

ECONOMIC DIGEST

OCTOBER 1997

- The services industry experienced the second fastest growth in earnings between 1990 and 1996. (article, pp.1-4)
- August's nonfarm employment decreased by 200 from July, but increased by 28,400 from a year ago. (p.6)
- The unemployment rate dropped to 4.6 percent in August. (p.6)
- Housing permits rose 11.5 percent over the year, and were up 26.7 percent through August from last year. (p.7)
- The number of new car registrations processed through August was 1.1 percent below the last year's for the same period. (p.7)

● IN THIS ISSUE ●

Housing Update	3
Leading & Coincident Indicators	5
Economic Indicators	6-8
Comparative Regional Data	9
Economic Indicator Trends ...	10-13
Nonfarm Empl. Estimates	14-19
Labor Force Estimates	20
Hours and Earnings	21
Housing Permit Activity	21-22
Technical Notes	23
At a Glance	24

Earnings by industry in the nineties

by Daniel W. Kennedy, Ph.D., Associate Analyst

Earnings by Industry has rarely been the focus of attention by commentators and analysts of Personal Income. This is not to be confused with the industry earnings of individual, publicly traded corporations reported by the financial press, tracked by rating and financial analysis companies, such as Standard & Poor, and whose quarterly performance is eagerly anticipated by investors. Earnings by industry is another perspective on the composition of the Personal Income series published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), which is the income received by persons from all sources, where persons are defined as individuals, nonprofit institutions that serve individuals, private noninsured welfare funds, and private trust funds. The usual sources of Personal Income (PI) that are followed are Wages and Salaries (W&S); Dividends, Interest, and Rent (DIR); and Transfer Payments. This article, however, takes the perspective that many insights into the expected growth and volatility in Connecticut's income performance may be overlooked due to the lack of awareness of the affect of industry-related earnings on Total PI.

The basis for the presentation of earnings by industry is Earn-

ings by Place of Work. Earnings by Place of Work is the core component of PI before adjustments are made for Personal Contributions to Social Insurance and for Residence, and before adding in DIR and Transfer Payments, to obtain the residence-based Total PI. Earnings by Place of Work is income earned by persons employed (or self-employed) in Connecticut, irrespective of their state of residence and is composed of

Table 1: CONNECTICUT EARNINGS BY PLACE OF WORK
1990:Q4 and 1996:Q4 (\$ Million)

Earnings by Place of Work	1990:Q4	1996:Q4	Change	% Chg
Wage & Salary Distributions	49,317	60,324	11,007	22.3
Other Labor Income	5,776	7,382	1,606	27.8
Proprietors' Income	5,285	7,244	1,959	37.1
Total	60,378	74,950	14,572	24.1

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (1997)

Wage and Salary Disbursements, Other Labor Income, and Proprietors' Income (both farm and nonfarm). In the aggregate, Earnings by Place of Work and Earnings by Industry are the same; the terms may be used interchangeably depending on the components of earnings being observed.

The discussion below concentrates on the growth of Earnings by Industry from the fourth quarter of 1990 (1990:Q4) to the fourth quarter of 1996 (1996:Q4), the period covered by the estimates and revisions published in the April 1997 BEA release of State Quarterly Personal Income. All values are in current dollars. The analysis is focused on the Stan-

standard Industrial Classification (SIC) division level, since quarterly data only provides earnings at the industry division level. In September 1997, BEA released newly updated and revised annual Personal Income data through 1996, which will include earnings down to the two-digit SIC level. A follow-up article including this new information, and extending this analysis to the detailed, two-digit industry level may be the subject of a future issue of the *Digest*.

All absolute and relative changes in the following discussion are from the fourth quarter of one year to the next, reflecting Year-to-Year (YTY) changes, unless otherwise stated. Also, since the quarterly PI series is published in quarterly, annualized form, the changes discussed in this analysis will be on the same basis.

Table 1 on the front page presents Earnings by Place of Work for Connecticut for 1990:Q4, 1996:Q4, the change, and the percent change for the above discussed major components. For the 1990:Q4-1996:Q4 comparison period, growth in Wages and Salaries lagged behind Proprietors' Income and Other Labor Income, which both grew faster than Wages and Salaries and overall Earnings by Place of Work. This trend has, of course, been well documented over the last couple of years. However, Wages and Salaries seem to have broken out of their doldrums over the last year or so. Thus, the stagnation in growth may have been broken.

To put the trends discussed here in perspective, recall that in 1990:Q4, Connecticut was well into the Great Recession and had already shed 75,200 jobs from the average quarterly, seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment level of 1.672 million for 1988:Q4. As of 1996:Q4, all of the nonfarm employment lost during the recession still had not been recovered, although job growth in 1996 turned in the best performance of the decade so far.

Performance of the Private Nonfarm Industry Divisions

Table 2 on page 3 presents the nine industry divisions that make up total Private Nonfarm Earnings, or simply Private Earnings. Divisions in boldface grew faster than overall Private Earnings. Though a small industry division in Connecticut, earnings in the Agricultural, Forestry, and Fishing division grew the fastest at nearly 46% between 1990 and 1996. The second largest growth rate was that of the Services division at almost 42%. Services also had the largest share of Private Earnings in both 1990:Q4 and 1996:Q4. Mining, another small industry in Connecticut, turned in the third best performance at just under 34%. The Nondurable Goods subsector under the Manufacturing division and the Transportation and Public Utilities (TPU) division, with growth rates of around 31%, also grew faster than overall Private Earnings over the 1990-96 comparison period. The remaining divisions, including Durable Goods under Manufacturing, all grew more slowly than overall Private Earnings, although the Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate (FIRE) division, for all practical purposes, grew at about the same rate as overall Private Earnings.

Connecticut Private Earnings: 1990 to 1996

The seven SIC divisions that accounted for 99% of Connecticut Private Earnings in 1996:Q4 are depicted in Table 3. The fourth-quarter, Year-to-Year (YTY) percent change beginning with 1990-91 and ending with 1995-96 are presented for each of the seven divisions and Total Private Earnings. The bottom row of Table 3 gives the range of the percent changes over the six-year period. The range is the difference between the highest and lowest values. It will serve as a quick and simple indicator of the variation in growth rates of over the 1990-96

THE CONNECTICUT

ECONOMIC DIGEST

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

The views expressed by authors are theirs alone and do not necessarily reflect those of the Departments of Labor or Economic and Community Development.

To receive this publication free of charge write to: *The Connecticut Economic Digest*, Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research, 200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109; or call: (860) 566-7823. Current subscribers who do not wish to continue receiving the publication or who have a change of address are asked to fill out the information on the back cover and return it to the above address.

Contributing DOL Staff: Salvatore DiPillo, Lincoln S. Dyer, Arthur Famiglietti and Joseph Slepski. **Managing Editor:** J. Charles Joo. **Contributing DECD Staff:** Todd Bentsen, Sandy Bergin, Kolie Chang 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
William R. Bellotti, Deputy Commissioner
Jean E. Zurbrigen, Deputy Commissioner

Roger F. Therrien, Director
Office of Research
200 Folly Brook Boulevard
Wethersfield, CT 06109
Phone: (860) 566-7823
Fax: (860) 566-7963
E-Mail: salvatore.dipillo@po.state.ct.us



Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

James F. Abromaitis, Commissioner
Larry Alibozek, Deputy Commissioner
Richard M. Cianci, Deputy Commissioner

Program Planning & Evaluation Division
505 Hudson Street
Hartford, CT 06106
Phone: (860) 270-8161
Fax: (860) 270-8174
E-Mail: decd@po.state.ct.us



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

period. The higher the value of the range, the larger the variation in the YTY fourth-quarter growth rates and the more volatile the growth performance. Conversely, a small range value indicates a more consistent and steadier growth rate over the 1990-1996 period. The range of 8.2 percentage points for Private Earnings will be compared against the range values for the industry divisions to determine whether or not a given division experienced more or less volatile growth over the period, relative to overall Connecticut Private Earnings.

try division has had the most volatile growth in earnings over the 1990-96 period. This industry division experienced growth as high as 28.3% over the 1991-1992

the growth rates of annualized earnings for FIRE were large enough to significantly affect total Private Earnings for Connecticut in at least three instances. For the 1991-1992 period, the annualized increase in private earnings was \$4.5 billion. Eighty percent, or \$3.6 billion of that increase, was accounted for by two industry divisions: FIRE and Services. Furthermore, more than one-half of the increase accounted for by these two divisions was that of FIRE. Though the FIRE division accounted for 12.5% of Connecticut Private Non-farm Earnings for 1991:Q4 (compared to Services

Table 2: CONNECTICUT PRIVATE EARNINGS BY MAJOR DIVISION
1990:Q4 and 1996:Q4 (\$ Million)

Major Industry Division	1990:Q4	1996:Q4	Change	% Chg
Agri., For., Fish.	287	418	131	45.7
Mining	56	75	19	33.9
Construction	3,016	3,286	270	9.0
Manufacturing	14,206	15,831	1,625	11.4
Durable Goods	10,612	11,117	505	4.8
Nondurable Goods	3,594	4,714	1,120	31.2
Transport., Public Utilities	2,979	3,903	924	31.0
Wholesale Trade	4,111	5,090	979	23.8
Retail Trade	5,355	6,096	741	13.8
Finance, Insur., Real Estate	6,928	8,618	1,690	24.4
Services	15,910	22,528	6,618	41.6
Total Private	52,848*	65,845	12,997	24.6

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (1997)
*Due to rounding, there is a slight difference between Private Earnings here, and the BEA estimate (52,847).

Volatility in Private Earnings

As is evident from Table 3 on page 4, with a range of 39.3 percentage points, the Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate indus-

try division, exceeding that of any other division, and losses as large as 11.0% for the 1993-1994 period; again, no other division suffered as big a decline in earnings from one period to the next. The swings in

which accounted for 30.1% of total private earnings), it contributed 41.4% of the annualized growth in private earnings over the 1991-1992 period. For the 1992-1993 period, more than one-half of all

HOUSING UPDATE

August: housing permits increase

Newly-appointed Commissioner James F. Abromaitis of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development today announced that Connecticut communities authorized 792 new housing units in August 1997, an 11.5% increase compared to August of 1996 when 710 were authorized.

The Department further indicated that the 792 units permitted in August 1997 represent a decrease of 9.1% from the 871 units permitted in July 1997. The year-to-date

permits are up 26.7%, however, from 4,955 through August 1996, to 6279 through August 1997.

"The significant increase in the year-to-date numbers is an encouraging sign that the housing sector is catching up with the rest of Connecticut's economic recovery," Commissioner Abromaitis said. "Of all the recent indicators of a growing economy, the increase in permits is one of the strongest."

Reports from municipal officials throughout the state indicate that Litchfield County

with 69% showed the greatest percentage increase in August compared to the same month a year ago. Hartford County followed with a 28% increase.

Hartford County documented the largest number of new, authorized units in August with 183. Fairfield County followed with 166 units and New Haven County had 131 units. Litchfield led all Connecticut communities with 68 units, followed by Danbury with 54, and Southington with 22. ■

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

The annual housing permit report for 1996 is available from the Department of Economic and Community Development. To obtain a copy, please call (860)270-8161 or fax requests to (860)270-8174.

the annualized gain in private earnings for Connecticut was accounted for by FIRE. On the other hand, large losses in the FIRE division could also significantly dampen overall private earnings for Connecticut. For instance, healthy gains in private earnings for Construction, Retail Trade, Services, and TPU were offset by a \$1.03 billion, or 11.0% annualized decline in earnings for FIRE over the 1993-1994 comparison period.

The next most volatile track record in earnings is that of the TPU division with a range value of 17.9 percentage points. TPU's earnings grew by 14.3% over the 1994-1995 period, and then suffered its only decline in earnings (-3.6%) over the 1995-1996 period. Up until 1994, the annual growth in earnings for TPU was relatively stable with a range value of 3.9 over the 1990-91 to 1993-94 period, much lower than the 8.2 range value for total Private Earnings.

Wholesale Trade, the division with the next most variation in its earnings growth, has a range value of 13.9. This division experienced ups and downs in earnings between the 1990-91 and 1993-94 periods, then had a 10.6% spurt in growth over the 1994-95 period, followed by a modest 4.7% growth in earnings for 1995-96. Though displaying some variation over the entire period of analysis, the Wholesale Trade division certainly has not displayed the extreme volatility characterized by the FIRE Division.

Construction's variation in earnings growth has a range of 13.0. The 5.7% decline in earnings from 1990-91 clearly reflects the collapse of the real estate bubble in Connecticut and New England. The remainder of the comparison periods show an up-and-down

pattern for earnings growth. Earnings increased 7.3% in 1993-94 followed by a 4.5% decline in 1994-95, then a 6.5% spurt in growth for 1995-96. Nevertheless these swings in growth do not approach the magnitudes of those for FIRE, Wholesale, and Services.

Both the Retail Trade and Services range values are fairly close to that for all Private Earnings. If the 3.2% decline in earnings for Retail between 1990 and 1991 (coinciding with the period in which Connecticut experienced its largest contraction of employment during the 1989-92 Recession) is removed, the range value for Retail Trade drops to 4.8 percentage points. Earnings in Services grew

1990-96 year-to-year analysis are not skewing the results, the range based on the quarter-to-quarter percent changes for all 27 quarters of the data-series were calculated. There is a slight realignment of the rankings when going from the fourth quarter, year-to-year changes to the quarter-to-quarter changes over all 27 quarters. Notably, TPU drops from second to fourth, and Manufacturing drops from fifth to seventh. Even more notable is the FIRE division's maintaining its strong number one ranking in earnings volatility.

Implications for Connecticut

A significant insight gained by this perspective on Personal

Income is the volatile behavior of earnings in the FIRE division. It is this focus on industry earnings that has revealed the disproportionate influence that FIRE has had on the performance of private earnings in Connecticut during the nineties. Furthermore, in 1996:Q4, FIRE accounted for 9.1% of

U.S. Private Earnings and 11.1% of private earnings for New England, but it accounted for 13.1% of private earnings for Connecticut. Thus, this volatile division has a greater impact on Connecticut's private earnings performance than it does on that of the U.S. or New England. Obviously, this would be of interest to those who depend upon the forecast of expected Personal Income for projecting expected income tax revenues and, since Disposable Income is derived from PI, for forecasting sales tax revenues, as well. Others, too, like marketers and corporate planners have a need to know, not only the level and growth in income of an area for forecasting revenues, targeting sales, or for contemplated expansion, but equally as important, they must consider the stability of that income growth. ■

Table 3
CONNECTICUT'S YEAR-TO-YEAR PERCENT CHANGES IN 4TH QUARTER EARNINGS FOR SELECTED INDUSTRY DIVISIONS: 1990-96

Period	Trade							
	Private	Constr	TPU	Manuf	Retail	Whole	FIRE	Service
1990-91	0.3	-5.7	2.4	2.9	-3.2	-0.2	-4.5	2.0
1991-92	8.5	3.8	4.9	0.6	4.1	7.2	28.3	10.8
1992-93	3.0	2.0	6.3	-1.0	1.5	-3.3	10.8	4.0
1993-94	1.9	7.3	4.3	2.3	5.4	3.3	-11.0	5.3
1994-95	5.2	-4.5	14.3	3.6	0.6	10.6	3.2	7.4
1995-96	3.7	6.5	-3.6	2.6	4.9	4.7	-0.3	6.4
Range*	8.2	13.0	17.9	4.6	8.6	13.9	39.3	8.8

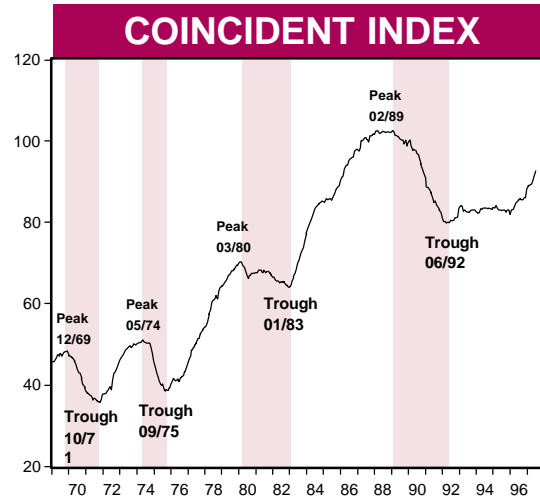
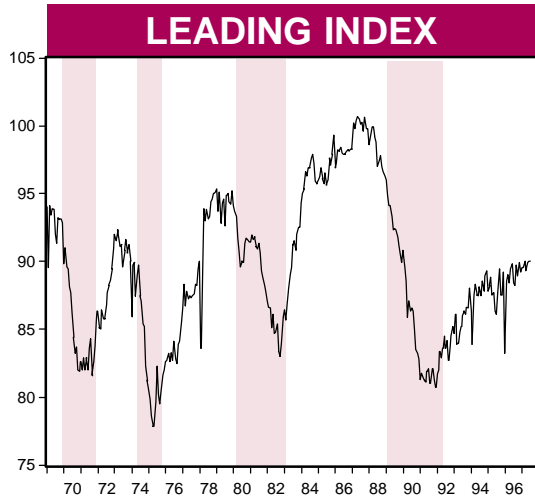
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (1997)
*The range is in percentage points.

at 4.0% or more from the 1991-92 to 1995-96 comparison periods. It grew 2.0% over the 1990-91 period.

The most stable growth record is that of Manufacturing with the lowest range value of all the divisions, at 4.6 percentage points. Manufacturing suffered a 1.0% loss in earnings over the 1992-1993 period. Its earnings-growth was positive, but flat, for the remainder of the analysis periods, exceeding 3% only once (1994-1995). Manufacturing continued to shed employment over the 1990-91 to 1994-95 periods of analysis. Then, over the 1995-96 period, the Manufacturing division gained one-quarter of a percent in employment, the first increase (regardless of how small), in 13 years.

Finally, just to ensure that growth phenomena specific to the

LEADING AND COINCIDENT INDICATORS



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 undergoes minor revision

This report marks a slight revision in the Connecticut leading employment index. The Connecticut Department of Labor stopped seasonally adjusting the average workweek of manufacturing production workers in 1997 because the seasonal factors were not too large. Nevertheless, we replaced this series with the seasonally adjusted series produced at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. This substitution of data introduces small adjustments in the series prior to 1997, since the two seasonally adjusted series have small differences due to differing methods of seasonal adjustment. Nevertheless, this substitution does not alter the basic movement of the leading index. That is, the leading index displays the same general pattern of movement over time.

The Connecticut coincident employment index, a barometer of current employment activity, reached another new peak in the current expansion with the release of the (preliminary) July data. In addition, the recent

upward movement in the coincident index (see chart) continues to accelerate when compared to its negligible growth early in the current recovery. The coincident index shows no sign of slowing or turning in the near future. The coincident index, by its very nature, however, does not provide a signal in advance about the turning of the economy. This is the task of the leading index.

Connecticut's leading employment index, a barometer of future employment activity, continues its see-saw upward movement, reaching its peak in the current expansion this month. The leading index possesses less upward momentum than the coincident index. It is a downward movement in the leading index, however, that signals the next downturn in the Connecticut economy. To date, that signal has not surfaced, even though the leading index exhibits less strength than the coincident index. A careful monitoring of the future movements of the leading index merits our attention.

In summary, the coincident employment index rose from 85.4 in July 1996 to 92.6 in July 1997. All four index components continue to point in a positive direction on a year-over-year basis with higher nonfarm employment, higher total employment, a lower insured unemployment rate, and a lower total unemployment rate.

The leading employment index rose from 88.2 in July 1996 to 90.0 in July 1997. Four index components sent positive signals on a year-over-year basis with a lower short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, higher total housing permits, lower initial claims for unemployment insurance, and higher Hartford help-wanted advertising. Finally, the average work week of manufacturing production workers remained unchanged on a year-over-year basis. ■

Source: Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut. Developed by Pami Dua [(203) 461-6644, Stamford Campus (on leave)] and Stephen M. Miller [(860) 486-3853, Storrs Campus]. Kathryn E. Parr [(860) 486-0485, Storrs Campus] provided research support.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF EMPLOYMENT

Total nonfarm employment rose by 1.8 percent with construction and mining surging with a 6.2 percent jump over the year.

EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISION

	AUG		CHANGE		JUL
	1997	1996	NO.	%	1997
<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>					
TOTAL NONFARM	1,620.3	1,591.9	28.4	1.8	1,620.5
Private Sector	1,392.7	1,368.2	24.5	1.8	1,391.4
Construction and Mining	56.5	53.2	3.3	6.2	56.5
Manufacturing	276.5	277.1	-0.6	-0.2	275.5
Transportation, Public Utilities	73.4	73.0	0.4	0.5	76.1
Wholesale, Retail Trade	355.2	348.5	6.7	1.9	353.4
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	130.3	130.3	0.0	0.0	130.1
Services	500.8	486.1	14.7	3.0	499.8
Government	227.6	223.7	3.9	1.7	229.1

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

The unemployment rate dived further down to 4.6 percent in August. The help wanted rose two index points over the year.

UNEMPLOYMENT

	AUG		CHANGE		JUL
	1997	1996	NO.	%	1997
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	4.6	5.7	-1.1	---	4.8
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,741.2	1,721.9	19.3	1.1	1,746.6
Employed (000s)	1,661.5	1,624.4	37.1	2.3	1,663.1
Unemployed (000s)	79.7	97.5	-17.8	-18.3	83.5
Average Weekly Initial Claims*	3,858	4,281	-423	-9.9	3,622
Help Wanted Index -- Htfd. (1987=100)	34	32	2	6.3	35
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	2.24	2.65	-0.41	---	2.31

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; The Conference Board

*The methodology for this series has been revised; See Technical Notes, p.23.

Manufacturing hourly earnings rose 3.6 percent from last year, as the weekly hours shrank by 1.2 percent.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

	AUG		CHANGE		JUL
	1997	1996	NO.	%	1997
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Average Weekly Hours	42.1	42.6	-0.5	-1.2	42.1
Average Hourly Earnings	\$14.51	\$14.01	\$0.50	3.6	\$14.58
Average Weekly Earnings	\$610.87	\$596.83	\$14.05	2.4	\$613.82
Mfg. Output Index (1982=100)*	120.7	120.3	0.4	0.3	121.0
Production Worker Hours (000s)	6,670	6,789	-119	-1.8	6,534
Productivity Index (1982=100)*	186.4	182.4	4.0	2.2	185.2

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

*Seasonally adjusted

Personal income for third quarter 1997 is forecasted to increase 6.6 percent from a year ago. Wages are expected to grow even faster at 8.9 percent.

INCOME (Quarterly)

	3Q*		CHANGE		2Q*
	1997	1996	NO.	%	1997
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>					
<i>(Annualized; \$ Millions)</i>					
UI Covered Wages	\$61,894	\$56,860	\$5,034	8.9	\$60,973
Personal Income	\$116,528	\$109,302	\$7,226	6.6	\$115,040

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis: July 1997 release

*Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor

Note: Beginning with the November 1996 release, all estimates for 1990:Q1 through 1996:Q3 are no longer consistent with 1969:Q1 to 1989:Q4. The estimates for 1969:Q1 to 1989:Q4 will be revised by BEA in the second half of 1997.

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %		YEAR TO DATE		% CHG
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG	
New Housing Permits	AUG 1997	792	11.5	6,279	4,955	26.7	
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	JUN 1997	2,363	1.9	13,897	14,182	-2.0	
Retail Sales (Bil. \$)	JUN 1997	3.52	5.4	16.71	15.65	6.8	
Construction Contracts							
Index (1980=100)	JUL 1997	339.6	-10.3	---	---	---	
New Auto Registrations	AUG 1997	11,210	-45.1	123,251	124,625	-1.1	
Air Cargo Tons	JUL 1997	9,802	0.9	76,645	69,513	10.3	

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

Construction contracts declined 10.3 percent from the July index for the previous year.

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

	AUG 1997	% CHANGE		YEAR TO DATE	
		M/M	Y/Y	NO.	% CHG
STARTS					
Secretary of the State	1,415	-4.5	7.4	11,609	11.7
Department of Labor	1,054	37.2	-9.0	7,477	3.4
TERMINATIONS					
Secretary of the State	265	-12.8	10.4	2,451	48.7
Department of Labor	681	-53.8	-17.7	8,086	-13.8

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

Business starts and terminations registered with the Secretary of the State showed year-to-date gains of 11.7 and 48.7 percent, respectively, for a net gain of 9,158 establishments.

STATE TAX COLLECTIONS

(Millions of dollars)	FISCAL YEAR TOTALS					
	AUG 1997	AUG 1996	% CHG	1997-98	1996-97	% CHG
TOTAL ALL TAXES*	497.0	457.9	8.5	553.0	508.2	8.8
Corporate Tax	6.3	7.3	-13.7	6.3	7.3	-13.7
Personal Income Tax	189.1	167.8	12.7	201.1	177.8	13.1
Real Estate Conv. Tax	8.4	6.6	1.8	17.0	13.9	22.3
Sales & Use Tax	205.8	196.6	4.7	209.8	200.7	4.5

Source: Connecticut Department of Revenue Services

*Includes all sources of tax revenue; Only selected taxes are displayed.

Fiscal year-to-date collections increased overall 8.8 percent. Corporate tax collections were down 13.7 percent. Gains were recorded in personal income taxes of 13.1 percent, real estate conveyance taxes of 22.3 percent, and sales taxes of 4.5 percent.

TOURISM AND TRAVEL

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %		YEAR TO DATE		% CHG
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG	
Tourism Inquiries	AUG 1997	15,016	-28.5	253,351	314,831	-19.5	
Info Center Visitors	AUG 1997	79,928	1.9	373,784	356,350	4.9	
Major Attraction Visitors	AUG 1997	334,997	1.7	1,415,002	1,340,714	5.5	
Hotel-Motel Occupancy	JUL 1997	76.4	-0.1	70.5	68.0	3.7	
Air Passenger Count	JUL 1997	480,891	1.3	3,147,605	3,189,014	-1.3	

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

Tourism inquiries posted a 28.5 percent decline, while the number of the major attraction visitors rose 1.7 percent from last year.

The nation's total compensation costs increased 0.8 percent from March 1997, as benefit costs jumped 0.7 percent.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX (Quarterly)

Private Industry Workers (June 1989=100)	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	JUN 1997	MAR 1997	3-Mo % Chg	JUN 1997	JUN 1996	12-Mo % Chg
UNITED STATES TOTAL	132.5	131.4	0.8	132.8	129.0	2.9
Wages and Salaries	129.7	128.5	0.9	129.7	125.6	3.3
Benefit Costs	139.7	138.7	0.7	140.1	137.4	2.0
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	133.1	129.7	2.6
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	129.8	126.0	3.0

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

The inflation rate remained under 3.0 percent in the U.S. and the Northeast, except for Boston, which was up 3.1 percent; and consumer confidence in both the U.S. and New England was up 15.3 and 39.5 percent, respectively, from a year ago.

CONSUMER NEWS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	AUG	JUL	AUG	% CHG	
	1997	1997	1996	M/M	Y/Y
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1982-1984=100)					
All Urban Consumers					
U.S. City Average	160.8	160.5	157.3	0.2	2.2
Northeast Region	167.8	167.6	164.0	0.1	2.3
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	170.8	170.8	167.2	0.0	2.2
Boston-Lawrence-Salem*	---	167.1	---	---	3.1
Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers					
U.S. City Average	157.8	157.5	154.5	0.2	2.1
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE (1985=100)					
U.S.	129.1	126.5	112.0	2.1	15.3
New England	113.0	105.8	81.0	6.8	39.5

*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

Long-term treasury-bond rates as well as the 30-year conventional mortgage rate remained below last year's levels.

INTEREST RATES

(Percent)	AUG 1997	JUL 1997	AUG 1996
Prime	8.50	8.50	8.25
Federal Funds	5.54	5.52	5.22
3 Month Treasury Bill	5.13	5.07	5.09
6 Month Treasury Bill	5.17	5.12	5.17
1 Year Treasury Bill	5.56	5.54	5.67
3 Year Treasury Bill	6.06	6.00	6.21
5 Year Treasury Bond	6.16	6.12	6.39
7 Year Treasury Bond	6.29	6.20	6.52
10 Year Treasury Bond	6.30	6.22	6.64
30 Year Treasury Bond	6.58	6.51	6.84
Conventional Mortgage	7.48	7.50	8.00

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	AUG	AUG	CHANGE		JUL
	1997	1996	NO.	%	1997
Connecticut	1,620.3	1,591.9	28.4	1.8	1,620.5
Maine	551.2	539.8	11.4	2.1	549.8
Massachusetts	3,117.7	3,050.3	67.4	2.2	3,115.0
New Hampshire	575.9	568.3	7.6	1.3	579.5
New Jersey	3,697.8	3,651.5	46.3	1.3	3,706.1
New York	8,018.1	7,927.7	90.4	1.1	8,015.0
Pennsylvania	5,415.9	5,328.8	87.1	1.6	5,421.7
Rhode Island	446.2	443.2	3.0	0.7	443.9
Vermont	278.2	274.4	3.8	1.4	279.0
United States	122,470.0	119,983.0	2,487.0	2.1	122,421.0

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

Connecticut's rate of job growth lagged the nation's, but outpaced six other states in the region over the past year.

LABOR FORCE

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	AUG	AUG	CHANGE		JUL
	1997	1996	NO.	%	1997
Connecticut	1,741.2	1,721.9	19.3	1.1	1,746.6
Maine	668.6	672.0	-3.4	-0.5	668.4
Massachusetts	3,244.1	3,187.2	56.9	1.8	3,235.1
New Hampshire	652.9	621.9	31.0	5.0	655.8
New Jersey	4,142.5	4,136.7	5.8	0.1	4,158.1
New York	8,779.2	8,653.0	126.2	1.5	8,774.8
Pennsylvania	6,003.4	5,909.9	93.5	1.6	6,008.4
Rhode Island	506.6	497.3	9.3	1.9	504.3
Vermont	331.1	324.4	6.7	2.1	329.3
United States	136,480.0	133,898.0	2,582.0	1.9	136,290.0

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

New Hampshire's labor force grew five percent, while Maine's decreased slightly over the year.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

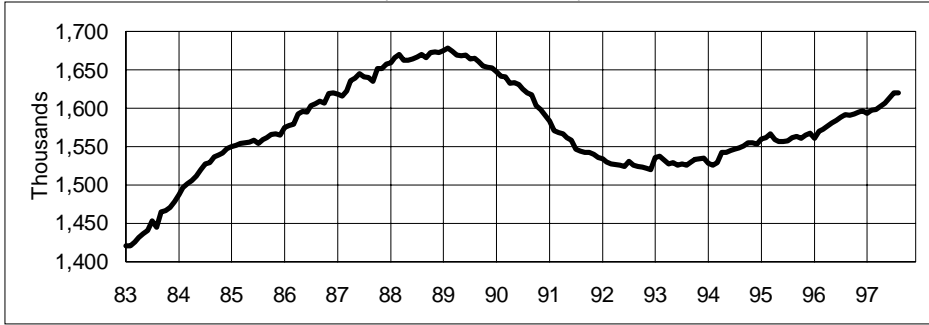
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	AUG	AUG	CHANGE	JUL
	1997	1996		1997
Connecticut	4.6	5.7	-1.1	4.8
Maine	4.7	5.1	-0.4	5.1
Massachusetts	4.3	4.0	0.3	3.9
New Hampshire	2.7	4.2	-1.5	3.0
New Jersey	5.2	6.1	-0.9	5.4
New York	6.4	6.1	0.3	6.4
Pennsylvania	5.3	5.1	0.2	5.3
Rhode Island	4.9	4.9	0.0	5.5
Vermont	3.8	4.6	-0.8	3.8
United States	4.9	5.2	-0.3	4.8

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

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

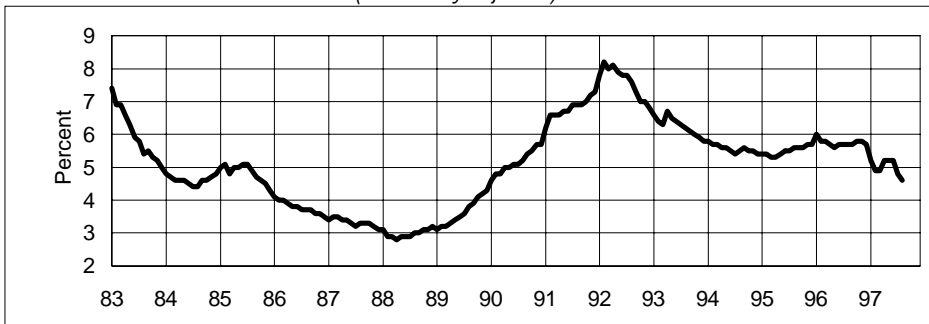
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (Seasonally adjusted)



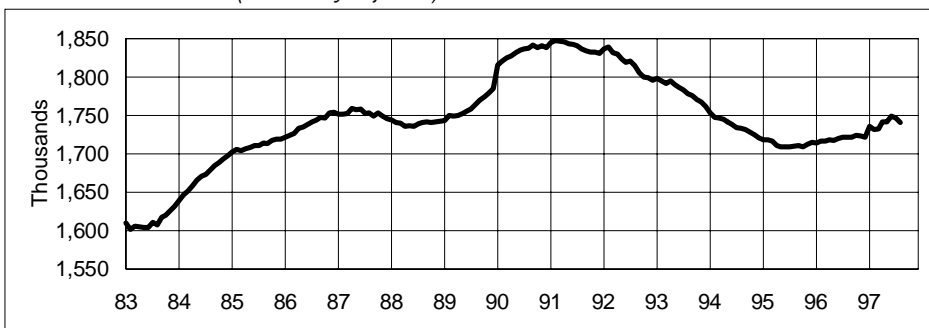
Month	1995	1996	1997
Jan	1,559.8	1,561.2	1,593.6
Feb	1,561.6	1,569.8	1,597.4
Mar	1,566.7	1,572.5	1,598.6
Apr	1,559.4	1,576.9	1,602.6
May	1,556.8	1,581.0	1,607.0
Jun	1,556.8	1,584.2	1,613.2
Jul	1,557.7	1,588.0	1,620.5
Aug	1,561.9	1,591.9	1,620.3
Sep	1,563.1	1,590.9	
Oct	1,560.8	1,592.5	
Nov	1,565.4	1,595.3	
Dec	1,567.2	1,596.5	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (Seasonally adjusted)



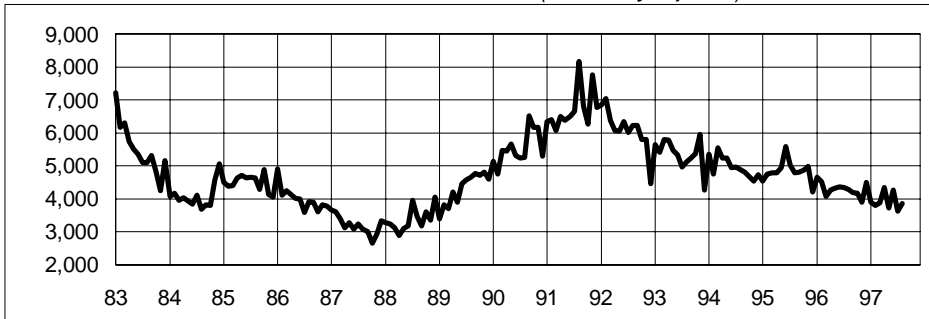
Month	1995	1996	1997
Jan	5.4	6.0	5.2
Feb	5.4	5.8	4.9
Mar	5.3	5.8	4.9
Apr	5.3	5.7	5.2
May	5.4	5.6	5.2
Jun	5.5	5.7	5.2
Jul	5.5	5.7	4.8
Aug	5.6	5.7	4.6
Sep	5.6	5.7	
Oct	5.6	5.8	
Nov	5.7	5.8	
Dec	5.7	5.7	

LABOR FORCE (Seasonally adjusted)



Month	1995	1996	1997
Jan	1,718.6	1,714.4	1,735.6
Feb	1,718.6	1,716.6	1,731.4
Mar	1,717.0	1,716.7	1,732.6
Apr	1,710.6	1,718.3	1,741.5
May	1,709.3	1,717.9	1,741.7
Jun	1,709.0	1,719.7	1,749.2
Jul	1,709.1	1,721.6	1,746.6
Aug	1,710.3	1,721.9	1,741.2
Sep	1,711.1	1,721.5	
Oct	1,709.3	1,724.1	
Nov	1,712.4	1,723.3	
Dec	1,714.8	1,722.0	

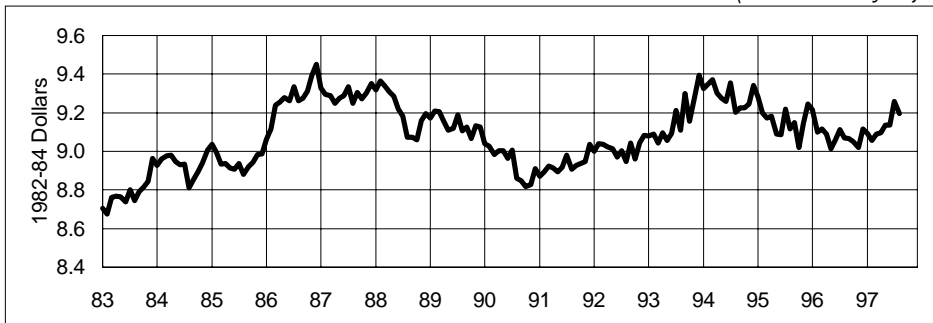
AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS* (Seasonally adjusted)



Month	1995	1996	1997
Jan	4,534	4,651	3,890
Feb	4,756	4,517	3,795
Mar	4,790	4,082	3,880
Apr	4,797	4,274	4,335
May	4,940	4,334	3,724
Jun	5,579	4,365	4,277
Jul	5,029	4,349	3,622
Aug	4,800	4,281	3,858
Sep	4,803	4,199	
Oct	4,872	4,166	
Nov	4,986	3,907	
Dec	4,200	4,501	

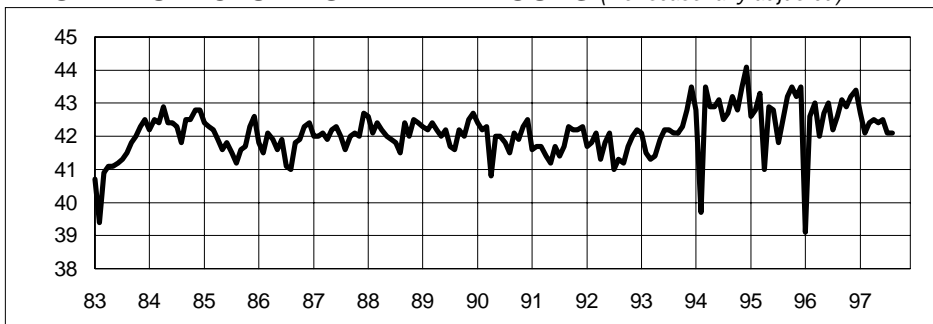
* The methodology for this series has been revised; See Technical Notes, p.23.

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



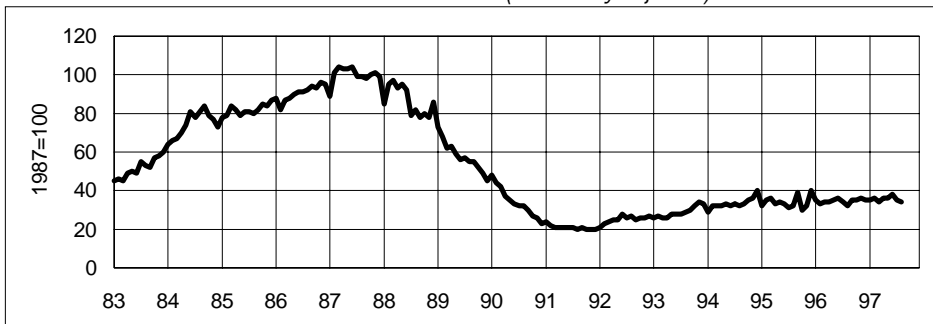
Month	1995	1996	1997
Jan	\$9.28	\$9.22	\$9.09
Feb	9.20	9.10	9.06
Mar	9.17	9.12	9.09
Apr	9.18	9.09	9.10
May	9.09	9.01	9.13
Jun	9.09	9.06	9.14
Jul	9.22	9.11	9.26
Aug	9.11	9.07	9.20
Sep	9.15	9.07	
Oct	9.02	9.05	
Nov	9.15	9.02	
Dec	9.24	9.11	

AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



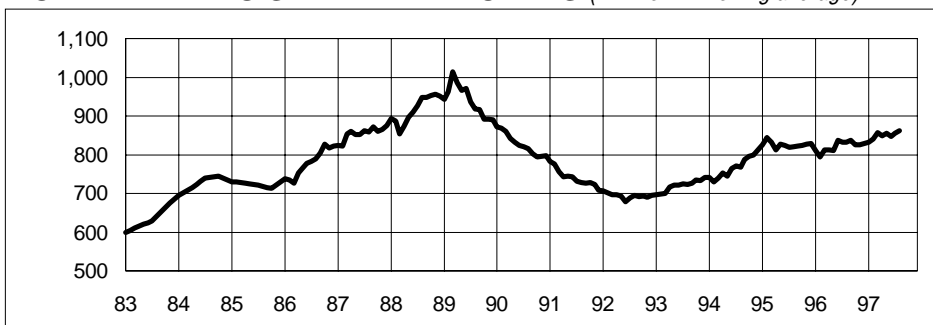
Month	1995	1996	1997
Jan	42.6	39.1	42.7
Feb	42.8	42.6	42.1
Mar	43.3	43.0	42.4
Apr	41.0	42.0	42.5
May	42.9	42.7	42.4
Jun	42.8	43.0	42.5
Jul	41.8	42.2	42.1
Aug	42.5	42.6	42.1
Sep	43.2	43.1	
Oct	43.5	42.9	
Nov	43.2	43.2	
Dec	43.5	43.4	

HARTFORD HELP WANTED INDEX *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1995	1996	1997
Jan	32	35	35
Feb	35	33	36
Mar	36	34	34
Apr	33	34	36
May	34	35	36
Jun	33	36	38
Jul	31	34	35
Aug	32	32	34
Sep	39	35	
Oct	30	35	
Nov	32	36	
Dec	40	35	

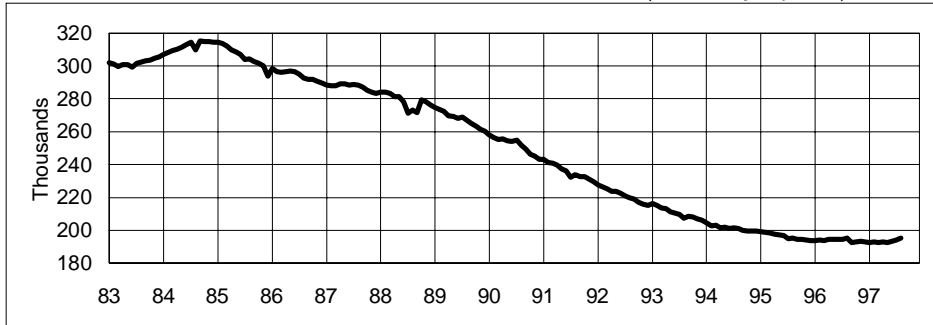
DOL NEWLY REGISTERED EMPLOYERS *(12-month moving average)*



Month	1995	1996	1997
Jan	826	810	833
Feb	844	794	840
Mar	833	812	856
Apr	813	813	849
May	827	811	856
Jun	824	838	848
Jul	819	833	856
Aug	821	833	862
Sep	822	838	
Oct	823	825	
Nov	827	825	
Dec	828	828	

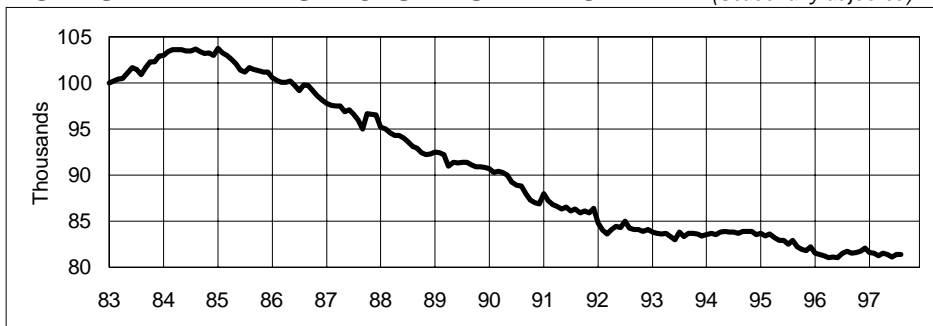
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

DURABLE MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



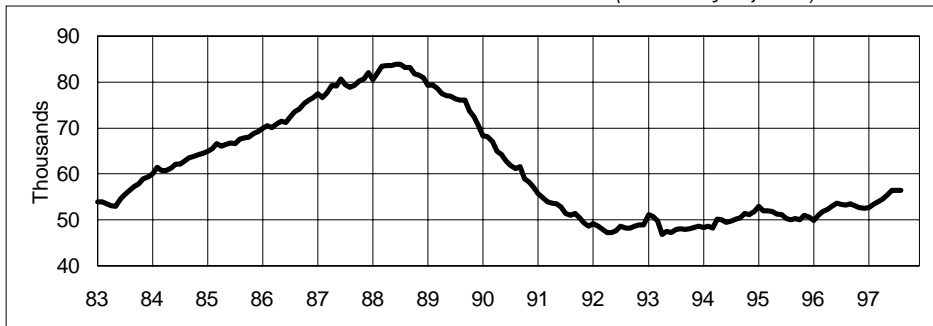
Month	1995	1996	1997
Jan	199.3	193.8	192.5
Feb	198.8	194.1	192.9
Mar	198.5	193.7	192.4
Apr	197.6	194.6	192.9
May	197.2	194.6	192.5
Jun	196.8	194.6	193.4
Jul	194.9	194.4	194.1
Aug	195.2	195.4	195.1
Sep	194.6	192.7	
Oct	194.6	193.1	
Nov	194.2	193.3	
Dec	193.7	193.1	

NONDURABLE MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1995	1996	1997
Jan	83.7	81.5	81.6
Feb	83.4	81.4	81.5
Mar	83.6	81.2	81.2
Apr	83.2	81.0	81.5
May	82.9	81.1	81.4
Jun	82.9	81.0	81.1
Jul	82.5	81.5	81.4
Aug	82.9	81.7	81.4
Sep	82.2	81.5	
Oct	81.9	81.6	
Nov	81.8	81.7	
Dec	82.2	82.1	

CONSTRUCTION & MINING EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1995	1996	1997
Jan	52.9	49.9	52.7
Feb	52.0	51.0	53.4
Mar	52.0	51.8	53.9
Apr	51.9	52.3	54.5
May	51.3	53.0	55.5
Jun	51.1	53.7	56.4
Jul	50.3	53.4	56.5
Aug	50.1	53.2	56.5
Sep	50.3	53.5	
Oct	50.1	53.1	
Nov	51.0	52.7	
Dec	50.6	52.5	

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



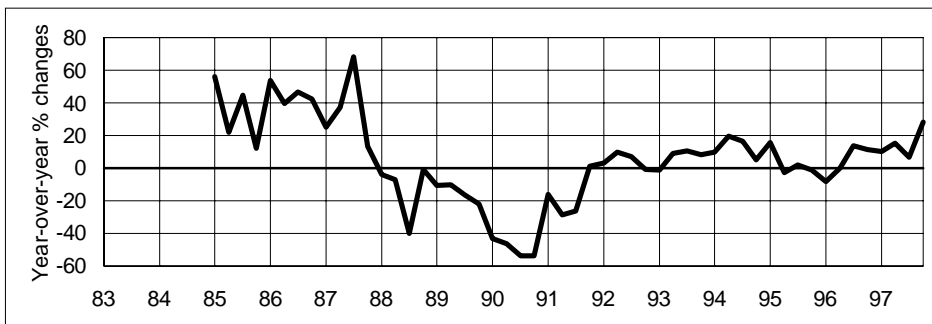
Month	1995	1996	1997
Jan	70.8	72.3	73.4
Feb	71.0	72.9	73.7
Mar	71.0	73.2	74.0
Apr	72.1	73.4	74.7
May	71.6	73.4	75.5
Jun	71.4	73.8	76.0
Jul	71.5	73.1	76.1
Aug	71.2	73.0	73.4
Sep	71.5	73.0	
Oct	71.3	73.2	
Nov	70.9	73.5	
Dec	71.2	73.0	

SALES TAX



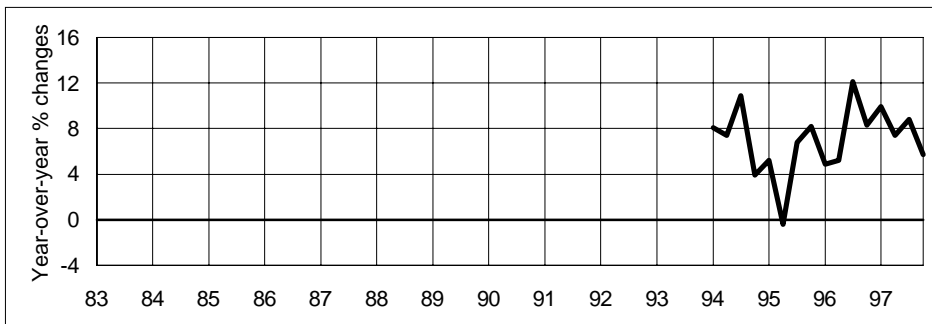
Quarter	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
First	5.9	3.2	6.5
Second	7.7	1.6	8.7
Third	7.3	6.0	6.3
Fourth	3.2	7.6	7.0

REAL ESTATE TAX



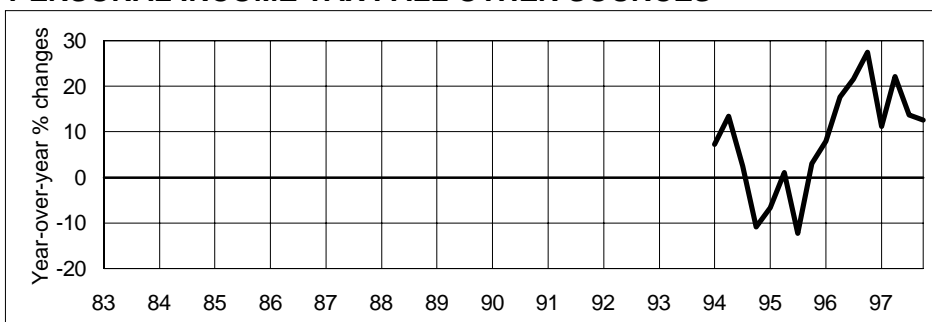
Quarter	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
First	15.8	-8.3	10.3
Second	-2.7	-0.2	15.4
Third	1.9	13.6	6.8
Fourth	-1.1	11.4	28.1

PERSONAL INCOME TAX : SALARIES & WAGES



Quarter	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
First	5.2	4.9	9.9
Second	-0.4	5.2	7.4
Third	6.8	12.1	8.8
Fourth	8.2	8.3	5.7

PERSONAL INCOME TAX : ALL OTHER SOURCES

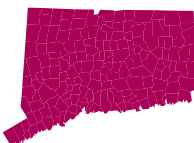


Quarter	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
First	-6.6	8.0	11.2
Second	1.1	17.6	22.1
Third	-12.2	21.5	13.7
Fourth	3.0	27.4	12.6

Note: 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

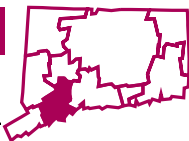
	AUG 1997	AUG 1996	CHANGE		JUL 1997
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	1,607,800	1,579,200	28,600	1.8	1,613,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	335,000	332,200	2,800	0.8	332,400
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	61,200	57,900	3,300	5.7	60,600
MANUFACTURING	273,800	274,300	-500	-0.2	271,800
Durable	192,400	192,600	-200	-0.1	191,200
Lumber & Furniture	5,000	4,700	300	6.4	4,900
Stone, Clay & Glass	2,600	2,800	-200	-7.1	2,600
Primary Metals	9,200	9,200	0	0.0	9,000
Fabricated Metals	34,200	33,800	400	1.2	33,500
Machinery & Computer Equipment	35,500	35,200	300	0.9	35,400
Electronic & Electrical Equipment	28,700	28,100	600	2.1	28,400
Transportation Equipment	48,200	49,700	-1,500	-3.0	48,600
Instruments	22,500	22,800	-300	-1.3	22,600
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6,500	6,300	200	3.2	6,200
Nondurable	81,400	81,700	-300	-0.4	80,600
Food	9,000	9,000	0	0.0	8,900
Textiles	1,800	2,000	-200	-10.0	1,900
Apparel	4,300	4,300	0	0.0	4,200
Paper	7,900	8,000	-100	-1.3	7,900
Printing & Publishing	25,700	25,200	500	2.0	25,800
Chemicals	19,400	20,100	-700	-3.5	19,000
Rubber & Plastics	10,700	10,700	0	0.0	10,500
Other Nondurable Manufacturing	2,600	2,400	200	8.3	2,400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	1,272,800	1,247,000	25,800	2.1	1,281,000
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	71,600	71,200	400	0.6	74,700
Transportation	40,100	40,500	-400	-1.0	43,200
Motor Freight & Warehousing	12,200	12,100	100	0.8	12,300
Other Transportation	27,900	28,400	-500	-1.8	30,900
Communications	19,300	18,100	1,200	6.6	19,200
Utilities	12,200	12,600	-400	-3.2	12,300
TRADE	355,700	349,100	6,600	1.9	354,200
Wholesale	83,600	81,300	2,300	2.8	83,200
Retail	272,100	267,800	4,300	1.6	271,000
General Merchandise	28,500	27,600	900	3.3	28,100
Food Stores	52,500	51,800	700	1.4	52,300
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	27,100	27,200	-100	-0.4	27,300
Restaurants	79,700	79,000	700	0.9	79,900
Other Retail Trade	84,300	82,200	2,100	2.6	83,400
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	131,200	131,300	-100	-0.1	131,100
Finance	46,400	45,900	500	1.1	46,200
Banking	24,300	24,900	-600	-2.4	24,200
Insurance	68,500	69,900	-1,400	-2.0	68,500
Insurance Carriers	57,500	59,100	-1,600	-2.7	57,500
Real Estate	16,400	15,500	900	5.8	16,400
SERVICES	502,800	487,700	15,100	3.1	504,300
Hotels & Lodging Places	12,100	12,100	0	0.0	12,000
Personal Services	18,400	17,900	500	2.8	18,500
Business Services	104,700	96,500	8,200	8.5	104,500
Health Services	157,100	155,600	1,500	1.0	156,800
Legal & Professional Services	51,200	49,400	1,800	3.6	51,200
Educational Services	35,500	35,500	0	0.0	36,900
Other Services	123,800	120,700	3,100	2.6	124,400
GOVERNMENT	211,500	207,700	3,800	1.8	216,700
Federal	22,200	23,500	-1,300	-5.5	22,200
**State, Local & Other Government	189,300	184,200	5,100	2.8	194,500

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 1996.
 *Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

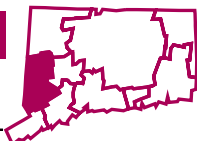
BRIDGEPORT LMA



	AUG 1997	AUG 1996	Not Seasonally Adjusted		JUL 1997
			CHANGE NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	177,400	179,000	-1,600	-0.9	178,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	45,700	45,900	-200	-0.4	44,500
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	5,800	5,800	0	0.0	5,800
MANUFACTURING	39,900	40,100	-200	-0.5	38,700
Durable Goods	32,500	32,600	-100	-0.3	31,700
Fabricated Metals	4,400	4,200	200	4.8	4,300
Industrial Machinery	6,200	6,200	0	0.0	6,000
Electronic Equipment	6,300	6,400	-100	-1.6	6,100
Transportation Equipment	9,100	9,400	-300	-3.2	8,900
Nondurable Goods	7,400	7,500	-100	-1.3	7,000
Printing & Publishing	2,200	2,100	100	4.8	2,100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	131,700	133,100	-1,400	-1.1	133,900
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	7,000	7,200	-200	-2.8	7,400
TRADE	40,600	40,400	200	0.5	40,400
Wholesale	9,900	9,800	100	1.0	9,900
Retail	30,700	30,600	100	0.3	30,500
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	10,500	10,500	0	0.0	10,500
SERVICES	55,900	56,500	-600	-1.1	57,000
Business Services	12,000	12,100	-100	-0.8	12,000
Health Services	19,000	19,100	-100	-0.5	19,000
GOVERNMENT	17,700	18,500	-800	-4.3	18,600
Federal	1,900	1,900	0	0.0	1,900
State & Local	15,800	16,600	-800	-4.8	16,700

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

DANBURY LMA



	AUG 1997	AUG 1996	Not Seasonally Adjusted		JUL 1997
			CHANGE NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	83,300	83,100	200	0.2	83,900
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	22,300	22,100	200	0.9	21,700
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	3,200	3,100	100	3.2	3,200
MANUFACTURING	19,100	19,000	100	0.5	18,500
Durable Goods	9,900	9,800	100	1.0	9,900
Machinery & Electric Equipment	5,100	5,100	0	0.0	5,200
Instruments	2,800	2,700	100	3.7	2,700
Nondurable Goods	9,200	9,200	0	0.0	8,600
Printing & Publishing	2,700	2,700	0	0.0	2,700
Chemicals	3,500	3,500	0	0.0	2,900
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	61,000	61,000	0	0.0	62,200
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	2,700	2,600	100	3.8	2,900
TRADE	22,200	22,200	0	0.0	22,200
Wholesale	4,200	4,200	0	0.0	4,300
Retail	18,000	18,000	0	0.0	17,900
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4,300	4,000	300	7.5	4,400
SERVICES	24,300	23,900	400	1.7	24,400
GOVERNMENT	7,500	8,300	-800	-9.6	8,300
Federal	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local	6,700	7,500	-800	-10.7	7,500

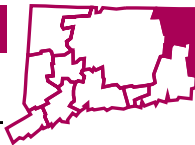
For further information on the Danbury Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 566-3472.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1996.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

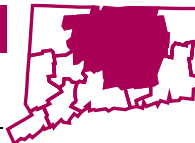
DANIELSON LMA



	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				JUL 1997
	AUG 1997	AUG 1996	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	20,000	20,300	-300	-1.5	20,200
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	6,600	6,700	-100	-1.5	6,400
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	1,000	900	100	11.1	1,000
MANUFACTURING	5,600	5,800	-200	-3.4	5,400
Durable Goods	2,200	2,700	-500	-18.5	2,000
Nondurable Goods	3,400	3,100	300	9.7	3,400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	13,400	13,600	-200	-1.5	13,800
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	500	400	100	25.0	500
TRADE	5,400	5,300	100	1.9	5,300
Wholesale	900	800	100	12.5	900
Retail	4,500	4,500	0	0.0	4,400
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	600	600	0	0.0	600
SERVICES	4,400	4,300	100	2.3	4,300
GOVERNMENT	2,500	3,000	-500	-16.7	3,100
Federal	100	100	0	0.0	100
State & Local	2,400	2,900	-500	-17.2	3,000

For further information on the Danielson Labor Market Area contact Noreen Passardi at (860) 566-3470.

HARTFORD LMA



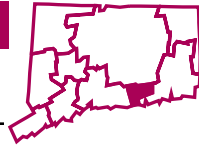
	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				JUL 1997
	AUG 1997	AUG 1996	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	573,700	583,200	-9,500	-1.6	581,900
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	111,300	110,800	500	0.5	111,200
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	19,900	20,900	-1,000	-4.8	20,000
MANUFACTURING	91,400	89,900	1,500	1.7	91,200
Durable Goods	72,100	70,700	1,400	2.0	71,700
Primary & Fabricated Metals	17,200	17,100	100	0.6	16,600
Industrial Machinery	15,600	15,200	400	2.6	15,700
Electronic Equipment	5,900	5,900	0	0.0	6,000
Transportation Equipment	25,200	24,300	900	3.7	25,400
Nondurable Goods	19,300	19,200	100	0.5	19,500
Printing & Publishing	7,500	7,600	-100	-1.3	7,500
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	462,400	472,400	-10,000	-2.1	470,700
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	23,900	24,600	-700	-2.8	25,100
Transportation	12,900	14,100	-1,200	-8.5	14,000
Communications & Utilities	11,000	10,500	500	4.8	11,100
TRADE	120,000	122,900	-2,900	-2.4	120,000
Wholesale	28,600	29,100	-500	-1.7	28,900
Retail	91,400	93,800	-2,400	-2.6	91,100
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	67,200	69,600	-2,400	-3.4	67,300
Deposit & Nondeposit Institutions	10,300	10,300	0	0.0	10,300
Insurance Carriers	44,200	46,700	-2,500	-5.4	44,200
SERVICES	168,600	166,100	2,500	1.5	169,500
Health Services	58,400	58,000	400	0.7	58,100
GOVERNMENT	82,700	89,200	-6,500	-7.3	88,800
Federal	8,500	8,600	-100	-1.2	8,600
State & Local	74,200	80,600	-6,400	-7.9	80,200

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 1996.
*Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

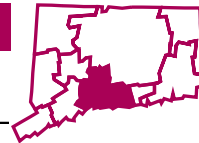
LOWER RIVER LMA



	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				JUL 1997
	AUG 1997	AUG 1996	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	10,200	9,500	700	7.4	9,900
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	3,800	3,500	300	8.6	3,500
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	400	400	0	0.0	400
MANUFACTURING	3,400	3,100	300	9.7	3,100
Durable Goods	2,700	2,400	300	12.5	2,500
Electronic Equipment	900	800	100	12.5	800
Other Durable Goods	1,800	1,600	200	12.5	1,700
Nondurable Goods	700	700	0	0.0	600
Rubber & Plastics	300	300	0	0.0	300
Other Nondurable Goods	400	400	0	0.0	300
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	6,400	6,000	400	6.7	6,400
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	400	400	0	0.0	400
TRADE	2,400	2,100	300	14.3	2,400
Wholesale	400	400	0	0.0	400
Retail	2,000	1,700	300	17.6	2,000
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	300	300	0	0.0	300
SERVICES	2,500	2,500	0	0.0	2,500
GOVERNMENT	800	700	100	14.3	800
Federal	0	0	0	0.0	0
State & Local	800	700	100	14.3	800

For further information on the Lower River Labor Market Area contact Noreen Passardi at (860) 566-3470.

NEW HAVEN LMA



	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				JUL 1997
	AUG 1997	AUG 1996	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	244,400	245,100	-700	-0.3	245,600
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	47,200	49,100	-1,900	-3.9	47,100
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	10,100	9,900	200	2.0	10,000
MANUFACTURING	37,100	39,200	-2,100	-5.4	37,100
Durable Goods	24,300	25,000	-700	-2.8	24,300
Primary & Fabricated Metals	6,300	7,000	-700	-10.0	6,200
Electronic Equipment	5,200	5,300	-100	-1.9	5,200
Nondurable Goods	12,800	14,200	-1,400	-9.9	12,800
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,200	5,400	-200	-3.7	5,200
Chemicals & Allied	4,100	5,300	-1,200	-22.6	4,100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	197,200	196,000	1,200	0.6	198,500
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	16,000	15,700	300	1.9	16,100
Communications & Utilities	8,500	8,600	-100	-1.2	8,400
TRADE	53,500	50,900	2,600	5.1	53,300
Wholesale	11,800	11,500	300	2.6	11,800
Retail	41,700	39,400	2,300	5.8	41,500
Eating & Drinking Places	13,600	11,900	1,700	14.3	13,500
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13,700	13,800	-100	-0.7	13,900
Finance	3,900	3,900	0	0.0	4,000
Insurance	7,900	7,700	200	2.6	7,900
SERVICES	84,700	85,100	-400	-0.5	85,400
Business Services	13,300	12,700	600	4.7	13,000
Health Services	28,800	29,100	-300	-1.0	28,700
GOVERNMENT	29,300	30,500	-1,200	-3.9	29,800
Federal	5,500	5,700	-200	-3.5	5,500
State & Local	23,800	24,800	-1,000	-4.0	24,300

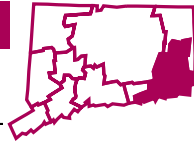
For further information on the New Haven Labor Market Area contact J. Charles Joo at (860) 566-3470.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1996.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

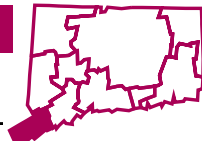
NEW LONDON LMA



	Not Seasonally Adjusted				
	AUG 1997	AUG 1996	CHANGE NO.	%	JUL 1997
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	139,100	135,100	4,000	3.0	140,100
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	28,600	30,100	-1,500	-5.0	28,600
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	4,500	4,200	300	7.1	4,400
MANUFACTURING	24,100	25,900	-1,800	-6.9	24,200
Durable Goods	14,700	16,600	-1,900	-11.4	14,900
Primary & Fabricated Metals	2,200	2,300	-100	-4.3	2,100
Other Durable Goods	12,500	14,300	-1,800	-12.6	12,800
Nondurable Goods	9,400	9,300	100	1.1	9,300
Paper & Allied	1,000	1,000	0	0.0	1,000
Other Nondurable Goods	7,000	6,900	100	1.4	7,000
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	110,500	105,000	5,500	5.2	111,500
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	6,400	6,300	100	1.6	6,700
TRADE	29,800	29,600	200	0.7	29,600
Wholesale	3,100	3,000	100	3.3	3,100
Retail	26,700	26,600	100	0.4	26,500
Eating & Drinking Places	9,200	9,200	0	0.0	9,200
Other Retail	17,500	17,300	200	1.2	17,200
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3,700	3,600	100	2.8	3,800
SERVICES	34,500	34,100	400	1.2	34,900
Personal & Business Services	6,300	6,100	200	3.3	6,400
Health Services	11,200	11,200	0	0.0	11,200
GOVERNMENT	36,100	31,400	4,700	15.0	36,500
Federal	2,700	3,600	-900	-25.0	2,700
State & Local	33,400	27,800	5,600	20.1	33,800
**Local	29,400	23,100	6,300	27.3	29,700

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

STAMFORD LMA



	Not Seasonally Adjusted				
	AUG 1997	AUG 1996	CHANGE NO.	%	JUL 1997
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	200,200	198,500	1,700	0.9	201,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	34,500	34,700	-200	-0.6	34,600
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	6,400	6,300	100	1.6	6,200
MANUFACTURING	28,100	28,400	-300	-1.1	28,400
Durable Goods	14,500	14,900	-400	-2.7	14,700
Industrial Machinery	4,100	4,100	0	0.0	4,200
Electronic Equipment	2,700	2,700	0	0.0	2,800
Nondurable Goods	13,600	13,500	100	0.7	13,700
Paper, Printing & Publishing	6,300	5,900	400	6.8	6,400
Chemicals & Allied	3,500	3,500	0	0.0	3,500
Other Nondurable	3,800	4,100	-300	-7.3	3,800
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	165,700	163,800	1,900	1.2	166,800
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	9,500	9,800	-300	-3.1	9,900
Communications & Utilities	2,800	3,200	-400	-12.5	3,000
TRADE	44,900	44,200	700	1.6	44,700
Wholesale	12,000	11,600	400	3.4	11,800
Retail	32,900	32,600	300	0.9	32,900
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	23,600	23,000	600	2.6	23,600
SERVICES	71,500	69,800	1,700	2.4	71,700
Business Services	20,600	20,200	400	2.0	20,500
Engineering & Mgmt. Services	9,200	8,900	300	3.4	9,200
Other Services	41,700	40,700	1,000	2.5	42,000
GOVERNMENT	16,200	17,000	-800	-4.7	16,900
Federal	1,900	1,800	100	5.6	1,900
State & Local	14,300	15,200	-900	-5.9	15,000

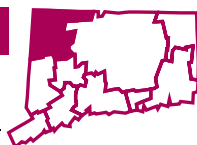
For further information on the Stamford Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 566-7823.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1996.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

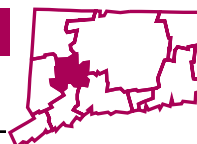
TORRINGTON LMA



	Not Seasonally Adjusted				JUL 1997
	AUG 1997	AUG 1996	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	27,700	28,000	-300	-1.1	27,800
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	8,000	7,900	100	1.3	7,800
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	2,000	2,000	0	0.0	1,900
MANUFACTURING	6,000	5,900	100	1.7	5,900
Durable Goods	4,300	4,300	0	0.0	4,200
Primary & Fabricated Metals	500	500	0	0.0	400
Industrial Machinery	1,100	1,100	0	0.0	1,100
Electronic Equipment	300	400	-100	-25.0	300
Other Durable Goods	2,400	2,300	100	4.3	2,400
Nondurable Goods	1,700	1,600	100	6.3	1,700
Rubber & Plastics	800	800	0	0.0	800
Other Nondurable Goods	900	800	100	12.5	900
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	19,700	20,100	-400	-2.0	20,000
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	600	700	-100	-14.3	700
TRADE	5,400	5,700	-300	-5.3	5,700
Wholesale	600	700	-100	-14.3	700
Retail	4,800	5,000	-200	-4.0	5,000
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	900	900	0	0.0	800
SERVICES	9,500	9,500	0	0.0	9,500
GOVERNMENT	3,300	3,300	0	0.0	3,300
Federal	200	200	0	0.0	200
State & Local	3,100	3,100	0	0.0	3,100

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

WATERBURY LMA



	Not Seasonally Adjusted				JUL 1997
	AUG 1997	AUG 1996	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	86,100	84,100	2,000	2.4	86,200
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	22,200	21,500	700	3.3	21,900
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	3,600	3,300	300	9.1	3,600
MANUFACTURING	18,600	18,200	400	2.2	18,300
Durable Goods	14,200	14,100	100	0.7	14,000
Primary Metals	700	700	0	0.0	700
Fabricated Metals	6,400	6,200	200	3.2	6,200
Machinery & Electric Equipment	4,500	4,500	0	0.0	4,400
Nondurable Goods	4,400	4,100	300	7.3	4,300
Paper, Printing & Publishing	1,200	1,300	-100	-7.7	1,200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	63,900	62,600	1,300	2.1	64,300
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	3,400	3,300	100	3.0	3,500
TRADE	17,500	17,000	500	2.9	17,400
Wholesale	2,800	3,000	-200	-6.7	2,900
Retail	14,700	14,000	700	5.0	14,500
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4,700	4,500	200	4.4	4,700
SERVICES	26,000	25,600	400	1.6	26,100
Personal & Business	6,700	6,100	600	9.8	6,600
Health Services	10,000	9,900	100	1.0	10,000
GOVERNMENT	12,300	12,200	100	0.8	12,600
Federal	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local	11,500	11,400	100	0.9	11,800

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

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1996.

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

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	AUG	AUG	CHANGE		JUL
		1997	1996	NO.	%	1997
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>						
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,776,100	1,755,500	20,600	1.2	1,802,200
	Employed	1,691,400	1,653,700	37,700	2.3	1,706,300
	Unemployed	84,700	101,800	-17,100	-16.8	95,900
	Unemployment Rate	4.8	5.8	-1.0	---	5.3
BRIDGEPORT LMA	Civilian Labor Force	224,400	223,400	1,000	0.4	226,700
	Employed	211,700	208,100	3,600	1.7	212,500
	Unemployed	12,700	15,300	-2,600	-17.0	14,200
	Unemployment Rate	5.7	6.8	-1.1	---	6.3
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	111,900	109,400	2,500	2.3	112,800
	Employed	108,000	104,900	3,100	3.0	108,400
	Unemployed	3,900	4,500	-600	-13.3	4,400
	Unemployment Rate	3.5	4.1	-0.6	---	3.9
DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	34,600	34,400	200	0.6	35,500
	Employed	32,500	32,100	400	1.2	32,900
	Unemployed	2,100	2,300	-200	-8.7	2,600
	Unemployment Rate	6.1	6.7	-0.6	---	7.2
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	596,500	598,500	-2,000	-0.3	607,900
	Employed	566,400	561,200	5,200	0.9	573,900
	Unemployed	30,000	37,300	-7,300	-19.6	34,000
	Unemployment Rate	5.0	6.2	-1.2	---	5.6
LOWER RIVER LMA	Civilian Labor Force	13,600	12,800	800	6.3	13,700
	Employed	13,200	12,200	1,000	8.2	13,200
	Unemployed	500	500	0	0.0	500
	Unemployment Rate	3.3	4.2	-0.9	---	3.9
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	281,400	279,400	2,000	0.7	285,500
	Employed	267,600	262,400	5,200	2.0	269,800
	Unemployed	13,900	17,000	-3,100	-18.2	15,700
	Unemployment Rate	4.9	6.1	-1.2	---	5.5
NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	165,400	158,200	7,200	4.6	168,200
	Employed	157,100	149,100	8,000	5.4	158,900
	Unemployed	8,300	9,100	-800	-8.8	9,200
	Unemployment Rate	5.0	5.7	-0.7	---	5.5
STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	201,300	196,900	4,400	2.2	204,000
	Employed	195,300	189,700	5,600	3.0	197,400
	Unemployed	6,000	7,200	-1,200	-16.7	6,600
	Unemployment Rate	3.0	3.6	-0.6	---	3.3
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	39,800	39,600	200	0.5	40,200
	Employed	38,300	37,800	500	1.3	38,400
	Unemployed	1,500	1,800	-300	-16.7	1,700
	Unemployment Rate	3.7	4.5	-0.8	---	4.3
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	124,200	119,300	4,900	4.1	125,000
	Employed	117,800	111,900	5,900	5.3	117,500
	Unemployed	6,500	7,400	-900	-12.2	7,500
	Unemployment Rate	5.2	6.2	-1.0	---	6.0
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	137,460,000	135,011,000	2,449,000	1.8	138,331,000
	Employed	130,865,000	128,143,000	2,722,000	2.1	131,350,000
	Unemployed	6,594,000	6,868,000	-274,000	-4.0	6,981,000
	Unemployment Rate	4.8	5.1	-0.3	---	5.0

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1996.

MANUFACTURING HOURS AND EARNINGS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	AUG		CHG	JUL	AUG		CHG	JUL	AUG		CHG	JUL
	1997	1996	Y/Y	1997	1997	1996	Y/Y	1997	1997	1996	Y/Y	1997
MANUFACTURING	\$610.87	\$596.83	\$14.05	\$613.82	42.1	42.6	-0.5	42.1	\$14.51	\$14.01	\$0.50	\$14.58
DURABLE GOODS	621.18	603.93	17.26	625.40	42.2	42.5	-0.3	42.2	14.72	14.21	0.51	14.82
Lumber & Furniture	472.32	480.28	-7.96	473.10	41.0	41.8	-0.8	41.5	11.52	11.49	0.03	11.40
Stone, Clay and Glass	614.24	613.29	0.95	591.41	44.0	45.7	-1.7	43.2	13.96	13.42	0.54	13.69
Primary Metals	598.13	590.08	8.05	607.70	43.5	44.4	-0.9	44.1	13.75	13.29	0.46	13.78
Fabricated Metals	582.58	573.14	9.43	582.25	42.4	42.9	-0.5	42.5	13.74	13.36	0.38	13.70
Machinery	669.00	644.57	24.43	658.59	44.1	44.3	-0.2	43.3	15.17	14.55	0.62	15.21
Electrical Equipment	489.24	488.31	0.93	498.95	40.5	41.7	-1.2	41.1	12.08	11.71	0.37	12.14
Trans. Equipment	780.62	741.31	39.31	794.20	41.7	41.6	0.1	42.2	18.72	17.82	0.90	18.82
Instruments	575.71	546.22	29.49	560.99	41.9	41.1	0.8	39.9	13.74	13.29	0.45	14.06
Miscellaneous Mfg	551.15	546.97	4.18	576.97	41.1	41.5	-0.4	42.3	13.41	13.18	0.23	13.64
NONDUR. GOODS	584.36	576.38	7.99	584.92	41.8	42.6	-0.8	41.9	13.98	13.53	0.45	13.96
Food	494.91	512.75	-17.84	507.91	40.7	43.9	-3.2	41.7	12.16	11.68	0.48	12.18
Textiles	491.02	486.41	4.61	466.99	43.3	43.9	-0.6	41.4	11.34	11.08	0.26	11.28
Apparel	342.47	352.29	-9.82	330.06	39.5	40.4	-0.9	39.2	8.67	8.72	-0.05	8.42
Paper	693.71	694.90	-1.19	714.10	44.9	46.7	-1.8	46.4	15.45	14.88	0.57	15.39
Printing & Publishing	579.34	556.88	22.46	573.89	38.7	39.3	-0.6	39.2	14.97	14.17	0.80	14.64
Chemicals	785.30	774.45	10.85	802.10	44.9	45.0	-0.1	45.6	17.49	17.21	0.28	17.59
Rubber & Misc. Plast.	503.01	480.57	22.44	483.61	42.7	41.5	1.2	40.2	11.78	11.58	0.20	12.03
CONSTRUCTION	797.54	802.16	-4.61	799.24	41.8	42.6	-0.8	42.4	19.08	18.83	0.25	18.85

LMAS

MANUFACTURING	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	AUG		CHG	JUL	AUG		CHG	JUL	AUG		CHG	JUL
	1997	1996	Y/Y	1997	1997	1996	Y/Y	1997	1997	1996	Y/Y	1997
Bridgeport	\$632.85	\$617.76	\$15.09	\$634.66	41.8	42.9	-1.1	41.4	\$15.14	\$14.40	\$0.74	\$15.33
Danbury	638.69	676.82	-38.13	640.58	44.2	45.7	-1.5	43.4	14.45	14.81	-0.36	14.76
Danielson	478.55	507.08	-28.53	417.75	42.2	42.9	-0.7	36.2	11.34	11.82	-0.48	11.54
Hartford	645.66	632.61	13.05	657.90	42.2	42.6	-0.4	42.5	15.30	14.85	0.45	15.48
Lower River	514.59	485.53	29.06	537.58	41.6	39.7	1.9	41.9	12.37	12.23	0.14	12.83
New Haven	602.17	559.73	42.44	602.35	41.5	41.4	0.1	42.3	14.51	13.52	0.99	14.24
New London	640.66	622.39	18.27	635.77	42.4	42.6	-0.2	42.3	15.11	14.61	0.50	15.03
Stamford	554.53	586.14	-31.61	556.21	40.3	41.6	-1.3	39.9	13.76	14.09	-0.33	13.94
Torrington	547.04	538.46	8.58	549.78	41.6	42.6	-1.0	42.0	13.15	12.64	0.51	13.09
Waterbury	594.43	570.29	24.14	580.21	43.2	43.6	-0.4	42.6	13.76	13.08	0.68	13.62

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1996.

NEW HOUSING PERMITS

	AUG	AUG	CHANGE Y/Y		YTD		CHANGE YTD		JUL
	1997	1996	UNITS	%	1997	1996	UNITS	%	1997
Connecticut	792	710	82	11.5	6,279	4,955	1,324	26.7	871
Counties:									
Fairfield	166	149	17	11.4	1,366	991	375	37.8	199
Hartford	183	143	40	28.0	1,466	1,154	312	27.0	187
Litchfield	120	71	49	69.0	413	398	15	3.8	75
Middlesex	46	41	5	12.2	382	327	55	16.8	58
New Haven	131	160	-29	-18.1	1,477	1,018	459	45.1	176
New London	60	59	1	1.7	514	540	-26	-4.8	79
Tolland	51	61	-10	-16.4	353	334	19	5.7	65
Windham	35	30	5	16.7	208	193	15	7.8	32

HOUSING PERMIT ACTIVITY BY TOWN

TOWN	AUG 1997	YR TO DATE 1997	YR TO DATE 1996	TOWN	AUG 1997	YR TO DATE 1997	YR TO DATE 1996	TOWN	AUG 1997	YR TO DATE 1997	YR TO DATE 1996
Andover	2	20	19	Griswold	0	30	64	Preston	1	14	9
Ansonia	2	11	15	Groton	7	52	42	Prospect	3	33	22
Ashford	2	13	8	Guilford	10	90	66	Putnam	1	8	8
Avon	12	86	45	Haddam	2	17	13	Redding	3	20	17
Barkhamsted	1	16	12	Hamden	6	80	36	Ridgefield	10	87	55
Beacon Falls	2	19	16	Hampton	1	8	8	Rocky Hill	13	61	125
Berlin	7	50	51	Hartford	12	18	23	Roxbury	0	5	6
Bethany	2	17	19	Hartland	1	4	2	Salem	1	9	10
Bethel	1	24	25	Harwinton	5	24	22	Salisbury	0	1	4
Bethlehem	0	6	8	Hebron	13	49	22	Scotland	2	11	6
Bloomfield	1	29	8	Kent	1	8	0	Seymour	3	46	15
Bolton	1	16	19	Killingly	1	22	18	Sharon	1	2	5
Bozrah	0	4	3	Killingworth	4	34	36	Shelton	10	107	122
Branford	2	32	28	Lebanon	4	30	26	Sherman	3	15	6
Bridgeport	3	50	12	Ledyard	4	33	28	Simsbury	4	43	42
Bridgewater	1	3	5	Lisbon	2	15	17	Somers	2	24	26
Bristol	11	63	68	Litchfield	68	90	22	South Windsor	14	83	55
Brookfield	0	32	29	Lyme	2	11	5	Southbury	8	64	39
Brooklyn	0	0	13	Madison	12	69	54	Southington	22	102	137
Burlington	4	35	45	Manchester	8	298	48	Sprague	1	3	3
Canaan	0	2	0	Mansfield	4	31	30	Stafford	2	19	20
Canterbury	2	12	17	Marlborough	1	25	23	Stamford	11	133	116
Canton	7	21	24	Meriden	4	26	18	Sterling	3	17	8
Chaplin	2	10	8	Middlebury	7	21	19	Stonington	1	51	37
Cheshire	11	146	48	Middlefield	1	11	11	Stratford	3	37	21
Chester	1	17	8	Middletown	10	78	91	Suffield	6	39	43
Clinton	2	23	20	Milford	7	121	107	Thomaston	4	24	15
Colchester	12	70	30	Monroe	6	91	89	Thompson	2	13	17
Colebrook	2	3	11	Montville	2	16	27	Tolland	11	68	43
Columbia	4	15	23	Morris	1	2	6	Torrington	5	53	53
Cornwall	0	5	0	Naugatuck	4	26	40	Trumbull	3	66	55
Coventry	4	45	47	New Britain	0	6	15	Union	1	4	0
Cromwell	2	17	36	New Canaan	8	39	32	Vernon	1	17	21
Danbury	54	160	30	New Fairfield	3	27	26	Voluntown	1	11	6
Darien	0	18	11	New Hartford	3	23	19	Wallingford	9	84	118
Deep River	1	10	8	New Haven	0	0	26	Warren	1	4	8
Derby	4	21	8	New London	0	0	0	Washington	1	10	8
Durham	3	29	10	New Milford	6	72	90	Waterbury	3	30	42
East Granby	1	15	22	Newington	8	37	7	Waterford	9	45	110
East Haddam	9	52	26	Newtown	13	119	68	Watertown	8	68	23
East Hampton	3	20	24	Norfolk	0	1	1	West Hartford	0	7	13
East Hartford	0	2	3	North Branford	3	51	48	West Haven	2	36	10
East Haven	2	122	24	North Canaan	0	5	17	Westbrook	5	23	7
East Lyme	6	53	43	North Haven	5	44	20	Weston	1	8	20
East Windsor	1	14	46	North Stonington	1	19	15	Westport	1	21	9
Eastford	1	6	1	Norwalk	13	66	91	Wethersfield	4	51	62
Easton	4	27	3	Norwich	2	19	12	Willington	1	5	10
Ellington	5	40	54	Old Lyme	4	25	53	Wilton	2	44	39
Enfield	8	56	25	Old Saybrook	2	27	22	Winchester	0	5	3
Essex	0	11	13	Orange	2	18	20	Windham	4	12	8
Fairfield	8	82	77	Oxford	11	40	43	Windsor	1	29	0
Farmington	8	102	83	Plainfield	11	33	35	Windsor Locks	2	12	5
Franklin	0	4	0	Plainville	2	23	0	Wolcott	4	118	102
Glastonbury	20	116	115	Plymouth	3	16	26	Woodbridge	3	112	15
Goshen	0	19	5	Pomfret	1	19	24	Woodbury	9	46	29
Granby	5	39	19	Portland	1	13	2	Woodstock	2	24	14
Greenwich	6	93	38								

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

DOL newly registered employers are those businesses newly registered with the Labor Department's unemployment insurance program (including reopened accounts) during the month. DOL discontinued employers are those accounts that are terminated due to inactivity (no employees) or business closure. Registrations and terminations of business entities as recorded with the Secretary of the State are an indication of new business formation and activity. These registrations include limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, and foreign-owned (out-of-state) and domestic-owned (in-state) corporations.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index (CPI), computed and published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. It is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs and other goods and services that people buy for their day-to-day living. The Northeast region is comprised of the New England states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. *There is no separate consumer price index for Connecticut or any area within the state.*

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

The Employment Cost Index (ECI) covers both wages and salaries and employer costs for employee benefits for all occupations and establishments in both the private nonfarm sector and state and local government. The ECI measures employers' labor costs free from the influences of employment shifts among industries and occupations. The base period for all data is June 1989 when the ECI is 100.

HOURS AND EARNINGS ESTIMATES

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

INITIAL CLAIMS

Average weekly initial claims are calculated by dividing the total number of new claims for unemployment insurance received in the month by the number of weeks in the month. A minor change in methodology takes 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) 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 +2.0	Business Activity	Tourism and Travel
Coincident Employment Index +8.4	New Housing Permits +11.5	Tourism Inquiries -28.5
Total Nonfarm Employment +1.8	Electricity Sales +1.9	Tourism Info Centers +1.9
Unemployment -1.1*	Retail Sales +5.4	Attraction Visitors +1.7
Labor Force +1.1	Construction Contracts Index -10.3	Hotel-Motel Occupancy -0.1
Employed +2.3	New Auto Registrations -45.1	Air Passenger Count +1.3
Unemployed -18.3	Air Cargo Tons +0.9	
Average Weekly Initial Claims -9.9	Business Starts	Employment Cost Index
Help Wanted Index -- Hartford +6.3	Secretary of the State +7.4	Total +2.9
Average Ins. Unempl. Rate -0.41*	Dept. of Labor -9.0	Wages & Salaries +3.3
		Benefit Costs +2.0
Average Weekly Hours, Mfg -1.2	Business Terminations	Consumer Price Index
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg +3.6	Secretary of the State +10.4	U.S. City Average +2.2
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg +2.4	Dept. of Labor -17.7	Northeast Region +2.3
Manufacturing Output +0.3		NY-NJ-Long Island +2.2
Production Worker Hours -1.8	State Tax Collections +8.5	Boston-Lawrence-Salem +3.1
Productivity +2.2	Corporate Tax -13.7	Consumer Confidence
UI Covered Wages +8.9	Personal Income Tax +12.7	U.S. +15.3
Personal Income +6.6	Real Estate Conveyance Tax +1.8	New England +39.5
	Sales & Use Tax +4.7	Interest Rates
		Prime +0.25*
		Conventional Mortgage -0.52*

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

THE CONNECTICUT ECONOMIC DIGEST

October 1997

THE CONNECTICUT

ECONOMIC DIGEST

A joint publication of
The Connecticut Departments of Labor and
Economic and Community Development

Mailing address:

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

The Connecticut Economic Digest
is available on the internet at:

<http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us>

or

<http://www.state.ct.us/ecd/research>

- If you wish to have your name removed from our mailing list, please check here and return this page to the address at left.
- If your address has changed, please check here, make the necessary changes to your address label and return this page to the address at left.
- If you receive more than one copy of this publication, please check here and return this page from the duplicate copy to the address at left.