THE CONNECTICUT
ECONOMIC DIGEST

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APRIL 2001

ARTICLES

ALSO INSIDE

In February...

- Employment .... up 1,300
- Unemployment rate 1.9%
- Housing permits..........up 39%

Regional Economic Retrospective

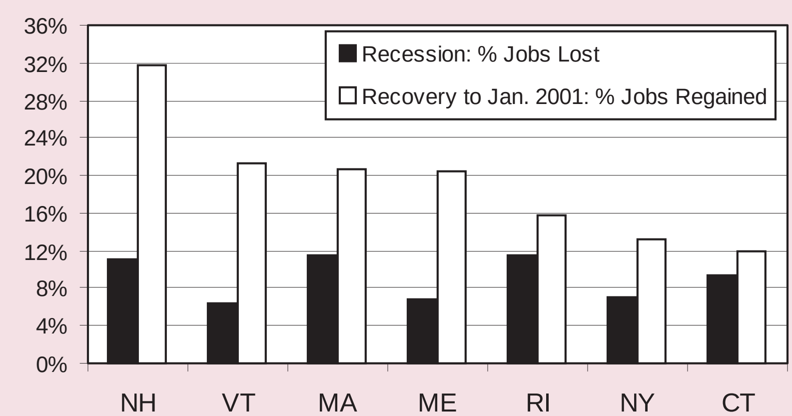
By Joseph Slepski, Research Analyst

The year was 1988. Employment was at record levels, and employers were complaining that a labor shortage made it difficult, if not impossible to hire and retain workers. High school students were being paid as much as $8.00 per hour to work entry level jobs that previously were paying minimum wage. Fast forward to the beginning of 2001, the characteristics are eerily similar. Even though the situation appears to be the same, much has happened during this twelve year period of time. From those boom times of the late eighties came the recession of the early nineties which led to the recovery during the mid to latter part of the last decade. To what extent have states recovered? How did Connecticut fare, compared with the other states in the region? This article will compare pre- and post-recession employment levels in Connecticut with the rest of the New England states, as well as New York.

Recession

All of the New England states plus New York reached record levels of employment between 1988 and 1989. Similarly, they had all reached their low point by the end of 1992. As the chart below shows, in terms of percentage Massachusetts had the highest rate of job loss in the recession period, 11.6 percent, as did Rhode Island, the smallest of the states. New Hampshire had the second highest rate, with an 11.1 percent loss. Vermont had the lowest rate of job loss, 6.4 percent. The percentages of job losses in the other states were: Connecticut (9.4 percent), New York, the largest of the states (7.0 percent), and Maine

Recession and Recovery: Jobs Lost and Regained



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

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The Connecticut Economic Digest is published monthly by the Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research and the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, Public Affairs and Strategic Planning Division. Its purpose is to regularly provide users with a comprehensive source for the most current, up-to-date data available on the workforce and economy of the state, within perspectives of the region and nation.

The views expressed by authors are theirs alone and do not necessarily reflect those of the Departments of Labor or Economic and Community Development.

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(6.9 percent). Most of the seven states in the region suffered losses in the same industry divisions, with construction and manufacturing especially hard hit. Some strength was shown, however, in the services industry division.

Recovery

By the end of 1992 the tide had turned and by 2000 all states in the region had recovered the number of jobs they lost during the recession. (See table below.) On average, the period of job losses persisted 34 months, while job recovery took 66 months. In general, states took twice as long to regain jobs as it took to lose them. New Hampshire and Vermont took somewhat less time, adding back their jobs the quickest, while Rhode Island's recovery was three times as long as its downturn. Connecticut was the last state in the regions to get back the number of jobs it lost.

As the table on page 3 shows, the highest percentage of net jobs gained as of January 2001, over the end of recession occurred in New Hampshire, where a net employment increase of 20.7 percent took place. The next highest percentage was in Vermont with 14.8 percent, followed by Maine (13.6 percent), Massachusetts (9.1 percent), New York (6.1 percent), Rhode Island (4.3 percent), and Connecticut (2.4 percent). Each of the states in the region was able to achieve their gains by having a strong services sector, along with robust trade, construction, transportation, communications and utilities, finance, insurance and real estate, and government industries.

Factors

What brought about the decline? Several factors were at work. The region was historically dependent on manufacturing industries and much of this activity was related to national defense. When the cold war ended defense cutbacks followed, leading to reduced employment levels in the region's factories. The real estate market started to bottom out and this, coupled with the completion of regional projects, led to layoffs in the construction industry. The finance industry was impacted by bank failures leading to the elimination of many jobs.

Conversely, what has brought about the recovery? The financial markets along with the insurance industries have been enjoying robust growth. The construction industry has rebounded as the healthy economy has led to an increase in building projects. The transportation, communications and utilities sector has also been going through a growth spurt. The healthy economic times have also bolstered the trade sector.

One circumstance remains similar, however. Though a measure of stability has been

Employment Peak, Trough and Recovery Dates and Duration

State	Dates			Duration in Months	
	Peak	Trough	Recovery	Recession	Recovery
Connecticut	Feb.1989	Dec.1992	Jan.2000	46	85
Maine	Jun.1989	Dec.1991	Nov.1996	30	59
Massachusetts	Dec.1988	Dec.1991	Feb.1998	36	74
New Hampshire	Jan.1989	Jul.1991	Mar.1995	30	44
New York	Jun.1989	Nov.1992	Oct.1998	41	71
Rhode Island	Jun.1989	Dec.1991	Sep.1999	30	93
Vermont	Jun.1989	Jun.1991	Aug.1994	24	38

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

State	Employment (000s)			Percent Change		
	Peak	Trough	Jan.2001	Loss	Regain	Net
Connecticut.......	1,678.3	1,520.1	1,699.9	9.4	11.8	2.4
Maine...............	545.2	507.6	611.8	6.9	20.5	13.6
Massachusetts...	3,149.1	2,785.3	3,361.3	11.6	20.7	9.1
New Hampshire..	535.7	476.3	627.8	11.1	31.8	20.7
New York..........	8,277.2	7,697.4	8,706.1	7.0	13.1	6.1
Rhode Island......	467.1	413.1	478.6	11.6	15.9	4.3
Vermont............	263.7	246.7	299.2	6.4	21.3	14.8

Peak, Trough and Current Employment Levels

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

restored, the manufacturing sector has not gained back the jobs lost during the last decade and it is unlikely that manufacturing employment will ever approach its past level. With the presence of this sector of the economy declining, another sector has made up for the loss. This sector is services, which has become dominant in the region. Professional services, education, computer services, engineering services, entertainment, legal services, tourism and the by-products of the casinos have led to an ever increasing level of jobs for service workers. For most of the region's states, the industry mix now isn't much different than it was in 1988-1989, except for changes in manufacturing and services. ■

HOUSING UPDATE

Permits Showed 39 Percent Gain

Commissioner James F. Abromaitis of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development announced that Connecticut communities authorized 706 new housing units in February 2001, a 39 percent increase compared to February of 2000 when 508 units were authorized.

The Department further indicated that the 706 units permitted in February 2001 represent a decrease of 16.8 percent from the 849 units permitted in January 2001. The year-to-date permits are up by 18.6 percent, from 1,311 through 2000, to 1,555 through February 2001.

The Stamford Labor Market Area (LMA) documented the largest number of new authorized units in February with 276. The Hartford LMA followed with 156 units. Four out of ten labor market areas demonstrated increases in new housing authorizations compared to a year ago. The Stamford LMA showed the largest gain of 234 units. Norwalk led all Connecticut communities with 248 units, followed by North Haven with 23 and Hamden with 17. ■

For more information on housing permits, see tables on pages 23 and 26.

Industry Clusters

BioScience Update

Connecticut United for Research Excellence, Inc. (CURE) in March released its Sixth Annual Economic Report. It reported that total BioScience-related research and development (R&D) expenditures grew by 15 percent in the State during 2000 to $3.05 billion. Employment, including biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, plus the academic segment, now totals over 16,000. The average salary in R&D positions is now more than $63,000, nearly 20 percent higher than the previous year.

The Cluster is also growing in size. This year's report included data from 16 biotechnology companies plus five pharmaceutical companies, whereas last year's report included only eight biotechnology companies.

Looking at the biotechnology, pharmaceutical, and academic institutions separately, CURE noted that the biotech companies increased R&D spending 46 percent to $226 million. On the pharmaceutical side, spending increased 14 percent to $2.4 billion, and academic institutions boosted spending 10 percent to $391 million.

Occupied laboratory space within the cluster also grew during 2000 by 479,329 square feet, or 11 percent. In the last five years overall, lab space has increased 2,075,092 square feet, or 77 percent.

Founded in 1990, CURE has been, since 1998, the organizational center of Connecticut's BioScience Cluster. More information about the cluster can be obtained at the CURE Website http://www.curenet.org. ■

Area Employment Projections to 2008

By Dana Placzek, Research Analyst

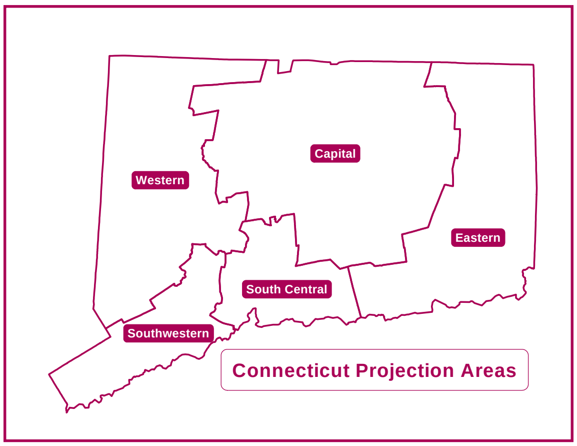
Last month readers of the *Digest* were given a glimpse of the industry employment projections for Connecticut. However, statewide projections obscure the very real differences among regional economies. Here then is a whirlwind tour of our industry employment projections for substate areas. The industries highlighted are those that are projected to grow the most in terms of actual employment over the 10-year projection period from 1998 to 2008. In developing area projections, the State is divided into five "Projection Areas" (see map), which are combinations of Labor Market Areas (LMAs).

Capital Area

The Capital Area is comprised of the Hartford LMA. Total employment in the Capital Area is expected to grow 9.6 percent, roughly the same as the statewide growth rate of 9.7 percent. This growth will be dominated by the services sector, especially *business services*, growing 34 percent, and *health services*, projected to increase 16 percent. Also in the top five industries is *insurance carriers*, long considered a mainstay of the Hartford economy, which is expected to grow 8 percent.

Eastern Area

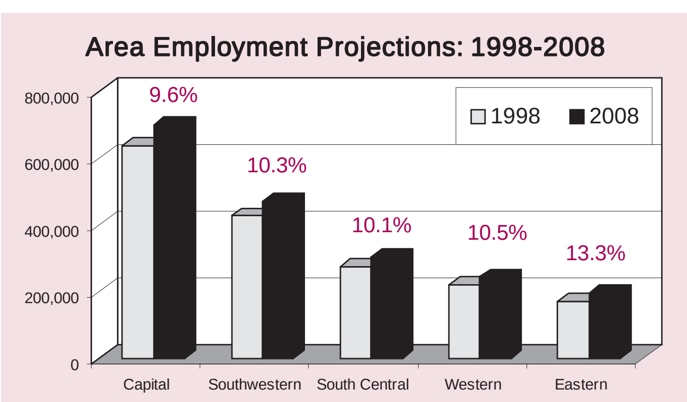
The Eastern Area, a combination of the Danielson, New London, and Lower River LMAs, will have two fast-growing sectors: services and nondurable manufacturing. The growth in manufacturing, due primarily to *pharmaceuticals manufacturing,* bucks the general trend for the State. This growth is projected to be 37 percent, and is driven by Pfizer's



continued expansion. The expansion of the casinos is pushing the growth of *recreation services*, which should increase 28 percent. Overall the growth in the Eastern Area is the greatest of the five areas, 13.3 percent over the ten year period to 2008.

South Central Area

Services also dominate growth in the South Central Area (New Haven LMA). *Health services* are expected to increase by 23 percent; this industry currently makes up about 10 percent of total employment for this region. Also expected to have healthy growth is *business services*, with an increase of 28 percent. Total employment should grow 10 percent. As is the general trend in manufacturing, *durable goods manufacturing* employment is expected to decline about 5 percent.



Southwestern Area

The Stamford and Bridgeport LMAs make up the Southwestern Area. In contrast with the growth sectors of the other areas, finance, insurance, and real estate will be the growth sector in the Southwestern Area, predominantly in *securities and commodities* and in *holdings and investments*, at least in terms of growth rate. *Security and commodity brokerage* jobs are projected to grow by a whopping 55 percent, and *holdings and investments* jobs by 43 percent. This will be supplemented with strong growth in *business services* of 32 percent and *health services* of 19 percent, which numerically will have greater growth. In total, a growth rate of 10.3 percent is forecast for this area.

Western Area

Services also dominate in the Western Area, specifically *business services*, which is expected to grow 34 percent; *health services,* 19 percent (although this sector will see the greatest growth in actual numbers of jobs); and *social services,* 33 percent. The Western Area, composed of the Danbury, Waterbury, and Torrington LMAs, should see overall growth of 10.5 percent. ■

For complete details on the 1998-2008 area employment projections, visit the Connecticut Department of Labor's Web site at www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi, and look for the publication titled "*Connecticut Forecast 2008: New Decade, New Careers*".

TOWN / CITY PROFILE

DANBURY

By Michael H. Zotos, Ed.D., Associate Research Analyst

Introduction

Danbury, nestled in the foothills of the Berkshires, bordering New York State, and midway between New York City and Hartford, continues to maintain a very healthy level of economic prosperity. The city has been gifted with a very diversified industrial base, a well-trained and educated workforce, and a thriving retail sales environment. Known as the "Gateway to New England," Danbury is intersected by Interstate 84 which goes east and west and Route 7, north and south.

Economy

The saying "Danbury Crowns Them All" had great relevance during an era when the city was dominated by manufacturers producing men's and women's hats. This industry was decimated by the 1960s when the public decided that wearing a hat was no longer stylish or necessary. Fortunately there were other companies that provided not only a base for the future but also prevented an economic downturn that was common to similar cities in Connecticut. Producers of industrial bearings, medical supplies and equipment, machine tools, chemicals, and others played a significant role during this period. Organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, the Danbury Industrial Corporation, and a city government concerned with economic development also provided incentives.

Today, the city is home to such major corporations as Union Carbide, Praxair Inc., Ethan Allen and ATMI Corp., as well as one of the largest shopping malls in New England with over 200 stores under one roof. As the table below shows, Danbury's unemployment rate is at a ten-year low, and while the labor force shows signs of declining slightly since 1990, the population has increased somewhat over the period to 67,000. Retail sales and sales tax contributions are the highest in the State, and the number of new housing permits increased to a high of 926 in 1998. A surge in new rental units, including luxury and senior housing, filled a void for apartment seekers in the area.

Many of Danbury's jobs are concentrated in the services, manufacturing, and retail trade sectors. All of these industries have been solid and reliable economic generators over the years. They provide a healthy variety and balance of jobs while history has proven that they have been stable through various economic peaks and valleys. The services sector generated the highest employment among the three. The health services industry led the way followed by education (including colleges), help supply, and social services.

As the table shows, average wages paid to workers employed in Danbury increased by 36 percent between 1992 and 1999. The highest increases were posted in finance, insurance, and real estate (+61%) and manufacturing (+52%). Manufacturing and finance, insurance, and real estate wages ranked among the highest in the State.

Outlook

To date, Danbury has not yet seen evidence of the slowdown in the national economy. Existing companies and retail establishments have managed to retain a solid base in the community. Layoffs and shutdowns have been minimal. New business startups and aggressive recruitment for new industries have been ongoing. The opening of a new state of the art ice hockey center will be completed soon in the downtown area. Restaurants, hotels, and entertainment industries are prospering. The availability of housing is at a premium.

Despite sluggish growth in some high tech industries, the demand for optical and medical equipment, telecommunications, printing and publishing, office equipment, software, robotics, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, and consumer goods will be strong. ■

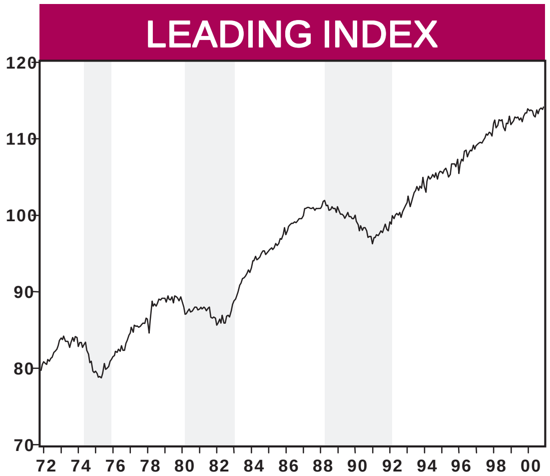
Danbury City Trends

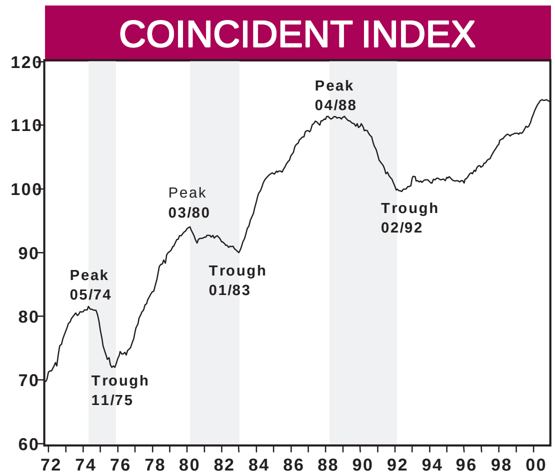
Industry	1992			1998			1999		
	Units	Jobs	Wages	Units	Jobs	Wages	Units	Jobs	Wages
Total	2,398	42,289	$31,869	2,401	44,355	$42,116	2,428	44,243	$43,311
Agriculture	33	167	$21,237	41	237	$26,144	39	192	$27,237
Construction	244	966	$34,198	225	1,421	$40,555	238	1,515	$43,159
Manufacturing	147	12,294	$43,644	136	10,603	$62,343	137	10,333	$66,325
Trans./Comm./Utilities	83	1,134	$29,057	99	1,483	$37,947	91	1,332	$40,119
Wholesale Trade	189	1,511	$38,936	183	1,678	$56,833	183	1,790	$51,707
Retail Trade	645	9,852	$15,305	585	9,691	$19,791	584	9,477	$20,755
Finance/Ins./Real Estate	182	2,095	$39,535	199	3,069	$62,578	200	3,401	$63,535
Services	815	10,289	$29,818	884	12,359	$35,236	909	12,134	$36,301
Federal Government	8	893	$34,996	7	575	$45,989	8	558	$48,276
State Government	17	912	$40,330	*	*	*	13	1,295	$31,975
Local Government	23	2,162	$34,237	22	2,087	$42,477	22	2,205	$41,635

* Data are unpublishable due to the changes in reporting.

Economic Indicators \ Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Population	65,585	65,571	65,383	65,592	65,048	65,249	65,316	65,429	65,829	66,965
Labor Force	38,697	38,841	39,629	37,872	36,475	36,157	35,888	35,918	35,764	35,409
Employed	36,744	36,267	36,707	35,587	34,527	34,474	34,114	34,330	34,718	34,384
Unemployed	1,953	2,574	2,922	2,285	1,948	1,683	1,774	1,588	1,046	1,025
Unemployment Rate	5.0	6.6	7.4	6.0	5.3	4.7	4.9	4.4	2.9	2.9
New Housing Permits	67	89	132	123	112	84	59	238	926	321
Retail Sales ($mil.)	982	865	1,171	2,748	2,941	3,057	3,297	3,719	4,060	4,239

For further information on the city of Danbury or other cities and towns in Connecticut, visit http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/lmidata.htm, or Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development's Web site at http://www.state.ct.us/ecd/research/townprof98/index.html .





The distance from peak to trough, indicated by the shaded areas, measures the duration of an employment cycle recession. The vertical scale in both charts is an index with 1992=100.

Benchmark Revisions in Labor Data Alter the CCEA-ECRI Connecticut Coincident and Leading Employment Indexes

We introduced the recalibrated and renamed CCEA-ECRI Connecticut coincident and leading employment indexes last month. Now, the benchmark revisions in the labor data caused another adjustment in the coincident and leading indexes, primarily in the coincident index because of the substantial revision in total employment (state residents employed).

Some months ago we discussed in this column the fact that nonfarm employment rose above total employment, an unusual event. Total employment captures the self-employed through the household survey. Nonfarm employment measures jobs through the employer survey. Workers with two or more jobs get counted more than once in the employer survey. The benchmark revisions pushed total employment higher in recent years so that now only from October 1998 through November 1999 does total employment fall below nonfarm employment.

The CCEA-ECRI Connecticut leading employment index (new series) reached its all-time peak with the release of (preliminary) January data, while the coincident index remains within striking distance of its all-time peak in July and October 2000. At the national level, much discussion has occurred about the prospects for a slowdown or downturn in the economy. Consistent with that discussion, the growth of the coincident index has slowed significantly over the past several months after exhibiting striking growth in early 2000. The leading index, however, does not yet show signs that could even signal a slowdown. Can Connecticut continue to grow, if the national economy experiences a slowdown? That is the key question.

The coincident employment index (new series) rose from 111.8 in January 2000 to 113.8 in January 2001. All four components of the index point in a positive direction on a year-over-year basis with higher nonfarm employment, higher total employment, a lower total unemployment rate, and a lower insured unemployment rate.

The leading employment index (new series) rose from 113.9 in January 2000 to 115.0 in January 2001. Four index components sent positive signals on a year-over-year basis with higher Hartford help-wanted advertising, higher total housing permits, a higher average workweek of manufacturing production and construction workers, and a lower Moody's BAA corporate bond yield. The other two components sent negative signals on a year-over-year basis with a higher short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate and higher initial claims for unemployment insurance. ■

SOURCE: Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut. Developed by Pami Dua [Economic Cycle Research Institute; NY, NY] and Stephen M. Miller [(860) 486-3853, Storrs Campus] in cooperation with Anirvan Banerji at the Economic Cycle Research Institute. Stan McMillen and Jingqiu Zhu [(860) 486-3022, Storrs Campus] provided research support. Components of Indexes are described in the Technical Notes on page 27.

Continued Employment and Wage Growth in Third Quarter 2000

By Edward T. Doukas Jr., Research Analyst

Recently released preliminary figures show that during the third quarter of 2000 (3Q00) Connecticut's unemployment insurance (UI) covered employment grew by 22,856, an increase of 1.4 percent over the same period of the previous year (see table below). The 3Q00 employment total was the highest on record for the period and marked the eighth consecutive increase in third quarter employment. However, the over-the-year increase was below the 2.0 percent growth of the previous year, and was the lowest third quarter increase since the period of 1994-95. Private industry employment rose 1.3 percent while employment in the government sector expanded 2.2 percent.

The average weekly wage figure for Connecticut workers rose to $817 during 3Q00, up 5.0 percent from the previous year's $778. The average private sector wage grew 5.5 percent to $825 from $782 a year earlier, while the average wage for government sector workers showed a much smaller increase to $756 from $746, up 1.3 percent. ■

Connecticut UI Covered Employment and Wages: Third Quarter 1999 and 2000

Industry	Reporting Units			Average Monthly Employment				Avg. Weekly Wage		
	3Q 1999	3Q 2000	%Chg	3Q 1999	3Q 2000	Chg	%Chg	3Q 1999	3Q 2000	%Chg
Total	106,807	108,558	1.6	1,648,186	1,671,042	22,856	1.4	$778	$817	5.0
Total Private	103,117	104,894	1.7	1,456,801	1,475,449	18,648	1.3	$782	$825	5.5
Agriculture	2,714	2,747	1.2	20,229	20,261	32	0.2	$466	$472	1.3
Mining	68	69	1.5	855	864	9	1.1	$1,049	$973	-7.2
Construction	10,257	10,423	1.6	64,812	68,784	3,972	6.1	$808	$830	2.7
Manufacturing	6,007	5,965	-0.7	265,735	262,044	-3,691	-1.4	$1,054	$1,117	6.0
Transportation & Public Utilities	3,406	3,397	-0.3	74,455	76,742	2,287	3.1	$877	$866	-1.3
Wholesale Trade	10,175	10,470	2.9	82,487	83,390	903	1.1	$1,028	$1,066	3.7
Retail Trade	19,618	19,552	-0.3	277,456	281,704	4,248	1.5	$416	$427	2.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	9,266	9,587	3.5	141,109	142,742	1,633	1.2	$1,200	$1,359	13.3
Services	41,151	42,210	2.6	528,906	538,093	9,187	1.7	$682	$717	5.1
Total Government	3,690	3,664	-0.7	191,384	195,594	4,210	2.2	$746	$756	1.3
Federal Government	572	589	3.0	22,253	23,057	804	3.6	$796	$887	11.4
State Government	800	787	-1.6	61,791	62,814	1,023	1.7	$872	$822	-5.7
Local Government	2,318	2,288	-1.3	107,340	109,723	2,383	2.2	$662	$691	4.4

GENERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

(Seasonally adjusted)	4Q 2000	4Q 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	3Q 2000
Employment Indexes (1987=100)*					
Leading	114.0	113.1	0.9	0.8	113.3
Coincident	112.6	109.7	2.9	2.6	111.8
General Drift Indicator (1986=100)*					
Leading	96.1	96.3	-0.2	-0.2	96.3
Coincident	114.6	113.5	1.1	1.0	114.4
Business Barometer (1992=100)**	117.4	115.7	1.7	1.5	116.8
Business Climate Index***	68.7	70.1	-1.4	-2.0	65.5

*Sources: *The Connecticut Economy, Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut*
***People's Bank ***Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development*

The Connecticut Economy's **General Drift Indicators** are composite measures of the four-quarter change in three coincident (Connecticut Manufacturing Production Index, nonfarm employment, and real personal income) and four leading (housing permits, manufacturing average weekly hours, Hartford help-wanted advertising, and initial unemployment claims) economic variables, and are indexed so 1986 = 100.

The **People's Bank Business Barometer** is a measure of overall economic growth in the state of Connecticut that is derived from non-manufacturing employment, real disposable personal income, and manufacturing production. The index is calculated by DataCore Partners, Inc for People's Bank.

The **Connecticut Business Climate Index** assesses the current economic conditions and the future expectations of the business community in the State. The Index has a maximum score of 100, meaning that all businesses in the State are completely confident with the current economic conditions and in the future of the economy and job market.

Total employment increased by 17,200, or 1.0 percent, over the year.

EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISION

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
TOTAL NONFARM	1,701.1	1,683.9	17.2	1.0	1,699.8
Private Sector	1,456.5	1,443.9	12.6	0.9	1,455.8
Construction and Mining	68.8	65.3	3.5	5.4	67.4
Manufacturing	260.7	263.2	-2.5	-0.9	260.7
Transportation, Public Utilities	80.0	78.7	1.3	1.7	80.1
Wholesale, Retail Trade	364.3	363.4	0.9	0.2	365.7
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	141.6	140.5	1.1	0.8	141.0
Services	541.1	532.8	8.3	1.6	540.9
Government	244.6	240.0	4.6	1.9	244.0

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

The unemployment rate dropped while the number of initial claims rose from a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

(Seasonally adjusted)	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	1.9	2.6	-0.7	---	1.9
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,730.1	1,740.8	-10.7	-0.6	1,735.6
Employed (000s)	1,697.3	1,694.9	2.4	0.1	1,702.9
Unemployed (000s)	32.8	45.9	-13.1	-28.5	32.7
Average Weekly Initial Claims	4,353	3,383	970	28.7	3,981
Help Wanted Index -- Htfd. (1987=100)	27	35	-8	-22.9	36
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	1.90	1.85	0.05	---	1.60

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; The Conference Board

Production worker weekly earnings increased but output fell over the year.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

(Not seasonally adjusted)	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001	DEC 2000
Average Weekly Hours	42.7	42.6	0.1	0.2	43.0	--
Average Hourly Earnings	$15.89	$15.64	$0.25	1.6	$15.87	--
Average Weekly Earnings	$678.50	$666.26	$12.24	1.8	$682.41	--
CT Mfg. Production Index (1986=100)*	114.8	115.9	-1.1	-0.9	114.1	115.5
Production Worker Hours (000s)	6,190	6,463	-273	-4.2	6,212	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)**	459	469	-10.0	-2.1	439	459

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; U.S. Department of Energy
**Seasonally adjusted.*
***Latest two months are forecasted.*

Personal income for second quarter 2001 is forecasted to increase 4.2 percent from a year earlier.

INCOME

(Seasonally adjusted) (Annualized; $ Millions)	2Q* 2001	2Q 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	1Q* 2001
Personal Income	$141,198	$135,516	$5,682	4.2	$139,814
UI Covered Wages	$79,207	$75,221	$3,986	5.3	$78,653

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis: January 2001 release
**Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor*

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

Construction contracts in January posted a strong gain over a year ago.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	PRIOR	% CHG
New Housing Permits	FEB 2001	706	39.0	1,555	1,311	18.6
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	NOV 2000	2,382	4.9	27,178	27,033	0.5
Retail Sales (Bil. $)	NOV 2000	3.27	9.4	36.91	34.39	7.3
Construction Contracts Index (1980=100)	JAN 2001	350.9	170.8	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	FEB 2001	21,096	-0.7	43,514	42,120	3.3
Air Cargo Tons	FEB 2001	7,618	-30.5	18,040	21,448	-15.9
Exports (Bil. $)	4Q 2000	2.44	16.2	8.65	7.88	9.8

Sources: Department of Economic and Community Development; U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration; Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; F.W. Dodge; Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles; Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation and Ports

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

Net business formation, as measured by starts minus stops registered with the Secretary of the State, was up 2,883 for the year to date.

	MO/QTR	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	PRIOR	% CHG
STARTS						
Secretary of the State	FEB 2001	1,803	-13.6	3,930	4,293	-8.5
Department of Labor*	4Q 2000	1,732	-8.0	9,622	9,475	1.6
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	FEB 2001	470	31.3	1,047	845	23.9
Department of Labor*	4Q 2000	875	-70.9	5,481	8,533	-35.8

Sources: Connecticut Secretary of the State; Connecticut Department of Labor
** Revised methodology applied back to 1996; 3-months total*

STATE REVENUES

Year-to-date tax revenues were up 6.5 percent, paced by personal income taxes, up 14.8 percent, and corporate income taxes, up 10.3 percent. Year-to date gaming payments revenue rose 4.2 percent.

(Millions of dollars)	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	% CHG	FISCAL YEAR TOTALS 2000-01	1999-00	% CHG
TOTAL ALL REVENUES*	621.8	573.4	8.4	5,476.0	5,141.4	6.5
Corporate Tax	8.7	12.6	-31.0	244.6	221.8	10.3
Personal Income Tax	298.3	257.2	16.0	2,553.7	2,223.8	14.8
Real Estate Conv. Tax	6.5	7.7	-15.6	75.8	77.5	-2.2
Sales & Use Tax	223.6	205.8	8.6	1,865.5	1,774.9	5.1
Indian Gaming Payments**	26.8	26.6	0.7	217.9	209.1	4.2

Sources: Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; Division of Special Revenue
**Includes all sources of revenue; Only selected sources are displayed; Most July receipts are credited to the prior fiscal year and are not shown. **See page 23 for explanation.*

TOURISM AND TRAVEL

The year-to-date number of info center visitors increased 10.6 percent over a year ago.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	PRIOR	% CHG
Info Center Visitors	FEB 2001	25,583	15.0	46,813	42,345	10.6
Major Attraction Visitors	FEB 2001	111,889	-6.1	167,556	181,281	-7.6
Air Passenger Count	FEB 2001	545,633	1.0	1,070,351	1,026,663	4.3
Indian Gaming Slots (Mil.$)*	FEB 2001	1,306	1.6	2,533	2,473	2.4
Travel and Tourism Index**	4Q 2000	---	-0.3	---	---	---

Sources: Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation and Ports; Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development; Connecticut Lodging & Attractions Association; Division of Special Revenue
**See page 27 for explanation*
***The Connecticut Economy, Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut*

Compensation costs for the nation rose 4.4 percent over the year, while the Northeast's increased by 4.2 percent.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
Private Industry Workers	**DEC**	**SEP**	**3-Mo**	**DEC**	**DEC**	**12-Mo**
(June 1989=100)	**2000**	**2000**	**% Chg**	**2000**	**1999**	**% Chg**
UNITED STATES TOTAL	150.8	149.7	0.7	150.9	144.6	4.4
Wages and Salaries	147.8	146.7	0.7	147.7	142.2	3.9
Benefit Costs	158.4	157.0	0.9	158.6	150.2	5.6
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	150.3	144.3	4.2
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	146.0	140.9	3.6

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

The February U.S. inflation rate was 3.5 percent. The U.S. and New England consumer confidence levels decreased 24.1 and 17.8 percent, respectively, from a year ago.

CONSUMER NEWS

			% CHANGE	
(Not seasonally adjusted)	**MO/QTR**	**LEVEL**	**Y/Y**	**P/P***
CONSUMER PRICES				
Connecticut**	4Q 2000	---	4.3	---
CPI-U (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	FEB 2001	175.8	3.5	0.4
Purchasing Power of $ (1982-84=$1.00)	FEB 2001	$0.569	-3.4	-0.4
Northeast Region	FEB 2001	182.8	2.9	0.3
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	FEB 2001	185.3	2.7	0.2
Boston-Brockton-Nashua***	JAN 2001	189.0	4.9	0.9
CPI-W (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	FEB 2001	172.4	3.5	0.4
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE (1985=100)				
Connecticut**	JAN 2001	114.9	-17.5	-18.1
New England	FEB 2001	117.4	-17.8	4.9
U.S.	FEB 2001	106.8	-24.1	-7.7

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; The Conference Board
**Change over prior monthly or quarterly period*
***The Connecticut Economy, Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut*
****The Boston CPI can be used as a proxy for New England and is measured every other month.*

All interest rates were uniformly lower than a year ago, including the 30-year conventional mortgage rate of 7.05 percent.

INTEREST RATES

	FEB	JAN	FEB
(Percent)	**2001**	**2001**	**2000**
Prime	8.50	9.05	8.73
Federal Funds	5.49	5.98	5.73
3 Month Treasury Bill	4.88	5.15	5.57
6 Month Treasury Bill	4.71	4.95	5.75
1 Year Treasury Bill	4.68	4.81	6.22
3 Year Treasury Note	4.71	4.77	6.65
5 Year Treasury Note	4.89	4.86	6.68
7 Year Treasury Note	5.10	5.13	6.72
10 Year Treasury Note	5.10	5.16	6.52
30 Year Teasury Bond	5.45	5.54	6.23
Conventional Mortgage	7.05	7.03	8.33

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

All states in the region experienced job gains over the year.

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
Connecticut	1,701.1	1,683.9	17.2	1.0	1,699.8
Maine	613.4	598.9	14.5	2.4	611.8
Massachusetts	3,356.2	3,285.2	71.0	2.2	3,361.9
New Hampshire	626.3	615.7	10.6	1.7	627.2
New Jersey	4,033.1	3,964.2	68.9	1.7	4,029.1
New York	8,720.1	8,565.4	154.7	1.8	8,707.0
Pennsylvania	5,737.7	5,652.0	85.7	1.5	5,744.3
Rhode Island	479.2	473.2	6.0	1.3	478.4
Vermont	301.1	296.1	5.0	1.7	299.6
United States	132,237.0	130,482.0	1,755.0	1.3	132,102.0

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

LABOR FORCE

All but Connecticut posted increases in the labor force from last year.

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
Connecticut	1,730.1	1,740.8	-10.7	-0.6	1,735.6
Maine	694.6	687.7	6.9	1.0	694.1
Massachusetts	3,326.6	3,220.6	106.0	3.3	3,313.9
New Hampshire	698.1	679.0	19.1	2.8	696.4
New Jersey	4,248.1	4,167.8	80.3	1.9	4,250.9
New York	8,954.2	8,889.1	65.1	0.7	8,974.3
Pennsylvania	6,065.6	5,957.4	108.2	1.8	6,069.7
Rhode Island	513.6	503.5	10.1	2.0	510.3
Vermont	343.3	328.1	15.2	4.6	343.7
United States	141,751.0	140,860.0	891.0	0.6	141,955.0

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

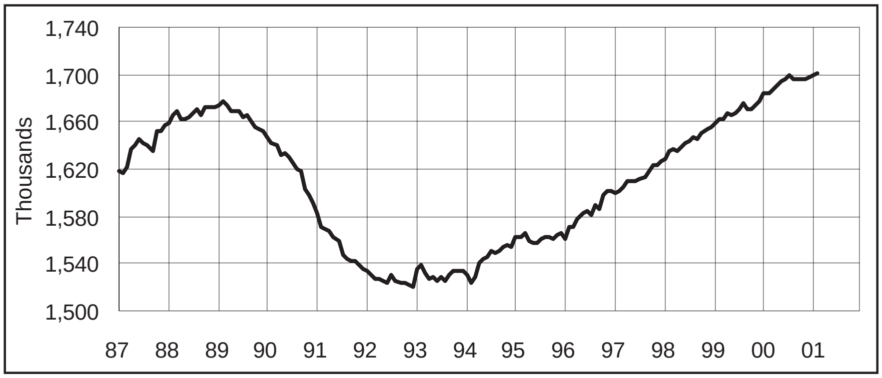
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

All but Pennsylvania showed a drop in their unemployment rate over the year.

(Seasonally adjusted)	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE	JAN 2001
Connecticut	1.9	2.6	-0.7	1.9
Maine	2.4	4.0	-1.6	2.4
Massachusetts	2.7	3.0	-0.3	2.5
New Hampshire	2.0	3.0	-1.0	2.1
New Jersey	3.6	3.8	-0.2	3.6
New York	4.2	4.7	-0.5	4.2
Pennsylvania	4.6	4.2	0.4	4.4
Rhode Island	3.5	4.4	-0.9	3.7
Vermont	2.8	3.0	-0.2	2.7
United States	4.2	4.1	0.1	4.2

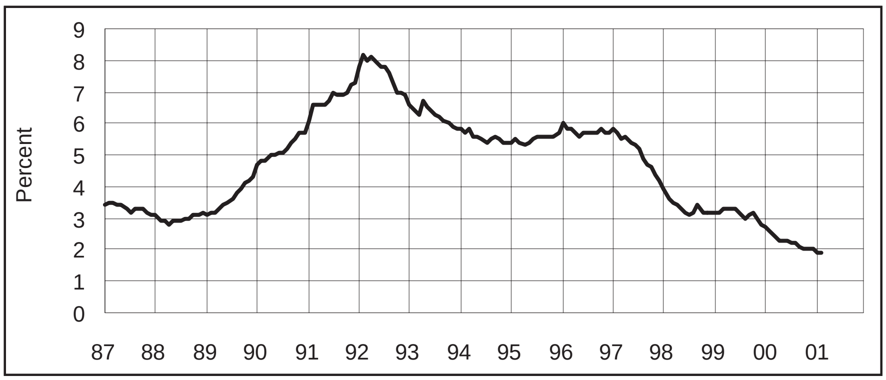
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



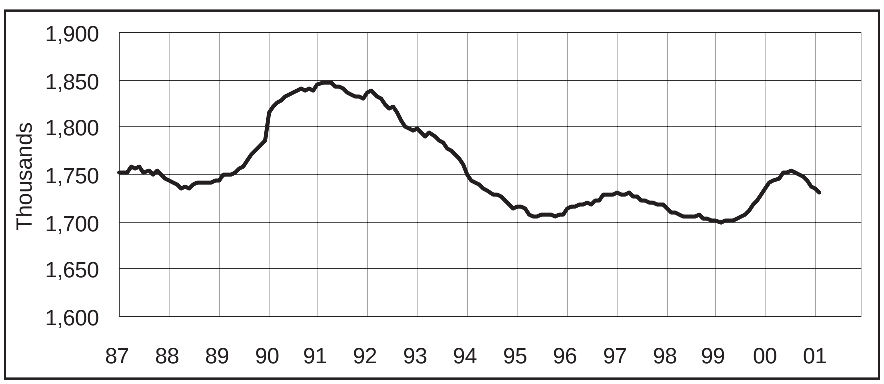
Month	1999	2000	2001
Jan	1,659.7	1,683.5	1,699.8
Feb	1,661.6	1,683.9	1,701.1
Mar	1,663.0	1,688.1	
Apr	1,666.7	1,690.2	
May	1,665.2	1,695.2	
Jun	1,666.6	1,696.4	
Jul	1,669.9	1,699.4	
Aug	1,676.0	1,696.4	
Sep	1,671.3	1,696.0	
Oct	1,670.3	1,696.3	
Nov	1,673.6	1,695.9	
Dec	1,677.6	1,697.5	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



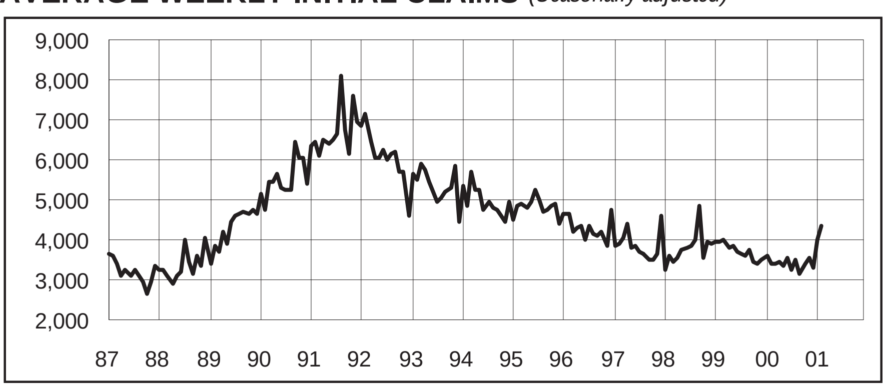
Month	1999	2000	2001
Jan	3.2	2.7	1.9
Feb	3.2	2.6	1.9
Mar	3.3	2.4	
Apr	3.3	2.3	
May	3.3	2.3	
Jun	3.3	2.3	
Jul	3.1	2.2	
Aug	3.0	2.2	
Sep	3.1	2.1	
Oct	3.2	2.0	
Nov	3.0	2.0	
Dec	2.8	2.0	

LABOR FORCE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



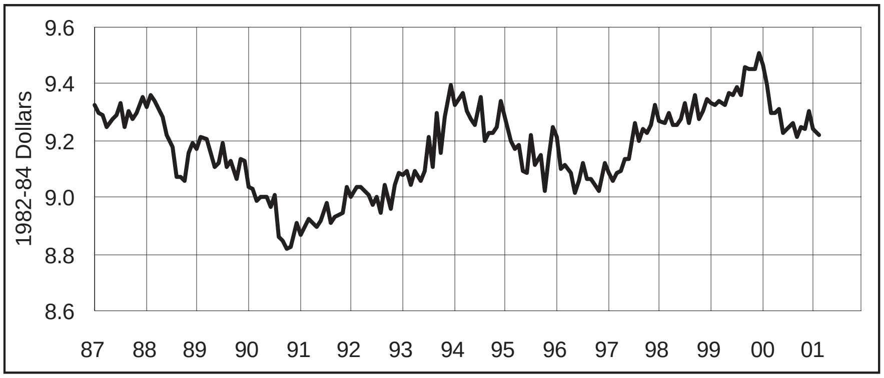
Month	1999	2000	2001
Jan	1,701.1	1,735.0	1,735.6
Feb	1,699.5	1,740.8	1,730.1
Mar	1,700.8	1,743.6	
Apr	1,701.9	1,746.2	
May	1,701.3	1,751.3	
Jun	1,703.6	1,753.0	
Jul	1,704.6	1,753.3	
Aug	1,707.4	1,752.9	
Sep	1,712.5	1,750.4	
Oct	1,717.7	1,748.2	
Nov	1,722.4	1,743.8	
Dec	1,728.2	1,738.4	

AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS *(Seasonally adjusted)*



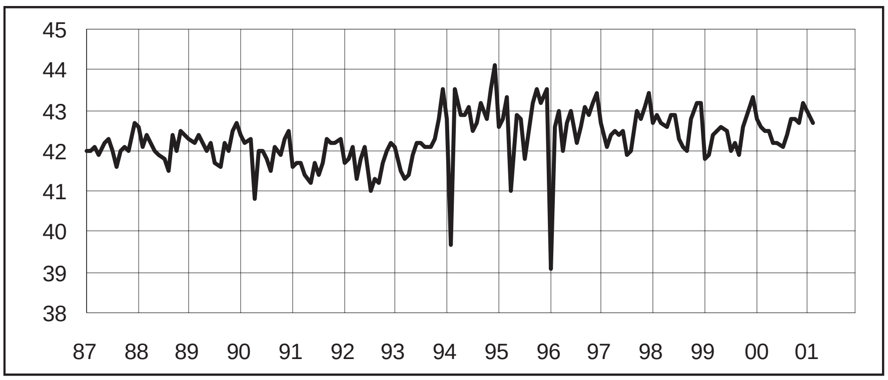
Month	1999	2000	2001
Jan	3,956	3,600	3,981
Feb	3,948	3,383	4,353
Mar	3,998	3,421	
Apr	3,799	3,472	
May	3,830	3,331	
Jun	3,704	3,530	
Jul	3,646	3,262	
Aug	3,593	3,501	
Sep	3,755	3,160	
Oct	3,435	3,419	
Nov	3,394	3,539	
Dec	3,479	3,324	

REAL AVG MANUFACTURING HOURLY EARNINGS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



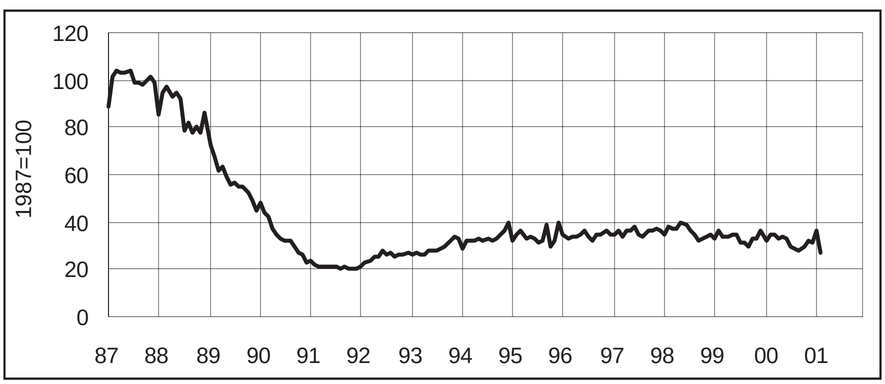
Month	1999	2000	2001
Jan	$9.34	$9.47	$9.24
Feb	9.32	9.39	9.22
Mar	9.34	9.30	
Apr	9.32	9.30	
May	9.37	9.31	
Jun	9.36	9.23	
Jul	9.39	9.24	
Aug	9.36	9.26	
Sep	9.46	9.21	
Oct	9.45	9.25	
Nov	9.45	9.24	
Dec	9.51	9.30	

AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



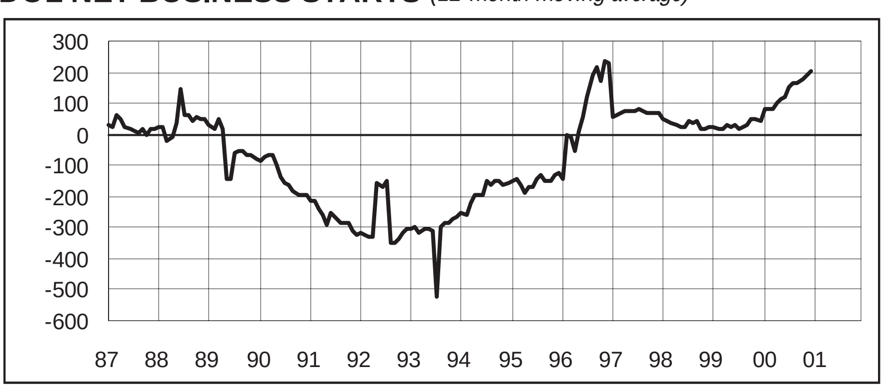
Month	1999	2000	2001
Jan	41.8	42.8	43.0
Feb	41.9	42.6	42.7
Mar	42.4	42.5	
Apr	42.5	42.5	
May	42.6	42.2	
Jun	42.5	42.2	
Jul	42.0	42.1	
Aug	42.2	42.4	
Sep	41.9	42.8	
Oct	42.6	42.8	
Nov	42.9	42.7	
Dec	43.3	43.2	

HARTFORD HELP WANTED INDEX *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1999	2000	2001
Jan	33	32	36
Feb	36	35	27
Mar	34	35	
Apr	34	33	
May	35	34	
Jun	35	33	
Jul	31	30	
Aug	31	29	
Sep	30	28	
Oct	33	30	
Nov	33	32	
Dec	36	31	

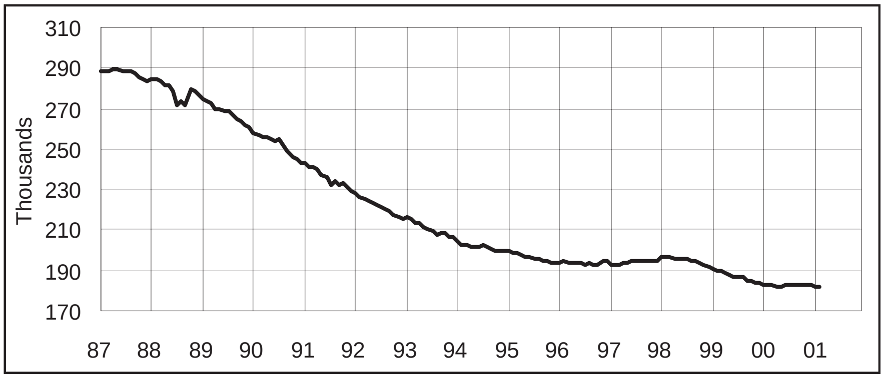
DOL NET BUSINESS STARTS *(12-month moving average)**



Month	1999	2000	2001
Jan	22	79	
Feb	17	83	
Mar	18	84	
Apr	31	101	
May	25	111	
Jun	29	121	
Jul	15	155	
Aug	25	163	
Sep	33	164	
Oct	51	180	
Nov	47	192	
Dec	46	201	

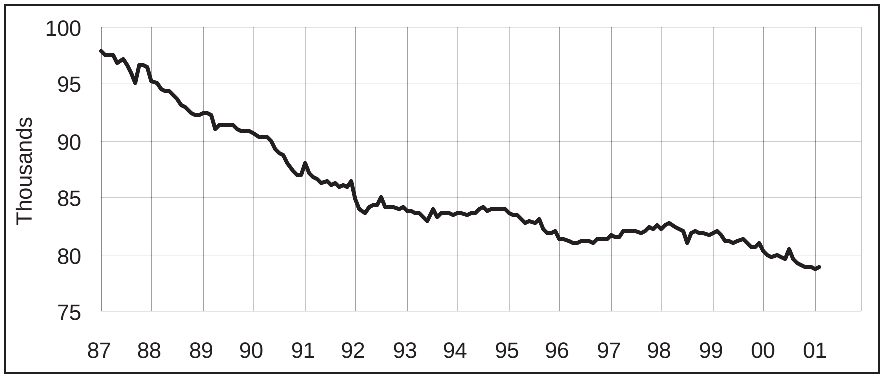
*New series began in 1996; prior years are not directly comparable

DURABLE MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



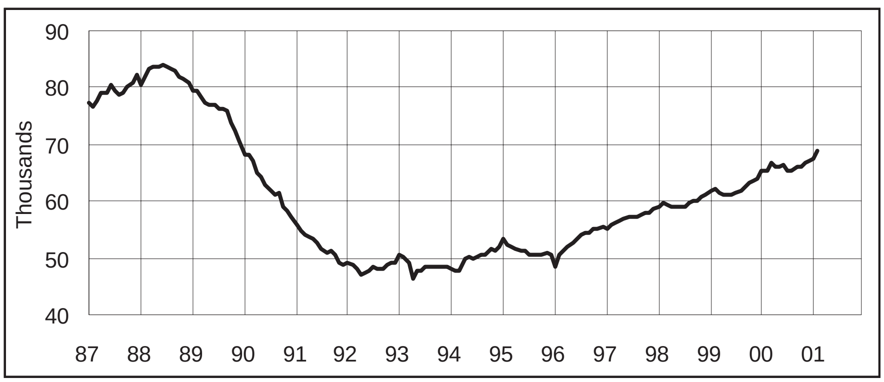
Month	1999	2000	2001
Jan	190.7	183.3	182.0
Feb	189.8	183.2	181.9
Mar	189.6	182.8	
Apr	189.1	182.3	
May	188.0	182.2	
Jun	187.0	182.4	
Jul	186.3	183.0	
Aug	186.9	182.8	
Sep	185.2	182.7	
Oct	184.3	182.8	
Nov	184.2	182.5	
Dec	184.0	182.5	

NONDURABLE MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



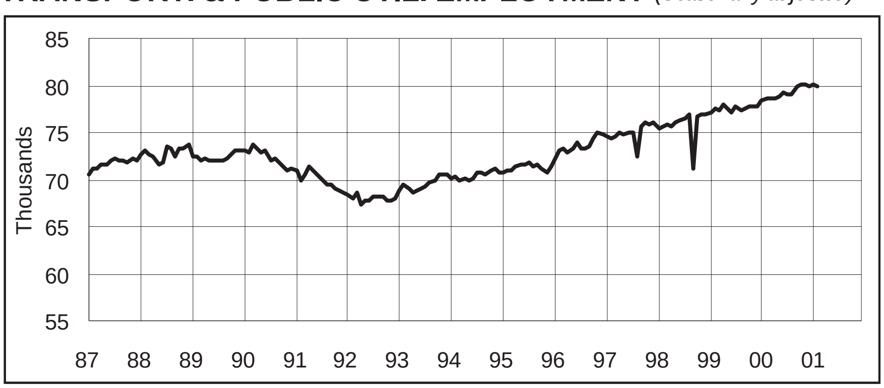
Month	1999	2000	2001
Jan	81.9	80.2	78.7
Feb	82.0	80.0	78.8
Mar	81.7	79.8	
Apr	81.2	79.9	
May	81.1	79.7	
Jun	80.9	79.6	
Jul	81.2	80.5	
Aug	81.3	79.5	
Sep	80.9	79.3	
Oct	80.6	79.0	
Nov	80.6	78.8	
Dec	80.9	78.8	

CONSTRUCTION & MINING EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



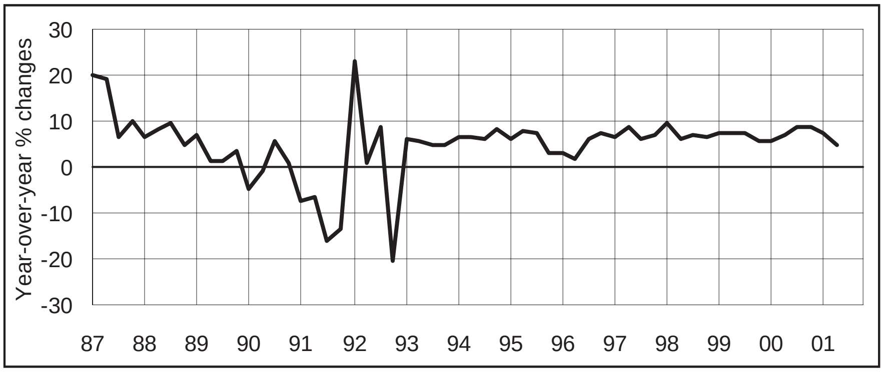
Month	1999	2000	2001
Jan	61.8	64.5	67.4
Feb	62.1	64.1	68.8
Mar	61.5	64.9	
Apr	61.1	64.2	
May	61.2	63.6	
Jun	61.2	63.9	
Jul	61.6	62.6	
Aug	61.9	62.7	
Sep	62.4	63.6	
Oct	63.1	64.3	
Nov	63.7	65.1	
Dec	63.8	65.1	

TRANSPORT. & PUBLIC UTIL. EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



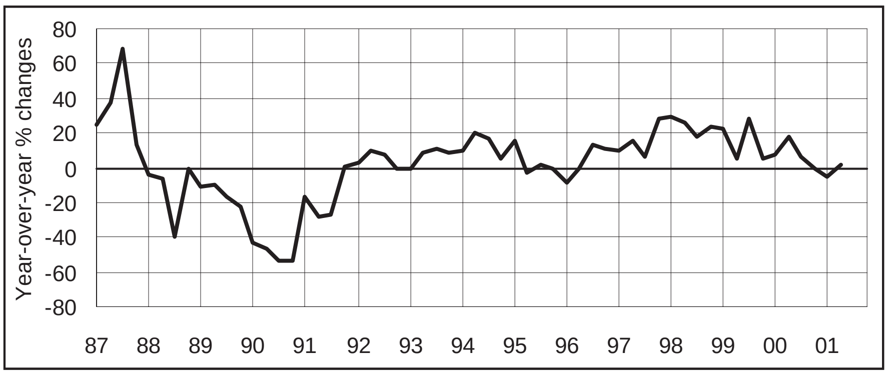
Month	1999	2000	2001
Jan	77.1	78.5	80.1
Feb	77.5	78.7	80.0
Mar	77.4	78.6	
Apr	77.9	78.7	
May	77.5	78.8	
Jun	77.2	79.2	
Jul	77.7	79.1	
Aug	77.4	79.0	
Sep	77.5	80.0	
Oct	77.7	80.2	
Nov	77.8	80.2	
Dec	77.8	79.8	

SALES TAX



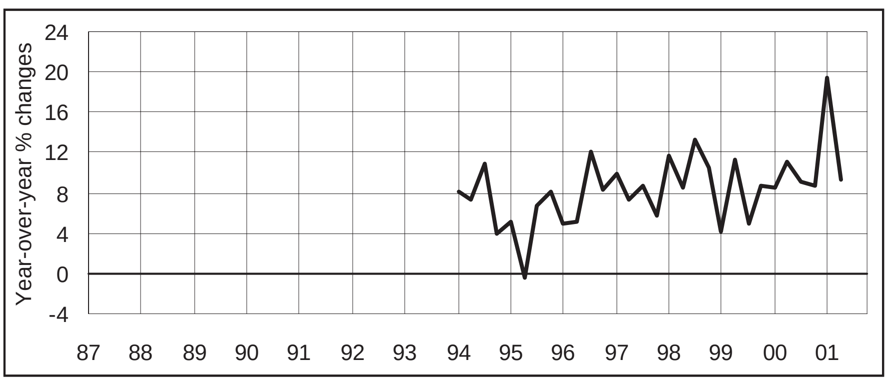
Quarter	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
First	7.5	5.6	7.3
Second	7.4	6.9	4.9
Third	7.3	8.7	
Fourth	5.8	8.9	

REAL ESTATE TAX



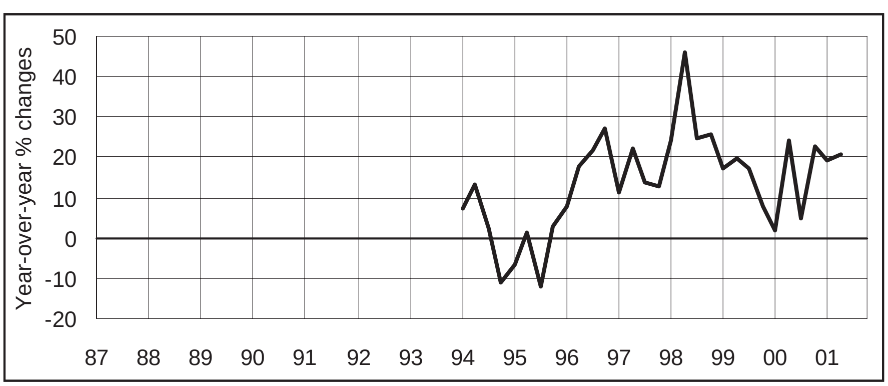
Quarter	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
First	21.9	7.0	-4.8
Second	4.7	17.3	1.4
Third	28.1	6.7	
Fourth	4.8	-0.2	

PERSONAL INCOME TAX : SALARIES & WAGES



Quarter	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
First	4.1	8.6	19.5
Second	11.3	11.0	9.3
Third	5.0	9.1	
Fourth	8.8	8.7	

PERSONAL INCOME TAX : ALL OTHER SOURCES



Quarter	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
First	17.1	1.8	19.2
Second	19.6	24.4	20.6
Third	17.3	4.7	
Fourth	7.6	22.8	

Note*: These economic growth rates were derived by the Office of Fiscal Analysis and were made by comparing tax collections in each quarter with the same quarter in the previous year and were adjusted for legislative changes*

CONNECTICUT

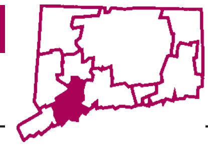
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**1,678,100**	**1,661,300**	**16,800**	**1.0**	**1,675,300**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**321,300**	**320,900**	**400**	**0.1**	**322,900**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**61,100**	**58,400**	**2,700**	**4.6**	**62,000**
MANUFACTURING	**260,200**	**262,500**	**-2,300**	**-0.9**	**260,900**
Durable	**181,500**	**182,800**	**-1,300**	**-0.7**	**182,200**
Lumber & Furniture	6,000	6,100	-100	-1.6	6,000
Stone, Clay & Glass	2,800	2,700	100	3.7	2,800
Primary Metals	9,100	9,200	-100	-1.1	9,100
Fabricated Metals	33,400	33,700	-300	-0.9	33,500
Machinery & Computer Equipment	32,400	33,000	-600	-1.8	32,600
Electronic & Electrical Equipment	27,300	26,900	400	1.5	27,300
Transportation Equipment	45,100	45,100	0	0.0	45,500
Instruments	19,200	19,900	-700	-3.5	19,300
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6,200	6,200	0	0.0	6,100
Nondurable	**78,700**	**79,700**	**-1,000**	**-1.3**	**78,700**
Food	7,500	8,000	-500	-6.3	7,500
Textiles	2,100	2,100	0	0.0	2,100
Apparel	2,900	3,000	-100	-3.3	2,900
Paper	7,600	7,800	-200	-2.6	7,700
Printing & Publishing	23,700	24,200	-500	-2.1	23,700
Chemicals	22,800	22,600	200	0.9	22,800
Rubber & Plastics	10,400	10,200	200	2.0	10,400
Other Nondurable Manufacturing	1,700	1,800	-100	-5.6	1,600
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**1,356,800**	**1,340,400**	**16,400**	**1.2**	**1,352,400**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**79,800**	**78,100**	**1,700**	**2.2**	**79,900**
Transportation	46,300	45,400	900	2.0	46,400
Motor Freight & Warehousing	12,300	11,800	500	4.2	12,300
Other Transportation	34,000	33,600	400	1.2	34,100
Communications	20,700	19,800	900	4.5	20,700
Utilities	12,800	12,900	-100	-0.8	12,800
TRADE	**356,100**	**355,100**	**1,000**	**0.3**	**361,900**
Wholesale	82,100	82,200	-100	-0.1	82,600
Retail	274,000	272,900	1,100	0.4	279,300
General Merchandise	23,800	25,700	-1,900	-7.4	26,700
Food Stores	51,500	52,200	-700	-1.3	51,700
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	27,400	27,000	400	1.5	27,500
Restaurants	77,400	76,600	800	1.0	77,400
Other Retail Trade	93,900	91,400	2,500	2.7	96,000
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**140,800**	**139,700**	**1,100**	**0.8**	**140,600**
Finance	53,100	52,500	600	1.1	53,100
Banking	24,200	25,000	-800	-3.2	24,300
Securities	15,300	14,100	1,200	8.5	15,200
Insurance	71,000	70,900	100	0.1	70,900
Insurance Carriers	59,600	59,900	-300	-0.5	59,500
Real Estate	16,800	16,300	500	3.1	16,700
SERVICES	**532,400**	**523,200**	**9,200**	**1.8**	**529,000**
Hotels & Lodging Places	10,600	10,600	0	0.0	10,500
Personal Services	18,500	18,600	-100	-0.5	18,300
Business Services	118,000	112,700	5,300	4.7	118,000
Health Services	157,700	157,900	-200	-0.1	157,900
Legal & Engineering Services	54,000	53,300	700	1.3	54,200
Educational Services	46,800	46,500	300	0.6	43,700
Other Services	126,800	123,600	3,200	2.6	126,400
GOVERNMENT	**247,700**	**244,300**	**3,400**	**1.4**	**241,000**
Federal	22,200	22,600	-400	-1.8	22,200
**State, Local & Other Government	225,500	221,700	3,800	1.7	218,800

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2000.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.*

BRIDGEPORT LMA

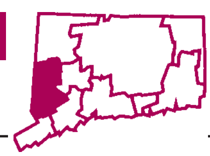


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**182,600**	**183,400**	**-800**	**-0.4**	**183,000**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**42,700**	**42,900**	**-200**	**-0.5**	**43,000**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**6,300**	**6,000**	**300**	**5.0**	**6,400**
MANUFACTURING	**36,400**	**36,900**	**-500**	**-1.4**	**36,600**
Durable Goods	29,000	29,700	-700	-2.4	29,200
Fabricated Metals	4,300	4,600	-300	-6.5	4,300
Industrial Machinery	6,000	5,900	100	1.7	6,000
Electronic Equipment	5,500	5,800	-300	-5.2	5,400
Nondurable Goods	7,400	7,200	200	2.8	7,400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**139,900**	**140,500**	**-600**	**-0.4**	**140,000**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**7,800**	**7,500**	**300**	**4.0**	**7,800**
TRADE	**41,100**	**41,200**	**-100**	**-0.2**	**41,600**
Wholesale	9,700	9,900	-200	-2.0	9,800
Retail	31,400	31,300	100	0.3	31,800
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**13,300**	**12,500**	**800**	**6.4**	**13,400**
SERVICES	**56,700**	**58,000**	**-1,300**	**-2.2**	**56,500**
Business Services	11,400	12,900	-1,500	-11.6	11,300
Health Services	20,500	20,400	100	0.5	20,600
GOVERNMENT	**21,000**	**21,300**	**-300**	**-1.4**	**20,700**
Federal	2,100	2,100	0	0.0	2,100
State & Local	18,900	19,200	-300	-1.6	18,600

For further information on the Bridgeport Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

DANBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

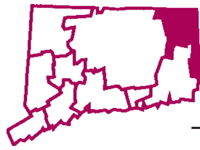
	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**88,000**	**87,500**	**500**	**0.6**	**88,400**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**22,900**	**22,500**	**400**	**1.8**	**23,100**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**3,900**	**3,700**	**200**	**5.4**	**4,000**
MANUFACTURING	**19,000**	**18,800**	**200**	**1.1**	**19,100**
Durable Goods	10,500	10,300	200	1.9	10,600
Machinery & Electric Equipment	5,400	5,200	200	3.8	5,400
Instruments & Related	2,900	2,900	0	0.0	2,900
Nondurable Goods	8,500	8,500	0	0.0	8,500
Chemicals	3,800	3,600	200	5.6	3,800
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**65,100**	**65,000**	**100**	**0.2**	**65,300**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**2,700**	**2,800**	**-100**	**-3.6**	**2,700**
TRADE	**20,300**	**20,700**	**-400**	**-1.9**	**21,000**
Wholesale	3,000	3,200	-200	-6.3	3,000
Retail	17,300	17,500	-200	-1.1	18,000
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**5,900**	**5,500**	**400**	**7.3**	**5,900**
SERVICES	**25,100**	**24,800**	**300**	**1.2**	**25,000**
GOVERNMENT	**11,100**	**11,200**	**-100**	**-0.9**	**10,700**
Federal	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local	10,300	10,400	-100	-1.0	9,900

For further information on the Danbury Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2000.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

DANIELSON LMA

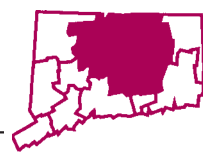


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**21,600**	**21,700**	**-100**	**-0.5**	**21,700**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**6,700**	**6,500**	**200**	**3.1**	**6,800**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**1,000**	**900**	**100**	**11.1**	**1,100**
MANUFACTURING	**5,700**	**5,600**	**100**	**1.8**	**5,700**
Durable Goods	2,200	2,100	100	4.8	2,200
Nondurable Goods	3,500	3,500	0	0.0	3,500
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**14,900**	**15,200**	**-300**	**-2.0**	**14,900**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**600**	**600**	**0**	**0.0**	**500**
TRADE	**5,200**	**5,400**	**-200**	**-3.7**	**5,300**
Wholesale	1,100	1,200	-100	-8.3	1,100
Retail	4,100	4,200	-100	-2.4	4,200
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**500**	**600**	**-100**	**-16.7**	**500**
SERVICES	**5,300**	**5,200**	**100**	**1.9**	**5,300**
GOVERNMENT	**3,300**	**3,400**	**-100**	**-2.9**	**3,300**
Federal	100	100	0	0.0	100
State & Local	3,200	3,300	-100	-3.0	3,200

For further information on the Danielson Labor Market Area contact Noreen Passardi at (860) 263-6299.

HARTFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**611,500**	**612,900**	**-1,400**	**-0.2**	**607,500**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**109,800**	**110,100**	**-300**	**-0.3**	**110,500**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**21,100**	**20,200**	**900**	**4.5**	**21,600**
MANUFACTURING	**88,700**	**89,900**	**-1,200**	**-1.3**	**88,900**
Durable Goods	70,500	71,200	-700	-1.0	70,700
Primary & Fabricated Metals	16,700	17,100	-400	-2.3	16,700
Industrial Machinery	13,700	14,100	-400	-2.8	13,800
Electronic Equipment	7,000	6,700	300	4.5	6,900
Transportation Equipment	24,900	24,900	0	0.0	24,900
Nondurable Goods	18,200	18,700	-500	-2.7	18,200
Printing & Publishing	7,200	7,500	-300	-4.0	7,200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**501,700**	**502,800**	**-1,100**	**-0.2**	**497,000**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**27,300**	**27,300**	**0**	**0.0**	**27,500**
Transportation	15,600	15,600	0	0.0	15,700
Communications & Utilities	11,700	11,700	0	0.0	11,800
TRADE	**122,700**	**123,800**	**-1,100**	**-0.9**	**124,400**
Wholesale	29,800	29,800	0	0.0	30,000
Retail	92,900	94,000	-1,100	-1.2	94,400
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**72,400**	**72,300**	**100**	**0.1**	**72,400**
Deposit & Nondeposit Institutions	12,000	12,000	0	0.0	11,900
Insurance Carriers	47,200	47,300	-100	-0.2	47,400
SERVICES	**178,300**	**178,400**	**-100**	**-0.1**	**176,000**
Business Services	38,200	36,500	1,700	4.7	38,200
Health Services	57,000	58,400	-1,400	-2.4	56,800
GOVERNMENT	**101,000**	**101,000**	**0**	**0.0**	**96,700**
Federal	7,800	7,900	-100	-1.3	7,900
State & Local	93,200	93,100	100	0.1	88,800

For further information on the Hartford Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

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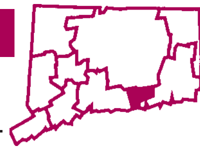
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

LOWER RIVER LMA

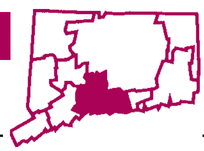


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**10,100**	**9,600**	**500**	**5.2**	**10,100**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**3,200**	**3,100**	**100**	**3.2**	**3,200**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**400**	**400**	**0**	**0.0**	**400**
MANUFACTURING	**2,800**	**2,700**	**100**	**3.7**	**2,800**
Durable Goods	2,500	2,400	100	4.2	2,500
Electronic Equipment	700	700	0	0.0	700
Other Durable Goods	1,800	1,700	100	5.9	1,800
Nondurable Goods	300	300	0	0.0	300
Rubber & Plastics	200	200	0	0.0	200
Other Nondurable Goods	100	100	0	0.0	100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**6,900**	**6,500**	**400**	**6.2**	**6,900**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**300**	**400**	**-100**	**-25.0**	**300**
TRADE	**2,100**	**1,900**	**200**	**10.5**	**2,100**
Wholesale	500	400	100	25.0	500
Retail	1,600	1,500	100	6.7	1,600
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**300**	**300**	**0**	**0.0**	**300**
SERVICES	**3,200**	**2,900**	**300**	**10.3**	**3,200**
GOVERNMENT	**1,000**	**1,000**	**0**	**0.0**	**1,000**
Federal	100	100	0	0.0	100
State & Local	900	900	0	0.0	900

For further information on the Lower River Labor Market Area contact Noreen Passardi at (860) 263-6299.

NEW HAVEN LMA



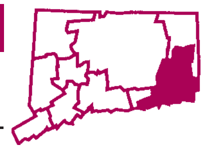
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**263,000**	**260,300**	**2,700**	**1.0**	**261,200**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**48,200**	**47,900**	**300**	**0.6**	**48,500**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**10,300**	**9,500**	**800**	**8.4**	**10,500**
MANUFACTURING	**37,900**	**38,400**	**-500**	**-1.3**	**38,000**
Durable Goods	23,900	24,600	-700	-2.8	24,000
Primary & Fabricated Metals	6,900	7,000	-100	-1.4	7,000
Electronic Equipment	5,400	5,500	-100	-1.8	5,400
Nondurable Goods	14,000	13,800	200	1.4	14,000
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,400	5,300	100	1.9	5,400
Chemicals & Allied	5,600	5,500	100	1.8	5,500
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**214,800**	**212,400**	**2,400**	**1.1**	**212,700**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**15,900**	**15,800**	**100**	**0.6**	**15,900**
Communications & Utilities	8,800	8,600	200	2.3	8,800
TRADE	**52,900**	**52,600**	**300**	**0.6**	**53,400**
Wholesale	13,500	13,300	200	1.5	13,600
Retail	39,400	39,300	100	0.3	39,800
Eating & Drinking Places	10,900	11,000	-100	-0.9	10,800
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**12,300**	**12,600**	**-300**	**-2.4**	**12,300**
Finance	4,200	4,200	0	0.0	4,200
Insurance	6,000	6,200	-200	-3.2	5,900
SERVICES	**97,100**	**96,200**	**900**	**0.9**	**95,100**
Business Services	15,800	14,800	1,000	6.8	15,800
Health Services	28,900	29,100	-200	-0.7	28,900
GOVERNMENT	**36,600**	**35,200**	**1,400**	**4.0**	**36,000**
Federal	6,000	5,800	200	3.4	6,000
State & Local	30,600	29,400	1,200	4.1	30,000

For further information on the New Haven Labor Market Area contact Jungmin Charles Joo at (860) 263-6293.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2000.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

NEW LONDON LMA

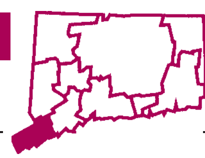


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**138,300**	**137,500**	**800**	**0.6**	**138,600**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**27,600**	**27,700**	**-100**	**-0.4**	**27,900**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**5,200**	**4,800**	**400**	**8.3**	**5,300**
MANUFACTURING	**22,400**	**22,900**	**-500**	**-2.2**	**22,600**
Durable Goods	12,300	12,700	-400	-3.1	12,400
Primary & Fabricated Metals	1,700	1,900	-200	-10.5	1,700
Other Durable Goods	10,600	10,800	-200	-1.9	10,700
Nondurable Goods	10,100	10,200	-100	-1.0	10,200
Paper & Allied	700	800	-100	-12.5	700
Other Nondurable Goods	8,100	8,000	100	1.3	8,100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**110,700**	**109,800**	**900**	**0.8**	**110,700**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**6,900**	**6,900**	**0**	**0.0**	**6,800**
TRADE	**27,200**	**26,800**	**400**	**1.5**	**27,800**
Wholesale	2,700	2,600	100	3.8	2,700
Retail	24,500	24,200	300	1.2	25,100
Eating & Drinking Places	7,000	7,000	0	0.0	7,100
Other Retail	17,500	17,200	300	1.7	18,000
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**3,400**	**3,500**	**-100**	**-2.9**	**3,400**
SERVICES	**35,600**	**35,200**	**400**	**1.1**	**35,300**
Personal & Business Services	6,500	6,200	300	4.8	6,400
Health Services	11,600	11,600	0	0.0	11,600
GOVERNMENT	**37,600**	**37,400**	**200**	**0.5**	**37,400**
Federal	2,700	2,900	-200	-6.9	2,700
State & Local	34,900	34,500	400	1.2	34,700
**Local	30,300	30,000	300	1.0	30,100

For further information on the New London Labor Market Area contact Lincoln Dyer at (860) 263-6292.

STAMFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

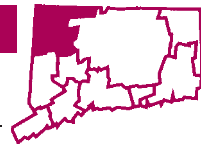
	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**206,700**	**203,900**	**2,800**	**1.4**	**207,100**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**30,500**	**31,300**	**-800**	**-2.6**	**30,700**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**6,200**	**5,900**	**300**	**5.1**	**6,400**
MANUFACTURING	**24,300**	**25,400**	**-1,100**	**-4.3**	**24,300**
Durable Goods	11,800	12,000	-200	-1.7	11,800
Industrial Machinery	3,400	3,400	0	0.0	3,400
Electronic Equipment	1,800	1,800	0	0.0	1,800
Nondurable Goods	12,500	13,400	-900	-6.7	12,500
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,400	5,600	-200	-3.6	5,400
Chemicals & Allied	3,700	4,100	-400	-9.8	3,700
Other Nondurable	3,400	3,700	-300	-8.1	3,400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**176,200**	**172,600**	**3,600**	**2.1**	**176,400**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**10,000**	**10,000**	**0**	**0.0**	**10,000**
Communications & Utilities	2,900	2,900	0	0.0	2,900
TRADE	**44,900**	**43,600**	**1,300**	**3.0**	**45,400**
Wholesale	10,700	10,500	200	1.9	10,600
Retail	34,200	33,100	1,100	3.3	34,800
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**26,300**	**26,100**	**200**	**0.8**	**26,400**
SERVICES	**76,500**	**74,400**	**2,100**	**2.8**	**76,200**
Business Services	24,300	23,300	1,000	4.3	24,000
Engineering & Mgmnt. Services	11,400	11,300	100	0.9	11,400
Other Services	40,800	39,800	1,000	2.5	40,800
GOVERNMENT	**18,500**	**18,500**	**0**	**0.0**	**18,400**
Federal	1,900	1,900	0	0.0	1,900
State & Local	16,600	16,600	0	0.0	16,500

For further information on the Stamford Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 263-6278.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2000.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

TORRINGTON LMA

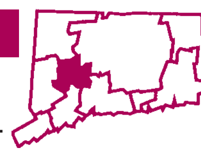


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**27,900**	**28,400**	**-500**	**-1.8**	**28,200**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**7,300**	**7,400**	**-100**	**-1.4**	**7,200**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**1,900**	**1,900**	**0**	**0.0**	**1,900**
MANUFACTURING	**5,400**	**5,500**	**-100**	**-1.8**	**5,300**
Durable Goods	3,900	3,900	0	0.0	3,800
Primary & Fabricated Metals	600	500	100	20.0	600
Industrial Machinery	800	900	-100	-11.1	800
Electronic Equipment	300	200	100	50.0	200
Other Durable Goods	2,200	2,300	-100	-4.3	2,200
Nondurable Goods	1,500	1,600	-100	-6.3	1,500
Rubber & Plastics	600	700	-100	-14.3	600
Other Nondurable Goods	900	900	0	0.0	900
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**20,600**	**21,000**	**-400**	**-1.9**	**21,000**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**500**	**500**	**0**	**0.0**	**500**
TRADE	**6,300**	**6,400**	**-100**	**-1.6**	**6,600**
Wholesale	700	700	0	0.0	700
Retail	5,600	5,700	-100	-1.8	5,900
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**800**	**900**	**-100**	**-11.1**	**900**
SERVICES	**9,600**	**9,700**	**-100**	**-1.0**	**9,600**
GOVERNMENT	**3,400**	**3,500**	**-100**	**-2.9**	**3,400**
Federal	200	200	0	0.0	200
State & Local	3,200	3,300	-100	-3.0	3,200

For further information on the Torrington Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 263-6278.

WATERBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**87,000**	**85,000**	**2,000**	**2.4**	**87,400**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**21,500**	**20,800**	**700**	**3.4**	**21,600**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**3,200**	**3,100**	**100**	**3.2**	**3,200**
MANUFACTURING	**18,300**	**17,700**	**600**	**3.4**	**18,400**
Durable Goods	14,600	14,100	500	3.5	14,700
Primary Metals	1,000	900	100	11.1	1,000
Fabricated Metals	6,500	6,400	100	1.6	6,700
Machinery & Electric Equipment	4,300	4,000	300	7.5	4,300
Nondurable Goods	3,700	3,600	100	2.8	3,700
Paper, Printing & Publishing	1,100	1,100	0	0.0	1,100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**65,500**	**64,200**	**1,300**	**2.0**	**65,800**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**3,800**	**3,700**	**100**	**2.7**	**3,800**
TRADE	**18,200**	**17,900**	**300**	**1.7**	**18,600**
Wholesale	3,100	3,000	100	3.3	3,000
Retail	15,100	14,900	200	1.3	15,600
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**3,200**	**3,200**	**0**	**0.0**	**3,300**
SERVICES	**27,400**	**26,400**	**1,000**	**3.8**	**27,200**
Personal & Business	7,000	6,700	300	4.5	7,000
Health Services	10,100	10,400	-300	-2.9	10,200
GOVERNMENT	**12,900**	**13,000**	**-100**	**-0.8**	**12,900**
Federal	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local	12,100	12,200	-100	-0.8	12,100

For further information on the Waterbury Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 263-6278.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2000.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

(Not seasonally adjusted)	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2001
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,708,300	1,719,100	-10,800	-0.6	1,712,500
	Employed	1,665,000	1,662,700	2,300	0.1	1,672,300
	Unemployed	43,200	56,400	-13,200	-23.4	40,200
	Unemployment Rate	2.5	3.3	-0.8	---	2.3
BRIDGEPORT LMA	Civilian Labor Force	211,200	214,900	-3,700	-1.7	212,100
	Employed	204,600	206,400	-1,800	-0.9	206,200
	Unemployed	6,600	8,500	-1,900	-22.4	5,900
	Unemployment Rate	3.1	4.0	-0.9	---	2.8
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	108,500	109,000	-500	-0.5	109,500
	Employed	106,400	106,500	-100	-0.1	107,700
	Unemployed	2,000	2,500	-500	-20.0	1,800
	Unemployment Rate	1.9	2.3	-0.4	---	1.7
DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	34,100	34,300	-200	-0.6	34,200
	Employed	33,000	32,900	100	0.3	33,200
	Unemployed	1,100	1,400	-300	-21.4	1,000
	Unemployment Rate	3.2	4.2	-1.0	---	2.9
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	583,500	591,600	-8,100	-1.4	582,100
	Employed	568,300	571,200	-2,900	-0.5	567,600
	Unemployed	15,200	20,500	-5,300	-25.9	14,500
	Unemployment Rate	2.6	3.5	-0.9	---	2.5
LOWER RIVER LMA	Civilian Labor Force	12,500	12,300	200	1.6	12,700
	Employed	12,200	12,000	200	1.7	12,500
	Unemployed	200	300	-100	-33.3	200
	Unemployment Rate	1.8	2.5	-0.7	---	1.6
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	278,900	278,000	900	0.3	278,300
	Employed	272,000	269,300	2,700	1.0	271,700
	Unemployed	6,900	8,700	-1,800	-20.7	6,600
	Unemployment Rate	2.5	3.1	-0.6	---	2.4
NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	151,200	151,400	-200	-0.1	152,200
	Employed	147,400	146,200	1,200	0.8	148,600
	Unemployed	3,700	5,300	-1,600	-30.2	3,500
	Unemployment Rate	2.5	3.5	-1.0	---	2.3
STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	193,000	191,700	1,300	0.7	194,400
	Employed	189,700	187,600	2,100	1.1	191,500
	Unemployed	3,300	4,100	-800	-19.5	3,000
	Unemployment Rate	1.7	2.1	-0.4	---	1.5
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	37,000	38,000	-1,000	-2.6	37,500
	Employed	36,100	36,900	-800	-2.2	36,700
	Unemployed	1,000	1,200	-200	-16.7	800
	Unemployment Rate	2.7	3.1	-0.4	---	2.2
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	115,500	114,500	1,000	0.9	116,400
	Employed	111,600	109,600	2,000	1.8	112,800
	Unemployed	3,900	4,900	-1,000	-20.4	3,500
	Unemployment Rate	3.4	4.3	-0.9	---	3.0
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	141,238,000	140,185,000	1,053,000	0.8	141,049,000
	Employed	134,774,000	133,954,000	820,000	0.6	134,462,000
	Unemployed	6,464,000	6,231,000	233,000	3.7	6,587,000
	Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.4	0.2	---	4.7

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2000.

MANUFACTURING HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT

(Not seasonally adjusted)	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHG Y/Y	JAN 2001	AVG WEEKLY HOURS FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHG Y/Y	JAN 2001	AVG HOURLY EARNINGS FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHG Y/Y	JAN 2001
MANUFACTURING	**$678.50**	**$666.26**	**$12.24**	**$682.41**	**42.7**	**42.6**	**0.1**	**43.0**	**$15.89**	**$15.64**	**$0.25**	**$15.87**
DURABLE GOODS	**697.36**	**680.82**	**16.54**	**698.86**	**43.1**	**42.9**	**0.2**	**43.3**	**16.18**	**15.87**	**0.31**	**16.14**
Lumber & Furniture	529.66	499.77	29.89	542.34	40.9	40.5	0.4	41.4	12.95	12.34	0.61	13.10
Stone, Clay and Glass	627.52	613.90	13.62	634.69	42.4	42.9	-0.5	42.2	14.80	14.31	0.49	15.04
Primary Metals	704.46	679.36	25.10	695.09	45.1	45.2	-0.1	44.7	15.62	15.03	0.59	15.55
Fabricated Metals	609.86	616.33	-6.47	616.50	41.6	43.1	-1.5	42.4	14.66	14.30	0.36	14.54
Machinery	749.03	716.81	32.22	761.85	44.4	43.0	1.4	45.0	16.87	16.67	0.20	16.93
Electrical Equipment	577.40	540.38	37.02	588.82	42.3	41.6	0.7	43.2	13.65	12.99	0.66	13.63
Trans. Equipment	920.94	898.47	22.47	901.95	45.1	44.7	0.4	44.3	20.42	20.10	0.32	20.36
Instruments	627.33	603.10	24.23	629.34	41.6	40.1	1.5	41.9	15.08	15.04	0.04	15.02
Miscellaneous Mfg	678.19	649.18	29.01	680.52	42.6	42.1	0.5	42.8	15.92	15.42	0.50	15.90
NONDUR. GOODS	**630.34**	**632.52**	**-2.18**	**636.55**	**41.8**	**42.0**	**-0.2**	**42.1**	**15.08**	**15.06**	**0.02**	**15.12**
Food	540.58	543.37	-2.79	538.89	42.2	43.4	-1.2	42.6	12.81	12.52	0.29	12.65
Textiles	500.93	504.25	-3.32	512.91	40.3	41.4	-1.1	41.0	12.43	12.18	0.25	12.51
Apparel	383.72	358.20	25.52	378.63	39.6	39.8	-0.2	39.4	9.69	9.00	0.69	9.61
Paper	731.37	744.85	-13.48	752.58	43.9	44.1	-0.2	45.2	16.66	16.89	-0.23	16.65
Printing & Publishing	646.40	645.57	0.83	658.07	40.0	40.5	-0.5	40.2	16.16	15.94	0.22	16.37
Chemicals	791.37	789.65	1.72	786.40	42.8	42.5	0.3	42.6	18.49	18.58	-0.09	18.46
Rubber & Misc. Plast.	546.88	551.68	-4.80	556.25	42.1	42.7	-0.6	42.3	12.99	12.92	0.07	13.15
CONSTRUCTION	**876.19**	**845.01**	**31.18**	**868.40**	**40.1**	**41.0**	**-0.9**	**40.0**	**21.85**	**20.61**	**1.24**	**21.71**

LMAs

MANUFACTURING	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHG Y/Y	JAN 2001	AVG WEEKLY HOURS FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHG Y/Y	JAN 2001	AVG HOURLY EARNINGS FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHG Y/Y	JAN 2001
Bridgeport	$618.20	$662.29	-$44.09	$611.53	40.3	42.4	-2.1	40.1	$15.34	$15.62	-$0.28	$15.25
Danbury	632.75	659.66	-26.91	647.30	40.2	41.1	-0.9	41.6	15.74	16.05	-0.31	15.56
Danielson	533.58	509.23	24.35	539.23	40.7	41.3	-0.6	41.1	13.11	12.33	0.78	13.12
Hartford	714.43	725.15	-10.72	712.70	42.5	43.5	-1.0	42.6	16.81	16.67	0.14	16.73
Lower River	572.77	547.54	25.23	573.24	41.0	40.8	0.2	41.3	13.97	13.42	0.55	13.88
New Haven	642.11	635.59	6.52	640.76	42.3	42.6	-0.3	42.1	15.18	14.92	0.26	15.22
New London	695.77	685.81	9.96	705.58	41.0	42.1	-1.1	41.8	16.97	16.29	0.68	16.88
Stamford	544.68	547.86	-3.18	556.63	39.7	39.7	0.0	40.6	13.72	13.80	-0.08	13.71
Torrington	576.46	593.41	-16.95	588.95	38.0	40.7	-2.7	39.5	15.17	14.58	0.59	14.91
Waterbury	617.82	662.84	-45.02	632.39	42.0	45.4	-3.4	42.7	14.71	14.60	0.11	14.81

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2000.

NEW HOUSING PERMITS

	FEB 2001	FEB 2000	CHANGE Y/Y UNITS	CHANGE Y/Y %	YTD 2001	YTD 2000	CHANGE YTD UNITS	CHANGE YTD %	JAN 2001
Connecticut	706	508	198	39.0	1,555	1,311	244	18.6	849
LMAs:									
Bridgeport	57	50	7	14.0	106	101	5	5.0	49
Danbury	47	40	7	17.5	100	75	25	33.3	53
Danielson	15	15	0	0.0	32	26	6	23.1	17
Hartford	156	186	-30	-16.1	376	371	5	1.3	220
Lower River	8	12	-4	-33.3	14	21	-7	-33.3	6
New Haven	78	72	6	8.3	139	170	-31	-18.2	61
New London	41	41	0	0.0	85	94	-9	-9.6	44
Stamford	276	42	234	557.1	640	382	258	67.5	364
Torrington	6	6	0	0.0	12	9	3	33.3	6
Waterbury	22	44	-22	-50.0	51	62	-11	-17.7	29

Additional data by town are on page 26.

Town LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES BY TOWN

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

FEBRUARY 2001

Labor Market Areas are highlighted, followed by the towns that make up the Area.

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
BRIDGEPORT	**211,171**	**204,610**	**6,561**	**3.1**
Ansonia	8,241	7,922	319	3.9
Beacon Falls	2,759	2,673	86	3.1
BRIDGEPORT	**58,652**	**55,715**	**2,937**	**5.0**
Derby	6,080	5,881	199	3.3
Easton	3,207	3,153	54	1.7
Fairfield	25,775	25,317	458	1.8
Milford	25,285	24,703	582	2.3
Monroe	9,619	9,438	181	1.9
Oxford	4,648	4,546	102	2.2
Seymour	7,454	7,266	188	2.5
Shelton	19,490	19,018	472	2.4
Stratford	23,726	23,080	646	2.7
Trumbull	16,234	15,898	336	2.1
DANBURY	**108,486**	**106,438**	**2,048**	**1.9**
Bethel	9,534	9,367	167	1.8
Bridgewater	943	929	14	1.5
Brookfield	8,045	7,917	128	1.6
DANBURY	**35,747**	**34,878**	**869**	**2.4**
New Fairfield	6,917	6,809	108	1.6
New Milford	13,793	13,519	274	2.0
Newtown	12,264	12,061	203	1.7
Redding	4,402	4,329	73	1.7
Ridgefield	12,088	11,952	136	1.1
Roxbury	1,044	1,026	18	1.7
Sherman	1,661	1,645	16	1.0
Washington	2,049	2,008	41	2.0
DANIELSON	**34,096**	**33,011**	**1,085**	**3.2**
Brooklyn	3,905	3,827	78	2.0
Eastford	896	868	28	3.1
Hampton	1,129	1,091	38	3.4
KILLINGLY	**8,532**	**8,140**	**392**	**4.6**
Pomfret	2,150	2,103	47	2.2
Putnam	4,766	4,598	168	3.5
Scotland	877	862	15	1.7
Sterling	1,619	1,566	53	3.3
Thompson	4,515	4,394	121	2.7
Union	397	392	5	1.3
Voluntown	1,360	1,314	46	3.4
Woodstock	3,952	3,857	95	2.4
HARTFORD	**583,478**	**568,310**	**15,168**	**2.6**
Andover	1,608	1,585	23	1.4
Ashford	2,124	2,090	34	1.6
Avon	7,363	7,286	77	1.0
Barkhamsted	2,058	2,001	57	2.8
Berlin	8,937	8,717	220	2.5
Bloomfield	9,742	9,515	227	2.3
Bolton	2,683	2,641	42	1.6
Bristol	31,252	30,306	946	3.0

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
HARTFORD cont....				
Burlington	4,345	4,265	80	1.8
Canton	4,570	4,489	81	1.8
Chaplin	1,188	1,156	32	2.7
Colchester	6,569	6,444	125	1.9
Columbia	2,631	2,588	43	1.6
Coventry	6,072	5,941	131	2.2
Cromwell	6,792	6,632	160	2.4
Durham	3,503	3,436	67	1.9
East Granby	2,428	2,375	53	2.2
East Haddam	4,074	3,979	95	2.3
East Hampton	6,118	5,974	144	2.4
East Hartford	24,868	24,081	787	3.2
East Windsor	5,518	5,347	171	3.1
Ellington	6,836	6,672	164	2.4
Enfield	22,384	21,880	504	2.3
Farmington	11,068	10,870	198	1.8
Glastonbury	15,505	15,268	237	1.5
Granby	5,206	5,131	75	1.4
Haddam	4,148	4,068	80	1.9
HARTFORD	**51,773**	**49,023**	**2,750**	**5.3**
Harwinton	2,940	2,859	81	2.8
Hebron	4,319	4,246	73	1.7
Lebanon	3,290	3,213	77	2.3
Manchester	27,899	27,222	677	2.4
Mansfield	9,008	8,899	109	1.2
Marlborough	3,017	2,976	41	1.4
Middlefield	2,226	2,170	56	2.5
Middletown	23,691	23,099	592	2.5
New Britain	33,383	31,922	1,461	4.4
New Hartford	3,606	3,534	72	2.0
Newington	15,249	14,950	299	2.0
Plainville	9,151	8,890	261	2.9
Plymouth	6,321	6,110	211	3.3
Portland	4,563	4,454	109	2.4
Rocky Hill	9,520	9,357	163	1.7
Simsbury	11,370	11,245	125	1.1
Somers	4,030	3,948	82	2.0
Southington	20,808	20,328	480	2.3
South Windsor	13,170	12,951	219	1.7
Stafford	5,773	5,635	138	2.4
Suffield	5,812	5,675	137	2.4
Tolland	7,035	6,935	100	1.4
Vernon	16,208	15,892	316	1.9
West Hartford	27,901	27,473	428	1.5
Wethersfield	11,970	11,758	212	1.8
Willington	3,414	3,348	66	1.9
Winchester	5,775	5,575	200	3.5
Windham	9,869	9,558	311	3.2
Windsor	14,226	13,928	298	2.1
Windsor Locks	6,571	6,403	168	2.6

LABOR FORCE CONCEPTS

The **civilian labor force** comprises all state residents age 16 years and older classified as employed or unemployed in accordance with criteria described below. Excluded are members of the military and persons in institutions (correctional and mental health, for example).

The **employed** are all persons who did any work as paid employees or in their own business during the survey week, or who have worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a family member. Persons temporarily absent from a job because of illness, bad weather, strike or for personal reasons are also counted as employed whether they were paid by their employer or were seeking other jobs.

The **unemployed** are all persons who did not work, but were available for work during the survey week (except for temporary illness) and made specific efforts to find a job in the prior four weeks. Persons waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES BY TOWN

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

FEBRUARY 2001

Labor Market Areas are highlighted, followed by the towns that make up the Area.

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
LOWER RIVER	**12,462**	**12,243**	**219**	**1.8**
Chester	2,161	2,133	28	1.3
Deep River	2,703	2,657	46	1.7
Essex	3,320	3,258	62	1.9
Lyme	1,084	1,075	9	0.8
Westbrook	3,195	3,121	74	2.3
NEW HAVEN	**278,942**	**271,997**	**6,945**	**2.5**
Bethany	2,641	2,592	49	1.9
Branford	16,115	15,740	375	2.3
Cheshire	13,794	13,595	199	1.4
Clinton	7,566	7,410	156	2.1
East Haven	14,993	14,577	416	2.8
Guilford	11,759	11,555	204	1.7
Hamden	29,444	28,864	580	2.0
Killingworth	3,018	2,956	62	2.1
Madison	8,453	8,333	120	1.4
MERIDEN	**30,323**	**29,272**	**1,051**	**3.5**
NEW HAVEN	**57,266**	**55,460**	**1,806**	**3.2**
North Branford	8,296	8,111	185	2.2
North Haven	12,538	12,313	225	1.8
Orange	6,611	6,522	89	1.3
Wallingford	23,203	22,615	588	2.5
West Haven	28,531	27,747	784	2.7
Woodbridge	4,391	4,335	56	1.3
***NEW LONDON**	**134,130**	**131,129**	**3,001**	**2.2**
Bozrah	1,435	1,394	41	2.9
Canterbury	2,708	2,646	62	2.3
East Lyme	9,121	8,980	141	1.5
Franklin	1,068	1,055	13	1.2
Griswold	5,664	5,518	146	2.6
Groton	16,933	16,558	375	2.2
Ledyard	7,852	7,736	116	1.5
Lisbon	2,191	2,143	48	2.2
Montville	9,497	9,314	183	1.9
NEW LONDON	**12,782**	**12,363**	**419**	**3.3**
No. Stonington	2,853	2,803	50	1.8
NORWICH	**18,332**	**17,805**	**527**	**2.9**
Old Lyme	3,737	3,677	60	1.6
Old Saybrook	5,692	5,610	82	1.4
Plainfield	8,446	8,192	254	3.0
Preston	2,500	2,454	46	1.8
Salem	2,002	1,961	41	2.0
Sprague	1,628	1,572	56	3.4
Stonington	9,591	9,414	177	1.8
Waterford	10,097	9,932	165	1.6

*Connecticut portion only. For whole MSA, including Rhode Island towns, see below.

NEW LONDON	**151,186**	**147,446**	**3,740**	**2.5**
Hopkinton, RI	4,359	4,181	178	4.1
Westerly, RI	12,697	12,136	561	4.4

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
STAMFORD	**192,978**	**189,673**	**3,305**	**1.7**
Darien	9,571	9,457	114	1.2
Greenwich	31,375	31,012	363	1.2
New Canaan	9,476	9,395	81	0.9
NORWALK	**48,524**	**47,451**	**1,073**	**2.2**
STAMFORD	**65,926**	**64,576**	**1,350**	**2.0**
Weston	4,809	4,753	56	1.2
Westport	14,264	14,094	170	1.2
Wilton	9,033	8,935	98	1.1
TORRINGTON	**37,527**	**36,054**	**989**	**2.7**
Canaan**	676	665	11	1.6
Colebrook	754	742	12	1.6
Cornwall	757	745	12	1.6
Goshen	1,283	1,257	26	2.0
Hartland	952	928	24	2.5
Kent**	1,975	1,945	30	1.5
Litchfield	4,181	4,077	104	2.5
Morris	1,078	1,044	34	3.2
Norfolk	1,017	998	19	1.9
North Canaan**	2,089	2,045	44	2.1
Salisbury**	2,286	2,248	38	1.7
Sharon**	1,913	1,885	28	1.5
TORRINGTON	**17,434**	**16,839**	**595**	**3.4**
Warren	648	636	12	1.9
WATERBURY	**115,472**	**111,576**	**3,896**	**3.4**
Bethlehem	1,954	1,903	51	2.6
Middlebury	3,348	3,291	57	1.7
Naugatuck	16,609	16,002	607	3.7
Prospect	4,748	4,631	117	2.5
Southbury	6,865	6,725	140	2.0
Thomaston	4,154	4,018	136	3.3
WATERBURY	**51,718**	**49,524**	**2,194**	**4.2**
Watertown	12,217	11,922	295	2.4
Wolcott	8,706	8,521	185	2.1
Woodbury	5,154	5,040	114	2.2

Not Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	**1,708,300**	**1,665,000**	**43,200**	**2.5**
UNITED STATES	**141,238,000**	**134,774,000**	**6,464,000**	**4.6**
Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	**1,730,100**	**1,697,300**	**32,800**	**1.9**
UNITED STATES	**141,751,000**	**135,815,000**	**5,936,000**	**4.2**

**The Bureau of Labor Statistics has identified these five towns as a separate area to report labor force data. For the convenience of our data users, data for these towns are included in the Torrington LMA. For the same purpose, data for the town of Thompson, which is officially part of the Worcester, MA MSA, is included in the Danielson LMA.

LABOR FORCE CONCEPTS (Continued)

The **unemployment rate** represents the number unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

With the exception of those persons temporarily absent from a job or waiting to be recalled to one, persons with no job and who are not actively looking for one are counted as "not in the labor force".

Over the course of a year, the size of the labor force and the levels of employment undergo fluctuations due to such seasonal events as changes in weather, reduced or expanded production, harvests, major holidays and the opening and closing of schools. Because these seasonal events follow a regular pattern each year, their influence on statistical trends can be eliminated by adjusting the monthly statistics. **Seasonal Adjustment** makes it easier to observe cyclical and other nonseasonal developments.

HOUSING PERMIT ACTIVITY BY TOWN

TOWN	FEB 2001	YR TO DATE 2001	YR TO DATE 2000
Andover	0	0	3
Ansonia	1	2	3
Ashford	1	1	0
Avon	5	16	7
Barkhamsted	0	1	1
Beacon Falls	3	6	8
Berlin	5	6	12
Bethany	0	0	2
Bethel	0	0	2
Bethlehem	0	0	1
Bloomfield	1	5	7
Bolton	1	3	4
Bozrah	1	2	2
Branford	5	11	3
Bridgeport	13	15	4
Bridgewater	1	1	0
Bristol	2	7	9
Brookfield	3	4	5
Brooklyn	0	3	0
Burlington	2	5	4
Canaan	0	0	0
Canterbury	0	2	0
Canton	5	6	5
Chaplin	1	2	2
Cheshire	2	4	5
Chester	1	1	2
Clinton	3	5	7
Colchester	6	11	14
Colebrook	0	0	0
Columbia	1	2	0
Cornwall	0	0	0
Coventry	2	6	6
Cromwell	0	9	11
Danbury	6	27	21
Darien	4	6	4
Deep River	1	2	4
Derby	3	6	3
Durham	3	6	10
East Granby	1	1	0
East Haddam	4	8	7
East Hampton	5	10	10
East Hartford	0	2	1
East Haven	2	4	2
East Lyme	3	5	12
East Windsor	3	5	5
Eastford	0	0	0
Easton	2	2	2
Ellington	5	13	18
Enfield	0	0	9
Essex	3	6	8
Fairfield	3	4	7
Farmington	7	14	4
Franklin	0	0	1
Glastonbury	7	19	18
Goshen	1	1	2
Granby	2	8	8
Greenwich	5	11	14

TOWN	FEB 2001	YR TO DATE 2001	YR TO DATE 2000
Griswold	3	5	2
Groton	5	11	15
Guilford	2	5	13
Haddam	0	2	5
Hamden	17	24	86
Hampton	1	2	2
Hartford	4	5	9
Hartland	0	0	0
Harwinton	0	3	1
Hebron	1	5	10
Kent	0	0	1
Killingly	6	8	3
Killingworth	4	7	3
Lebanon	1	5	2
Ledyard	7	8	4
Lisbon	1	3	2
Litchfield	0	1	1
Lyme	0	0	1
Madison	6	11	4
Manchester	2	21	7
Mansfield	1	2	6
Marlborough	1	5	4
Meriden	3	4	5
Middlebury	0	3	3
Middlefield	1	2	2
Middletown	13	23	38
Milford	14	34	27
Monroe	1	2	7
Montville	0	2	9
Morris	1	1	0
Naugatuck	6	7	10
New Britain	0	0	0
New Canaan	5	8	11
New Fairfield	3	3	2
New Hartford	2	11	1
New Haven	1	1	9
New London	0	0	0
New Milford	7	14	14
Newington	5	15	6
Newtown	13	26	10
Norfolk	0	0	0
North Branford	1	2	2
North Canaan	2	2	0
North Haven	23	34	6
North Stonington	4	4	2
Norwalk	248	252	23
Norwich	0	1	1
Old Lyme	3	5	6
Old Saybrook	0	2	4
Orange	1	2	2
Oxford	5	9	13
Plainfield	1	4	8
Plainville	0	1	6
Plymouth	2	2	3
Pomfret	2	3	2
Portland	2	3	5

TOWN	FEB 2001	YR TO DATE 2001	YR TO DATE 2000
Preston	1	2	3
Prospect	1	5	4
Putnam	1	1	3
Redding	5	7	5
Ridgefield	5	9	13
Rocky Hill	3	4	7
Roxbury	1	2	1
Salem	0	0	2
Salisbury	1	4	0
Scotland	0	1	2
Seymour	0	2	4
Sharon	0	0	2
Shelton	8	16	12
Sherman	3	6	1
Simsbury	1	3	6
Somers	2	8	5
South Windsor	3	4	6
Southbury	2	6	9
Southington	13	37	17
Sprague	0	2	0
Stafford	1	1	1
Stamford	2	343	311
Sterling	0	2	1
Stonington	4	7	13
Stratford	0	1	2
Suffield	3	6	8
Thomaston	1	1	6
Thompson	1	8	0
Tolland	4	10	15
Torrington	0	1	3
Trumbull	4	7	9
Union	0	0	2
Vernon	13	17	7
Voluntown	1	1	5
Wallingford	4	17	13
Warren	1	2	0
Washington	0	1	1
Waterbury	2	4	16
Waterford	8	20	8
Watertown	3	9	8
West Hartford	5	7	1
West Haven	2	4	6
Westbrook	3	5	6
Weston	2	3	4
Westport	4	9	7
Wethersfield	2	3	2
Willington	1	2	4
Wilton	6	8	8
Winchester	0	0	4
Windham	0	0	2
Windsor	1	3	4
Windsor Locks	0	0	2
Wolcott	3	10	3
Woodbridge	2	4	2
Woodbury	4	6	2
Woodstock	3	3	6

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

Registrations and terminations of business entities as recorded with the Secretary of the State and the Connecticut Department of Labor (DOL) are an indication of new business formation and activity. DOL business starts include new employers which have become liable for unemployment insurance taxes during the quarter, as well as new establishments opened by existing employers. DOL business terminations are those accounts discontinued due to inactivity (no employees) or business closure, and accounts for individual business establishments that are closed by still active employers. The Secretary of the State registrations include limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, and foreign-owned (out-of-state) and domestic-owned (in-state) corporations.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index (CPI), computed and published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. It is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs and other goods and services that people buy for their day-to-day living. The Northeast region is comprised of the New England states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

The Employment Cost Index (ECI) covers both wages and salaries and employer costs for employee benefits for all occupations and establishments in both the private nonfarm sector and state and local government. The ECI measures employers' labor costs free from the influences of employment shifts among industries and occupations. The base period for all data is June 1989 when the ECI is 100.

HOURS AND EARNINGS ESTIMATES

Production worker earnings and hours estimates include full- and part-time employees working within manufacturing industries. Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month. Average hourly earnings are affected by such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

INDIAN GAMING DATA

Indian Gaming Payments are amounts received by the State as a result of the slot compact with the two Federally recognized tribes in Connecticut, which calls for 25 percent of net slot receipts to be remitted to the State. Indian Gaming Slots are the total net revenues from slot machines only received by the two Federally recognized Indian tribes.

INITIAL CLAIMS

Average weekly initial claims are calculated by dividing the total number of new claims for unemployment insurance received in the month by the number of weeks in the month. A minor change in methodology took effect with data published in the March 1997 issue of the DIGEST. Data have been revised back to January 1980.

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Primarily a measure of unemployment insurance program activity, the insured unemployment rate is the 13-week average of the number of people claiming unemployment benefits divided by the number of workers covered by the unemployment insurance system.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

Labor force estimates are a measure of the work status of people who live in Connecticut. Prepared under the direction of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the statewide estimates are the product of a multiple variable coefficient regression model, which uses results from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey of Connecticut households, counts of claimants for unemployment benefits, and establishment employment estimates. Due to the small size of the sample taken in Connecticut, the CPS results are subject to significant sampling error and produce considerable month-to-month fluctuations in estimates derived from the sample. In general, the CPS estimates, at the 90 percent confidence level, have an error range of about 1.5 percentage points on a rate of 6.0 percent. An accepted method for calculating the error range for model estimates is currently not available. Labor force data, reflecting persons employed by place of residence, are not directly comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series. In the labor force estimates, workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. The labor force data also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics and the self-employed. Because of these conceptual differences, total labor force employment is almost always different from nonfarm wage and salary employment.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

All Labor Market Areas in Connecticut except three are federally designated areas for developing labor statistics. Industry employment data for the Danielson, Lower River and Torrington Labor Market Areas are prepared exclusively by the Connecticut Department of Labor, following the same statistical procedures used to prepare estimates for the other Labor Market Areas, which are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has identified the five towns of Canaan, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon as a separate area for reporting labor force data. For the convenience of our data users, data for these towns are included in the Torrington Labor Market Area. For the same purpose, data for the town of Thompson, which is officially part of the Worcester Metropolitan Statistical Area, are included in the Danielson Labor Market Area. Also, data for Hopkinton and Westerly, Rhode Island are included in the New London Labor Market Area.

LEADING AND COINCIDENT EMPLOYMENT INDICES

The leading employment index is a composite of six individual largely employment-related series -- the average workweek of manufacturing production and construction workers, Hartford help-wanted advertising, short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, initial claims for unemployment insurance, total housing permits, and Moody's BAA corporate bond yield. While not employment-sector variables, housing permits are closely related to construction employment and the corporate bond yield adds important information about the movement in interest rates. The coincident employment index is a composite indicator of four individual employment-related series -- the total unemployment rate, nonfarm employment (employer survey), total employment (state residents employed measured by a household survey), and the insured unemployment rate. All data are seasonally adjusted and come from the Connecticut Labor Department and from the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

Nonfarm employment estimates are derived from a survey of businesses to measure *jobs* by industry. The estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary employees who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Excluded from these estimates are proprietors, self-employed workers, private household employees and unpaid family workers. In some cases, due to space constraints, all industry estimates are not shown. Call (860) 263-6275 for a more comprehensive breakout of nonfarm employment estimates.

UI COVERED WAGES

UI covered wages is the total amount paid to those employees who are covered under the Connecticut's Unemployment Insurance (UI) law for services performed during the quarter. The fluctuations in the 1992-93 period reflect the effect of the changes in the tax law and the massive restructuring in the state's economy.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS AT A GLANCE

(Percent change from prior year; see pages 7-10 for reference months or quarters)

Leading Employment Index	**+1.0**
Coincident Employment Index	**+1.8**
Leading General Drift Indicator	**-0.2**
Coincident General Drift Indicator	**+1.0**
Business Barometer	**+1.5**
Business Climate Index	**-2.0**
Total Nonfarm Employment	**+1.0**
Unemployment	**-0.7***
Labor Force	-0.6
Employed	+0.1
Unemployed	-28.5
Average Weekly Initial Claims	**+28.7**
Help Wanted Index -- Hartford	**-22.9**
Average Ins. Unempl. Rate	**+0.05***
Average Weekly Hours, Mfg	**+0.2**
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg	**+1.6**
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg	**+1.8**
CT Mfg. Production Index	**-0.9**
Production Worker Hours	-4.2
Industrial Electricity Sales	-2.1
Personal Income	**+4.2**
UI Covered Wages	**+5.3**

Business Activity	
New Housing Permits	+39.0
Electricity Sales	+4.9
Retail Sales	+9.4
Construction Contracts Index	+170.8
New Auto Registrations	-0.7
Air Cargo Tons	-30.5
Exports	+16.2
Business Starts	
Secretary of the State	-13.6
Dept. of Labor	-8.0
Business Terminations	
Secretary of the State	+31.3
Dept. of Labor	-70.9
State Revenues	**+8.4**
Corporate Tax	-31.0
Personal Income Tax	+16.0
Real Estate Conveyance Tax	-15.6
Sales & Use Tax	+8.6
Indian Gaming Payments	+0.7

**Percentage point change; **Less than 0.05 percent; NA = Not Available*

Tourism and Travel	
Tourism Info Centers	+15.0
Attraction Visitors	-6.1
Air Passenger Count	+1.0
Indian Gaming Slots	+1.6
Travel and Tourism Index	-0.3
Employment Cost Index (U.S.)	
Total	+4.4
Wages & Salaries	+3.9
Benefit Costs	+5.6
Consumer Prices	
Connecticut	+4.3
U.S. City Average	+3.5
Northeast Region	+2.9
NY-NJ-Long Island	+2.7
Boston-Brockton-Nashua	+4.9
Consumer Confidence	
Connecticut	-17.5
New England	-17.8
U.S.	-24.1
Interest Rates	
Prime	-0.23*
Conventional Mortgage	-1.28*

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- **What additional data would you like to see included in the Digest?**

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