



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research

Danté Bartolomeo, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 2022 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 4.9%

US Unemployment Rate = 3.8%

February 2022 nonfarm jobs gain 6,300; the unemployment rate drops four-tenths to 4.9%

WETHERSFIELD, March 24, 2022 – Connecticut nonfarm industry jobs increased 6,300 (0.4%) in February 2022 (preliminary) to a seasonally adjusted employment level of 1,642,700. Connecticut payroll employment is now 52,700 (3.3%) positions higher than the February 2021 job estimate of 1,590,000. Connecticut has now recovered 80.5% (233,100) of the 289,400 positions lost in the March and April 2020 COVID lockdown. The preliminary January 2022 job loss (-700, -0.04%) was revised upward by 1,300 to a small 600 (0.04%) position gain at 1,636,400. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) produces these labor statistics from a current survey of businesses and households in the state.

“Job growth was strong in February. The unemployment rate fell as the labor force expanded,” said Patrick Flaherty, Director of the Office of Research at the Connecticut Department of Labor. “Since the beginning of the pandemic, the labor market has shown underlying strength with job growth increasing at moments of low infection rates. February continues this pattern.”

Connecticut’s private sector added a robust 7,200 jobs (0.5%) to 1,417,400 in February 2022 and is higher by 48,800 positions (3.6%) from the revised February 2021 levels (1,368,600). The private sector is 83.1% recovered from the COVID trough. The **government supersector** was lower by 900 jobs (-0.4%) in February 2022 to a level of 225,300. This is 3,900 (1.8%) positions above February 2021 levels. The public sector is only 51.7% recovered from the COVID lockdown job loss. The government *supersector* in Connecticut includes all federal, state, and local employment, including public education and Native American casino employment located on tribal reservation land.

Five of the ten major industry *supersectors* had employment gains, while four declined, and the Financial Activities *supersector* was unchanged in February 2022 (preliminary).

The six Connecticut industry *supersectors* that increased or unchanged in February 2022 (P) included:

Increasing Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Increase	Percent Change	February 2022 Employment
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	+4,800	1.6%	297,700
Education & Health Services	+1,900	0.6%	336,200
Leisure & Hospitality	+1,200	0.8%	143,100
Manufacturing	+500	0.3%	157,900
Information	+300	1.0%	30,600
Financial Activities	unchanged	0.0%	117,600

Four industry *supersectors* declined in February 2022.

Decreasing Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Decrease	Percent Change	February 2022 Employment
Professional & Business Services	-1,100	-0.5%	212,600
Government	-900	-0.4%	225,300
Other Services	-300	-0.5%	59,600
Construction & Mining	-100	-0.2%	62,100

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Five of the six Connecticut **LMAs**, that are seasonally adjusted by the BLS, experienced monthly employment gains, while the **Waterbury LMA** (-0.6%, 65,500) exhibited a 400 job decline in February 2022 (preliminary). Like last month, the **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (1.0%, 395,600) displayed the largest monthly job gain of 4,100 positions. This was followed by the **Hartford LMA** (0.5%, 563,000), adding 2,600 jobs. The **New Haven LMA** (0.2%, 293,200) increased by 700 positions. And the **Norwich-New London-Westerly LMA** (0.4%, 118,800) added 500 jobs while the **Danbury LMA** (0.4%, 75,000) increased by 300.

Note: The six major Connecticut LMAs are estimated independently from the statewide data by the BLS and cover more than 90% of the nonfarm employment in the state. Thus, estimates will not exactly sum to the statewide total.

Hours and Earnings: The February 2022 **private sector** workweek, not seasonally adjusted, averaged 33.9 hours. This is unchanged from the February 2021 level estimate. Average hourly earnings at \$34.33, not seasonally adjusted, were higher by \$0.58 (1.7%) from the February 2021 estimate of \$33.75. The accompanying February 2022 private sector weekly wage averaged \$1,163.79, higher by \$19.66 from a year ago (1.7%). The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in February 2022 was up 7.9% from a year ago. *Current all-employee private sector hours and earnings estimates can be volatile due to fluctuating sample responses.*

Labor Force Data (residential household survey)

The February 2022 unemployment rate for Connecticut was estimated by the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics program (LAUS) to be **4.9%** (seasonally adjusted), down by four-tenths of a percentage point from the recently revised January 2022 level of 5.3%. The Connecticut jobless rate was 7.2% in February 2021. Connecticut's labor force expanded in February and the number of unemployed fell. The labor force is now up over 22,000 from one year ago with the number of unemployed down by more than 40,000. The U.S. unemployment rate in February 2022 was 3.8%, down two-tenths of a percentage point from the January 2022 rate of 4.0% and far below the February 2021 jobless rate of 6.2%.

Unemployment claims for first-time filers (seasonally adjusted) in Connecticut were an average of 2,837 per week in February 2022, down 748 (-20.9%) from the January 2022 (3,585) level and lower by 4,594 claims (-61.8%) from the average weekly count of 7,431 in February 2021. This level of average weekly initial claims is now below the February 2020 levels (2,937) - just before the COVID lockdown.

*The nonfarm employment estimate, derived from a survey of businesses, is a measure of jobs in the state; the unemployment rate and labor force estimates are based on a household survey, and measure the work status of people who live in Connecticut. Overall, as the national and state economies recover, volatility in monthly numbers can be expected. **Job and employment estimates are best understood in the context of their movement over several months rather than observed changes in a single month's value.***

Next Connecticut Labor Situation release: Thursday, April 14, 2022
(Preliminary March 2022 data)

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Labor Market Information is available at: www.ctworkforce.info
200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114 www.ct.gov/dol
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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Jobs - by Place of Work

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	February 2022 P	January 2022 R	December 2021	November 2021	February 2022	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,642,700	1,636,400	1,635,800	1,636,300	1,590,000	6,300	0.4%	52,700	3.3%
Total Private	1,417,400	1,410,200	1,410,500	1,410,600	1,368,600	7,200	0.5%	48,800	3.6%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	600	600	500	500	500	0	0.0%	100	20.0%
Construction	61,500	61,600	61,700	61,700	58,900	-100	-0.2%	2,600	4.4%
Manufacturing	157,900	157,400	156,400	155,600	152,200	500	0.3%	5,700	3.7%
Durable Goods	122,900	122,500	121,900	121,500	119,800	400	0.3%	3,100	2.6%
Nondurable Goods	35,000	34,900	34,500	34,100	32,400	100	0.3%	2,600	8.0%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	297,700	292,900	291,700	290,700	289,300	4,800	1.6%	8,400	2.9%
Wholesale	60,100	58,300	58,100	58,200	56,400	1,800	3.1%	3,700	6.6%
Retail	168,800	166,400	165,600	165,100	167,700	2,400	1.4%	1,100	0.7%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	68,800	68,200	68,000	67,400	65,200	600	0.9%	3,600	5.5%
Information	30,600	30,300	30,200	30,200	29,300	300	1.0%	1,300	4.4%
Financial Activities	117,600	117,600	116,700	116,700	118,700	0	0.0%	-1,100	-0.9%
Finance & Insurance	98,500	98,500	97,700	97,800	100,100	0	0.0%	-1,600	-1.6%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	19,100	19,100	19,000	18,900	18,600	0	0.0%	500	2.7%
Professional & Business Services	212,600	213,700	215,300	217,100	210,700	-1,100	-0.5%	1,900	0.9%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	97,000	96,800	96,800	98,100	93,500	200	0.2%	3,500	3.7%
Management of Companies	30,200	30,100	30,100	30,300	30,500	100	0.3%	-300	-1.0%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	85,400	86,800	88,400	88,700	86,700	-1,400	-1.6%	-1,300	-1.5%
Educational & Health Services	336,200	334,300	334,900	336,100	329,600	1,900	0.6%	6,600	2.0%
Educational Services	66,100	66,700	66,700	66,000	62,400	-600	-0.9%	3,700	5.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	270,100	267,600	268,200	270,100	267,200	2,500	0.9%	2,900	1.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	143,100	141,900	142,600	141,800	122,700	1,200	0.8%	20,400	16.6%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	24,100	23,600	24,200	24,200	21,100	500	2.1%	3,000	14.2%
Accommodation & Food Services	119,000	118,300	118,400	117,600	101,600	700	0.6%	17,400	17.1%
Other Services	59,600	59,900	60,500	60,200	56,700	-300	-0.5%	2,900	5.1%
Government**	225,300	226,200	225,300	225,700	221,400	-900	-0.4%	3,900	1.8%
UNITED STATES	150,399,000	149,721,000	149,240,000	148,652,000	143,727,000	678,000	0.5%	6,672,000	4.6%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

Labor Market Area employment estimates are made independently of Statewide estimates.

Seasonally Adjusted data	February 2022 P	January 2022 R	December 2021	November 2021	February 2022	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	395,600	391,500	389,500	391,300	377,500	4,100	1.0%	18,100	4.8%
Danbury	75,000	74,700	74,700	74,700	72,700	300	0.4%	2,300	3.2%
Hartford	563,000	560,400	562,900	564,600	554,400	2,600	0.5%	8,600	1.6%
New Haven	293,200	292,500	291,400	292,200	281,300	700	0.2%	11,900	4.2%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	118,800	118,300	118,300	118,900	116,300	500	0.4%	2,500	2.1%
Waterbury	65,500	65,900	65,600	65,400	63,500	-400	-0.6%	2,000	3.1%
Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated - not BLS)									
Enfield	41,100	41,300	42,100	42,200	41,200	-200	-0.5%	-100	-0.2%
Torrington-Northwest	31,100	31,200	31,800	31,800	30,400	-100	-0.3%	700	2.3%
Danielson-Northeast	26,000	26,000	26,500	26,500	25,300	0	0.0%	700	2.8%

* Less than 0.05% ** Includes Native American tribal government employment

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

Starting with March, 2011, our monthly statewide and major LMA nonfarm job estimates have been taken over by the US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is the final phase of transition in this program, which began in 2008. As a result of changes in the estimation procedures, you are likely to see more variability in month-to-month estimates of job counts. Caution should be used in interpreting any single month's estimate. The data are best interpreted to identify trends and cycles over several months and quarters. If you have any questions about these changes, please email us at: dol.lmi@ct.gov. Danbury and Waterbury LMA's are now back to being seasonally adjusted.

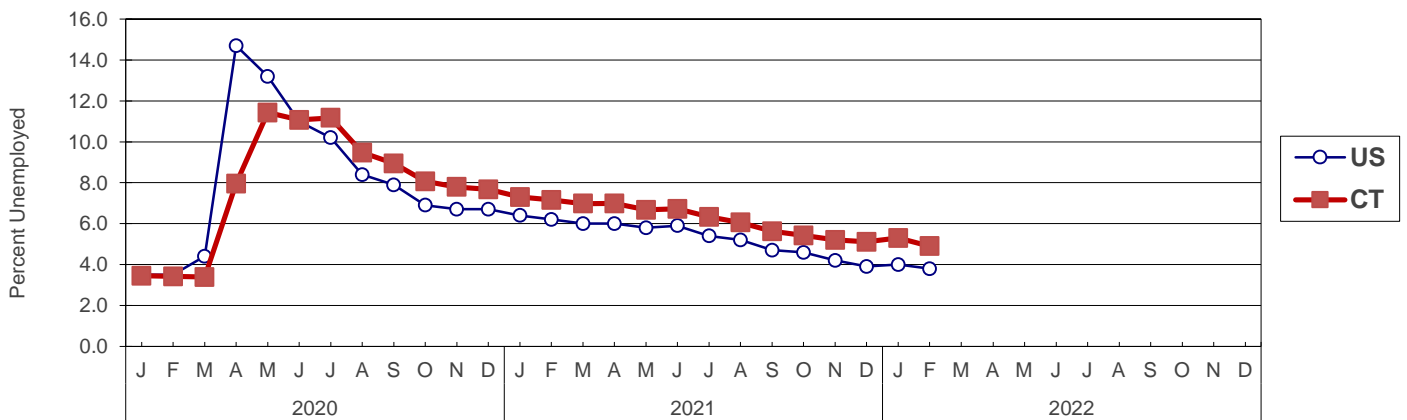
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	Feb 2022 P		Feb 2021 R		Change		Jan 2022 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	91,200	4.9	132,100	7.2	-40,900	-2.3	98,800	5.3
Labor Force	1,869,300		1,846,700		22,600		1,867,300	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	6,270,000	3.8	9,992,000	6.2	-3,722,000	-2.4	6,513,000	4.0
Labor Force	163,991,000		160,359,000		3,632,000		163,687,000	

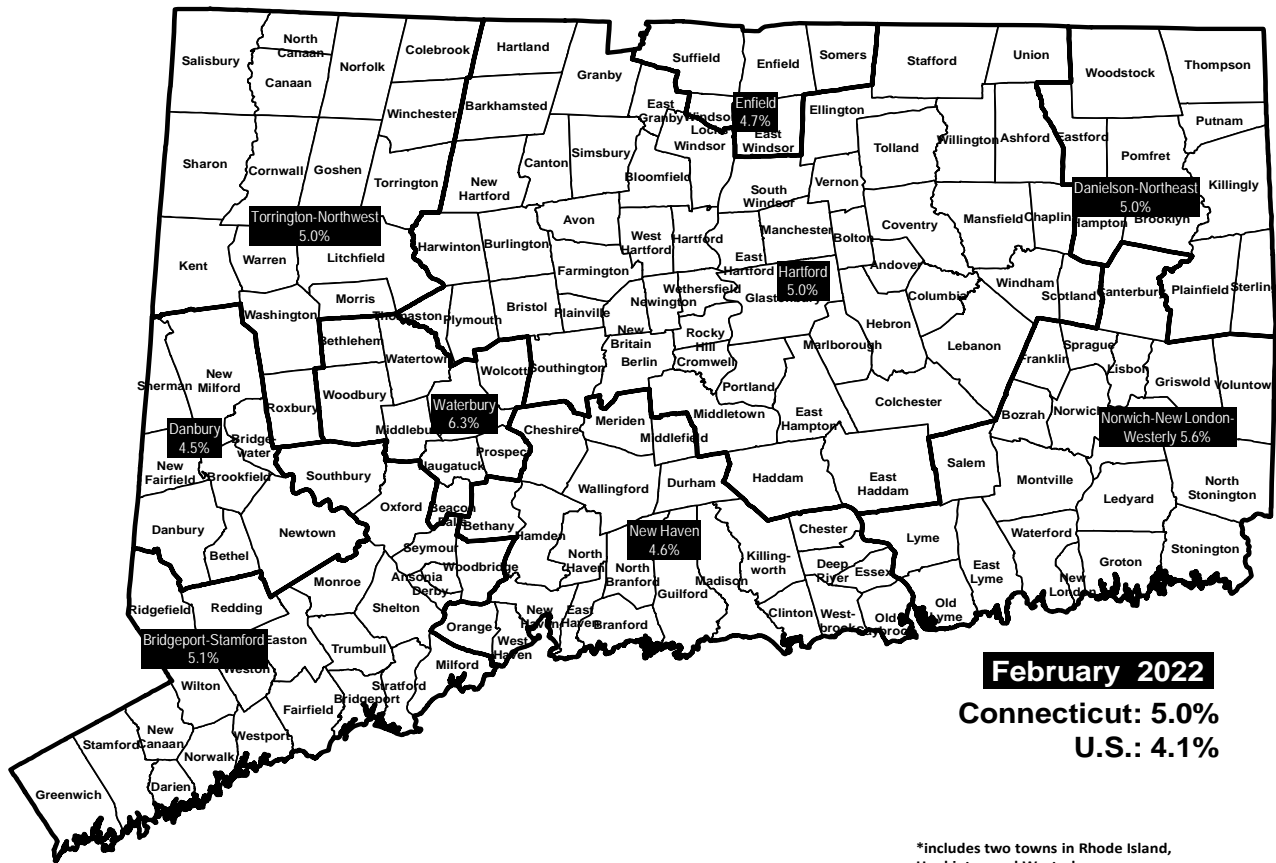
U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2020 - 2022



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LABOR MARKET AREAS



*includes two towns in Rhode Island, Hopkinton and Westerly.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	Feb. 2022 P	Feb. 2021	Change over Yr.	Jan. 2022 R	Feb. 2022 P	Feb. 2021	Change over Yr.	Jan. 2022 R	Feb. 2022 P	Feb. 2021	Change over Yr.	Jan. 2022 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,163.79	\$1,144.13	\$19.66	\$1,183.61	33.9	33.9	0.0	34.1	\$34.33	\$33.75	\$0.58	\$34.71
Manufacturing* Production Workers	\$1,106.80	\$1,085.45	\$21.35	\$1,085.70	40.0	39.2	0.8	38.5	\$27.67	\$27.69	-\$0.02	\$28.20

* Production worker data have been impacted by the loss of a large, high-paying manufacturer from the monthly sample.

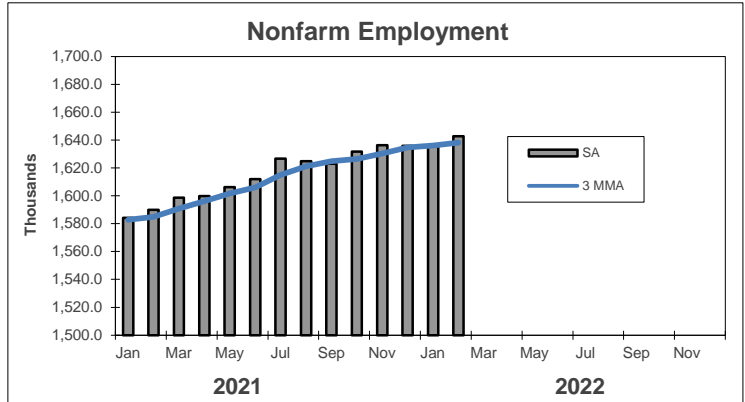
P = Preliminary R = Revised

Hours and earnings are also developed for the state's major industry sectors and Labor Market Areas. They can be found on our website at: www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi

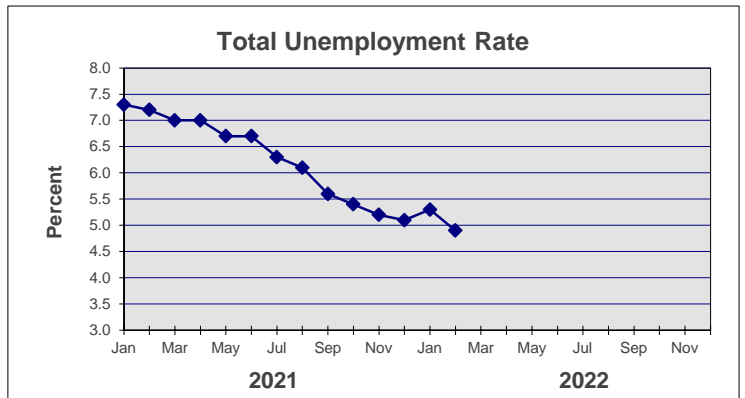
TRENDS

Seasonally Adjusted

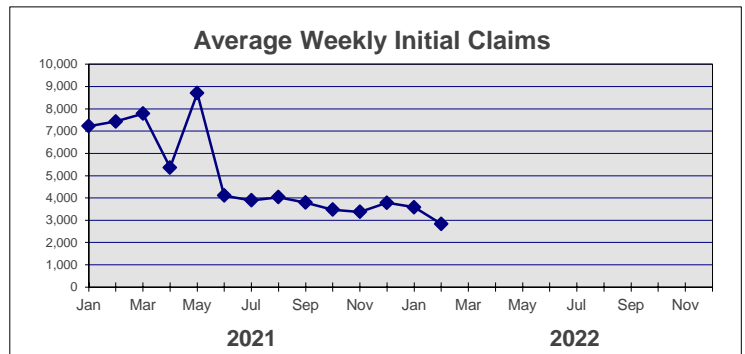
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2021		
Jan	1,584.1	7.3
Feb	1,590.0	7.2
Mar	1,598.7	7.0
Apr	1,599.8	7.0
May	1,606.3	6.7
Jun	1,612.0	6.7
Jul	1,626.6	6.3
Aug	1,624.7	6.1
Sep	1,622.9	5.6
Oct	1,631.6	5.4
Nov	1,636.3	5.2
Dec	1,635.8	5.1



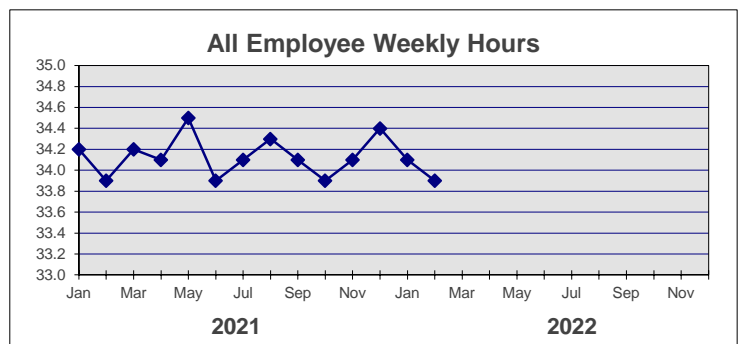
2022		
Jan	1,636.4 R	5.3 R
Feb	1,642.7 P	4.9 P
Mar		
Apr		
May		
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2021		
Jan	7,226	34.2
Feb	7,431	33.9
Mar	7,780	34.2
Apr	5,366	34.1
May	8,702	34.5
Jun	4,109	33.9
Jul	3,892	34.1
Aug	4,031	34.3
Sep	3,789	34.1
Oct	3,472	33.9
Nov	3,376	34.1
Dec	3,780	34.4



2022		
Jan	3,585	34.1 R
Feb	2,837	33.9 P
Mar		
Apr		
May		
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute