THE CONNECTICUT
ECONOMIC DIGEST

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OCTOBER 1996

- Total nonfarm employment increased since last August by 17,200 jobs, up 1.1 percent from August one year ago (page 6)
- Connecticut's August unemployment rate was unchanged from July at 4.7 percent, the eleventh consecutive month the rate remained steady or dropped (page 10)
- August weekly earnings are up 2.5 percent and personal income is up 4.8 percent from a year ago (page 6)
- New England consumer confidence in August rebounded 28.1 percent from July (page 8)
- Housing permits fell in August by 20.1 percent from last August and 13.2 percent so far this year (pages 3, 21 and 22)

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Industry clusters revisited

by Mark Prisloe, Economist

In recent years, the concept of "industry cluster" has gained great currency. In his 1990 book, *The Competitive Advantage of Nations*, Harvard's Michael Porter defined and developed the concept based on his detailed analysis of regional economies and markets throughout the world. In the course of his work he noted the importance of markets, work force skills, suppliers, technology, infrastructure, and other features that industries share in common. As clusters evolve and strengthen they develop competitive advantages in the marketplace.

Other analysts have built on and modified Porter's work to come up with varying models of cluster structure and function, but they all share a basic trait: a holistic approach to understanding the competitive strengths and weaknesses of regional economies through identification of vertically integrated industry groups which include those firms which sell their goods or services outside the region, the local suppliers and subcontractors who work with these firms, and the economic foundations (e.g., capital, infrastructure, skilled workforce) which are essential to the success of the cluster industries.

Cluster Definition

Strictly speaking, a cluster is not an alternative definition of an industry. Rather a cluster represents a group of firms, or a pronounced geographic concentration of "production chains" for one product or a range of products, as well as linked institutions that influence the competitiveness of these concentrations (e.g. education, infrastructure, and research programs). A cluster denotes an area of unusually high and diverse industrial activity. The steel industry in the Pittsburgh region, the apparel industry in New

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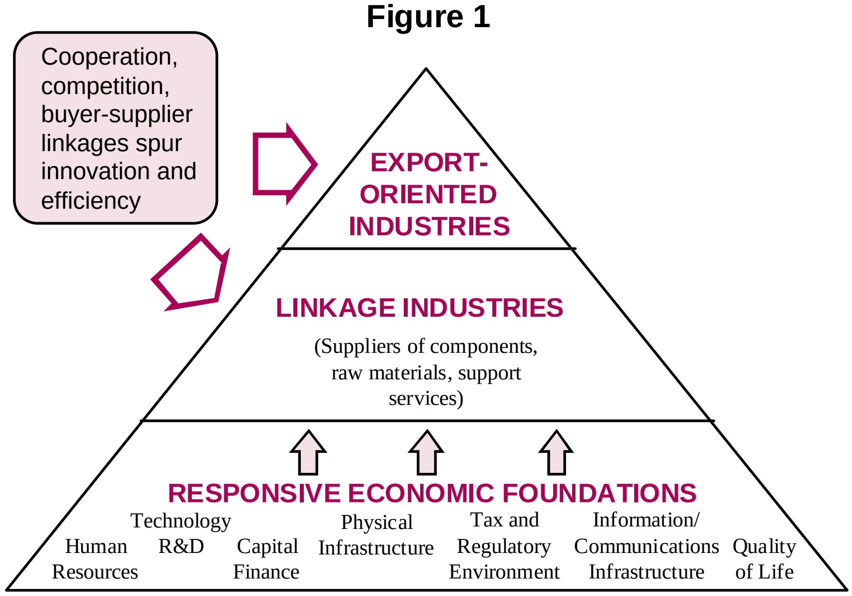
Figure 1



Source: John M. Redman, Understanding State Economies through Industry Studies, CGPA, 1994

Industry clusters revisited

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York City, the machine tool industry in the Connecticut River Valley, the insurance industry in greater Hartford are classic examples of clusters.

Clusters evolve over time, often slowly. Worldwide, they can be found in urban areas, rural areas, and spanning both urban and rural areas. A salient feature of economic clusters, at their more advanced stages, is that their elements are mutually supporting. Michael Porter notes that "Once a cluster forms, the whole group of industries becomes mutually supporting. Benefits flow forward, backward and horizontally." Proximity to customers or suppliers (called value-added chains), markets, sources of information and technology interact to encourage growth.

The paradigm in **Figure 1** presents the general concepts and relationships in an industry cluster. At the top of the pyramid we find the economic base or export industries. In this context we are referring to firms who sell their products in either national or international markets. The linkage industries, the middle layer of the pyramid, refer to those local firms who provide subcontract services, supplies, professional services or various other support services. The economic foundations found at the base of the pyramid refer to the tangible and intangible elements which effect the growth and competitiveness of both linkage and economic base industries. The role of each foundation element will vary significantly from cluster to cluster and within clusters. For example, human resources may be a key factor for all clusters, whereas physical infrastructure may be more of an issue for the manufacturing and tourism clusters.

Successful cluster growth depends on the strength and vitality of all three components. To the extent that one or more components is weak, the overall competitiveness of the cluster is diminished. Without healthy clusters, the rest of Connecticut's economy cannot prosper. When clusters perform well, other businesses, such as restaurants and retail shops, thrive. By selling most of their product to customers outside the state, clusters serve as the bedrock of the Connecticut economy.

Connecticut's Clusters

Identifying clusters is not picking winners or losers. Connecticut's clusters were identified based on their importance to the Connecticut economy--not whether they have stronger growth prospects. Cluster identification merely acknowledges the dominant role of a particular group of industries in the state's economy, it does not connote a most favored industry or target industry status. In fact, some of the clusters that have been identified have been losing jobs for several years, making it more imperative than ever to fully understand the dynamics of Connecticut's economic base industries.

Building on the 1993-94 study carried out by the Connecticut Economic Conference Board, the Department of Economic and Community Development has updated the listing of the state's industry clusters. Based primarily on the "location quotient" methodology (See **page 3**), the initial set of industry clusters was modified slightly to produce the following set of clusters:

Telecommunications and Information
Financial Services
Health Services
High Technology
Manufacturing
Tourism and Entertainment

Each cluster is comprised of a number of detailed industries, ranging from 5 in the health services area to more than 20 in the manufacturing cluster. Combined, the clusters account for more than 45 percent of state output and around 40 percent of state employment. These industries represent the top layer of the cluster pyramid described above. Work is currently underway to identify the linkage industries and to carry out a detailed analysis of the comparative performance of each of the detailed industries comprising the clusters.

Just as economies and industries grow and change over time, so too

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THE CONNECTICUT
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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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Industry clusters revisited

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will our list of clusters. The concept of an industry cluster is, by its very nature, dynamic...one which constantly evolves to respond to the challenges and opportunities of market forces, technological innovations and shifts in consumer and business demand.

The identification of clusters is just the first step in an ongoing process to develop strong, competitive industries in Connecticut. The next step involves setting up of industry cluster councils, volunteers who will work with their peers and with representatives of the public sector to identify and improve those factors which may be affecting Connecticut's economic competitiveness. ■

(Portions of this article are drawn from the following sources:

Industrial Strength Strategies, Stuart A. Rosenfeld, Aspen Institute, 1995

Understanding State Economies through Industry Studies, John M. Redman, CGPA, 1994.

Defining a Location Quotient (LQ)

The first step in identifying the industries which comprise any cluster was to determine those which are in the economic base or traded-sector; that is, the industries that are selling goods and services to national and international markets as opposed to those that are producing for local consumption. A commonly used method for identifying economic base industries involves the calculation of a location quotient.

A location quotient (LQ) is a process which compares the concentration of an industry at a regional level to the concentration of the same industry at the national level. The LQ formula is:

$$LQ = \frac{\text{\% of CT employment in industry I}}{\text{\% of US employment in industry I.}}$$

A location quotient greater than 1.0 indicates that the industry is more dominant in the state economy than it is nationally. Although LQ's are an imperfect tool for describing a regional economy and estimating exports, they are widely used because they are inexpensive, reflect indirect imports, and apply to both goods and services. All employment above the level necessary to set an industry's LQ equal to 1.0 can be considered export employment.

HOUSING UPDATE

August: housing permits decrease

The Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development announced that Connecticut communities authorized 710 new housing units in August 1996, a 7.1 percent decrease compared to July 1996 when 764 were authorized.

The Department further indicated that the 710 units permitted in August 1996 represent a decrease of 20.1 percent from the 889 units permitted in August 1995, and that the year-to-date numbers are down 13.2 percent, from 5,706 in 1995 to 4,955 in 1996.

Reports from municipal officials throughout the state indicate that Litchfield County showed the greatest percentage increase in August compared to August 1995: 39.2 percent. New Haven County reported the greatest percentage decline: 45.6 percent.

New Haven County documented the largest number of new, authorized units in August with 160. Fairfield County followed with 149 units and Hartford County had 143 units. Shelton led all Connecticut communities with 28 units, followed by Trumbull with 21 and Southbury with 18.

The permit activity figure for August included the following statewide amounts by structure type: detached single-family units, 645; attached single-family units, 55; two unit structures, 2; three and four unit structures, 3; structures containing five or more units, 5.

Year-to-date totals indicate that Hartford County has issued the most building permits through the first eight months of 1996 with 1,154, followed by New Haven County with 1,018, and Fairfield County with 991. Southington authorized 137 new units during this period, followed by Rocky Hill with 125, Shelton with 122, and Wallingford with 118. ■

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

A look at the Employment Cost Index

It is well-known that a major cost of doing business is the cost of labor. Not so widely known is that there are data available that measure the change in labor costs. Developed in the early 1970's by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the Employment Cost Index (ECI) provides a timely, accurate, and comprehensive indicator of change in the cost of labor, and can be a helpful tool for businesses, planners, and policy makers. Among the data that are available are measures of the change in *wages and salaries*, and in employer costs for *employee benefits*, as well as the change in total *compensation costs*.

For purposes of the ECI, *wages and salaries* are defined as the hourly straight-time wage rate or, for workers not paid on an hourly basis, straight-time earnings divided by the corresponding hours. *Employee benefits* covered by the ECI are: paid leave; supplemental pay (e.g., overtime); insurance benefits; retirement and savings benefits; legally required benefits (e.g., social security, Federal and State unemployment insurance, workers' compensation); and other benefits (e.g., severance pay). Total *compensation costs* are the aggregate of wages and salaries and employee benefits.

The ECI provides an array of data for the national civilian economy. This includes both the total private economy and the public sector—excluding farms, households, and the Federal government. Data are also developed for regions of the country (Northeast, South, Midwest, and West). Connecticut is part of the Northeast Region which includes the New England states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. However, regional data is limited to information on total compensation costs and wage and salary costs, and is available only for private industry workers.

Each quarter, data are collected for the pay period including the 12th day of the survey months of March, June, September, and December. Nearly 21,000 occupations within about 4,100 sample establishments in private industry and nearly 6,000 occupations within about 900 sample establishments in State and local governments are surveyed. Within an establishment, specific job categories are selected to represent broader occupational definitions.

Beginning with the March 1990 ECI release, indexes were rebased to June 1989=100. Starting with the December 1990 ECI release, seasonally adjusted data became available for selected ECI reports. Seasonal adjustment removes the effects of events that follow a more or less regular pattern each year making nonseasonal patterns easier to spot.

Employment Cost Index
Private Industry Workers

(1989=100)	June 1996	June 1995	%Chg
U.S.	129.0	126.2	2.9
W&S	125.6	121.5	3.4
Benefits	137.4	135.1	1.7
Northeast	129.7	126.6	2.4
W&S	126.0	122.1	3.2

As a further benefit to the user of the data, ECI information is available by industry, occupation, and union/non-union affiliation. The following is a sampling of the information found in the ECI for June 1996.

The June 1996 ECI level for all civilian workers in the nation, at 129.2, was 2.9 percent higher than in June 1995. Wage and salary costs rose 3.2 percent over the year, while benefit costs rose 1.8 percent.

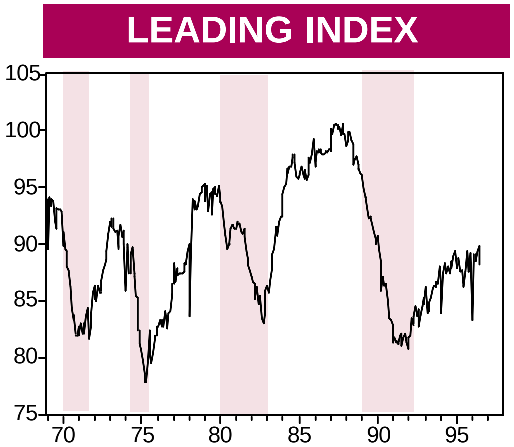
For private industry workers nationally, total compensation costs increased 2.9 percent, but wages and salaries increased 3.4 percent over the year ending June 1996, up from 2.9 percent for the June 1994-June 1995 period. This was the largest 12-month increase since March 1992. By comparison, total compensation costs in the Northeast increased more slowly, 2.4 percent. The region's wage and salary costs increased by 3.2 percent during this period. Benefit costs increased 1.7 percent, compared with a 2.6 percent increase for the 1994-95 period, reflecting slower rising costs for health benefits, unemployment insurance and workers' compensation.

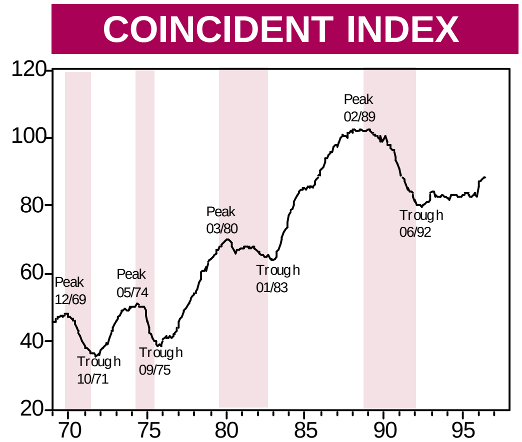
Total compensation costs in service-producing industries increased 3.0 percent compared with 2.7 percent for goods-producing industries. Wages and salaries increased 3.5 percent in service-producing industries, compared with 3.0 percent in goods-producing industries. In contrast, benefit increases were larger for goods-producing industries (2.0 percent), than for service-producing industries (1.6 percent).

Compensation costs for white-collar workers increased 3.0 percent compared with 2.6 percent for blue-collar workers and 2.0 percent for service occupations. Among the major occupational groups, sales occupations had the largest increase, at 3.7 percent, while machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors had the smallest increase, at 1.9 percent.

Compensation cost gains over the year ending June 1996 were higher for union workers (3.1 percent) than for non-union workers (2.8 percent). This pattern held for the service-producing industries (3.7 percent for union and 2.8 percent for non-union), but not for goods-producing industries (2.5 percent for union and 2.8 percent for non-union). ■

(extracted from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports)





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.

Will the recovery continue to motor ahead?

Connecticut's coincident employment index moved, once again, to its highest level in the current recovery with the release of the (preliminary) July data, having not fallen on a month-to-month basis since December 1995. The leading index, however, fell somewhat from its peak during June.

The coincident index, a gauge of current employment activity, rose slightly in July, continuing the strong upward movement that emerged in 1996. The 1996 experience follows weak upward movement in the coincident index in the early phases of the current recovery. The bottom line? The economy continues to motor ahead.

The leading index, a barometer of future employment activity, has bounced around considerably during 1996. It reached its highest level in the current expansion in June. Thus, the decline in the index this month is not too surprising. The crucial issue is whether the trend is up or down over the next several months.

The 1996 debate has waxed and waned over whether the national economy is overheating. The Federal Reserve has received intense scrutiny by so-called "Fed" watchers. At this writing, the Fed chose not to boost short-term interest rates in September, even though many had called for a hike. Fed Chair Greenspan wants to nip any inflation bud before it can bloom. The question, at the moment, is if and when the Fed should unsheathe the pruning shears.

Whatever the Fed does or does not do affects the Connecticut economy. National events filter into our economy with some lag. Unfortunately, our recovery from the most recent Great Recession was delayed and weaker than normal. Our recovery only picked up its pace in 1996. Thus, the latest action (inaction) by the Fed was welcomed news in Connecticut. The party may not yet be over.

The coincident employment index rose from 83.0 in July 1995 to 88.3 in July 1996. All four index components continued to 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 86.1 in July 1995 to 88.2 in July 1996, or somewhat below its previous peak of June 1996. All five index components sent positive signals on a year-over-year basis with a higher average work week of manufacturing production workers, lower initial claims for unemployment insurance, higher Hartford help wanted advertising, a lower short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, and higher total housing permits. ■

Source: Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut. Developed by Pami Dua [(203) 322-3466, Stamford Campus (on leave)] and Stephen M. Miller [(860) 486-3853, Storrs Campus]. Tara Blois [(860) 486-4752, Storrs Campus] provided research support.

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment rose by 1.1 percent with Construction and Mining surging with a seven percent jump over the year. Manufacturing employment continued to slide, down 1.0 percent for the year.

EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISION

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	%	JUL 1996
TOTAL NONFARM	1,585.3	1,568.1	17.2	1.1	1,581.3
Private Sector	1,364.3	1,347.2	17.1	1.3	1,360.9
Construction and Mining	55.2	51.6	3.6	7.0	55.5
Manufacturing	278.5	281.4	-2.9	-1.0	277.5
Transportation, Public Utilities	71.6	71.5	0.1	0.1	71.6
Wholesale, Retail Trade	348.6	341.1	7.5	2.2	346.9
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	131.9	132.4	-0.5	-0.4	132.3
Services	478.5	469.2	9.3	2.0	477.1
Government	221.0	220.9	0.1	0.0	220.4

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

The help wanted index stagnated over the year while falling two index points over the month. The labor force and employed residents rose however, with the number of unemployed down.

UNEMPLOYMENT

(Seasonally adjusted)	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	%	JUL 1996
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	4.7	5.5	-0.8	---	4.7
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,733.9	1,706.9	27.0	1.6	1,731.8
Employed (000s)	1,653.2	1,612.3	40.9	2.5	1,650.0
Unemployed (000s)	80.7	94.6	-13.9	-14.7	81.9
Average Weekly Initial Claims	4,364	4,951	-587	-11.9	4,404
Help Wanted Index -- Htfd. (1987=100)	32	32	0	0.0	34
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	2.60	2.98	-0.38	---	2.59

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor; The Conference Board

Manufacturing hours remained steady with hourly earnings rising moderately. Manufacturing output rose due to productivity gains, resulting from improvements in manufacturing processes as aggregate production worker hours declined.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

(Seasonally adjusted)	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	%	JUL 1996
Average Weekly Hours	42.8	42.8	0.0	0.0	42.7
Average Hourly Earnings*	$14.03	$13.69	$0.34	2.5	$14.07
Average Weekly Earnings*	$596.28	$581.83	$14.45	2.5	$592.35
Mfg. Output Index (1982=100)	120.9	118.7	2.2	1.9	119.5
Production Worker Hours (000s)*	6,774	6,806	-32.0	-0.5	6,609
Productivity Index (1982=100)	182.4	178.3	4.1	2.3	181.9

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

**Not seasonally adjusted; **Less than 0.05 percent*

Real personal income grew by 2.0 percent over the year, with wages of workers covered by unemployment insurance increasing to $55,686 million.

INCOME

(Seasonally adjusted; $ Millions)	3Q* 1996	3Q 1995	CHANGE NO.	%	2Q 1996
UI Covered Wages	$55,686	$53,861	$1,825	3.4	$55,288
Personal Income	$105,169	$100,391	$4,778	4.8	$104,020
Real Personal Income**	$66,987	$65,672	$1,315	2.0	$66,509

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

**Forecast*

***Adjusted with Consumer Price Index -- All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average (CPI-U)*

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE 1996	1995	% CHANGE
New Housing Permits	AUG 1996	710	-20.1	4,955	5,706	-13.2
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	JUN 1996	2,317	-0.3	14,181	13,353	6.2
Retail Sales (Bil. $)	JUN 1996	3.34	5.0	15.65	14.42	8.5
Construction Contracts						
Index (1980=100)	JUL 1996	282.6	53.8	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	AUG 1996	20,409	62.6	124,625	124,150	0.4
Air Cargo Tons	JUL 1996	9,717	11.5	69,514	61,824	12.4

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

The construction contracts index rose 53.8 percent over a year ago. Although new auto registrations jumped 62.6 percent in August of 1996 compared with August 1995, the year-to-date figure remained basically unchanged: administrative and work load patterns may explain the August jump.

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

	AUG 1996	% CHANGE M/M	Y/Y	YEAR TO DATE NO.	% CHANGE
STARTS					
Secretary of the State	1,317	23.1	17.4	10,397	13.0
Department of Labor	1,158	68.3	5.5	7,465	8.2
TERMINATIONS					
Secretary of the State	240	55.8	10.6	1,648	6.7
Department of Labor	827	-38.3	-26.7	9,376	7.3

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

Business starts registered with the Secretary of the State grew 23.1 percent in August from July, and were up 17.4 percent from a year ago and 13.0 percent for the year. Starts registered at the Department of Labor were up 8.2 percent for the year.

STATE TAX COLLECTIONS

(Millions of dollars)	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	% CHANGE	FISCAL YEAR TOTALS 1996-97	1995-96	% CHANGE
TOTAL ALL TAXES*	457.9	428.2	6.9	508.2	469.8	8.2
Corporate Tax	7.3	8.6	-15.1	7.3	8.6	-15.1
Personal Income Tax	167.8	175.4	-4.3	177.8	170.1	4.5
Real Estate Conv. Tax	6.6	6.3	0.3	13.9	13.1	6.1
Sales & Use Tax	196.6	175.4	12.1	200.7	177.0	13.4

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

Total tax collection was up by 6.9 percent from a year ago, while sales and use tax collection rose strongly at 12.1 percent.

TOURISM AND TRAVEL

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE 1996	1995	% CHANGE
Tourism Inquiries	AUG 1996	20,995	-3.6	314,831	277,050	13.6
Info Center Visitors	AUG 1996	78,089	-3.5	354,153	330,352	7.2
Major Attraction Visitors	AUG 1996	310,415	-7.9	1,351,757	1,482,286	-8.8
Hotel-Motel Occupancy	AUG 1996	80.7	1.8	69.4	68.5	1.3
Air Passenger Count	JUL 1996	480,324	11.0	3,194,572	2,973,300	7.4

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

Year-to-date tourism inquiries were up 13.6 percent over the same period last year. Info Center visitors and air passenger counts both went up at a comfortable rate of 7.2 and 7.4 percent respectively.

Compensation costs for the Northeast region rose 2.4 percent over the year, which was slightly less than the nation's.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
Private Industry Workers	**JUN**	**MAR**	**3-Mo**	**JUN**	**JUN**	**12-Mo**
(June 1989=100)	**1996**	**1996**	**%Chg**	**1996**	**1995**	**%Chg**
UNITED STATES TOTAL	128.8	127.8	0.8	129.0	126.2	2.9
Wages and Salaries	125.6	124.5	0.9	125.6	121.5	3.4
Benefit Costs	136.9	136.0	0.7	137.4	135.1	1.7
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	129.7	126.6	2.4
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	126.0	122.1	3.2

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

New England consumer confidence rebounded 28.1 percent, a significant increase from a month ago, while national level confidence gained 2.1 percent for the same period. The CPI at the national level was 2.9 percent which was lower than a month ago, showing no inflation threat.

CONSUMER NEWS

	AUG	**JUL**	**AUG**	**% CHANGE**	
(Not seasonally adjusted)	**1996**	**1996**	**1995**	**M/M**	**Y/Y**
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1982-1984=100)					
All Urban Consumers					
U.S. City Average	157.3	157.0	152.9	0.2	2.9
Northeast Region	164.0	163.4	159.7	0.4	2.7
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	167.2	166.7	162.8	0.3	2.7
Boston-Lawrence-Salem*	---	162.0	---	---	2.7
Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers					
U.S. City Average	154.5	154.3	150.2	0.1	2.9
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE (1985=100)					
U.S.	109.4	107.2	102.4	2.1	6.8
New England	82.5	64.4	71.6	28.1	15.2

**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

Short-term and long-term interest rates were both lower than the month before, but the prime rate remained unchanged.

INTEREST RATES

	AUG	**JUL**	**AUG**
(Percent)	**1996**	**1996**	**1995**
Prime	8.25	8.25	8.75
Federal Funds	5.22	5.40	5.74
3 Month Treasury Bill	5.09	5.17	5.41
6 Month Treasury Bill	5.17	5.32	5.40
1 Year Treasury Bill	5.67	5.85	5.57
3 Year Treasury Bill	6.21	6.45	6.10
5 Year Treasury Bond	6.39	6.64	6.24
7 Year Treasury Bond	6.52	6.76	6.41
10 Year Treasury Bond	6.64	6.87	6.49
30 Year Teasury Bond	6.84	7.03	6.86
Conventional Mortgage	8.00	8.25	7.86

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JUL 1996
Connecticut	1,585.3	1,568.1	17.2	1.1	1,581.3
Maine	542.1	541.9	0.2	0.0	540.4
Massachusetts	3,027.0	2,985.3	41.7	1.4	3,025.4
New Hampshire	549.2	543.0	6.2	1.1	551.3
New Jersey	3,644.7	3,614.5	30.2	0.8	3,642.2
New York	7,933.9	7,871.7	62.2	0.8	7,928.0
Pennsylvania	5,284.8	5,255.1	29.7	0.6	5,282.9
Rhode Island	443.1	441.9	1.2	0.3	440.1
Vermont	275.3	269.9	5.4	2.0	274.9
United States	120,032.0	117,499.0	2,533.0	2.2	119,782.0

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

Connecticut's rate of job growth continued to lag the nation's, but out-paced five other states in the region over the past year.

LABOR FORCE

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JUL 1996
Connecticut	1,733.9	1,706.9	27.0	1.6	1,731.8
Maine	666.7	648.9	17.8	2.7	660.4
Massachusetts	3,164.5	3,168.2	-3.7	-0.1	3,176.4
New Hampshire	625.1	633.5	-8.4	-1.3	628.8
New Jersey	4,094.9	4,071.8	23.1	0.6	4,085.9
New York	8,580.1	8,483.0	97.1	1.1	8,595.2
Pennsylvania	5,896.0	5,840.0	56.0	1.0	5,906.0
Rhode Island	492.7	483.8	8.9	1.8	488.9
Vermont	325.5	319.5	6.0	1.9	322.9
United States	133,885.0	132,298.0	1,587.0	1.2	134,181.0

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

Connecticut's labor force grew at a faster pace than the nation's in the past year. It also grew faster than in most states in the region.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

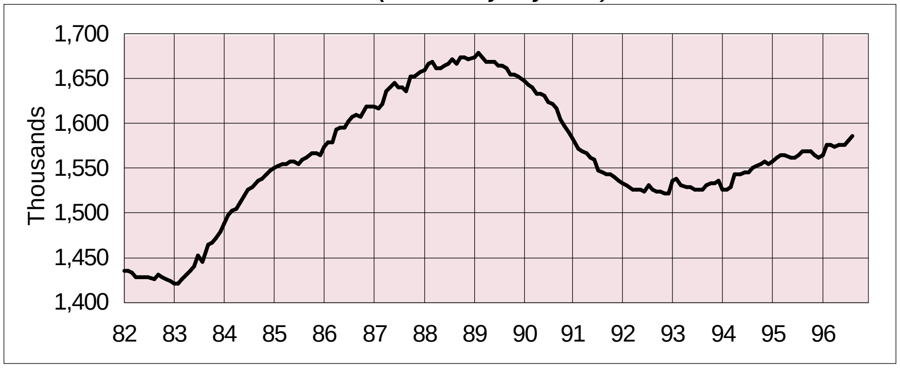
(Seasonally adjusted)	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE	JUL 1996
Connecticut	4.7	5.5	-0.8	4.7
Maine	5.4	5.8	-0.4	5.6
Massachusetts	4.0	5.4	-1.4	4.5
New Hampshire	3.8	4.0	-0.2	3.9
New Jersey	6.1	6.5	-0.4	6.1
New York	6.1	6.4	-0.3	6.5
Pennsylvania	5.3	5.9	-0.6	5.2
Rhode Island	5.2	7.1	-1.9	4.8
Vermont	4.3	4.3	0.0	4.2
United States	5.1	5.6	-0.5	5.4

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

Connecticut's unemployment rate remained below the national rate and several other states in the region.

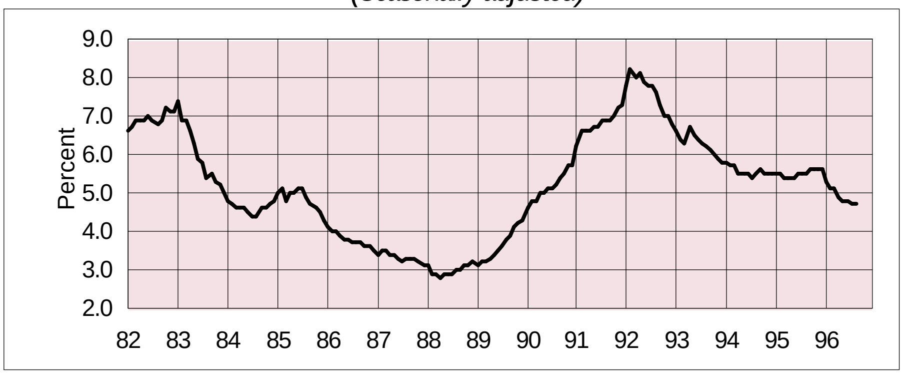
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



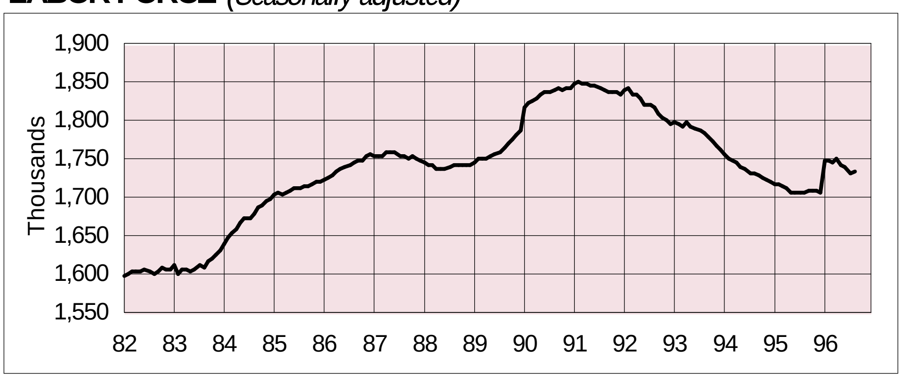
Month	1994	1995	1996
Jan	1,526.7	1,557.6	1,565.2
Feb	1,526.4	1,562.4	1,576.1
Mar	1,528.8	1,565.1	1,576.8
Apr	1,541.8	1,563.5	1,575.0
May	1,542.7	1,562.4	1,576.5
Jun	1,545.5	1,562.9	1,576.5
Jul	1,546.3	1,564.5	1,581.3
Aug	1,549.3	1,568.1	1,585.3
Sep	1,551.8	1,569.7	
Oct	1,554.2	1,568.0	
Nov	1,556.0	1,563.1	
Dec	1,554.2	1,562.7	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



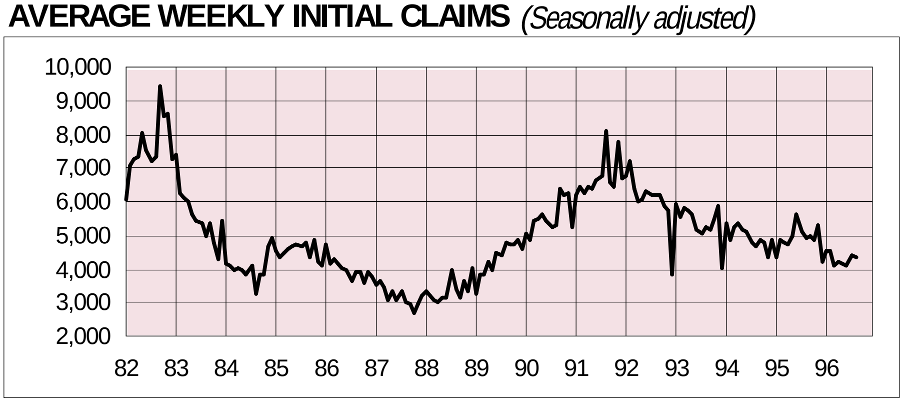
Month	1994	1995	1996
Jan	5.8	5.5	5.3
Feb	5.7	5.5	5.1
Mar	5.7	5.4	5.1
Apr	5.5	5.4	4.9
May	5.5	5.4	4.8
Jun	5.5	5.5	4.8
Jul	5.4	5.5	4.7
Aug	5.5	5.5	4.7
Sep	5.6	5.6	
Oct	5.5	5.6	
Nov	5.5	5.6	
Dec	5.5	5.6	

LABOR FORCE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



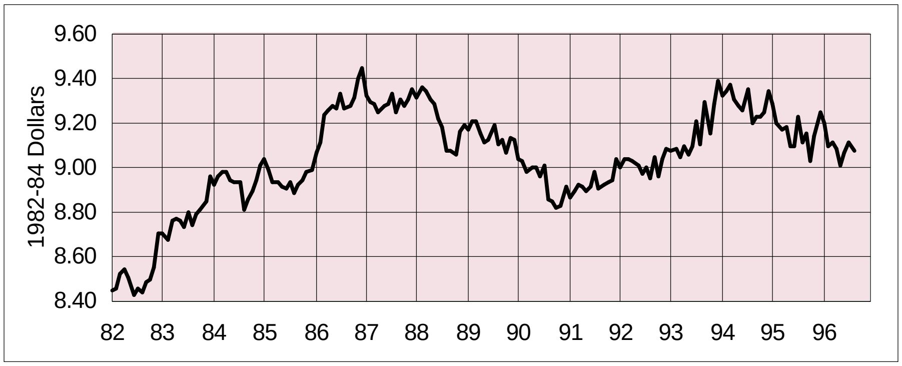
Month	1994	1995	1996
Jan	1,755.0	1,716.6	1,746.1
Feb	1,750.9	1,717.9	1,747.3
Mar	1,747.6	1,713.9	1,744.2
Apr	1,744.3	1,709.8	1,748.9
May	1,739.9	1,706.8	1,742.8
Jun	1,735.6	1,704.9	1,739.4
Jul	1,731.6	1,706.0	1,731.8
Aug	1,730.4	1,706.9	1,733.9
Sep	1,728.5	1,707.1	
Oct	1,725.2	1,707.6	
Nov	1,722.8	1,707.0	
Dec	1,719.6	1,704.7	

AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS *(Seasonally adjusted)*



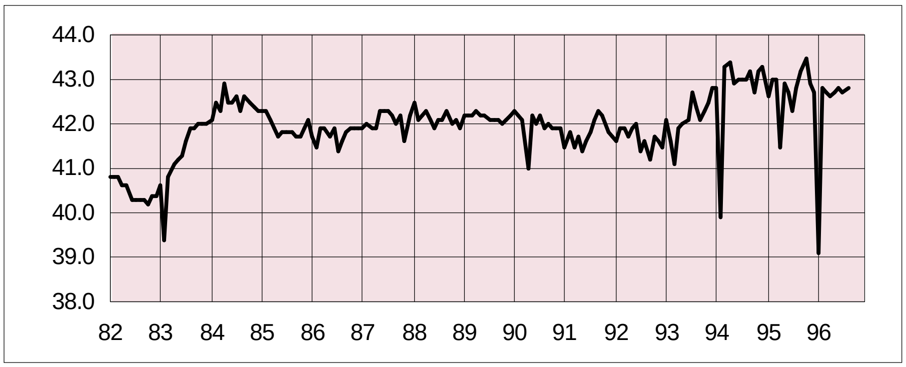
Month	1994	1995	1996
Jan	5,346	4,362	4,510
Feb	4,846	4,884	4,551
Mar	5,213	4,788	4,080
Apr	5,375	4,714	4,204
May	5,185	4,955	4,169
Jun	5,130	5,642	4,111
Jul	4,778	5,098	4,404
Aug	4,678	4,951	4,364
Sep	4,827	4,966	
Oct	4,769	4,873	
Nov	4,375	5,324	
Dec	4,853	4,197	

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



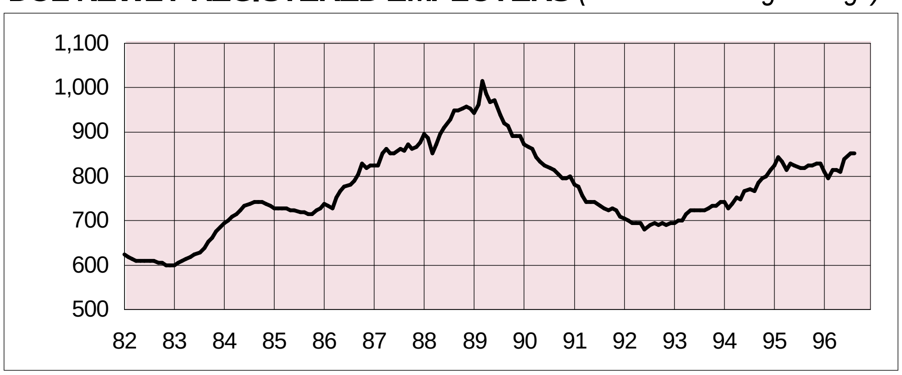
Month	1994	1995	1996
Jan	$9.32	$9.28	$9.20
Feb	9.35	9.20	9.09
Mar	9.37	9.17	9.11
Apr	9.30	9.18	9.09
May	9.28	9.09	9.01
Jun	9.26	9.09	9.07
Jul	9.36	9.23	9.12
Aug	9.20	9.11	9.08
Sep	9.22	9.15	
Oct	9.22	9.03	
Nov	9.25	9.15	
Dec	9.34	9.25	

AVERAGE MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS *(Seasonally adjusted)*



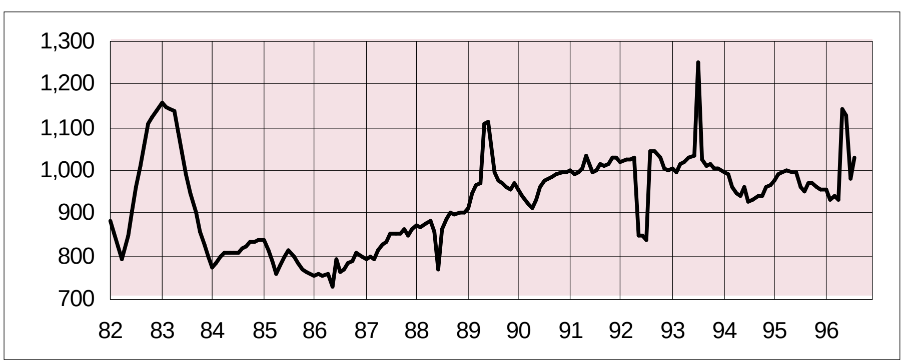
Month	1994	1995	1996
Jan	42.8	42.6	39.1
Feb	39.9	43.0	42.8
Mar	43.3	43.0	42.7
Apr	43.4	41.5	42.6
May	42.9	42.9	42.7
Jun	43.0	42.7	42.8
Jul	43.0	42.3	42.7
Aug	43.0	42.8	42.8
Sep	43.2	43.2	
Oct	42.7	43.5	
Nov	43.2	42.9	
Dec	43.3	42.7	

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



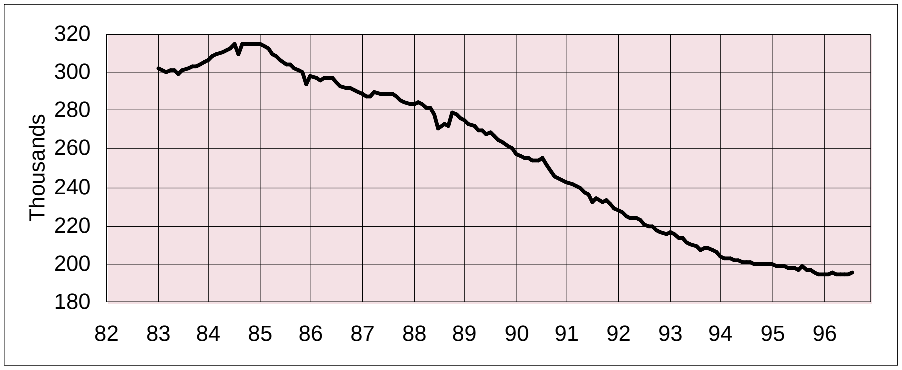
Month	1994	1995	1996
Jan	620	839	650
Feb	1,032	892	1,108
Mar	1,047	805	813
Apr	665	842	824
May	1,051	1,015	1,332
Jun	777	716	892
Jul	670	693	688
Aug	1,089	1,098	1,158
Sep	709	727	
Oct	676	718	
Nov	961	979	
Dec	617	396	

DOL DISCONTINUED EMPLOYERS *(12-month moving average)*



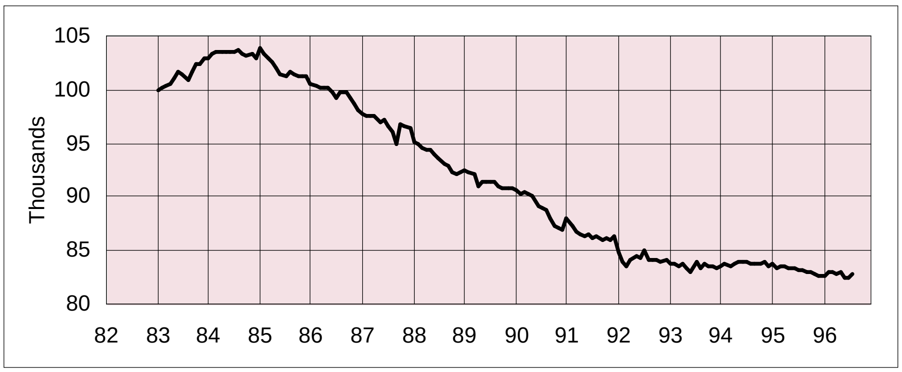
Month	1994	1995	1996
Jan	673	827	554
Feb	607	684	835
Mar	792	863	707
Apr	900	829	3,390
May	1,152	1,168	984
Jun	2,920	2,486	738
Jul	868	754	1,341
Aug	868	1,129	827
Sep	781	763	
Oct	798	669	
Nov	798	715	
Dec	554	553	

DURABLE MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



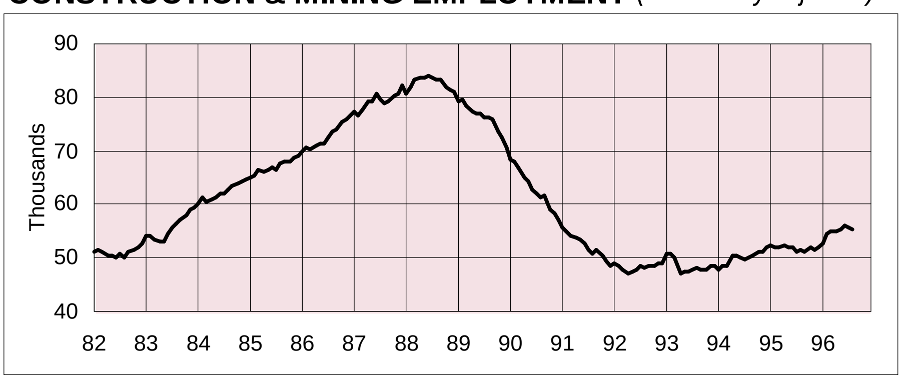
Month	1994	1995	1996
Jan	204.5	199.4	194.7
Feb	203.0	199.0	195.1
Mar	203.1	198.5	195.2
Apr	201.7	198.3	194.5
May	201.8	198.0	194.3
Jun	201.2	197.6	194.2
Jul	201.4	197.2	195.0
Aug	200.9	198.3	195.7
Sep	199.9	196.5	
Oct	199.6	196.3	
Nov	199.6	195.5	
Dec	199.4	195.1	

NONDURABLE MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



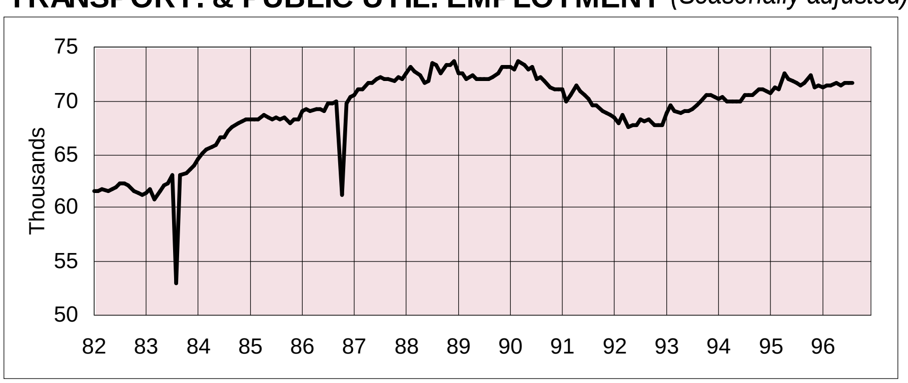
Month	1994	1995	1996
Jan	83.5	83.7	82.6
Feb	83.7	83.4	82.9
Mar	83.6	83.6	83.0
Apr	83.7	83.5	82.8
May	83.9	83.3	82.9
Jun	83.9	83.3	82.4
Jul	83.9	83.1	82.5
Aug	83.7	83.1	82.8
Sep	83.8	83.0	
Oct	83.8	82.9	
Nov	83.9	82.8	
Dec	83.5	82.6	

CONSTRUCTION & MINING EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



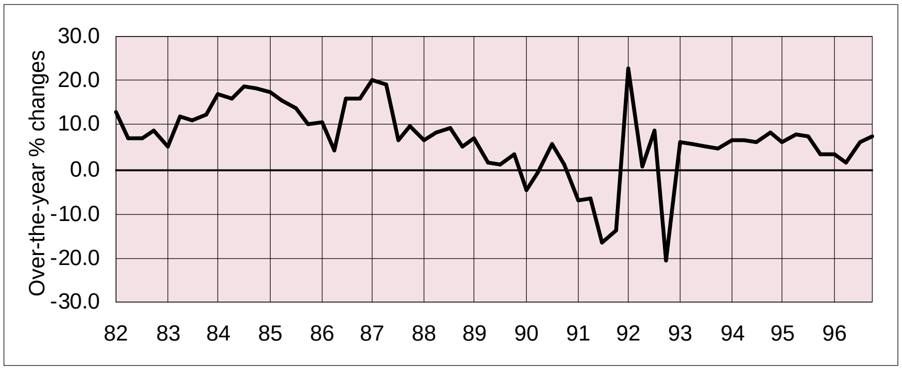
Month	1994	1995	1996
Jan	47.9	52.3	52.6
Feb	48.6	51.9	54.5
Mar	48.5	52.1	55.1
Apr	50.4	52.4	55.0
May	50.4	52.1	55.4
Jun	50.0	52.1	56.2
Jul	49.8	51.2	55.5
Aug	50.1	51.6	55.2
Sep	50.4	51.3	
Oct	51.1	52.1	
Nov	51.1	51.7	
Dec	51.8	51.8	

TRANSPORT. & PUBLIC UTIL. EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



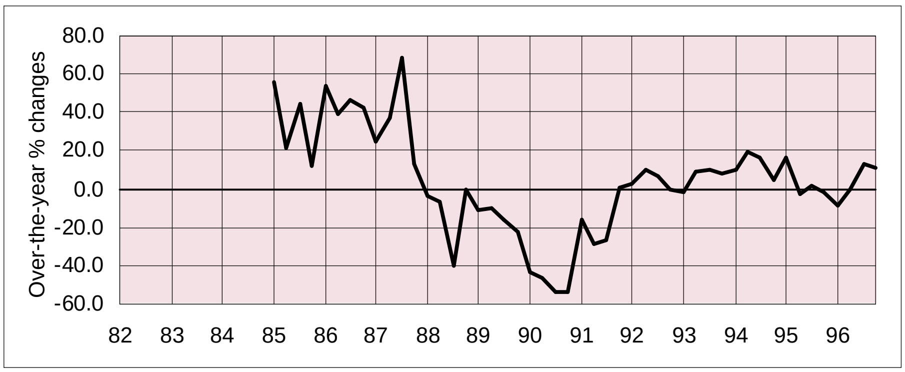
Month	1994	1995	1996
Jan	70.1	70.7	71.2
Feb	70.4	71.2	71.5
Mar	69.9	71.1	71.4
Apr	70.0	72.5	71.6
May	69.9	72.0	71.5
Jun	70.0	71.8	71.6
Jul	70.6	71.6	71.6
Aug	70.5	71.5	71.6
Sep	70.5	71.6	
Oct	71.1	72.3	
Nov	71.1	71.3	
Dec	70.9	71.5	

SALES TAX



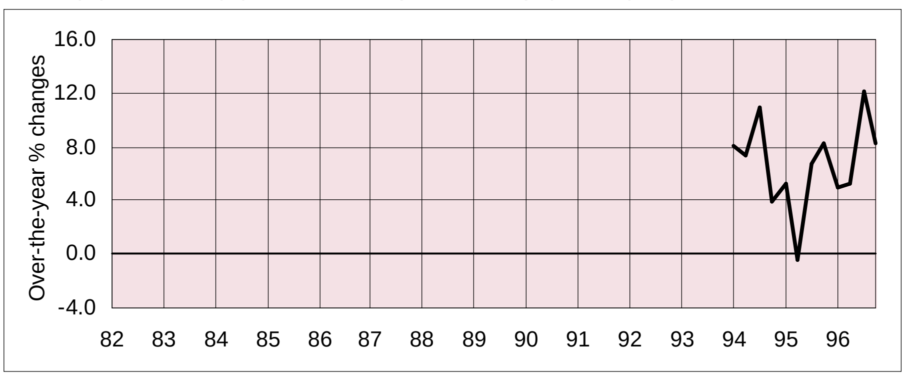
Quarter	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
First	6.7	5.9	3.2
Second	6.5	7.7	1.6
Third	6.1	7.3	6.0
Fourth	8.4	3.2	7.6

REAL ESTATE TAX



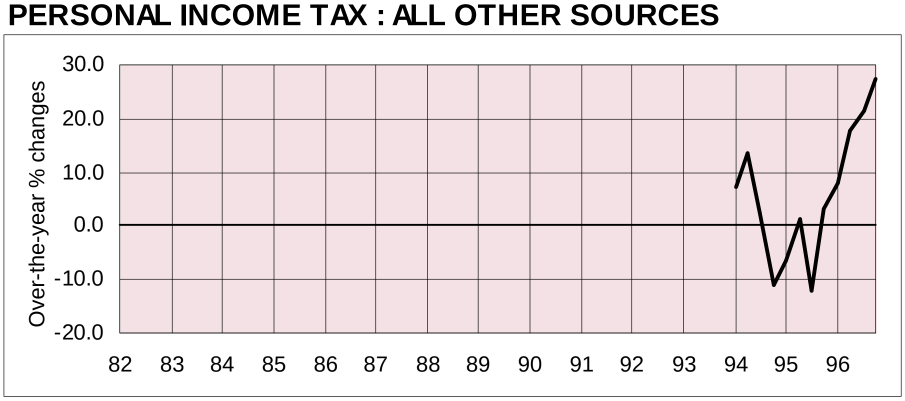
Quarter	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
First	10.0	15.8	-8.3
Second	19.8	-2.7	-0.2
Third	16.3	1.9	13.6
Fourth	4.9	-1.1	11.4

PERSONAL INCOME TAX : SALARIES & WAGES



Quarter	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
First	8.1	5.2	4.9
Second	7.4	-0.4	5.2
Third	10.9	6.8	12.1
Fourth	3.9	8.2	8.3

PERSONAL INCOME TAX : ALL OTHER SOURCES



Quarter	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
First	7.3	-6.6	8.0
Second	13.4	1.1	17.6
Third	2.5	-12.2	21.5
Fourth	-10.9	3.0	27.4

**These economic growth rates were derived by the Office of Fiscal Analysis and were made by comparing tax collections in each quarter with the same quarter in the previous year and were adjusted for legislative changes*

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

CONNECTICUT

(*Not seasonally adjusted*)

	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JUL 1996
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**1,572,900 ***	**1,555,500 ***	**17,400**	**1.1**	**1,574,200 ***
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**335,400 ***	**334,600 ***	**800**	**0.2**	**333,300 ***
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**60,000**	**56,400**	**3,600**	**6.4**	**59,600**
MANUFACTURING	**275,400 ***	**278,200 ***	**-2,800**	**-1.0**	**273,700 ***
Durable	**192,600**	**195,100**	**-2,500**	**-1.3**	**191,900**
Lumber & Furniture	4,700	4,700	0	0.0	4,700
Stone, Clay & Glass	2,800	2,800	0	0.0	2,800
Primary Metals	9,200	9,200	0	0.0	9,100
Fabricated Metals	34,000	34,300	-300	-0.9	33,400
Machinery & Computer Equipment	34,700	34,900	-200	-0.6	34,400
Electronic & Electrical Equipment	27,700	27,600	100	0.4	27,500
Transportation Equipment	50,800	52,000	-1,200	-2.3	51,500
Instruments	22,100	23,000	-900	-3.9	22,100
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6,600	6,600	0	0.0	6,400
Nondurable	**82,800 ***	**83,100 ***	**-300**	**-0.4**	**81,800 ***
Food	9,300	9,300	0	0.0	9,100
Textiles	2,200	2,300	-100	-4.3	2,100
Apparel	4,800	4,900	-100	-2.0	4,700
Paper	8,100	8,200	-100	-1.2	8,000
Printing & Publishing	25,300	25,100	200	0.8	25,100
Chemicals	20,100 *	20,200 *	-100	-0.5	19,900 *
Rubber & Plastics	10,800	10,900	-100	-0.9	10,500
Other Nondurable Manufacturing	2,200	2,200	0	0.0	2,400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**1,237,500 ***	**1,220,900 ***	**16,600**	**1.4**	**1,240,900 ***
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**69,800**	**69,700**	**100**	**0.1**	**70,200**
Transportation	39,800	39,200	600	1.5	40,300
Motor Freight & Warehousing	16,100	16,100	0	0.0	16,100
Other Transportation	23,700	23,100	600	2.6	24,200
Communications	17,400	17,400	0	0.0	17,300
Utilities	12,600	13,100	-500	-3.8	12,600
TRADE	**348,600 ***	**341,100 ***	**7,500**	**2.2**	**347,200 ***
Wholesale	79,700 *	78,900 *	800	1.0	79,500 *
Retail	268,900	262,200	6,700	2.6	267,700
General Merchandise	30,000	26,300	3,700	14.1	29,600
Food Stores	50,800	49,400	1,400	2.8	50,500
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	27,500	26,900	600	2.2	27,300
Restaurants	77,900	77,200	700	0.9	78,200
Other Retail Trade	82,700	82,400	300	0.4	82,100
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**133,100**	**133,600**	**-500**	**-0.4**	**133,400**
Finance	47,800	46,600	1,200	2.6	47,800
Banking	27,000	26,600	400	1.5	27,000
Insurance	70,100	72,500	-2,400	-3.3	70,300
Insurance Carriers	59,300	61,500	-2,200	-3.6	59,600
Real Estate	15,200	14,500	700	4.8	15,300
SERVICES	**479,500**	**470,100 ***	**9,400**	**2.0**	**480,800**
Hotels & Lodging Places	12,000	11,900	100	0.8	11,900
Personal Services	17,300	16,800	500	3.0	17,400
Business Services	91,800	87,300	4,500	5.2	90,900
Health Services	154,800	152,500	2,300	1.5	154,800
Legal & Professional Services	47,000	46,900	100	0.2	47,000
Educational Services	35,400	35,300	100	0.3	36,800
Other Services	121,200	119,400 *	1,800	1.5	122,000
GOVERNMENT	**206,500**	**206,400**	**100**	**0.0**	**209,300**
Federal	22,800	24,100	-1,300	-5.4	22,800
State, Local & Other Government	183,700	182,300	1,400	0.8	186,500

For further information contact Lincoln Dyer at (860) 566-3470.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1995.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

BRIDGEPORT LMA

(Not seasonally adjusted)

	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JUL 1996
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**178,300**	**178,800**	**-500**	**-0.3**	**178,900**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**46,700**	**47,400**	**-700**	**-1.5**	**45,900**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**6,400**	**5,900**	**500**	**8.5**	**6,400**
MANUFACTURING	**40,300**	**41,500**	**-1,200**	**-2.9**	**39,500**
Durable Goods	32,400	33,500	-1,100	-3.3	31,900
Fabricated Metals	4,200	4,300	-100	-2.3	4,100
Industrial Machinery	6,200	6,200	0	0.0	6,100
Electronic Equipment	5,800	5,900	-100	-1.7	5,700
Transportation Equipment	9,900	10,700	-800	-7.5	9,700
Nondurable Goods	7,900	8,000	-100	-1.3	7,600
Printing & Publishing	2,400	2,600	-200	-7.7	2,400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**131,600**	**131,400**	**200**	**0.2**	**133,000**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**7,200**	**7,200**	**0**	**0.0**	**7,300**
TRADE	**39,900**	**39,500**	**400**	**1.0**	**39,900**
Wholesale	9,400	9,400	0	0.0	9,400
Retail	30,500	30,100	400	1.3	30,500
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**9,700**	**10,000**	**-300**	**-3.0**	**9,800**
SERVICES	**56,400**	**55,400**	**1,000**	**1.8**	**56,400**
Business Services	11,000	10,900	100	0.9	10,900
Health Services	19,500	19,400	100	0.5	19,500
GOVERNMENT	**18,400**	**19,300**	**-900**	**-4.7**	**19,600**
Federal	1,900	1,900	0	0.0	1,900
State & Local	16,500	17,400	-900	-5.2	17,700

For further information on the Bridgeport Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 566-3472.

DANBURY LMA

(Not seasonally adjusted)

	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JUL 1996
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**81,000**	**82,700**	**-1,700**	**-2.1**	**81,000**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**22,200**	**22,600**	**-400**	**-1.8**	**22,100**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**3,000**	**3,200**	**-200**	**-6.3**	**3,000**
MANUFACTURING	**19,200**	**19,400**	**-200**	**-1.0**	**19,100**
Durable Goods	9,800	10,000	-200	-2.0	9,900
Machinery & Electric Equipment	5,200	5,100	100	2.0	5,200
Instruments	2,600	2,800	-200	-7.1	2,600
Nondurable Goods	9,400	9,400	0	0.0	9,200
Printing & Publishing	2,600	2,600	0	0.0	2,700
Chemicals	3,700	3,600	100	2.8	3,500
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**58,800**	**60,100**	**-1,300**	**-2.2**	**58,900**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**2,900**	**2,800**	**100**	**3.6**	**2,900**
TRADE	**20,900**	**22,000**	**-1,100**	**-5.0**	**21,000**
Wholesale	3,900	4,000	-100	-2.5	4,000
Retail	17,000	18,000	-1,000	-5.6	17,000
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**3,500**	**3,600**	**-100**	**-2.8**	**3,500**
SERVICES	**23,100**	**23,500**	**-400**	**-1.7**	**23,200**
GOVERNMENT	**8,400**	**8,200**	**200**	**2.4**	**8,300**
Federal	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local	7,600	7,400	200	2.7	7,500

For further information on the Danbury Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 566-3472.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1995.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

DANIELSON LMA

(Not seasonally adjusted)

	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JUL 1996
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**20,500**	**19,800**	**700**	**3.5**	**20,100**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**6,900**	**6,800**	**100**	**1.5**	**6,700**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**1,100**	**900**	**200**	**22.2**	**1,000**
MANUFACTURING	**5,800**	**5,900**	**-100**	**-1.7**	**5,700**
Durable Goods	2,800	2,700	100	3.7	2,600
Nondurable Goods	3,000	3,200	-200	-6.3	3,100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**13,600**	**13,000**	**600**	**4.6**	**13,400**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**400**	**400**	**0**	**0.0**	**400**
TRADE	**5,400**	**4,900**	**500**	**10.2**	**5,300**
Wholesale	700	700	0	0.0	700
Retail	4,700	4,200	500	11.9	4,600
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**500**	**500**	**0**	**0.0**	**500**
SERVICES	**4,400**	**4,300**	**100**	**2.3**	**4,300**
GOVERNMENT	**2,900**	**2,900**	**0**	**0.0**	**2,900**
Federal	100	100	0	0.0	100
State & Local	2,800	2,800	0	0.0	2,800

For further information on the Danielson Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 566-7823.

HARTFORD LMA

(Not seasonally adjusted)

	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JUL 1996
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**575,600**	**576,200**	**-600**	**-0.1**	**578,100**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**110,900**	**110,700**	**200**	**0.2**	**110,000**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**22,200**	**21,800**	**400**	**1.8**	**22,400**
MANUFACTURING	**88,700**	**88,900**	**-200**	**-0.2**	**87,600**
Durable Goods	69,600	69,200	400	0.6	68,600
Primary & Fabricated Metals	16,300	16,900	-600	-3.6	15,700
Industrial Machinery	14,600	14,700	-100	-0.7	14,300
Electronic Equipment	6,100	5,800	300	5.2	6,100
Transportation Equipment	24,600	23,600	1,000	4.2	24,800
Nondurable Goods	19,100	19,700	-600	-3.0	19,000
Printing & Publishing	7,800	7,900	-100	-1.3	7,700
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**464,700**	**465,500**	**-800**	**-0.2**	**468,100**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**23,700**	**23,500**	**200**	**0.9**	**23,700**
Transportation	13,900	13,800	100	0.7	14,000
Communications & Utilities	9,800	9,700	100	1.0	9,700
TRADE	**121,000**	**122,500**	**-1,500**	**-1.2**	**120,900**
Wholesale	29,700	28,800	900	3.1	29,300
Retail	91,300	93,700	-2,400	-2.6	91,600
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**71,600**	**73,500**	**-1,900**	**-2.6**	**71,900**
Deposit & Nondeposit Institutions	12,100	11,900	200	1.7	12,100
Insurance Carriers	47,700	49,400	-1,700	-3.4	48,000
SERVICES	**159,100**	**158,600**	**500**	**0.3**	**160,500**
Health Services	56,800	57,000	-200	-0.4	57,300
GOVERNMENT	**89,300**	**87,400**	**1,900**	**2.2**	**91,100**
Federal	8,700	8,800	-100	-1.1	8,700
State & Local	80,600	78,600	2,000	2.5	82,400

For further information on the Hartford Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 566-3472.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1995.

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

LOWER RIVER LMA

(Not seasonally adjusted)

	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JUL 1996
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**9,700**	**9,300**	**400**	**4.3**	**9,600**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**3,300**	**3,300**	**0**	**0.0**	**3,200**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**400**	**400**	**0**	**0.0**	**400**
MANUFACTURING	**2,900**	**2,900**	**0**	**0.0**	**2,800**
Durable Goods	2,200	2,300	-100	-4.3	2,100
Electronic Equipment	800	800	0	0.0	700
Other Durable Goods	1,400	1,500	-100	-6.7	1,400
Nondurable Goods	700	600	100	16.7	700
Rubber & Plastics	300	300	0	0.0	300
Other Nondurable Goods	400	300	100	33.3	400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**6,400**	**6,000**	**400**	**6.7**	**6,400**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**400**	**400**	**0**	**0.0**	**400**
TRADE	**2,200**	**1,800**	**400**	**22.2**	**2,200**
Wholesale	300	300	0	0.0	300
Retail	1,900	1,500	400	26.7	1,900
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**300**	**300**	**0**	**0.0**	**300**
SERVICES	**2,700**	**2,800**	**-100**	**-3.6**	**2,600**
GOVERNMENT	**800**	**700**	**100**	**14.3**	**900**
Federal	0	0	0	0.0	0
State & Local	800	700	100	14.3	900

For further information on the Lower River Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 566-7823.

NEW HAVEN LMA

(Not seasonally adjusted)

	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JUL 1996
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**243,300 ***	**241,100 ***	**2,200**	**0.9**	**242,300 ***
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**49,600**	**48,400**	**1,200**	**2.5**	**49,000**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**9,900**	**8,600**	**1,300**	**15.1**	**9,600**
MANUFACTURING	**39,700**	**39,800**	**-100**	**-0.3**	**39,400**
Durable Goods	25,300	25,400	-100	-0.4	25,400
Primary & Fabricated Metals	7,000	7,200	-200	-2.8	7,100
Electronic Equipment	5,100	5,000	100	2.0	5,100
Nondurable Goods	14,400	14,400	0	0.0	14,000
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,200	5,200	0	0.0	5,200
Chemicals & Allied	5,100	5,000	100	2.0	5,100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**193,700 ***	**192,700 ***	**1,000**	**0.5**	**193,300 ***
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**16,500**	**16,600**	**-100**	**-0.6**	**16,600**
Communications & Utilities	9,100	9,300	-200	-2.2	9,100
TRADE	**51,700 ***	**50,600 ***	**1,100**	**2.2**	**51,000 ***
Wholesale	11,400 *	11,800 *	-400	-3.4	11,400 *
Retail	40,300	38,800	1,500	3.9	39,600
Eating & Drinking Places	12,900	12,000	900	7.5	12,600
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**14,300**	**14,000**	**300**	**2.1**	**14,200**
Finance	4,100	4,200	-100	-2.4	4,100
Insurance	8,000	7,600	400	5.3	7,900
SERVICES	**80,900**	**81,700**	**-800**	**-1.0**	**81,400**
Business Services	11,400	10,600	800	7.5	11,200
Health Services	28,800	28,700	100	0.3	28,800
GOVERNMENT	**30,300**	**29,800**	**500**	**1.7**	**30,100**
Federal	5,000	5,400	-400	-7.4	4,900
State & Local	25,300	24,400	900	3.7	25,200

For further information on the New Haven Labor Market Area contact Charles Joo at (860) 566-3470.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1995.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

NEW LONDON LMA

(Not seasonally adjusted)

	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JUL 1996
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**135,300**	**133,900**	**1,400**	**1.0**	**135,900**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**30,400**	**31,800**	**-1,400**	**-4.4**	**30,700**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**4,800**	**3,900**	**900**	**23.1**	**4,800**
MANUFACTURING	**25,600**	**27,900**	**-2,300**	**-8.2**	**25,900**
Durable Goods	16,300	18,300	-2,000	-10.9	16,800
Primary & Fabricated Metals	2,300	2,100	200	9.5	2,200
Other Durable Goods	14,000	16,200	-2,200	-13.6	14,600
Nondurable Goods	9,300	9,600	-300	-3.1	9,100
Paper & Allied	1,100	1,100	0	0.0	1,000
Other Nondurable Goods	6,700	7,000	-300	-4.3	6,700
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**104,900**	**102,100**	**2,800**	**2.7**	**105,200**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**6,300**	**6,200**	**100**	**1.6**	**6,300**
TRADE	**30,000**	**29,000**	**1,000**	**3.4**	**29,700**
Wholesale	3,000	2,900	100	3.4	3,000
Retail	27,000	26,100	900	3.4	26,700
Eating & Drinking Places	9,400	9,200	200	2.2	9,400
Other Retail	17,600	16,900	700	4.1	17,400
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**3,700**	**3,400**	**300**	**8.8**	**3,700**
SERVICES	**33,300**	**32,900**	**400**	**1.2**	**33,700**
Personal & Business Services	6,200	6,100	100	1.6	6,200
Health Services	11,000	10,800	200	1.9	11,000
GOVERNMENT	**31,600**	**30,600**	**1,000**	**3.3**	**31,800**
Federal	3,600	3,900	-300	-7.7	3,600
State & Local	28,000	26,700	1,300	4.9	28,200
Local	23,300	21,600	1,700	7.9	23,400

For further information on the New London Labor Market Area contact Lincoln Dyer at (860) 566-3470.

STAMFORD LMA

(Not seasonally adjusted)

	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JUL 1996
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**196,500 ***	**190,900 ***	**5,600**	**2.9**	**196,900 ***
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**32,200 ***	**33,000 ***	**-800**	**-2.4**	**32,100 ***
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**5,600**	**5,400**	**200**	**3.7**	**5,600**
MANUFACTURING	**26,600 ***	**27,600 ***	**-1,000**	**-3.6**	**26,500 ***
Durable Goods	13,900	14,600	-700	-4.8	13,900
Industrial Machinery	3,900	4,200	-300	-7.1	3,900
Electronic Equipment	2,900	2,700	200	7.4	2,900
Nondurable Goods	12,700	13,000	-300	-2.3	12,600
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,300	5,300	0	0.0	5,200
Chemicals & Allied	3,400 *	3,400 *	0	0.0	3,400 *
Other Nondurable	4,000	4,300	-300	-7.0	4,000
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**164,300**	**157,900**	**6,400**	**4.1**	**164,800**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**8,800**	**8,600**	**200**	**2.3**	**8,800**
Communications & Utilities	3,000	2,800	200	7.1	2,900
TRADE	**41,500**	**42,400**	**-900**	**-2.1**	**41,400**
Wholesale	10,800	11,100	-300	**-2.7**	10,700
Retail	30,700	31,300	-600	**-1.9**	30,700
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**23,500**	**21,700**	**1,800**	**8.3**	**23,400**
SERVICES	**74,200**	**68,600**	**5,600**	**8.2**	**74,100**
Business Services	23,100	19,600	3,500	17.9	22,900
Engineering & Mgmnt. Services	9,100	8,600	500	5.8	9,100
Other Services	42,000	40,400	1,600	4.0	42,100
GOVERNMENT	**16,300**	**16,600**	**-300**	**-1.8**	**17,100**
Federal	1,900	1,900	0	0.0	1,900
State & Local	14,400	14,700	-300	-2.0	15,200

For further information on the Stamford Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 566-7823.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1995.

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

TORRINGTON LMA

(Not seasonally adjusted)

	1996	1995	NO.	%	1996
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**27,600**	**28,100**	**-500**	**-1.8**	**27,900**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**7,700**	**7,600**	**100**	**1.3**	**7,900**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**2,200**	**2,000**	**200**	**10.0**	**2,200**
MANUFACTURING	**5,500**	**5,600**	**-100**	**-1.8**	**5,700**
Durable Goods	3,800	4,000	-200	-5.0	3,900
Primary & Fabricated Metals	500	500	0	0.0	500
Industrial Machinery	1,000	1,100	-100	-9.1	1,000
Electronic Equipment	300	400	-100	-25.0	300
Other Durable Goods	2,000	2,000	0	0.0	2,100
Nondurable Goods	1,700	1,600	100	6.3	1,800
Rubber & Plastics	700	700	0	0.0	800
Other Nondurable Goods	1,000	900	100	11.1	1,000
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**19,900**	**20,500**	**-600**	**-2.9**	**20,000**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**800**	**700**	**100**	**14.3**	**800**
TRADE	**5,600**	**6,000**	**-400**	**-6.7**	**5,800**
Wholesale	1,000	1,000	0	0.0	1,000
Retail	4,600	5,000	-400	-8.0	4,800
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**900**	**900**	**0**	**0.0**	**900**
SERVICES	**9,300**	**9,500**	**-200**	**-2.1**	**9,200**
GOVERNMENT	**3,300**	**3,400**	**-100**	**-2.9**	**3,300**
Federal	200	200	0	0.0	200
State & Local	3,100	3,200	-100	-3.1	3,100

For further information on the Torrington Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 566-7823.

WATERBURY LMA

(Not seasonally adjusted)

	1996	1995	NO.	%	1996
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**85,000**	**82,500**	**2,500**	**3.0**	**85,700**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**21,400**	**20,800**	**600**	**2.9**	**21,200**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**3,100**	**2,900**	**200**	**6.9**	**3,000**
MANUFACTURING	**18,300**	**17,900**	**400**	**2.2**	**18,200**
Durable Goods	14,300	13,900	400	2.9	14,300
Primary Metals	700	700	0	0.0	700
Fabricated Metals	6,000	6,100	-100	-1.6	6,000
Machinery & Electric Equipment	5,000	4,800	200	4.2	5,000
Nondurable Goods	4,000	4,000	0	0.0	3,900
Paper, Printing & Publishing	1,200	1,200	0	0.0	1,100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**63,600**	**61,700**	**1,900**	**3.1**	**64,500**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**3,600**	**3,400**	**200**	**5.9**	**3,700**
TRADE	**15,800**	**16,500**	**-700**	**-4.2**	**15,900**
Wholesale	2,800	2,900	-100	-3.4	2,900
Retail	13,000	13,600	-600	-4.4	13,000
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**4,100**	**4,100**	**0**	**0.0**	**4,100**
SERVICES	**28,400**	**26,400**	**2,000**	**7.6**	**28,800**
Personal & Business	7,700	6,300	1,400	22.2	7,500
Health Services	10,300	10,200	100	1.0	10,200
GOVERNMENT	**11,700**	**11,300**	**400**	**3.5**	**12,000**
Federal	900	900	0	0.0	800
State & Local	10,800	10,400	400	3.8	11,200

For further information on the Waterbury Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 566-7823.

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

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

(Not seasonally adjusted)	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JUL 1996
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,768,700	1,742,400	26,300	1.5	1,788,200
	Employed	1,683,000	1,642,700	40,300	2.5	1,694,500
	Unemployed	85,700	99,700	-14,000	-14.0	93,700
	Unemployment Rate	4.8	5.7	-0.9	---	5.2
BRIDGEPORT LMA	Civilian Labor Force	225,600	224,700	900	0.4	228,200
	Employed	212,700	209,400	3,300	1.6	214,000
	Unemployed	12,900	15,300	-2,400	-15.7	14,200
	Unemployment Rate	5.7	6.8	-1.1	---	6.2
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	108,700	109,500	-800	-0.7	109,400
	Employed	105,000	105,300	-300	-0.3	105,200
	Unemployed	3,800	4,200	-400	-9.5	4,100
	Unemployment Rate	3.4	3.9	-0.5	---	3.8
DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	35,200	33,900	1,300	3.8	35,300
	Employed	33,300	31,800	1,500	4.7	33,200
	Unemployed	2,000	2,100	-100	-4.8	2,100
	Unemployment Rate	5.5	6.2	-0.7	---	5.9
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	599,500	595,300	4,200	0.7	607,200
	Employed	568,100	558,700	9,400	1.7	573,200
	Unemployed	31,400	36,700	-5,300	-14.4	34,000
	Unemployment Rate	5.2	6.2	-1.0	---	5.6
LOWER RIVER LMA	Civilian Labor Force	13,000	12,500	500	4.0	13,200
	Employed	12,500	12,100	400	3.3	12,700
	Unemployed	400	500	-100	-20.0	500
	Unemployment Rate	3.4	3.9	-0.5	---	3.9
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	281,400	275,500	5,900	2.1	283,000
	Employed	267,100	259,400	7,700	3.0	267,300
	Unemployed	14,300	16,100	-1,800	-11.2	15,700
	Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.8	-0.7	---	5.5
NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	160,400	156,700	3,700	2.4	162,400
	Employed	152,700	147,900	4,800	3.2	154,400
	Unemployed	7,800	8,800	-1,000	-11.4	8,000
	Unemployment Rate	4.8	5.6	-0.8	---	4.9
STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	198,800	191,300	7,500	3.9	201,000
	Employed	192,800	183,900	8,900	4.8	194,300
	Unemployed	6,000	7,400	-1,400	-18.9	6,600
	Unemployment Rate	3.0	3.9	-0.9	---	3.3
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	39,800	40,300	-500	-1.2	40,500
	Employed	38,300	38,500	-200	-0.5	38,700
	Unemployed	1,500	1,800	-300	-16.7	1,800
	Unemployment Rate	3.8	4.5	-0.7	---	4.5
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	122,200	118,100	4,100	3.5	124,400
	Employed	116,000	110,600	5,400	4.9	117,200
	Unemployed	6,200	7,500	-1,300	-17.3	7,200
	Unemployment Rate	5.1	6.4	-1.3	---	5.8
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	135,011,000	133,383,000	1,628,000	1.2	136,272,000
	Employed	128,143,000	125,926,000	2,217,000	1.8	128,579,000
	Unemployed	6,868,000	7,457,000	-589,000	-7.9	7,693,000
	Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.6	-0.5	---	5.6

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1995.

MANUFACTURING HOURS AND EARNINGS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHNG Y/Y	JUL 1996	AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHNG Y/Y	JUL 1996	AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHNG Y/Y	JUL 1996
MANUFACTURING	**$596.28**	**$581.83**	**$14.45**	**$592.35**	**42.5**	**42.5**	**0.0**	**42.1**	**$14.03**	**$13.69**	**$0.34**	**$14.07**
DURABLE GOODS	**606.48**	**592.57**	**13.91**	**605.15**	**42.5**	**42.6**	**-0.1**	**42.2**	**14.27**	**13.91**	**0.36**	**14.34**
Lumber & Furniture	478.19	467.58	10.62	463.49	41.8	42.2	-0.4	40.8	11.44	11.08	0.36	11.36
Stone, Clay and Glas	622.42	614.65	7.77	585.93	45.8	46.6	-0.8	42.8	13.59	13.19	0.40	13.69
Primary Metals	584.29	532.77	51.52	587.40	44.5	43.0	1.5	44.0	13.13	12.39	0.74	13.35
Fabricated Metals	575.34	550.83	24.51	574.32	43.0	42.7	0.3	42.7	13.38	12.90	0.48	13.45
Machinery	651.21	658.16	-6.95	645.01	44.3	44.5	-0.2	43.7	14.70	14.79	-0.09	14.76
Electrical Equipment	487.55	478.38	9.17	486.80	41.6	42.0	-0.4	41.5	11.72	11.39	0.33	11.73
Trans. Equipment	740.48	721.52	18.96	746.43	41.6	41.9	-0.3	41.7	17.80	17.22	0.58	17.90
Instruments	539.34	538.20	1.14	538.24	40.4	41.4	-1.0	40.9	13.35	13.00	0.35	13.16
Miscellaneous Mfg	551.34	518.16	33.18	533.25	41.8	40.8	1.0	39.5	13.19	12.70	0.49	13.50
NONDUR. GOODS	**573.40**	**554.93**	**18.47**	**560.54**	**42.6**	**42.2**	**0.4**	**41.8**	**13.46**	**13.15**	**0.31**	**13.41**
Food	511.58	512.45	-0.87	512.55	43.8	44.6	-0.8	45.0	11.68	11.49	0.19	11.39
Textiles	487.52	449.90	37.62	478.55	44.0	40.9	3.1	42.5	11.08	11.00	0.08	11.26
Apparel	352.08	341.20	10.87	336.15	40.1	39.4	0.7	39.5	8.78	8.66	0.12	8.51
Paper	694.34	660.10	34.24	682.42	46.6	46.0	0.6	45.8	14.90	14.35	0.55	14.90
Printing & Publishing	559.15	521.86	37.30	534.66	39.6	38.4	1.2	38.0	14.12	13.59	0.53	14.07
Chemicals	775.27	763.39	11.88	764.29	45.1	44.8	0.3	44.8	17.19	17.04	0.15	17.06
Rubber & Misc. Plast.	479.41	471.24	8.17	471.64	41.4	42.0	-0.6	39.7	11.58	11.22	0.36	11.88
CONSTRUCTION	**795.93**	**768.75**	**27.18**	**792.28**	**42.7**	**42.1**	**0.6**	**42.3**	**18.64**	**18.26**	**0.38**	**18.73**

LMAs

(Not seasonally adjusted) MANUFACTURING	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHNG Y/Y	JUL 1996	AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHNG Y/Y	JUL 1996	AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHNG Y/Y	JUL 1996
Bridgeport	$619.91	$592.20	$27.71	$619.25	42.9	42.0	0.9	41.7	$14.45	$14.10	$0.35	$14.85
Danbury	671.89	603.91	67.98	647.22	45.8	44.9	0.9	44.3	14.67	13.45	1.22	14.61
Danielson	504.61	479.00	25.61	492.79	42.8	41.4	1.4	41.1	11.79	11.57	0.22	11.99
Hartford	630.89	594.58	36.31	635.38	42.2	42.5	-0.3	42.5	14.95	13.99	0.96	14.95
Lower River	488.71	492.63	-3.92	470.03	39.7	42.8	-3.1	39.3	12.31	11.51	0.80	11.96
New Haven	560.97	522.37	38.60	557.02	41.4	40.4	1.0	41.6	13.55	12.93	0.62	13.39
New London	628.73	628.28	0.45	616.98	42.8	43.3	-0.5	42.0	14.69	14.51	0.18	14.69
Stamford	574.08	555.26	18.83	566.14	41.6	40.5	1.1	40.7	13.80	13.71	0.09	13.91
Torrington	538.04	488.03	50.01	527.10	42.6	40.3	2.3	41.9	12.63	12.11	0.52	12.58
Waterbury	566.37	562.61	3.76	554.26	43.4	44.3	-0.9	42.8	13.05	12.70	0.35	12.95

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1995.

NEW HOUSING PERMITS

	AUG 1996	AUG 1995	CHANGE Y/Y UNITS	CHANGE Y/Y %	-YEAR TO DATE- 1996	-YEAR TO DATE- 1995	CHANGE YTD UNITS	CHANGE YTD %	JUL 1996
Connecticut	710	889	-179	-20.1	4,955	5,706	-751	-13.2	764
Counties:									
Fairfield	149	164	-15	-9.1	991	1,590	-599	-37.7	133
Hartford	143	147	-4	-2.7	1,154	1,003	151	15.1	187
Litchfield	71	51	20	39.2	398	400	-2	-0.5	51
Middlesex	41	57	-16	-28.1	327	373	-46	-12.3	51
New Haven	160	294	-134	-45.6	1,018	1,220	-202	-16.6	128
New London	59	87	-28	-32.2	540	583	-43	-7.4	113
Tolland	61	51	10	19.6	334	314	20	6.4	71
Windham	26	38	-12	-31.6	193	223	-30	-13.5	30

HOUSING PERMIT ACTIVITY BY TOWN

TOWN	AUG 1996	YR TO DATE 1996	YR TO DATE 1995
Andover	5	19	15
Ansonia	2	15	21
Ashford	1	8	14
Avon	3	45	31
Barkhamsted	2	12	2
Beacon Falls	7	16	10
Berlin	5	51	40
Bethany	1	19	16
Bethel	3	25	22
Bethlehem	2	8	9
Bloomfield	1	8	8
Bolton	2	19	11
Bozrah	1	3	8
Branford	6	28	37
Bridgeport	0	12	41
Bridgewater	1	5	9
Bristol	5	68	68
Brookfield	3	29	25
Brooklyn	3	13	21
Burlington	11	45	33
Canaan*	0	0	3
Canterbury*	2	17	21
Canton	4	24	23
Chaplin*	1	8	6
Cheshire	6	48	67
Chester	0	8	19
Clinton	2	20	19
Colchester*	3	30	85
Colebrook	3	11	6
Columbia	5	23	19
Cornwall*	0	0	3
Coventry	9	47	36
Cromwell	5	36	33
Danbury*	3	30	39
Darien*	1	11	15
Deep River	0	8	12
Derby*	1	8	10
Durham*	1	10	24
East Granby	8	22	12
East Haddam*	3	26	36
East Hampton	1	24	26
East Hartford	0	3	1
East Haven*	3	24	40
East Lyme	5	43	56
East Windsor	5	46	34
Eastford*	0	1	3
Easton*	0	3	19
Ellington	11	54	29
Enfield	7	25	29
Essex	1	13	15
Fairfield	9	77	99
Farmington	13	83	45
Franklin*	0	0	8
Glastonbury	11	115	97
Goshen	0	5	9
Granby*	2	19	53
Greenwich*	4	38	65
Griswold	7	64	37
Groton	8	42	32
Guilford	9	66	51
Haddam	3	13	15
Hamden*	4	36	73
Hampton*	1	8	6
Hartford	2	23	0
Hartland	1	2	15
Harwinton	5	22	6
Hebron	6	22	28
Kent*	0	0	22
Killingly*	2	18	27
Killingworth	2	36	40
Lebanon	4	26	15
Ledyard*	3	28	24
Lisbon*	2	17	16
Litchfield	4	22	18
Lyme	1	5	6
Madison	8	54	70
Manchester	5	48	50
Mansfield	4	30	32
Marlborough	9	23	13
Meriden*	2	18	27
Middlebury	10	19	17
Middlefield	1	11	9
Middletown	15	91	68
Milford	10	107	140
Monroe	16	89	72
Montville	3	27	44
Morris	0	6	4
Naugatuck	4	40	55
New Britain*	2	15	28
New Canaan	1	32	24
New Fairfield*	3	26	40
New Hartford	7	19	24
New Haven*	3	26	24
New London*	0	0	2
New Milford	12	90	63
Newington	1	7	21
Newtown*	8	68	147
Norfolk*	0	1	3
North Branford	9	48	25
North Canaan*	2	17	8
North Haven	5	20	50
N. Stonington	1	15	14
Norwalk	9	91	69
Norwich	0	12	24
Old Lyme	7	53	33
Old Saybrook	6	22	22
Orange	2	20	9
Oxford	7	43	46
Plainfield	4	35	27
Plainville*	0	0	24
Plymouth*	3	26	12
Pomfret	1	24	14
Portland*	0	2	18
Preston	5	9	18
Prospect	1	22	27
Putnam*	1	8	15
Redding*	2	17	20
Ridgefield*	6	55	90
Rocky Hill	5	125	53
Roxbury	1	6	17
Salem	0	10	23
Salisbury	1	4	7
Scotland	0	6	5
Seymour*	2	15	13
Sharon	0	5	14
Shelton	28	122	167
Sherman	0	6	22
Simsbury	7	42	44
Somers	4	26	16
South Windsor	9	55	50
Southbury	18	39	48
Southington	15	137	82
Sprague	0	3	3
Stafford	2	20	26
Stamford	11	116	465
Sterling	0	8	18
Stonington*	4	37	34
Stratford	1	21	23
Suffield	6	43	16
Thomaston	3	15	12
Thompson*	2	17	12
Tolland	9	43	62
Torrington	5	53	68
Trumbull	21	55	48
Union	0	0	8
Vernon	1	21	20
Voluntown	1	6	11
Wallingford*	13	118	108
Warren*	1	8	1
Washington*	1	8	38
Waterbury	11	42	165
Waterford	4	110	90
Watertown	14	23	20
West Hartford	0	13	26
West Haven*	1	10	10
Westbrook*	1	7	17
Weston	3	20	12
Westport*	1	9	17
Wethersfield	4	62	44
Willington	3	10	12
Wilton	16	39	49
Winchester	0	3	5
Windham	6	8	15
Windsor*	0	0	51
Windsor Locks	2	5	12
Wolcott	12	102	49
Woodbridge	3	15	12
Woodbury	4	29	17
Woodstock*	2	14	19

** Not reported -- figures are estimated*

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.

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. 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.

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) 566-7823 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	**+2.4**
Coincident Employment Index	**+6.4**
Total Nonfarm Employment	**+1.1**
Unemployment	**-0.8***
Labor Force	+1.6
Employed	+2.5
Unemployed	-14.7
Average Weekly Initial Claims	**-11.9**
Help Wanted Index -- Hartford	**0.0**
Average Ins. Unempl. Rate	**-0.38***
Average Weekly Hours	**0.0**
Average Hourly Earnings	**+2.5**
Average Weekly Earnings	**+2.5**
Manufacturing Output	**+1.9**
Production Worker Hours	-0.5
Productivity	+2.3
UI Covered Wages	**+3.4**
Personal Income	**+4.8**
Real Personal Income	**+2.0**

**Percentage point change; ** Less than 0.05 percent*

New Housing Permits	**-20.1**
Electricity Sales	**-0.3**
Retail Sales	**+5.0**
Construction Contracts Index	**+53.8**
Business Starts	
Secretary of the State	+17.4
Dept. of Labor	+5.5
Business Terminations	
Secretary of the State	+10.6
Dept. of Labor	-26.7
State Tax Collections	**+6.9**
Corporate Tax	-15.1
Personal Income Tax	-4.3
Real Estate Conveyance Tax	+0.3
Sales & Use Tax	+12.1
Transportation	
Air Cargo Tons	+11.5
Air Passenger Count	+11.0
New Auto Registrations	+62.6

Tourism	
Tourism Inquiries	-3.6
Tourism Info Centers	-3.5
Attraction Visitors	-7.9
Hotel-Motel Occupancy	1.8
Employment Cost Index	
Compensation Costs	+2.9
Wages & Salaries	+3.4
Benefit Costs	+1.7
Consumer Price Index	
U.S. City Average	+2.9
Northeast Region	+2.7
NY-NJ-Long Island	+2.7
Boston-Lawrence-Salem	+2.7
Consumer Confidence	
U.S.	+6.8
New England	+15.2
Interest Rates	
Prime	-0.50*
Conventional Mortgage	+0.14*

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