

ECONOMIC DIGEST

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- Industrial employment and wages between the economic peak, trough, and present years are analyzed. (article, pp.1, 3-4)
- DECD partners with CURE to stimulate bioscience industry. (p.3)
- The Danielson Area: on a fast recovery track. (p.2)
- Unemployment rate up four-tenths of a percentage point; jobs down. (p.6)
- Housing permits through September were up 22.1 percent from the same period last year. (p.7)
- Personal income for first quarter 1999 is forecasted to increase 4.6 percent from a year ago. (p.6)

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Employment And Wages: Peak To Trough To Present

By J. Charles Joo, Research Analyst

This article briefly highlights the changes in the State's annual average *covered* employment and wages (from the ES-202 report, a compilation of employment and wages data from employers subject to State unemployment insurance laws) by major industry division between the peak (1988), trough (1992), and present (1997) years. The complete data by two-digit Standard Industry Classification (SIC) are shown on page 4.

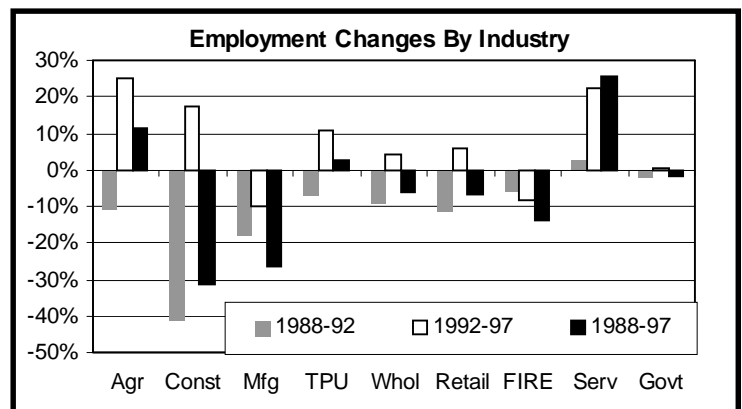
Services:

Despite the past recession, services sector jobs grew nearly three percent, as Connecticut's employment dropped almost ten percent from 1988 to 1992. Then from 1992 to 1997, this rapidly expanding industry's employment rose an impressive 23 percent and now makes up almost one third of the total payroll jobs in the State. The largest services industry to help fuel this explosive job growth was *business services*, which added over 30,000 workers during the recovery. As far as wages are concerned, the services industry remained as the second lowest-paid industry at \$654 per week last year.

Transportation & Public Utilities (TPU):

This industry division declined during the recession, but then expanded during the recovery and is now surpassing its 1988 employment level. The *Communications* sector contributed much of the job losses between 1988 and 1992. Gains in the *local passenger transit* and *air transportation* industries helped the sector to get back on course.

Construction: The construction industry also declined during the



recessionary years and then rose, but did not quite return to its peak employment level of 1988. As of 1997, jobs in the industry were still 31 percent lower than ten years earlier. *Special trade contractors* have made the strongest comeback, adding 23 percent more jobs to the industry's payrolls since 1992.

Retail Trade: This industry also declined since 1992, losing close

Continued on page 3

The Danielson Area: On A Fast Recovery Track

By Noreen Passardi, Economist

After losing more than seven percent of the jobs during the last recession, the Danielson Labor Market Area is now on a fast recovery track, its employment growing by 13 percent, or 2,300 new jobs from 1992 to 1997. As the chart below shows, this job growth rate was much higher than the statewide average of six percent. The Area's unemployment rate also dropped from a high of 9.3 percent in 1992 to 6.9 percent in 1997.

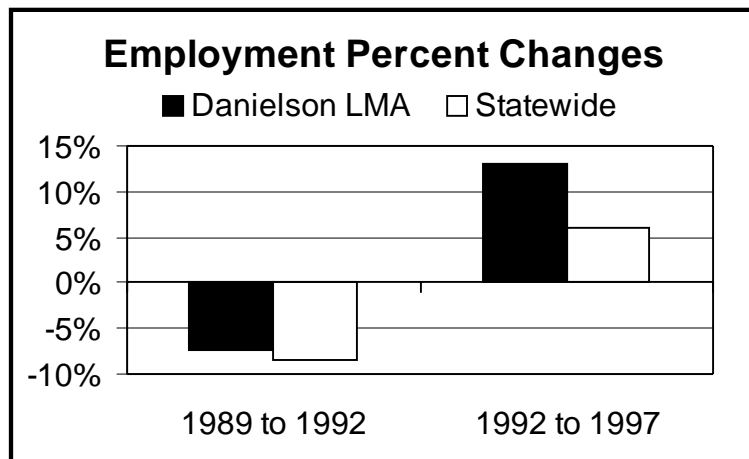
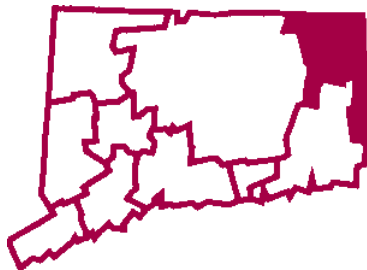
Nestled in the upper most north-east corner of Connecticut, Danielson is the State's second smallest Labor Market Area (LMA), ranked by number of jobs. It encompasses twelve quiet rural towns within which nearly two percent of the State's labor force resides, and nearly 1.3 percent (20,700 in September 1998) of the State nonfarm jobs are located.

Looking at annual averages, during Connecticut's recession years (1989-1992) the Danielson area lost 1,400 jobs (-7.3%), with

employment dropping to 17,800. The manufacturing industry shed 1,000 of these jobs. Then from 1992 to 1997, the region regained 2,300 jobs, a 13 percent increase. Manufacturing, retail trade, and services each added 700, 700, and 500 jobs, respectively. By 1997 the LMA had surpassed its pre-recession employment level by 900 jobs.

Currently, jobs in the Area have grown by nearly two percent (+400) over the past year (see page 16). These gains have been registered in the construction, manufacturing, services, and government sectors.

The future looks promising for the region with the expected arrival of *Automatic Rolls of New England*; a bun baker for McDonalds', which is moving into Killingly early in 1999 with an employment need of 130 people. This should help the town whose unemployment rate last year was the highest in the Area at 9.6 percent. Improvements to Route 6 would open the region up to further possibilities. ■



THE CONNECTICUT

ECONOMIC DIGEST

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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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Continued from cover page

to 20,000 jobs, or seven percent. The heaviest job losses were reported in *general merchandise stores, auto dealers & service stations, and apparel & accessory stores*. The retail industry group had the lowest wage rate of major industry divisions at \$356 a week in 1997.

Government: Despite *local* governments hiring over 5,000 new workers since 1992, the significant drops in *federal* and *state* government workforces halted any meaningful rebound in overall government employment.

Manufacturing: The manufacturing sector, which made up 23 percent of all employment in 1988, fell to a 17 percent share, losing close to 100,000 jobs by 1997. Most of the decline came from *transportation equipment, industrial machinery & computer equipment,*

and *electronic equipment* manufacturers. Moreover, *transportation equipment* manufacturing firms shed more jobs during the recovery than during the recessionary period.

Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate (FIRE): This sector also suffered an enormous job loss, over 20,000 since 1988. The industry realignment and restructuring of many banks and insurance carriers contributed to a 14 percent drop in the FIRE employment level. Despite this, a great increase in demand for investment services spurred a hiring and opening frenzy of *security & commodity brokers* and *holding & other investment offices* throughout the State. The FIRE industry as a whole had the highest average weekly wage, at \$1,254, of all of the major industry groups. ■

Complete table on page 4

HOUSING UPDATE

September Housing Permits Up 22.1%

Commissioner James F. Abromaitis of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development announced that Connecticut communities authorized 984 new housing units in September 1998, a 33 percent increase compared to September of 1997 when 740 were authorized.

The Department further indicated that the 984 units permitted in September 1998 represent an increase of 0.1 percent from the 976 units permitted in August 1998. The year-to-date permits are up 22.1 percent, from 7,019 through September 1997, to 8,570 through September 1998.

"Housing permits continue to show remarkable growth through three quarters," Commissioner Abromaitis said. "It is also significant that housing starts continue

to increase in most of Connecticut's major cities, including Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, and Stamford compared with the same period last year."

Reports from municipal officials throughout the state indicate that New London County with 83.6 percent showed the greatest percentage increase in September compared to the same month a year ago. New Haven County followed with a 50.8 percent increase.

Hartford County documented the largest number of new, authorized units in September with 225. New Haven County followed with 196 units and Fairfield County had 194 units. East Lyme led all Connecticut communities with 65 units, followed by Wallingford with 42 and Glastonbury with 41. ■

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

Industry Clusters

CURE Leads Bioscience

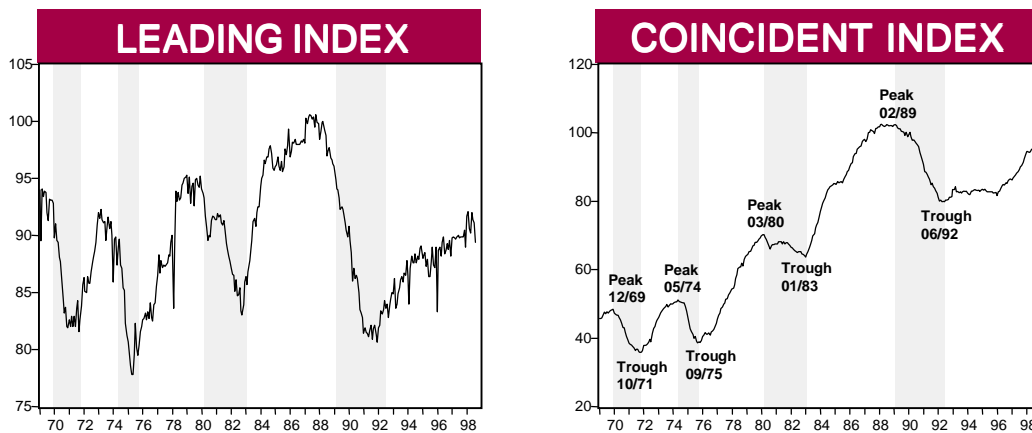
Connecticut United for Research Excellence, Inc.

(CURE) formally forged a partnership with the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to stimulate the growth of the State's emerging bioscience industry cluster. The partnership will define long-term factors affecting the biotechnology industry, including workforce development, and publicizing and promoting the industry. The partnership was announced in the annual CURE meeting October 7, 1998. The State's \$150,000 in start-up funds is being matched by \$350,000 through CURE.

Last year employment among Connecticut-based biotechnology companies grew by more than 40% topping 9,000, with a 37% increase in research and development spending alone. R&D expenditures now exceed \$1.8 billion. In 1990, CURE was founded as a not-for-profit coalition of education and research institutions; health-related corporations; health care systems; professional societies, businesses and other voluntary health care organizations. CURE membership totals more than 80.

According to CURE, more than 1,100 jobs last year were created at pharmaceutical, academic and biotechnology companies and institutions in Connecticut. CURE claims that for every new job created in biomedical research, 2.5 jobs are added in the general economy. The total impact on the Connecticut economy is nearly 3,000 indirect jobs that were supported due to the growth of the biomedical research sector. ■

LEADING AND COINCIDENT INDICATORS



The distance from peak to trough, indicated by the shaded areas, measures the duration of an employment cycle recession. The vertical scale in both charts is an index with 1987=100.

Is The Connecticut Economy Teetering On The Brink?

The Connecticut coincident employment index continues to depict a rosy picture of the Connecticut economy. The coincident index has experienced significant upward movement for about three years, after growing more slowly during the initial phase of the current expansion. The Connecticut leading employment index also has been on an upward trend, albeit with less strength and with more ups and downs. This index, however, has most recently begun to paint a darker, less-rosy vision of the future.

The leading index, a barometer of future employment activity, dropped for the third consecutive month with the release of (preliminary) August data. The June decrease in the leading index was largely a result of the higher initial claims for unemployment insurance. The July fall emerged as a result of lower Hartford help-wanted advertising and a higher short-duration unemployment rate. The most recent August drop reflected higher initial claims for

unemployment insurance, although still fewer in number than in June, and lower housing permits.

A reversal in the direction of movement of the leading index for three consecutive months generally precedes a change in the direction of the economy by six-to-twelve months. As a consequence, the August data must cause one to reflect on the sustainability of the current expansion. Although three consecutive downward movements in the leading index do not always precede a downturn in the economy, they frequently do. So we shall carefully follow future movements of the leading index in this column.

The coincident index, a barometer of current employment activity, on the other hand, reached another new peak, suggesting current economic conditions remain strong. The month-by-month increase in the coincident index resulted from increase in both nonfarm and total employment. The unemployment rate was unchanged while the insured unemployment rate rose by a

small amount on a month-over-month basis.

In summary, the coincident employment index rose from 90.0 in August 1997 to 96.5 in August 1998. All four index components, once again, point in a positive direction on a year-over-year basis with higher nonfarm employment, higher total employment, a lower insured unemployment rate, and a lower total unemployment rate.

The leading employment index fell slightly from 89.9 in August 1997 to 89.4 in August 1998. Three of the five index components sent positive signals on a year-over-year basis with a lower short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, higher Hartford help-wanted advertising, and a longer average work week of manufacturing production workers. The other two components sent negative signals on a year-over-year basis with higher initial claims for unemployment insurance and lower total housing permits. ■

Source: Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut. Developed by Pami Dua [Economic Cycle Research Center; NY, NY] and Stephen M. Miller [(860) 486-3853, Storrs Campus]. Kathryn E. Parr and Hulya Varol [(860) 486-3022, Storrs Campus] provided research support.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF EMPLOYMENT

The strike at SNET of the Transportation, Public Utilities (TPU) sector contributed to a slowdown in the overall job growth in September.

EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISION

	SEP		CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)					
TOTAL NONFARM	1,639.3	1,621.7	17.6	1.1	1,649.9
Private Sector	1,413.0	1,396.5	16.5	1.2	1,424.4
Construction and Mining	60.4	58.0	2.4	4.1	59.5
Manufacturing	276.2	276.6	-0.4	-0.1	278.0
Transportation, Public Utilities	69.8	74.8	-5.0	-6.7	76.3
Wholesale, Retail Trade	358.9	355.0	3.9	1.1	360.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	135.5	131.4	4.1	3.1	135.9
Services	512.2	500.7	11.5	2.3	514.7
Government	226.3	225.2	1.1	0.5	225.5

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

The unemployment rate in September went up to 3.9 percent from August's 3.5 percent.

UNEMPLOYMENT

	SEP		CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
(Seasonally adjusted)					
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	3.9	4.9	-1.0	---	3.5
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,722.0	1,723.9	-1.9	-0.1	1,715.8
Employed (000s)	1,655.1	1,639.7	15.4	0.9	1,656.0
Unemployed (000s)	66.9	84.2	-17.3	-20.5	59.8
Average Weekly Initial Claims	5,092	3,629	1463	40.3	4,253
Help Wanted Index -- Htfd. (1987=100)	32	36	-4	-11.1	35
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	1.94	2.16	-0.22	---	2.10

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; The Conference Board

The overall output in the manufacturing sector shrank over the year, as production worker hours decreased faster than the increase in the productivity.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

	SEP		CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
(Not seasonally adjusted)					
Average Weekly Hours	42.2	43.0	-0.8	-1.9	42.4
Average Hourly Earnings	\$15.00	\$14.62	\$0.38	2.6	\$14.72
Average Weekly Earnings	\$633.00	\$628.66	\$4.34	0.7	\$624.13
Mfg. Output Index (1982=100)*	120.0	122.0	-2.0	-1.6	122.2
Production Worker Hours (000s)	6,729	6,943	-214	-3.1	6,633
Productivity Index (1982=100)*	190.4	187.6	2.8	1.5	190.2

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

*Seasonally adjusted

Personal income for first quarter 1999 is forecasted to increase 4.6 percent from a year ago.

INCOME (Quarterly)

	1Q*		CHANGE		4Q*
	1999	1998	NO.	%	1998
(Seasonally adjusted)					
(Annualized; \$ Millions)					
Personal Income	\$126,906	\$121,364	\$5,542	4.6	\$125,645
UI Covered Wages	NA	\$65,764*	---	---	\$69,273

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis; July 1998 release

*Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor

NA= Not Available

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %	YEAR TO DATE		%
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
New Housing Permits	SEP 1998	984	33.0	8,570	7,019	22.1
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	JUL 1998	2,665	2.5	16,721	16,493	1.4
Retail Sales (Bil. \$)	JUL 1998	2.81	8.9	20.77	19.29	7.7
Construction Contracts Index (1980=100)	AUG 1998	242.6	56.0	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	SEP 1998	24,688	115.0	162,775	134,736	20.8
Air Cargo Tons	AUG 1998	11,994	17.1	92,361	86,884	6.3

Housing permits were up 22.1 percent for the year through September over the same period last year. Retail sales were up 7.7 percent.

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

	SEP	% CHANGE		YEAR TO DATE		%
	1998	M/M	Y/Y	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
STARTS						
Secretary of the State	1,547	7.9	4.7	15,064	13,087	15.1
Department of Labor	715	-29.9	12.8	7,838	8,111	-3.4
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	321	-3.6	-3.3	2,910	2,783	4.6
Department of Labor	582	-32.8	-21.0	9,639	8,823	9.2

Net business formations as measured by starts minus stops recorded with the Secretary of the State were 12,154 for the year to date.

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

STATE TAX COLLECTIONS

(Millions of dollars)				FISCAL YEAR TOTALS		
	SEP 1998	SEP 1997	% CHG	1997-98	1996-97	% CHG
TOTAL ALL TAXES*	760.7	748.6	1.6	1,344.0	1,301.6	3.3
Corporate Tax	81.0	74.0	9.5	90.8	80.3	13.1
Personal Income Tax	339.4	316.8	7.1	547.0	517.9	5.6
Real Estate Conv. Tax	9.0	8.8	0.2	31.4	25.8	21.7
Sales & Use Tax	217.7	210.5	3.4	444.5	420.3	5.8

Overall tax collections were up 3.3 percent. The largest percent gains were in the corporate tax, up 13.1 percent, and the real estate conveyance tax, up 21.7 percent.

Source: Connecticut Department of Revenue Services
*Includes all sources of tax revenue; Only selected taxes are displayed.

TOURISM AND TRAVEL

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %	YEAR TO DATE		%
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
Tourism Inquiries	SEP 1998	12,444	-21.7	244,768	246,219	-0.6
Info Center Visitors	SEP 1998	79,827	16.0	477,017	442,591	7.8
Major Attraction Visitors	SEP 1998	92,326	22.6	1,614,642	1,425,663	13.3
Hotel-Motel Occupancy	SEP 1998	81.5	1.7	74.4	74.7	-0.4
Air Passenger Count	AUG 1998	510,673	4.8	3,715,118	3,634,886	2.2

Major attraction visitors were up 13.3 percent for the year-to-date through September. Welcome center visitors were also up 7.8 percent.

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

Compensation costs for the nation rose 3.8 percent over the year, while the Northeast's increased by 3.5 percent.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX (Quarterly)

Private Industry Workers (June 1989=100)	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	SEP	JUN	3-Mo	SEP	SEP	12-Mo
	1998	1998	% Chg	1998	1997	% Chg
UNITED STATES TOTAL	138.7	137.2	1.1	139.0	133.9	3.8
Wages and Salaries	136.6	134.9	1.3	136.6	131.0	4.3
Benefit Costs	144.2	143.2	0.7	144.5	140.8	2.6
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	138.7	134.0	3.5
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	135.4	130.7	3.6

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

The U.S. inflation rate in September was 1.5 percent from a year ago, with a 2.6 percent increase in the Boston index. Consumer confidence fell to 117.3 in New England and 126.0 in the U.S., down significantly from their year-ago levels.

CONSUMER NEWS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	SEP	AUG	SEP	% CHG	
	1998	1998	1997	M/M	Y/Y
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1982-1984=100)					
<i>All Urban Consumers</i>					
U.S. City Average	163.6	163.4	161.2	0.1	1.5
Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar: (1982-84=\$1.00)	\$0.611	\$0.612	\$0.620	-0.1	-1.5
Northeast Region	170.6	170.5	168.4	0.1	1.3
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	174.4	174.2	171.7	0.1	1.6
Boston-Brockton-Nashua*	172.1	---	167.8		2.6
<i>Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers</i>					
U.S. City Average	160.2	160.0	158.3	0.1	1.2
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE (1985=100)					
U.S.	126.0	133.1	130.2	-5.3	-3.2
New England	117.3	128.6	126.9	-8.8	-7.6

*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 lower including the falling prime rate and a 6.72 percent 30-year conventional mortgage rate.

INTEREST RATES

(Percent)	SEP	AUG	SEP
	1998	1998	1997
Prime	8.49	8.50	8.50
Federal Funds	5.51	5.55	5.54
3 Month Treasury Bill	4.74	4.94	4.97
6 Month Treasury Bill	4.75	4.97	5.11
1 Year Treasury Bill	4.71	5.21	5.52
3 Year Treasury Note	4.62	5.24	5.98
5 Year Treasury Note	4.62	5.27	6.11
7 Year Treasury Note	4.76	5.36	6.20
10 Year Treasury Note	4.81	5.34	6.21
30 Year Treasury Bond	5.20	5.54	6.50
Conventional Mortgage	6.72	6.92	7.43

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

COMPARATIVE REGIONAL DATA

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
Connecticut	1,639.3	1,621.7	17.6	1.1	1,649.9
Maine	567.7	557.1	10.6	1.9	564.9
Massachusetts	3,210.7	3,134.4	76.3	2.4	3,208.9
New Hampshire	566.8	570.5	-3.7	-0.6	570.4
New Jersey	3,811.4	3,746.9	64.5	1.7	3,804.0
New York	8,185.9	8,057.7	128.2	1.6	8,166.8
Pennsylvania	5,478.5	5,421.7	56.8	1.0	5,460.8
Rhode Island	455.8	452.3	3.5	0.8	453.4
Vermont	283.9	279.4	4.5	1.6	283.9
United States	126,247.0	123,280.0	2,967.0	2.4	126,178.0

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

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

LABOR FORCE

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
Connecticut	1,722.0	1,723.9	-1.9	-0.1	1,715.8
Maine	649.4	656.4	-7.0	-1.1	654.1
Massachusetts	3,265.1	3,269.1	-4.0	-0.1	3,251.6
New Hampshire	647.3	648.3	-1.0	-0.2	647.8
New Jersey	4,190.2	4,197.0	-6.8	-0.2	4,184.2
New York	8,793.5	8,825.2	-31.7	-0.4	8,769.7
Pennsylvania	5,947.2	5,989.1	-41.9	-0.7	5,972.5
Rhode Island	502.8	507.1	-4.3	-0.8	499.6
Vermont	331.1	326.4	4.7	1.4	332.9
United States	138,075.0	136,439.0	1,636.0	1.2	137,415.0

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

Eight of the nine states in the region posted declines in the labor force from last year.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

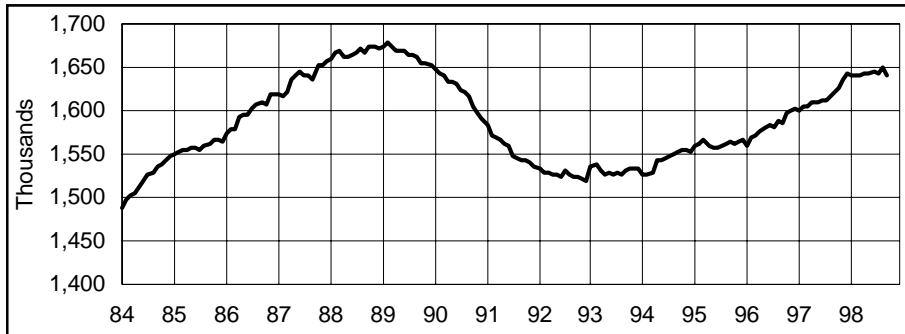
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997			1998
Connecticut	3.9	4.9	-1.0		3.5
Maine	4.3	5.4	-1.1		4.4
Massachusetts	3.3	4.0	-0.7		3.0
New Hampshire	2.4	3.0	-0.6		2.1
New Jersey	4.8	5.1	-0.3		4.8
New York	5.5	6.4	-0.9		5.3
Pennsylvania	4.5	5.1	-0.6		4.4
Rhode Island	4.9	5.2	-0.3		4.8
Vermont	3.2	3.9	-0.7		2.9
United States	4.6	4.9	-0.3		4.5

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

Maine experienced the largest unemployment rate drop in the region from a year ago.

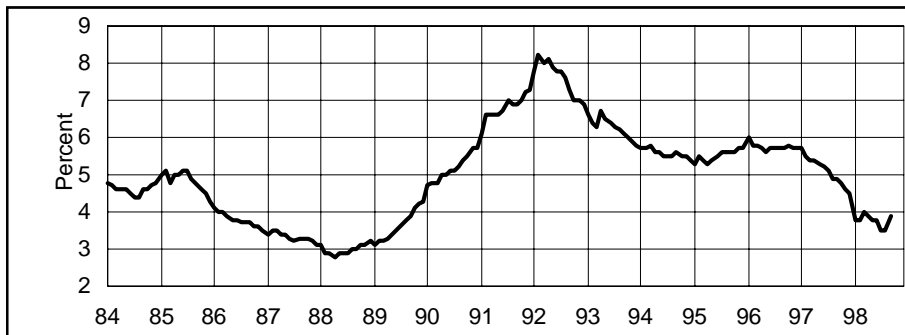
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



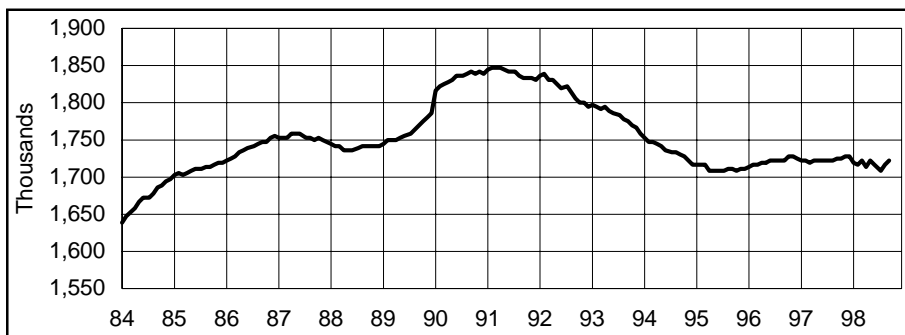
Month	1996	1997	1998
Jan	1,560.2	1,600.5	1,639.6
Feb	1,570.2	1,603.9	1,641.2
Mar	1,571.3	1,605.6	1,639.6
Apr	1,576.8	1,608.8	1,641.9
May	1,581.5	1,609.3	1,641.8
Jun	1,583.9	1,611.1	1,644.9
Jul	1,580.7	1,611.9	1,643.8
Aug	1,588.9	1,616.1	1,649.9
Sep	1,586.7	1,621.7	1,639.3
Oct	1,598.2	1,627.2	
Nov	1,600.4	1,634.6	
Dec	1,601.9	1,642.6	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



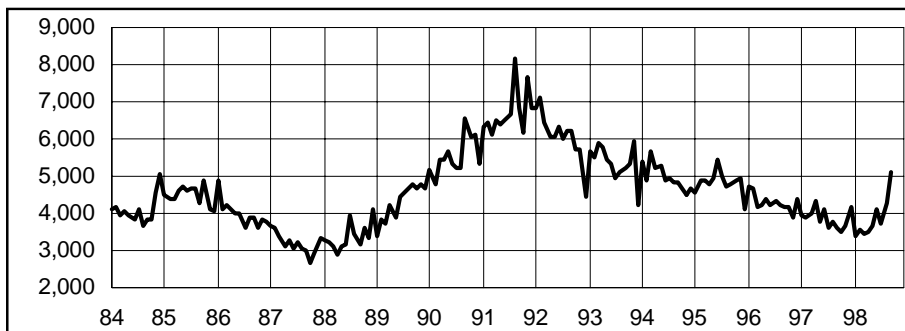
Month	1996	1997	1998
Jan	6.0	5.7	3.8
Feb	5.8	5.5	3.8
Mar	5.8	5.4	4.0
Apr	5.7	5.4	3.9
May	5.6	5.3	3.8
Jun	5.7	5.2	3.8
Jul	5.7	5.1	3.5
Aug	5.7	4.9	3.5
Sep	5.7	4.9	3.9
Oct	5.8	4.8	
Nov	5.7	4.6	
Dec	5.7	4.5	

LABOR FORCE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1996	1997	1998
Jan	1,714.4	1,723.6	1,720.0
Feb	1,717.2	1,720.8	1,716.8
Mar	1,717.7	1,720.5	1,722.4
Apr	1,718.5	1,722.2	1,714.9
May	1,719.2	1,721.0	1,721.1
Jun	1,721.5	1,721.7	1,718.0
Jul	1,721.0	1,722.0	1,709.3
Aug	1,722.4	1,722.9	1,715.8
Sep	1,722.0	1,723.9	1,722.0
Oct	1,727.1	1,725.7	
Nov	1,726.9	1,726.6	
Dec	1,726.1	1,728.2	

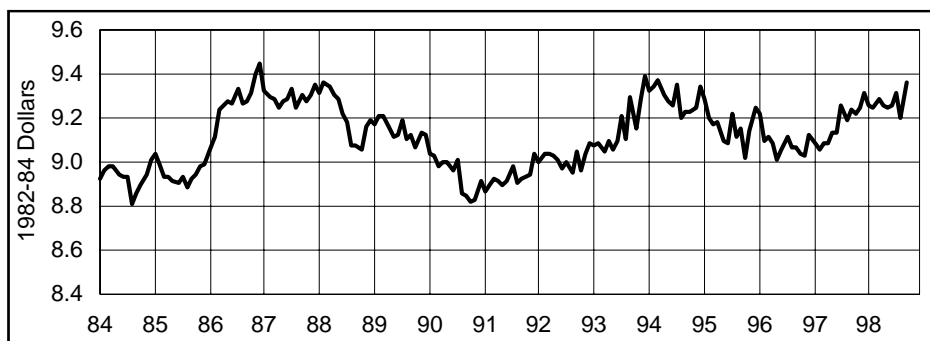
AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1996	1997	1998
Jan	4,702	3,946	3,386
Feb	4,666	3,903	3,578
Mar	4,192	4,012	3,444
Apr	4,250	4,326	3,493
May	4,374	3,768	3,677
Jun	4,211	4,100	4,093
Jul	4,355	3,621	3,703
Aug	4,223	3,799	4,253
Sep	4,194	3,629	5,092
Oct	4,193	3,503	
Nov	3,881	3,670	
Dec	4,383	4,178	

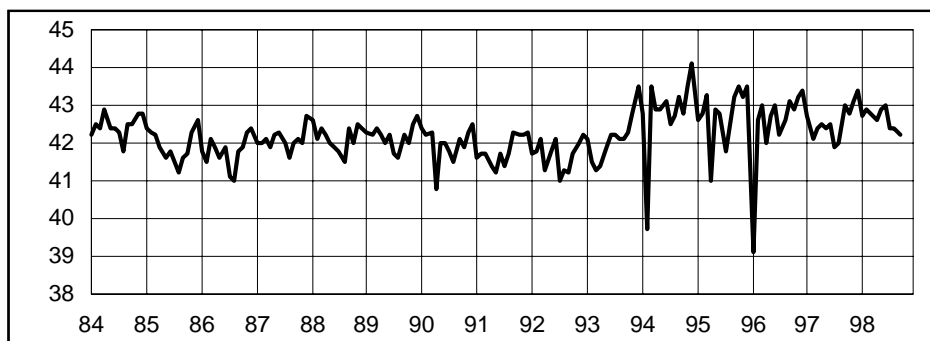
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

REAL AVG MANUFACTURING HOURLY EARNINGS (Not seasonally adjusted)



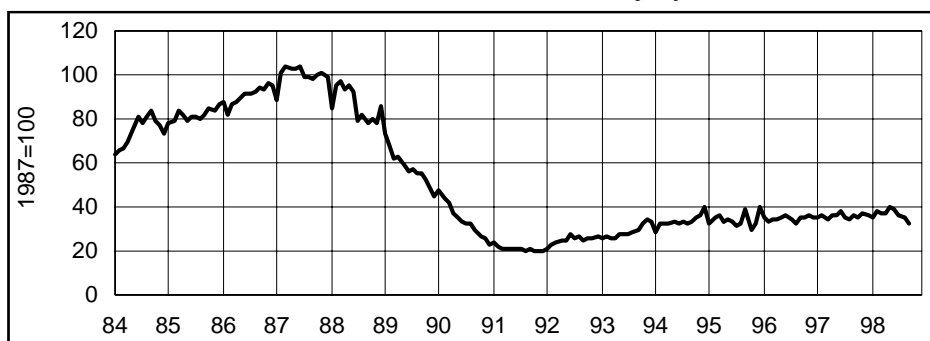
Month	1996	1997	1998
Jan	\$9.22	\$9.09	\$9.26
Feb	9.10	9.06	9.25
Mar	9.12	9.08	9.29
Apr	9.09	9.09	9.26
May	9.01	9.13	9.25
Jun	9.06	9.14	9.26
Jul	9.12	9.26	9.32
Aug	9.07	9.19	9.20
Sep	9.07	9.24	9.36
Oct	9.04	9.22	
Nov	9.03	9.25	
Dec	9.12	9.32	

AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS (Not seasonally adjusted)



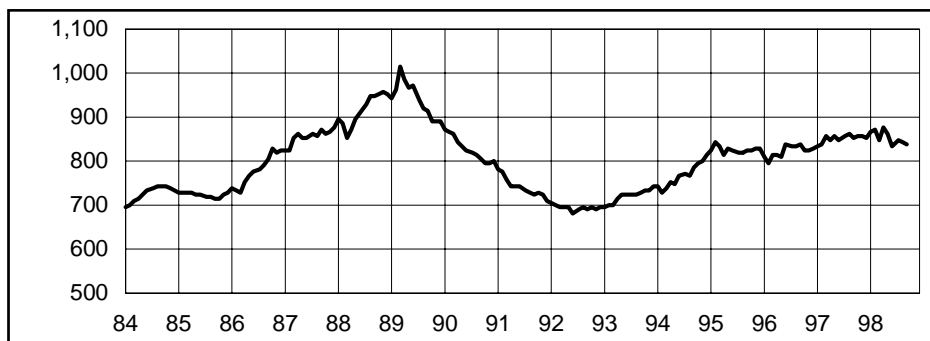
Month	1996	1997	1998
Jan	39.1	42.7	42.7
Feb	42.6	42.1	42.9
Mar	43.0	42.4	42.7
Apr	42.0	42.5	42.6
May	42.7	42.4	42.9
Jun	43.0	42.5	43.0
Jul	42.2	41.9	42.4
Aug	42.6	42.0	42.4
Sep	43.1	43.0	42.2
Oct	42.9	42.8	
Nov	43.2	43.1	
Dec	43.4	43.4	

HARTFORD HELP WANTED INDEX (Seasonally adjusted)



Month	1996	1997	1998
Jan	35	35	35
Feb	33	36	38
Mar	34	34	37
Apr	34	36	37
May	35	36	40
Jun	36	38	39
Jul	34	35	36
Aug	32	34	35
Sep	35	36	32
Oct	35	35	
Nov	36	37	
Dec	35	36	

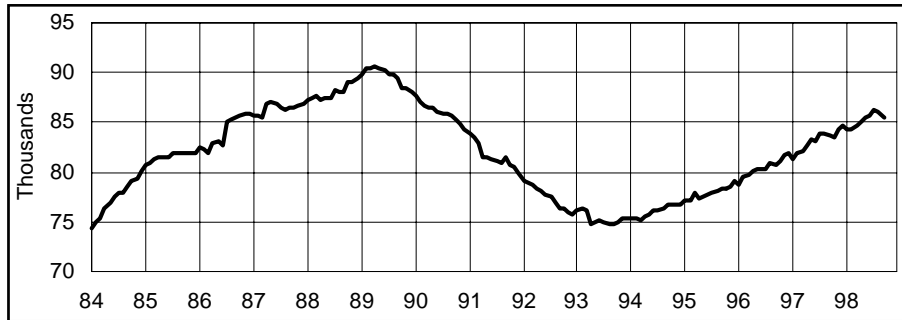
DOL NEWLY REGISTERED EMPLOYERS (12-month moving average)



Month	1996	1997	1998
Jan	810	833	868
Feb	794	840	870
Mar	812	856	846
Apr	813	849	878
May	811	856	861
Jun	838	848	836
Jul	833	856	849
Aug	833	862	841
Sep	838	854	838
Oct	825	859	
Nov	825	859	
Dec	828	852	

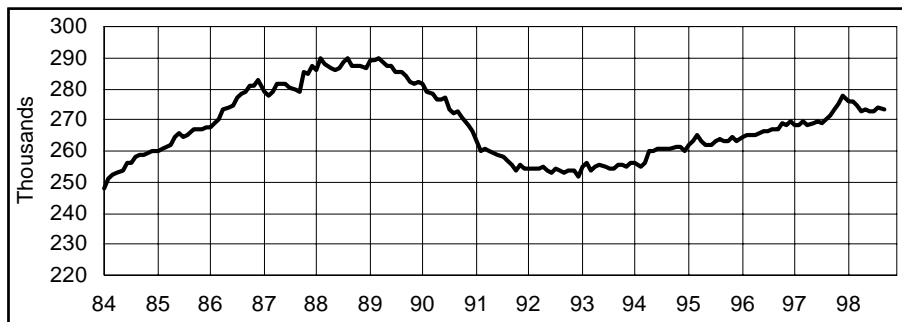
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

WHOLESALE TRADE EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



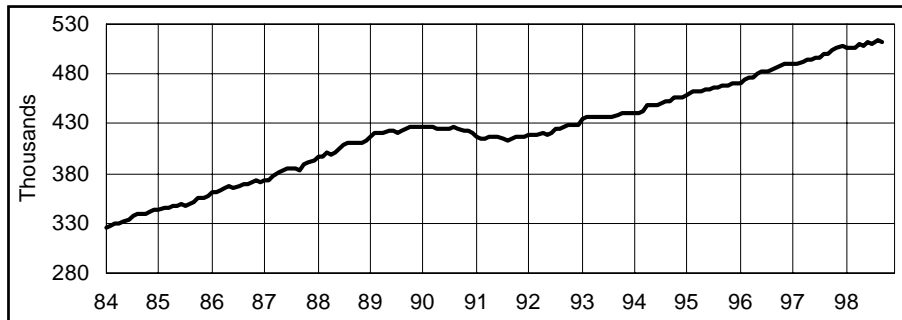
Month	1996	1997	1998
Jan	78.7	81.4	84.2
Feb	79.5	82.0	84.2
Mar	79.8	82.2	84.7
Apr	80.2	82.7	85.0
May	80.3	83.2	85.4
Jun	80.3	83.1	85.6
Jul	80.4	83.8	86.3
Aug	80.9	83.9	86.0
Sep	80.8	83.7	85.4
Oct	81.1	83.4	
Nov	81.7	84.2	
Dec	81.9	84.7	

RETAIL TRADE EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



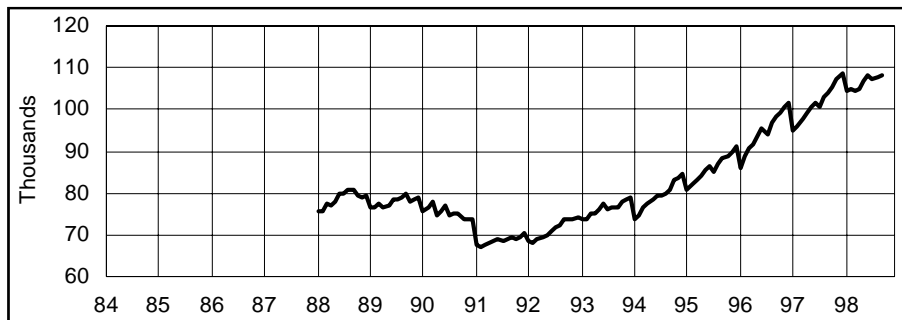
Month	1996	1997	1998
Jan	264.2	268.4	276.0
Feb	264.8	268.3	275.7
Mar	265.0	269.5	274.3
Apr	265.1	268.5	272.9
May	265.7	269.0	273.4
Jun	266.4	269.6	272.8
Jul	266.3	268.9	272.8
Aug	267.3	270.0	274.0
Sep	267.3	271.3	273.5
Oct	268.7	273.2	
Nov	268.5	275.4	
Dec	269.4	277.6	

TOTAL SERVICES EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1996	1997	1998
Jan	470.8	490.5	506.6
Feb	474.3	490.6	506.9
Mar	475.7	491.6	505.4
Apr	477.3	493.6	509.3
May	480.8	493.6	509.0
Jun	482.2	495.7	512.9
Jul	481.5	495.4	511.1
Aug	484.9	500.8	514.7
Sep	486.1	500.7	512.2
Oct	488.1	503.5	
Nov	490.0	506.4	
Dec	490.7	508.7	

BUSINESS SERVICES EMPLOYMENT *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1996	1997	1998
Jan	86.2	95.1	104.2
Feb	88.8	96.1	104.9
Mar	90.9	97.6	104.3
Apr	91.5	99.4	105.1
May	93.4	100.4	106.6
Jun	95.3	101.6	108.1
Jul	93.9	100.7	107.3
Aug	96.9	103.0	107.7
Sep	98.2	104.1	108.3
Oct	99.0	105.5	
Nov	100.7	107.4	
Dec	101.7	108.5	

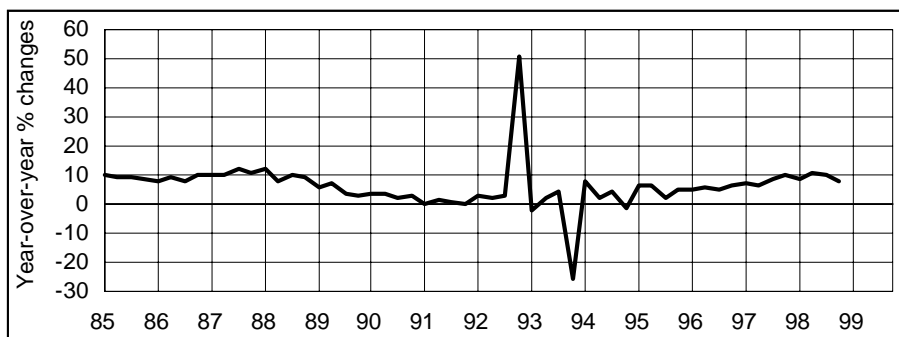
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

PERSONAL INCOME *(Seasonally adjusted)*



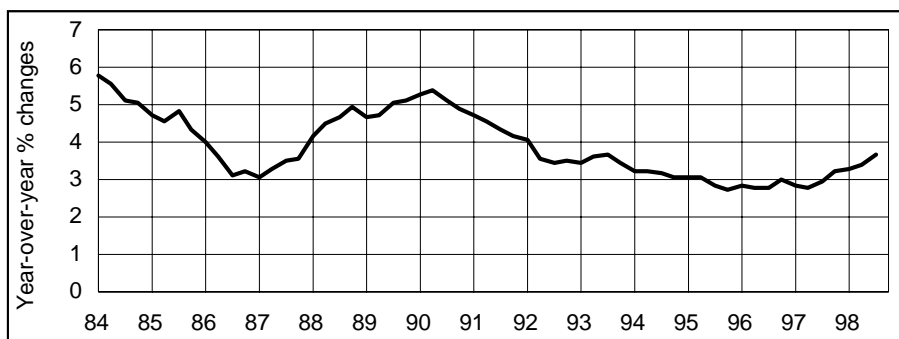
Quarter	1997	1998	1999
First	6.9	5.0	4.6
Second	6.3	4.9	
Third	5.7	4.5	
Fourth	6.5	4.6	

UI COVERED WAGES *(Seasonally adjusted)*



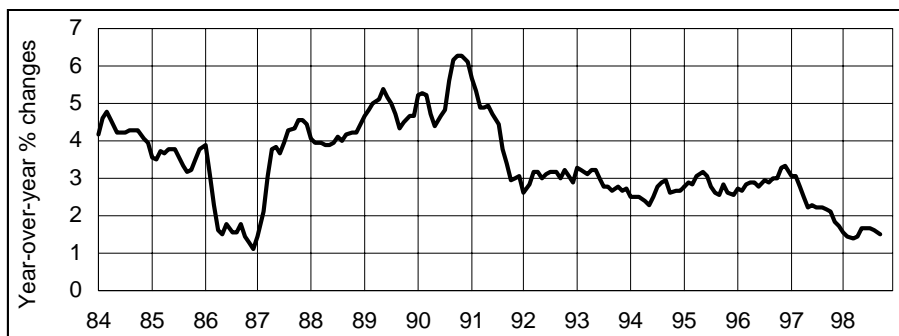
Quarter	1997	1998	1999
First	7.4	8.7	
Second	6.3	10.9	
Third	8.6	10.3	
Fourth	9.9	7.7	

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



Quarter	1996	1997	1998
First	2.8	2.8	3.3
Second	2.8	2.8	3.4
Third	2.8	2.9	3.7
Fourth	3.0	3.2	

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



Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	2.7	3.0	1.6
Feb	2.7	3.0	1.4
Mar	2.8	2.8	1.4
Apr	2.9	2.5	1.4
May	2.9	2.2	1.7
Jun	2.8	2.3	1.7
Jul	3.0	2.2	1.7
Aug	2.9	2.2	1.6
Sep	3.0	2.2	1.5
Oct	3.0	2.1	
Nov	3.3	1.8	
Dec	3.3	1.7	

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

CONNECTICUT



Not Seasonally Adjusted

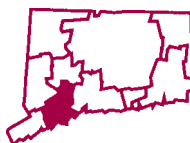
	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	1,648,500 *	1,630,400	18,100	1.1	1,635,800
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	340,700	338,600	2,100	0.6	340,200
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	64,200	61,600	2,600	4.2	65,000
MANUFACTURING	276,500	277,000	-500	-0.2	275,200
Durable	193,300	193,800	-500	-0.3	192,500
Lumber & Furniture	5,200	5,200	0	0.0	5,200
Stone, Clay & Glass	3,000	3,000	0	0.0	3,000
Primary Metals	9,000	9,100	-100	-1.1	8,900
Fabricated Metals	34,800	34,400	400	1.2	34,200
Machinery & Computer Equipment	34,700	34,600	100	0.3	34,500
Electronic & Electrical Equipment	29,000	28,800	200	0.7	29,000
Transportation Equipment	49,100	49,900	-800	-1.6	49,200
Instruments	22,000	22,400	-400	-1.8	22,000
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6,500	6,400	100	1.6	6,500
Nondurable	83,200	83,200	0	0.0	82,700
Food	8,600	8,600	0	0.0	8,500
Textiles	2,100	2,200	-100	-4.5	2,100
Apparel	4,700	4,700	0	0.0	4,700
Paper	7,900	8,000	-100	-1.3	7,900
Printing & Publishing	25,800	25,600	200	0.8	25,600
Chemicals	21,200	21,200	0	0.0	21,200
Rubber & Plastics	10,800	10,900	-100	-0.9	10,600
Other Nondurable Manufacturing	2,100	2,000	100	5.0	2,100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	1,307,800 *	1,291,800	16,000	1.2	1,295,600
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	70,700 *	75,600	-4,900	-6.5	74,700
Transportation	44,500	44,300	200	0.5	42,300
Motor Freight & Warehousing	11,600	11,800	-200	-1.7	11,700
Other Transportation	32,900	32,500	400	1.2	30,600
Communications	14,000 *	19,000	-5,000	-26.3	20,200
Utilities	12,200	12,300	-100	-0.8	12,200
TRADE	360,200	356,200	4,000	1.1	360,100
Wholesale	85,600	83,800	1,800	2.1	85,900
Retail	274,600	272,400	2,200	0.8	274,200
General Merchandise	27,700	28,100	-400	-1.4	27,200
Food Stores	52,800	51,900	900	1.7	53,100
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	26,700	27,200	-500	-1.8	26,800
Restaurants	79,000	79,000	0	0.0	79,500
Other Retail Trade	88,400	86,200	2,200	2.6	87,600
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	135,600	131,600	4,000	3.0	137,100
Finance	48,900	46,000	2,900	6.3	49,500
Banking	23,900	23,500	400	1.7	24,200
Insurance	70,400	69,700	700	1.0	71,100
Insurance Carriers	59,200	58,800	400	0.7	59,800
Real Estate	16,300	15,900	400	2.5	16,500
SERVICES	515,300	503,600	11,700	2.3	514,200
Hotels & Lodging Places	11,300	10,700	600	5.6	11,900
Personal Services	17,800	17,900	-100	-0.6	17,400
Business Services	108,300	104,100	4,200	4.0	107,700
Health Services	158,200	157,500	700	0.4	157,900
Legal & Engineering Services	53,600	51,900	1,700	3.3	53,900
Educational Services	42,800	41,700	1,100	2.6	37,300
Other Services	123,300	119,800	3,500	2.9	128,100
GOVERNMENT	226,000	224,800	1,200	0.5	209,500
Federal	22,200	22,500	-300	-1.3	22,400
**State, Local & Other Government	203,800	202,300	1,500	0.7	187,100

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1997.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

BRIDGEPORT LMA

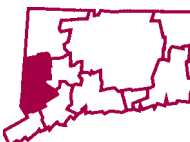


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	182,800 *	183,400	-600	-0.3	180,300
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	46,500	46,900	-400	-0.9	46,300
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	7,000	6,900	100	1.4	7,000
MANUFACTURING	39,500	40,000	-500	-1.3	39,300
Durable Goods	32,400	32,700	-300	-0.9	32,300
Fabricated Metals	4,400	4,300	100	2.3	4,300
Industrial Machinery	6,300	6,400	-100	-1.6	6,300
Electronic Equipment	6,600	6,600	0	0.0	6,600
Transportation Equipment	8,800	9,000	-200	-2.2	8,800
Nondurable Goods	7,100	7,300	-200	-2.7	7,000
Printing & Publishing	2,100	2,100	0	0.0	2,100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	136,300 *	136,500	-200	-0.1	134,000
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	6,500 *	7,100	-600	-8.5	6,800
TRADE	41,400	40,900	500	1.2	41,000
Wholesale	9,700	9,800	-100	-1.0	9,800
Retail	31,700	31,100	600	1.9	31,200
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	10,300	10,400	-100	-1.0	10,300
SERVICES	57,500	57,400	100	0.2	57,100
Business Services	14,100	13,700	400	2.9	13,900
Health Services	19,100	19,300	-200	-1.0	19,000
GOVERNMENT	20,600	20,700	-100	-0.5	18,800
Federal	2,200	2,200	0	0.0	2,200
State & Local	18,400	18,500	-100	-0.5	16,600

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

DANBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	86,700 *	86,100	600	0.7	86,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	22,200	22,400	-200	-0.9	22,300
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	3,900	3,600	300	8.3	3,900
MANUFACTURING	18,300	18,800	-500	-2.7	18,400
Durable Goods	9,800	9,700	100	1.0	9,800
Machinery & Electric Equipment	4,700	4,700	0	0.0	4,800
Instruments	2,800	2,700	100	3.7	2,700
Nondurable Goods	8,500	9,100	-600	-6.6	8,600
Printing & Publishing	2,500	2,600	-100	-3.8	2,500
Chemicals	3,400	3,500	-100	-2.9	3,400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	64,500 *	63,700	800	1.3	64,100
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	2,500 *	2,500	0	0.0	2,300
TRADE	21,700	22,100	-400	-1.8	22,000
Wholesale	4,000	3,900	100	2.6	4,100
Retail	17,700	18,200	-500	-2.7	17,900
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	5,000	4,600	400	8.7	5,000
SERVICES	25,500	24,500	1,000	4.1	25,800
GOVERNMENT	9,800	10,000	-200	-2.0	9,000
Federal	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local	9,000	9,200	-200	-2.2	8,200

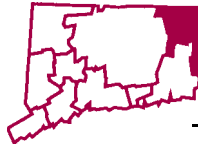
For further information on the Danbury Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 566-3472.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1997.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

DANIELSON LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	20,700	20,300	400	2.0	20,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	7,100	6,900	200	2.9	7,000
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	1,000	900	100	11.1	1,000
MANUFACTURING	6,100	6,000	100	1.7	6,000
Durable Goods	2,600	2,700	-100	-3.7	2,600
Nondurable Goods	3,500	3,300	200	6.1	3,400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	13,600	13,400	200	1.5	13,400
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	500	500	0	0.0	500
TRADE	4,600	4,600	0	0.0	4,700
Wholesale	700	700	0	0.0	700
Retail	3,900	3,900	0	0.0	4,000
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	600	600	0	0.0	600
SERVICES	4,800	4,700	100	2.1	4,800
GOVERNMENT	3,100	3,000	100	3.3	2,800
Federal	100	100	0	0.0	100
State & Local	3,000	2,900	100	3.4	2,700

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

HARTFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	600,800 *	598,300	2,500	0.4	593,000
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	114,700	113,700	1,000	0.9	113,900
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	20,200	20,600	-400	-1.9	20,400
MANUFACTURING	94,500	93,100	1,400	1.5	93,500
Durable Goods	75,000	73,700	1,300	1.8	74,500
Primary & Fabricated Metals	18,300	18,100	200	1.1	17,900
Industrial Machinery	14,500	14,600	-100	-0.7	14,300
Electronic Equipment	6,000	6,300	-300	-4.8	6,200
Transportation Equipment	27,700	26,400	1,300	4.9	27,700
Nondurable Goods	19,500	19,400	100	0.5	19,000
Printing & Publishing	7,700	7,800	-100	-1.3	7,500
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	486,100 *	484,600	1,500	0.3	479,100
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	26,000 *	27,000	-1,000	-3.7	25,600
Transportation	15,700	16,100	-400	-2.5	14,400
Communications & Utilities	10,300 *	10,900	-600	-5.5	11,200
TRADE	123,700	124,900	-1,200	-1.0	122,700
Wholesale	30,500	30,700	-200	-0.7	30,500
Retail	93,200	94,200	-1,000	-1.1	92,200
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	69,100	68,600	500	0.7	69,100
Deposit & Nondeposit Institutions	9,600	9,300	300	3.2	9,700
Insurance Carriers	46,600	46,700	-100	-0.2	46,400
SERVICES	173,300	171,400	1,900	1.1	172,700
Business Services	32,000	32,100	-100	-0.3	31,700
Health Services	60,100	59,800	300	0.5	60,000
GOVERNMENT	94,000	92,700	1,300	1.4	89,000
Federal	7,900	8,000	-100	-1.3	8,000
State & Local	86,100	84,700	1,400	1.7	81,000

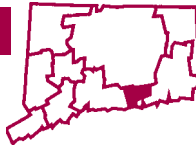
For further information on the Hartford Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 566-3472.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1997.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

LOWER RIVER LMA

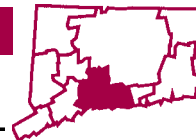


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	10,000	9,900	100	1.0	10,100
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	3,500	3,500	0	0.0	3,400
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	400	400	0	0.0	300
MANUFACTURING	3,100	3,100	0	0.0	3,100
Durable Goods	2,400	2,400	0	0.0	2,400
Electronic Equipment	800	800	0	0.0	800
Other Durable Goods	1,600	1,600	0	0.0	1,600
Nondurable Goods	700	700	0	0.0	700
Rubber & Plastics	300	300	0	0.0	300
Other Nondurable Goods	400	400	0	0.0	400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	6,500	6,400	100	1.6	6,700
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	400	400	0	0.0	500
TRADE	2,300	2,100	200	9.5	2,300
Wholesale	400	400	0	0.0	400
Retail	1,900	1,700	200	11.8	1,900
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	400	400	0	0.0	400
SERVICES	2,500	2,600	-100	-3.8	2,600
GOVERNMENT	900	900	0	0.0	900
Federal	0	0	0	0.0	0
State & Local	900	900	0	0.0	900

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

NEW HAVEN LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	246,800 *	249,800	-3,000	-1.2	247,300
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	48,700	49,500	-800	-1.6	48,600
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	9,900	10,000	-100	-1.0	10,100
MANUFACTURING	38,800	39,500	-700	-1.8	38,500
Durable Goods	24,300	24,800	-500	-2.0	24,200
Primary & Fabricated Metals	6,600	6,700	-100	-1.5	6,500
Electronic Equipment	5,200	5,000	200	4.0	5,100
Nondurable Goods	14,500	14,700	-200	-1.4	14,300
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,200	5,200	0	0.0	5,000
Chemicals & Allied	6,200	6,000	200	3.3	6,200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	198,100 *	200,300	-2,200	-1.1	198,700
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	13,500 *	16,100	-2,600	-16.1	16,100
Communications & Utilities	6,100 *	8,800	-2,700	-30.7	9,100
TRADE	52,600	52,600	0	0.0	53,200
Wholesale	13,200	12,900	300	2.3	13,200
Retail	39,400	39,700	-300	-0.8	40,000
Eating & Drinking Places	10,900	11,200	-300	-2.7	11,300
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	12,800	13,000	-200	-1.5	13,000
Finance	3,700	3,900	-200	-5.1	3,800
Insurance	7,100	7,000	100	1.4	7,200
SERVICES	88,800	88,300	500	0.6	86,600
Business Services	12,000	12,800	-800	-6.3	12,000
Health Services	29,000	28,900	100	0.3	29,100
GOVERNMENT	30,400	30,300	100	0.3	29,800
Federal	5,300	5,500	-200	-3.6	5,300
State & Local	25,100	24,800	300	1.2	24,500

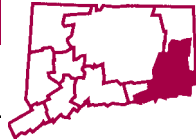
For further information on the New Haven Labor Market Area contact J. Charles Joo at (860) 566-3470.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1997.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

NEW LONDON LMA

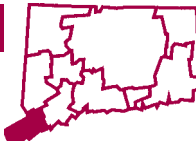


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	139,500 *	138,000	1,500	1.1	141,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	29,100	29,200	-100	-0.3	29,300
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	4,900	4,700	200	4.3	4,900
MANUFACTURING	24,200	24,500	-300	-1.2	24,400
Durable Goods	14,400	14,900	-500	-3.4	14,500
Primary & Fabricated Metals	2,300	2,200	100	4.5	2,300
Other Durable Goods	12,100	12,700	-600	-4.7	12,200
Nondurable Goods	9,800	9,600	200	2.1	9,900
Paper & Allied	1,000	1,000	0	0.0	1,000
Other Nondurable Goods	7,500	7,200	300	4.2	7,600
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	110,400 *	108,800	1,600	1.5	112,100
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	6,200 *	6,400	-200	-3.1	6,600
TRADE	28,700	28,600	100	0.3	29,400
Wholesale	2,800	2,700	100	3.7	2,800
Retail	25,900	25,900	0	0.0	26,600
Eating & Drinking Places	8,300	8,300	0	0.0	9,000
Other Retail	17,600	17,600	0	0.0	17,600
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3,900	3,700	200	5.4	4,000
SERVICES	35,100	34,500	600	1.7	35,500
Personal & Business Services	6,400	6,400	0	0.0	6,500
Health Services	11,700	11,400	300	2.6	11,700
GOVERNMENT	36,500	35,600	900	2.5	36,600
Federal	2,700	2,800	-100	-3.6	2,700
State & Local	33,800	32,800	1,000	3.0	33,900
**Local	30,100	29,000	1,100	3.8	30,200

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

STAMFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	208,400 *	205,000	3,400	1.7	210,000
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	32,500	34,200	-1,700	-5.0	32,900
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	5,900	6,000	-100	-1.7	6,100
MANUFACTURING	26,600	28,200	-1,600	-5.7	26,800
Durable Goods	14,100	14,600	-500	-3.4	14,100
Industrial Machinery	3,700	3,700	0	0.0	3,700
Electronic Equipment	2,500	2,500	0	0.0	2,500
Nondurable Goods	12,500	13,600	-1,100	-8.1	12,700
Paper, Printing & Publishing	6,100	6,400	-300	-4.7	6,200
Chemicals & Allied	3,000	3,400	-400	-11.8	3,100
Other Nondurable	3,400	3,800	-400	-10.5	3,400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	175,900 *	170,800	5,100	3.0	177,100
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	9,900 *	10,200	-300	-2.9	10,000
Communications & Utilities	2,800 *	3,000	-200	-6.7	3,000
TRADE	46,500	45,700	800	1.8	46,900
Wholesale	12,100	12,200	-100	-0.8	12,200
Retail	34,400	33,500	900	2.7	34,700
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	26,300	24,000	2,300	9.6	26,500
SERVICES	75,400	73,100	2,300	3.1	76,600
Business Services	23,000	22,000	1,000	4.5	23,200
Engineering & Mgmt. Services	10,800	10,200	600	5.9	10,900
Other Services	41,600	40,900	700	1.7	42,500
GOVERNMENT	17,800	17,800	0	0.0	17,100
Federal	1,900	1,900	0	0.0	1,900
State & Local	15,900	15,900	0	0.0	15,200

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

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1997.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

TORRINGTON LMA

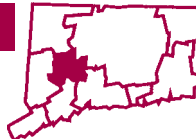


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	28,700 *	28,800	-100	-0.3	28,800
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	8,500	8,600	-100	-1.2	8,500
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	2,200	2,200	0	0.0	2,300
MANUFACTURING	6,300	6,400	-100	-1.6	6,200
Durable Goods	4,400	4,400	0	0.0	4,300
Primary & Fabricated Metals	500	500	0	0.0	500
Industrial Machinery	1,200	1,200	0	0.0	1,200
Electronic Equipment	600	500	100	20.0	500
Other Durable Goods	2,100	2,200	-100	-4.5	2,100
Nondurable Goods	1,900	2,000	-100	-5.0	1,900
Rubber & Plastics	900	1,000	-100	-10.0	900
Other Nondurable Goods	1,000	1,000	0	0.0	1,000
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	20,200 *	20,200	0	0.0	20,300
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	400 *	600	-200	-33.3	500
TRADE	6,400	6,200	200	3.2	6,400
Wholesale	600	700	-100	-14.3	600
Retail	5,800	5,500	300	5.5	5,800
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	900	900	0	0.0	900
SERVICES	9,200	9,100	100	1.1	9,200
GOVERNMENT	3,300	3,400	-100	-2.9	3,300
Federal	200	200	0	0.0	200
State & Local	3,100	3,200	-100	-3.1	3,100

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

WATERBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
	1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	88,900 *	87,800	1,100	1.3	88,500
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	22,700	22,400	300	1.3	22,600
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	3,800	3,400	400	11.8	3,700
MANUFACTURING	18,900	19,000	-100	-0.5	18,900
Durable Goods	14,900	14,700	200	1.4	14,900
Primary Metals	800	700	100	14.3	700
Fabricated Metals	6,800	6,500	300	4.6	6,700
Machinery & Electric Equipment	4,900	4,900	0	0.0	5,000
Nondurable Goods	4,000	4,300	-300	-7.0	4,000
Paper, Printing & Publishing	1,300	1,300	0	0.0	1,300
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	66,200 *	65,400	800	1.2	65,900
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	3,300 *	3,600	-300	-8.3	3,600
TRADE	19,300	18,600	700	3.8	18,700
Wholesale	3,000	3,100	-100	-3.2	2,900
Retail	16,300	15,500	800	5.2	15,800
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4,200	4,300	-100	-2.3	4,300
SERVICES	27,100	26,800	300	1.1	27,200
Personal & Business	7,700	7,100	600	8.5	7,500
Health Services	10,100	10,300	-200	-1.9	10,200
GOVERNMENT	12,300	12,100	200	1.7	12,100
Federal	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local	11,500	11,300	200	1.8	11,300

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

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1997.

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

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	SEP	SEP	CHANGE		AUG
		1998	1997	NO.	%	1998
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,707,600	1,709,200	-1,600	-0.1	1,747,000
	Employed	1,651,800	1,636,700	15,100	0.9	1,685,800
	Unemployed	55,900	72,500	-16,600	-22.9	61,200
	Unemployment Rate	3.3	4.2	-0.9	---	3.5
BRIDGEPORT LMA	Civilian Labor Force	214,700	216,700	-2,000	-0.9	218,700
	Employed	206,300	205,700	600	0.3	208,900
	Unemployed	8,500	11,000	-2,500	-22.7	9,800
	Unemployment Rate	3.9	5.1	-1.2	---	4.5
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	108,400	107,700	700	0.6	111,500
	Employed	106,100	104,700	1,400	1.3	108,600
	Unemployed	2,400	3,000	-600	-20.0	2,900
	Unemployment Rate	2.2	2.8	-0.6	---	2.6
DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	33,200	33,400	-200	-0.6	33,700
	Employed	31,800	31,400	400	1.3	32,300
	Unemployed	1,400	2,000	-600	-30.0	1,400
	Unemployment Rate	4.2	5.9	-1.6	---	4.3
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	579,500	581,200	-1,700	-0.3	589,500
	Employed	559,900	555,600	4,300	0.8	568,300
	Unemployed	19,600	25,700	-6,100	-23.7	21,200
	Unemployment Rate	3.4	4.4	-1.0	---	3.6
LOWER RIVER LMA	Civilian Labor Force	12,600	12,500	100	0.8	13,100
	Employed	12,200	12,100	100	0.8	12,700
	Unemployed	300	400	-100	-25.0	300
	Unemployment Rate	2.7	3.2	-0.5	---	2.7
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	267,500	269,400	-1,900	-0.7	272,200
	Employed	258,400	257,700	700	0.3	262,600
	Unemployed	9,000	11,700	-2,700	-23.1	9,600
	Unemployment Rate	3.4	4.3	-0.9	---	3.5
NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	154,700	154,400	300	0.2	160,600
	Employed	149,000	146,900	2,100	1.4	154,500
	Unemployed	5,700	7,500	-1,800	-24.0	6,100
	Unemployment Rate	3.7	4.9	-1.2	---	3.8
STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	195,800	193,600	2,200	1.1	202,700
	Employed	191,600	188,300	3,300	1.8	198,200
	Unemployed	4,200	5,300	-1,100	-20.8	4,500
	Unemployment Rate	2.2	2.8	-0.6	---	2.2
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	38,500	38,400	100	0.3	39,800
	Employed	37,600	37,300	300	0.8	38,800
	Unemployed	900	1,100	-200	-18.2	1,000
	Unemployment Rate	2.4	2.8	-0.4	---	2.6
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	119,300	118,200	1,100	0.9	122,200
	Employed	114,900	112,800	2,100	1.9	117,400
	Unemployed	4,400	5,400	-1,000	-18.5	4,800
	Unemployment Rate	3.7	4.6	-0.9	---	3.9
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	137,903,000	136,375,000	1,528,000	1.1	138,379,000
	Employed	131,864,000	129,972,000	1,892,000	1.5	132,206,000
	Unemployed	6,039,000	6,403,000	-364,000	-5.7	6,173,000
	Unemployment Rate	4.4	4.7	-0.3	---	4.5

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1997.

MANUFACTURING HOURS AND EARNINGS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	SEP		CHG	AUG	SEP		CHG	AUG	SEP		CHG	AUG
	1998	1997	Y/Y	1998	1998	1997	Y/Y	1998	1998	1997	Y/Y	1998
MANUFACTURING	\$633.00	\$628.66	\$4.34	\$624.13	42.2	43.0	-0.8	42.4	\$15.00	\$14.62	\$0.38	\$14.72
DURABLE GOODS	645.08	642.57	2.50	635.80	42.3	43.3	-1.0	42.5	15.25	14.84	0.41	14.96
Lumber & Furniture	484.45	470.61	13.84	485.20	41.3	40.5	0.8	41.9	11.73	11.62	0.11	11.58
Stone, Clay and Glass	621.03	593.28	27.75	610.65	45.1	43.4	1.7	43.9	13.77	13.67	0.10	13.91
Primary Metals	592.70	625.62	-32.91	588.55	43.2	45.9	-2.7	40.9	13.72	13.63	0.09	14.39
Fabricated Metals	587.86	608.63	-20.78	567.33	41.9	44.2	-2.3	41.9	14.03	13.77	0.26	13.54
Machinery	675.53	687.87	-12.34	668.61	43.0	44.9	-1.9	43.7	15.71	15.32	0.39	15.30
Electrical Equipment	512.78	502.64	10.14	513.67	40.6	41.2	-0.6	40.8	12.63	12.20	0.43	12.59
Trans. Equipment	828.12	809.71	18.41	805.23	43.7	43.3	0.4	42.9	18.95	18.70	0.25	18.77
Instruments	599.46	581.74	17.72	606.48	41.2	41.2	0.0	43.6	14.55	14.12	0.43	13.91
Miscellaneous Mfg	568.40	555.78	12.62	620.92	40.0	41.6	-1.6	43.0	14.21	13.36	0.85	14.44
NONDUR. GOODS	605.64	599.25	6.39	598.55	42.0	42.5	-0.5	42.3	14.42	14.10	0.32	14.15
Food	549.49	502.25	47.24	555.97	44.1	41.0	3.1	44.8	12.46	12.25	0.21	12.41
Textiles	472.28	502.99	-30.71	479.04	40.4	43.7	-3.3	40.7	11.69	11.51	0.18	11.77
Apparel	311.74	344.34	-32.60	302.95	37.2	39.9	-2.7	36.9	8.38	8.63	-0.25	8.21
Paper	716.83	711.63	5.20	703.49	45.6	46.3	-0.7	45.8	15.72	15.37	0.35	15.36
Printing & Publishing	621.55	597.80	23.75	610.53	40.1	39.8	0.3	39.8	15.50	15.02	0.48	15.34
Chemicals	802.12	802.78	-0.66	797.78	44.0	45.1	-1.1	45.2	18.23	17.80	0.43	17.65
Rubber & Misc. Plast.	514.19	508.98	5.20	502.53	41.5	42.7	-1.2	41.6	12.39	11.92	0.47	12.08
CONSTRUCTION	805.05	789.08	15.96	828.78	40.7	41.4	-0.7	41.9	19.78	19.06	0.72	19.78

LMAs

MANUFACTURING	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	SEP		CHG	AUG	SEP		CHG	AUG	SEP		CHG	AUG
	1998	1997	Y/Y	1998	1998	1997	Y/Y	1998	1998	1997	Y/Y	1998
Bridgeport	\$644.08	\$646.72	-\$2.64	\$643.87	41.5	43.0	-1.5	41.3	\$15.52	\$15.04	\$0.48	\$15.59
Danbury	611.05	651.82	-40.77	612.68	40.9	43.6	-2.7	42.4	14.94	14.95	-0.01	14.45
Danielson	481.56	483.28	-1.72	485.62	41.3	41.2	0.1	41.4	11.66	11.73	-0.07	11.73
Hartford	670.95	671.23	-0.28	654.66	42.6	43.7	-1.1	42.4	15.75	15.36	0.39	15.44
Lower River	533.39	528.35	5.04	528.53	40.5	41.8	-1.3	40.5	13.17	12.64	0.53	13.05
New Haven	614.38	627.63	-13.25	615.68	41.4	42.9	-1.5	41.6	14.84	14.63	0.21	14.80
New London	663.26	646.91	16.35	659.59	42.3	42.7	-0.4	42.2	15.68	15.15	0.53	15.63
Stamford	530.69	561.84	-31.15	531.95	38.4	41.1	-2.7	38.8	13.82	13.67	0.15	13.71
Torrington	517.50	551.23	-33.73	522.08	41.4	42.5	-1.1	41.6	12.50	12.97	-0.47	12.55
Waterbury	595.72	591.98	3.74	592.35	42.4	43.4	-1.0	42.1	14.05	13.64	0.41	14.07

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NEW HOUSING PERMITS

	SEP	SEP	CHANGE Y/Y		YTD		CHANGE YTD		AUG
	1998	1997	UNITS	%	1998	1997	UNITS	%	1998
Connecticut	984	740	244	33.0	8,570	7,019	1,551	22.1	976
Counties:									
Fairfield	194	173	21	12.1	2,273	1,535	738	48.1	260
Hartford	225	161	64	39.8	2,147	1,629	518	31.8	214
Litchfield	72	52	20	38.5	604	566	38	6.7	119
Middlesex	74	77	-3	-3.9	541	459	82	17.9	69
New Haven	196	130	66	50.8	1,474	1,603	-129	-8.0	147
New London	134	73	61	83.6	739	587	152	25.9	73
Tolland	49	45	4	8.9	512	399	113	28.3	57
Windham	40	29	11	37.9	280	241	39	16.2	37

HOUSING PERMIT ACTIVITY BY TOWN

TOWN	SEP 1998	YR TO DATE 1998	YR TO DATE 1997	TOWN	SEP 1998	YR TO DATE 1998	YR TO DATE 1997	TOWN	SEP 1998	YR TO DATE 1998	YR TO DATE 1997
Andover	1	18	21	Griswold	7	35	32	Preston	3	16	17
Ansonia	3	21	12	Groton	6	94	64	Prospect	7	44	37
Ashford	4	29	13	Guilford	15	111	102	Putnam	1	9	9
Avon	12	160	92	Haddam	2	13	21	Redding	3	31	23
Barkhamsted	0	20	20	Hamden	10	76	83	Ridgefield	13	107	96
Beacon Falls	0	19	19	Hampton	1	12	10	Rocky Hill	18	96	72
Berlin	6	68	55	Hartford	5	75	41	Roxbury	4	24	8
Bethany	3	20	17	Hartland	0	3	6	Salem	1	18	10
Bethel	8	33	28	Harwinton	3	17	26	Salisbury	2	8	2
Bethlehem	0	12	6	Hebron	7	59	58	Scotland	0	11	12
Bloomfield	8	29	31	Kent	2	10	9	Seymour	5	43	50
Bolton	3	17	18	Killingly	4	24	28	Sharon	0	3	2
Bozrah	2	6	6	Killingworth	7	45	38	Shelton	18	167	122
Branford	4	29	36	Lebanon	4	20	32	Sherman	3	14	19
Bridgeport	0	83	52	Ledyard	6	57	37	Simsbury	4	62	45
Bridgewater	4	10	4	Lisbon	2	17	17	Somers	1	32	28
Bristol	8	69	72	Litchfield	3	29	90	South Windsor	5	108	93
Brookfield	6	130	39	Lyme	1	13	11	Southbury	8	79	73
Brooklyn	4	9	1	Madison	11	77	77	Southington	11	174	112
Burlington	7	38	36	Manchester	3	352	306	Sprague	0	1	4
Canaan	0	2	2	Mansfield	7	44	36	Stafford	2	27	22
Canterbury	5	20	14	Marlborough	8	29	25	Stamford	5	200	153
Canton	6	35	21	Meriden	9	41	31	Sterling	3	16	20
Chaplin	2	13	12	Middlebury	2	18	23	Stonington	9	68	58
Cheshire	12	78	154	Middlefield	1	11	15	Stratford	3	36	40
Chester	2	9	17	Middletown	20	110	92	Suffield	8	175	44
Clinton	6	60	27	Milford	16	115	125	Thomaston	6	35	26
Colchester	8	83	86	Monroe	18	86	101	Thompson	3	18	15
Colebrook	1	10	3	Montville	3	31	19	Tolland	7	91	75
Columbia	4	23	17	Morris	3	8	3	Torrington	6	56	53
Cornwall	1	5	5	Naugatuck	3	36	32	Trumbull	6	106	73
Coventry	9	48	50	New Britain	0	5	7	Union	1	5	3
Cromwell	3	40	26	New Canaan	2	46	47	Vernon	2	19	19
Danbury	39	592	185	New Fairfield	4	20	29	Voluntown	0	15	11
Darien	2	17	19	New Hartford	3	26	24	Wallingford	42	162	96
Deep River	2	19	11	New Haven	0	58	0	Warren	1	7	6
Derby	3	24	24	New London	0	1	0	Washington	2	10	11
Durham	5	33	36	New Milford	14	89	84	Waterbury	8	44	39
East Granby	3	17	15	Newington	26	93	46	Waterford	4	61	49
East Haddam	9	67	55	Newtown	19	196	137	Watertown	9	65	80
East Hampton	4	34	29	Norfolk	0	2	1	West Hartford	7	17	7
East Hartford	1	3	2	North Branford	5	43	56	West Haven	4	23	40
East Haven	10	57	128	North Canaan	0	3	5	Westbrook	5	46	32
East Lyme	65	122	60	North Haven	8	83	51	Weston	2	14	9
East Windsor	7	24	18	No. Stonington	3	31	19	Westport	4	35	24
Eastford	1	7	6	Norwalk	6	96	74	Wethersfield	0	57	56
Easton	4	33	27	Norwich	2	18	21	Willington	1	12	7
Ellington	4	117	45	Old Lyme	8	32	29	Wilton	6	37	46
Enfield	12	61	64	Old Saybrook	2	20	29	Winchester	1	56	6
Essex	4	24	13	Orange	1	13	21	Windham	0	19	12
Fairfield	9	95	93	Oxford	5	71	43	Windsor	5	39	35
Farmington	6	86	113	Plainfield	4	30	37	Windsor Locks	2	7	14
Franklin	0	0	5	Plainville	2	29	24	Wolcott	2	60	119
Glastonbury	41	200	130	Plymouth	3	30	18	Woodbridge	0	29	115
Goshen	0	9	20	Pomfret	3	26	25	Woodbury	4	58	52
Granby	4	36	47	Portland	2	10	18	Woodstock	5	37	27
Greenwich	14	99	99								

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

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

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

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

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

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

HOURS AND EARNINGS ESTIMATES

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

INITIAL CLAIMS

Average weekly initial claims are calculated by dividing the total number of new claims for unemployment insurance received in the month by the number of weeks in the month. A minor change in methodology takes effect with data published in the March 1997 issue of the DIGEST. Data have been revised back to January 1980.

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Primarily a measure of unemployment insurance program activity, the insured unemployment rate is the 13-week average of the number of people claiming unemployment benefits divided by the number of workers covered by the unemployment insurance system.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

Labor force estimates are a measure of the work status of people who live in Connecticut. Prepared under the direction of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the statewide estimates are the product of a multiple variable coefficient regression model, which uses results from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey of Connecticut households, counts of claimants for unemployment benefits, and establishment employment estimates. Due to the small size of the sample taken in Connecticut, the CPS results are subject to significant sampling error and produce considerable month-to-month fluctuations in estimates derived from the sample. In general, the CPS estimates, at the 90 percent confidence level, have an error range of about 1.5 percentage points on a rate of 6.0 percent. An accepted method for calculating the error range for model estimates is currently not available. Labor force data, reflecting persons employed by place of residence, are not directly comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series. In the labor force estimates, workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. The labor force data also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics and the self-employed. Because of these conceptual differences, total labor force employment is almost always different from nonfarm wage and salary employment.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

All Labor Market Areas in Connecticut except three are federally designated areas for developing labor statistics. Industry employment data for the Danielson, Lower River and Torrington Labor Market Areas are prepared exclusively by the Connecticut Department of Labor, following the same statistical procedures used to prepare estimates for the other Labor Market Areas, which are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has identified the five towns of Canaan, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon as a separate area for reporting labor force data. For the convenience of our data users, data for these towns are included in the Torrington Labor Market Area. For the same purpose, data for the town of Thompson, which is officially part of the Worcester Metropolitan Statistical Area, are included in the Danielson Labor Market Area. Also, data for Hopkinton and Westerly, Rhode Island are included in the New London Labor Market Area.

LEADING AND COINCIDENT EMPLOYMENT INDICES

The *leading employment index* is a composite of five individual employment-related series -the average workweek of manufacturing production workers, Hartford help-wanted advertising, short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, initial claims for unemployment insurance and total housing permits. While not an employment-sector variable, housing permits are closely related to construction employment. The *coincident employment index* is a composite indicator of four individual employment-related series -the total unemployment rate, nonfarm employment (employer survey), total employment (household survey) and the insured unemployment rate. All data are seasonally adjusted and come from the Connecticut Labor Department and from the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

Nonfarm employment estimates are derived from a survey of businesses to measure *jobs* by industry. The estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary employees who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Excluded from these estimates are proprietors, self-employed workers, private household employees and unpaid family workers. In some cases, due to space constraints, all industry estimates are not shown. Call (860) 566-7823 for a more comprehensive breakout of nonfarm employment estimates.

UI COVERED WAGES

UI covered wages is the total amount paid to those employees who are covered under the Connecticut's Unemployment Insurance (UI) law for services performed during the quarter. The fluctuations in the 1992-93 period reflect the effect of the changes in the tax law and the massive restructuring in the state's economy.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS AT A GLANCE

(Percent change from prior year; see pages 5-9 for reference months)

Leading Employment Index-0.6	Business Activity	Tourism and Travel
Coincident Employment Index+7.2	New Housing Permits +33.0	Tourism Inquiries -21.7
Total Nonfarm Employment+1.1	Electricity Sales +2.5	Tourism Info Centers +16.0
Unemployment -1.0*	Retail Sales +8.9	Attraction Visitors +22.6
Labor Force -0.1	Construction Contracts Index +56.0	Hotel-Motel Occupancy +1.7
Employed +0.9	New Auto Registrations +115.0	Air Passenger Count +4.8
Unemployed -20.5	Air Cargo Tons +17.1	
Average Weekly Initial Claims +40.3	Business Starts	Employment Cost Index (U.S.)
Help Wanted Index -- Hartford -11.1	Secretary of the State +4.7	Total +3.8
Average Ins. Unempl. Rate -0.22*	Dept. of Labor +12.8	Wages & Salaries +4.3
		Benefit Costs +2.6
Average Weekly Hours, Mfg -1.9	Business Terminations	Consumer Price Index
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg +2.6	Secretary of the State -3.3	U.S. City Average +1.5
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg +0.7	Dept. of Labor -21.0	Northeast Region +1.3
Manufacturing Output-1.6		NY-NJ-Long Island +1.6
Production Worker Hours -3.1	State Tax Collections +1.6	Boston-Brockton-Nashua +2.6
Productivity +1.5	Corporate Tax +9.5	Consumer Confidence
Personal Income+4.6	Personal Income Tax +7.1	U.S. -3.2
UI Covered Wages NA	Real Estate Conveyance Tax +0.2	New England -7.6
	Sales & Use Tax +3.4	Interest Rates
		Prime -0.01*
		Conventional Mortgage -0.71*

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

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