



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Danté Bartolomeo, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 2024 Data
CT Unemployment Rate = 3.0%
US Unemployment Rate = 4.1%

CT October jobless rate falls to 3.0%; nonfarm jobs show a small decline

WETHERSFIELD, November 18, 2024 – The statewide unemployment rate dropped another two-tenths of one percent to 3.0% as the state’s nonfarm payroll employment cut a slight 300 positions (-0.02%) to a level of 1,709,000 in October 2024 (preliminary data, seasonally adjusted). Connecticut’s nonfarm industry employment is 8,300 (0.5%) positions higher than a year ago. The September 2024 Connecticut preliminary job loss of 300 (-0.02%) was revised lower by another thousand on the normal monthly revision (-1,300, -0.1%). The October 2024 statewide unemployment rate is now well below a year ago (4.2%) after five consecutive monthly statistically-significant declines and has not been this low since August 2001 (3.0%). *This labor statistics release includes estimated data from two different monthly surveys (businesses and households) produced by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in cooperation with the states.*

“The very low unemployment rate is consistent with the low level of unemployment insurance claims,” said Patrick Flaherty, Director of the Office of Research at the Connecticut Department of Labor. “While payroll jobs have not increased in the second half of the year, total jobs have remained above 1.7 million throughout 2024 with the private sector at levels never seen before this year.”

Connecticut’s private sector employment increased in October 2024 by 900 (0.1%) to 1,475,300 and is up by 7,400 jobs (0.5%) from October 2023. September’s preliminary private sector’s unchanged job movement was adjusted lower on revision to a 600 (-0.04%) decline. The **government supersector** was lower by 1,200 jobs (-0.5%) in October to a level of 233,700 jobs but is still higher by 900 (0.4%) positions from last October’s levels. The September 2024 preliminary total government job loss of 300 was revised lower by 400 to -700 (-0.3%). *Connecticut’s total government supersector consists of all civilian federal, state, local, and tribal government employment, including public education and Native American casino jobs located on federally recognized tribal reservations.*

Three of the ten major industry *supersectors* increased jobs in October 2024, while four declined and the Manufacturing, Construction and Mining, and Information *supersectors* were unchanged.

The six industry *supersectors* that increased employment or were unchanged in October 2024 included:

Increasing Supersectors			
Industry Supersector	Amount of Increase	Percent Change	October 2024 Employment
Other Services	+500	0.8%	64,600
Leisure & Hospitality	+500	0.3%	156,700
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	+400	0.1%	296,100
Manufacturing	unchanged	0.0%	158,000
Construction and Mining	unchanged	0.0%	62,500
Information	unchanged	0.0%	30,000

The four industry *supersector* that fell in jobs in October 2024 were:

Decreasing Supersectors			
Industry Supersector	Amount of Decrease	Percent Change	October 2024 Employment
Government	-1,200	-0.5%	233,700
Private Education & Health Services	-300	-0.1%	368,200
Financial Activities	-100	-0.1%	119,200
Professional & Business Services	-100	-0.04%	220,000

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Just two of the six major Connecticut **LMAs** that are seasonally adjusted by the BLS (about 92.2% of the state) posted nonfarm payroll job gains in October 2024. Three BLS labor markets saw monthly declines and the **Waterbury LMA** (0.0%, 66,900) was unchanged. The **Norwich-New London-Westerly LMA** (0.4%, 126,700) led in numerical gains and percentage gains, adding 500 jobs. The **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (0.05%, 410,100) increased 200 positions. The **Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford LMA** (-0.1%, 588,000) declined by 500 and the **New Haven LMA** (-0.1%, 306,000) lost 300 jobs. The **Danbury LMA** (-0.1%, 78,200) also declined by 100 positions.

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

Hours and Earnings: The October 2024 **private sector** average workweek, *not seasonally adjusted*, averaged 33.7 hours (AWH). This is now down one-tenth of an hour from the October 2023 average of 33.8 hours (-0.3%). Average hourly earnings (AHE) at \$38.41 in October 2024, *not seasonally adjusted*, were up by \$1.62 (4.4%) from the October 2023 estimate of \$36.79. The resultant October 2024 private sector average weekly earnings (AWE) were calculated at \$1,294.42, higher by \$50.92 (4.1%) from a year ago (\$1,243.50). The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted - all items index) for October 2024 was up 2.6% from a year ago.

Note: Current all-employee private sector hours and earnings estimates can be volatile due to fluctuating sample responses.

Labor Force Data (residential household survey)

The preliminary October 2024 unemployment rate for Connecticut was estimated by the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics program (LAUS) to be **3.0%** (seasonally adjusted). This is another 0.2% monthly decline and considered statistically significant for the fifth month in a row. The unemployment rate is down one and two-tenths percent compared to the October 2023 level of 4.2%. The state jobless rate has declined 1.5 percentage points since March 2024. The U.S. unemployment rate for October 2024 was 4.1%, unchanged from the September 2024 rate but higher over the year from 3.8% in October 2023. The CT jobless rate in October 2024 is one and one-tenth of a percentage point lower than the U.S. unemployment rate.

Average weekly initial unemployment claims (*not seasonally adjusted*) for first-time filers (AWIC) in Connecticut for October 2024 were a very low 2,017. This is 156 (-7.2%) claims lower than September 2024 (2,173), and lower by 236 claims (-10.5%) than the October 2023 (2,253) level.

*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. Because of the distinct differences both in concept and scope between the two estimates, nonfarm employment and unemployment do not necessarily move in the same economic direction month to month. 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, December 19, 2024
(Preliminary November 2024 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

	October 2024 P	September 2024 R	August 2024	July 2024	October 2023	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,709,000	1,709,300	1,710,600	1,712,800	1,700,700	-300	0.0%	8,300	0.5%
Total Private	1,475,300	1,474,400	1,475,000	1,476,900	1,467,900	900	0.1%	7,400	0.5%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	600	600	600	600	600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	61,900	61,900	62,600	63,000	62,700	0	0.0%	-800	-1.3%
Manufacturing	158,000	158,000	157,800	158,500	157,700	0	0.0%	300	0.2%
Durable Goods	124,200	123,900	123,700	124,400	123,500	300	0.2%	700	0.6%
Nondurable Goods	33,800	34,100	34,100	34,100	34,200	-300	-0.9%	-400	-1.2%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	296,100	295,700	297,200	297,900	301,400	400	0.1%	-5,300	-1.8%
Wholesale	62,200	62,000	62,000	61,500	61,700	200	0.3%	500	0.8%
Retail	163,600	164,000	164,100	164,400	166,500	-400	-0.2%	-2,900	-1.7%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	70,300	69,700	71,100	72,000	73,200	600	0.9%	-2,900	-4.0%
Information	30,000	30,000	30,700	30,200	30,400	0	0.0%	-400	-1.3%
Financial Activities	119,200	119,300	119,100	119,200	118,300	-100	-0.1%	900	0.8%
Finance & Insurance	99,300	99,400	99,200	99,300	98,700	-100	-0.1%	600	0.6%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	19,900	19,900	19,900	19,900	19,600	0	0.0%	300	1.5%
Professional & Business Services	220,000	220,100	218,300	219,100	221,900	-100	0.0%	-1,900	-0.9%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	101,400	101,500	100,700	100,600	100,700	-100	-0.1%	700	0.7%
Management of Companies	32,100	32,200	31,700	31,800	31,600	-100	-0.3%	500	1.6%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	86,500	86,400	85,900	86,700	89,600	100	0.1%	-3,100	-3.5%
Educational & Health Services	368,200	368,500	369,000	367,700	359,500	-300	-0.1%	8,700	2.4%
Private Educational Services	74,100	74,300	74,700	73,900	73,100	-200	-0.3%	1,000	1.4%
Health Care & Social Assistance	294,100	294,200	294,300	293,800	286,400	-100	0.0%	7,700	2.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	156,700	156,200	156,400	157,000	151,700	500	0.3%	5,000	3.3%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	29,400	29,400	29,300	29,400	27,900	0	0.0%	1,500	5.4%
Accommodation & Food Services	127,300	126,800	127,100	127,600	123,800	500	0.4%	3,500	2.8%
Other Services	64,600	64,100	63,300	63,700	63,700	500	0.8%	900	1.4%
Government**	233,700	234,900	235,600	235,900	232,800	-1,200	-0.5%	900	0.4%
UNITED STATES	159,005,000	158,993,000	158,770,000	158,692,000	156,832,000	12,000	0.0%	2,173,000	1.4%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	October 2024 P	September 2024 R	August 2024	July 2024	October 2023	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	410,100	409,900	410,800	411,400	407,400	200	0.0%	2,700	0.7%
Danbury	78,200	78,300	78,200	78,100	78,400	-100	-0.1%	-200	-0.3%
Hartford	588,000	588,500	589,200	589,100	582,800	-500	-0.1%	5,200	0.9%
New Haven	306,000	306,300	307,700	307,400	302,300	-300	-0.1%	3,700	1.2%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	126,700	126,200	126,800	127,300	126,300	500	0.4%	400	0.3%
Waterbury	66,900	66,900	66,800	66,800	66,900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated - not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	43,100	43,000	42,600	42,700	43,200	100	0.2%	-100	-0.2%
Torrington-Northwest	33,400	33,500	33,800	33,900	33,200	-100	-0.3%	200	0.6%
Danielson-Northeast	26,900	26,800	26,600	26,600	27,400	100	0.4%	-500	-1.8%

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

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

Starting in 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: doi.lmi@ct.gov.

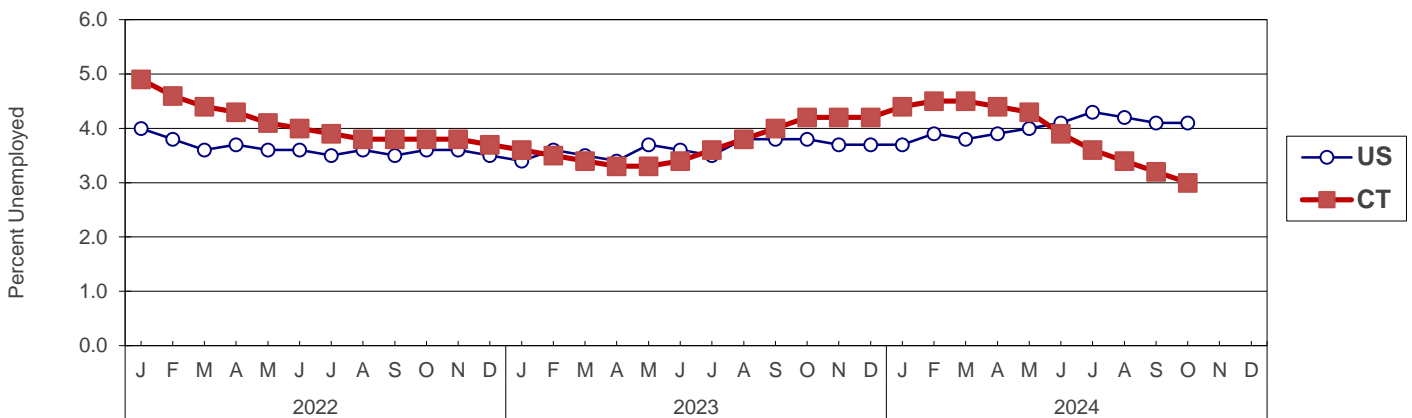
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	Oct 2024 P		Oct 2023 R		Change		Sep 2024 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	57,700	3.0	79,600	4.2	-21,900	-1.2	61,400	3.2
Labor Force	1,901,400		1,899,600		1,800		1,900,400	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	6,984,000	4.1	6,443,000	3.8	541,000	0.3	6,834,000	4.1
Labor Force	168,479,000		167,723,000		756,000		168,699,000	

U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2022 - 2024



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Oct 2024 P		Oct 2023 R		Change		Sep 2024 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	12,300	2.6	20,200	4.3	-7,900	-1.7	12,600	2.7
Danbury	2,300	2.2	3,800	3.6	-1,500	-1.4	2,300	2.2
Danielson-Northeast*	1,000	2.4	1,700	4.0	-700	-1.6	1,100	2.4
Worcester NECTA	1,000	2.4	1,600	4.0	-600	-1.6	1,000	2.4
Hampton	0	1.7	100	3.0	-100	-1.3	0	1.9
Enfield	1,100	2.3	1,800	3.6	-700	-1.3	1,100	2.3
Hartford	15,300	2.4	24,100	3.9	-8,800	-1.5	15,600	2.5
New Haven	8,000	2.4	12,800	3.8	-4,800	-1.4	8,200	2.4
Norwich-New London	3,400	2.5	5,100	3.7	-1,700	-1.2	3,400	2.5
Torrington-Northwest**	1,000	2.0	1,600	3.4	-600	-1.4	1,000	2.1
Torrington NECTA	600	2.4	1,000	3.9	-400	-1.5	600	2.5
Litchfield	300	1.5	600	2.7	-300	-1.2	300	1.6
Waterbury	3,400	3.1	5,500	4.9	-2,100	-1.8	3,500	3.2
CONNECTICUT	47,300	2.5	76,100	4.0	-28,800	-1.5	48,300	2.5
UNITED STATES	6,631,000	3.9	6,098,000	3.6	533,000	0.3	6,524,000	3.9

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

Labor force data included in this publication are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

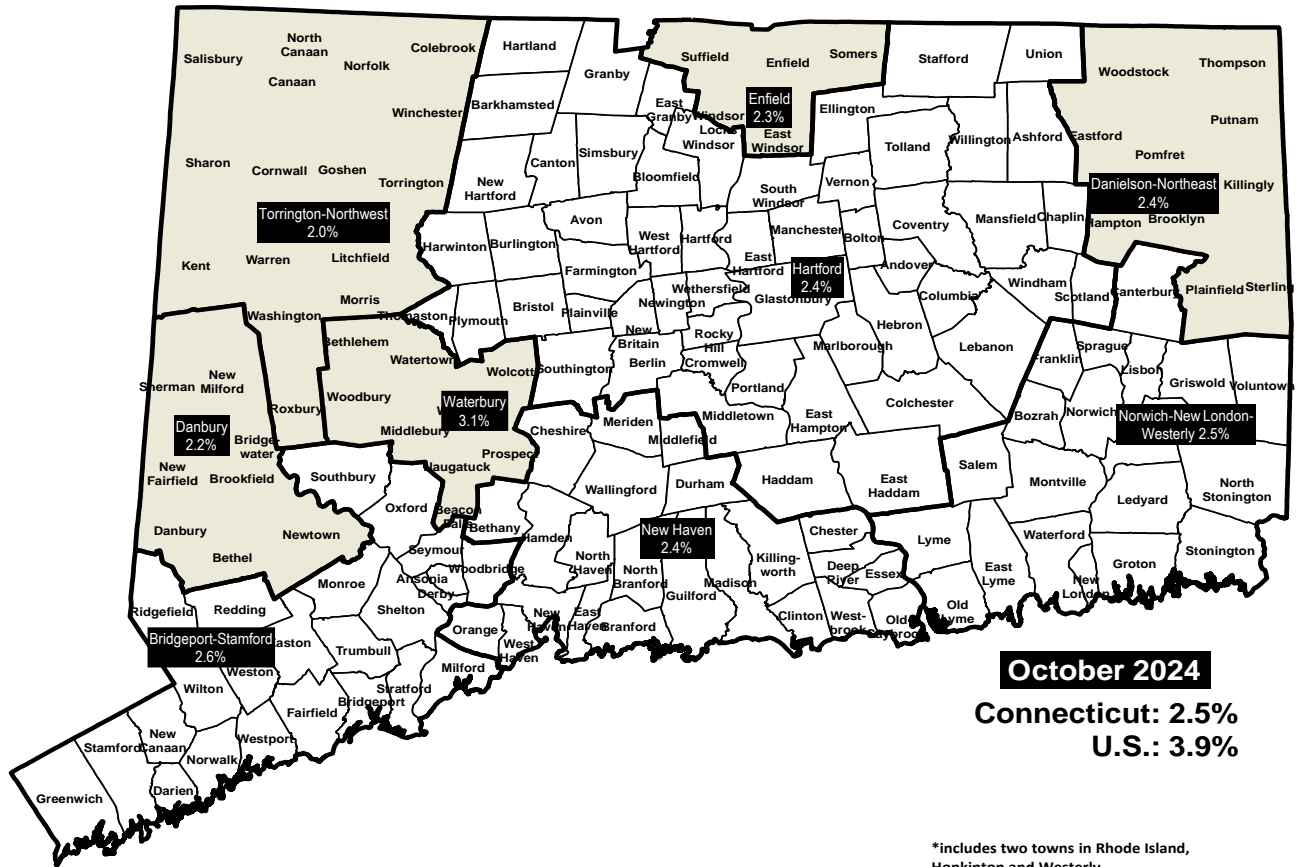
* Worcester NECTA, CT part and Hampton LMA are combined

** Torrington Micropolitan NECTA and Litchfield LMA are combined

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LABOR MARKET AREAS



HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	Oct. 2024 P	Oct. 2023	Change over Yr.	Sep. 2024 R	Oct. 2024 P	Oct. 2023	Change over Yr.	Sep. 2024 R	Oct. 2024 P	Oct. 2023	Change over Yr.	Sep. 2024 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,294.42	\$1,243.50	\$50.92	\$1,297.35	33.7	33.8	-0.1	33.9	\$38.41	\$36.79	\$1.62	\$38.27
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$1,245.42	\$1,177.85	\$67.57	\$1,220.26	39.6	39.9	-0.3	38.8	\$31.45	\$29.52	\$1.93	\$31.45

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

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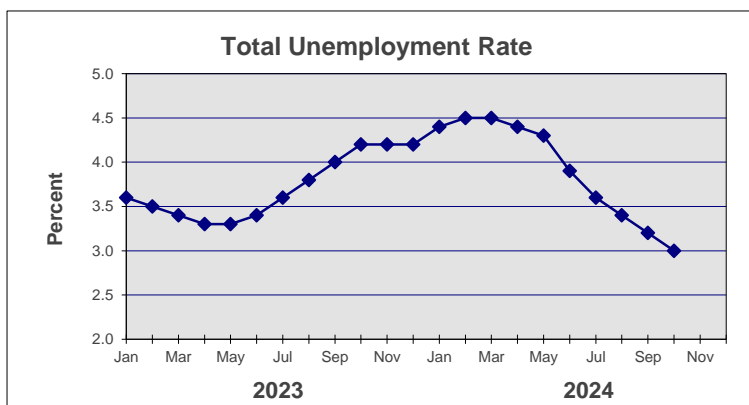
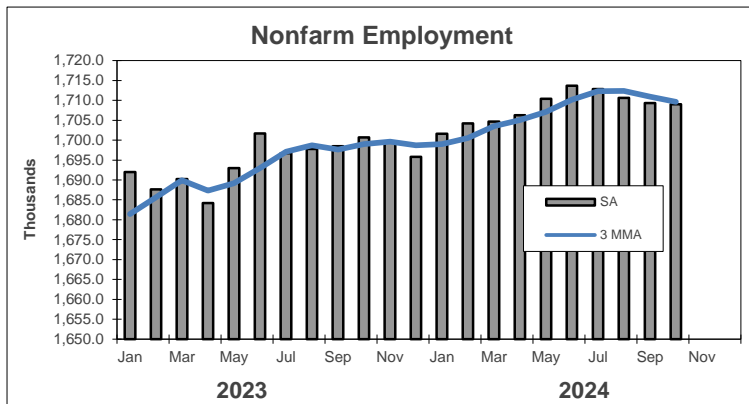
Hours and earnings are also developed for the state's major industry sectors and Labor Market Areas. They can be found on our website at: www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi

TRENDS

Seasonally Adjusted

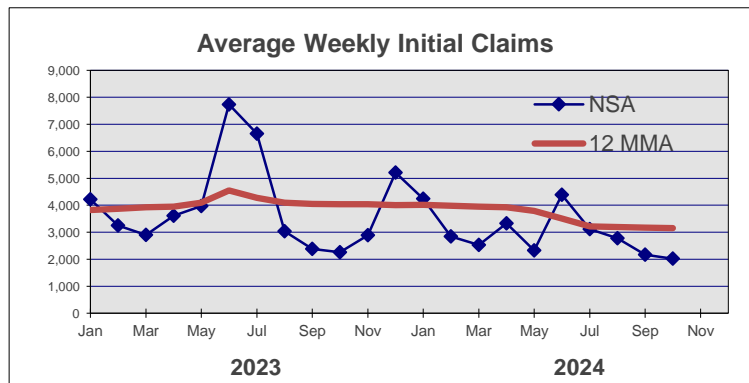
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2023		
Jan	1,692.0	3.6
Feb	1,687.6	3.5
Mar	1,690.2	3.4
Apr	1,684.2	3.3
May	1,693.0	3.3
Jun	1,701.7	3.4
Jul	1,696.7	3.6
Aug	1,697.8	3.8
Sep	1,698.5	4.0
Oct	1,700.7	4.2
Nov	1,699.7	4.2
Dec	1,695.8	4.2

2024		
Jan	1,701.6	4.4
Feb	1,704.2	4.5
Mar	1,704.7	4.5
Apr	1,706.3	4.4
May	1,710.4	4.3
Jun	1,713.7	3.9
Jul	1,712.8	3.6
Aug	1,710.6	3.4
Sep	1,709.3 R	3.2 R
Oct	1,709.0 P	3.0 P
Nov		
Dec		



	NSA Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2023		
Jan	4,215	33.5
Feb	3,249	33.0
Mar	2,898	32.9
Apr	3,610	33.7
May	3,972	33.0
Jun	7,738	33.0
Jul	6,646	33.5
Aug	3,035	33.3
Sep	2,387	33.4
Oct	2,253	33.8
Nov	2,885	33.5
Dec	5,214	33.5

2024		
Jan	4,239	33.2
Feb	2,847	32.9
Mar	2,525	33.3
Apr	3,324	33.6
May	2,331	33.4
Jun	4,389	33.6
Jul	3,109	33.5
Aug	2,780	33.6
Sep	2,173	33.9 R
Oct	2,017	33.7 P
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute