are subject to significant sampling error and produce considerable month-to-month fluctuations in estimates derived from the sample. In general, the CPS estimates, at the 90 percent confidence level, have an error range of about 1.5 percentage points on a rate of 6.0 percent. An accepted method for calculating the error range for model estimates is currently not available. 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 in Connecticut except three are federally designated areas for developing labor statistics. Industry employment data for the Danielson, Lower River and Torrington Labor Market Areas are prepared exclusively by the Connecticut Department of Labor, following the same statistical procedures used to prepare estimates for the other Labor Market Areas, which are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has identified the five towns of Canaan, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon as a separate area for reporting labor force data. For the convenience of our data users, data for these towns are included in the Torrington Labor Market Area. For the same purpose, data for the town of Thompson, which is officially part of the Worcester Metropolitan Statistical Area, are included in the Danielson Labor Market Area. Also, data for Hopkinton and Westerly, Rhode Island are included in the New London Labor Market Area.

LEADING AND COINCIDENT EMPLOYMENT INDICES

The *leading employment index* is a composite of five individual employment-related series -the average workweek of manufacturing production workers, Hartford help-wanted advertising, short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, initial claims for unemployment insurance and total housing permits. While not an employment-sector variable, housing permits are closely related to construction employment. The *coincident employment index* is a composite indicator of four individual employment-related series -the total unemployment rate, nonfarm employment (employer survey), total employment (household survey) and the insured unemployment rate. All data are seasonally adjusted and come from the Connecticut Labor Department and from the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

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. Call (860) 263-6275 for a more comprehensive breakout of nonfarm employment estimates.

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 5-9 for reference months)

Leading Employment Index +0.2	Business Activity	Tourism and Travel
Coincident Employment Index +3.1	New Housing Permits +7.2	Tourism Inquiries +9.2
	Electricity Sales +0.8	Tourism Info Centers -3.1
Total Nonfarm Employment +1.5	Retail Sales +6.4	Attraction Visitors -17.6
	Construction Contracts Index -34.1	Hotel-Motel Occupancy -1.4*
Unemployment -1.1*	New Auto Registrations -14.3	Air Passenger Count +13.1
Labor Force +0.9	Air Cargo Tons +3.9	
Employed +2.0		Employment Cost Index (U.S.)
Unemployed -32.4		Total +3.4
		Wages & Salaries +3.5
Average Weekly Initial Claims -8.6	Business Starts	Benefit Costs +3.4
Help Wanted Index -- Hartford -3.0	Secretary of the State +20.9	
Average Ins. Unempl. Rate -0.19*	Dept. of Labor +5.7	
		Consumer Price Index
Average Weekly Hours, Mfg +1.9	Business Terminations	U.S. City Average +2.7
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg +4.3	Secretary of the State +37.2	Northeast Region +2.7
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg +6.3	Dept. of Labor -2.3	NY-NJ-Long Island +2.4
CT Mfg. Production Index +3.7		Boston-Brockton-Nashua +3.5
Production Worker Hours -0.9	State Tax Collections +9.5	Consumer Confidence
Industrial Electricity Sales +4.9	Corporate Tax -29.3	U.S. +12.3
	Personal Income Tax +4.4	New England +5.3
Personal Income +5.9	Real Estate Conveyance Tax +1.1	
UI Covered Wages +6.0	Sales & Use Tax +0.8	Interest Rates
		Prime +0.75*
		Conventional Mortgage +1.42*

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

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