



# LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research  
Kurt Westby, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 2020 Data  
CT Unemployment Rate = 6.1%  
US Unemployment Rate = 6.9%

## Connecticut adds 14,100 payroll jobs as unemployment falls 1.6% points to 6.1%

WETHERSFIELD, November 19, 2020 – The state of Connecticut got back 14,100 additional nonfarm payroll jobs in October 2020 (up 0.9%) after a revised 18,000 increase in September. Over the year, nonfarm industry employment in the state has fallen by 89,800 (-5.3%) positions to 1,600,200 seasonally adjusted. The preliminary September 2020 job gain of 17,000 was revised higher by 1,000 jobs. These are the nonfarm industry job estimates from the establishment survey overseen by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

“Nearly all sectors added jobs in October, and Connecticut has now regained more than two-thirds of the private sector jobs that were lost in March and April. Transportation and Warehousing is more than 90% recovered,” said Patrick Flaherty, Acting Director of the Office of Research at the Connecticut Department of Labor. “The drop in the unemployment rate is consistent with other data, but the level of the unemployment rate is lower than would be indicated by the number of unemployment insurance claims.”

**Private sector** employment increased by 11,200 (0.8%) to 1,376,400 jobs in October but remains lower by 76,800 (-5.3%) jobs from October 2019. The **government supersector** regained 2,900 jobs in October (1.3%) to a total of 223,800 but is lower by 13,000 jobs (-5.5%) over the year. The local government (4,600, 3.4%) segment continues to regain positions making up for a large federal government employment (-1,600) decline from the Census completion. State government (-100, -0.2) had a smaller job loss in October. The **government supersector** includes all federal, state and local employment, including public education and Native American casino employment located on tribal land.

**Nine of the ten major industry supersectors had employment gains in October.**

Increasing Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Increase	Percent Change	October 2020 Employment
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	+4,400	1.6%	282,900
Leisure & Hospitality	+3,600	2.8%	132,100
Government	+2,900	1.3%	223,800
Other Services	+1,200	2.1%	57,500
Financial Activities	+800	0.7%	120,300
Professional & Business Services	+500	0.2%	214,200
Information	+400	1.4%	30,000
Manufacturing	+400	0.3%	156,300
Education & Health	+300	0.1%	325,500

**One industry supersector underwent a decline.**

Declining Sector			
Industry Sector	Amount of Decrease	Percent Change	October 2020 Employment
Construction and Mining	-400	-0.7%	57,600

**Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs):** Five of the six **LMAs** seasonally adjusted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics showed employment increases in October 2020, while the **Danbury LMA** (-0.7%, 72,300) lost 500 jobs. The **New Haven LMA** (1.5%, 277,100) grew by 4,200 positions for the *largest monthly gain*. The **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (0.9%, 369,800) was next adding 3,300 positions. The **Norwich–New London–Westerly LMA** (1.8%, 116,900) chipped in a 2,100 job increase for the *largest monthly percentage gain*. The **Hartford LMA** (0.2%, 555,900) posted a monthly increase of 1,000 and the **Waterbury LMA** (0.3%, 61,400) increased by 200.

*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 October 2020, up two-tenths of an hour from the same month a year ago (0.6%). Average hourly earnings at \$34.08, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$0.89 (2.7%) from the October 2019 estimate (\$33.19). Average private sector weekly pay amounted to \$1,162.13, up \$36.99 from a year ago (3.3%). The 12-month percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in October 2020 was 1.2%. 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 October 2020 official unemployment rate for Connecticut was estimated by the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics program (LAUS) to be 6.1% (seasonally adjusted), down 1.6 percentage points from the revised September level of 7.7%. The Connecticut unemployment rate was 3.8% for October 2019. The US jobless rate in October 2020 was 6.9%, down 1.0 percentage points from September’s rate of 7.9%.

An analysis of unemployment insurance claims suggests that the official BLS estimate continues to understate the level of unemployment in Connecticut. **The Office of Research estimates the unemployment rate to be in the range of 10% - 11% for the Mid-October period (same time frame as the BLS estimate).** This estimate was made using Connecticut residential unemployment insurance claims and an estimate of the unemployed self-employed.

Unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut were an average of 7,016 per week in October, down 475 from September (-6.3%) but higher by 3,778 claims (116.7%) from the October 2019 level of 3,238.

*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, December 17, 2020 (November 2020, preliminary data)*

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Labor Market Information is available at: [www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi](http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi)  
200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114 [www.ct.gov/dol](http://www.ct.gov/dol)  
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# NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## Jobs - by Place of Work

### CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	October 2020 P	September 2020 R	August 2020	July 2020	October 2019	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>	<b>1,600,200</b>	<b>1,586,100</b>	<b>1,568,100</b>	<b>1,546,200</b>	<b>1,690,000</b>	<b>14,100</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>-89,800</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>1,376,400</b>	<b>1,365,200</b>	<b>1,344,900</b>	<b>1,327,800</b>	<b>1,453,200</b>	<b>11,200</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>-76,800</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>
<b>Goods Producing Industries</b>									
Mining	500	600	600	600	500	-100	-16.7%	0	0.0%
Construction	57,100	57,400	57,600	57,200	60,100	-300	-0.5%	-3,000	-5.0%
Manufacturing	156,300	155,900	154,400	156,200	161,800	400	0.3%	-5,500	-3.4%
Durable Goods	122,700	122,400	121,400	122,900	127,200	300	0.2%	-4,500	-3.5%
Nondurable Goods	33,600	33,500	33,000	33,300	34,600	100	0.3%	-1,000	-2.9%
<b>Service Providing Industries</b>									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	282,900	278,500	276,000	272,300	292,500	4,400	1.6%	-9,600	-3.3%
Wholesale	59,400	58,700	58,300	58,900	59,300	700	1.2%	100	0.2%
Retail	163,300	161,800	158,200	156,200	173,700	1,500	0.9%	-10,400	-6.0%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	60,200	58,000	59,500	57,200	59,500	2,200	3.8%	700	1.2%
Information	30,000	29,600	29,000	29,000	31,700	400	1.4%	-1,700	-5.4%
Financial Activities	120,300	119,500	120,100	118,700	123,500	800	0.7%	-3,200	-2.6%
Finance & Insurance	100,900	100,900	101,400	100,500	103,300	0	0.0%	-2,400	-2.3%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	19,400	18,600	18,700	18,200	20,200	800	4.3%	-800	-4.0%
Professional & Business Services	214,200	213,700	208,000	206,500	220,100	500	0.2%	-5,900	-2.7%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	95,300	94,500	93,400	92,200	96,600	800	0.8%	-1,300	-1.3%
Management of Companies	32,600	33,200	32,800	32,600	33,200	-600	-1.8%	-600	-1.8%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	86,300	86,000	81,800	81,700	90,300	300	0.3%	-4,000	-4.4%
Educational & Health Services	325,500	325,200	321,200	313,500	341,000	300	0.1%	-15,500	-4.5%
Educational Services	61,700	63,000	61,700	60,600	67,700	-1,300	-2.1%	-6,000	-8.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	263,800	262,200	259,500	252,900	273,300	1,600	0.6%	-9,500	-3.5%
Leisure and Hospitality	132,100	128,500	121,000	117,000	158,000	3,600	2.8%	-25,900	-16.4%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	22,400	22,200	20,300	19,700	28,600	200	0.9%	-6,200	-21.7%
Accommodation & Food Services	109,700	106,300	100,700	97,300	129,400	3,400	3.2%	-19,700	-15.2%
Other Services	57,500	56,300	57,000	56,800	64,000	1,200	2.1%	-6,500	-10.2%
Government**	223,800	220,900	223,200	218,400	236,800	2,900	1.3%	-13,000	-5.5%
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>142,373,000</b>	<b>141,735,000</b>	<b>141,063,000</b>	<b>139,570,000</b>	<b>151,553,000</b>	<b>638,000</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>-9,180,000</b>	<b>-6.1%</b>

### LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	October 2020 P	September 2020 R	August 2020	July 2020	October 2019	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
<b>Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk</b>	369,800	366,500	359,300	354,600	405,600	3,300	0.9%	-35,800	-8.8%
<b>Danbury</b>	72,300	72,800	73,000	71,600	77,800	-500	-0.7%	-5,500	-7.1%
<b>Hartford</b>	555,900	554,900	549,200	539,000	584,600	1,000	0.2%	-28,700	-4.9%
<b>New Haven</b>	277,100	272,900	274,900	268,700	290,500	4,200	1.5%	-13,400	-4.6%
<b>Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI</b>	116,900	114,800	113,600	112,400	128,900	2,100	1.8%	-12,000	-9.3%
<b>Waterbury</b>	61,400	61,200	61,400	59,800	68,100	200	0.3%	-6,700	-9.8%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
<b>Enfield</b>	42,700	42,600	42,600	42,500	44,500	100	0.2%	-1,800	-4.0%
<b>Torrington-Northwest</b>	31,200	30,900	30,800	30,800	33,400	300	1.0%	-2,200	-6.6%
<b>Danielson-Northeast</b>	26,300	26,200	26,000	26,000	27,600	100	0.4%	-1,300	-4.7%

\* Less than 0.05% \*\* Includes Native American tribal government employment

P = Preliminary

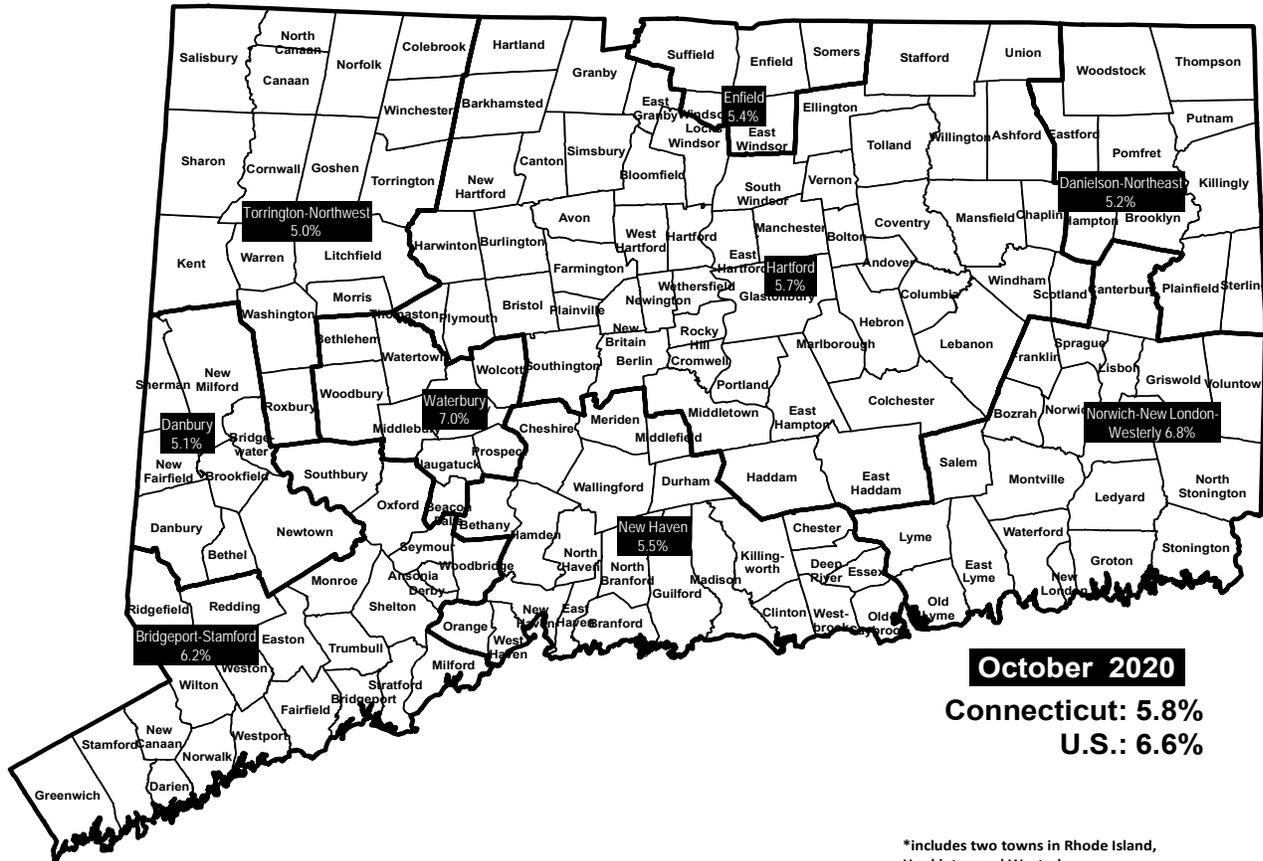
R = Revised

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](mailto:dol.lmi@ct.gov). Danbury and Waterbury LMA's are now back to being seasonally adjusted.

# 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			
	Oct. 2020 P	Oct. 2019	Change over Yr.	Sep 2020 R	Oct. 2020 P	Oct. 2019	Change over Yr.	Sep 2020 R	Oct. 2020 P	Oct. 2019	Change over Yr.	Sep 2020 R
<b>Private Industry All Employees</b>	\$1,162.13	\$1,125.14	\$36.99	\$1,151.22	34.1	33.9	0.2	34.1	\$34.08	\$33.19	\$0.89	\$33.76
<b>Manufacturing*</b>												
<b>Production Workers</b>	\$1,183.82	\$1,183.13	\$0.69	\$1,197.39	40.5	42.3	-1.8	40.7	\$29.23	\$27.97	\$1.26	\$29.42

P = Preliminary

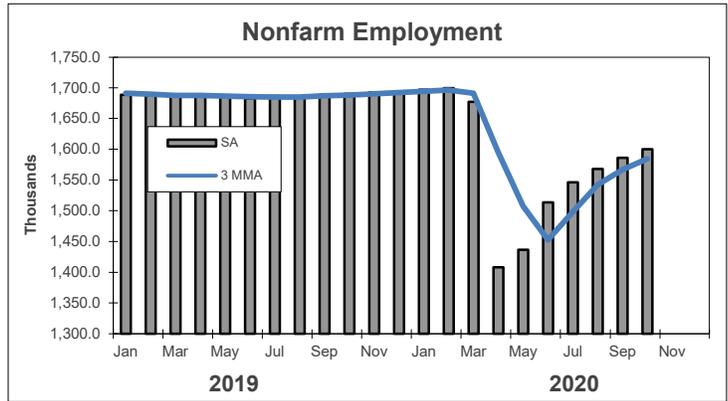
R = Revised

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](http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi)

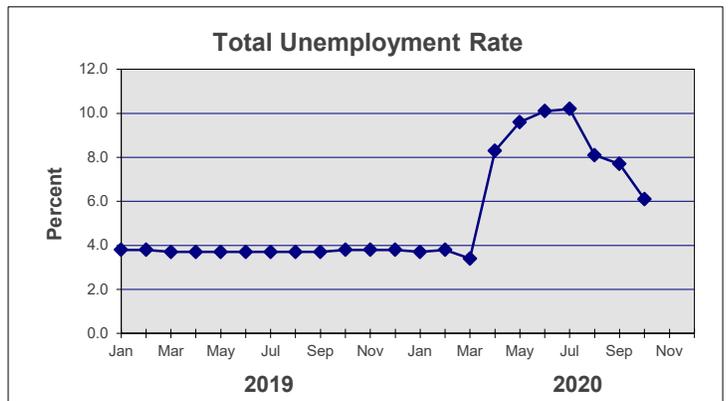
# TRENDS

## Seasonally Adjusted

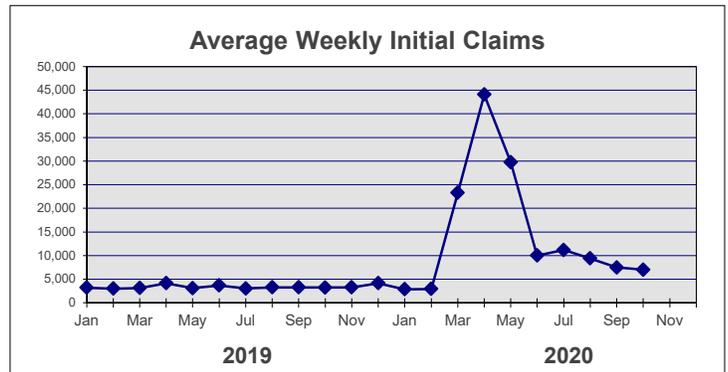
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
<b>2019</b>		
Jan	1,688.3	3.8
Feb	1,687.5	3.8
Mar	1,686.6	3.7
Apr	1,687.9	3.7
May	1,685.4	3.7
Jun	1,682.6	3.7
Jul	1,686.7	3.7
Aug	1,685.3	3.7
Sep	1,688.3	3.7
Oct	1,690.0	3.8
Nov	1,692.5	3.8
Dec	1,693.5	3.8



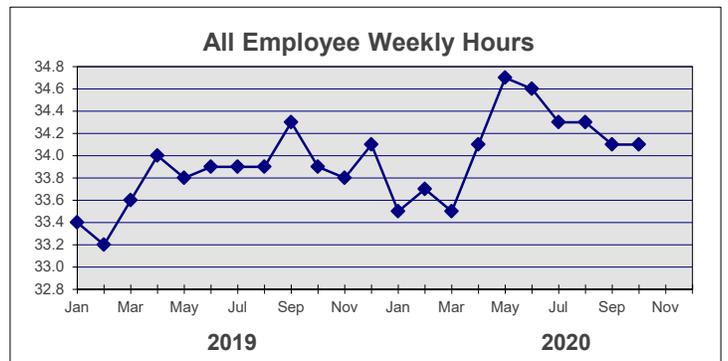
<b>2020</b>		
Jan	1,696.8	3.7
Feb	1,699.5	3.8
Mar	1,677.4	3.4
Apr	1,408.2	8.3
May	1,436.6	9.6
Jun	1,513.9	10.1
Jul	1,546.2	10.2
Aug	1,568.1	8.1
Sep	1,586.1 R	7.7 R
Oct	1,600.2 P	6.1 P
Nov		
Dec		



	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
<b>2019</b>		
Jan	3,184	33.4
Feb	2,985	33.2
Mar	3,121	33.6
Apr	4,146	34.0
May	3,114	33.8
Jun	3,655	33.9
Jul	3,046	33.9
Aug	3,280	33.9
Sep	3,279	34.3
Oct	3,238	33.9
Nov	3,254	33.8
Dec	4,146	34.1



<b>2020</b>		
Jan	2,854	33.5
Feb	2,927	33.7
Mar	23,264	33.5
Apr	44,075	34.1
May	29,758	34.7
Jun	9,986	34.6
Jul	11,168	34.3
Aug	9,378	34.3
Sep	7,491	34.1 R
Oct	7,016	34.1 P
Nov		
Dec		



\* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

\*\* Labor-management dispute

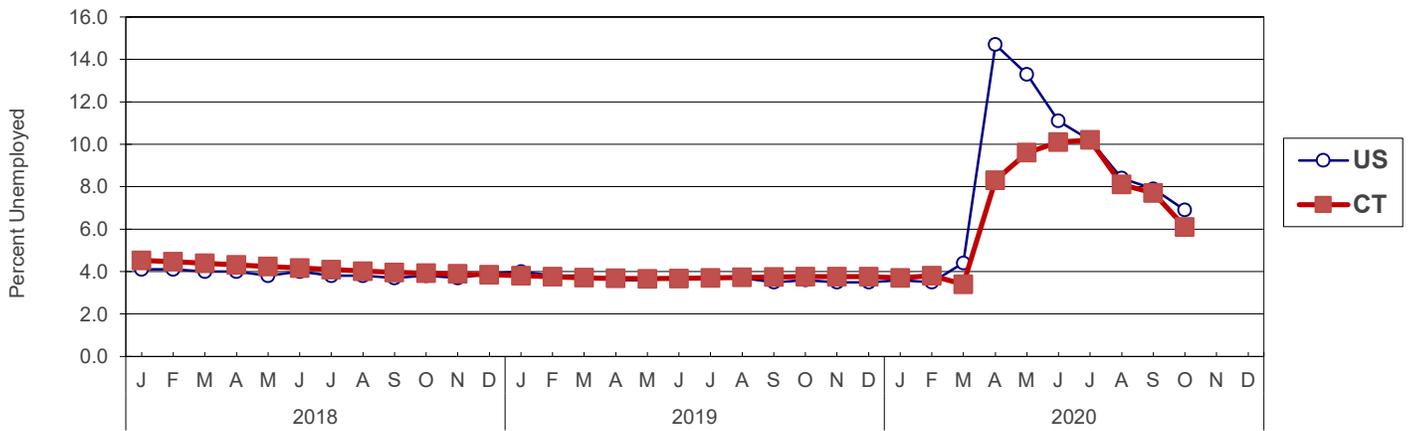
# UNEMPLOYMENT

## Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

### CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	Oct 2020 P		Oct 2019 R		Change		Sep 2020 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>								
Unemployed	113,800	6.1	72,500	3.8	41,300	2.3	146,400	7.7
Labor Force	1,852,400		1,926,800		-74,400		1,898,600	
<b>UNITED STATES</b>								
Unemployed	11,061,000	6.9	5,857,000	3.6	5,204,000	3.3	12,580,000	7.9
Labor Force	160,867,000		164,401,000		-3,534,000		160,143,000	

### U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2018 - 2020



### LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Oct 2020 P		Oct 2019 R		Change		Sep 2020 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	27,400	6.2	16,500	3.5	10,900	2.7	35,800	7.9
Danbury	5,300	5.1	3,000	2.8	2,300	2.3	7,000	6.7
Danielson-Northeast*	2,200	5.2	1,500	3.4	700	1.8	2,900	6.8
Worcester NECTA	2,100	5.3	1,500	3.5	600	1.8	2,800	6.9
Hampton	100	3.7	100	2.8	0	0.9	100	4.9
Enfield	2,500	5.4	1,700	3.2	800	2.2	3,300	6.9
Hartford	35,000	5.7	22,100	3.5	12,900	2.2	45,900	7.2
New Haven	18,000	5.5	11,300	3.4	6,700	2.1	23,400	7.1
Norwich-New London	9,300	6.8	4,700	3.3	4,600	3.5	12,700	9.1
Torrington-Northwest**	2,300	5.0	1,400	3.0	900	2.0	2,900	6.3
Torrington NECTA	1,500	6.0	900	3.5	600	2.5	2,000	7.5
Litchfield	800	3.7	500	2.3	300	1.4	1,000	4.7
Waterbury	7,500	7.0	4,800	4.3	2,700	2.7	9,800	8.9
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>	<b>108,500</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>66,600</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>41,900</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>142,300</b>	<b>7.5</b>
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>10,620,000</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>5,510,000</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>5,110,000</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>12,277,000</b>	<b>7.7</b>

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