



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Danté Bartolomeo, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2024 Data
CT Unemployment Rate = 3.2%
US Unemployment Rate = 4.1%

CT September jobless rate falls again to 3.2%; payroll jobs post slight decrease (-300)

WETHERSFIELD, October 21, 2024 – The statewide unemployment rate fell another two-tenths of one percent to 3.2% while the state’s nonfarm payroll employment trimmed a small 300 positions (-0.02%) to a level of 1,710,300 in September 2024 (preliminary data, seasonally adjusted). Connecticut’s nonfarm industry employment is 11,800 (0.7%) positions higher than a year ago. Payroll employment is 11,700 jobs above February 2020 (the last pre-pandemic month). The total August 2024 Connecticut preliminary job loss of 2,200 (-0.2%) was not revised on the normal monthly revision. The September 2024 unemployment rate is now well below a year ago (4.0%) and has dropped 1.1 percentage points since May 2024 (4.3%) and is at the lowest level since September 2001. *This labor statistics release includes estimated data from two different monthly surveys (business establishment and residential household) produced by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in cooperation with the States.*

“The very low unemployment rate is an indicator that the labor market remains healthy despite monthly job declines,” said Patrick Flaherty, Director of the Office of Research at the Connecticut Department of Labor. “Job growth has fluctuated month-to-month along an overall upward trend for the past couple of years with strong job growth in the first half the year, weakness in the second half, and positive job growth over the course of the year.”

Connecticut’s private sector employment was unchanged in September 2024 to hold at 1,475,000 and is up by 9,400 jobs (0.6%) from the September 2023 level. The state’s private sector is more than fully recovered (105.1%) from the COVID lockdown. August’s preliminary private sector job drop of 2,200 (-0.2%) improved on revision to a 1,900 (-0.1%) job decline. The **government supersector** was lower by 300 jobs (-0.1%) in September, hitting a level of 235,300 jobs but is higher by 2,400 (1.0%) positions from last year’s levels. The August 2024 preliminary total government unchanged job movement was revised lower by 300 to -300 (-0.1%). *Connecticut’s total government supersector includes all civilian federal, state, local, and tribal government employment, including public education and Native American casino jobs located on federally recognized tribal reservations.*

Four of the ten major industry *supersectors* increased jobs in September 2024, whereas five declined and the Manufacturing *supersector* was unchanged.

The five industry supersectors that added employment or were unchanged in September 2024 included:

Increasing Supersectors			
Industry Supersector	Amount of Increase	Percent Change	September 2024 Employment
Professional & Business Services	+1,800	0.8%	220,100
Other Services	+400	0.6%	63,700
Education & Health Services	+400	0.1%	369,400
Financial Activities	+300	0.3%	119,400
Manufacturing	unchanged	0.0%	157,800

The five industry supersector that dropped jobs in September 2024 were:

Decreasing Supersectors			
Industry Supersector	Amount of Decrease	Percent Change	September 2024 Employment
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	-900	-0.3%	296,300
Construction and Mining	-800	-1.3%	62,400
Information	-700	-2.3%	30,000
Leisure & Hospitality	-500	-0.3%	155,900
Government	-300	-0.1%	235,300

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Only two of the six major Connecticut *LMAs* that are seasonally adjusted by the BLS (about 92.3% of the state) put forth nonfarm payroll employment gains in September 2024, while four BLS labor markets exhibited monthly declines. The **Waterbury LMA** (0.4%, 67,100) added 300 jobs - leading in numerical gains and percentage gains, plus the **Danbury LMA** (0.3%, 78,400) added 200 positions. The most seasonal region, the **Norwich-New London-Westerly LMA** (-0.5%, 126,200) led in percentage job losses dropping 600 jobs as did the **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (-0.1%, 410,200). The largest labor market region, the **Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford LMA** (-0.1%, 588,800) declined 400, and the **New Haven LMA** (-0.1%, 307,500) cut 200 jobs. *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 September 2024 **private sector** average workweek, *not seasonally adjusted*, averaged 34.0 hours (AWH). This is up six-tenths of an hour from the September 2023 average of 33.4 hours (1.8%). Average hourly earnings (AHE) at \$38.21 in September 2024, *not seasonally adjusted*, were up by \$2.21 (6.1%) from the September 2023 estimate of \$36.00. The September 2024 private sector average weekly earnings (AWE) measured \$1,299.14, higher by \$96.74 (8.0%) from a year ago (\$1,202.40). The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, *not seasonally adjusted* - all items index) for September 2024 was up 2.4% 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 September 2024 unemployment rate for Connecticut was estimated by the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics program (LAUS) to be **3.2%** (seasonally adjusted). This 0.2% monthly decline is considered statistically significant for the fourth month in a row. The unemployment rate is down eight-tenths of one percent compared to the September 2023 level of 4.0%. The state jobless rate has declined 1.1% since May 2024. The U.S. unemployment rate for September 2024 was 4.1%, lower by one-tenth of a percentage point from the August 2024 rate of 4.2% but is higher over the year from 3.8% in September 2023. The CT jobless rate is nine-tenths 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 September 2024 were a very low 2,173. This is 607 (-21.8%) claims lower than August 2024 (2,780), and lower by 214 claims (-9.0%) than the September 2023 (2,387) 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: Monday, November 18, 2024
(Preliminary October 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*

	September 2024 P	August 2024 R	July 2024	June 2024	September 2023	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,710,300	1,710,600	1,712,800	1,713,700	1,698,500	-300	0.0%	11,800	0.7%
Total Private	1,475,000	1,475,000	1,476,900	1,475,900	1,465,600	0	0.0%	9,400	0.6%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	500	600	600	600	600	-100	-16.7%	-100	-16.7%
Construction	61,900	62,600	63,000	63,200	62,000	-700	-1.1%	-100	-0.2%
Manufacturing	157,800	157,800	158,500	158,600	158,400	0	0.0%	-600	-0.4%
<i>Durable Goods</i>	123,700	123,700	124,400	124,400	124,200	0	0.0%	-500	-0.4%
<i>Nondurable Goods</i>	34,100	34,100	34,100	34,200	34,200	0	0.0%	-100	-0.3%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	296,300	297,200	297,900	298,000	301,100	-900	-0.3%	-4,800	-1.6%
<i>Wholesale</i>	62,100	62,000	61,500	61,500	60,900	100	0.2%	1,200	2.0%
<i>Retail</i>	164,000	164,100	164,400	164,600	167,900	-100	-0.1%	-3,900	-2.3%
<i>Transp, Warehousing & Utilities</i>	70,200	71,100	72,000	71,900	72,300	-900	-1.3%	-2,100	-2.9%
Information	30,000	30,700	30,200	30,000	30,700	-700	-2.3%	-700	-2.3%
Financial Activities	119,400	119,100	119,200	119,300	118,500	300	0.3%	900	0.8%
<i>Finance & Insurance</i>	99,500	99,200	99,300	99,500	98,900	300	0.3%	600	0.6%
<i>Real Estate, Rental & Leasing</i>	19,900	19,900	19,900	19,800	19,600	0	0.0%	300	1.5%
Professional & Business Services	220,100	218,300	219,100	219,300	221,500	1,800	0.8%	-1,400	-0.6%
<i>Prof, Scientific & Tech Services</i>	101,600	100,700	100,600	101,100	100,600	900	0.9%	1,000	1.0%
<i>Management of Companies</i>	32,100	31,700	31,800	32,000	31,700	400	1.3%	400	1.3%
<i>Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv</i>	86,400	85,900	86,700	86,200	89,200	500	0.6%	-2,800	-3.1%
Educational & Health Services	369,400	369,000	367,700	367,000	357,200	400	0.1%	12,200	3.4%
<i>Private Educational Services</i>	74,600	74,700	73,900	74,200	71,900	-100	-0.1%	2,700	3.8%
<i>Health Care & Social Assistance</i>	294,800	294,300	293,800	292,800	285,300	500	0.2%	9,500	3.3%
Leisure and Hospitality	155,900	156,400	157,000	157,200	153,100	-500	-0.3%	2,800	1.8%
<i>Arts, Entertainment & Recreation</i>	29,400	29,300	29,400	29,300	27,600	100	0.3%	1,800	6.5%
<i>Accommodation & Food Services</i>	126,500	127,100	127,600	127,900	125,500	-600	-0.5%	1,000	0.8%
Other Services	63,700	63,300	63,700	62,700	62,500	400	0.6%	1,200	1.9%
Government**	235,300	235,600	235,900	237,800	232,900	-300	-0.1%	2,400	1.0%
UNITED STATES	159,105,000	158,851,000	158,692,000	158,548,000	156,667,000	254,000	0.2%	2,438,000	1.6%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

<i>Seasonally Adjusted data</i>	September 2024 P	August 2024 R	July 2024	June 2024	September 2023	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	410,200	410,800	411,400	411,800	407,500	-600	-0.1%	2,700	0.7%
Danbury	78,400	78,200	78,100	78,300	78,300	200	0.3%	100	0.1%
Hartford	588,800	589,200	589,100	590,200	581,300	-400	-0.1%	7,500	1.3%
New Haven	307,500	307,700	307,400	307,000	303,500	-200	-0.1%	4,000	1.3%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	126,200	126,800	127,300	127,400	126,000	-600	-0.5%	200	0.2%
Waterbury	67,100	66,800	66,800	66,800	66,500	300	0.4%	600	0.9%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated - not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	43,000	42,600	42,700	43,600	43,200	400	0.9%	-200	-0.5%
Torrington-Northwest	33,500	33,800	33,900	34,000	33,400	-300	-0.9%	100	0.3%
Danielson-Northeast	26,900	26,600	26,600	27,400	27,400	300	1.1%	-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.

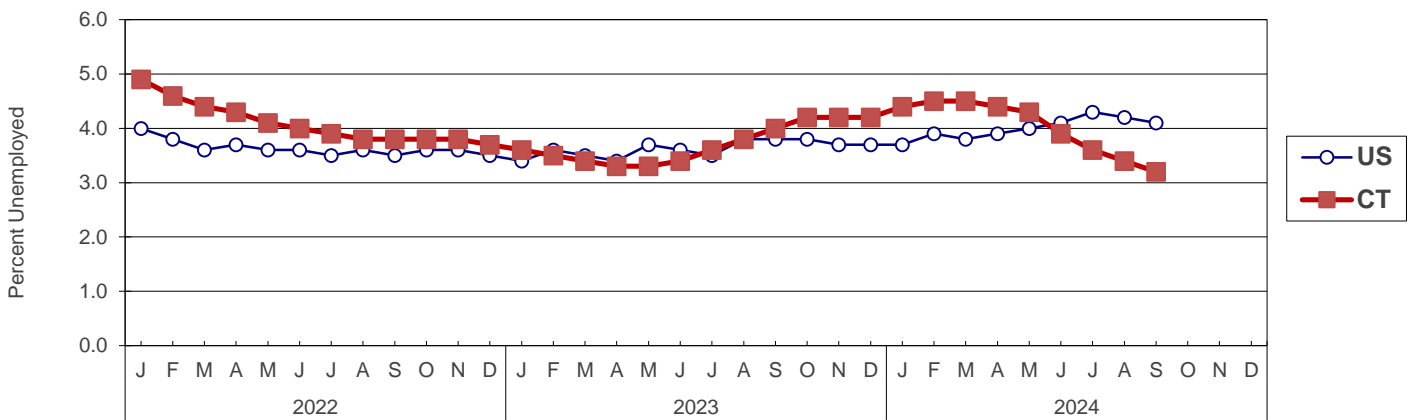
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	Sep 2024 P		Sep 2023 R		Change		Aug 2024 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	61,400	3.2	76,100	4.0	-14,700	-0.8	65,500	3.4
Labor Force	1,900,500		1,898,600		1,900		1,902,500	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	6,834,000	4.1	6,347,000	3.8	487,000	0.3	7,115,000	4.2
Labor Force	168,699,000		167,897,000		802,000		168,549,000	

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



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Sep 2024 P		Sep 2023 R		Change		Aug 2024 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	12,600	2.7	18,400	4.0	-5,800	-1.3	16,900	3.6
Danbury	2,300	2.2	3,500	3.3	-1,200	-1.1	3,200	3.0
Danielson-Northeast*	1,100	2.4	1,600	3.7	-500	-1.3	1,300	3.1
Worcester NECTA	1,000	2.5	1,500	3.7	-500	-1.2	1,300	3.1
Hampton	0	1.9	100	2.8	-100	-0.9	100	2.6
Enfield	1,100	2.3	1,600	3.3	-500	-1.0	1,500	3.0
Hartford	15,600	2.5	21,800	3.5	-6,200	-1.0	21,200	3.4
New Haven	8,200	2.4	11,700	3.5	-3,500	-1.1	11,000	3.3
Norwich-New London	3,400	2.5	4,700	3.4	-1,300	-0.9	4,600	3.3
Torrington-Northwest**	1,000	2.1	1,500	3.1	-500	-1.0	1,300	2.9
Torrington NECTA	600	2.5	900	3.6	-300	-1.1	900	3.4
Litchfield	300	1.6	500	2.5	-200	-0.9	500	2.2
Waterbury	3,500	3.2	5,000	4.6	-1,500	-1.4	4,700	4.3
CONNECTICUT	48,300	2.5	69,400	3.7	-21,100	-1.2	65,100	3.4
UNITED STATES	6,524,000	3.9	6,049,000	3.6	475,000	0.3	7,415,000	4.4

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.

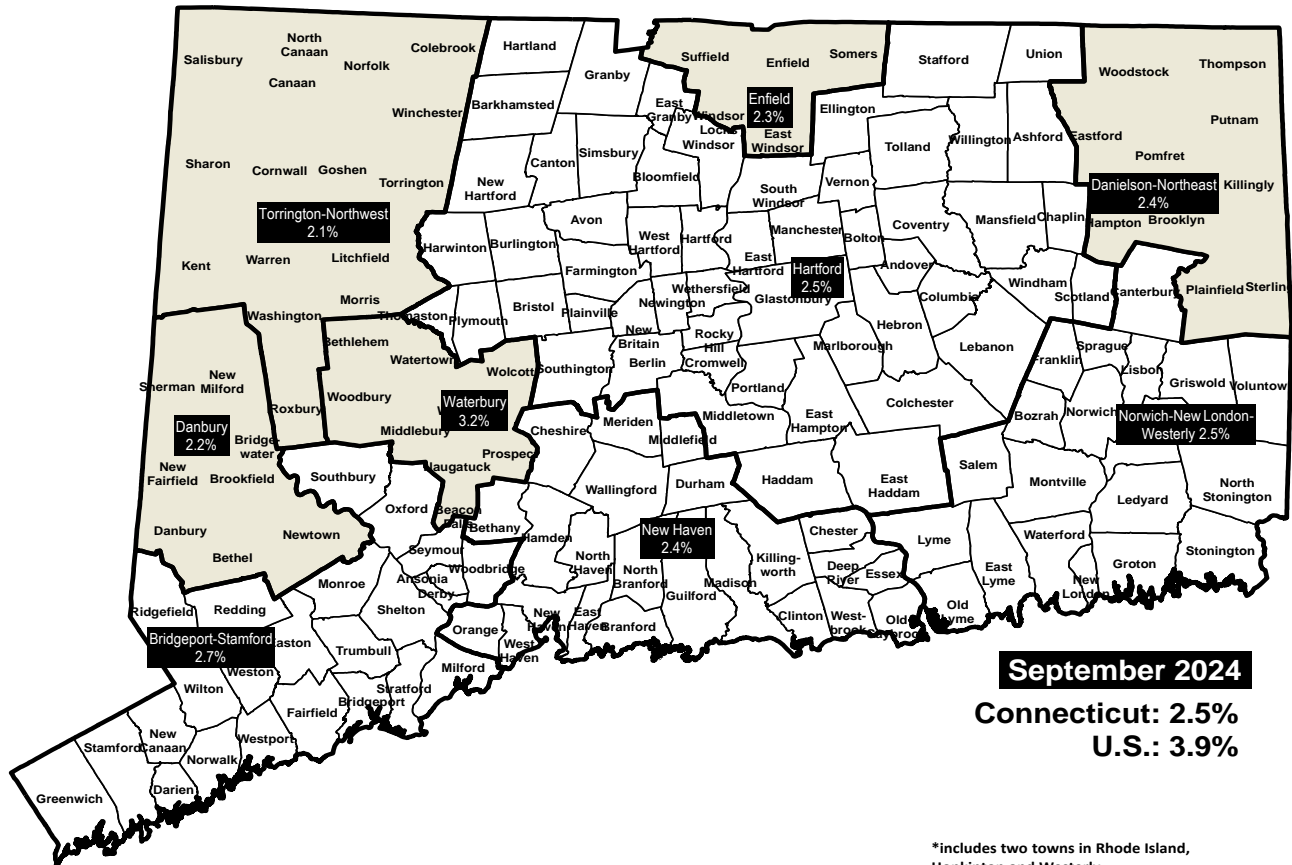
* Worcester NECTA, CT part and Hampton LMA are combined

** 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			
	Sep. 2024 P	Sep. 2023	Change over Yr.	Aug. 2024 R	Sep. 2024 P	Sep. 2023	Change over Yr.	Aug. 2024 R	Sep. 2024 P	Sep. 2023	Change over Yr.	Aug. 2024 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,299.14	\$1,202.40	\$96.74	\$1,268.74	34.0	33.4	0.6	33.6	\$38.21	\$36.00	\$2.21	\$37.76
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$1,228.02	\$1,174.00	\$54.02	\$1,238.33	38.8	40.0	-1.2	39.5	\$31.65	\$29.35	\$2.30	\$31.35

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

P = Preliminary R = Revised

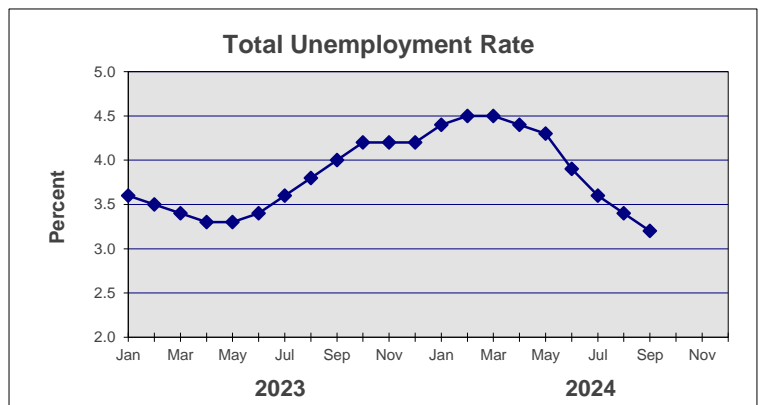
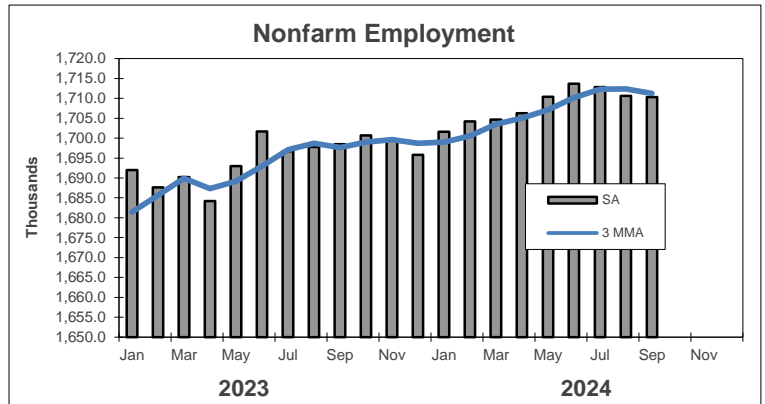
Hours and earnings are also developed for the state's major industry sectors and Labor Market Areas. They can be found on our website at: www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi

TRENDS

Seasonally Adjusted

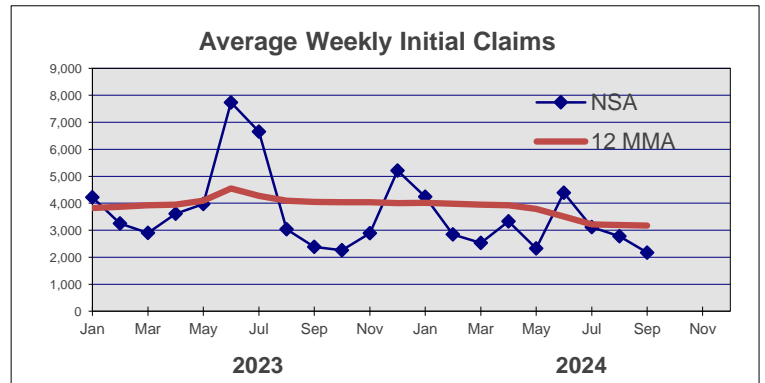
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2023		
Jan	1,692.0	3.6
Feb	1,687.6	3.5
Mar	1,690.2	3.4
Apr	1,684.2	3.3
May	1,693.0	3.3
Jun	1,701.7	3.4
Jul	1,696.7	3.6
Aug	1,697.8	3.8
Sep	1,698.5	4.0
Oct	1,700.7	4.2
Nov	1,699.7	4.2
Dec	1,695.8	4.2

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 R	3.4 R
Sep	1,710.3 P	3.2 P
Oct		
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 R
Sep	2,173	34.0 P
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute