

NOVEMBER 2000

- Connecticut employment covered by unemployment insurance (UI) increased 29,181 during 1999, a growth rate of 1.8 percent. (article, pp. 1-4)
- Industry clusters: "Inner City 10" (p. 3)
- Nonfarm employment increased by 600 in September, and was 22,900 higher than a year ago. (p. 6)
- Unemployment rate in September: 2.4 percent, down slightly from prior month. (p. 6)
- September's new housing permits were down 3.3 percent from last month. (p. 3)

UI Covered Employment Approaches a Record Level

By Edward T. Doukas Jr., Research Analyst

Connecticut employment covered by unemployment insurance (UI) (see sidebar on page 2) increased 29,181 during 1999, a growth rate of 1.8 percent. The State's over-the-year increase fell short of the 1997-98 growth of 2.2 percent, but marked the seventh consecutive year of expansion following the recessionary period of the early 1990s. The employment figure posted for 1999, 1,652,315, was only 0.6 percent below the average of 1988, 1,662,044, when Connecticut's annual average UI covered employment reached its peak. Total private industry employment increased 1.5 percent while government employment rose 4.2 percent in 1999.

The average annual wage of Connecticut workers was \$42,647 in 1999, a 4.2 percent increase over the previous year. Private industry workers, comprising 87.4 percent of the State's employment, recorded an average annual pay of \$43,077, up 4.8 percent.

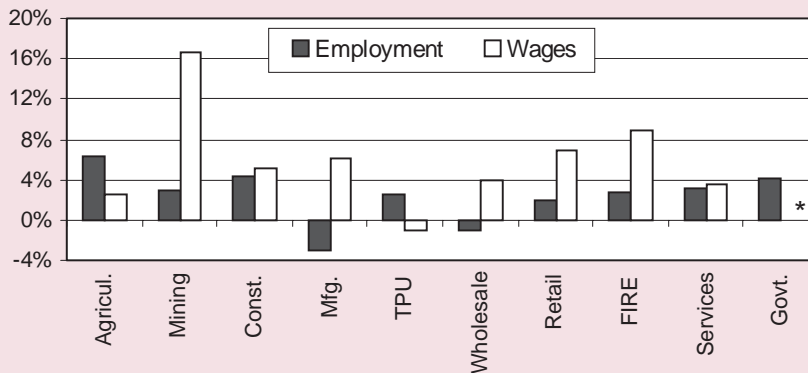
Employment

Among the nine major industry divisions, only manufacturing and wholesale trade experienced decreased employment during 1999 (see chart below). Employment in the manufacturing sector dropped 8,585 or 3.1 percent; durable goods employment decreased 7,596 or 3.9 percent and nondurable goods jobs fell 991 or 1.2 percent.

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UI Covered Employment and Per Worker Wages
Percent Changes by Industry, 1998-1999



TPU = Transportation and Public Utilities FIRE = Finance, Insurance, Real Estate
* No change in per worker wages.

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Contributing DOL Staff: Salvatore DiPillo, Lincoln S. Dyer, Arthur Famiglietti, Noreen Passardi, Joseph Slepiski and Erin C. Wilkins.

Managing Editor: Jungmin Charles Joo.

Contributing DECD Staff: Todd Bentsen, Kolie Chang, Robert Damroth and Mark Prisloe. We would also like to thank our associates at the Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut, for their contributions to the Digest.

Connecticut Department of Labor

James P. Butler, Commissioner
Jean E. Zurbrigen, Deputy Commissioner
Susan G. Townsley, Deputy Commissioner

Roger F. Therrien, Director
Office of Research
200 Folly Brook Boulevard
Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114
Phone: (860) 263-6275
Fax: (860) 263-6263
E-Mail: dol.econdigest@po.state.ct.us



Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

James F. Abromaitis, Commissioner
Rita Zangari, Deputy Commissioner
Timothy H. Coppage, Deputy Commissioner

Public Affairs and Strategic Planning Division
Research Unit
505 Hudson Street
Hartford, CT 06106-2502
Phone: (860) 270-8165
Fax: (860) 270-8188
E-Mail: decd@po.state.ct.us



Reviewing employment figures at the two-digit Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) level shows transportation equipment manufacturing (SIC 37) had the most substantial decline in annual average employment, down 1,994 or 4.0 percent. Despite this decline, transportation equipment manufacturing still accounted for 18 percent of all manufacturing employment, the most of any two-digit industry group. The second largest manufacturing decline was found in industrial machinery & equipment (SIC 35), down 1,886 or 5.4 percent, followed by electronic & other electric equipment (SIC 36), down 1,419 or 5.0 percent.

Wholesale trade employment dipped by 950 or 1.1 percent. At the two digit level, wholesale trade jobs in both durable goods (SIC 50) and nondurable goods (SIC 51) trade dropped, 1.6 percent and 0.5 percent, respectively.

The smallest industry division, agriculture, forestry, and fishing, had the largest percentage increase in annual average employment, up 6.3 percent or 1,027. Agricultural services (SIC 07) employment bolstered this increase, expanding by 794 jobs, or 7.2 percent. The construction industry followed, growing by 4.3 percent or 2,516. Special trade contractors (SIC 17) led the expansion in the construction industry increasing employment by 2,329, or 5.8 percent.

Services ranked third among major industries, expanding its rolls by 3.2 percent or 16,221. Business services (SIC 73) jumped 6,658 or 6.3 percent; social services (SIC 83) expanded 2,722 or 6.5 percent; and educational services (SIC 82) increased 2,005 or 5.4 percent. The table on page 4 shows the number of establishments, employment and wages for each major industry division and two-digit SIC subdivision for 1998 and 1999.

Data Notes on UI Covered Employment

Employers who are subject to state and federal unemployment insurance laws regularly report employment and wage data to the Connecticut Department of Labor. This information is first and foremost used to determine displaced worker benefit levels and employer tax rates, helping to ensure the efficient operation of the unemployment insurance program in the state.

Beyond that purpose, the DOL's Office of Research makes ongoing efforts to enhance the quality and detail of this data. The result is the largest available universe of employment and wage data by industry and area, representing approximately 96 percent of all Connecticut employment.

While the individual employer data is protected by law, this is a valuable resource for producing summary statistics on the economy. These administrative data allow us to provide a more detailed look at Connecticut industry than can be shown through our monthly sample-based estimates, but they are not as timely.

Due to the time required to review and process the volume of reports received each quarter, this data is not available until five to six months following the quarter it represents. The article in this month's Connecticut Economic Digest reports on summary data that recently became available for calendar year 1999.

Employment that is not covered by unemployment insurance includes some workers in agriculture, domestic services, railroad employees, student workers, elected officials, employees of religious organizations, and self employed and unpaid family workers.

Wages

During 1999, eight of the ten major industry divisions showed increases in average annual pay (front page chart). Transportation and public utilities (TPU) was one division that showed a decrease, \$46,431 in 1999 compared to \$46,883 in 1998, down 1.0 percent. This was traced to the timing of bonus payments in the transportation services (SIC 47) industry in 1998.

Average annual earnings varied widely by industry. Among major industries, workers in finance, insurance, and real estate (FIRE) experienced the highest average annual pay during 1999, \$76,066, an increase of 8.8 percent from the previous year. The FIRE annual pay was 76.6 percent higher than the statewide average for all private sector workers in 1999. Within FIRE, security & commodity brokers (SIC 62) ranked first among two-digit SIC subdivisions with an annual pay of

\$204,450, up 11.6 percent from 1998. This was the highest average wage for any industry subdivision, nearly five times higher than the average for private sector employees overall.

Finishing second was mining division workers with annual earnings of \$60,164, while wholesale trade employees came in third with an annual wages of \$58,156. Workers in other industry divisions had the following average annual pay: manufacturing, \$56,629; construction, \$43,251; services, \$36,713; and agriculture, forestry, fishing, \$25,020.

Retail trade, with a high percentage of part-time workers, experienced the lowest earnings level with average annual pay of \$20,869. Workers in the retail trade industry, accounting for 19.2 percent of private sector employment in 1999, earned annual pay 52 percent below the average for all private sector employees. ■

HOUSING UPDATE

September Permits Down 3.3% From August

Commissioner James F. Abromaitis of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development announced that Connecticut communities authorized 751 new housing units in September 2000, a 16 percent decrease compared to September of 1999 when 894 units were authorized.

The Department further indicated that the 751 units permitted in September 2000 represent a decrease of 3.3 percent from the 777 units permitted in

August 2000. The year-to-date permits are down 15.5 percent, from 8,376 through September 1999, to 7,074 through September 2000.

New Haven County documented the largest number of new, authorized units in September with 158. Hartford County followed with 123 units and Fairfield County had 110 units. Cromwell led all Connecticut communities with 34 units, followed by Plainfield with 29 and Tolland with 27. ■

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

Industry Clusters

Inner City 10

The Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC) and the State of Connecticut are calling for entries for the first annual *Connecticut Inner City 10* awards. In a press conference September 26, 2000, the Governor officially launched the program.

The initiative is a part of Governor Rowland's \$5 million statewide business strategy to promote inner city revitalization through business development. Each year, the *Connecticut Inner City 10* will identify and celebrate Connecticut's ten fastest growing inner city companies.

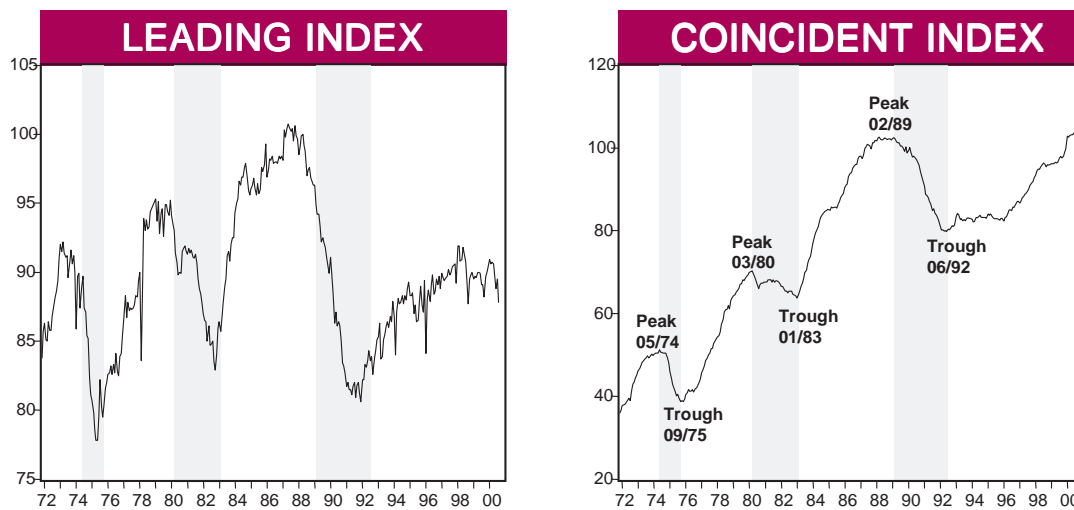
The winners will be honored at the *Connecticut Inner City 10* Entrepreneurship Awards Reception in 2001. Winners will be automatically entered as Connecticut's top nominees in ICIC/Inc. Magazine's Inner City 100 national contest in April 2001. Last April, five Connecticut companies were identified as national winners in the ICIC/Inc. Magazine Inner City 100 contest, which showcased the fastest growing companies from inner cities across America.

The *Connecticut Inner City 10* concept was created by Harvard Business School professor, Dr. Michael Porter. Connecticut is the first state in the country to participate in the ICIC/Inc. Magazine Inner City 100 contest on a statewide basis. Nomination and application forms for the Connecticut Inner City 10 are available on-line, or send an e-mail to mayra.santana@po.state.ct.us or call (860) 270-8062 for more information. ■

Connecticut UI Covered Employment and Wages by Major Industry for 1998 and 1999

SIC Description	Establishments			Employment				Wages		
	1998	1999	98-99 % Chg	1998	1999	98-99 Chg		1998	1999	98-99 % Chg
						No.	%			
Statewide	104,364	106,865	2.4%	1,623,134	1,652,315	29,181	1.8%	40,927	42,647	4.2%
Total Private	100,703	103,178	2.5%	1,423,139	1,444,003	20,864	1.5%	41,102	43,077	4.8%
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	2,576	2,702	4.9%	16,352	17,379	1,027	6.3%	24,404	25,020	2.5%
01 Agricultural Crops.....	140	142	1.4	4,272	4,540	268	6.3	23,341	23,290	-0.2
02 Agricultural Livestock.....	74	73	-1.4	952	925	-27	-2.8	26,369	28,651	8.7
07 Agricultural Services.....	2,330	2,453	5.3	10,998	11,792	794	7.2	24,562	25,351	3.2
08 Forestry.....	10	11	10.0	27	26	-1	-3.7	18,774	16,743	-10.8
09 Fishing, Hunting, and Trapping.....	22	23	4.5	104	97	-7	-6.7	34,550	33,003	-4.5
Mining	67	68	1.5%	781	804	23	2.9%	51,614	60,164	16.6%
Construction	9,866	10,266	4.1%	58,697	61,213	2,516	4.3%	41,165	43,251	5.1%
15 General Building Contractors.....	2,769	2,910	5.1	11,893	12,629	736	6.2	44,106	46,870	6.3
16 Heavy Construction.....	365	379	3.8	6,684	6,136	-548	-8.2	47,880	49,446	3.3
17 Special Trade Contractors.....	6,732	6,977	3.6	40,120	42,449	2,329	5.8	39,174	41,278	5.4
Manufacturing	5,925	5,974	0.8%	276,524	267,939	-8,585	-3.1%	53,338	56,629	6.2%
Durable Goods	4,038	4,075	0.9	194,503	186,907	-7,596	-3.9	53,267	56,424	5.9
24 Lumber and Wood Products.....	248	255	2.8	2,789	3,023	234	8.4	33,587	33,932	1.0
25 Furniture and Fixtures.....	108	113	4.6	2,546	2,917	371	14.6	40,773	40,563	-0.5
32 Stone, Clay, & Glass Products.....	138	140	1.4	2,806	2,757	-49	-1.7	42,411	46,042	8.6
33 Primary Metal Industries.....	162	174	7.4	9,305	9,372	67	0.7	43,115	44,444	3.1
34 Fabricated Metal Products.....	952	947	-0.5	35,410	33,996	-1,414	-4.0	41,328	43,199	4.5
35 Industrial Machinery & Equipment.....	1,247	1,244	-0.2	34,907	33,021	-1,886	-5.4	50,448	52,503	4.1
36 Electronic & Other Electric Equipment.....	427	439	2.8	28,309	26,890	-1,419	-5.0	67,461	73,498	8.9
37 Transportation Equipment.....	263	269	2.3	50,193	48,199	-1,994	-4.0	55,976	60,117	7.4
38 Instruments & Related Products.....	308	302	-1.9	21,753	20,412	-1,341	-6.2	65,099	69,566	6.9
39 Miscellaneous Manufacturing.....	185	192	3.8	6,485	6,320	-165	-2.5	43,648	45,170	3.5
Nondurable Goods	1,887	1,899	0.6	82,022	81,031	-991	-1.2	53,507	57,103	6.7
20 Food & Kindred Products.....	178	172	-3.4	8,020	8,131	111	1.4	44,840	44,357	-1.1
21 Tobacco Products.....	4	4	0.0	389	366	-23	-5.9	139,590	143,900	3.1
22 Textile Mill Products.....	49	48	-2.0	2,043	2,199	156	7.6	32,442	31,958	-1.5
23 Apparel and Other Textile Products.....	115	122	6.1	4,367	3,468	-899	-20.6	34,685	36,098	4.1
26 Paper & Allied Products.....	98	98	0.0	7,830	7,955	125	1.6	56,379	56,063	-0.6
27 Printing & Publishing.....	961	968	0.7	25,939	25,278	-661	-2.5	41,900	44,163	5.4
28 Chemicals & Allied Products.....	169	175	3.6	21,008	21,942	934	4.4	79,165	84,729	7.0
29 Petroleum & Coal Products.....	18	19	5.6	952	845	-107	-11.2	80,619	109,261	35.5
30 Rubber & Misc. Plastics Products.....	283	282	-0.4	10,684	10,108	-576	-5.4	42,429	46,641	9.9
31 Leather & Leather Products.....	12	11	-8.3	790	739	-51	-6.5	45,124	44,727	-0.9
Transportation and Public Utilities	3,335	3,407	2.2%	73,695	75,544	1,849	2.5%	46,883	46,431	-1.0%
40 Railroad Transportation.....	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
41 Local & Interurban Passenger Transit.....	403	398	-1.2	12,837	13,408	571	4.4	22,049	22,331	1.3
42 Trucking & Warehousing.....	1,139	1,162	2.0	12,131	12,103	-28	-0.2	35,013	35,519	1.4
44 Water Transportation.....	180	191	6.1	2,321	2,610	289	12.5	43,917	49,673	13.1
45 Air Transportation.....	177	184	4.0	9,233	9,485	252	2.7	32,241	34,926	8.3
46 Pipelines, Except Natural Gas.....	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
47 Transportation Services.....	725	724	-0.1	6,069	5,921	-148	-2.4	n	n	n
48 Communications.....	445	495	11.2	18,731	19,205	474	2.5	62,406	62,880	0.8
49 Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services.....	262	250	-4.6	12,343	12,782	439	3.6	65,071	65,164	0.1
Wholesale Trade	9,874	10,214	3.4%	83,101	82,151	-950	-1.1%	55,991	58,156	3.9%
50 Durable Goods.....	6,501	6,751	3.8	49,365	48,589	-776	-1.6	56,894	57,835	1.7
51 Nondurable Goods.....	3,373	3,463	2.7	33,736	33,562	-174	-0.5	54,670	58,621	7.2
Retail Trade	19,292	19,608	1.6%	271,729	276,995	5,266	1.9%	19,513	20,869	6.9%
52 Building Material & Garden Supplies.....	852	852	0.0	11,611	12,270	659	5.7	28,122	28,751	2.2
53 General Merchandise Stores.....	347	338	-2.6	27,113	26,006	-1,107	-4.1	18,172	18,537	2.0
54 Food Stores.....	2,273	2,324	2.2	52,349	52,954	605	1.2	16,276	16,719	2.7
55 Automotive Dealers & Service Stations.....	2,255	2,253	-0.1	26,832	27,315	483	1.8	33,651	36,052	7.1
56 Apparel & Accessory Stores.....	1,392	1,416	1.7	18,492	18,505	13	0.1	16,683	17,512	5.0
57 Furniture & Homefurnishing Stores.....	1,642	1,676	2.1	13,557	13,605	48	0.4	30,289	29,448	-2.8
58 Eating & Drinking Places.....	5,570	5,711	2.5	76,747	79,278	2,531	3.3	12,808	13,712	7.1
59 Miscellaneous Retail.....	4,961	5,038	1.6	45,028	47,062	2,034	4.5	22,784	26,853	17.9
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	9,126	9,284	1.7%	136,390	140,143	3,753	2.8%	69,889	76,066	8.8%
60 Depository Institutions.....	1,504	1,511	0.5	24,948	24,843	-105	-0.4	40,985	42,185	2.9
61 Nondepository Institutions.....	589	616	4.6	8,587	9,135	548	6.4	90,617	99,606	9.9
62 Security & Commodity Brokers.....	1,256	1,361	8.4	12,359	13,699	1,340	10.8	183,189	204,540	11.6
63 Insurance Carriers.....	711	676	-4.9	58,965	60,489	1,524	2.6	61,464	65,822	7.1
64 Insurance Agents, Brokers, & Service.....	1,685	1,668	-1.0	11,190	11,162	-28	-0.3	52,903	57,140	8.0
65 Real Estate.....	2,932	2,980	1.6	15,915	16,420	505	3.2	40,249	42,325	5.2
67 Holding & Other Investment Offices.....	449	472	5.1	4,426	4,397	-29	-0.7	138,001	133,549	-3.2
Services	40,054	41,278	3.1%	504,859	521,080	16,221	3.2%	35,441	36,713	3.6%
70 Hotels & Other Lodging Places.....	380	392	3.2	11,223	11,497	274	2.4	19,229	19,293	0.3
72 Personal Services.....	3,131	3,163	1.0	18,137	18,334	197	1.1	19,327	19,999	3.5
73 Business Services.....	7,293	7,806	7.0	105,419	112,077	6,658	6.3	38,300	41,547	8.5
75 Auto Repair, Services, & Parking.....	2,400	2,449	2.0	13,616	14,150	534	3.9	27,311	29,709	8.8
76 Miscellaneous Repair Services.....	918	866	-5.7	4,499	4,356	-143	-3.2	37,060	37,712	1.8
78 Motion Pictures.....	476	481	1.1	3,963	4,109	146	3.7	21,912	19,055	-13.0
79 Amusement & Recreation Services.....	1,426	1,475	3.4	34,588	36,516	1,928	5.6	22,612	23,517	4.0
80 Health Services.....	6,376	6,409	0.5	157,168	158,320	1,152	0.7	36,083	37,106	2.8
81 Legal Services.....	2,601	2,612	0.4	14,535	14,801	266	1.8	50,723	53,259	5.0
82 Educational Services.....	774	840	8.5	37,146	39,151	2,005	5.4	36,155	36,046	-0.3
83 Social Services.....	2,797	2,870	2.6	42,162	44,884	2,722	6.5	20,194	20,542	1.7
84 Museums, Botanical, Zoological Gardens.....	77	84	9.1	1,845	2,018	173	9.4	19,457	20,335	4.5
86 Membership Organizations.....	1,622	1,593	-1.8	15,218	14,534	-684	-4.5	28,756	28,358	-1.4
87 Engineering & Management Services.....	5,380	5,598	4.1	39,045	39,687	642	1.6	68,006	69,213	1.8
88 Private Households.....	4,209	4,426	5.2	5,521	5,822	301	5.5	17,894	18,340	2.5
89 Services Not Elsewhere Classified.....	194	214	10.3	774	825	51	6.6	65,516	73,986	12.9
Total Government	3,661	3,687	0.7%	199,995	208,313	8,318	4.2%	39,681	39,667	0.0%
Federal.....	558	576	3.2	22,263	22,346	83	0.4	41,559	43,427	4.5
State.....	807	796	-1.4	57,932	62,317	4,385	7.6	43,220	41,584	-3.8
Local.....	2,296	2,315	0.8	119,800	123,650	3,850	3.2	37,620	38,021	1.1

n = nondisclosable



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.

Leading Index Flashes Yellow; Coincident Index Stays Green

As this column has noted for several months, the Connecticut coincident and leading employment indexes have marched to slightly different drummers. The coincident index, a gauge of current employment activity, continues to hold near its all-time peak in June, first backing-off a bit in July and then partially reversing course with the release of (preliminary) August data. The current expansion seemingly has legs of its own, and continues to roll along. The leading index, a barometer of future employment activity, however, has declined during four of the last five months, suggesting that some uncertainty surrounds the continued expansion over the next year or so.

Focusing more carefully on the components of the leading index, we note that each has contributed to some extent to triggering the yellow warning light that now flashes. Hartford help wanted advertising has inched steadily lower four of the last five months. The short-duration (less than 15

weeks) unemployment rate increased gradually in four of the last five months. The remaining three components each had a more balanced distribution of ups and downs, although the negative movements still outnumbered the positive ones. Initial claims for unemployment insurance were up three of the last five months, and now stand at their highest level since December 1998. Finally, total housing permits and the average workweek of manufacturing production workers both declined three of that last five months.

While the coincident index remains near its all-time peak, its components have taken a breather in recent months from their positive trends over recent years. To wit, total employment has not moved significantly up or down since March of this year. Nonfarm employment has also leveled off since June. Moreover, the total unemployment rate cannot go much lower than its August nadir of 2.5 percent. Finally, the insured unemployment rate also does not

leave much room for further decreases from its August nadir of 1.73 percent.

In summary, the coincident employment index rose from 97.9 in August 1999 to 103.2 in August 2000. 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 fell from 89.1 in August 1999 to 87.9 in August 2000. Only one index component sent a positive signal on a year-over-year basis with a lower short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate. The remaining four components sent negative signals on a year-over-year basis with lower total housing permits, lower Hartford help wanted advertising, higher initial claims for unemployment insurance, and a lower average workweek of manufacturing production workers. ■

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

ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF EMPLOYMENT

Total employment increased by 22,900, or 1.4 percent, over the year.

EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISION

	SEP		CHANGE		AUG
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)					
TOTAL NONFARM	1,697.2	1,674.3	22.9	1.4	1,696.6
Private Sector	1,455.1	1,437.2	17.9	1.2	1,456.0
Construction and Mining	63.5	61.6	1.9	3.1	62.7
Manufacturing	265.4	267.3	-1.9	-0.7	266.4
Transportation, Public Utilities	78.4	77.8	0.6	0.8	78.3
Wholesale, Retail Trade	363.2	359.0	4.2	1.2	363.9
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	141.9	141.1	0.8	0.6	141.6
Services	542.7	530.4	12.3	2.3	543.1
Government	242.1	237.1	5.0	2.1	240.6

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

The unemployment rate and the number of initial claims dropped from a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

	SEP		CHANGE		AUG
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
(Seasonally adjusted)					
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	2.4	3.1	-0.7	---	2.5
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,709.7	1,690.2	19.5	1.2	1,710.9
Employed (000s)	1,668.9	1,637.8	31.1	1.9	1,667.7
Unemployed (000s)	40.8	52.4	-11.6	-22.1	43.2
Average Weekly Initial Claims	3,242	3,836	-594	-15.5	3,608
Help Wanted Index -- Htfd. (1987=100)	28	30	-2	-6.7	29
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	1.66	1.97	-0.31	---	1.77

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; The Conference Board

Production worker weekly earnings increased while output fell over the year.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

	SEP		CHANGE		AUG	JUL
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000	2000
(Not seasonally adjusted)						
Average Weekly Hours	42.6	41.9	0.7	1.7	41.9	--
Average Hourly Earnings	\$15.69	\$15.58	\$0.11	0.7	\$15.63	--
Average Weekly Earnings	\$668.39	\$652.80	\$15.59	2.4	\$654.90	--
CT Mfg. Production Index (1982=100)*	125.7	126.1	-0.4	-0.3	125.3	122.7
Production Worker Hours (000s)	6,504	6,494	10	0.2	6,298	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)**	488	512	-24.0	-4.7	527	468

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 first quarter 2001 is forecasted to increase 4.7 percent from a year earlier.

INCOME (Quarterly)

	1Q*		CHANGE		4Q*
	2001	2000	NO.	%	2000
(Seasonally adjusted)					
(Annualized; \$ Millions)					
Personal Income	\$140,098	\$133,809	\$6,289	4.7	\$138,721
UI Covered Wages	\$82,833	\$76,465	\$6,368	8.3	\$80,519

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis; October 2000 release

*Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %		YEAR TO DATE %	
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
New Housing Permits	SEP 2000	751	-16.0	7,074	8,376	-15.5
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	JUL 2000	2,573	-13.5	17,447	17,486	-0.2
Retail Sales (Bil. \$)	JUL 2000	2.97	2.8	23.25	21.62	7.5
Construction Contracts Index (1980=100)	AUG 2000	331.0	25.5	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	SEP 2000	22,784	31.5	193,313	172,983	11.8
Air Cargo Tons	AUG 2000	12,002	-1.5	89,112	93,783	-5.0

Construction contracts were up 25.5 percent from the same month a year ago. Year-to-date new auto registrations were up 11.8 percent from a year ago.

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

	SEP 2000	% CHANGE		YEAR TO DATE		% CHG
		M/M	Y/Y	CURRENT	PRIOR	
STARTS						
Secretary of the State	1,713	-8.6	-4.3	18,044	16,155	11.7
Department of Labor	873	-23.0	24.4	8,336	8,195	1.7
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	388	-3.7	22.0	3,433	2,966	15.7
Department of Labor	577	-32.8	4.3	8,903	9,229	-3.5

Net business formation as measured by starts minus stops registered with the Secretary of the State was up 11.7 percent to 14,611 for the year to date.

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

STATE REVENUES

(Millions of dollars)	SEP 2000	SEP 1999	% CHG	FISCAL YEAR TOTALS		
				2000-01	1999-00	% CHG
TOTAL ALL REVENUES*	837.6	782.9	7.0	1,470.0	1,383.5	6.3
Corporate Tax	63.8	68.1	-6.3	77.2	81.7	-5.5
Personal Income Tax	415.4	358.6	15.8	670.2	572.9	17.0
Real Estate Conv. Tax	10.1	9.6	5.2	32.3	33.3	-3.0
Sales & Use Tax	248.2	229.0	8.4	491.3	466.3	5.4
Indian Gaming Payments**	28.4	26.3	7.8	89.0	83.1	7.1

Overall, year-to-date State tax revenues were up 6.3 percent, paced by personal income taxes, up 17 percent. Gaming payments revenue rose 7.1 percent from a year ago.

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

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %		YEAR TO DATE %	
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
Tourism Inquiries	SEP 2000	10,775	-38.4	190,514	286,208	-33.4
Info Center Visitors	SEP 2000	83,246	9.9	484,250	481,474	0.6
Major Attraction Visitors	SEP 2000	141,533	-3.7	1,679,090	1,727,848	-2.8
Hotel-Motel Occupancy*	AUG 2000	80.0	-0.5	73.0	72.7	0.3
Air Passenger Count	AUG 2000	673,640	19.9	4,935,393	4,122,333	19.7
Indian Gaming Slots (Mil.\$)*	SEP 2000	1,383	8.0	12,246	11,447	7.0

Year-to-date hotel/motel occupancy was up 0.3 percent from a year ago. Air passengers were up 19.7 percent.

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

*Hotel-Motel Occupancy rate changes are in percentage points. **See page 23 for explanation.

Compensation costs for the nation rose 4.6 percent over the year, while the Northeast's increased by 4.3 percent.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX (Quarterly)

Private Industry Workers (June 1989=100)	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	SEP	JUN	3-Mo	SEP	SEP	12-Mo
	2000	2000	% Chg	2000	1999	% Chg
UNITED STATES TOTAL	149.7	148.2	1.0	149.9	143.3	4.6
Wages and Salaries	146.7	145.4	0.9	146.8	141.0	4.1
Benefit Costs	157.0	155.3	1.1	157.5	148.6	6.0
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	149.3	143.2	4.3
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	145.3	139.9	3.9

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

The September U.S. inflation rate was 3.5 percent, while the U.S. and New England consumer confidence increased from a year ago, 5.7 and 3.0 percent, respectively.

CONSUMER NEWS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	SEP	AUG	SEP	% CHG	
	2000	2000	1999	M/M	Y/Y
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1982-1984=100)					
<i>All Urban Consumers</i>					
U.S. City Average	173.7	172.8	167.9	0.5	3.5
Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar: (1982-84=\$1.00)	\$0.576	\$0.579	\$0.596	-0.5	-3.3
Northeast Region	180.7	179.9	174.8	0.4	3.4
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	184.4	183.1	178.2	0.7	3.5
Boston-Brockton-Nashua*	184.3	---	176.8	---	4.2
<i>Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers</i>					
U.S. City Average	170.4	169.3	164.7	0.6	3.5
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE (1985=100)					
U.S.	141.9	140.9	134.2	0.7	5.7
New England	137.5	143.9	133.5	-4.4	3.0

*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

Only the longer-term treasury rates were lower than a year ago. The conventional 30-year mortgage rate was higher at 7.91 percent.

INTEREST RATES

(Percent)	SEP	AUG	SEP
	2000	2000	1999
Prime	9.50	9.50	8.25
Federal Funds	6.52	6.50	5.22
3 Month Treasury Bill	6.00	6.09	4.73
6 Month Treasury Bill	5.98	6.07	4.91
1 Year Treasury Bill	6.13	6.18	5.25
3 Year Treasury Note	6.02	6.17	5.75
5 Year Treasury Note	5.93	6.06	5.80
7 Year Treasury Note	5.98	6.05	6.12
10 Year Treasury Note	5.80	5.83	5.92
30 Year Treasury Bond	5.83	5.72	6.07
Conventional Mortgage	7.91	8.03	7.82

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Vermont led the region with the strongest job growth over the year.

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
Connecticut	1,697.2	1,674.3	22.9	1.4	1,696.6
Maine	595.2	588.8	6.4	1.1	598.2
Massachusetts	3,300.3	3,253.4	46.9	1.4	3,286.1
New Hampshire	614.1	607.8	6.3	1.0	610.9
New Jersey	3,933.5	3,877.6	55.9	1.4	3,918.9
New York	8,653.4	8,475.0	178.4	2.1	8,586.8
Pennsylvania	5,587.5	5,581.2	6.3	0.1	5,585.8
Rhode Island	471.5	466.8	4.7	1.0	470.1
Vermont	296.6	290.0	6.6	2.3	295.6
United States	131,768.0	129,265.0	2,503.0	1.9	131,516.0

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

LABOR FORCE

New Hampshire experienced the largest labor force growth in the region from a year ago.

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
Connecticut	1,709.7	1,690.2	19.5	1.2	1,710.9
Maine	691.0	678.3	12.7	1.9	689.3
Massachusetts	3,277.2	3,285.1	-7.9	-0.2	3,284.6
New Hampshire	684.3	668.5	15.8	2.4	684.0
New Jersey	4,222.9	4,218.1	4.8	0.1	4,243.5
New York	9,001.5	8,891.8	109.7	1.2	8,978.2
Pennsylvania	5,965.7	5,973.0	-7.3	-0.1	5,956.7
Rhode Island	503.2	505.1	-1.9	-0.4	508.7
Vermont	341.8	336.4	5.4	1.6	341.8
United States	140,639.0	139,475.0	1,164.0	0.8	140,742.0

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

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

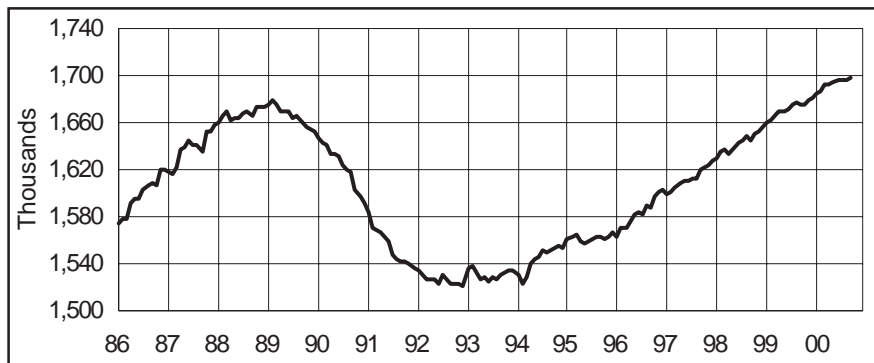
Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire posted the lowest September unemployment rate in the region.

<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	SEP	SEP	CHANGE	AUG
	2000	1999		2000
Connecticut	2.4	3.1	-0.7	2.5
Maine	3.4	4.1	-0.7	3.2
Massachusetts	2.4	3.2	-0.8	2.6
New Hampshire	2.4	2.5	-0.1	2.9
New Jersey	3.8	4.6	-0.8	4.0
New York	4.6	5.2	-0.6	4.5
Pennsylvania	4.0	4.4	-0.4	4.0
Rhode Island	3.7	4.1	-0.4	4.5
Vermont	2.8	3.0	-0.2	2.7
United States	3.9	4.2	-0.3	4.1

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

ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



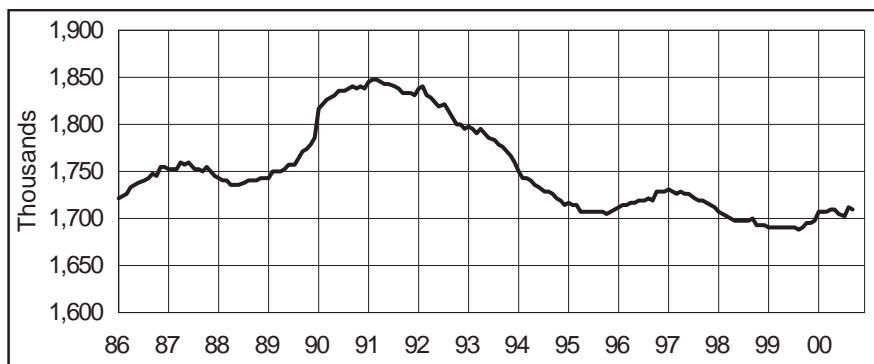
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	1,628.8	1,660.9	1,685.3
Feb	1,634.5	1,662.5	1,686.8
Mar	1,637.6	1,665.1	1,692.1
Apr	1,633.8	1,669.1	1,692.0
May	1,639.5	1,668.8	1,694.5
Jun	1,642.3	1,670.7	1,696.4
Jul	1,644.7	1,675.2	1,696.2
Aug	1,648.6	1,676.2	1,696.6
Sep	1,645.1	1,674.3	1,697.2
Oct	1,649.8	1,674.7	
Nov	1,653.0	1,678.2	
Dec	1,655.8	1,680.7	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



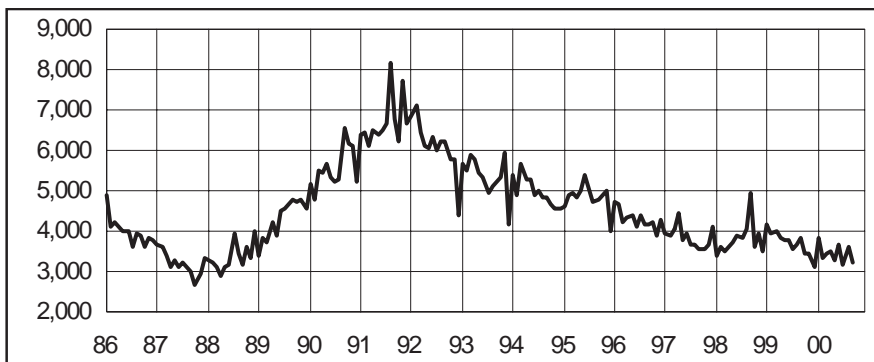
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	3.8	3.3	2.2
Feb	3.6	3.3	2.5
Mar	3.5	3.3	2.3
Apr	3.4	3.3	2.3
May	3.3	3.4	2.4
Jun	3.2	3.3	2.3
Jul	3.1	3.1	2.4
Aug	3.2	3.0	2.5
Sep	3.4	3.1	2.4
Oct	3.2	3.1	
Nov	3.3	2.9	
Dec	3.3	2.8	

LABOR FORCE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	1,707.4	1,690.8	1,706.7
Feb	1,704.2	1,689.9	1,707.8
Mar	1,703.4	1,689.9	1,707.2
Apr	1,699.1	1,690.8	1,709.0
May	1,698.5	1,690.4	1,708.8
Jun	1,697.7	1,690.3	1,704.7
Jul	1,697.1	1,689.7	1,703.3
Aug	1,696.8	1,688.9	1,710.9
Sep	1,699.3	1,690.2	1,709.7
Oct	1,693.6	1,694.2	
Nov	1,692.7	1,696.0	
Dec	1,691.7	1,697.1	

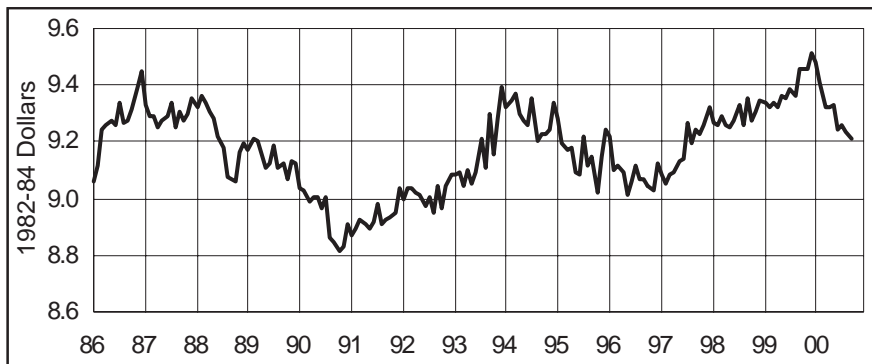
AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	3,404	4,184	3,825
Feb	3,602	3,933	3,355
Mar	3,499	4,011	3,436
Apr	3,619	3,841	3,506
May	3,721	3,789	3,276
Jun	3,884	3,800	3,639
Jul	3,828	3,561	3,152
Aug	4,069	3,688	3,608
Sep	4,946	3,836	3,242
Oct	3,594	3,460	
Nov	3,971	3,446	
Dec	3,502	3,127	

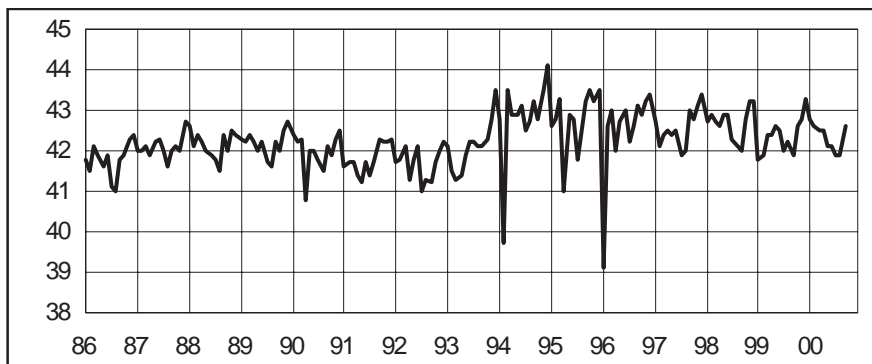
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

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



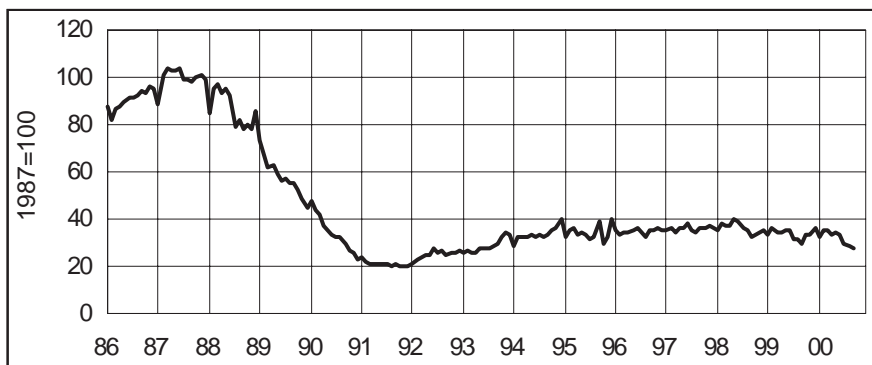
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	\$9.27	\$9.34	\$9.48
Feb	9.26	9.32	9.41
Mar	9.29	9.34	9.32
Apr	9.26	9.32	9.32
May	9.25	9.36	9.33
Jun	9.27	9.36	9.24
Jul	9.33	9.39	9.26
Aug	9.26	9.36	9.23
Sep	9.36	9.46	9.21
Oct	9.28	9.46	
Nov	9.30	9.46	
Dec	9.35	9.52	

AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



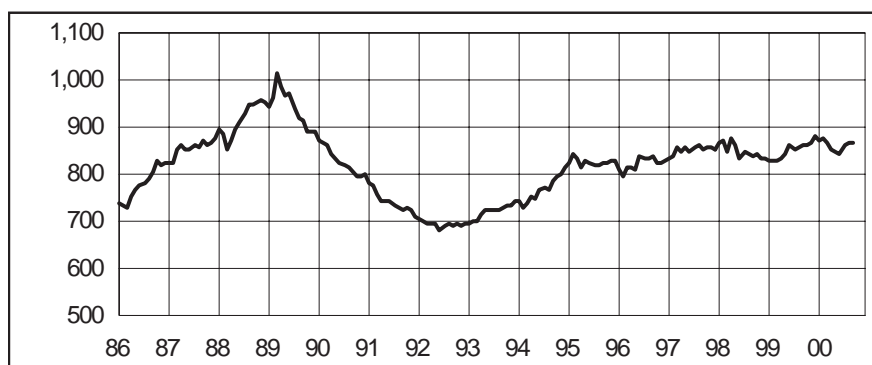
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	42.7	41.8	42.8
Feb	42.9	41.9	42.6
Mar	42.7	42.4	42.5
Apr	42.6	42.4	42.5
May	42.9	42.6	42.1
Jun	42.9	42.5	42.1
Jul	42.3	42.0	41.9
Aug	42.1	42.2	41.9
Sep	42.0	41.9	42.6
Oct	42.8	42.6	
Nov	43.2	42.8	
Dec	43.2	43.3	

HARTFORD HELP WANTED INDEX *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	35	33	32
Feb	38	36	35
Mar	37	34	35
Apr	37	34	33
May	40	35	34
Jun	39	35	33
Jul	36	31	30
Aug	35	31	29
Sep	32	30	28
Oct	33	33	
Nov	34	33	
Dec	35	36	

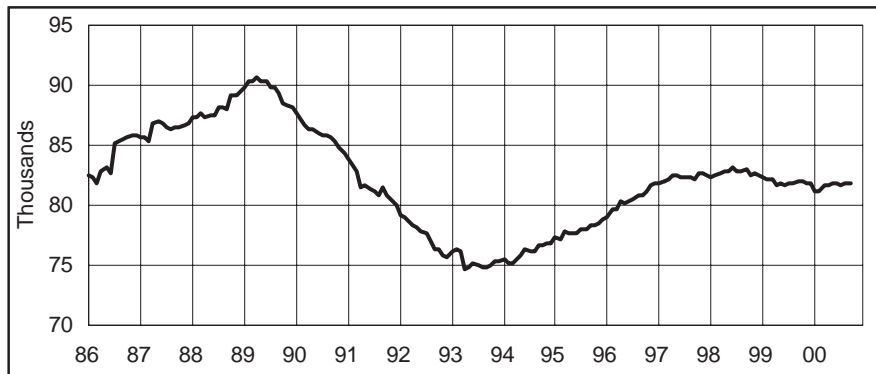
DOL NEWLY REGISTERED EMPLOYERS *(12-month moving average)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	868	831	871
Feb	870	828	875
Mar	846	829	865
Apr	878	834	855
May	861	843	847
Jun	836	861	841
Jul	849	854	863
Aug	841	856	865
Sep	838	861	869
Oct	845	860	
Nov	836	868	
Dec	832	881	

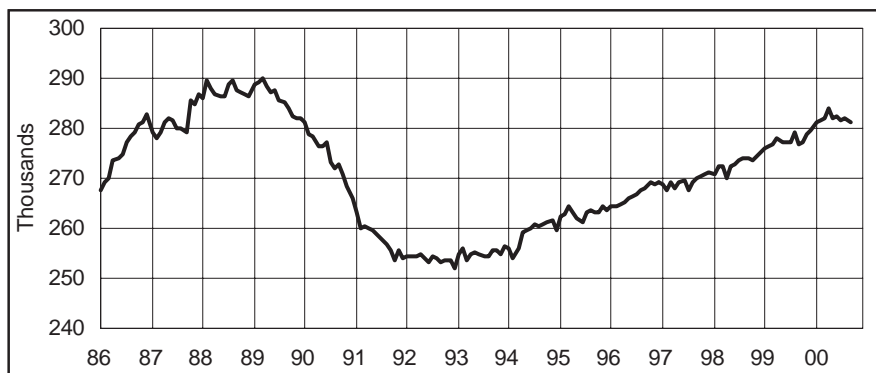
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

WHOLESALE TRADE EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



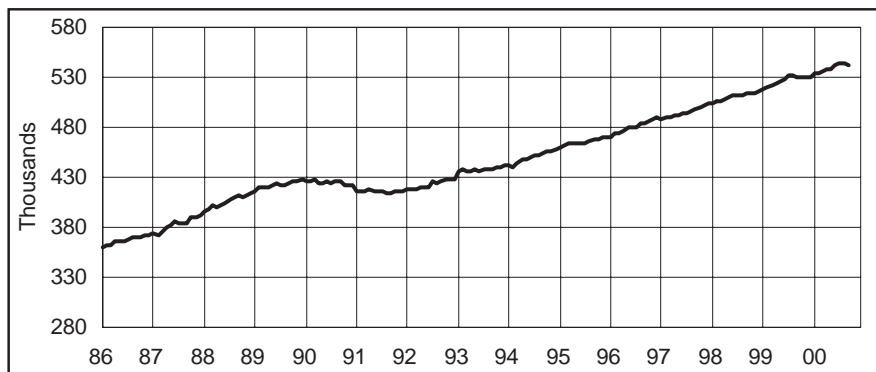
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	82.3	82.3	81.2
Feb	82.5	82.1	81.2
Mar	82.7	82.1	81.6
Apr	82.9	81.7	81.7
May	82.8	81.8	81.9
Jun	83.1	81.6	81.9
Jul	82.9	81.9	81.7
Aug	82.9	81.9	81.9
Sep	83.0	82.0	81.9
Oct	82.5	82.0	
Nov	82.6	81.9	
Dec	82.5	81.8	

RETAIL TRADE EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



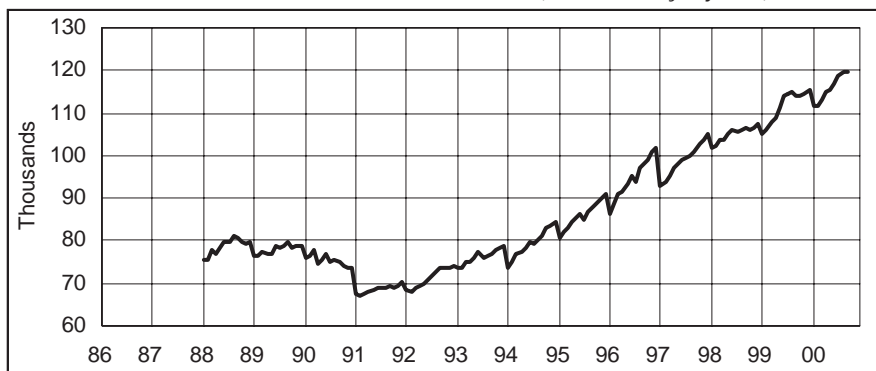
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	270.8	276.1	281.2
Feb	272.4	276.5	281.6
Mar	272.3	276.9	281.9
Apr	269.8	277.8	284.2
May	272.5	277.1	282.0
Jun	272.6	277.3	282.3
Jul	273.5	277.4	281.6
Aug	274.1	279.2	282.0
Sep	274.0	277.0	281.3
Oct	273.5	277.2	
Nov	274.4	278.6	
Dec	275.2	279.5	

TOTAL SERVICES EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	504.4	518.4	533.2
Feb	506.2	519.7	533.7
Mar	506.9	521.7	536.9
Apr	507.4	524.0	537.1
May	509.9	525.1	537.9
Jun	511.2	527.3	542.3
Jul	512.3	531.5	543.1
Aug	512.9	531.1	543.1
Sep	513.8	530.4	542.7
Oct	513.4	529.5	
Nov	514.2	529.6	
Dec	515.8	530.4	

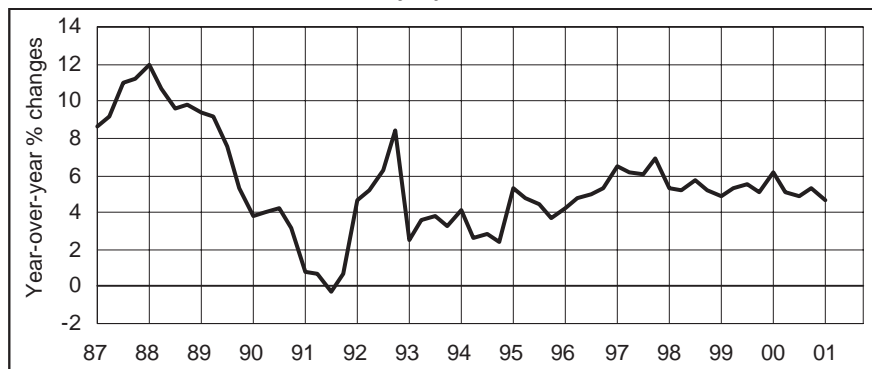
BUSINESS SERVICES EMPLOYMENT *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	102.0	105.2	111.7
Feb	102.4	106.0	111.8
Mar	103.7	107.9	113.2
Apr	103.5	108.9	115.1
May	104.9	111.0	115.4
Jun	106.1	114.0	116.9
Jul	105.8	114.7	118.5
Aug	106.2	115.0	119.6
Sep	106.6	114.2	119.6
Oct	105.9	114.2	
Nov	106.7	114.6	
Dec	107.5	115.5	

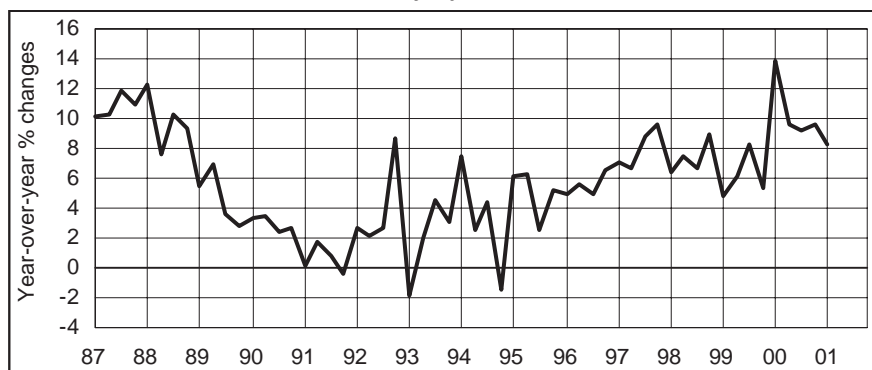
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

PERSONAL INCOME *(Seasonally adjusted)*



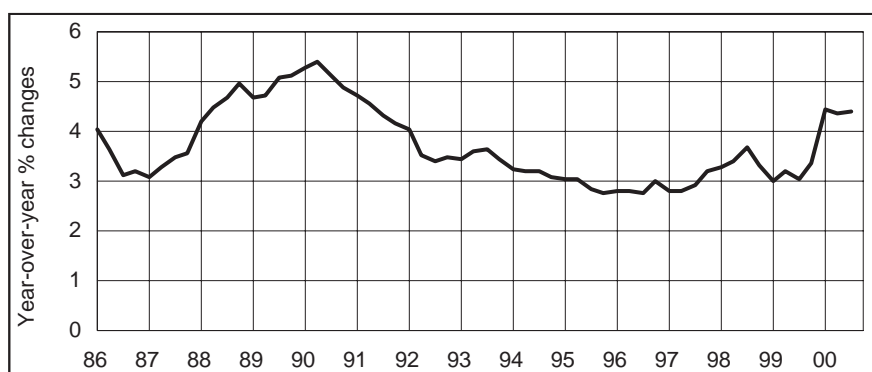
Quarter	1999	2000	2001
First	4.9	6.2	4.7
Second	5.3	5.1	
Third	5.6	4.9	
Fourth	5.1	5.3	

UI COVERED WAGES *(Seasonally adjusted)*



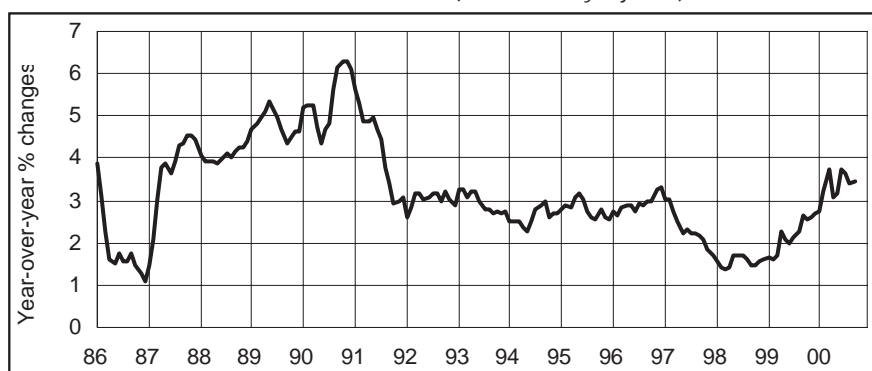
Quarter	1999	2000	2001
First	4.8	13.8	8.3
Second	6.2	9.6	
Third	8.2	9.2	
Fourth	5.4	9.6	

U.S. EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Quarter	1998	1999	2000
First	3.3	3.0	4.4
Second	3.4	3.2	4.4
Third	3.7	3.0	4.4
Fourth	3.3	3.4	

U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	1.6	1.7	2.7
Feb	1.4	1.6	3.2
Mar	1.4	1.7	3.8
Apr	1.4	2.3	3.1
May	1.7	2.1	3.2
Jun	1.7	2.0	3.7
Jul	1.7	2.1	3.7
Aug	1.6	2.3	3.4
Sep	1.5	2.6	3.5
Oct	1.5	2.6	
Nov	1.5	2.6	
Dec	1.6	2.7	

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

CONNECTICUT



Not Seasonally Adjusted

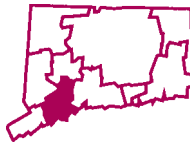
	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	1,701,600	1,678,700	22,900	1.4	1,684,700
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	332,400	332,500	-100	0.0	332,100
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	66,900	64,900	2,000	3.1	67,500
MANUFACTURING	265,500	267,600	-2,100	-0.8	264,600
Durable	184,800	186,100	-1,300	-0.7	184,200
Lumber & Furniture	6,000	5,900	100	1.7	5,900
Stone, Clay & Glass	2,700	2,800	-100	-3.6	2,800
Primary Metals	9,200	9,400	-200	-2.1	9,200
Fabricated Metals	33,900	33,600	300	0.9	33,600
Machinery & Computer Equipment	32,400	32,900	-500	-1.5	32,300
Electronic & Electrical Equipment	26,700	26,700	0	0.0	26,600
Transportation Equipment	47,700	48,400	-700	-1.4	47,800
Instruments	20,100	20,200	-100	-0.5	19,900
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6,100	6,200	-100	-1.6	6,100
Nondurable	80,700	81,500	-800	-1.0	80,400
Food	8,100	8,000	100	1.3	8,000
Textiles	2,300	2,400	-100	-4.2	2,000
Apparel	3,400	3,500	-100	-2.9	3,400
Paper	7,900	8,000	-100	-1.3	7,800
Printing & Publishing	25,000	25,100	-100	-0.4	25,100
Chemicals	21,900	22,000	-100	-0.5	21,900
Rubber & Plastics	10,300	10,500	-200	-1.9	10,200
Other Nondurable Manufacturing	1,800	2,000	-200	-10.0	2,000
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	1,369,200	1,346,200	23,000	1.7	1,352,600
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	78,600	78,000	600	0.8	76,700
Transportation	46,700	46,400	300	0.6	44,800
Motor Freight & Warehousing	12,800	12,500	300	2.4	12,700
Other Transportation	33,900	33,900	0	0.0	32,100
Communications	19,500	18,900	600	3.2	19,400
Utilities	12,400	12,700	-300	-2.4	12,500
TRADE	362,600	358,300	4,300	1.2	364,400
Wholesale	82,100	82,200	-100	-0.1	82,100
Retail	280,500	276,100	4,400	1.6	282,300
General Merchandise	25,600	25,500	100	0.4	24,300
Food Stores	52,700	52,800	-100	-0.2	53,800
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	27,700	27,300	400	1.5	27,800
Restaurants	80,900	80,200	700	0.9	82,100
Other Retail Trade	93,600	90,300	3,300	3.7	94,300
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	141,600	140,800	800	0.6	142,900
Finance	53,500	52,600	900	1.7	53,500
Banking	24,900	25,000	-100	-0.4	25,000
Securities	14,900	13,900	1,000	7.2	14,800
Insurance	71,100	71,600	-500	-0.7	72,300
Insurance Carriers	59,900	60,500	-600	-1.0	61,000
Real Estate	17,000	16,600	400	2.4	17,100
SERVICES	544,300	532,100	12,200	2.3	545,800
Hotels & Lodging Places	12,200	11,800	400	3.4	13,100
Personal Services	18,000	17,900	100	0.6	17,700
Business Services	119,600	114,200	5,400	4.7	119,600
Health Services	158,700	158,500	200	0.1	158,800
Legal & Engineering Services	55,500	54,600	900	1.6	56,100
Educational Services	46,300	45,600	700	1.5	40,100
Other Services	134,000	129,500	4,500	3.5	140,400
GOVERNMENT	242,100	237,000	5,100	2.2	222,800
Federal	22,500	22,300	200	0.9	22,700
**State, Local & Other Government	219,600	214,700	4,900	2.3	200,100

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

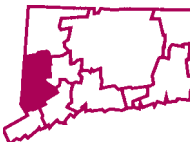


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP 2000	SEP 1999	CHANGE		AUG 2000
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	188,900	187,800	1,100	0.6	187,000
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	43,600	44,200	-600	-1.4	43,500
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	7,000	7,000	0	0.0	7,100
MANUFACTURING	36,600	37,200	-600	-1.6	36,400
Durable Goods	29,500	30,100	-600	-2.0	29,300
Fabricated Metals	4,600	4,500	100	2.2	4,600
Industrial Machinery	6,100	6,100	0	0.0	6,200
Electronic Equipment	5,100	5,400	-300	-5.6	4,900
Nondurable Goods	7,100	7,100	0	0.0	7,100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	145,300	143,600	1,700	1.2	143,500
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	6,900	6,900	0	0.0	7,000
TRADE	42,900	42,300	600	1.4	42,600
Wholesale	9,500	9,600	-100	-1.0	9,500
Retail	33,400	32,700	700	2.1	33,100
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE.	11,900	11,600	300	2.6	12,000
SERVICES	61,900	61,500	400	0.7	61,200
Business Services	15,000	14,900	100	0.7	14,800
Health Services	21,200	20,800	400	1.9	20,800
GOVERNMENT	21,700	21,300	400	1.9	20,700
Federal	2,100	2,100	0	0.0	2,300
State & Local	19,600	19,200	400	2.1	18,400

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

DANBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP 2000	SEP 1999	CHANGE		AUG 2000
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	88,800	88,400	400	0.5	88,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	23,100	23,000	100	0.4	23,100
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	4,100	4,000	100	2.5	4,200
MANUFACTURING	19,000	19,000	0	0.0	18,900
Durable Goods	10,300	10,300	0	0.0	10,200
Machinery & Electric Equipment	5,400	5,300	100	1.9	5,400
Instruments & Related	2,800	2,800	0	0.0	2,800
Nondurable Goods	8,700	8,700	0	0.0	8,700
Chemicals	3,700	3,600	100	2.8	3,700
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	65,700	65,400	300	0.5	65,300
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	2,900	2,700	200	7.4	2,800
TRADE	20,800	21,100	-300	-1.4	20,900
Wholesale	3,400	3,500	-100	-2.9	3,400
Retail	17,400	17,600	-200	-1.1	17,500
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE.	5,800	5,300	500	9.4	5,900
SERVICES	26,000	25,700	300	1.2	26,400
GOVERNMENT	10,200	10,600	-400	-3.8	9,300
Federal	800	800	0	0.0	1,000
State & Local	9,400	9,800	-400	-4.1	8,300

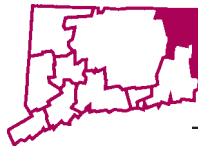
For further information on the Danbury Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

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

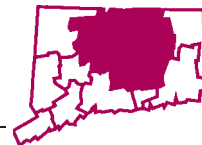


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	21,200	21,200	0	0.0	20,600
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	6,300	6,500	-200	-3.1	6,300
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	1,000	1,000	0	0.0	1,000
MANUFACTURING	5,300	5,500	-200	-3.6	5,300
Durable Goods	2,100	2,300	-200	-8.7	2,100
Nondurable Goods	3,200	3,200	0	0.0	3,200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	14,900	14,700	200	1.4	14,300
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	500	500	0	0.0	500
TRADE	5,300	5,300	0	0.0	5,300
Wholesale	1,100	1,100	0	0.0	1,100
Retail	4,200	4,200	0	0.0	4,200
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	600	600	0	0.0	600
SERVICES	5,200	5,200	0	0.0	5,100
GOVERNMENT	3,300	3,100	200	6.5	2,800
Federal	100	100	0	0.0	100
State & Local	3,200	3,000	200	6.7	2,700

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

HARTFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	609,100	611,400	-2,300	-0.4	604,900
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	112,600	113,500	-900	-0.8	112,700
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	23,600	22,800	800	3.5	24,000
MANUFACTURING	89,000	90,700	-1,700	-1.9	88,700
Durable Goods	71,100	72,200	-1,100	-1.5	70,800
Primary & Fabricated Metals	17,500	17,700	-200	-1.1	17,300
Industrial Machinery	12,900	13,500	-600	-4.4	12,600
Electronic Equipment	6,300	6,300	0	0.0	6,400
Transportation Equipment	26,100	26,000	100	0.4	26,100
Nondurable Goods	17,900	18,500	-600	-3.2	17,900
Printing & Publishing	7,700	7,800	-100	-1.3	7,700
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	496,500	497,900	-1,400	-0.3	492,200
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	27,100	27,400	-300	-1.1	25,600
Transportation	16,400	16,400	0	0.0	14,900
Communications & Utilities	10,700	11,000	-300	-2.7	10,700
TRADE	121,300	122,800	-1,500	-1.2	121,300
Wholesale	28,500	29,100	-600	-2.1	28,600
Retail	92,800	93,700	-900	-1.0	92,700
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	71,900	73,500	-1,600	-2.2	73,200
Deposit & Nondeposit Institutions	11,800	11,900	-100	-0.8	11,900
Insurance Carriers	47,200	48,500	-1,300	-2.7	48,200
SERVICES	181,700	179,700	2,000	1.1	182,400
Business Services	39,500	37,500	2,000	5.3	39,400
Health Services	56,900	58,100	-1,200	-2.1	56,400
GOVERNMENT	94,500	94,500	0	0.0	89,700
Federal	7,900	7,900	0	0.0	8,500
State & Local	86,600	86,600	0	0.0	81,200

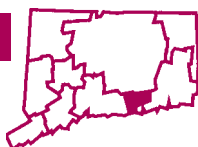
For further information on the Hartford Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

LOWER RIVER LMA



	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				
	SEP 2000	SEP 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	10,100	10,100	0	0.0	10,200
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	3,300	3,300	0	0.0	3,300
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	400	400	0	0.0	400
MANUFACTURING	2,900	2,900	0	0.0	2,900
Durable Goods	2,400	2,400	0	0.0	2,400
Electronic Equipment	700	700	0	0.0	700
Other Durable Goods	1,700	1,700	0	0.0	1,700
Nondurable Goods	500	500	0	0.0	500
Rubber & Plastics	300	300	0	0.0	300
Other Nondurable Goods	200	200	0	0.0	200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	6,800	6,800	0	0.0	6,900
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	300	400	-100	-25.0	400
TRADE	2,100	2,100	0	0.0	2,100
Wholesale	400	400	0	0.0	400
Retail	1,700	1,700	0	0.0	1,700
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	400	300	100	33.3	400
SERVICES	3,100	3,100	0	0.0	3,100
GOVERNMENT	900	900	0	0.0	900
Federal	100	100	0	0.0	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>				
	SEP 2000	SEP 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	260,200	261,400	-1,200	-0.5	258,100
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	50,600	50,300	300	0.6	50,800
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	10,500	10,600	-100	-0.9	10,700
MANUFACTURING	40,100	39,700	400	1.0	40,100
Durable Goods	25,400	25,200	200	0.8	25,400
Primary & Fabricated Metals	6,800	6,800	0	0.0	6,700
Electronic Equipment	5,600	5,400	200	3.7	5,600
Nondurable Goods	14,700	14,500	200	1.4	14,700
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,800	5,800	0	0.0	5,800
Chemicals & Allied	5,700	5,500	200	3.6	5,700
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	209,600	211,100	-1,500	-0.7	207,300
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	16,700	16,600	100	0.6	16,100
Communications & Utilities	8,600	8,600	0	0.0	8,600
TRADE	54,100	54,700	-600	-1.1	54,500
Wholesale	13,800	13,700	100	0.7	13,800
Retail	40,300	41,000	-700	-1.7	40,700
Eating & Drinking Places	11,600	11,800	-200	-1.7	12,100
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	12,500	12,900	-400	-3.1	12,700
Finance	4,000	4,100	-100	-2.4	4,200
Insurance	6,300	6,500	-200	-3.1	6,300
SERVICES	93,400	94,500	-1,100	-1.2	92,200
Business Services	13,000	13,000	0	0.0	12,900
Health Services	29,500	29,500	0	0.0	29,800
GOVERNMENT	32,900	32,400	500	1.5	31,800
Federal	5,900	5,600	300	5.4	5,900
State & Local	27,000	26,800	200	0.7	25,900

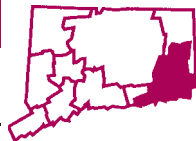
For further information on the New Haven Labor Market Area contact Jungmin Charles Joo at (860) 263-6293.

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

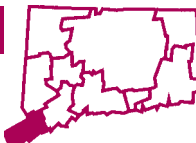
NEW LONDON LMA



	SEP 2000	SEP 1999	Not Seasonally Adjusted		AUG 2000
			CHANGE NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	141,400	140,500	900	0.6	143,300
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	28,400	28,800	-400	-1.4	28,400
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	5,100	5,100	0	0.0	5,100
MANUFACTURING	23,300	23,700	-400	-1.7	23,300
Durable Goods	12,800	13,500	-700	-5.2	12,900
Primary & Fabricated Metals	2,000	2,200	-200	-9.1	2,000
Other Durable Goods	10,800	11,300	-500	-4.4	10,900
Nondurable Goods	10,500	10,200	300	2.9	10,400
Paper & Allied	800	800	0	0.0	800
Other Nondurable Goods	8,400	8,100	300	3.7	8,400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	113,000	111,700	1,300	1.2	114,900
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	6,900	7,000	-100	-1.4	7,100
TRADE	28,700	28,500	200	0.7	29,600
Wholesale	2,800	2,700	100	3.7	2,800
Retail	25,900	25,800	100	0.4	26,800
Eating & Drinking Places	8,400	8,300	100	1.2	9,100
Other Retail	17,500	17,400	100	0.6	17,800
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3,500	3,700	-200	-5.4	3,700
SERVICES	36,900	36,200	700	1.9	37,400
Personal & Business Services	6,400	6,400	0	0.0	6,500
Health Services	11,700	11,600	100	0.9	11,700
GOVERNMENT	37,000	36,300	700	1.9	37,100
Federal	2,800	2,700	100	3.7	2,900
State & Local	34,200	33,600	600	1.8	34,200
**Local	29,800	29,300	500	1.7	29,800

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

STAMFORD LMA



	SEP 2000	SEP 1999	Not Seasonally Adjusted		AUG 2000
			CHANGE NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	212,100	210,400	1,700	0.8	214,200
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	31,700	32,500	-800	-2.5	31,700
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	6,800	6,600	200	3.0	6,900
MANUFACTURING	24,900	25,900	-1,000	-3.9	24,800
Durable Goods	12,000	12,500	-500	-4.0	12,000
Industrial Machinery	3,500	3,400	100	2.9	3,500
Electronic Equipment	2,000	1,900	100	5.3	1,900
Nondurable Goods	12,900	13,400	-500	-3.7	12,800
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,300	5,700	-400	-7.0	5,300
Chemicals & Allied	3,500	3,700	-200	-5.4	3,500
Other Nondurable	4,100	4,000	100	2.5	4,000
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	180,400	177,900	2,500	1.4	182,500
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	10,300	10,300	0	0.0	10,200
Communications & Utilities	3,200	3,000	200	6.7	3,100
TRADE	44,300	44,500	-200	-0.4	44,900
Wholesale	11,200	11,400	-200	-1.8	11,300
Retail	33,100	33,100	0	0.0	33,600
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	28,600	27,300	1,300	4.8	28,700
SERVICES	79,600	78,000	1,600	2.1	81,300
Business Services	24,500	24,100	400	1.7	25,000
Engineering & Mgmt. Services	11,700	11,400	300	2.6	12,000
Other Services	43,400	42,500	900	2.1	44,300
GOVERNMENT	17,600	17,800	-200	-1.1	17,400
Federal	2,000	2,000	0	0.0	2,100
State & Local	15,600	15,800	-200	-1.3	15,300

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

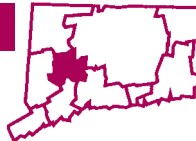
TORRINGTON LMA



	Not Seasonally Adjusted				AUG 2000
	SEP 2000	SEP 1999	CHANGE		
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	30,600	30,400	200	0.7	31,000
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	8,400	8,200	200	2.4	8,500
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	2,300	2,200	100	4.5	2,300
MANUFACTURING	6,100	6,000	100	1.7	6,200
Durable Goods	3,900	3,900	0	0.0	3,900
Primary & Fabricated Metals	500	600	-100	-16.7	500
Industrial Machinery	900	900	0	0.0	900
Electronic Equipment	200	200	0	0.0	200
Other Durable Goods	2,300	2,200	100	4.5	2,300
Nondurable Goods	2,200	2,100	100	4.8	2,300
Rubber & Plastics	1,300	1,300	0	0.0	1,300
Other Nondurable Goods	900	800	100	12.5	1,000
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	22,200	22,200	0	0.0	22,500
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	500	600	-100	-16.7	500
TRADE	6,800	6,700	100	1.5	6,900
Wholesale	800	800	0	0.0	800
Retail	6,000	5,900	100	1.7	6,100
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE.	900	900	0	0.0	1,000
SERVICES	10,600	10,500	100	1.0	10,700
GOVERNMENT	3,400	3,500	-100	-2.9	3,400
Federal	200	200	0	0.0	200
State & Local	3,200	3,300	-100	-3.0	3,200

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

WATERBURY LMA



	Not Seasonally Adjusted				AUG 2000
	SEP 2000	SEP 1999	CHANGE		
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	88,400	88,300	100	0.1	88,100
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	23,000	21,800	1,200	5.5	22,600
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	3,900	3,600	300	8.3	3,900
MANUFACTURING	19,100	18,200	900	4.9	18,700
Durable Goods	15,000	14,200	800	5.6	14,700
Primary Metals	1,000	900	100	11.1	900
Fabricated Metals	6,700	6,400	300	4.7	6,600
Machinery & Electric Equipment	4,500	4,100	400	9.8	4,400
Nondurable Goods	4,100	4,000	100	2.5	4,000
Paper, Printing & Publishing	1,200	1,200	0	0.0	1,200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	65,400	66,500	-1,100	-1.7	65,500
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	4,100	4,100	0	0.0	4,100
TRADE	18,200	18,100	100	0.6	18,300
Wholesale	3,100	3,100	0	0.0	3,000
Retail	15,100	15,000	100	0.7	15,300
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE.	4,000	4,000	0	0.0	4,000
SERVICES	26,500	27,200	-700	-2.6	26,800
Personal & Business	6,500	6,600	-100	-1.5	6,400
Health Services	10,000	10,500	-500	-4.8	10,100
GOVERNMENT	12,600	13,100	-500	-3.8	12,300
Federal	800	800	0	0.0	900
State & Local	11,800	12,300	-500	-4.1	11,400

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 STATUS	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
		2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,697,400	1,678,100	19,300	1.2	1,734,000
	Employed	1,665,500	1,635,200	30,300	1.9	1,697,700
	Unemployed	31,900	42,900	-11,000	-25.6	36,300
	Unemployment Rate	1.9	2.6	-0.7	---	2.1
BRIDGEPORT LMA	Civilian Labor Force	214,900	212,200	2,700	1.3	218,400
	Employed	210,100	205,400	4,700	2.3	212,800
	Unemployed	4,800	6,800	-2,000	-29.4	5,600
	Unemployment Rate	2.2	3.2	-1.0	---	2.5
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	108,200	106,700	1,500	1.4	110,600
	Employed	106,900	104,900	2,000	1.9	108,900
	Unemployed	1,300	1,800	-500	-27.8	1,600
	Unemployment Rate	1.2	1.7	-0.5	---	1.5
DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	32,900	32,500	400	1.2	32,900
	Employed	32,100	31,600	500	1.6	32,100
	Unemployed	800	900	-100	-11.1	900
	Unemployment Rate	2.4	2.9	-0.5	---	2.6
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	572,700	568,900	3,800	0.7	582,900
	Employed	561,300	553,600	7,700	1.4	570,000
	Unemployed	11,400	15,300	-3,900	-25.5	12,900
	Unemployment Rate	2.0	2.7	-0.7	---	2.2
LOWER RIVER LMA	Civilian Labor Force	12,500	12,300	200	1.6	12,900
	Employed	12,300	12,000	300	2.5	12,700
	Unemployed	200	200	0	0.0	200
	Unemployment Rate	1.2	1.9	-0.7	---	1.4
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	271,700	268,800	2,900	1.1	276,100
	Employed	266,100	262,000	4,100	1.6	269,800
	Unemployed	5,500	6,800	-1,300	-19.1	6,300
	Unemployment Rate	2.0	2.5	-0.5	---	2.3
NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	152,000	149,900	2,100	1.4	157,700
	Employed	149,100	145,700	3,400	2.3	154,400
	Unemployed	2,900	4,200	-1,300	-31.0	3,300
	Unemployment Rate	1.9	2.8	-0.9	---	2.1
STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	194,700	190,700	4,000	2.1	201,000
	Employed	192,500	187,400	5,100	2.7	198,600
	Unemployed	2,200	3,300	-1,100	-33.3	2,400
	Unemployment Rate	1.1	1.7	-0.6	---	1.2
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	39,600	39,200	400	1.0	41,200
	Employed	39,100	38,500	600	1.6	40,500
	Unemployed	500	700	-200	-28.6	600
	Unemployment Rate	1.2	1.8	-0.6	---	1.6
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	115,100	113,800	1,300	1.1	117,800
	Employed	112,500	110,600	1,900	1.7	114,800
	Unemployed	2,600	3,200	-600	-18.8	2,900
	Unemployment Rate	2.3	2.8	-0.5	---	2.5
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	140,357,000	139,217,000	1,140,000	0.8	141,425,000
	Employed	135,033,000	133,555,000	1,478,000	1.1	135,601,000
	Unemployed	5,324,000	5,661,000	-337,000	-6.0	5,824,000
	Unemployment Rate	3.8	4.1	-0.3	---	4.1

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

MANUFACTURING HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT

(Not seasonally adjusted)	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	SEP		CHG	AUG	SEP		CHG	AUG	SEP		CHG	AUG
	2000	1999	Y/Y	2000	2000	1999	Y/Y	2000	2000	1999	Y/Y	2000
MANUFACTURING	\$668.39	\$652.80	\$15.59	\$654.90	42.6	41.9	0.7	41.9	\$15.69	\$15.58	\$0.11	\$15.63
DURABLE GOODS	684.26	671.30	12.96	671.50	42.9	42.3	0.6	42.1	15.95	15.87	0.08	15.95
Lumber & Furniture	520.83	501.43	19.40	527.48	41.7	40.8	0.9	42.3	12.49	12.29	0.20	12.47
Stone, Clay and Glass	669.60	612.00	57.60	660.66	45.8	45.3	0.5	45.5	14.62	13.51	1.11	14.52
Primary Metals	669.03	652.53	16.50	658.33	43.5	43.3	0.2	43.0	15.38	15.07	0.31	15.31
Fabricated Metals	621.29	603.17	18.12	607.35	42.7	41.8	0.9	41.8	14.55	14.43	0.12	14.53
Machinery	711.99	689.17	22.82	702.57	43.6	43.1	0.5	42.4	16.33	15.99	0.34	16.57
Electrical Equipment	571.62	522.45	49.17	548.47	42.0	40.5	1.5	40.9	13.61	12.90	0.71	13.41
Trans. Equipment	888.62	894.54	-5.92	872.06	44.1	43.7	0.4	43.3	20.15	20.47	-0.32	20.14
Instruments	594.46	603.58	-9.12	585.96	40.8	40.7	0.1	40.3	14.57	14.83	-0.26	14.54
Miscellaneous Mfg	676.27	663.16	13.11	660.76	41.9	43.6	-1.7	41.9	16.14	15.21	0.93	15.77
NONDUR. GOODS	629.09	605.21	23.88	616.03	41.8	40.7	1.1	41.4	15.05	14.87	0.18	14.88
Food	539.61	536.76	2.85	517.83	43.1	42.0	1.1	42.1	12.52	12.78	-0.26	12.30
Textiles	527.72	515.46	12.26	524.57	42.8	42.6	0.2	42.1	12.33	12.10	0.23	12.46
Apparel	362.69	347.10	15.59	366.40	39.9	39.0	0.9	40.0	9.09	8.90	0.19	9.16
Paper	745.61	739.78	5.83	708.71	43.4	43.8	-0.4	42.9	17.18	16.89	0.29	16.52
Printing & Publishing	642.39	627.23	15.16	628.82	39.9	39.3	0.6	39.4	16.10	15.96	0.14	15.96
Chemicals	784.08	710.63	73.45	776.75	42.2	39.7	2.5	42.1	18.58	17.90	0.68	18.45
Rubber & Misc. Plast.	549.98	520.90	29.08	542.28	42.9	40.6	2.3	42.8	12.82	12.83	-0.01	12.67
CONSTRUCTION	874.75	827.43	47.32	907.48	40.8	40.6	0.2	41.8	21.44	20.38	1.06	21.71

LMAs

	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	SEP		CHG	AUG	SEP		CHG	AUG	SEP		CHG	AUG
	2000	1999	Y/Y	2000	2000	1999	Y/Y	2000	2000	1999	Y/Y	2000
MANUFACTURING												
Bridgeport	\$649.24	\$662.99	-\$13.75	\$633.83	41.3	40.9	0.4	40.5	\$15.72	\$16.21	-\$0.49	\$15.65
Danbury	651.64	589.44	62.20	649.98	41.4	39.8	1.6	41.4	15.74	14.81	0.93	15.70
Danielson	512.40	527.09	-14.69	506.34	42.0	42.1	-0.1	41.3	12.20	12.52	-0.32	12.26
Hartford	743.89	690.06	53.83	714.83	44.2	42.0	2.2	42.6	16.83	16.43	0.40	16.78
Lower River	549.13	519.90	29.23	553.18	40.2	39.9	0.3	39.4	13.66	13.03	0.63	14.04
New Haven	658.90	635.95	22.95	646.65	42.4	42.2	0.2	41.8	15.54	15.07	0.47	15.47
New London	701.79	681.92	19.87	704.69	42.2	42.7	-0.5	42.4	16.63	15.97	0.66	16.62
Stamford	516.93	546.61	-29.68	521.66	39.4	40.4	-1.0	39.7	13.12	13.53	-0.41	13.14
Torrington	597.32	585.31	12.01	593.30	41.8	41.6	0.2	41.9	14.29	14.07	0.22	14.16
Waterbury	639.89	640.20	-0.31	638.89	44.1	44.0	0.1	43.7	14.51	14.55	-0.04	14.62

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

NEW HOUSING PERMITS

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE Y/Y		YTD		CHANGE YTD		AUG
	2000	1999	UNITS	%	2000	1999	UNITS	%	2000
Connecticut	751	894	-143	-16.0	7,074	8,376	-1,302	-15.5	777
Counties:									
Fairfield	110	197	-87	-44.2	1643	1744	-101	-5.8	152
Hartford	123	204	-81	-39.7	1259	1731	-472	-27.3	149
Litchfield	56	67	-11	-16.4	543	660	-117	-17.7	69
Middlesex	97	70	27	38.6	687	708	-21	-3.0	79
New Haven	158	184	-26	-14.1	1467	1946	-479	-24.6	159
New London	68	77	-9	-11.7	618	696	-78	-11.2	64
Tolland	85	49	36	73.5	559	578	-19	-3.3	65
Windham	54	46	8	17.4	298	313	-15	-4.8	40

HOUSING PERMIT ACTIVITY BY TOWN

TOWN	SEP 2000	YR TO DATE 2000	1999	TOWN	SEP 2000	YR TO DATE 2000	1999	TOWN	SEP 2000	YR TO DATE 2000	1999
Andover	0	11	20	Griswold	3	29	32	Preston	2	18	17
Ansonia	4	27	35	Groton	7	94	100	Prospect	4	38	46
Ashford	1	16	15	Guilford	8	74	96	Putnam	1	9	14
Avon	7	75	140	Haddam	3	33	29	Redding	2	32	23
Barkhamsted	1	13	15	Hamden	19	220	246	Ridgefield	4	62	96
Beacon Falls	4	32	35	Hampton	2	14	12	Rocky Hill	5	54	76
Berlin	7	74	75	Hartford	3	38	61	Roxbury	2	18	24
Bethany	2	24	19	Hartland	0	3	1	Salem	1	15	14
Bethel	6	35	36	Harwinton	1	18	20	Salisbury	2	8	3
Bethlehem	1	8	16	Hebron	5	53	61	Scotland	0	7	7
Bloomfield	1	22	31	Kent	1	11	11	Seymour	1	35	44
Bolton	1	16	25	Killingly	2	33	23	Sharon	1	8	4
Bozrah	0	10	13	Killingworth	1	29	57	Shelton	9	97	141
Branford	1	31	41	Lebanon	2	32	33	Sherman	1	20	18
Bridgeport	15	40	44	Ledyard	3	30	39	Simsbury	2	24	50
Bridgewater	2	8	6	Lisbon	1	13	20	Somers	4	44	27
Bristol	6	62	75	Litchfield	4	17	41	South Windsor	4	42	87
Brookfield	2	31	51	Lyme	4	13	12	Southbury	5	66	85
Brooklyn	3	21	40	Madison	6	42	63	Southington	18	170	226
Burlington	4	53	43	Manchester	2	31	93	Sprague	0	2	3
Canaan	0	2	4	Mansfield	4	50	54	Stafford	3	31	37
Canterbury	6	18	14	Marlborough	4	30	28	Stamford	3	530	280
Canton	2	31	54	Meriden	7	45	33	Sterling	0	14	17
Chaplin	2	11	13	Middlebury	1	22	20	Stonington	6	50	74
Cheshire	6	52	92	Middlefield	2	15	24	Stratford	4	15	32
Chester	0	10	17	Middletown	13	140	153	Suffield	6	65	71
Clinton	1	40	62	Milford	10	122	212	Thomaston	1	40	38
Colchester	16	81	81	Monroe	3	44	55	Thompson	3	21	30
Colebrook	2	5	5	Montville	3	33	30	Tolland	27	114	115
Columbia	4	19	26	Morris	0	10	13	Torrington	5	52	85
Cornwall	0	4	5	Naugatuck	2	51	43	Trumbull	7	62	82
Coventry	5	49	44	New Britain	1	8	8	Union	0	6	4
Cromwell	34	81	47	New Canaan	2	45	40	Vernon	11	48	52
Danbury	7	194	230	New Fairfield	0	14	26	Voluntown	1	16	20
Darien	5	32	24	New Hartford	5	35	21	Wallingford	13	92	157
Deep River	1	20	18	New Haven	3	20	233	Warren	1	7	8
Derby	4	34	21	New London	0	1	0	Washington	1	8	9
Durham	4	47	44	New Milford	9	103	146	Waterbury	9	80	41
East Granby	2	24	19	Newington	2	37	71	Waterford	7	49	59
East Haddam	2	58	75	Newtown	10	78	181	Watertown	5	48	50
East Hampton	5	59	62	Norfolk	1	3	4	West Hartford	2	38	27
East Hartford	2	7	4	North Branford	4	19	23	West Haven	3	33	36
East Haven	3	33	31	North Canaan	0	3	6	Westbrook	0	54	34
East Lyme	5	66	77	North Haven	20	127	141	Weston	3	21	15
East Windsor	6	36	14	No. Stonington	3	20	26	Westport	7	56	44
Eastford	0	4	3	Norwalk	6	84	125	Wethersfield	3	23	31
Easton	3	24	30	Norwich	4	20	17	Willington	0	16	5
Ellington	21	102	108	Old Lyme	0	21	29	Wilton	2	33	25
Enfield	1	23	49	Old Saybrook	0	16	14	Winchester	1	15	13
Essex	6	32	41	Orange	2	14	12	Windham	0	7	32
Fairfield	0	19	57	Oxford	9	66	63	Windsor	7	24	39
Farmington	10	74	106	Plainfield	29	72	38	Windsor Locks	5	27	13
Franklin	0	5	0	Plainville	1	20	25	Wolcott	5	48	57
Glastonbury	8	98	158	Plymouth	1	39	50	Woodbridge	3	20	21
Goshen	6	31	24	Pomfret	2	14	29	Woodbury	3	29	39
Granby	2	46	56	Portland	25	53	31	Woodstock	3	37	26
Greenwich	9	75	89								

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.

INDIAN 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.

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	-1.3	Business Activity		Tourism and Travel	
Coincident Employment Index	+5.4	New Housing Permits	-16.0	Tourism Inquiries	-38.4
Total Nonfarm Employment	+1.4	Electricity Sales	-13.5	Tourism Info Centers	+9.9
Unemployment	-0.7*	Retail Sales	+2.8	Attraction Visitors	-3.7
Labor Force	+1.2	Construction Contracts Index	+25.5	Hotel-Motel Occupancy	-0.5*
Employed	+1.9	New Auto Registrations	+31.5	Air Passenger Count	+19.9
Unemployed	-22.1	Air Cargo Tons	-1.5	Indian Gaming Slots	+8.0
Average Weekly Initial Claims	-15.5	Business Starts		Employment Cost Index (U.S.)	
Help Wanted Index -- Hartford	-6.7	Secretary of the State	-4.3	Total	+4.6
Average Ins. Unempl. Rate	-0.31*	Dept. of Labor	+24.4	Wages & Salaries	+4.1
Average Weekly Hours, Mfg	+1.7	Business Terminations		Benefit Costs	+6.0
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg	+0.7	Secretary of the State	+22.0	Consumer Price Index	
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg	+2.4	Dept. of Labor	+4.3	U.S. City Average	+3.5
CT Mfg. Production Index	-0.3	State Revenues	+7.0	Northeast Region	+3.4
Production Worker Hours	+0.2	Corporate Tax	-6.3	NY-NJ-Long Island	+3.5
Industrial Electricity Sales	-4.7	Personal Income Tax	+15.8	Boston-Brockton-Nashua	+4.2
Personal Income	+4.7	Real Estate Conveyance Tax	+5.2	Consumer Confidence	
UI Covered Wages	+8.3	Sales & Use Tax	+8.4	U.S.	+5.7
		Indian Gaming Payments	+7.8	New England	+3.0
				Interest Rates	
				Prime	+1.25*
				Conventional Mortgage	+0.09*

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

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