



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research

Danté Bartolomeo, Interim Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2021 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 7.2%

US Unemployment Rate = 5.2%

Connecticut job gains continue (+3,300), as the unemployment rate declines to 7.2%

WETHERSFIELD, September 16, 2021 – Connecticut industry employment gains continued in August 2021, adding 3,300 (0.2%) positions to bring payroll employment to 1,605,300 (seasonally adjusted). Connecticut nonfarm jobs are now 55,800 (3.6%) positions above August 2020 levels. This is the eighth consecutive monthly gain in 2021. Connecticut has now recovered 68.9% (201,400) of the 292,400 positions lost in the March and April 2020 Covid lockdown. July 2021 job gains were revised higher by 1,700 to a 11,100 (0.7%) gain. Statewide job estimates originate from the monthly business survey overseen by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) for the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program.

“August saw solid gains after a very strong July,” said Patrick Flaherty, Director of the Office of Research at the Connecticut Department of Labor. “Job growth was in a broad range of industries. At the same time, the drop in the unemployment rate came as the labor force and employment expanded while the number unemployed dropped.”

Private sector employment rose 5,500 jobs (0.4%) to 1,379,700 in August 2021 -- up 51,500 jobs (3.9%) from August 2020. The **government supersector**, however, decreased 2,200 jobs (-1.0%) in August to a level of 225,600 which is 4,300 (1.9%) positions higher than August 2020. The government *supersector* includes all federal, state, and local employment, including public education and Native American casino employment located on tribal reservation land.

Seven of the ten major industry *supersectors* produced employment gains while two declined in August 2021. The **information supersector** was unchanged in August 2021 at 27,600.

Eight increasing or unchanged industry *supersectors* last month included:

Increasing Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Increase	Percent Change	August 2021 Employment
Leisure & Hospitality	+1,800	1.4%	133,400
Professional & Business Services	+1,600	0.8%	211,100
Manufacturing	+1,100	0.7%	152,800
Other Services	+700	1.2%	61,200
Financial Activities	+600	0.5%	117,700
Construction & Mining	+500	0.9%	57,700
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	+400	0.1%	287,700
Information	+0	0.0%	27,600

Two industry *supersectors* declined in August 2021:

Declining Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Decrease	Percent Change	August 2021 Employment
Government	-2,200	-1.0%	225,600
Education & Health Services	-1,200	-0.4%	330,500

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Five out of the six Connecticut **LMAs**, seasonally adjusted by the BLS, had employment gains in August 2021, while just one local labor market marginally declined - **Danbury LMA** (-100, -0.1%, 72,700). The **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (1.0%, 3,600, 376,600) led regional monthly employment gains. The **Hartford LMA** (0.5%, 550,800), was next, adding 2,600 positions. The **Waterbury LMA** (0.6%, 65,900) was also higher by 400 positions. The **Norwich-New London-Westerly LMA** (0.3%, 115,700) added 300 jobs while the **New Haven LMA** (0.1%, 288,200) posted just a 200-position increase.

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 August 2021 **private sector** workweek, not seasonally adjusted, averaged 34.4 hours, up one-tenth of an hour from August 2020 (0.3%, 34.3). Average hourly earnings at \$33.88, not seasonally adjusted, were higher by just \$0.06 (0.2%) from the August 2020 estimate of \$33.82. The resulting August 2021 private sector weekly wage averaged \$1,165.47, up \$5.44 from a year ago (0.5%). The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in August 2021 was up 5.3% from August 2020. *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 2021 unemployment rate for Connecticut was estimated by the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics program (LAUS) to be **7.2%** (seasonally adjusted), lower by 0.1 percentage point from the revised July 2021 level of 7.3%. The Connecticut unemployment rate was 8.4% in August 2020. The U.S. jobless rate in August 2021 was 5.2%, down two-tenths of a percentage point from the July 2021 rate of 5.4% and down from the 8.4% U.S. unemployment rate a year ago.

Unemployment claims for first-time filers (seasonally adjusted) in Connecticut were an average of 4,699 per week in August 2021, up 762 (19.4%) from the July 2021 (3,937) level but much lower by 5,374 claims (-53.4%) from the average weekly count of 10,073 in August 2020.

*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 21, 2021
(preliminary September 2021 data)*

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Labor Market Information is available at: www.ctworkforce.info
200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114 www.ct.gov/dol
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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Jobs - by Place of Work

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	August 2021 P	July 2021 R	June 2021	May 2021	August 2020	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,605,300	1,602,000	1,590,900	1,589,400	1,549,500	3,300	0.2%	55,800	3.6%
Total Private	1,379,700	1,374,200	1,366,100	1,367,300	1,328,200	5,500	0.4%	51,500	3.9%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	500	500	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	57,200	56,700	55,400	57,400	56,600	500	0.9%	600	1.1%
Manufacturing	152,800	151,700	151,300	152,300	151,500	1,100	0.7%	1,300	0.9%
Durable Goods	119,900	118,800	119,000	120,200	119,900	1,100	0.9%	0	0.0%
Nondurable Goods	32,900	32,900	32,300	32,100	31,600	0	0.0%	1,300	4.1%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	287,700	287,300	285,400	286,300	278,700	400	0.1%	9,000	3.2%
Wholesale	54,900	54,900	53,900	54,100	55,600	0	0.0%	-700	-1.3%
Retail	164,100	164,800	164,500	164,900	161,500	-700	-0.4%	2,600	1.6%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	68,700	67,600	67,000	67,300	61,600	1,100	1.6%	7,100	11.5%
Information	27,600	27,600	27,200	27,800	28,200	0	0.0%	-600	-2.1%
Financial Activities	117,700	117,100	117,400	118,100	119,100	600	0.5%	-1,400	-1.2%
Finance & Insurance	100,100	99,800	99,800	100,200	100,900	300	0.3%	-800	-0.8%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	17,600	17,300	17,600	17,900	18,200	300	1.7%	-600	-3.3%
Professional & Business Services	211,100	209,500	208,000	208,300	201,900	1,600	0.8%	9,200	4.6%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	95,000	94,100	93,900	94,400	91,300	900	1.0%	3,700	4.1%
Management of Companies	32,700	32,600	32,400	32,400	31,700	100	0.3%	1,000	3.2%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	83,400	82,800	81,700	81,500	78,900	600	0.7%	4,500	5.7%
Educational & Health Services	330,500	331,700	329,700	329,400	322,300	-1,200	-0.4%	8,200	2.5%
Educational Services	65,700	65,900	65,700	65,800	61,500	-200	-0.3%	4,200	6.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	264,800	265,800	264,000	263,600	260,800	-1,000	-0.4%	4,000	1.5%
Leisure and Hospitality	133,400	131,600	129,800	128,300	114,000	1,800	1.4%	19,400	17.0%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	21,700	21,400	21,700	21,300	18,800	300	1.4%	2,900	15.4%
Accommodation & Food Services	111,700	110,200	108,100	107,000	95,200	1,500	1.4%	16,500	17.3%
Other Services	61,200	60,500	61,400	58,900	55,400	700	1.2%	5,800	10.5%
Government**	225,600	227,800	224,800	222,100	221,300	-2,200	-1.0%	4,300	1.9%
UNITED STATES	147,190,000	146,955,000	145,902,000	144,940,000	141,149,000	235,000	0.2%	6,041,000	4.3%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	August 2021 P	July 2021 R	June 2021	May 2021	August 2020	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	376,600	373,000	373,900	374,200	366,000	3,600	1.0%	10,600	2.9%
Danbury	72,700	72,800	72,600	72,600	71,000	-100	-0.1%	1,700	2.4%
Hartford	550,800	548,200	546,800	548,200	541,500	2,600	0.5%	9,300	1.7%
New Haven	288,200	288,000	283,900	285,800	279,100	200	0.1%	9,100	3.3%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	115,700	115,400	114,700	114,700	112,400	300	0.3%	3,300	2.9%
Waterbury	65,900	65,500	65,600	65,000	62,600	400	0.6%	3,300	5.3%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	41,600	41,700	41,800	41,600	40,800	-100	-0.2%	800	2.0%
Torrington-Northwest	30,900	31,400	31,500	30,800	30,000	-500	-1.6%	900	3.0%
Danielson-Northeast	25,800	25,800	25,900	25,600	25,300	0	0.0%	500	2.0%

* 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.

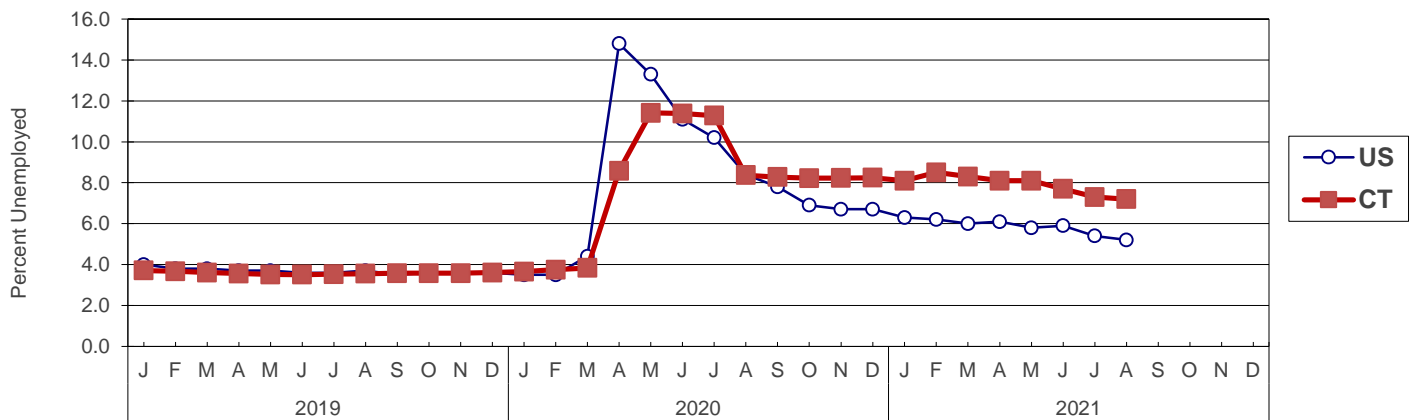
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	Aug 2021 P		Aug 2020 R		Change		Jul 2021 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	130,000	7.2	154,200	8.4	-24,200	-1.2	132,100	7.3
Labor Force	1,810,300		1,841,900		-31,600		1,809,200	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	8,384,000	5.2	13,542,000	8.4	-5,158,000	-3.2	8,702,000	5.4
Labor Force	161,537,000		160,818,000		719,000		161,347,000	

U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2019 - 2021



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Aug 2021 P		Aug 2020 R		Change		Jul 2021 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	27,200	6.2	38,600	8.6	-11,400	-2.4	31,200	7.0
Danbury	5,100	5.1	7,500	7.3	-2,400	-2.2	6,000	5.9
Danielson-Northeast*	2,300	5.6	3,200	7.7	-900	-2.1	2,600	6.3
Worcester NECTA	2,200	5.7	3,100	7.8	-900	-2.1	2,500	6.4
Hampton	100	4.5	100	5.3	0	-0.8	100	5.3
Enfield	2,500	5.4	3,600	7.6	-1,100	-2.2	2,900	6.2
Hartford	36,500	6.2	50,300	8.2	-13,800	-2.0	41,900	7.0
New Haven	18,500	5.8	25,400	7.8	-6,900	-2.0	21,300	6.6
Norwich-New London	8,700	6.6	14,200	10.4	-5,500	-3.8	9,800	7.3
Torrington-Northwest**	2,400	5.4	3,200	6.9	-800	-1.5	2,800	6.2
Torrington NECTA	1,600	6.6	2,100	8.3	-500	-1.7	1,900	7.5
Litchfield	800	4.0	1,100	5.2	-300	-1.2	1,000	4.7
Waterbury	8,000	7.5	10,700	9.8	-2,700	-2.3	9,100	8.3
CONNECTICUT	110,400	6.1	154,800	8.3	-44,400	-2.2	126,900	6.9
UNITED STATES	8,556,000	5.3	13,742,000	8.5	-5,186,000	-3.2	9,221,000	5.7

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

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

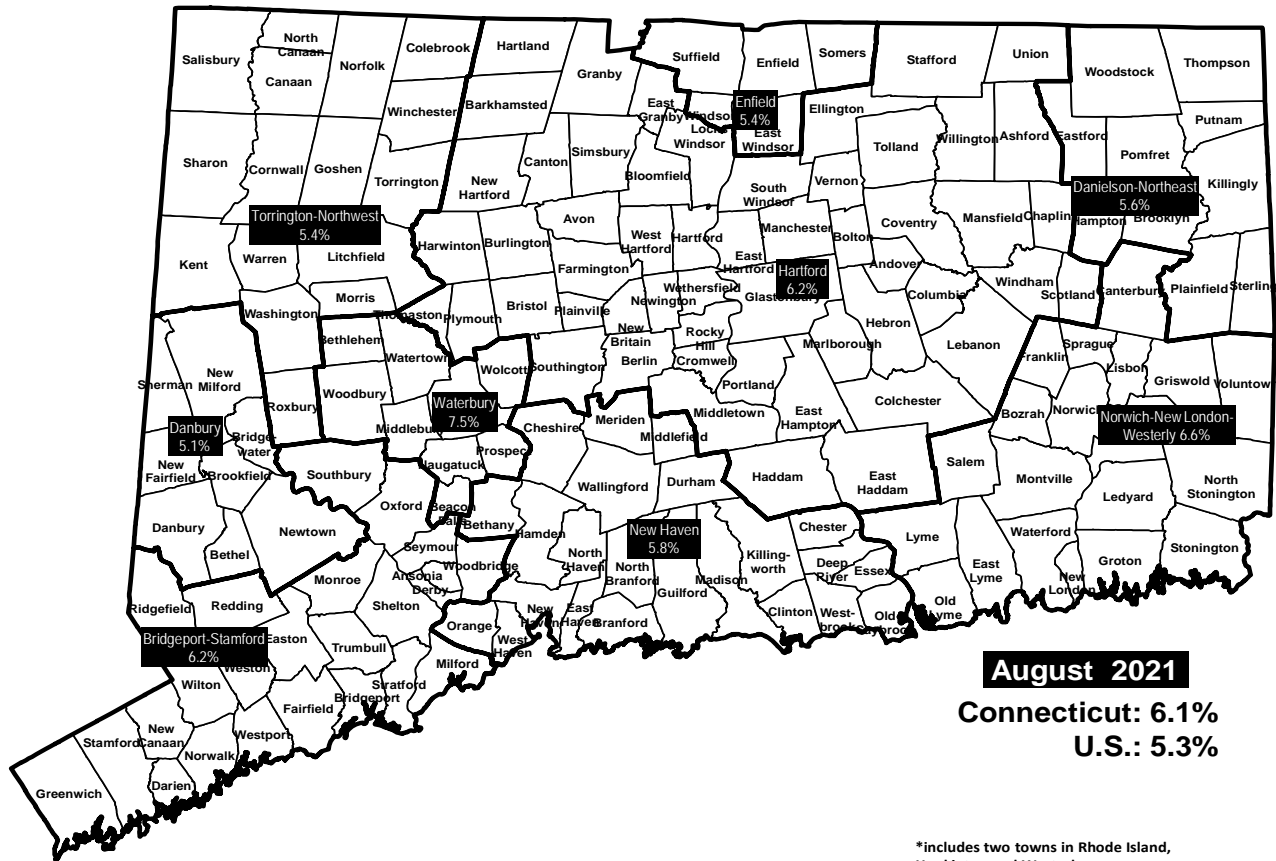
* Worcester NECTA, CT part and Hampton LMA are combined

** Torrington Micropolitan NECTA and Litchfield LMA are combined

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LABOR MARKET AREAS



HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	August 2021 P	August 2020	Change over Yr.	July 2021 R	August 2021 P	August 2020	Change over Yr.	July 2021 R	August 2021 P	August 2020	Change over Yr.	July 2021 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,165.47	\$1,160.03	\$5.44	\$1,147.81	34.4	34.3	0.1	34.1	\$33.88	\$33.82	\$0.06	\$33.66
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$1,092.11	\$1,180.34	-\$88.23	\$1,073.15	39.2	40.8	-1.6	38.7	\$27.86	\$28.93	-\$1.07	\$27.73

P = Preliminary

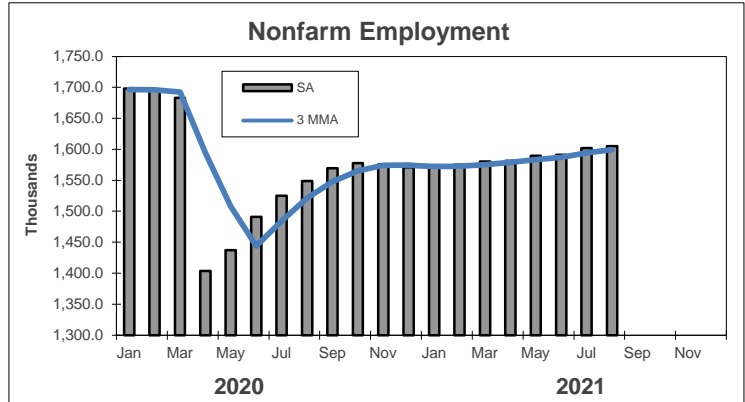
R = Revised

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

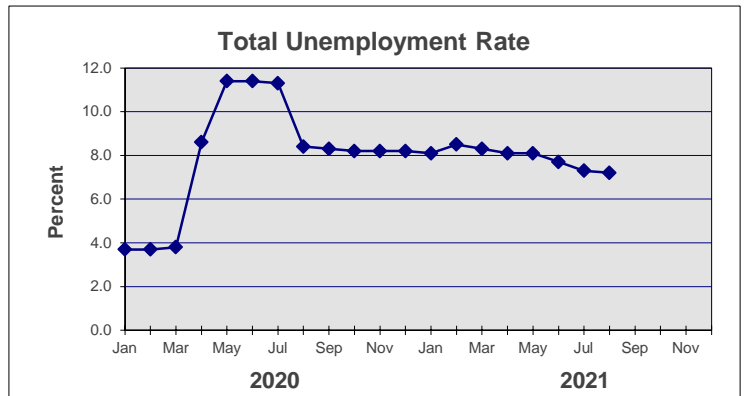
TRENDS

Seasonally Adjusted

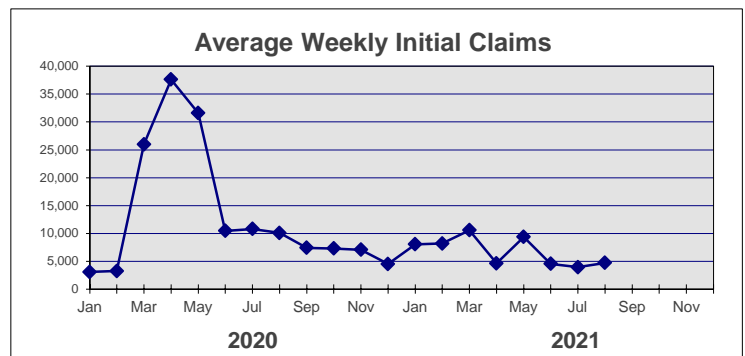
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2020		
Jan	1,698.0	3.7
Feb	1,696.3	3.7
Mar	1,683.3	3.8
Apr	1,403.9	8.6
May	1,437.5	11.4
Jun	1,490.9	11.4
Jul	1,525.0	11.3
Aug	1,549.0	8.4
Sep	1,569.2	8.3
Oct	1,577.7	8.2
Nov	1,575.4	8.2
Dec	1,570.8	8.2



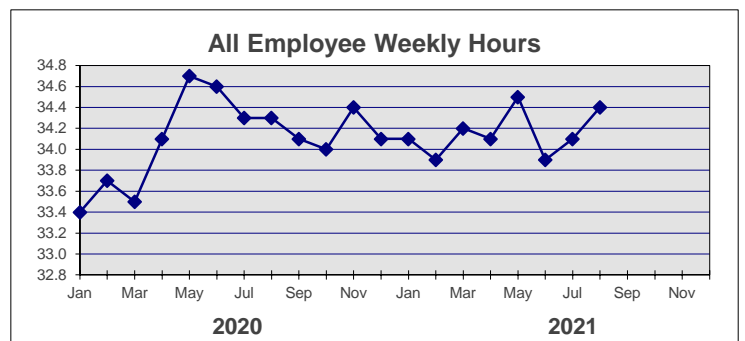
2021		
Jan	1,571.8	8.1
Feb	1,574.9	8.5
Mar	1,580.1	8.3
Apr	1,581.3	8.1
May	1,589.4	8.1
Jun	1,590.9	7.7
Jul	1,602.0 R	7.3 R
Aug	1,605.3 P	7.2 P
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2020		
Jan	3,079	33.4
Feb	3,243	33.7
Mar	25,989	33.5
Apr	37,632	34.1
May	31,592	34.7
Jun	10,446	34.6
Jul	10,794	34.3
Aug	10,073	34.3
Sep	7,408	34.1
Oct	7,295	34.0
Nov	7,072	34.4
Dec	4,493	34.1



2021		
Jan	8,040	34.1
Feb	8,184	33.9
Mar	10,553	34.2
Apr	4,609	34.1
May	9,346	34.5
Jun	4,524	33.9
Jul	3,937	34.1 R
Aug	4,699	34.4 P
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute