



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Scott D. Jackson, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2017 Data
CT Unemployment Rate = 4.8%
US Unemployment Rate = 4.4%

Nonfarm jobs decline 3,900 in August; unemployment rate falls to 4.8%

WETHERSFIELD, September 14, 2017 – Preliminary Connecticut nonfarm job estimates from the business payroll survey administered by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the state lost 3,900 net jobs (-0.2%) in August 2017, to a level of 1,687,200, seasonally adjusted. Over the year, nonagricultural employment in the state grew by 6,000 jobs (0.4%). July's originally-released job loss of 600 was revised down by the BLS to a loss of 1,100. The number of the state's unemployed residents fell by 4,300, while the number of residents employed also fell by 5,600. As a result, Connecticut's unemployment rate fell by two-tenths of a point to 4.8% in August, seasonally adjusted. Resident employment estimates include the self-employed and residents working out of state and are determined separately from the nonfarm payroll job estimates above.

"August's decline of 3,900 payroll jobs leaves the three-month average job gain in Connecticut nearly flat," said Andy Condon, Director of the Office of Research. "Nevertheless, due to a decline in the state's labor force, the unemployment rate fell to 4.8%."

Nonfarm Jobs Detail (business establishment survey)

Private sector employment fell by 3,700 (-0.3%) to 1,454,500 jobs over the month in August, but remains up by 9,000 jobs (0.60%) over the year. The **government supersector** also declined by 200 (-0.1%) to 232,700 jobs last month and it remains down over the year (-3,000, -1.3%). The **government supersector**, which includes all federal, state and local employment, including public higher education and Native American casinos located on tribal land, is now tied with retail trade as the largest sources of job loss to date in 2017.

Seven of the ten major industry *supersectors* lost employment in August 2017, while two increased and the **information supersector** remained unchanged (total jobs 31,800). **Manufacturing** led growing supersectors with an increase of 1,200 jobs (0.8%, 157,600 total). **Professional & business services** also gained 800 jobs (0.4%, 217,200 total jobs).

Trade, transportation & utilities (-1,500, -0.5%, 298,400 jobs) led declining industries after a strong gain in July. **Leisure and hospitality** (-1,000, -0.6%, 158,100) also showed a large decline in August. **Financial activities** (-0.7%, 132,100) and **construction** (-1.5%, 57,800) both shed 900 jobs, although the **financial activities supersector** continues to show strong growth over the year. **Education & health services** fell by 700 (-0.2%, 332,700) with all of the loss coming from education while **other services** dropped 600 jobs (-0.9%, 68,300).

Connecticut has now **recovered 78.1%** (93,000 jobs) of the 119,100 seasonally adjusted jobs lost in the Great Recession (3/08-2/10). The job recovery is into its 90th month and the state needs an additional 26,100 jobs to reach an overall nonfarm employment expansion. The state's **private sector** also slipped a bit in the recovery, regaining **96.7%** (108,000) of the 111,700 private sector jobs lost in that same employment downturn. The **government supersector** has lost a total of 22,400 positions since the recession began in March 2008.

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Of the six LMAs that are seasonally adjusted by the BLS, only **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk** (700, 0.2%, 412,100) showed gains in August 2017. The **Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford LMA** (-2,400, -0.3%, 573,200) led declining areas, although it still leads in job growth magnitude over the last 12 months (2,300, 0.4% OTY). The **Norwich-New London LMA** (-1,000, -0.8%, 130,100 jobs) was next in job losses, but remains the fastest growing LMA in the state over the year in *percentage* terms (1,400, 1.1% OTY). The **Waterbury LMA** (-0.9%, 66,500), and the **New Haven LMA** (-0.2%, 284,100) both dropped 600 jobs. The **Danbury LMA** saw a slight decline of 200 (-0.3%, 79,700). *Note: Six major Connecticut LMAs are estimated independently from the statewide data by the BLS and cover more than 90% of the nonfarm employment in the state. Thus, estimates will not fully sum to the statewide total.*

Hours and Earnings: The **private sector** workweek, not seasonally adjusted, averaged 33.9 hours in August 2017, up three-tenths of an hour from the same month a year ago. Average hourly earnings at \$30.72, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$0.33 (1.1%) from the August 2016 estimate (\$30.39). The resultant average **private sector** weekly pay amounted to \$1,041.41, up \$20.31 from a year ago (2.0%). The 12-month percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in August 2017 was 1.9%. Information for the manufacturing production workweek and earnings can be found in the table section of this release under the “Hours and Earnings” data category. *Current all-employee private sector hours and earnings estimates can be volatile due to fluctuating sample responses.*

Labor Force Data (residential household survey)

The August 2017 unemployment rate for Connecticut is estimated at **4.8%** (seasonally adjusted), down two-tenths from July 2017 and down one-tenth of a percentage point from a year ago when it was 4.9%. The US jobless rate in August 2017 was 4.4%, up one-tenth point from 4.3% in July.

Based on the Local Area Unemployment Statistics model (LAUS - a statistical model using the CPS – the Current Population Survey residential data), the number of Connecticut unemployed residents, seasonally adjusted, decreased by 4,300 (-4.5%) over the month to 92,200 in August. Over the year, the number of the state’s jobless residents has decreased by 900 (-0.1%). The state’s labor force decreased by 9,900 (-0.5%) over the month, but continued to expand over the year (31,900, 1.7%), The August decline may be due to a greater or an earlier end to student summer employment.

August 2017 seasonally adjusted average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut decreased by 223 claimants (-5.6%) to 3,625 from July 2017, and were lower by 281 claims (-7.2%) from the August 2016 level of 3,906.

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

Next Connecticut Labor Situation release: Thursday, October 19, 2017 (September 2017 data)

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09-14-17

Labor market information is available on the Internet at www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi
200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114 - www.ct.gov/dol
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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Jobs - by Place of Work

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	August 2017 P	July 2017 R	June 2017	May 2017	August 2016	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,687,200	1,691,100	1,692,800	1,687,200	1,681,200	-3,900	-0.2%	6,000	0.4%
Total Private	1,454,500	1,458,200	1,459,000	1,453,300	1,445,500	-3,700	-0.3%	9,000	0.6%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	500	600	600	600	600	-100	-16.7%	-100	-16.7%
Construction	57,800	58,700	60,500	61,200	59,000	-900	-1.5%	-1,200	-2.0%
Manufacturing	157,600	156,400	156,600	155,800	156,800	1,200	0.8%	800	0.5%
Durable Goods	123,000	122,200	122,300	121,100	123,100	800	0.7%	-100	-0.1%
Nondurable Goods	34,600	34,200	34,300	34,700	33,700	400	1.2%	900	2.7%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	298,400	299,900	298,200	297,800	298,700	-1,500	-0.5%	-300	-0.1%
Wholesale	63,100	63,700	63,500	63,300	62,800	-600	-0.9%	300	0.5%
Retail	182,100	182,300	181,600	181,600	185,100	-200	-0.1%	-3,000	-1.6%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	53,200	53,900	53,100	52,900	50,800	-700	-1.3%	2,400	4.7%
Information	31,800	31,800	31,900	31,300	32,700	0	0.0%	-900	-2.8%
Financial Activities	132,100	133,000	132,800	132,300	129,700	-900	-0.7%	2,400	1.9%
Finance & Insurance	111,400	112,400	112,300	111,700	109,700	-1,000	-0.9%	1,700	1.5%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	20,700	20,600	20,500	20,600	20,000	100	0.5%	700	3.5%
Professional & Business Services	217,200	216,400	216,300	216,800	218,600	800	0.4%	-1,400	-0.6%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	99,000	99,400	99,000	98,500	97,200	-400	-0.4%	1,800	1.9%
Management of Companies	31,500	31,500	31,800	32,100	32,900	0	0.0%	-1,400	-4.3%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	86,700	85,500	85,500	86,200	88,500	1,200	1.4%	-1,800	-2.0%
Educational & Health Services	332,700	333,400	333,200	333,200	329,900	-700	-0.2%	2,800	0.8%
Educational Services	64,700	65,800	65,500	65,500	63,500	-1,100	-1.7%	1,200	1.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	268,000	267,600	267,700	267,700	266,400	400	0.1%	1,600	0.6%
Leisure and Hospitality	158,100	159,100	161,100	156,700	154,800	-1,000	-0.6%	3,300	2.1%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	29,000	29,000	28,300	27,700	27,700	0	0.0%	1,300	4.7%
Accommodation & Food Services	129,100	130,100	132,800	129,000	127,100	-1,000	-0.8%	2,000	1.6%
Other Services	68,300	68,900	67,800	67,600	64,700	-600	-0.9%	3,600	5.6%
Government**	232,700	232,900	233,800	233,900	235,700	-200	-0.1%	-3,000	-1.3%
UNITED STATES	146,730,000	146,574,000	146,385,000	146,175,000	144,633,000	156,000	0.1%	2,097,000	1.4%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

	August 2017 P	July 2017 R	June 2017	May 2017	August 2016	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
<i>Seasonally Adjusted data</i>									
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	412,100	411,400	412,700	412,400	411,700	700	0.2%	400	0.1%
Danbury	79,700	79,900	79,500	79,100	79,000	-200	-0.3%	700	0.9%
Hartford	573,200	575,600	574,400	574,400	570,900	-2,400	-0.4%	2,300	0.4%
New Haven	284,100	284,700	285,300	284,200	282,200	-600	-0.2%	1,900	0.7%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	130,100	131,100	130,400	128,800	128,700	-1,000	-0.8%	1,400	1.1%
Waterbury	66,500	67,100	66,500	67,000	67,300	-600	-0.9%	-800	-1.2%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	44,400	44,700	44,700	44,900	44,500	-300	-0.7%	-100	-0.2%
Torrington-Northwest	33,100	33,800	33,200	33,100	33,300	-700	-2.1%	-200	-0.6%
Danielson-Northeast	27,200	27,000	27,300	27,500	27,200	200	0.7%	0	0.0%

* Less than 0.05%

** Includes Native American tribal government employment

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

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

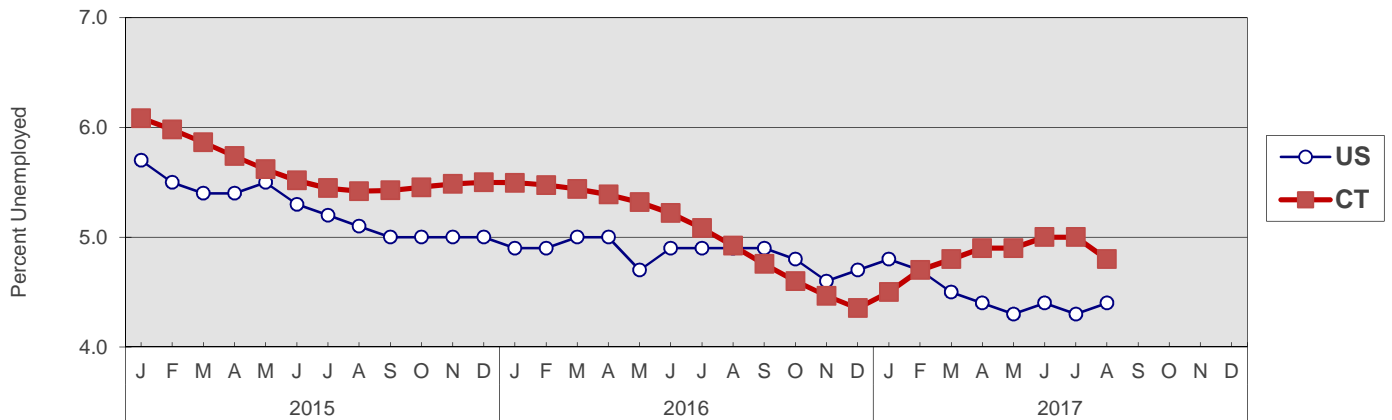
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	August 2017 P		August 2016 R		Change		July 2017 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	92,200	4.8	93,100	4.9	-900	-0.1	96,500	5.0
Labor Force	1,923,200		1,891,300		31,900		1,933,100	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	7,132,000	4.4	7,853,000	4.9	-721,000	-0.5	6,981,000	4.3
Labor Force	160,571,000		159,508,000		1,063,000		160,494,000	

U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2015 - 2017



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	August 2017 P		August 2016 R		Change		July 2017 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	21,200	4.5	23,700	5.0	-2,500	-0.5	23,900	4.9
Danbury	4,100	3.7	4,600	4.3	-500	-0.6	4,600	4.2
Danielson-Northeast*	2,000	4.6	2,300	5.2	-300	-0.6	2,300	5.1
Worcester NECTA	1,900	4.6	2,200	5.3	-300	-0.7	2,200	5.1
Hampton	100	3.9	100	4.4	0	-0.5	100	4.5
Enfield	2,200	4.3	2,600	5.2	-400	-0.9	2,500	4.8
Hartford	29,100	4.7	32,900	5.3	-3,800	-0.6	32,600	5.1
New Haven	15,100	4.6	17,000	5.2	-1,900	-0.6	17,100	5.1
Norwich-New London	6,200	4.3	7,500	5.2	-1,300	-0.9	7,100	4.8
Torrington-Northwest**	2,000	4.2	2,200	4.7	-200	-0.5	2,300	4.6
Torrington NECTA	1,300	5.0	1,500	5.5	-200	-0.5	1,500	5.4
Litchfield	700	3.2	800	3.6	-100	-0.4	800	3.6
Waterbury	6,300	5.6	7,100	6.3	-800	-0.7	6,900	6.0
CONNECTICUT	87,400	4.6	99,000	5.2	-11,600	-0.6	98,500	5.0
UNITED STATES	7,287,000	4.5	7,996,000	5.0	-709,000	-0.5	7,441,000	4.6

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

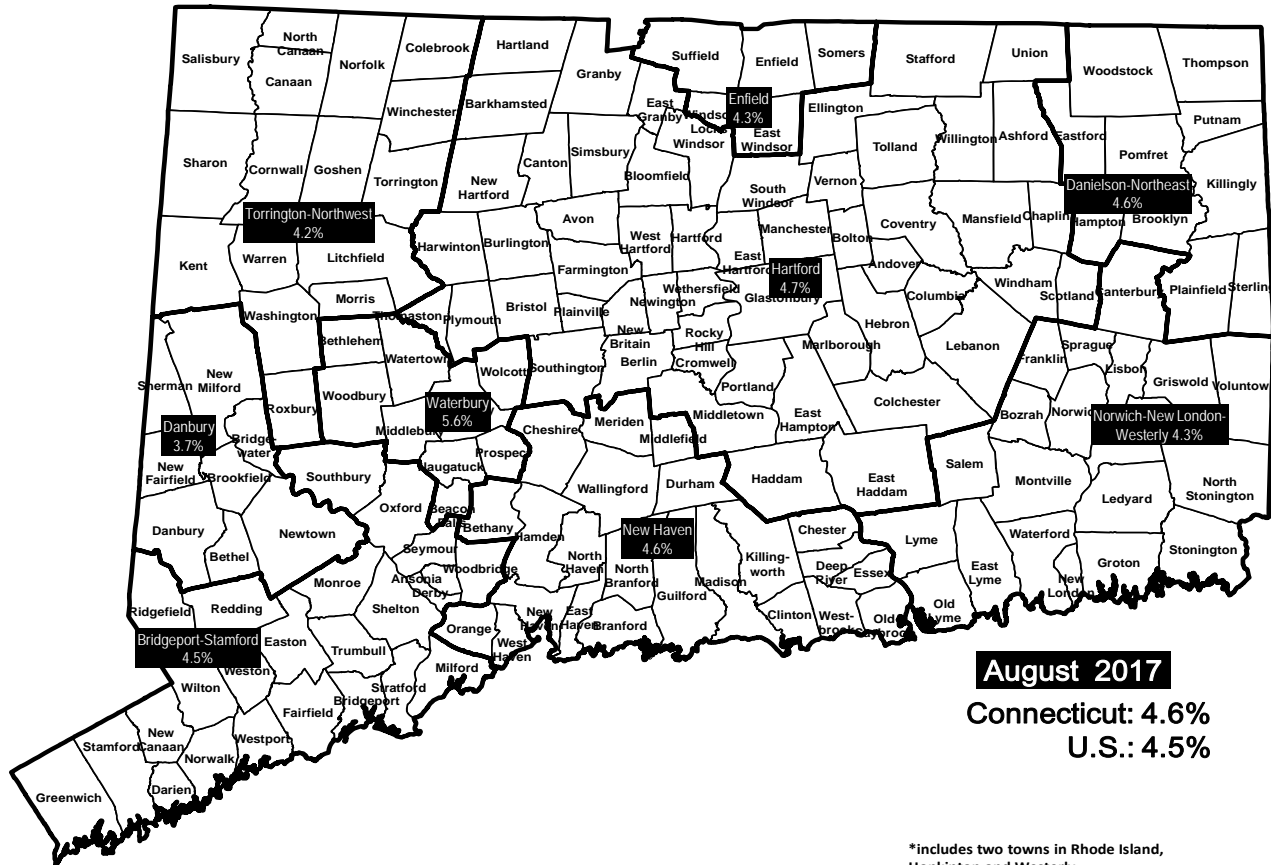
Labor force data included in this publication are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

* Worcester NECTA, CT part and Hampton LMA are combined ** Torrington Metropolitan NECTA and Litchfield LMA are combined

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LABOR MARKET AREAS



HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	August 2017 P	August 2016	Change over Yr.	July 2017 R	August 2017 P	August 2016	Change over Yr.	July 2017 R	August 2017 P	August 2016	Change over Yr.	July 2017 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,041.41	\$1,021.10	\$20.31	\$1,053.61	33.9	33.6	0.3	33.9	\$30.72	\$30.39	\$0.33	\$31.08
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$1,044.58	\$1,124.21	-\$79.63	\$1,073.28	41.8	42.2	-0.4	41.6	\$24.99	\$26.64	-\$1.65	\$25.80

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

P = Preliminary R = Revised

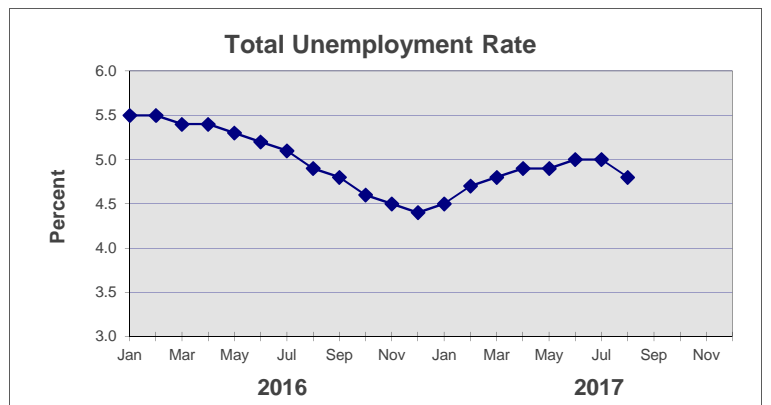
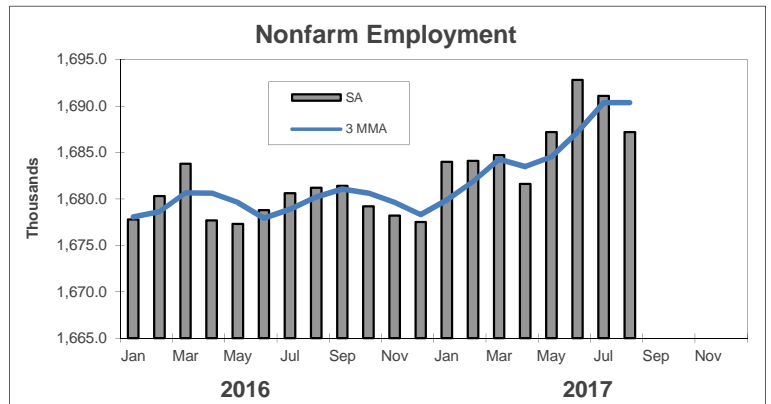
Hours and earnings are also developed for the state's major industry sectors and Labor Market Areas. They can be found on our website at: www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi.

TRENDS

Seasonally Adjusted

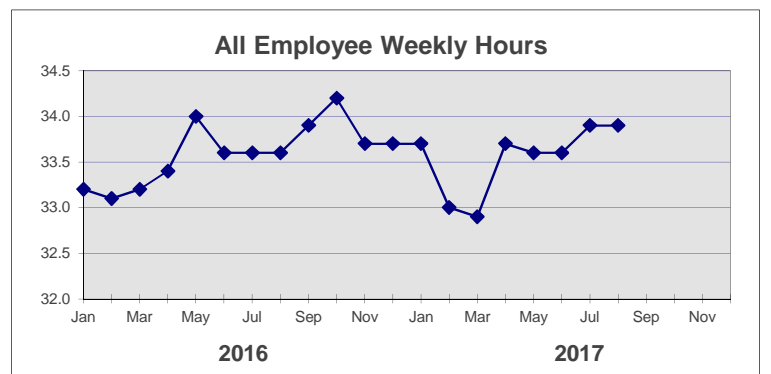
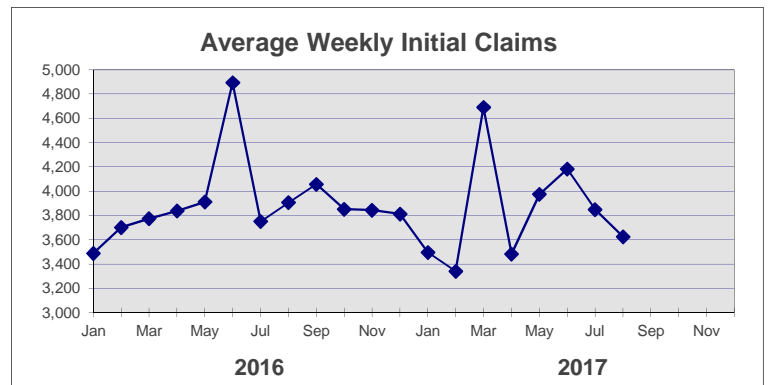
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2016		
Jan	1,677.8	5.5
Feb	1,680.3	5.5
Mar	1,683.8	5.4
Apr	1,677.7	5.4
May	1,677.3	5.3
Jun	1,678.8	5.2
Jul	1,680.6	5.1
Aug	1,681.2	4.9
Sep	1,681.4	4.8
Oct	1,679.2	4.6
Nov	1,678.2	4.5
Dec	1,677.5	4.4

2017		
Jan	1,684.0	4.5
Feb	1,684.1	4.7
Mar	1,684.7	4.8
Apr	1,681.6	4.9
May	1,687.2	4.9
Jun	1,692.8	5.0
Jul	1,691.1 R	5.0 R
Aug	1,687.2 P	4.8 P
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2016		
Jan	3,488	33.2
Feb	3,702	33.1
Mar	3,774	33.2
Apr	3,838	33.4
May	3,911	34.0
Jun	4,894	33.6
Jul	3,750	33.6
Aug	3,906	33.6
Sep	4,057	33.9
Oct	3,852	34.2
Nov	3,844	33.7
Dec	3,812	33.7

2017		
Jan	3,496	33.7
Feb	3,341	33.0
Mar	4,691	32.9
Apr	3,483	33.7
May	3,974	33.6
Jun	4,182	33.6
Jul	3,849	33.9 R
Aug	3,625	33.9 P
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute