



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Kurt Westby, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2018 Data
CT Unemployment Rate = 4.2%
US Unemployment Rate = 3.7%

Nonfarm jobs fall by 500 in September; unemployment rate falls to 4.2%

WETHERSFIELD, October 18, 2018 – Preliminary Connecticut nonfarm job estimates from the business payroll survey administered by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the state lost 500 net jobs (-0.0%) in September 2018, to a level of 1,701,300, seasonally adjusted. Over the year, nonagricultural employment in the state grew by 19,900 jobs (1.2%). The August 2018 originally-released job increase of 1,100 was revised up 2,200 to a gain of 3,300 over the month. The number of the state's unemployed residents was estimated at 80,100, seasonally adjusted, down 800 from August. As a result, Connecticut's September unemployment rate dropped by one-tenth of a point to 4.2%, 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.

"Despite the drop of 500 jobs in September, Connecticut's labor market appears strong," said Andy Condon, Director of the Office of Research. "Annual growth increased to nearly 20,000 jobs. Only the trade, information and government supersectors show annual job losses."

Nonfarm Jobs Detail (business establishment survey)

Private sector employment fell by 1,000 (-0.1%) to 1,473,700 jobs over the month in September, but added 23,400 (1.6%) seasonally-adjusted jobs over the year. The **government supersector** added 500 jobs in September to a total of 227,600, with over-the-year losses now at 3,500 or -1.5%. The **government supersector** includes all federal, state and local employment, including public higher education and Native American casino employment located on tribal land.

Five of the ten major industry *supersectors* gained employment in September, while five declined. The **construction supersector** led growing industries with 1,000 net new jobs (1.6%, 63,400 total jobs), while **financial activities** also contributed 1,000 jobs (0.8%, 128,700). **Manufacturing** (0.2%, 222,800) grew by 800 jobs, (0.5%, 164,800). The **other services** (0.8%, 66,000) and above mentioned **government supersectors both** contributed 500 new jobs in September.

The **trade, transportation & utilities supersector** led declines, shedding 2,300 jobs (-0.8%, 294,800). **Leisure & hospitality dropped** 1,100 jobs (-0.7%, 160,000) in September after several months of gains. The **information supersector** continues to struggle, falling by 400 positions (-1.3%, 30,300), while **education & health services** fell by 300 (-0.1%, 342,500). Finally, **professional & business services** saw a small loss of 200 jobs (-0.1%, 222,600).

Connecticut has now recovered **89.9%** (107,100 jobs) of the 119,100 seasonally adjusted jobs lost in the "Great Recession" (3/08-2/10). The job recovery is into its 103rd month and the state needs an additional 12,000 net new jobs to reach an overall nonfarm employment expansion. The state's **private sector** continues its expansion from the recession and is at **113.9%** (127,200) of the private sector jobs lost in that same employment downturn.

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Two of the six LMAs seasonally adjusted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics saw job increases in September 2018 while four saw declines. The **Hartford LMA** posted 1,200 net new positions (0.2%, 581,800). The **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** added 500 jobs (0.1%, 409,500). The **New Haven LMA** saw the largest decline, dropping 1,100 jobs in September (-0.4%, 284,600). The **Waterbury** (-0.4, % 66,900) and **Danbury** (-0.4%, 78,900) **LMAs** both saw losses of 300. Lastly, the **Norwich–New London–Westerly, RI LMA** saw a 200 job loss (-0.2%, 131,900).

Note: The 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 34.1 hours in September 2018, up two-tenths of an hour from the same month a year ago (0.6%). Average hourly earnings at \$32.56, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$1.56 (5.0%) from the September 2017 estimate (\$31.00). The resultant average **private sector** weekly pay amounted to \$1,110.30, up \$59.40 from a year ago (5.7%). The 12-month percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in September 2018 was 2.3%. 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 September 2018 unemployment rate for Connecticut is estimated at **4.2%** (seasonally adjusted), down one-tenth of a point from August 2018 and down three-tenths of a percentage point from a year ago when it was 4.5%. The US jobless rate in September 2018 was 3.7%, down two-tenths of a point from August 2018.

Based on the Local Area Unemployment Statistics model (LAUS - a statistical model using the CPS – Current Population Survey residential data), the number of Connecticut unemployed residents, seasonally adjusted, was down 800 from August at 80,100 in September. Over the year, the number of the state’s jobless residents declined by 6,300 (-7.3%). The state’s labor force increased for the third month in a row by 4,400 (0.2%) over the month, but is down over the year (-9,200, -0.5%).

September 2018 seasonally-adjusted average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut fell by 92 claimants (-3.0%) to 3,014 from August 2018, and were lower by 798 claims (-20.9%) from the September 2017 level of 3,812.

*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, November 15, 2018.

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10-18-18

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

	September 2018 P	August 2018 R	July 2018	June 2018	September 2017	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,701,300	1,701,800	1,698,500	1,698,000	1,681,400	-500	0.0%	19,900	1.2%
Total Private	1,473,700	1,474,700	1,471,000	1,470,000	1,450,300	-1,000	-0.1%	23,400	1.6%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	600	600	600	600	600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	63,400	62,400	61,500	61,000	58,400	1,000	1.6%	5,000	8.6%
Manufacturing	164,800	164,000	163,600	163,700	159,200	800	0.5%	5,600	3.5%
Durable Goods	129,500	128,800	128,500	128,600	124,600	700	0.5%	4,900	3.9%
Nondurable Goods	35,300	35,200	35,100	35,100	34,600	100	0.3%	700	2.0%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	294,800	297,100	298,100	299,300	298,900	-2,300	-0.8%	-4,100	-1.4%
Wholesale	62,100	62,500	63,000	62,900	62,600	-400	-0.6%	-500	-0.8%
Retail	179,300	181,500	182,300	183,000	183,400	-2,200	-1.2%	-4,100	-2.2%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	53,400	53,100	52,800	53,400	52,900	300	0.6%	500	0.9%
Information	30,300	30,700	30,800	30,900	31,300	-400	-1.3%	-1,000	-3.2%
Financial Activities	128,700	127,700	127,100	127,400	127,600	1,000	0.8%	1,100	0.9%
Finance & Insurance	108,400	107,600	107,000	107,300	107,700	800	0.7%	700	0.6%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	20,300	20,100	20,100	20,100	19,900	200	1.0%	400	2.0%
Professional & Business Services	222,600	222,800	222,300	222,700	218,200	-200	-0.1%	4,400	2.0%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	98,500	98,700	98,100	98,100	96,600	-200	-0.2%	1,900	2.0%
Management of Companies	31,200	31,700	31,500	31,500	32,200	-500	-1.6%	-1,000	-3.1%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	92,900	92,400	92,700	93,100	89,400	500	0.5%	3,500	3.9%
Educational & Health Services	342,500	342,800	341,400	340,800	334,000	-300	-0.1%	8,500	2.5%
Educational Services	67,700	68,400	66,900	67,000	65,600	-700	-1.0%	2,100	3.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	274,800	274,400	274,500	273,800	268,400	400	0.1%	6,400	2.4%
Leisure and Hospitality	160,000	161,100	160,600	158,300	156,700	-1,100	-0.7%	3,300	2.1%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	26,900	27,400	27,300	27,400	28,200	-500	-1.8%	-1,300	-4.6%
Accommodation & Food Services	133,100	133,700	133,300	130,900	128,500	-600	-0.4%	4,600	3.6%
Other Services	66,000	65,500	65,000	65,300	65,400	500	0.8%	600	0.9%
Government**	227,600	227,100	227,500	228,000	231,100	500	0.2%	-3,500	-1.5%
UNITED STATES	149,500,000	149,366,000	149,096,000	148,931,000	146,963,000	134,000	0.1%	2,537,000	1.7%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	September 2018 P	August 2018 R	July 2018	June 2018	September 2017	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	409,500	409,000	407,200	407,800	406,700	500	0.1%	2,800	0.7%
Danbury	78,900	79,200	79,100	79,300	78,100	-300	-0.4%	800	1.0%
Hartford	581,800	580,600	579,800	580,300	572,500	1,200	0.2%	9,300	1.6%
New Haven	284,600	285,700	286,200	285,200	284,400	-1,100	-0.4%	200	0.1%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	131,900	132,100	132,000	131,500	129,900	-200	-0.2%	2,000	1.5%
Waterbury	66,900	67,200	66,500	66,500	67,000	-300	-0.4%	-100	-0.1%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	45,100	44,800	44,900	45,300	45,000	300	0.7%	100	0.2%
Torrington-Northwest	33,200	33,500	33,700	33,500	32,700	-300	-0.9%	500	1.5%
Danielson-Northeast	26,900	26,800	26,800	27,200	27,100	100	0.4%	-200	-0.7%

* 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.

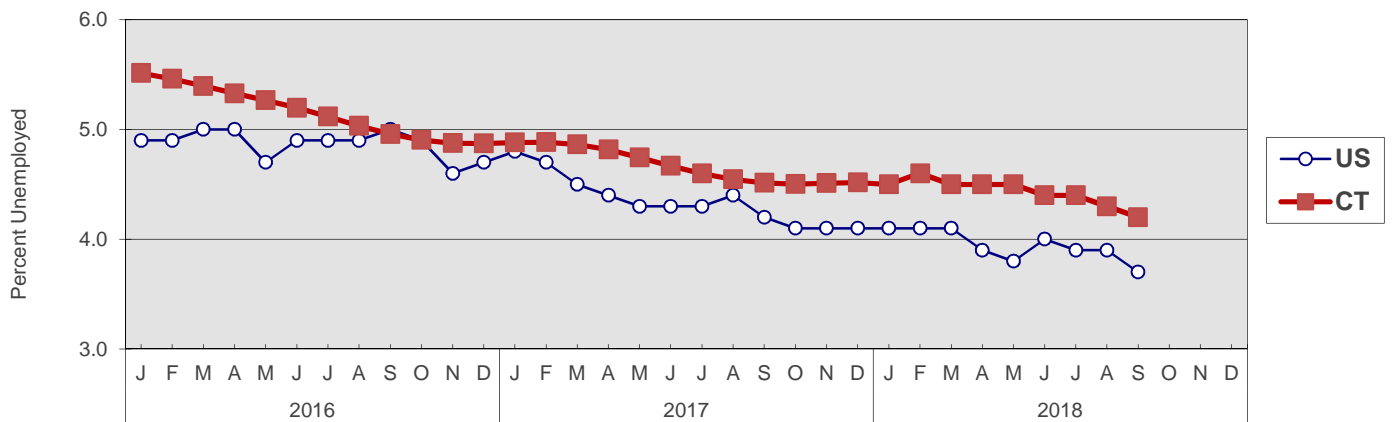
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	September 2018 P		September 2017 R		Change		August 2018 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	80,100	4.2	86,400	4.5	-6,300	-0.3	80,900	4.3
Labor Force	1,903,600		1,912,800		-9,200		1,899,200	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	5,964,000	3.7	6,759,000	4.2	-795,000	-0.5	6,234,000	3.9
Labor Force	161,926,000		161,082,000		844,000		161,776,000	

U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2016 - 2018



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	September 2018 P		September 2017 R		Change		August 2018 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford								
Danbury								
Danielson-Northeast*								
Worcester NECTA								
Hampton								
Enfield								
Hartford								
New Haven								
Norwich-New London								
Torrington-Northwest**								
Torrington NECTA								
Litchfield								
Waterbury								
CONNECTICUT	73,300	3.8	80,500	4.2	-7,200	-0.4	77,000	4.0
UNITED STATES	5,766,000	3.6	6,556,000	4.1	-790,000	-0.5	6,370,000	3.9

Release of the September 2018 sub-state labor force data is restricted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics until Friday, October 19, 2018. An updated *Connecticut Labor Situation* with these data will be available on our website at that time at: <http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/laborsit.pdf>.

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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

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HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	Sep. 2018 P	Sep. 2017	Change over Yr.	Aug. 2018 R	Sep. 2018 P	Sep. 2017	Change over Yr.	Aug. 2018 R	Sep. 2018 P	Sep. 2017	Change over Yr.	Aug. 2018 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,110.30	\$1,050.90	\$59.40	\$1,078.02	34.1	33.9	0.2	33.9	\$32.56	\$31.00	\$1.56	\$31.80
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$1,043.86	\$1,045.00	-\$1.14	\$1,074.44	41.0	41.7	-0.7	40.9	\$25.46	\$25.06	\$0.40	\$26.27

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

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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

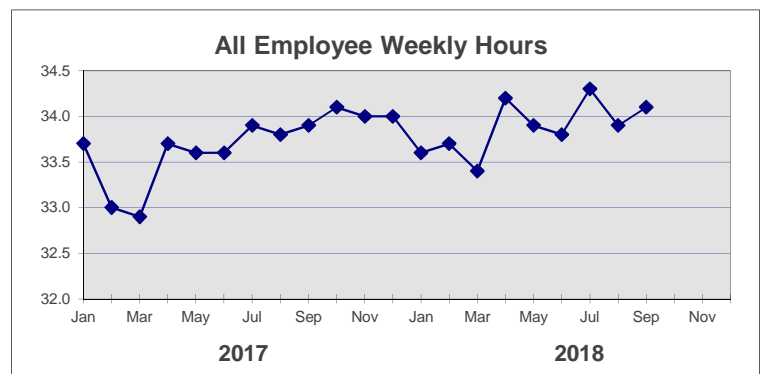
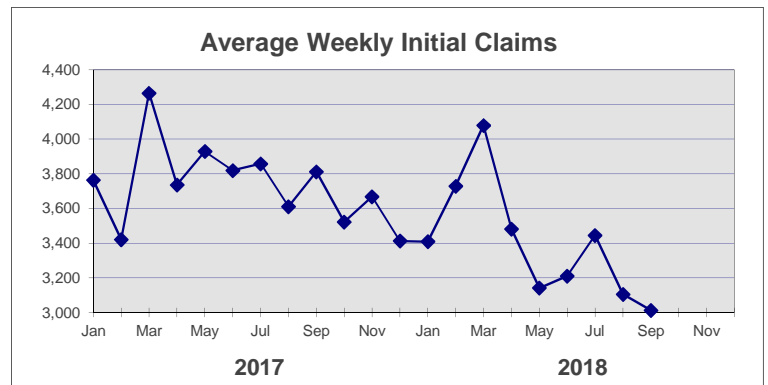
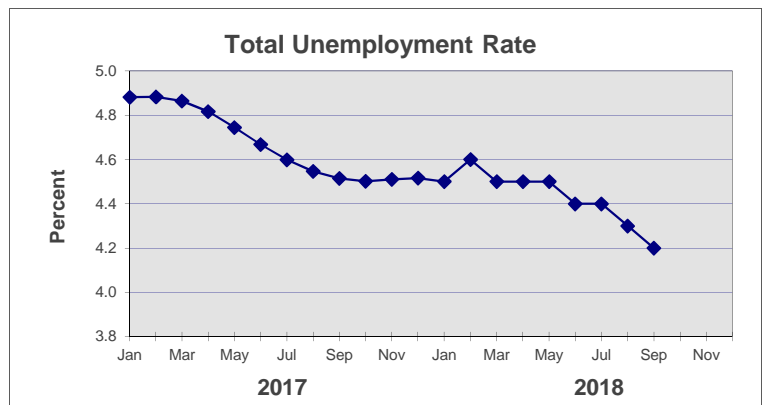
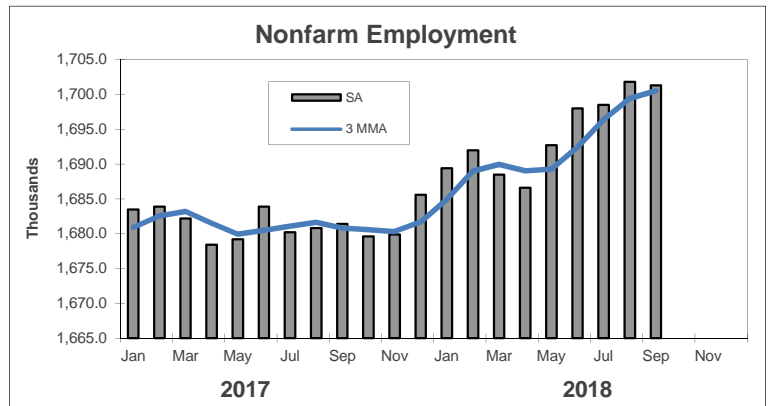
Seasonally Adjusted

	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2017		
Jan	1,683.5	4.9
Feb	1,683.9	4.9
Mar	1,682.2	4.9
Apr	1,678.4	4.8
May	1,679.2	4.7
Jun	1,683.9	4.7
Jul	1,680.2	4.6
Aug	1,680.8	4.5
Sep	1,681.4	4.5
Oct	1,679.6	4.5
Nov	1,679.9	4.5
Dec	1,685.6	4.5

2018		
Jan	1,689.4	4.5
Feb	1,692.0	4.6
Mar	1,688.5	4.5
Apr	1,686.6	4.5
May	1,692.7	4.5
Jun	1,698.0	4.4
Jul	1,698.5	4.4
Aug	1,701.8 R	4.3 R
Sep	1,701.3 P	4.2 P
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		

	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2017		
Jan	3,763	33.7
Feb	3,421	33.0
Mar	4,266	32.9
Apr	3,736	33.7
May	3,929	33.6
Jun	3,820	33.6
Jul	3,858	33.9
Aug	3,611	33.8
Sep	3,812	33.9
Oct	3,523	34.1
Nov	3,668	34.0
Dec	3,413	34.0

2018		
Jan	3,409	33.6
Feb	3,729	33.7
Mar	4,080	33.4
Apr	3,481	34.2
May	3,142	33.9
Jun	3,211	33.8
Jul	3,445	34.3
Aug	3,106	33.9 R
Sep	3,014	34.1 P
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

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** Labor-management dispute