



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research

Danté Bartolomeo, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2022 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 4.2%

US Unemployment Rate = 3.5%

Connecticut's jobless rate steady at 4.2% in December as payrolls post decline (-1,600)

WETHERSFIELD, January 23, 2023 – Connecticut's nonfarm industry payrolls decreased by 1,600 positions (-0.1%) in December 2022 to 1,667,900, while the state's unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.2% (preliminary, seasonally adjusted). Connecticut's nonfarm industry employment is now 32,100 (2.0%) positions above the December 2021 level. The Nutmeg State has recovered 89.3% (258,300) of the 289,400 nonagricultural positions lost during the 2020 COVID lockdown. Temporary election poll workers boosted employment in November and led to December's decline. Annual average employment in 2022 was 41,600 (2.6%) above the 2021 average. Connecticut's unemployment rate was unchanged from the 4.2% November rate, and down by nine-tenths of a percentage point from the 5.1% rate a year ago. This release presents the labor statistics from two surveys (business establishment and residential) overseen by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in partnership with the states.

"In 2022, Connecticut saw strong job gains, an expanding labor force, and declines in unemployment," said Patrick Flaherty, Director of the Office of Research at the Connecticut Department of Labor. "The Federal Reserve is attempting to slow the national economy to lower inflation, and Connecticut is participating in that slowdown as job growth slowed toward the end of the year. However, the low level of unemployment claims and the high level of job openings indicate that if the nation is able to avoid recession, Connecticut will see continued job gains in 2023."

Connecticut's private sector employment held even in December 2022 at 1,441,200 and is now higher by 30,700 positions (2.2%) from the December 2021 level. The state's private sector is now 92.1% recovered from the April 2020 COVID employment low. The **government supersector** was lower last month, declining 1,600 jobs (-0.7%) to a level of 226,700. Total government employment in the state is just 1,400 positions (0.6%) above year-ago levels and the public sector is only 57.6% recovered from the COVID April 2020 job trough. Local government (-1,600) accounted for all of the decrease last month as the temporary poll workers for election day (November 8th) were gone by December. The government *supersector* in Connecticut includes all federal, state, local, and tribal government employment, including public education and Native American casino employment located on tribal lands.

Five of the ten major industry *supersectors* tallied jobs in December 2022, while five declined.

The five Connecticut industry *supersectors* that increased employment in December 2022 (below)

Increasing Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Increase	Percent Change	December 2022 Employment
Leisure & Hospitality	+1,000	0.7%	151,700
Education & Health Services	+1,000	0.3%	343,000
Manufacturing	+800	0.5%	161,200
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	+200	0.1%	297,600
Financial Activities	+100	0.1%	116,300

The five industry *supersectors* that decreased in jobs in December 2022 (below)

Decreasing Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Decrease	Percent Change	December 2022 Employment
Government	-1,600	-0.7%	226,700
Professional & Business Services	-1,300	-0.6%	217,800
Construction & Mining	-1,100	-1.7%	62,700
Other Services	-400	-0.7%	60,100
Information	-300	-1.0%	30,800

The initially released November 2022 job gain of 6,200 (0.4%) was revised lower by 3,300 positions to a still positive gain of 2,900 (0.2%). November's initially released private sector gain of 3,300 was revised down to a 300 gain. The largest downward revision was in Administrative & Support Services.

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Four of the six major Connecticut **LMAs** that are seasonally adjusted by the BLS showed nonfarm employment gains in December 2022, while the **Danbury LMA** (0.0%, 76,800) was unchanged. The **Waterbury LMA** (0.5%, 66,300) and the **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (0.1%, 398,900) each added 300 positions to lead regional numerical job gains, while the Brass City LMA led in percentage gains overall (0.5%). The **New Haven LMA** (0.1%, 299,500) added 200 positions, while the **Hartford LMA** (0.02%, 574,000) increased 100 jobs. The **Norwich-New London-Westerly LMA** (-0.9%, 120,800) decreased 1,100 jobs.

Note: The six major Connecticut LMAs are independently estimated from the statewide data by the BLS and cover around 90% of the nonfarm employment in the state. Thus, estimates will not exactly sum to the statewide total.

Hours and Earnings: The December 2022 **private sector** workweek, *not seasonally adjusted*, averaging 33.5 hours, is lower by nine-tenths of an hour (-0.9%) from the December 2021 average (34.4). Average hourly earnings at \$35.22 last month, not seasonally adjusted, were up by \$1.23 (3.6%) from the December 2021 estimate of \$33.99. The resultant December 2022 private sector weekly wage averaged \$1,179.87, higher by \$10.16 from a year ago (0.9%, \$1,169.26). The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in December 2022 was up 6.5% from a year ago. *Current all-employee private sector hours and earnings estimates can be volatile due to fluctuating sample responses.*

Labor Force Data (residential household survey)

The December 2022 unemployment rate for Connecticut was calculated by the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics program (LAUS) to be **4.2%** (seasonally adjusted). This is unchanged from the November 2022 level of 4.2%. The Connecticut unemployment rate was 5.1% in December 2021. The statewide jobless rate was 3.4% in February 2020 before the COVID lockdown and got as low as 3.7% in July 2022. Seasonal factors pushed the seasonally adjusted rate up. *Not seasonally adjusted*, the Connecticut December unemployment rate and number unemployed were lower than any month since 2019. The U.S. unemployment rate for December 2022 was 3.5%, down from the revised November 2022 rate (3.6%) and lower than the December 2021 jobless rate of 3.9% (seasonally adjusted).

Unemployment claims for first-time filers (seasonally adjusted) in Connecticut were an average of 3,952 per week in December 2022, up by 452 (12.9%) from the November 2022 (3,500) level and higher by 172 (4.6%) than the average weekly count of 3,780 in December 2021.

*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: Friday, March 10, 2023
(Preliminary January 2023 data on the newly updated benchmark)*

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Jobs - by Place of Work

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	December 2022 P	November 2022 R	October 2022	September 2022	December 2021	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,667,900	1,669,500	1,666,600	1,667,700	1,635,800	-1,600	-0.1%	32,100	2.0%
Total Private	1,441,200	1,441,200	1,440,900	1,440,900	1,410,500	0	0.0%	30,700	2.2%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	500	500	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	62,200	63,300	63,200	62,800	61,700	-1,100	-1.7%	500	0.8%
Manufacturing	161,200	160,400	160,900	160,300	156,400	800	0.5%	4,800	3.1%
Durable Goods	124,900	124,600	124,900	124,300	121,900	300	0.2%	3,000	2.5%
Nondurable Goods	36,300	35,800	36,000	36,000	34,500	500	1.4%	1,800	5.2%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	297,600	297,400	298,100	299,600	291,700	200	0.1%	5,900	2.0%
Wholesale	61,500	61,100	60,300	61,200	58,100	400	0.7%	3,400	5.9%
Retail	166,000	166,600	168,100	168,700	165,600	-600	-0.4%	400	0.2%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	70,100	69,700	69,700	69,700	68,000	400	0.6%	2,100	3.1%
Information	30,800	31,100	31,000	30,800	30,200	-300	-1.0%	600	2.0%
Financial Activities	116,300	116,200	117,300	117,700	116,700	100	0.1%	-400	-0.3%
Finance & Insurance	97,100	97,000	97,800	98,200	97,700	100	0.1%	-600	-0.6%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	19,200	19,200	19,500	19,500	19,000	0	0.0%	200	1.1%
Professional & Business Services	217,800	219,100	218,200	219,400	215,300	-1,300	-0.6%	2,500	1.2%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	99,600	99,900	99,400	98,600	96,800	-300	-0.3%	2,800	2.9%
Management of Companies	30,700	30,600	30,600	30,800	30,100	100	0.3%	600	2.0%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	87,500	88,600	88,200	90,000	88,400	-1,100	-1.2%	-900	-1.0%
Educational & Health Services	343,000	342,000	341,300	340,100	334,900	1,000	0.3%	8,100	2.4%
Educational Services	68,600	68,400	68,600	68,600	66,700	200	0.3%	1,900	2.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	274,400	273,600	272,700	271,500	268,200	800	0.3%	6,200	2.3%
Leisure and Hospitality	151,700	150,700	150,100	149,100	142,600	1,000	0.7%	9,100	6.4%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	26,700	26,000	25,600	25,600	24,200	700	2.7%	2,500	10.3%
Accommodation & Food Services	125,000	124,700	124,500	123,500	118,400	300	0.2%	6,600	5.6%
Other Services	60,100	60,500	60,300	60,600	60,500	-400	-0.7%	-400	-0.7%
Government**	226,700	228,300	225,700	226,800	225,300	-1,600	-0.7%	1,400	0.6%
UNITED STATES	153,743,000	153,520,000	153,264,000	153,001,000	149,240,000	223,000	0.1%	4,503,000	3.0%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	December 2022 P	November 2022 R	October 2022	September 2022	December 2021	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	398,900	398,600	398,600	397,300	389,500	300	0.1%	9,400	2.4%
Danbury	76,800	76,800	76,600	76,200	74,700	0	0.0%	2,100	2.8%
Hartford	574,000	573,900	572,700	570,700	562,900	100	0.0%	11,100	2.0%
New Haven	299,500	299,300	297,900	296,100	291,400	200	0.1%	8,100	2.8%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	120,800	121,900	121,300	121,500	118,300	-1,100	-0.9%	2,500	2.1%
Waterbury	66,300	66,000	66,000	65,800	65,600	300	0.5%	700	1.1%
Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated - not BLS)									
Enfield	42,900	43,000	42,500	42,200	42,100	-100	-0.2%	800	1.9%
Torrington-Northwest	32,800	33,000	33,300	33,200	31,800	-200	-0.6%	1,000	3.1%
Danielson-Northeast	27,200	27,200	27,100	27,100	26,500	0	0.0%	700	2.6%

* 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.

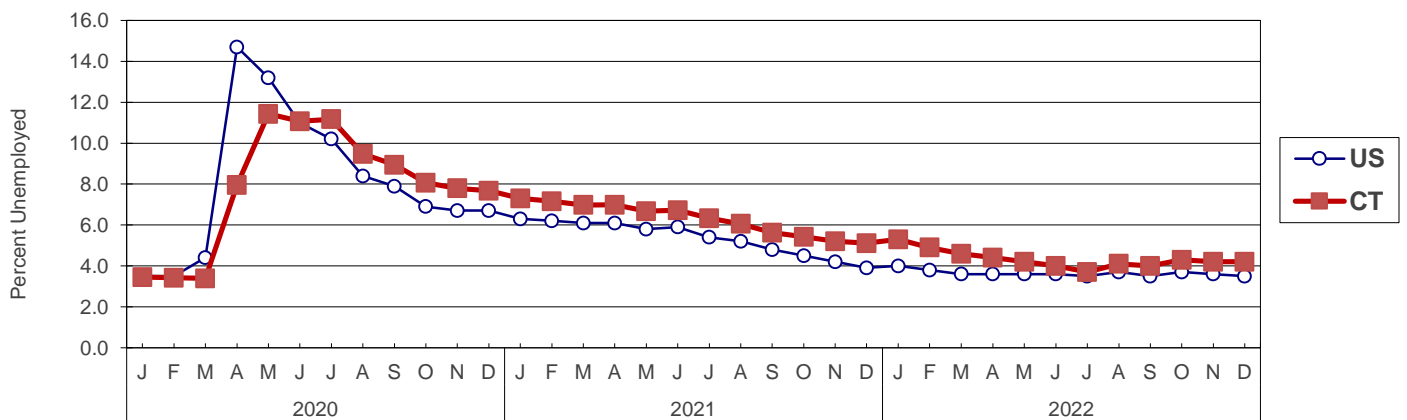
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	Dec 2022 P		Dec 2021 R		Change		Nov 2022 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	79,800	4.2	94,700	5.1	-14,900	-0.9	79,500	4.2
Labor Force	1,897,100		1,853,700		43,400		1,898,500	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	5,722,000	3.5	6,329,000	3.9	-607,000	-0.4	6,000,000	3.6
Labor Force	164,966,000		162,410,000		2,556,000		164,527,000	

U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted
2020 - 2022



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Dec 2022 P		Dec 2021 R		Change		Nov 2022 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	14,900	3.2	18,500	4.1	-3,600	-0.9	16,800	3.7
Danbury	2,800	2.7	3,400	3.3	-600	-0.6	3,100	3.0
Danielson-Northeast*	1,300	3.1	1,700	3.9	-400	-0.8	1,500	3.4
Worcester NECTA	1,300	3.1	1,600	3.9	-300	-0.8	1,400	3.4
Hampton	100	2.5	100	3.1	0	-0.6	100	2.7
Enfield	1,500	3.0	1,800	3.7	-300	-0.7	1,600	3.2
Hartford	19,100	3.1	24,800	4.1	-5,700	-1.0	21,500	3.5
New Haven	9,700	2.9	12,400	3.8	-2,700	-0.9	11,100	3.3
Norwich-New London	4,300	3.2	6,000	4.5	-1,700	-1.3	5,000	3.7
Torrington-Northwest**	1,300	2.9	1,700	3.7	-400	-0.8	1,500	3.2
Torrington NECTA	900	3.4	1,100	4.4	-200	-1.0	1,000	3.7
Litchfield	500	2.3	600	2.8	-100	-0.5	500	2.5
Waterbury	4,400	4.0	5,600	5.1	-1,200	-1.1	4,800	4.3
CONNECTICUT	58,900	3.1	75,300	4.1	-16,400	-1.0	66,300	3.5
UNITED STATES	5,352,000	3.3	5,964,000	3.7	-612,000	-0.4	5,523,000	3.4

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

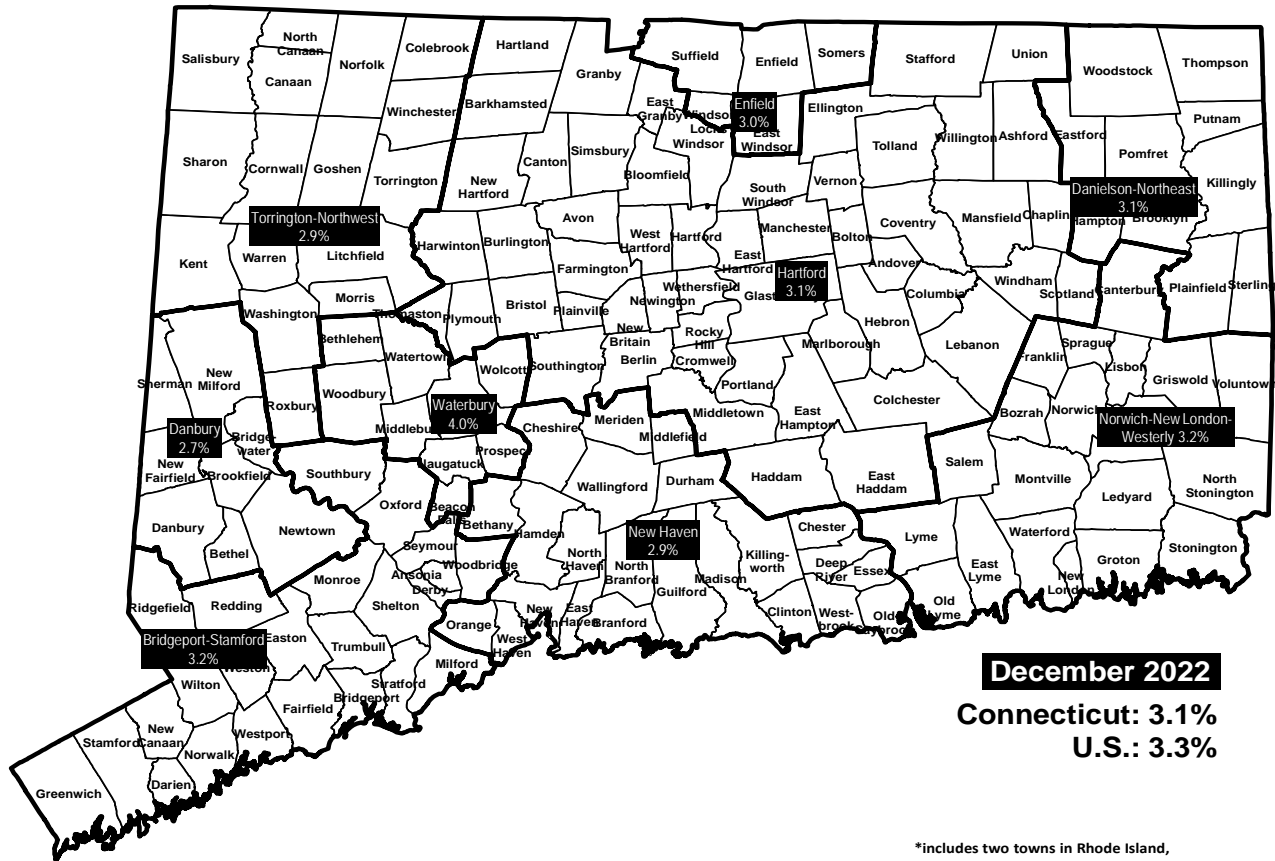
Labor force data included in this publication are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

* 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			
	Dec. 2022 P	Dec. 2021	Change over Yr.	Nov. 2022 R	Dec. 2022 P	Dec. 2021	Change over Yr.	Nov. 2022 R	Dec. 2022 P	Dec. 2021	Change over Yr.	Nov. 2022 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,179.87	\$1,169.26	\$10.61	\$1,180.85	33.5	34.4	-0.9	33.7	\$35.22	\$33.99	\$1.23	\$35.04
Manufacturing* Production Workers	\$1,173.28	\$1,116.57	\$56.71	\$1,187.03	41.4	39.0	2.4	41.9	\$28.34	\$28.63	-\$0.29	\$28.33

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

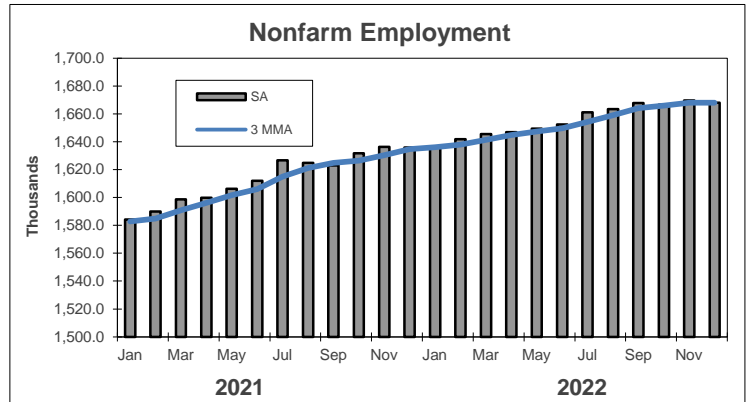
P = Preliminary R = Revised

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: www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi

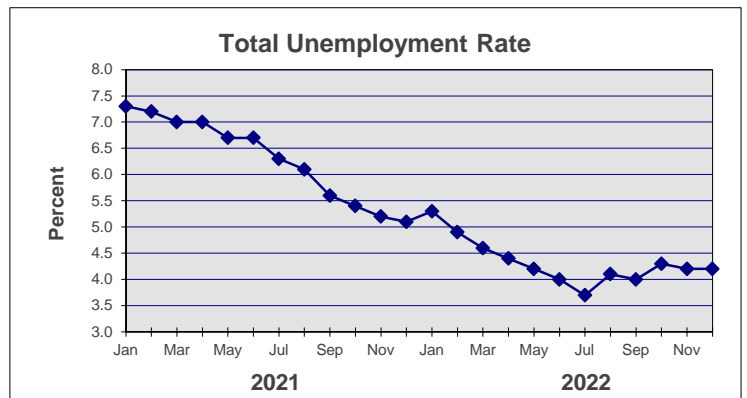
TRENDS

Seasonally Adjusted

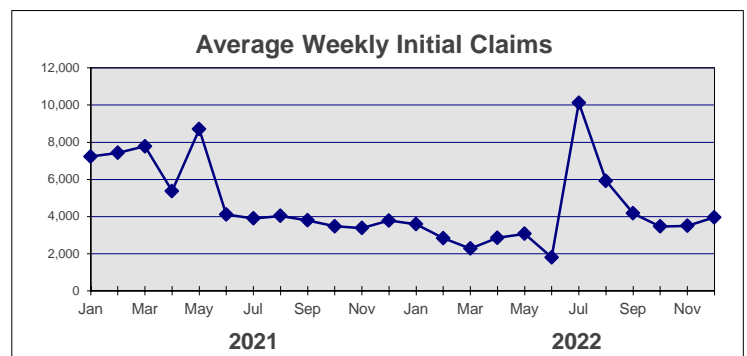
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2021		
Jan	1,584.1	7.3
Feb	1,590.0	7.2
Mar	1,598.7	7.0
Apr	1,599.8	7.0
May	1,606.3	6.7
Jun	1,612.0	6.7
Jul	1,626.6	6.3
Aug	1,624.7	6.1
Sep	1,622.9	5.6
Oct	1,631.6	5.4
Nov	1,636.3	5.2
Dec	1,635.8	5.1



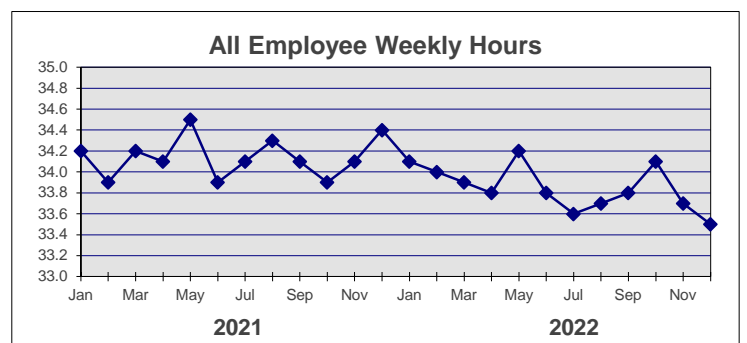
2022		
Jan	1,636.4	5.3
Feb	1,641.8	4.9
Mar	1,645.5	4.6
Apr	1,646.9	4.4
May	1,649.3	4.2
Jun	1,652.3	4.0
Jul	1,661.0	3.7
Aug	1,663.4	4.1
Sep	1,667.7	4.0
Oct	1,666.6	4.3
Nov	1,669.5 R	4.2 R
Dec	1,667.9 P	4.2 P



	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2021		
Jan	7,226	34.2
Feb	7,431	33.9
Mar	7,780	34.2
Apr	5,366	34.1
May	8,702	34.5
Jun	4,109	33.9
Jul	3,892	34.1
Aug	4,031	34.3
Sep	3,789	34.1
Oct	3,472	33.9
Nov	3,376	34.1
Dec	3,780	34.4



2022		
Jan	3,585	34.1
Feb	2,837	34.0
Mar	2,275	33.9
Apr	2,848	33.8
May	3,066	34.2
Jun	1,800	33.8
Jul	10,124	33.6
Aug	5,915	33.7
Sep	4,170	33.8
Oct	3,459	34.1
Nov	3,500	33.7 R
Dec	3,952	33.5 P



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute