

# ECONOMIC DIGEST

Vol.5 No.5

A joint publication of the Connecticut Department of Labor & the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

MAY 2000

- The population and employment trends of Connecticut's five largest cities are analyzed. (article, pp.1-3)
- An update on Hartford's economy. (article, p.4)
- Industry clusters: workforce development. (p.3)
- Nonfarm employment increased by 5,800 in March, and was 27,500 higher than a year ago. (p.6)
- Unemployment rate in March: 2.3 percent, down from prior month and last year. (p.6)
- March's new housing permits were up 69 percent over the month. (p.7)

● IN THIS ISSUE ●

Industry Clusters .....	3
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

## A Tale of Large Cities: Population and Jobs

By Joseph Slepski, Research Analyst

There seems to be a general perception that the largest cities in Connecticut have steadily declined in both population and jobs during the latter part of the past century. This article will attempt to explore this premise by looking at both population figures and the number of jobs located in the cities of Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, Stamford and Waterbury. The points of time examined are, for population: 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990 and 1998\*; and for jobs, the same years, except 1963 is used instead of 1960 because that is the earliest year for which city and town job estimates are available. One limitation of using data that spans wide intervals of time is that high and low points may not be precisely captured; however, the general trends are quite apparent in the data examined.

### Bridgeport

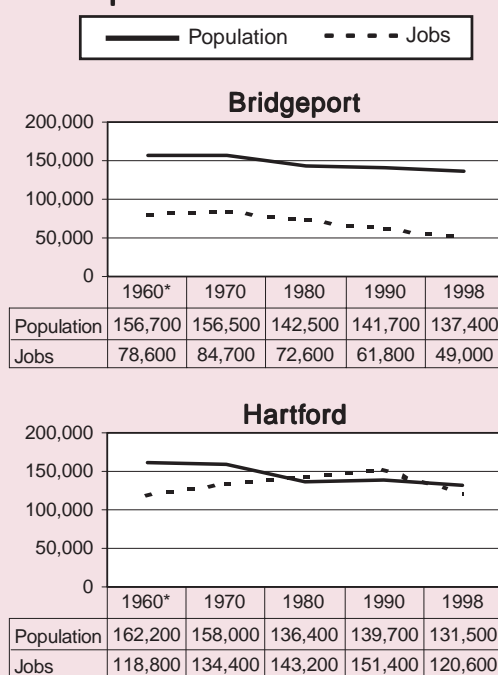
In the city of Bridgeport, population stood at 156,700 in 1960, remained stable through the next decade, dropped sharply until 1980, and has declined moderately since. These numbers indicate that, from its high point in 1960, population in the city of Bridgeport declined by 12.3 percent. In terms of jobs located in the city,

the total in 1963 was 78,600, peaked in 1970 and has been on a gradual decline in the 28 years since. From its high point of 84,700 in 1970, employment in the city of Bridgeport has declined by 42.1 percent. The following graph charts movement in Bridgeport's population and jobs.

### Hartford

What has happened to the city of Hartford during those years? In 1960, population in Connecticut's capital city was 162,200. Like Bridgeport, Hartford's largest decline was in the decade between 1970 and

Population and Job Growth



\*Jobs figure is for 1963.

# 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, Public Affairs and Strategic Planning 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.

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1980; but the city also experienced a slight expansion in population in the eighties. By 1998 the city had experienced more losses, to 131,500. Jobs in Hartford grew from 1963 through 1990 when they reached 151,400, but subsequently declined to 120,600 in 1998. The graph on the front page shows that the jobs did not begin to leave the city until the decade of the nineties and still remained at about the 1963 level in 1998. (A separate article on Hartford is featured on page four.)

### New Haven

The city of New Haven, like Hartford, experienced its high point in population in the sixties, saw population declines in the decades between 1960 and 1980, rebounded in the eighties and suffered losses during the nineties. Regarding jobs, 1963 saw a total of 86,900 jobs in the city. Jobs in New Haven reached a pinnacle in 1970, declined in the seventies, recovered somewhat during the eighties before suffering during the recession of the early nineties.

### Stamford

Unlike Connecticut's other major cities, Stamford has experienced a steady growth in population, outside of a decline in the seventies, and most recently was at an all-time high of 110,700. As far as jobs go, in 1963 the total was 42,100; that total nearly doubled by 1998 when Stamford firms employed 80,400. It appears that the city of Stamford was the least hard hit of all the large cities by the economic downturns of the past thirty-plus years as employment has steadily increased during that period of time.

### Waterbury

In the city of Waterbury, population in 1960

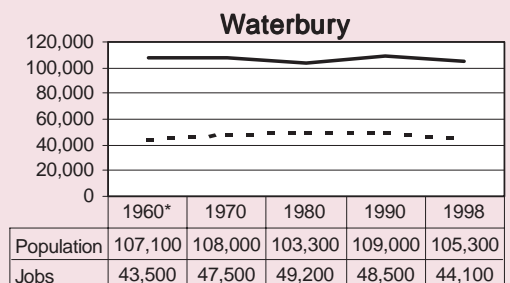
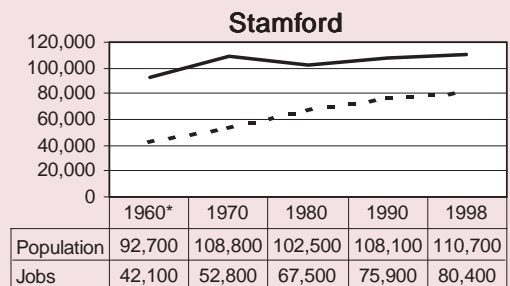
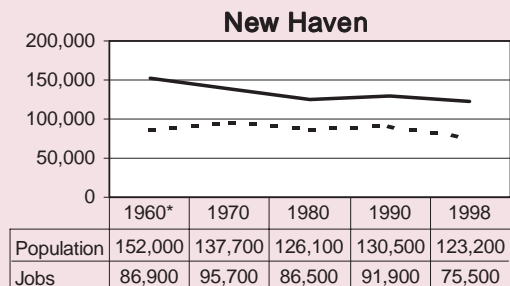
was 107,100 and by 1980 it had fallen to 103,300. In 1990, a reversal occurred as population rose to 109,000. However, by 1998 it had dropped again to 105,300. Jobs in Waterbury rose steadily throughout the sixties and seventies before declining somewhat during the eighties and nineties. Despite the economic hardships that have occurred in the last twenty years, employment in the city of Waterbury, at 44,100 in 1998, was higher than it was back in the sixties.

### Summary

These numbers show that each major city in Connecticut has had a different experience in the past four decades. With the exception of Stamford, each of the other major cities has suffered periods

## Population and Job Growth

— Population    - - - - Jobs



\*Jobs figure is for 1963.

of job loss during that time. In the final analysis, however, only Bridgeport and New Haven have significantly fewer jobs today than they had in the early 1960s. In contrast, the gains within the Stamford city limits nearly equal the combined losses in Bridgeport and New Haven. Hartford and Waterbury have roughly the same number of jobs as they did four decades ago.

In terms of population, Stamford again was the only big gainer when comparing 1960 to 1998, having added 18,000 residents. However, almost all of that occurred in the 1960s; there has not been much change in its population since 1970. In Waterbury, like in its number of jobs, there was little change in its population over the entire period. The State's three most populous cities, Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven, actually experienced large declines in numbers of

residents between 1960 and 1998. This could be attributed, at least in part, to the trend over that period of people moving from the cities to the suburbs. More open space, better roadways and the increased use of the automobile were partly responsible for this. It is for these same reasons that many businesses also followed suit and built new facilities in the suburban towns that became easily accessible to its workers. Obviously, with trends like these, raising revenues to run a city can be a significant challenge.

While Stamford is considered a major city by many in Connecticut, some in mid-town Manhattan consider Stamford to have a smaller-town attractiveness. It's the place to be. ■

*\*Data source 1960-1990: U.S. Census Bureau; 1998: Connecticut Department of Public Health.*

## Industry Clusters

### Workforce Development

**E**xecutives on the original Industry Cluster Advisory Boards identified workforce development as the single most important factor in Connecticut's long-term competitiveness. To attract and retain businesses in key industry clusters, a region must offer an adequate pool of qualified workers with skills utilizing sophisticated technology. A series of demand-driven training initiatives resulted. Two currently underway are the secondary school pilots and the precision machine-training program.

In January 1999, four proposals were selected for a total of \$420,000 funding: (1) The Northeastern Connecticut Manufacturing pilot recruited 17 students and entailed marketing efforts including radio spots, newsletters, and parent advisory meetings. (2) The Manufacturing Advanced Placement Program recruited 18 students. (3) The Manufacturing Technology Cooperative Program included summer manufacturing camps for 51 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and development of a brochure with the Waterbury Chamber of Commerce. (4) The Windsor Public High School provided field trips to various manufacturing companies and development of a brochure.

The Precision Machine Training Program was funded with \$1.6 million of private, federal and state funds. Originally launched by the Metro-Hartford Millennium Project, the program now partners area manufacturers with three community-technical colleges: Asnuntuck, Capital, and Manchester. It provides 780 hours of instruction, job shadowing, and certification by the National Tooling and Machining Association. So far, 200 students have graduated, and area manufacturers currently employ 163. ■

## HOUSING UPDATE

### Permits Up 69% Over Last Month

**C**ommissioner James F. Abromaitis of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development announced that Connecticut communities authorized 859 new housing units in March 2000, a 22.3 percent decrease compared to March of 1999 when 1,105 units were authorized.

The Department further indicated that the 859 units permitted in March 2000 represent an increase of 69.1 percent from the 508 units permitted in February 2000. The year-to-date permits are down 8.5 percent, from 2,372 through March 1999, to 2,170 through March 2000.

Reports from municipal officials throughout the state indicate that Windham County with 19.4 percent showed the greatest percentage increase in March compared to the same month a year ago. New Haven County followed with a 16.5 percent increase.

New Haven County documented the largest number of new, authorized units in March with 184. Hartford County followed with 173 units and Fairfield County had 148 units. Hamden led all Connecticut communities with 43 units, followed by Danbury with 36 and Westbrook with 30. ■

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



# Hartford: An Update

By Joseph Slepki, Research Analyst

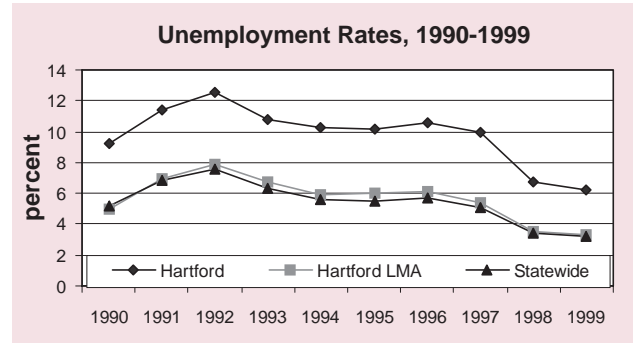
**M**ay 1998 was an exciting time for the City of Hartford when a spellbound audience crammed into City Hall as plans for a \$1 billion riverfront development project to revive downtown were first unveiled. Once described as a sum "more than the total amount spent on bricks and mortar in Hartford in a decade," the ambitious project to be called Adriaen's Landing would feature a convention center, retail establishments, and housing units. Since then, the stadium site has been moved to East Hartford, and business and community leaders, working with the Capitol City Economic Development Authority (CCEDA), are focused on realizing many facets of Hartford's redevelopment. As this article goes to print, a long-awaited legislative vote is imminent.

What has happened to the Hartford area during the past year? Have the changes in this massive project impacted economic growth? The answer appears to be no. From March 1999 to March 2000, the total number of jobs in the Hartford Labor Market Area actually increased from 611,200 to 613,600. The number of jobs in the area is now at its highest point since 1990. Employment in the city between June 1998 and June 1999 (the latest point in time for which town employment data is available) was up by 4,600, or nearly four percent.

The really good news has been in the unemployment rate. Over the last year, the number of individuals without a job went down by nearly 5,800 in the area. As a result, the area unemployment rate declined from 3.6 to 2.6 percent of the labor force as of March 2000, the lowest it has been in the last eleven years. More good news can be found in the city of Hartford where more than 1,000 fewer residents were jobless in March this year compared with last year. The unemployment

rate has gone down accordingly, from 7.1 to 5.1 percent.

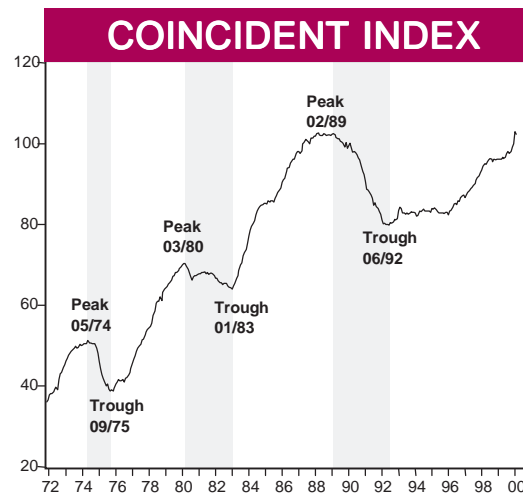
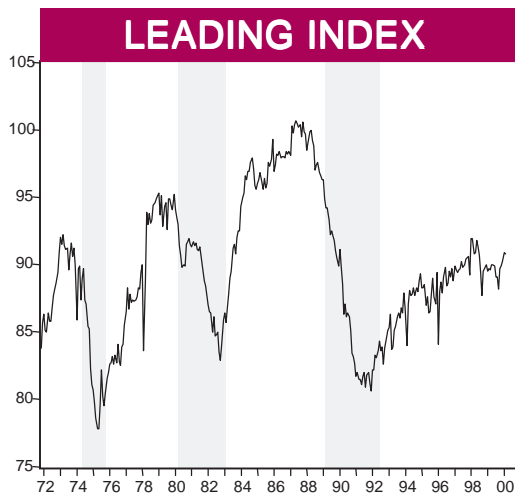
Despite the uncertain outlook just a few short months ago, Hartford continues to make steady progress. The G. Fox building is slated to become a community college. Major Constitution Plaza renovations are nearly done. The Hartford Library and the Bushnell expansions are underway. Riverfront Recapture's walkway to the Connecticut River has already opened, and the fast-moving "Learning Corridor" which received an American Planning Association award, is scheduled to open this fall. A Crown Cinema complex is scheduled to open in July. This complex will also house a 65-foot screen theater which will allow Imax features to be shown. The city of Hartford has even gotten another sports franchise, the Hartford FoxForce of World Team Tennis is set to serve on July 12, 2000 at the State Armory. Improvements have also been made to the city's school system and the result has been unprecedented improvement in test scores on the Student Mastery Test. The crime rate is reportedly going down. In the past year alone, three events: the Taste of Hartford, First Night and the Greater Hartford Marathon combined to draw almost a quarter of a million people into the city. This coming summer will feature a two-week visit (July 29 - August 13) by the replica of the Amistad ship, moored at



Economic Indicators \ Year	1998	1999
Labor Force.....	53,971	52,606
Employed.....	50,336	49,330
Unemployed.....	3,635	3,276
Unemployment Rate.....	6.7	6.2
New Housing Permits.....	92	76
Retail Sales (\$mil.).....	1,504	1,562
Total Nonfarm Employment (June).....	120,630	125,240
Goods Producing Industries.....	5,870	5,600
Construction.....	1,570	1,760
Manufacturing.....	4,300	3,840
Food.....	870	770
Textiles & Apparel.....	200	200
Furniture, Wood, & Paper.....	160	160
Printing & Publishing.....	1,640	1,380
Chem, Rubber, Misc. Plastics.....	340	340
Primary Metals.....	70	70
Fab. Metals & Aircraft.....	730	630
Machinery.....	160	160
Other Manufacturing.....	130	130
Service Producing Industries.....	114,760	119,640
Transp. & Public Utilities.....	9,210	9,340
Trade.....	11,070	11,040
Wholesale.....	3,990	3,410
Retail.....	7,080	7,630
Finance, Insurance & Real Est.....	33,620	34,560
Services (incl. Nonprofit).....	39,840	43,670
Government.....	21,020	21,030

State Street Landing (for more information, see Riverfront Recapture Inc.'s website [www.riverfront.org](http://www.riverfront.org)). Overlapping this event is the Mark Twain Days, August 4-6.

The circumstances might be somewhat different, but one year later to answer the question, is Hartford alive? The answer is a resounding **YES**. ■



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.

## No News Seen in the Latest Index Numbers

**T**he Connecticut coincident and leading employment indexes both paused from their recent upward movements with the release of (preliminary) February 2000 data. Nonetheless, the Connecticut economy's trend still follows a positive trajectory with yet no clearly visible warning signal hinting of troubles down the road. The most important player, the Federal Reserve, remains vigilant to address any perceived threats to the expansion.

The coincident index, a gauge of current employment activity, did reach a new peak in the current expansion, as reported last month, and surpassed for the first time the February 1989 peak of the last expansion in January 2000. Comparing the January and February components of the coincident index, nonfarm employment inched up while total employment fell slightly. Moreover, the total unemployment rate bumped up a bit while the insured unemployment rate declined by a small amount.

The leading index, a barometer of future employment activity,

continues to move around its level established in late 1996. The leading index has been higher at times over the past year. It began the new year at the same level as July 1998. The February release has the leading index retrenching by a tiny amount. Comparing the components of the leading index between January and February, the average workweek of manufacturing production workers is unchanged, Hartford help-wanted advertising is up, and housing permits are down. Furthermore, the short-duration unemployment rate rose and the initial claims for unemployment insurance fell ever so slightly.

All in all, the coincident and leading indexes provide little new information with the February data. As this report is written, the big issue in the news concerns the dramatic declines in the various U.S. stock markets. As Chairman Greenspan noted in recent Congressional testimony, the stock indexes still exceed their levels of a year ago. Have the recent corrections purged the markets of their "irrational exuberance"? One can

hope, but only time will provide a definitive answer.

In summary, the coincident employment index rose from 96.2 in February 1999 to 102.3 in February 2000. All four components of the index point in a positive direction on a year-over-year basis with higher nonfarm employment, higher total employment, a lower total unemployment rate, and a lower insured unemployment rate.

The leading employment index rose from 89.7 in February 1999 to 90.8 in February 2000. Three index components sent positive signals on a year-over-year basis with a lower short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, lower initial claims for unemployment insurance, and a higher average workweek of manufacturing production workers. Two components sent negative signals on a year-over-year basis with lower total housing permits and lower Hartford help wanted advertising. ■

**SOURCE:** Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut. Developed by Pami Dua [Economic Cycle Research Institute; NY, NY] and Stephen M. Miller [(860) 486-3853, Storrs Campus]. Stan McMillen, Kathryn Parr, and Jingqui Zhu [(860) 486-3022, Storrs Campus] provided research support.

# ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF EMPLOYMENT

Total employment increased by 27,500, or 1.7 percent, over the year.

## EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISION

	MAR		CHANGE		FEB
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>					
<b>TOTAL NONFARM</b>	1,692.6	1,665.1	27.5	1.7	1,686.8
<b>Private Sector</b>	1,452.2	1,431.8	20.4	1.4	1,448.1
<b>Construction and Mining</b>	64.9	61.7	3.2	5.2	64.1
<b>Manufacturing</b>	265.9	271.6	-5.7	-2.1	266.6
<b>Transportation, Public Utilities</b>	79.2	78.1	1.1	1.4	79.1
<b>Wholesale, Retail Trade</b>	363.5	359.0	4.5	1.3	362.8
<b>Finance, Insurance &amp; Real Estate</b>	141.5	139.7	1.8	1.3	141.8
<b>Services</b>	537.2	521.7	15.5	3.0	533.7
<b>Government</b>	240.4	233.3	7.1	3.0	238.7

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

The unemployment rate and the number of initial claims dropped from a year ago.

## UNEMPLOYMENT

	MAR		CHANGE		FEB
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>					
<b>Unemployment Rate, resident (%)</b>	2.3	3.3	-1.0	---	2.5
<b>Labor Force, resident (000s)</b>	1,707.5	1,689.9	17.6	1.0	1,707.8
<b>Employed (000s)</b>	1,667.6	1,633.3	34.3	2.1	1,666.0
<b>Unemployed (000s)</b>	39.9	56.6	-16.7	-29.5	41.9
<b>Average Weekly Initial Claims</b>	3,436	4,011	-575	-14.3	3,355
<b>Help Wanted Index -- Htfd. (1987=100)</b>	35	34	1	2.9	35
<b>Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)</b>	1.74	1.88	-0.14	---	1.88

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; The Conference Board

Both production worker weekly hours and hourly earnings increased over the year.

## MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

	MAR		CHANGE		FEB	JAN
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000	2000
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>						
<b>Average Weekly Hours</b>	42.7	42.4	0.3	0.7	42.6	--
<b>Average Hourly Earnings</b>	\$15.62	\$15.07	\$0.55	3.6	\$15.67	--
<b>Average Weekly Earnings</b>	\$666.97	\$638.97	\$28.01	4.4	\$667.54	--
<b>CT Mfg. Production Index (1982=100)*</b>	128.1	125.7	2.4	1.9	127.9	128.3
<b>Production Worker Hours (000s)</b>	6,588	6,652	-64	-1.0	6,544	--
<b>Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)**</b>	498	494	4.0	0.8	472	451

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; U.S. Department of Energy

\*This new and improved index replaced the Manufacturing Output Index; Seasonally adjusted.

\*\*Latest two months are forecasted. See June 1999 Digest article for explanation; methodology or historical data back to 1982 is available by contacting the Connecticut Department of Labor, at (860)263-6293.

Personal income for second quarter 2000 is forecasted to increase 5.9 percent from a year earlier.

## INCOME (Quarterly)

	2Q*		CHANGE		1Q*
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>					
<i>(Annualized; \$ Millions)</i>					
<b>Personal Income</b>	\$137,023	\$129,428	\$7,595	5.9	\$135,092
<b>UI Covered Wages</b>	\$73,506	\$69,326	\$4,180	6.0	\$72,284

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis; January 2000 release

\*Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor

## BUSINESS ACTIVITY

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %	YEAR TO DATE		%
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
<b>New Housing Permits</b>	MAR 2000	859	-22.3	2,170	2,372	-8.5
<b>Electricity Sales (mil kWh)</b>	JAN 2000	2,779	3.6	2,779	2,682	3.6
<b>Retail Sales (Bil. \$)</b>	JAN 2000	2.62	4.8	2.62	2.50	4.8
<b>Construction Contracts</b>						
<b>Index (1980=100)</b>	FEB 2000	635.7	169.8	---	---	---
<b>New Auto Registrations</b>	MAR 2000	27,856	18.9	69,976	64,321	8.8
<b>Air Cargo Tons</b>	FEB 2000	10,563	8.6	21,045	20,054	4.9

January retail sales were up 4.8 percent from January a year ago.

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

## BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

	MAR	% CHANGE		YEAR TO DATE		%
	2000	M/M	Y/Y	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
<b>STARTS</b>						
<b>Secretary of the State</b>	2,475	18.5	19.6	6,770	5,596	21.0
<b>Department of Labor</b>	1,042	14.1	-11.0	2,733	2,932	-6.8
<b>TERMINATIONS</b>						
<b>Secretary of the State</b>	428	19.6	10.6	1,273	1,038	22.6
<b>Department of Labor</b>	678	-5.0	-31.2	2,819	3,194	-11.7

Net business formation as measured by starts minus stops registered with the Secretary of the State were 5,497 through March.

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

## STATE TAX COLLECTIONS

	MAR	MAR	%	FISCAL YEAR TOTALS		
	2000	1999	CHG	1999-00	1998-99	%
<i>(Millions of dollars)</i>						
<b>TOTAL ALL TAXES*</b>	767.3	759.1	1.1	5,906.7	5,658.3	4.4
<b>Corporate Tax</b>	123.7	148.6	-16.8	345.5	397.4	-13.1
<b>Personal Income Tax</b>	279.7	249.4	12.1	2,503.5	2,305.8	8.6
<b>Real Estate Conv. Tax</b>	8.5	6.8	1.7	86.0	76.0	13.2
<b>Sales &amp; Use Tax</b>	212.1	201.7	5.2	1,987.0	1,897.7	4.7

Overall tax collections were up 4.4 percent through the fiscal year to March. Real estate conveyance taxes were up by 13.2 percent.

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

## TOURISM AND TRAVEL

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %	YEAR TO DATE		%
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
<b>Tourism Inquiries</b>	MAR 2000	13,631	-32.4	28,553	32,738	-12.8
<b>Info Center Visitors</b>	MAR 2000	35,061	1.1	77,406	81,879	-5.5
<b>Major Attraction Visitors</b>	MAR 2000	132,623	48.9	313,904	275,052	14.1
<b>Hotel-Motel Occupancy*</b>	JAN 2000	59.0	-1.4	59.0	60.4	-1.4
<b>Air Passenger Count</b>	FEB 2000	540,119	18.4	1,026,663	874,650	17.4

Air passengers exceeded one million this year to date. Major attraction visitors are up, but marketing initiatives rescheduled from March to April impacted inquiries.

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

\*Hotel-Motel Occupancy rate changes are in percentage points.

# ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Compensation costs for the nation rose 4.6 percent over the year, while the Northeast's increased by 4.1 percent.

## EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX (Quarterly)

Private Industry Workers (June 1989=100)	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	MAR	DEC	3-Mo	MAR	MAR	12-Mo
	2000	1999	% Chg	2000	1999	% Chg
<b>UNITED STATES TOTAL</b>	146.6	144.5	1.5	146.8	140.4	4.6
Wages and Salaries	143.9	142.2	1.2	143.9	138.1	4.2
Benefit Costs	153.4	149.9	2.3	153.8	145.8	5.5
<b>NORTHEAST TOTAL</b>	---	---	---	146.3	140.5	4.1
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	143.9	138.1	4.2

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

U.S. inflation was 3.7 percent in March. Boston and Northeast rates were up at 4.5 and 3.7 percent, respectively.

## CONSUMER NEWS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	MAR	FEB	MAR	% CHG	
	2000	2000	1999	M/M	Y/Y
<b>CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1982-1984=100)</b>					
<i>All Urban Consumers</i>					
U.S. City Average	171.1	169.7	165.0	0.8	3.7
Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar: (1982-84=\$1.00)	\$0.584	\$0.589	\$0.606	-0.8	-3.6
Northeast Region	178.3	177.4	171.9	0.5	3.7
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	181.4	180.4	175.5	0.6	3.4
Boston-Brockton-Nashua*	182.7	---	174.8	---	4.5
<i>Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers</i>					
U.S. City Average	167.8	166.4	161.4	0.8	4.0
<b>CONSUMER CONFIDENCE (1985=100)</b>					
U.S.	137.1	140.8	134.0	-2.6	2.3
New England	132.7	142.8	135.5	-7.1	-2.1

\*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

Interest rates were uniformly higher than their year-ago levels including a conventional 30-year mortgage rate down marginally from the previous month.

## INTEREST RATES

(Percent)	MAR	FEB	MAR
	2000	2000	1999
Prime	8.83	8.73	7.75
Federal Funds	5.85	5.73	4.81
3 Month Treasury Bill	5.72	5.57	4.48
6 Month Treasury Bill	5.85	5.75	4.52
1 Year Treasury Bill	6.22	6.22	4.78
3 Year Treasury Note	6.53	6.65	5.11
5 Year Treasury Note	6.50	6.68	5.14
7 Year Treasury Note	6.51	6.72	5.36
10 Year Treasury Note	6.26	6.52	5.23
30 Year Treasury Bond	6.05	6.23	5.58
Conventional Mortgage	8.24	8.33	7.04

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.



# COMPARATIVE REGIONAL DATA

## NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	MAR	MAR	CHANGE		FEB
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
Connecticut	1,692.6	1,665.1	27.5	1.7	1,686.8
Maine	599.0	582.7	16.3	2.8	597.7
Massachusetts	3,275.1	3,214.2	60.9	1.9	3,273.9
New Hampshire	612.2	601.4	10.8	1.8	612.4
New Jersey	3,912.3	3,846.4	65.9	1.7	3,902.0
New York	8,578.7	8,399.6	179.1	2.1	8,566.2
Pennsylvania	5,626.0	5,566.4	59.6	1.1	5,608.8
Rhode Island	468.6	461.8	6.8	1.5	468.8
Vermont	295.9	289.4	6.5	2.2	294.6
United States	130,715.0	127,813.0	2,902.0	2.3	130,299.0

Maine led the region with the strongest job growth over the year.

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

## LABOR FORCE

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	MAR	MAR	CHANGE		FEB
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
Connecticut	1,707.5	1,689.9	17.6	1.0	1,707.8
Maine	696.1	663.3	32.8	4.9	695.3
Massachusetts	3,273.2	3,263.7	9.5	0.3	3,304.4
New Hampshire	678.6	659.6	19.0	2.9	683.4
New Jersey	4,224.7	4,184.8	39.9	1.0	4,233.9
New York	8,980.1	8,846.0	134.1	1.5	8,962.5
Pennsylvania	5,960.0	5,965.7	-5.7	-0.1	5,987.9
Rhode Island	505.1	500.6	4.5	0.9	502.0
Vermont	339.6	334.3	5.3	1.6	339.9
United States	140,867.0	138,804.0	2,063.0	1.5	141,165.0

Maine experienced the strongest labor force growth in the region from a year ago.

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

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

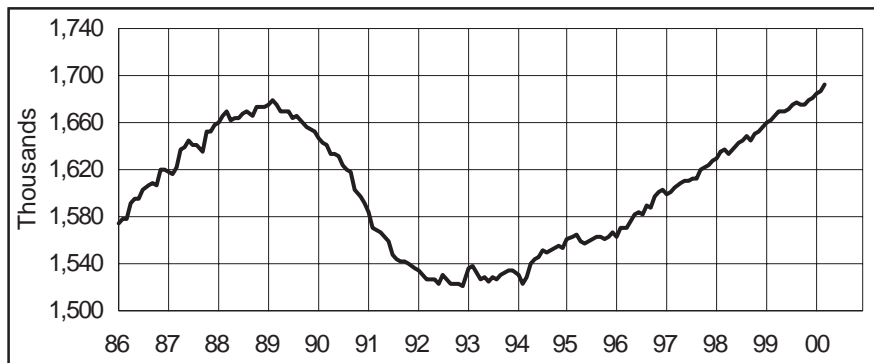
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	MAR	MAR	CHANGE	FEB
	2000	1999		2000
Connecticut	2.3	3.3	-1.0	2.5
Maine	3.5	4.2	-0.7	3.4
Massachusetts	2.4	3.1	-0.7	3.1
New Hampshire	2.1	3.0	-0.9	2.6
New Jersey	3.7	4.7	-1.0	4.1
New York	4.6	5.2	-0.6	4.7
Pennsylvania	3.9	4.5	-0.6	4.2
Rhode Island	3.7	4.0	-0.3	3.8
Vermont	2.4	3.2	-0.8	2.8
United States	4.1	4.2	-0.1	4.1

New Hampshire posted the lowest March unemployment rate in the region.

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

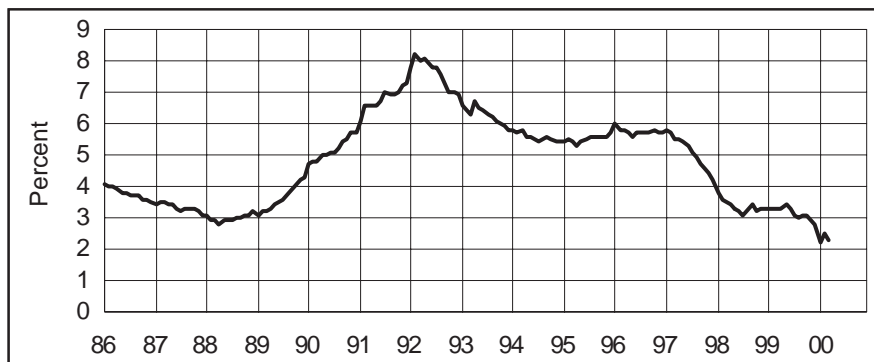
# ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

## NONFARM EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



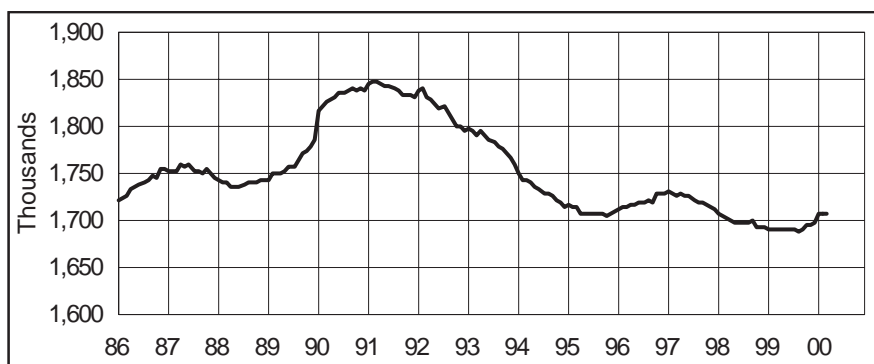
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	1,628.8	1,660.9	1,685.3
Feb	1,634.5	1,662.5	1,686.8
Mar	1,637.6	1,665.1	1,692.6
Apr	1,633.8	1,669.1	
May	1,639.5	1,668.8	
Jun	1,642.3	1,670.7	
Jul	1,644.7	1,675.2	
Aug	1,648.6	1,676.2	
Sep	1,645.1	1,674.3	
Oct	1,649.8	1,674.7	
Nov	1,653.0	1,678.2	
Dec	1,655.8	1,680.7	

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



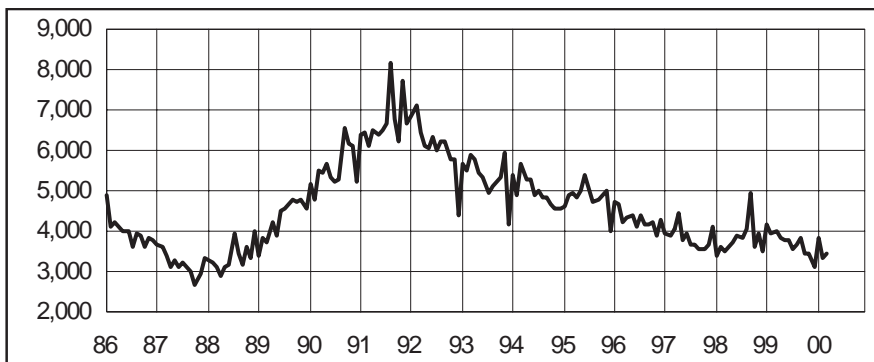
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	3.8	3.3	2.2
Feb	3.6	3.3	2.5
Mar	3.5	3.3	2.3
Apr	3.4	3.3	
May	3.3	3.4	
Jun	3.2	3.3	
Jul	3.1	3.1	
Aug	3.2	3.0	
Sep	3.4	3.1	
Oct	3.2	3.1	
Nov	3.3	2.9	
Dec	3.3	2.8	

## LABOR FORCE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	1,707.4	1,690.8	1,706.7
Feb	1,704.2	1,689.9	1,707.8
Mar	1,703.4	1,689.9	1,707.5
Apr	1,699.1	1,690.8	
May	1,698.5	1,690.4	
Jun	1,697.7	1,690.3	
Jul	1,697.1	1,689.7	
Aug	1,696.8	1,688.9	
Sep	1,699.3	1,690.2	
Oct	1,693.6	1,694.2	
Nov	1,692.7	1,696.0	
Dec	1,691.7	1,697.1	

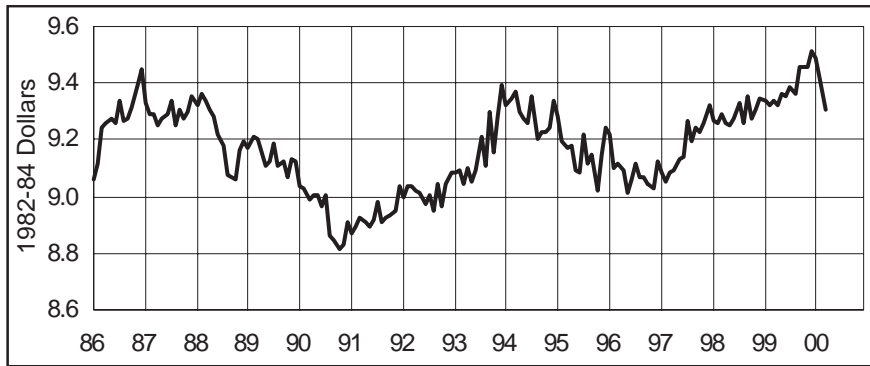
## AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	3,404	4,184	3,825
Feb	3,602	3,933	3,355
Mar	3,499	4,011	3,436
Apr	3,619	3,841	
May	3,721	3,789	
Jun	3,884	3,800	
Jul	3,828	3,561	
Aug	4,069	3,688	
Sep	4,946	3,836	
Oct	3,594	3,460	
Nov	3,971	3,446	
Dec	3,502	3,127	

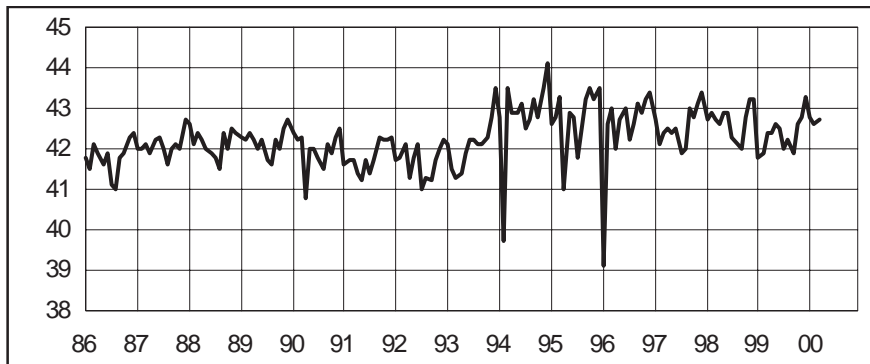
# ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

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



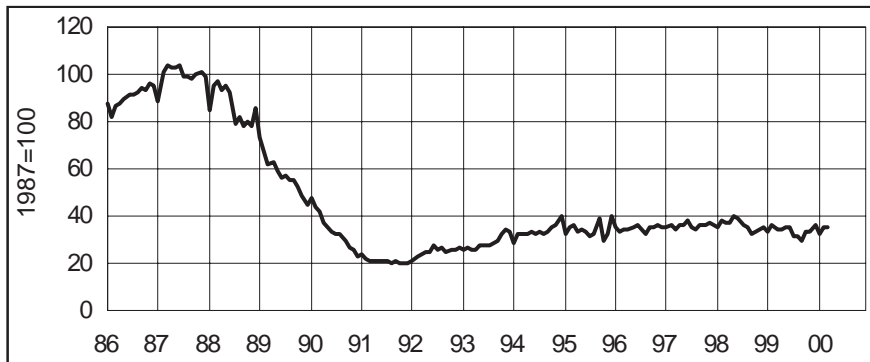
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	\$9.27	\$9.34	\$9.49
Feb	9.26	9.32	\$9.42
Mar	9.29	9.34	\$9.31
Apr	9.26	9.32	
May	9.25	9.36	
Jun	9.27	9.36	
Jul	9.33	9.39	
Aug	9.26	9.36	
Sep	9.36	9.46	
Oct	9.28	9.46	
Nov	9.30	9.46	
Dec	9.35	9.52	

## AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



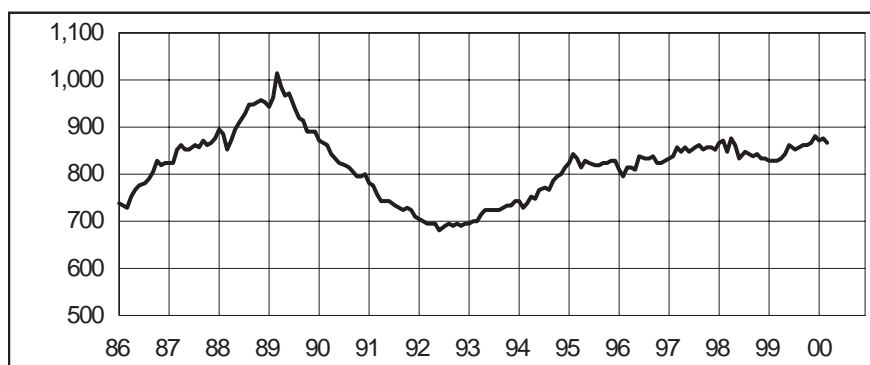
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	42.7	41.8	42.8
Feb	42.9	41.9	42.6
Mar	42.7	42.4	42.7
Apr	42.6	42.4	
May	42.9	42.6	
Jun	42.9	42.5	
Jul	42.3	42.0	
Aug	42.1	42.2	
Sep	42.0	41.9	
Oct	42.8	42.6	
Nov	43.2	42.8	
Dec	43.2	43.3	

## HARTFORD HELP WANTED INDEX *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	35	33	32
Feb	38	36	35
Mar	37	34	35
Apr	37	34	
May	40	35	
Jun	39	35	
Jul	36	31	
Aug	35	31	
Sep	32	30	
Oct	33	33	
Nov	34	33	
Dec	35	36	

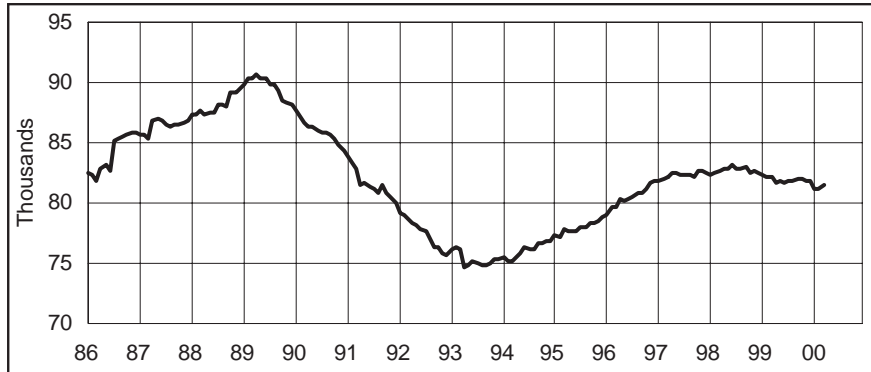
## DOL NEWLY REGISTERED EMPLOYERS *(12-month moving average)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	868	831	871
Feb	870	828	875
Mar	846	829	865
Apr	878	834	
May	861	843	
Jun	836	861	
Jul	849	854	
Aug	841	856	
Sep	838	861	
Oct	845	860	
Nov	836	868	
Dec	832	881	

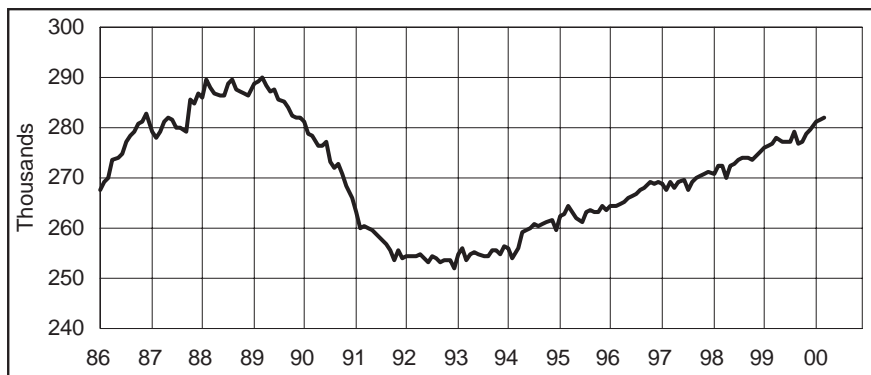
# ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

## WHOLESALE TRADE EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



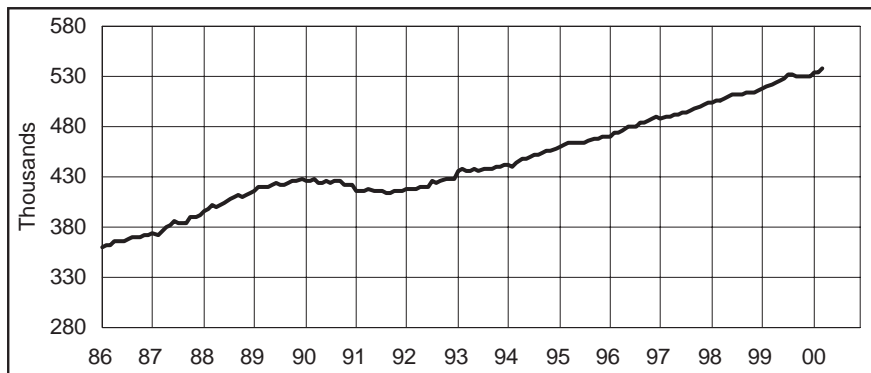
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	82.3	82.3	81.2
Feb	82.5	82.1	81.2
Mar	82.7	82.1	81.5
Apr	82.9	81.7	
May	82.8	81.8	
Jun	83.1	81.6	
Jul	82.9	81.9	
Aug	82.9	81.9	
Sep	83.0	82.0	
Oct	82.5	82.0	
Nov	82.6	81.9	
Dec	82.5	81.8	

## RETAIL TRADE EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



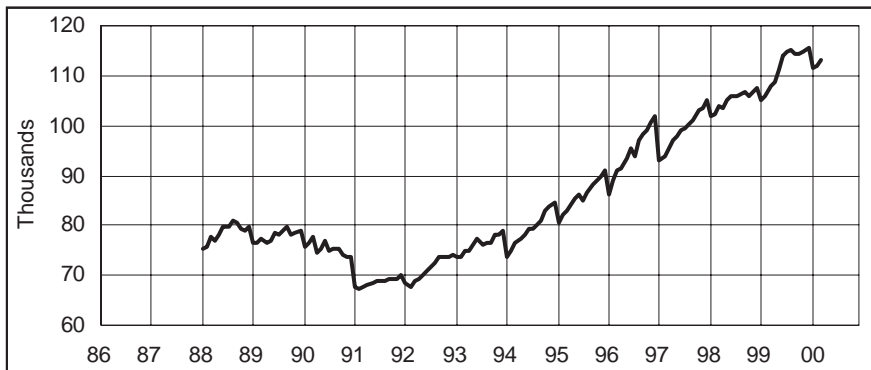
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	270.8	276.1	281.2
Feb	272.4	276.5	281.6
Mar	272.3	276.9	282.0
Apr	269.8	277.8	
May	272.5	277.1	
Jun	272.6	277.3	
Jul	273.5	277.4	
Aug	274.1	279.2	
Sep	274.0	277.0	
Oct	273.5	277.2	
Nov	274.4	278.6	
Dec	275.2	279.5	

## TOTAL SERVICES EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	504.4	518.4	533.2
Feb	506.2	519.7	533.7
Mar	506.9	521.7	537.2
Apr	507.4	524.0	
May	509.9	525.1	
Jun	511.2	527.3	
Jul	512.3	531.5	
Aug	512.9	531.1	
Sep	513.8	530.4	
Oct	513.4	529.5	
Nov	514.2	529.6	
Dec	515.8	530.4	

## BUSINESS SERVICES EMPLOYMENT *(Not seasonally adjusted)*

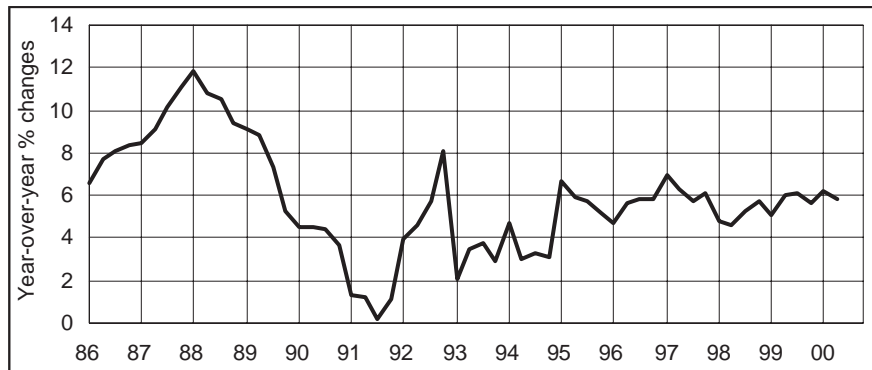


Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	102.0	105.2	111.7
Feb	102.4	106.0	111.8
Mar	103.7	107.9	113.2
Apr	103.5	108.9	
May	104.9	111.0	
Jun	106.1	114.0	
Jul	105.8	114.7	
Aug	106.2	115.0	
Sep	106.6	114.2	
Oct	105.9	114.2	
Nov	106.7	114.6	
Dec	107.5	115.5	



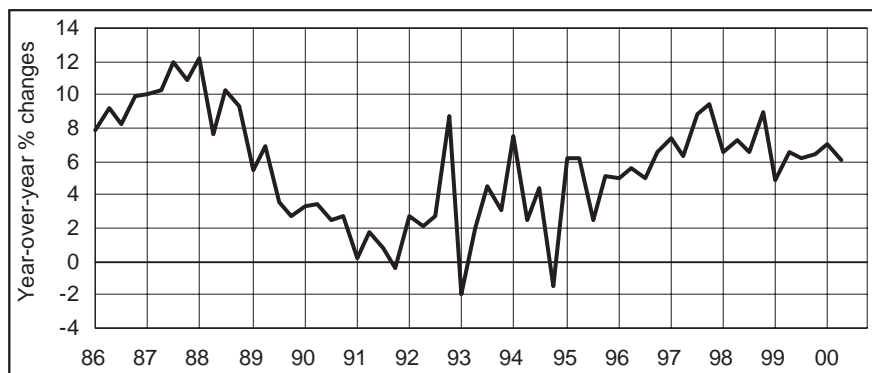
# ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

## PERSONAL INCOME (Seasonally adjusted)



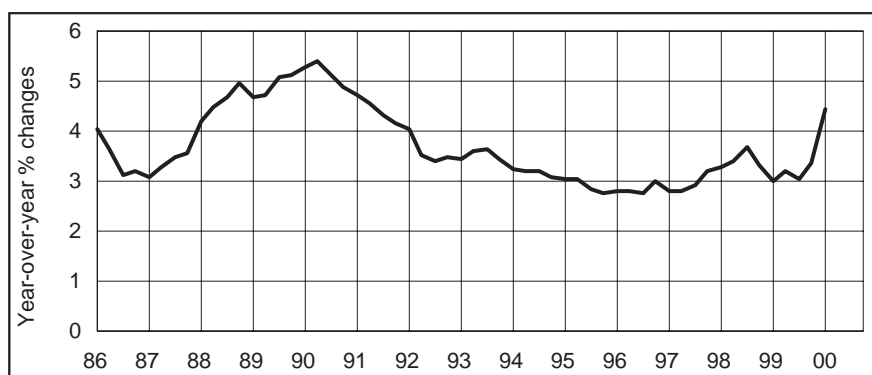
Quarter	1998	1999	2000
First	4.7	4.7	6.2
Second	4.6	5.3	5.9
Third	5.2	5.6	
Fourth	5.8	4.7	

## UI COVERED WAGES (Seasonally adjusted)



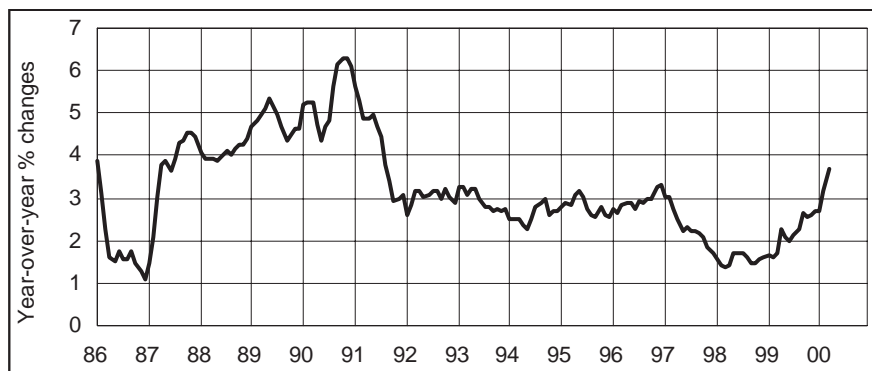
Quarter	1998	1999	2000
First	6.5	5.0	7.0
Second	7.3	5.8	6.0
Third	6.6	4.4	
Fourth	9.1	1.4	

## U.S. EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX (Seasonally adjusted)



Quarter	1998	1999	2000
First	3.3	3.0	4.4
Second	3.4	3.2	
Third	3.7	3.0	
Fourth	3.3	3.4	

## U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (Not seasonally adjusted)



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	1.6	1.7	2.7
Feb	1.4	1.6	3.2
Mar	1.4	1.7	3.7
Apr	1.4	2.3	
May	1.7	2.1	
Jun	1.7	2.0	
Jul	1.7	2.1	
Aug	1.6	2.3	
Sep	1.5	2.6	
Oct	1.5	2.6	
Nov	1.5	2.6	
Dec	1.6	2.7	

# NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

## CONNECTICUT



Not Seasonally Adjusted

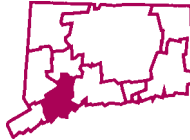
	MAR	MAR	CHANGE		FEB
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
<b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b> .....	<b>1,675,700</b>	<b>1,651,700</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1,663,800</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>324,900</b>	<b>327,700</b>	<b>-2,800</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>322,900</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION &amp; MINING</b> .....	<b>58,800</b>	<b>56,300</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>57,100</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	<b>266,100</b>	<b>271,400</b>	<b>-5,300</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>265,800</b>
<b>Durable</b> .....	<b>185,400</b>	<b>189,800</b>	<b>-4,400</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>185,100</b>
Lumber & Furniture .....	6,100	5,900	200	3.4	6,000
Stone, Clay & Glass .....	2,700	2,700	0	0.0	2,600
Primary Metals .....	9,100	9,400	-300	-3.2	9,100
Fabricated Metals .....	33,100	33,900	-800	-2.4	33,100
Machinery & Computer Equipment .....	32,800	33,500	-700	-2.1	32,700
Electronic & Electrical Equipment .....	26,800	27,200	-400	-1.5	26,700
Transportation Equipment .....	48,300	49,900	-1,600	-3.2	48,400
Instruments .....	20,200	20,900	-700	-3.3	20,200
Miscellaneous Manufacturing .....	6,300	6,400	-100	-1.6	6,300
<b>Nondurable</b> .....	<b>80,700</b>	<b>81,600</b>	<b>-900</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>80,700</b>
Food .....	8,100	8,000	100	1.3	8,000
Textiles .....	2,200	2,100	100	4.8	2,200
Apparel .....	3,400	3,800	-400	-10.5	3,400
Paper .....	8,000	7,700	300	3.9	8,000
Printing & Publishing .....	25,100	25,500	-400	-1.6	25,000
Chemicals .....	21,700	21,900	-200	-0.9	21,700
Rubber & Plastics .....	10,500	10,600	-100	-0.9	10,500
Other Nondurable Manufacturing .....	1,700	2,000	-300	-15.0	1,900
<b>SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>1,350,800</b>	<b>1,324,000</b>	<b>26,800</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1,340,900</b>
<b>TRANS., COMM. &amp; UTILITIES</b> .....	<b>79,000</b>	<b>77,600</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>78,800</b>
Transportation .....	47,500	45,700	1,800	3.9	47,300
Motor Freight & Warehousing .....	12,400	11,800	600	5.1	12,400
Other Transportation .....	35,100	33,900	1,200	3.5	34,900
Communications .....	18,900	19,200	-300	-1.6	18,900
Utilities .....	12,600	12,700	-100	-0.8	12,600
<b>TRADE</b> .....	<b>356,000</b>	<b>352,800</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>354,000</b>
Wholesale .....	80,800	82,000	-1,200	-1.5	80,300
Retail .....	275,200	270,800	4,400	1.6	273,700
General Merchandise .....	24,400	25,000	-600	-2.4	24,800
Food Stores .....	53,300	52,900	400	0.8	53,400
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations .....	27,700	27,100	600	2.2	27,400
Restaurants .....	78,100	77,000	1,100	1.4	77,100
Other Retail Trade .....	91,700	88,800	2,900	3.3	91,000
<b>FINANCE, INS. &amp; REAL ESTATE</b> .....	<b>140,800</b>	<b>139,400</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>140,500</b>
Finance .....	52,300	51,700	600	1.2	52,200
Banking .....	24,800	25,000	-200	-0.8	24,900
Securities .....	14,100	13,400	700	5.2	14,000
Insurance .....	71,800	71,400	400	0.6	71,800
Insurance Carriers .....	60,600	60,200	400	0.7	60,600
Real Estate .....	16,700	16,300	400	2.5	16,500
<b>SERVICES</b> .....	<b>529,100</b>	<b>515,300</b>	<b>13,800</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>525,200</b>
Hotels & Lodging Places .....	11,100	10,500	600	5.7	11,000
Personal Services .....	19,100	19,000	100	0.5	18,900
Business Services .....	113,200	107,900	5,300	4.9	111,800
Health Services .....	159,500	159,000	500	0.3	159,300
Legal & Engineering Services .....	55,000	54,300	700	1.3	54,600
Educational Services .....	45,800	43,100	2,700	6.3	46,500
Other Services .....	125,400	121,500	3,900	3.2	123,100
<b>GOVERNMENT</b> .....	<b>245,900</b>	<b>238,900</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>242,400</b>
Federal .....	23,700	22,700	1,000	4.4	23,000
**State, Local & Other Government .....	222,200	216,200	6,000	2.8	219,400

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

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

# NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

## BRIDGEPORT LMA

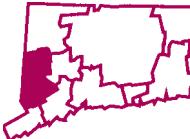


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	MAR	MAR	CHANGE		FEB
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
<b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b> .....	<b>186,400</b>	<b>184,900</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>185,600</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>43,200</b>	<b>44,300</b>	<b>-1,100</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>43,300</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION &amp; MINING</b> .....	<b>6,000</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>5,900</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	<b>37,200</b>	<b>38,300</b>	<b>-1,100</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>37,400</b>
Durable Goods .....	30,000	31,100	-1,100	-3.5	30,200
Fabricated Metals .....	4,400	4,500	-100	-2.2	4,500
Industrial Machinery .....	6,100	6,200	-100	-1.6	6,300
Electronic Equipment .....	5,400	5,700	-300	-5.3	5,300
Nondurable Goods .....	7,200	7,200	0	0.0	7,200
<b>SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>143,200</b>	<b>140,600</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>142,300</b>
<b>TRANS., COMM. &amp; UTILITIES</b> .....	<b>7,300</b>	<b>7,400</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>7,300</b>
<b>TRADE</b> .....	<b>41,500</b>	<b>41,100</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>41,300</b>
Wholesale .....	9,300	9,600	-300	-3.1	9,200
Retail .....	32,200	31,500	700	2.2	32,100
<b>FINANCE, INS. &amp; REAL ESTATE</b> .....	<b>11,700</b>	<b>11,300</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>11,700</b>
<b>SERVICES</b> .....	<b>60,700</b>	<b>59,400</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>60,200</b>
Business Services .....	14,300	13,700	600	4.4	14,100
Health Services .....	20,900	20,400	500	2.5	20,900
<b>GOVERNMENT</b> .....	<b>22,000</b>	<b>21,400</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>21,800</b>
Federal .....	2,300	2,100	200	9.5	2,200
State & Local .....	19,700	19,300	400	2.1	19,600

For further information on the Bridgeport Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

## DANBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	MAR	MAR	CHANGE		FEB
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
<b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b> .....	<b>89,300</b>	<b>88,200</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>88,500</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>23,000</b>	<b>23,300</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>22,800</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION &amp; MINING</b> .....	<b>3,900</b>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>3,800</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	<b>19,100</b>	<b>19,500</b>	<b>-400</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>19,000</b>
Durable Goods .....	10,300	10,500	-200	-1.9	10,200
Machinery & Electric Equipment .....	5,300	5,500	-200	-3.6	5,300
Instruments & Related .....	2,800	3,000	-200	-6.7	2,800
Nondurable Goods .....	8,800	9,000	-200	-2.2	8,800
Chemicals .....	3,700	3,700	0	0.0	3,700
<b>SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>66,300</b>	<b>64,900</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>65,700</b>
<b>TRANS., COMM. &amp; UTILITIES</b> .....	<b>2,800</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-3.4</b>	<b>2,800</b>
<b>TRADE</b> .....	<b>20,700</b>	<b>20,900</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>20,600</b>
Wholesale .....	3,500	3,500	0	0.0	3,500
Retail .....	17,200	17,400	-200	-1.1	17,100
<b>FINANCE, INS. &amp; REAL ESTATE</b> .....	<b>5,700</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>5,600</b>
<b>SERVICES</b> .....	<b>25,700</b>	<b>24,600</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>25,500</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT</b> .....	<b>11,400</b>	<b>11,300</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>11,200</b>
Federal .....	900	900	0	0.0	900
State & Local .....	10,500	10,400	100	1.0	10,300

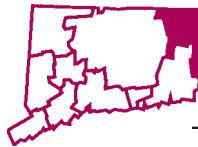
For further information on the Danbury Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

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

# NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

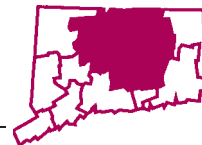
## DANIELSON LMA



	Not Seasonally Adjusted				
	MAR 2000	MAR 1999	CHANGE		FEB 2000
			NO.	%	
<b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b> .....	<b>21,200</b>	<b>20,700</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>21,100</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>6,400</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>6,400</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION &amp; MINING</b> .....	<b>1,000</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	<b>5,400</b>	<b>5,400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>5,400</b>
Durable Goods .....	2,200	2,300	-100	-4.3	2,200
Nondurable Goods .....	3,200	3,100	100	3.2	3,200
<b>SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>14,800</b>	<b>14,500</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>14,700</b>
<b>TRANS., COMM. &amp; UTILITIES</b> .....	<b>500</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>TRADE</b> .....	<b>5,300</b>	<b>5,100</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>5,200</b>
Wholesale .....	1,100	1,000	100	10.0	1,100
Retail .....	4,200	4,100	100	2.4	4,100
<b>FINANCE, INS. &amp; REAL ESTATE</b> .....	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>600</b>
<b>SERVICES</b> .....	<b>5,200</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>5,200</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT</b> .....	<b>3,200</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	<b>3,200</b>
Federal .....	100	100	0	0.0	100
State & Local .....	3,100	3,200	-100	-3.1	3,100

For further information on the Danielson Labor Market Area contact Noreen Passardi at (860) 263-6299.

## HARTFORD LMA



	Not Seasonally Adjusted				
	MAR 2000	MAR 1999	CHANGE		FEB 2000
			NO.	%	
<b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b> .....	<b>613,600</b>	<b>611,200</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>609,000</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>110,300</b>	<b>111,700</b>	<b>-1,400</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>109,900</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION &amp; MINING</b> .....	<b>20,600</b>	<b>18,900</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>20,200</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	<b>89,700</b>	<b>92,800</b>	<b>-3,100</b>	<b>-3.3</b>	<b>89,700</b>
Durable Goods .....	71,500	73,900	-2,400	-3.2	71,500
Primary & Fabricated Metals .....	17,500	17,600	-100	-0.6	17,600
Industrial Machinery .....	13,100	13,800	-700	-5.1	13,200
Electronic Equipment .....	6,400	6,300	100	1.6	6,300
Transportation Equipment .....	25,800	27,400	-1,600	-5.8	25,700
Nondurable Goods .....	18,200	18,900	-700	-3.7	18,200
Printing & Publishing .....	7,700	7,800	-100	-1.3	7,700
<b>SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>503,300</b>	<b>499,500</b>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>499,100</b>
<b>TRANS., COMM. &amp; UTILITIES</b> .....	<b>27,100</b>	<b>27,000</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>27,000</b>
Transportation .....	16,300	16,100	200	1.2	16,200
Communications & Utilities .....	10,800	10,900	-100	-0.9	10,800
<b>TRADE</b> .....	<b>121,900</b>	<b>122,400</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>121,000</b>
Wholesale .....	28,600	28,900	-300	-1.0	28,300
Retail .....	93,300	93,500	-200	-0.2	92,700
<b>FINANCE, INS. &amp; REAL ESTATE</b> .....	<b>73,500</b>	<b>72,600</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>73,300</b>
Deposit & Nondeposit Institutions .....	11,800	11,900	-100	-0.8	11,800
Insurance Carriers .....	48,600	47,700	900	1.9	48,500
<b>SERVICES</b> .....	<b>181,600</b>	<b>178,500</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>180,300</b>
Business Services .....	38,400	35,600	2,800	7.9	37,900
Health Services .....	57,500	59,000	-1,500	-2.5	57,600
<b>GOVERNMENT</b> .....	<b>99,200</b>	<b>99,000</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>97,500</b>
Federal .....	8,300	7,900	400	5.1	8,000
State & Local .....	90,900	91,100	-200	-0.2	89,500

For further information on the Hartford Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

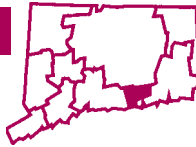
Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

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



# NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

## LOWER RIVER LMA

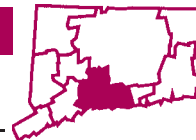


	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				
	MAR 2000	MAR 1999	CHANGE		FEB 2000
			NO.	%	
<b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b> .....	<b>10,200</b>	<b>9,400</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>3,300</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3,200</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION &amp; MINING</b> .....	<b>400</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	<b>2,900</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>2,800</b>
Durable Goods .....	2,400	2,300	100	4.3	2,400
Electronic Equipment .....	700	700	0	0.0	700
Other Durable Goods .....	1,700	1,600	100	6.3	1,700
Nondurable Goods .....	500	500	0	0.0	400
Rubber & Plastics .....	300	300	0	0.0	200
Other Nondurable Goods .....	200	200	0	0.0	200
<b>SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>6,900</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>6,800</b>
<b>TRANS., COMM. &amp; UTILITIES</b> .....	<b>400</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>TRADE</b> .....	<b>2,000</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>2,000</b>
Wholesale .....	400	400	0	0.0	400
Retail .....	1,600	1,500	100	6.7	1,600
<b>FINANCE, INS. &amp; REAL ESTATE</b> .....	<b>400</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>SERVICES</b> .....	<b>3,100</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>3,100</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT</b> .....	<b>1,000</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Federal .....	100	*	*	--	100
State & Local .....	900	800	100	12.5	900

\* Less than 50

For further information on the Lower River Labor Market Area contact Noreen Passardi at (860) 263-6299.

## NEW HAVEN LMA



	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				
	MAR 2000	MAR 1999	CHANGE		FEB 2000
			NO.	%	
<b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b> .....	<b>258,300</b>	<b>257,000</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>256,300</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>49,500</b>	<b>49,400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>48,700</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION &amp; MINING</b> .....	<b>9,200</b>	<b>9,100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>8,700</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	<b>40,300</b>	<b>40,300</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>40,000</b>
Durable Goods .....	25,600	25,500	100	0.4	25,500
Primary & Fabricated Metals .....	6,800	6,900	-100	-1.4	6,800
Electronic Equipment .....	5,800	5,600	200	3.6	5,700
Nondurable Goods .....	14,700	14,800	-100	-0.7	14,500
Paper, Printing & Publishing .....	5,800	5,700	100	1.8	5,800
Chemicals & Allied .....	5,600	5,600	0	0.0	5,600
<b>SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>208,800</b>	<b>207,600</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>207,600</b>
<b>TRANS., COMM. &amp; UTILITIES</b> .....	<b>16,400</b>	<b>16,600</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>16,400</b>
Communications & Utilities .....	8,700	9,000	-300	-3.3	8,700
<b>TRADE</b> .....	<b>53,500</b>	<b>53,400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>52,900</b>
Wholesale .....	13,800	13,500	300	2.2	13,600
Retail .....	39,700	39,900	-200	-0.5	39,300
Eating & Drinking Places .....	11,300	11,400	-100	-0.9	11,100
<b>FINANCE, INS. &amp; REAL ESTATE</b> .....	<b>12,600</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>-400</b>	<b>-3.1</b>	<b>12,500</b>
Finance .....	4,000	4,100	-100	-2.4	4,000
Insurance .....	6,400	6,700	-300	-4.5	6,400
<b>SERVICES</b> .....	<b>92,900</b>	<b>91,600</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>92,900</b>
Business Services .....	11,800	11,800	0	0.0	11,800
Health Services .....	29,500	29,800	-300	-1.0	29,500
<b>GOVERNMENT</b> .....	<b>33,400</b>	<b>33,000</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>32,900</b>
Federal .....	5,800	5,500	300	5.5	5,600
State & Local .....	27,600	27,500	100	0.4	27,300

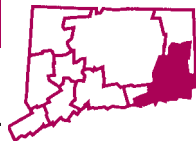
For further information on the New Haven Labor Market Area contact Jungmin Charles Joo at (860) 263-6293.

*Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.*

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

# NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

## NEW LONDON LMA

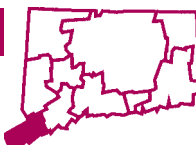


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	MAR	MAR	CHANGE		FEB
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
<b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b> .....	<b>140,300</b>	<b>138,100</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>138,800</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>28,500</b>	<b>28,700</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>28,400</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION &amp; MINING</b> .....	<b>4,800</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>4,700</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	<b>23,700</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>23,700</b>
Durable Goods .....	13,300	13,800	-500	-3.6	13,200
Primary & Fabricated Metals .....	2,200	2,300	-100	-4.3	2,100
Other Durable Goods .....	11,100	11,500	-400	-3.5	11,100
Nondurable Goods .....	10,400	10,200	200	2.0	10,500
Paper & Allied .....	800	800	0	0.0	800
Other Nondurable Goods .....	8,400	8,000	400	5.0	8,400
<b>SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>111,800</b>	<b>109,400</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>110,400</b>
<b>TRANS., COMM. &amp; UTILITIES</b> .....	<b>7,200</b>	<b>7,100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>7,200</b>
<b>TRADE</b> .....	<b>27,500</b>	<b>27,000</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>27,000</b>
Wholesale .....	2,600	2,500	100	4.0	2,500
Retail .....	24,900	24,500	400	1.6	24,500
Eating & Drinking Places .....	7,500	7,300	200	2.7	7,300
Other Retail .....	17,400	17,200	200	1.2	17,200
<b>FINANCE, INS. &amp; REAL ESTATE</b> .....	<b>3,800</b>	<b>3,700</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>3,800</b>
<b>SERVICES</b> .....	<b>35,600</b>	<b>34,900</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>35,400</b>
Personal & Business Services .....	6,600	6,500	100	1.5	6,600
Health Services .....	11,500	11,500	0	0.0	11,500
<b>GOVERNMENT</b> .....	<b>37,700</b>	<b>36,700</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>37,000</b>
Federal .....	3,200	2,700	500	18.5	2,900
State & Local .....	34,500	34,000	500	1.5	34,100
**Local .....	30,100	29,700	400	1.3	29,800

For further information on the New London Labor Market Area contact Lincoln Dyer at (860) 263-6292.

## STAMFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	MAR	MAR	CHANGE		FEB
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
<b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b> .....	<b>209,100</b>	<b>205,300</b>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>208,300</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>31,600</b>	<b>31,400</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>31,300</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION &amp; MINING</b> .....	<b>6,400</b>	<b>5,700</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>6,100</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	<b>25,200</b>	<b>25,700</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>25,200</b>
Durable Goods .....	12,300	12,600	-300	-2.4	12,200
Industrial Machinery .....	3,300	3,400	-100	-2.9	3,300
Electronic Equipment .....	2,000	2,000	0	0.0	1,900
Nondurable Goods .....	12,900	13,100	-200	-1.5	13,000
Paper, Printing & Publishing .....	5,400	5,900	-500	-8.5	5,500
Chemicals & Allied .....	3,600	3,500	100	2.9	3,600
Other Nondurable .....	3,900	3,700	200	5.4	3,900
<b>SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>177,500</b>	<b>173,900</b>	<b>3,600</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>177,000</b>
<b>TRANS., COMM. &amp; UTILITIES</b> .....	<b>10,300</b>	<b>10,400</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>10,300</b>
Communications & Utilities .....	3,000	3,100	-100	-3.2	2,900
<b>TRADE</b> .....	<b>44,000</b>	<b>44,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>43,800</b>
Wholesale .....	11,400	11,400	0	0.0	11,400
Retail .....	32,600	32,600	0	0.0	32,400
<b>FINANCE, INS. &amp; REAL ESTATE</b> .....	<b>27,700</b>	<b>26,200</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>27,700</b>
<b>SERVICES</b> .....	<b>77,200</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>77,000</b>
Business Services .....	23,800	23,000	800	3.5	24,300
Engineering & Mgmt. Services .....	11,700	11,300	400	3.5	11,500
Other Services .....	41,700	40,700	1,000	2.5	41,200
<b>GOVERNMENT</b> .....	<b>18,300</b>	<b>18,300</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>18,200</b>
Federal .....	2,100	1,900	200	10.5	2,000
State & Local .....	16,200	16,400	-200	-1.2	16,200

For further information on the Stamford Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepki at (860) 263-6278.

*Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.*

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

# NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

## TORRINGTON LMA

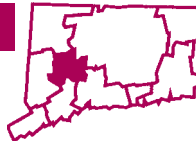


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	MAR	MAR	CHANGE		FEB
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
<b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b> .....	<b>30,100</b>	<b>29,400</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>29,400</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>8,200</b>	<b>8,200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>8,000</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION &amp; MINING</b> .....	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1,800</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	<b>6,200</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>6,200</b>
Durable Goods .....	3,900	4,000	-100	-2.5	3,900
Primary & Fabricated Metals .....	500	500	0	0.0	500
Industrial Machinery .....	900	1,100	-200	-18.2	900
Electronic Equipment .....	200	200	0	0.0	200
Other Durable Goods .....	2,300	2,200	100	4.5	2,300
Nondurable Goods .....	2,300	2,200	100	4.5	2,300
Rubber & Plastics .....	1,300	1,300	0	0.0	1,300
Other Nondurable Goods .....	1,000	900	100	11.1	1,000
<b>SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>21,900</b>	<b>21,200</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>21,400</b>
<b>TRANS., COMM. &amp; UTILITIES</b> .....	<b>500</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-28.6</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>TRADE</b> .....	<b>6,600</b>	<b>6,400</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>6,500</b>
Wholesale .....	700	700	0	0.0	700
Retail .....	5,900	5,700	200	3.5	5,800
<b>FINANCE, INS. &amp; REAL ESTATE</b> .....	<b>900</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>900</b>
<b>SERVICES</b> .....	<b>10,200</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT</b> .....	<b>3,700</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>3,500</b>
Federal .....	300	200	100	50.0	200
State & Local .....	3,400	3,200	200	6.3	3,300

For further information on the Torrington Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepiski at (860) 263-6278.

## WATERBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	MAR	MAR	CHANGE		FEB
	2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
<b>TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT</b> .....	<b>86,600</b>	<b>85,800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>86,400</b>
<b>GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>21,400</b>	<b>21,100</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>21,400</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION &amp; MINING</b> .....	<b>3,200</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3,200</b>
<b>MANUFACTURING</b> .....	<b>18,200</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>18,200</b>
Durable Goods .....	14,200	14,200	0	0.0	14,200
Primary Metals .....	900	800	100	12.5	900
Fabricated Metals .....	6,400	6,300	100	1.6	6,400
Machinery & Electric Equipment .....	4,200	4,300	-100	-2.3	4,200
Nondurable Goods .....	4,000	3,800	200	5.3	4,000
Paper, Printing & Publishing .....	1,200	1,100	100	9.1	1,200
<b>SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b> .....	<b>65,200</b>	<b>64,700</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>65,000</b>
<b>TRANS., COMM. &amp; UTILITIES</b> .....	<b>4,100</b>	<b>3,900</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4,100</b>
<b>TRADE</b> .....	<b>18,200</b>	<b>17,900</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>18,100</b>
Wholesale .....	3,100	3,100	0	0.0	3,100
Retail .....	15,100	14,800	300	2.0	15,000
<b>FINANCE, INS. &amp; REAL ESTATE</b> .....	<b>3,900</b>	<b>3,600</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>4,000</b>
<b>SERVICES</b> .....	<b>25,800</b>	<b>26,100</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>25,700</b>
Personal & Business .....	6,200	6,400	-200	-3.1	6,100
Health Services .....	10,200	10,600	-400	-3.8	10,200
<b>GOVERNMENT</b> .....	<b>13,200</b>	<b>13,200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>13,100</b>
Federal .....	1,000	800	200	25.0	900
State & Local .....	12,200	12,400	-200	-1.6	12,200

For further information on the Waterbury Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepiski at (860) 263-6278.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

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

# LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	MAR	MAR	CHANGE		FEB
		2000	1999	NO.	%	2000
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>						
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>	Civilian Labor Force	1,698,100	1,681,000	17,100	1.0	1,683,800
	Employed	1,655,900	1,622,000	33,900	2.1	1,632,700
	Unemployed	42,200	59,000	-16,800	-28.5	51,200
	Unemployment Rate	2.5	3.5	-1.0	---	3.0
<b>BRIDGEPORT LMA</b>	Civilian Labor Force	213,200	212,300	900	0.4	212,300
	Employed	206,600	203,000	3,600	1.8	204,600
	Unemployed	6,600	9,300	-2,700	-29.0	7,700
	Unemployment Rate	3.1	4.4	-1.3	---	3.6
<b>DANBURY LMA</b>	Civilian Labor Force	108,800	107,600	1,200	1.1	107,900
	Employed	106,900	104,700	2,200	2.1	105,600
	Unemployed	1,900	2,900	-1,000	-34.5	2,300
	Unemployment Rate	1.7	2.7	-1.0	---	2.1
<b>DANIELSON LMA</b>	Civilian Labor Force	32,900	32,400	500	1.5	32,800
	Employed	31,900	30,800	1,100	3.6	31,500
	Unemployed	1,100	1,500	-400	-26.7	1,300
	Unemployment Rate	3.2	4.7	-1.5	---	4.0
<b>HARTFORD LMA</b>	Civilian Labor Force	578,100	576,000	2,100	0.4	574,300
	Employed	563,100	555,000	8,100	1.5	555,700
	Unemployed	15,100	20,900	-5,800	-27.8	18,600
	Unemployment Rate	2.6	3.6	-1.0	---	3.2
<b>LOWER RIVER LMA</b>	Civilian Labor Force	12,500	11,700	800	6.8	12,400
	Employed	12,200	11,300	900	8.0	12,200
	Unemployed	200	300	-100	-33.3	300
	Unemployment Rate	1.8	2.7	-0.9	---	2.2
<b>NEW HAVEN LMA</b>	Civilian Labor Force	271,200	268,500	2,700	1.0	267,700
	Employed	264,500	259,800	4,700	1.8	259,800
	Unemployed	6,700	8,700	-2,000	-23.0	7,900
	Unemployment Rate	2.5	3.2	-0.7	---	2.9
<b>NEW LONDON LMA</b>	Civilian Labor Force	152,400	149,200	3,200	2.1	150,100
	Employed	148,700	144,000	4,700	3.3	145,300
	Unemployed	3,800	5,200	-1,400	-26.9	4,800
	Unemployment Rate	2.5	3.5	-1.0	---	3.2
<b>STAMFORD LMA</b>	Civilian Labor Force	193,400	189,000	4,400	2.3	191,300
	Employed	190,300	184,500	5,800	3.1	187,600
	Unemployed	3,100	4,600	-1,500	-32.6	3,700
	Unemployment Rate	1.6	2.4	-0.8	---	1.9
<b>TORRINGTON LMA</b>	Civilian Labor Force	39,000	38,300	700	1.8	38,600
	Employed	38,300	37,200	1,100	3.0	37,600
	Unemployed	800	1,100	-300	-27.3	1,100
	Unemployment Rate	2.0	3.0	-1.0	---	2.8
<b>WATERBURY LMA</b>	Civilian Labor Force	113,800	112,800	1,000	0.9	113,600
	Employed	110,200	107,800	2,400	2.2	109,100
	Unemployed	3,600	5,000	-1,400	-28.0	4,400
	Unemployment Rate	3.2	4.4	-1.2	---	3.9
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	Civilian Labor Force	140,501,000	138,418,000	2,083,000	1.5	140,185,000
	Employed	134,494,000	132,299,000	2,195,000	1.7	133,954,000
	Unemployed	6,007,000	6,119,000	-112,000	-1.8	6,231,000
	Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.4	-0.1	---	4.4

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.



# MANUFACTURING HOURS AND EARNINGS

	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	MAR		CHG	FEB	MAR		CHG	FEB	MAR		CHG	FEB
	2000	1999	Y/Y	2000	2000	1999	Y/Y	2000	2000	1999	Y/Y	2000
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>												
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>\$666.97</b>	<b>\$638.97</b>	<b>\$28.01</b>	<b>\$667.54</b>	<b>42.7</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>42.6</b>	<b>\$15.62</b>	<b>\$15.07</b>	<b>\$0.55</b>	<b>\$15.67</b>
<b>DURABLE GOODS</b>	<b>684.00</b>	<b>656.37</b>	<b>27.63</b>	<b>684.26</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>15.87</b>	<b>15.30</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>15.95</b>
Lumber & Furniture	517.44	481.97	35.47	499.77	42.0	41.3	0.7	40.5	12.32	11.67	0.65	12.34
Stone, Clay and Glass	628.87	599.87	28.99	612.47	44.1	44.7	-0.6	42.8	14.26	13.42	0.84	14.31
Primary Metals	676.46	615.77	60.69	679.36	44.3	44.3	0.0	45.2	15.27	13.90	1.37	15.03
Fabricated Metals	603.50	596.14	7.36	614.90	43.2	42.4	0.8	43.0	13.97	14.06	-0.09	14.30
Machinery	725.94	713.93	12.01	716.81	43.6	45.1	-1.5	43.0	16.65	15.83	0.82	16.67
Electrical Equipment	541.86	517.50	24.35	540.80	41.3	41.6	-0.3	41.6	13.12	12.44	0.68	13.00
Trans. Equipment	897.80	825.98	71.81	897.35	44.6	43.2	1.4	44.6	20.13	19.12	1.01	20.12
Instruments	617.02	604.86	12.16	603.10	41.3	41.6	-0.3	40.1	14.94	14.54	0.40	15.04
Miscellaneous Mfg	638.66	620.67	17.99	649.18	42.1	41.6	0.5	42.1	15.17	14.92	0.25	15.42
<b>NONDUR. GOODS</b>	<b>624.25</b>	<b>599.26</b>	<b>24.99</b>	<b>630.00</b>	<b>41.7</b>	<b>41.3</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>14.97</b>	<b>14.51</b>	<b>0.46</b>	<b>15.00</b>
Food	535.58	537.07	-1.49	544.62	43.9	43.7	0.2	43.5	12.20	12.29	-0.09	12.52
Textiles	508.00	490.77	17.23	504.25	41.2	41.0	0.2	41.4	12.33	11.97	0.36	12.18
Apparel	358.68	335.48	23.20	358.20	39.2	39.1	0.1	39.8	9.15	8.58	0.57	9.00
Paper	729.25	701.78	27.47	744.85	43.1	43.4	-0.3	44.1	16.92	16.17	0.75	16.89
Printing & Publishing	639.60	595.58	44.01	645.98	40.1	38.4	1.7	40.5	15.95	15.51	0.44	15.95
Chemicals	778.17	773.39	4.78	789.65	42.2	43.4	-1.2	42.5	18.44	17.82	0.62	18.58
Rubber & Misc. Plast.	552.50	519.56	32.94	551.68	42.5	41.9	0.6	42.7	13.00	12.40	0.60	12.92
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>841.31</b>	<b>804.64</b>	<b>36.67</b>	<b>845.01</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>20.57</b>	<b>19.77</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>20.61</b>

## LMAs

	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	MAR		CHG	FEB	MAR		CHG	FEB	MAR		CHG	FEB
	2000	1999	Y/Y	2000	2000	1999	Y/Y	2000	2000	1999	Y/Y	2000
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>												
Bridgeport	\$662.11	\$639.10	\$23.01	\$669.38	41.8	41.5	0.3	42.5	\$15.84	\$15.40	\$0.44	\$15.75
Danbury	659.92	604.13	55.79	660.85	41.4	40.6	0.8	41.2	15.94	14.88	1.06	16.04
Danielson	512.93	481.99	30.94	509.23	41.1	40.3	0.8	41.3	12.48	11.96	0.52	12.33
Hartford	734.45	686.08	48.37	727.32	43.9	42.8	1.1	43.5	16.73	16.03	0.70	16.72
Lower River	555.07	543.92	11.15	547.13	41.3	41.3	0.0	40.8	13.44	13.17	0.27	13.41
New Haven	636.80	631.98	4.82	638.35	42.2	42.5	-0.3	42.5	15.09	14.87	0.22	15.02
New London	697.57	668.39	29.18	686.65	42.2	42.6	-0.4	42.1	16.53	15.69	0.84	16.31
Stamford	535.23	525.93	9.30	541.11	39.5	38.7	0.8	39.7	13.55	13.59	-0.04	13.63
Torrington	576.96	553.93	23.03	580.33	41.3	41.4	-0.1	41.1	13.97	13.38	0.59	14.12
Waterbury	657.11	634.71	22.40	661.38	45.1	44.2	0.9	45.3	14.57	14.36	0.21	14.60

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

## NEW HOUSING PERMITS

	MAR	MAR	CHANGE Y/Y		YTD		CHANGE YTD		FEB
	2000	1999	UNITS	%	2000	1999	UNITS	%	2000
	<b>Connecticut</b>	859	1,105	-246	-22.3	2,170	2,372	-202	-8.5
<b>Counties:</b>									
Fairfield	148	330	-182	-55.2	632	553	79	14.3	96
Hartford	173	239	-66	-27.6	347	474	-127	-26.8	91
Litchfield	65	85	-20	-23.5	117	153	-36	-23.5	36
Middlesex	95	108	-13	-12.0	217	204	13	6.4	60
New Haven	184	158	26	16.5	447	630	-183	-29.0	124
New London	90	88	2	2.3	194	161	33	20.5	49
Tolland	67	66	1	1.5	148	135	13	9.6	37
Windham	37	31	6	19.4	68	62	6	9.7	15

# HOUSING PERMIT ACTIVITY BY TOWN

TOWN	MAR 2000	YR TO DATE 2000	1999	TOWN	MAR 2000	YR TO DATE 2000	1999	TOWN	MAR 2000	YR TO DATE 2000	1999
Andover	0	3	5	Griswold	5	7	8	Preston	1	4	7
Ansonia	4	7	8	Groton	12	27	20	Prospect	2	6	6
Ashford	6	6	4	Guilford	14	27	19	Putnam	1	4	2
Avon	14	21	34	Haddam	2	7	6	Redding	4	9	6
Barkhamsted	2	3	1	Hamden	43	129	16	Ridgefield	10	23	31
Beacon Falls	5	13	9	Hampton	1	3	2	Rocky Hill	12	19	21
Berlin	8	20	18	Hartford	7	16	13	Roxbury	2	3	2
Bethany	1	3	3	Hartland	0	0	0	Salem	0	2	2
Bethel	2	4	9	Harwinton	1	2	4	Salisbury	0	0	2
Bethlehem	0	1	4	Hebron	7	17	17	Scotland	0	2	2
Bloomfield	2	9	7	Kent	2	3	2	Seymour	6	10	15
Bolton	1	5	5	Killingly	6	9	4	Sharon	0	2	1
Bozrah	2	4	3	Killingworth	2	5	13	Shelton	12	24	40
Branford	2	5	15	Lebanon	6	8	11	Sherman	2	3	5
Bridgeport	2	6	12	Ledyard	3	7	9	Simsbury	1	7	24
Bridgewater	1	1	1	Lisbon	2	4	6	Somers	4	9	6
Bristol	7	16	12	Litchfield	2	3	4	South Windsor	7	13	19
Brookfield	6	11	22	Lyme	0	1	4	Southbury	11	20	17
Brooklyn	1	1	5	Madison	6	10	18	Southington	14	31	76
Burlington	6	10	9	Manchester	4	11	12	Sprague	1	1	2
Canaan	0	0	0	Mansfield	5	11	12	Stafford	7	8	8
Canterbury	2	2	3	Marlborough	3	7	6	Stamford	5	316	185
Canton	3	8	17	Meriden	2	7	8	Sterling	2	3	5
Chaplin	1	3	3	Middlebury	4	7	5	Stonington	11	24	20
Cheshire	8	13	11	Middlefield	5	7	8	Stratford	2	4	12
Chester	0	2	2	Middletown	22	60	74	Suffield	18	26	12
Clinton	5	12	16	Milford	12	39	135	Thomaston	4	10	9
Colchester	8	22	15	Monroe	2	9	21	Thompson	3	3	4
Colebrook	0	0	2	Montville	5	14	6	Tolland	13	28	32
Columbia	1	1	6	Morris	4	4	4	Torrington	1	4	20
Cornwall	1	1	1	Naugatuck	2	12	8	Trumbull	6	15	25
Coventry	4	10	13	New Britain	1	1	2	Union	0	2	1
Cromwell	2	13	12	New Canaan	3	14	8	Vernon	12	19	11
Danbury	36	57	28	New Fairfield	2	4	6	Voluntown	2	7	5
Darien	2	6	5	New Hartford	4	5	4	Wallingford	17	30	52
Deep River	3	7	3	New Haven	1	10	197	Warren	1	1	2
Derby	3	6	6	New London	0	0	0	Washington	1	2	3
Durham	7	17	11	New Milford	17	31	42	Waterbury	7	23	8
East Granby	1	1	3	Newington	10	16	26	Waterford	11	19	13
East Haddam	6	13	15	Newtown	14	24	49	Watertown	7	15	12
East Hampton	1	11	11	Norfolk	1	1	1	West Hartford	4	5	4
East Hartford	0	1	2	North Branford	1	3	6	West Haven	4	10	10
East Haven	7	9	11	North Canaan	1	1	0	Westbrook	30	36	14
East Lyme	12	24	13	North Haven	5	11	13	Weston	5	9	4
East Windsor	4	9	4	No. Stonington	6	8	3	Westport	5	12	9
Eastford	0	0	1	Norwalk	7	30	27	Wethersfield	7	9	8
Easton	4	6	5	Norwich	1	2	6	Willington	4	8	2
Ellington	9	27	17	Old Lyme	2	8	8	Wilton	5	13	5
Enfield	4	13	17	Old Saybrook	1	5	4	Winchester	1	5	3
Essex	4	12	8	Orange	1	3	3	Windham	0	2	4
Fairfield	3	10	11	Oxford	5	18	14	Windsor	4	8	13
Farmington	7	11	33	Plainfield	8	16	9	Windsor Locks	7	9	2
Franklin	0	1	0	Plainville	0	6	4	Wolcott	8	11	10
Glastonbury	7	25	61	Plymouth	5	8	18	Woodbridge	3	5	7
Goshen	2	4	3	Pomfret	1	3	10	Woodbury	5	7	8
Granby	11	19	15	Portland	5	10	7	Woodstock	5	11	4
Greenwich	9	23	28								

## **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 took 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) 263-6275 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)

<b>Leading Employment Index</b> .....	<b>+1.2</b>	<b>Business Activity</b>		<b>Tourism and Travel</b>	
<b>Coincident Employment Index</b> .....	<b>+6.3</b>	New Housing Permits .....	-22.3	Tourism Inquiries .....	-32.4
<b>Total Nonfarm Employment</b> .....	<b>+1.7</b>	Electricity Sales .....	+3.6	Tourism Info Centers .....	+1.1
<b>Unemployment</b> .....	<b>-1.0*</b>	Retail Sales .....	+4.8	Attraction Visitors .....	+48.9
Labor Force .....	+1.0	Construction Contracts Index .....	+169.8	Hotel-Motel Occupancy .....	-1.4*
Employed .....	+2.1	New Auto Registrations .....	+18.9	Air Passenger Count .....	+18.4
Unemployed .....	-29.5	Air Cargo Tons .....	+8.6		
<b>Average Weekly Initial Claims</b> .....	<b>-14.3</b>	<b>Business Starts</b>		<b>Employment Cost Index (U.S.)</b>	
<b>Help Wanted Index -- Hartford</b> .....	<b>+2.9</b>	Secretary of the State .....	+19.6	Total .....	+4.6
<b>Average Ins. Unempl. Rate</b> .....	<b>-0.14*</b>	Dept. of Labor .....	-11.0	Wages & Salaries .....	+4.2
<b>Average Weekly Hours, Mfg</b> .....	<b>+0.7</b>	<b>Business Terminations</b>		Benefit Costs .....	+5.5
<b>Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg</b> .....	<b>+3.6</b>	Secretary of the State .....	+10.6	<b>Consumer Price Index</b>	
<b>Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg</b> .....	<b>+4.4</b>	Dept. of Labor .....	-31.2	U.S. City Average .....	+3.7
<b>CT Mfg. Production Index</b> .....	<b>+1.9</b>	<b>State Tax Collections</b> .....	<b>+1.1</b>	Northeast Region .....	+3.7
Production Worker Hours .....	-1.0	Corporate Tax .....	-16.8	NY-NJ-Long Island .....	+3.4
Industrial Electricity Sales .....	+0.8	Personal Income Tax .....	+12.1	Boston-Brockton-Nashua .....	+4.5
<b>Personal Income</b> .....	<b>+5.9</b>	Real Estate Conveyance Tax .....	+1.7	<b>Consumer Confidence</b>	
<b>UI Covered Wages</b> .....	<b>+6.0</b>	Sales & Use Tax .....	+5.2	U.S. .....	+2.3
				New England .....	-2.1
				<b>Interest Rates</b>	
				Prime .....	+1.08*
				Conventional Mortgage .....	+1.20*

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

THE CONNECTICUT ECONOMIC DIGEST

May 2000

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 06109-1114**

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