THE CONNECTICUT
ECONOMIC DIGEST

Vol.14 No.4 A joint publication of the Connecticut Department of Labor & the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

APRIL 2009

IN THIS ISSUE...

In February...

Nonfarm Employment

Connecticut 1,656,500
Change over month .... -0.86%
Change over year .... -3.0%

United States 133,768,000
Change over month .... -0.48%
Change over year .... -3.0%

Unemployment Rate

Connecticut 7.4%
United States 8.1%

Consumer Price Index

United States 212.2
Change over year 0.2%

Exports, an Economic Bright Spot: 2008 Connecticut Exports in Review

By Laura Jaworski, International Trade Specialist, DECD

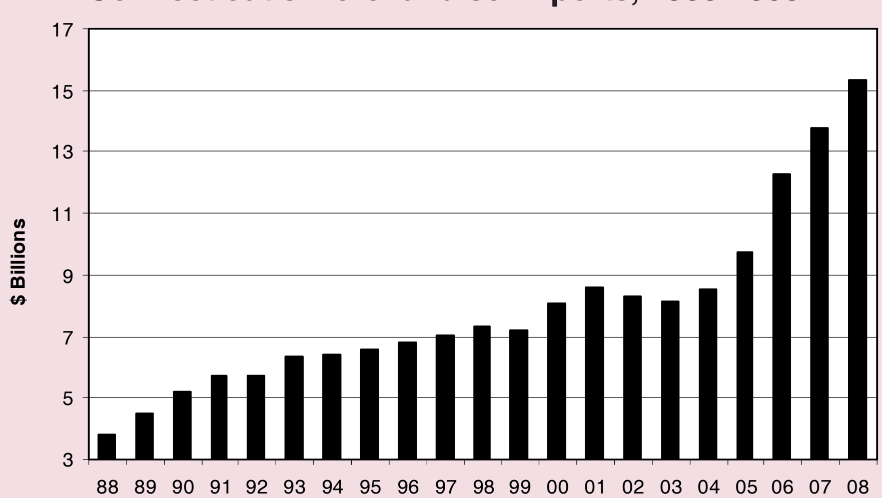
2008 was certainly a year of unforgettable economic headlines and news stories—the recession, the Wall Street crisis, staggering housing foreclosures, skyrocketing job losses, industry bailouts, record deficits, budget shortfalls and the debate concerning the scope and size of the federal stimulus package. Despite the turmoil, there was a bright spot in the otherwise dismal 2008 economic news—Connecticut's exports.

Foreign exports are an engine of growth, and their importance as a contributor to the State's gross domestic product (state GDP) cannot be understated. Connecticut's overseas exports represent approximately 7% of state GDP. More importantly, exports sustain and create jobs via their trickle-down effect on the economy. Given the current economic climate, exports' ability to positively impact job creation and the economy is significant. To describe Connecticut's 2008 export story, a review of several key categories follows.

Annual Export Figures

From 2007 to 2008, Connecticut's annual export commodities (exclusive of services) grew an outstanding 10.97%, from $13.79 billion to $15.31 billion (See chart below). This increase follows the State's 12.66% gain in 2007, and its tremendous 25.6% jump in 2006. From 2003 to the present, Connecticut's exports have

Connecticut's Merchandise Exports, 1988-2008



THE CONNECTICUT ECONOMIC DIGEST

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Managing Editor: Jungmin Charles Joo

Associate Editor: Cynthia L. DeLisa

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Connecticut Department of Labor

Patricia H. Mayfield, Commissioner
Linda L. Agnew, Deputy Commissioner

Roger F. Therrien, Director
Office of Research
200 Folly Brook Boulevard
Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114
Phone: (860) 263-6275
Fax: (860) 263-6263
E-Mail: dol.econdigest@ct.gov
Website: http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi

Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

Joan McDonald, Commissioner
Ronald Angelo, Deputy Commissioner

Stan McMillen, Ph.D., Managing Economist
505 Hudson Street
Hartford, CT 06106-2502
Phone: (860) 270-8000
Fax: (860) 270-8200
E-Mail: decd@ct.gov
Website: http://www.decd.org

steadily increased. It is important to note, however, that this data paints a conservative picture of Connecticut's export story as it omits exported services, as the collection of such service data is inexact and tenuous. Connecticut is not alone in this particular service data gap—all U.S. states face this issue. With a significant concentration of financial and insurance services, Connecticut's commodity exports may significantly underrepresent Connecticut's overall export products, volume and market.

U.S. commodity exports totaled more than $1.30 trillion in 2008, representing an 11.84% increase over the $1.16 trillion tallied in 2007. In 2008, Connecticut's commodity exports as a share of total U.S. commodity exports decreased slightly, from 1.18% in 2007 to 1.17% in 2008. Nonetheless, Connecticut's export ranking among the states held steady in 2008 at 27th. Connecticut actually ranks 25th if Puerto Rico and various export sales attributed to "unknown state" are removed from the rankings. Texas, California, New York, Washington and Florida were the top five state export performers in 2008. With the national export commodity figures in mind, it is noteworthy that the 2008 U.S. trade deficit decreased by 3.3% to $677.1 billion, a second straight annual decline after five years of record deficits. The trade deficit drop is due to the recession and a diminished demand for imports.[1]

In the New England region in 2008, only Massachusetts' exports ranked higher than Connecticut's, as has been the case from 2005 through 2007. Among the New England states, New Hampshire and Rhode Island experienced the largest export growth in 2008 (28.6% and 19.9%, respectively). With the exception of Vermont, each New England state increased trade with their international partners in 2008. Regarded as a regional trading block, New England's commodity exports increased by 11.54% to more than $55.94 billion.

State Export Partners

Connecticut's core trade partners have remained steadfast for the past several years. In 2008, the State's top five export partners were Canada, France, Germany, Mexico and the United Kingdom. Connecticut exported more than $1 billion of commodities to each of its top four trade partners. Rounding out Connecticut's other top trade partner countries were China, Japan, Singapore, Belgium and Korea, ranking 6-10, respectively (See Table A). Connecticut exported to 198 foreign destinations in 2008, up from 196 in 2007 and 193 in 2006.

In 2008, several of Connecticut's top trade partners flip-flopped or changed positions in the rankings. For example,

Table A: Connecticut Exports by Country

Rank	Description	2007	2008	% Chg
	TOTAL ALL PARTNER COUNTRIES	13,799,141,842	15,313,059,446	10.97
1	Canada	1,879,094,466	1,834,279,061	-2.38
2	France	1,410,923,272	1,733,506,395	22.86
3	Germany	1,450,471,568	1,454,378,543	0.27
4	Mexico	784,863,676	1,045,972,436	33.27
5	United Kingdom	855,353,440	875,504,630	2.36
6	China (Mainland)	565,076,328	675,971,532	19.62
7	Japan	622,514,899	671,470,511	7.86
8	Singapore	748,472,827	657,102,624	-12.21
9	Belgium	450,589,554	523,096,421	16.09
10	Korea, Republic Of	555,494,888	489,141,906	-11.94

Data Source: WISER

Belgium's jump into Connecticut's top ten partner list dropped the Netherlands into the 11th slot. It should be noted that Bradley International Airport will resume direct service to the Netherlands' Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam in June 2009. Despite its drop out of the top ten, the Netherlands remains a key export destination, as it is a European cargo and logistics hub.

Among its top ten trade partners, Connecticut's trade increased most substantially with Mexico, one of the NAFTA countries. Mexico is a popular destination for Connecticut and U.S. exports due to its NAFTA trade benefits, reduced duties and its location across the U.S. border as our southern neighbor. As one of Connecticut's top export partners, Mexico moved up slightly, from 5th place in 2007 to 4th in 2008. State exports to Mexico increased 33.3%, from $784.86 million to $1.05 billion, fueled by astronomical increases in aircraft/spacecraft and cereals of 8,510% and 2,997%, respectively. However, it is unrealistic to believe that growth as sizable as this will be sustained; such high increases are rather the result of a one-time unique sale, deal or contract.

Connecticut's trade growth with Canada decreased slightly the past two years, by 3.3% in 2007 and by 2.4% in 2008. Despite these declines, Canada solidly remains Connecticut's number one trade partner, and Canada's popularity as an export market continues due to the NAFTA duties' benefits, geographic proximity and the lack of a language barrier for trade dealings. In 2008, almost 12%, more than $1.83 billion, of Connecticut's exports went to Canada. By comparison, U.S. exports to Canada represented a fifth of the U.S. export pie or more than $261 billion. Among the State's top five export commodities to Canada, only two groups registered increases: industrial machinery, including computers; and mineral fuels, mineral oils, bituminous substances, and mineral waxes. Industrial machinery was Connecticut's top export commodity to Canada in 2008, recording over $396.18 million in exports.

Once again, the U.S. and New England states' mix of top five trade partners were relatively similar in composition to Connecticut's. The top five U.S. export destinations in 2008 were Canada, Mexico, China, Japan, and Germany. The top export markets for the New England states were Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan and the Netherlands.

Table B: Connecticut Exports by Commodity

Rank	Description	2007	2008	% Chg
	TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES	13,799,141,842	15,313,059,446	10.97
1	Industrial Machinery, Including Computers	5,777,149,407	6,234,803,082	7.92
2	Aircraft, Spacecraft, And Parts Thereof	1,330,409,486	1,591,073,731	19.59
3	Electric Machinery Etc; Sound Equip; Tv Equip; Pts	1,445,740,151	1,280,625,597	-11.42
4	Optic, Photo Etc, Medic Or Surgical Instrments Etc	946,222,393	1,010,387,807	6.78
5	Plastics And Articles Thereof	951,197,759	1,010,333,281	6.22
6	Special Classification Provisions, Nesoi	305,534,745	385,445,268	26.15
7	Iron And Steel	212,796,386	350,569,912	64.74
8	Mineral Fuel, Oil Etc.; Bitumin Subst; Mineral Wax	143,890,003	290,853,098	102.14
9	Cereals	71,757,320	284,409,256	296.35
10	Organic Chemicals	198,461,950	231,590,560	16.69

Data Source: WISER

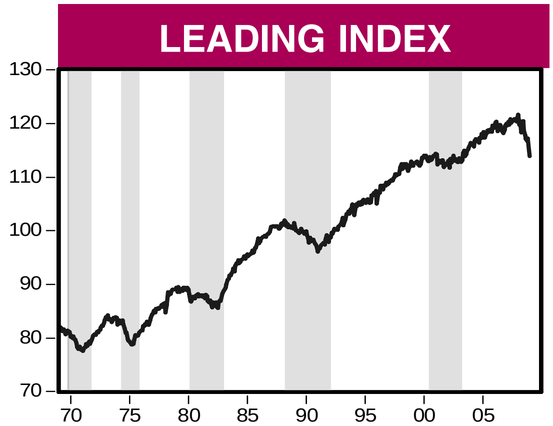
Composition of Connecticut's Exports

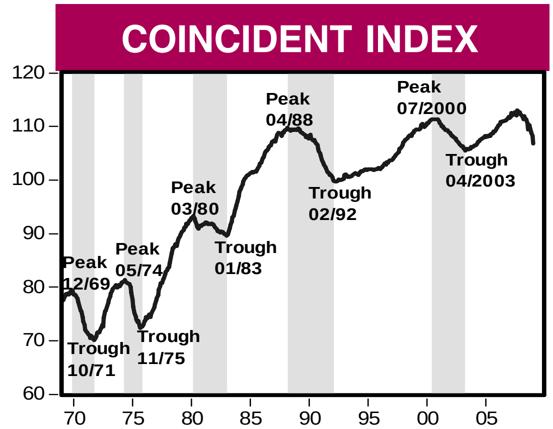
Connecticut's top export commodities mirror the State's historic strengths. There is a demonstrated consistency among the State's top export commodities. In 2008, Connecticut's top five export commodities were (1) industrial machinery, including computers; (2) aircraft, spacecraft and parts thereof; (3) electric machinery, sound equipment, TV equipment, parts; (4) optic, photo, medical, or surgical instruments; and (5) plastics and articles thereof. With the exception of electric machinery, sound equipment, TV equipment and parts, the other commodity groups in Connecticut's top ten bracket all experienced gains in 2008 (See Table B). Following a 41.7% increase in 2007, electric machinery, sound equipment, TV equipment and parts declined 11.4% in 2008. Among the top five export commodities, aircraft, spacecraft and parts thereof experienced the greatest growth in 2008, increasing 19.6%, from $1.33 billion to $1.59 billion. However, it is important to note that commodities related to the transportation and aerospace industries are volatile sectors, greatly affected by the peaks and valleys of commercial aircraft procurement cycles as well as national defense spending.

Commodities such as cereals; mineral fuels, mineral oils, bituminous substances, and mineral waxes; and iron and steel experienced strong export growth in 2008 with increases of 296%, 102% and 65%, respectively. The cereals commodity group does not denote items like traditional "boxed" breakfast cereals/ oatmeal, but rather agricultural commodities associated with corn, maize, wheat, meslin and rye. Whether these commodities continue to perform well over time is an issue to monitor.

The U.S. and New England states' top export commodities were similar in composition to Connecticut's in 2008. The top five U.S. exports were (1) industrial machinery, including computers; (2) electric machinery, sound equipment, TV equipment, parts; (3) vehicles, except railway

--Continued on page 5--





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.

Record-Breaking Trends Show Pummeled Economy

The National Outlook

Since December 2007, the U.S. lost 4.4 million jobs; nonfarm employment decreased 1.3 million jobs; unemployment jumped from 4.9% to 8.1% in that same period — the highest level since December 1983. New home sales plunged in January 2009 by 48.2% from a year earlier, to the lowest level since the data were first collected in 1963. Credit card defaults increased by 52.4% in 2008 to 6.3%. Over $15 trillion, representing 22.8% of family wealth, disappeared from June 2007 to December 2008 — the fastest decline on record since data collection began in 1952.[1]

Connecticut Employment Indexes

The DECD-ECRI Connecticut coincident employment index is a measure of contemporaneous activity and declined from 111.4 in January 2008 to 106.5 in January 2009. Total employment (from the household survey) decreased by a record-breaking 17,632 persons,[2] or 1.0%, the largest recorded decline since 1969, while nonfarm employment (from the employer survey) declined 1,670 jobs or 2.2% from January 2008. The insured unemployment rate rose to 3.80% from 2.39% a year ago, and the total unemployment rate increased to 7.3% from 5.0% a year ago. There were no positive contributors to the year-over-year change in this index.

On a month-over-month basis, the January 2009 coincident index at 106.5 fell from 108.2 a month ago. This index's 12-month moving average growth rate of -6.2% was the fastest deceleration since 1975. January total employment decreased 1% from 1.769 to 1.751 million persons. The total unemployment rate increased 0.7 percentage points to 7.3% in January 2009. Nonfarm employment declined by 3,600 jobs or 0.21%, and the insured unemployment rate increased from 3.35% previous month to 3.80% in January 2009. There were no positive contributors to the month-over-month change in this index.

The DECD-ECRI Connecticut leading employment index that estimates future economic activity declined from 121.6 to 113.9 in January from a year ago. Manufacturing employment decreased by 6,300 jobs to 182.5 thousand jobs in January 2009, and construction employment decreased from 63,000 in January 2008 to 51,700 in January 2009. January 2009 average weekly hours of 41.9 in manufacturing and 35 in construction declined from 42.4 and 38.4 hours, respectively, from a year ago. Moody's Baa bond rate increased from 6.54% to 8.14% in the period. Short duration unemployment increased to 2.86% from 1.56% over the year, and initial claims increased by 52% from 18,015 to 27,385. Housing permits declined by 80.0% from 692 units in January 2008 to 139 units in January 2009 — the lowest recorded statewide permit level since 1969. The Hartford Help-Wanted Index that stood at 11 in January 2008 declined to 4 by January 2009. There were no positive contributors to the year-over-year change in this index.

On a month-over-month basis, Connecticut's leading employment index declined from 115 in December 2008 to 113.9 in January 2009. Construction employment declined by 6,500 jobs from 58,2000 in December 2008 to 51,700 in January 2009; manufacturing employment declined by 3,000 jobs to 182,500, and initial claims increased by 2,402 (9.6%) for the same period. January housing permits declined by 51 units (26.8%) to a record low (since 1969); average weekly hours in construction declined by 2 hours; and the short duration unemployment rate increased to 2.86% from 2.50%. No change was reported for the Hartford Help-Wanted Index of 4 in January 2009. Each of the above factors contributed negatively to the month-over-moth change in this index. The two positive contributors were average weekly hours in manufacturing that increased by 0.2 hour and Moody's Baa bond rate that declined from 8.46% to 8.14%.

These statistics and the indicators derived from them show Connecticut is in recession and heading deeper. The structural changes taking place in the financial and insurance services industries portend long-term structural state deficits absent significant state and local government fiscal policy changes. The restructuring of the defense industry and the automobile industry may have long-term repercussions for Connecticut as well.

[1] Weller, Christian E. Center for American Progress. Issues- Outlook: "Economic Snapshot for March 2009." Web page: http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/03/econ_snapshot_0309.html.

[2] This conspicuous change results from current Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) practice and reflects the severity of the recession. BLS will adjust and smooth the 2009 monthly employment statistics in March 2010.

By Stan McMillen, Ph.D. , Managing Economist, DECD, (860) 270-8166. Mark Prisloe, Associate Economist, DECD, provides research assistance. Professors Pami Dua and Stephen M. Miller, in cooperation with Anirvan Banerji at the Economic Cycle Research Institute developed the leading and coincident employment indexes. The views expressed herein are the author's own and do not necessarily represent those of the Connecticut Department of Labor or the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development. Components of the indexes are described in the Technical Notes on page 23.

--Continued from page 3--

or tramway and parts; (4) mineral fuels, mineral oils, bituminous substances, and mineral waxes; and (5) aircraft, spacecraft and parts thereof. The top five exports for the New England region included (1) industrial machinery, including computers; (2) electric machinery, sound equipment, TV equipment, parts; (3) optic, photo, medical or surgical instruments; (4) natural or cultured pearls, precious stones, precious metal clad materials, imitation jewelry, coin; and (5) pharmaceutical products.

Challenges

As economists debate when the economy will pull out of the current recession, how will the prolonged economic slump affect Connecticut and U.S. exports in 2009? Will the positive, double-digit export increases continue? Will they perhaps continue, albeit at a slower rate? Will the trade deficit continue to contract? Exports will face challenges in 2009, and the recession encapsulates only one set of circumstances that may weigh upon our state and national export growth.

Other challenges that exports may face in 2009 include the gradual strengthening of the U.S. dollar, especially in comparison to the Euro. For the past few years, export growth has been assisted by the weak U.S. dollar in that it has made U.S. products more affordable and attractive to overseas buyers.

Additionally, it remains to be seen how the new administration will impact trade. As of this writing, there is no confirmed U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary, a key cabinet position. Two early nominees, Governor Bill Richardson of New Mexico and Senator Judd Gregg of New Hampshire, both withdrew from consideration. Will President Obama continue with the Bush administration's mantra of leveling the playing field to create free but fair trade? The development of future Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) is also a question mark on the export horizon. If and when new FTAs are enacted, where will they be? The impact of such agreements and their subsequent reduced duties and tariffs can boost future export figures by encouraging exports to markets with which the U.S. has agreements. FTAs can lead to market gains for U.S. exporters and benefits to U.S. consumers.

Export Assistance

The Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development's (DECD) International and Domestic Affairs Office is committed to assisting local companies to compete in the global marketplace, whether it is helping a company reach new markets or raising awareness of the many export opportunities that may help a business thrive and grow. For more information about DECD's international programs and services, please contact Laura Jaworski at (860) 270-8068 or laura.jaworski@ct.gov. ■

(Data Source: World Institute for Strategic Economic Research)

(Footnotes)

[1] Source: Foreign Trade Division, U.S. Census Bureau, press release, February 11, 2009.

GENERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

(Seasonally adjusted)	4Q 2008	4Q 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	3Q 2008
Employment Indexes (1992=100)*					
Leading	116.4	120.6	-4.2	-3.5	117.8
Coincident	108.8	112.2	-3.3	-3.0	110.2
General Drift Indicator (1986=100)*					
Leading	108.8	113.3	-4.5	-4.0	110.1
Coincident	114.7	116.3	-1.6	-1.4	115.0
Banknorth Business Barometer (1992=100)**	123.3	124.9	-1.6	-1.3	122.6

*Sources: *The Connecticut Economy, University of Connecticut **Banknorth Bank*

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 **Banknorth 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.

Total nonfarm employment decreased over the year.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
TOTAL NONFARM	1,656.5	1,708.5	-52.0	-3.0	1,670.8
Natural Res & Mining (Not Sea. Adj.)	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6
Construction	55.4	68.4	-13.0	-19.0	56.9
Manufacturing	180.5	188.6	-8.1	-4.3	182.8
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	302.3	313.2	-10.9	-3.5	301.3
Information	35.8	38.2	-2.4	-6.3	36.4
Financial Activities	140.2	144.1	-3.9	-2.7	140.8
Professional and Business Services	192.4	208.2	-15.8	-7.6	198.8
Educational and Health Services	297.7	293.5	4.2	1.4	299.2
Leisure and Hospitality Services	136.8	137.5	-0.7	-0.5	139.5
Other Services	63.7	63.7	0.0	0.0	63.2
Government*	251.1	252.5	-1.4	-0.6	251.3

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor   ** Includes Native American tribal government employment*

Initial claims for unemployment insurance rose from a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

(Seasonally adjusted)	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	7.4	5.2	2.2	---	7.3
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,890.8	1,865.6	25.2	1.3	1,889.5
Employed (000s)	1,750.9	1,769.1	-18.2	-1.0	1,751.6
Unemployed (000s)	139.8	96.5	43.3	44.9	138.0
Average Weekly Initial Claims	6,873	4,244	2,629	61.9	6,599
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	4.24	2.52	1.72	---	3.93

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor

The production worker weekly earnings rose over the year.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

(Not seasonally adjusted)	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009	DEC 2008
Average Weekly Hours	41.4	42.2	-0.8	-1.9	41.9	--
Average Hourly Earnings	22.16	21.11	1.05	5.0	22.14	--
Average Weekly Earnings	917.42	890.84	26.58	3.0	927.67	--
CT Mfg. Production Index (2000=100)	108.8	116.1	-7.3	-6.3	104.9	100.2
Production Worker Hours (000s)	4,430	4,723	-293	-6.2	4,542	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)*	389	429	-40.1	-9.4	368	345

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

Personal income for second quarter 2009 is forecasted to increase 0.6 percent from a year earlier.

INCOME

(Seasonally adjusted) (Annualized; $ Millions)	2Q* 2009	2Q 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	1Q* 2009
Personal Income	$198,498	$197,407	1,091	0.6	$198,029
UI Covered Wages	$98,184	$98,707	-523	-0.5	$98,187

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis: December 2008 release
**Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor*

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

New auto registrations decreased over the year.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	PRIOR	% CHG
New Housing Permits*	FEB 2009	209	-19.6	310	779	-60.2
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	DEC 2008	2,892	-4.2	33,660	34,129	-1.4
Construction Contracts Index (1980=100)	FEB 2009	152.0	-18.6	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	FEB 2009	8,531	-38.5	19,982	32,591	-38.7
Air Cargo Tons	FEB 2009	9,584	-22.3	19,973	25,664	-22.2
Exports (Bil. $)	4Q 2008	3.89	6.5	15.31	13.80	11.0

Sources: Connecticut 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
** Estimated by the Bureau of the Census*

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

Net business formation, as measured by starts minus stops registered with the Secretary of the State, was down over the year.

	MO/QTR	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	PRIOR	% CHG
STARTS						
Secretary of the State	FEB 2009	2,185	-13.9	4,498	5,330	-15.6
Department of Labor*	3Q2008	1,591	-12.8	5,524	6,336	-12.8
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	FEB 2009	818	9.2	1,801	1,645	9.5
Department of Labor*	3Q2008	1,067	-35.3	4,473	5,030	-11.1

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

STATE REVENUES

Total revenues were up from a year ago.

(Millions of dollars)	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	% CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	PRIOR	% CHG
TOTAL ALL REVENUES*	856.9	850.9	0.7	2,154.1	2,476.5	-13.0
Corporate Tax	13.9	13.5	3.0	25.4	32.8	-22.6
Personal Income Tax	389.3	430.7	-9.6	1,257.9	1,401.7	-10.3
Real Estate Conv. Tax	3.7	7.4	-50.0	12.0	21.1	-43.1
Sales & Use Tax	278.4	293.1	-5.0	524.2	662.0	-20.8
Indian Gaming Payments**	30.2	31.6	-4.5	59.0	63.0	-6.3

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

Gaming slots fell over the year.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	PRIOR	% CHG
Info Center Visitors	FEB 2009	16,953	6.5	33,056	30,989	6.7
Major Attraction Visitors	FEB 2009	110,636	18.6	167,265	160,543	4.2
Air Passenger Count	FEB 2009	407,426	-13.4	804,378	928,557	-13.4
Indian Gaming Slots (Mil.$)*	FEB 2009	1,399	-5.3	2,722	3,001	-9.3
Travel and Tourism Index**	4Q 2008	---	-9.3	---	---	---

Sources: Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation and Ports; Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism; Division of Special Revenue
**See page 23 for explanation*
***The Connecticut Economy, University of Connecticut*

Compensation cost for the nation rose 2.4 percent over the year.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

Private Industry Workers (Dec. 2005 = 100)	Seasonally Adjusted DEC 2008	SEP 2008	3-Mo % Chg	Not Seasonally Adjusted DEC 2008	DEC 2007	12-Mo % Chg
UNITED STATES TOTAL	109.1	108.6	0.5	108.9	106.3	2.4
Wages and Salaries	109.6	109.0	0.6	109.4	106.6	2.6
Benefit Costs	107.9	107.5	0.4	107.7	105.6	2.0
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	109.5	106.8	2.5
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	109.6	106.6	2.8

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

U.S. inflation rate increased 0.2 percent over the year.

CONSUMER NEWS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	MO/QTR	LEVEL	% CHANGE Y/Y	P/P*
CONSUMER PRICES				
CPI-U (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	FEB 2009	212.2	0.2	0.5
Purchasing Power of $ (1982-84=$1.00)	FEB 2009	$0.471	-0.2	-0.5
Northeast Region	FEB 2009	226.8	0.7	0.6
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	FEB 2009	234.7	1.6	0.6
Boston-Brockton-Nashua**	JAN 2009	230.8	-0.5	-0.7
CPI-W (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	FEB 2009	206.7	-0.3	0.5

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

Conventional mortgage rose to 5.13 percent over the month.

INTEREST RATES

(Percent)	FEB 2009	JAN 2009	FEB 2008
Prime	3.25	3.25	6.00
Federal Funds	0.22	0.15	2.98
3 Month Treasury Bill	0.30	0.13	2.17
6 Month Treasury Bill	0.46	0.30	2.10
1 Year Treasury Note	0.62	0.44	2.05
3 Year Treasury Note	1.37	1.13	2.19
5 Year Treasury Note	1.87	1.60	2.78
7 Year Treasury Note	2.30	1.98	3.21
10 Year Treasury Note	2.87	2.52	3.74
20 Year Treasury Note	3.83	3.46	4.49
Conventional Mortgage	5.13	5.06	5.92

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

All nine states in the region lost jobs over the year.

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
Connecticut	1,656.5	1,708.5	-52.0	-3.0	1,670.8
Maine	605.0	620.5	-15.5	-2.5	607.6
Massachusetts	3,213.8	3,300.1	-86.3	-2.6	3,225.1
New Hampshire	639.5	648.5	-9.0	-1.4	641.8
New Jersey	3,968.1	4,089.8	-121.7	-3.0	3,987.8
New York	8,671.6	8,805.6	-134.0	-1.5	8,699.4
Pennsylvania	5,700.5	5,817.1	-116.6	-2.0	5,741.5
Rhode Island	467.3	488.0	-20.7	-4.2	469.6
Vermont	296.2	308.9	-12.7	-4.1	297.2
United States	133,768.0	137,936.0	-4,168.0	-3.0	134,419.0

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

LABOR FORCE

Seven of nine states posted increases in the labor force from last year.

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
Connecticut	1,890.8	1,865.6	25.2	1.4	1,889.5
Maine	709.0	704.9	4.1	0.6	710.6
Massachusetts	3,428.9	3,417.6	11.3	0.3	3,426.5
New Hampshire	739.2	739.5	-0.3	0.0	739.7
New Jersey	4,513.9	4,483.9	30.0	0.7	4,503.0
New York	9,760.1	9,612.7	147.4	1.5	9,689.2
Pennsylvania	6,455.4	6,349.2	106.2	1.7	6,446.9
Rhode Island	566.3	568.4	-2.1	-0.4	562.7
Vermont	357.9	354.7	3.2	0.9	357.1
United States	154,214.0	153,498.0	716.0	0.5	153,716.0

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

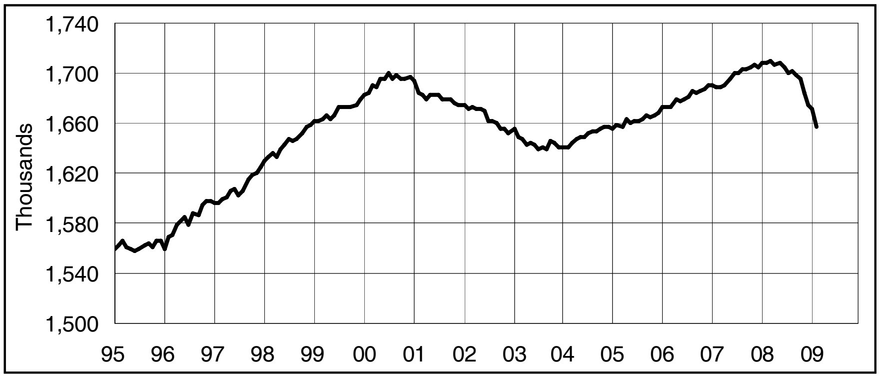
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

All nine states showed an increase in its unemployment rate over the year.

(Seasonally adjusted)	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE	JAN 2009
Connecticut	7.4	5.2	2.2	7.3
Maine	8.0	4.9	3.1	7.7
Massachusetts	7.8	4.6	3.2	7.4
New Hampshire	5.3	3.7	1.6	5.2
New Jersey	8.2	4.7	3.5	7.3
New York	7.8	4.6	3.2	7.0
Pennsylvania	7.5	4.8	2.7	7.0
Rhode Island	10.5	6.5	4.0	10.3
Vermont	7.0	4.4	2.6	6.8
United States	8.1	4.8	3.3	7.6

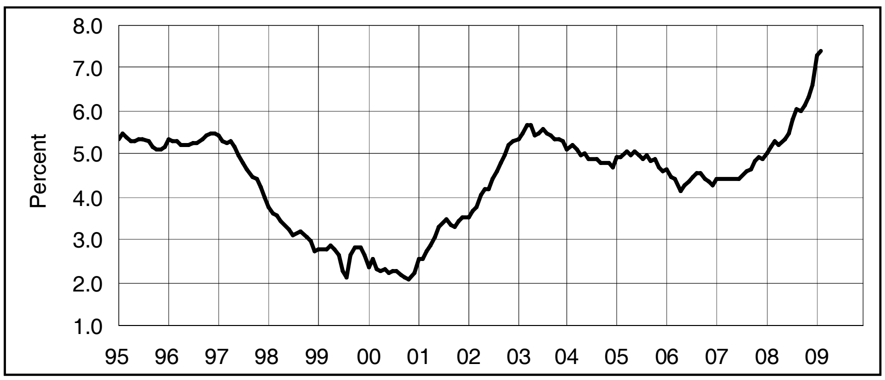
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



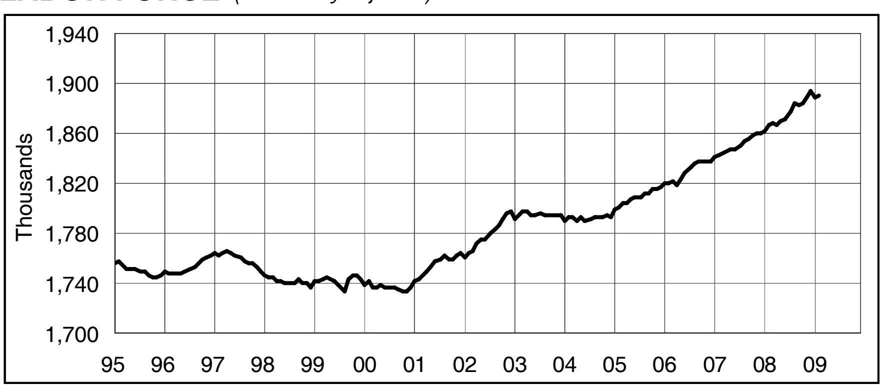
Month	2007	2008	2009
Jan	1,690.1	1,708.6	1,670.8
Feb	1,689.5	1,708.5	1,656.5
Mar	1,688.9	1,709.4	
Apr	1,690.0	1,706.0	
May	1,695.7	1,707.3	
Jun	1,700.3	1,704.3	
Jul	1,700.2	1,700.4	
Aug	1,703.3	1,701.1	
Sep	1,703.5	1,698.9	
Oct	1,705.4	1,695.1	
Nov	1,705.9	1,683.2	
Dec	1,704.8	1,673.9	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



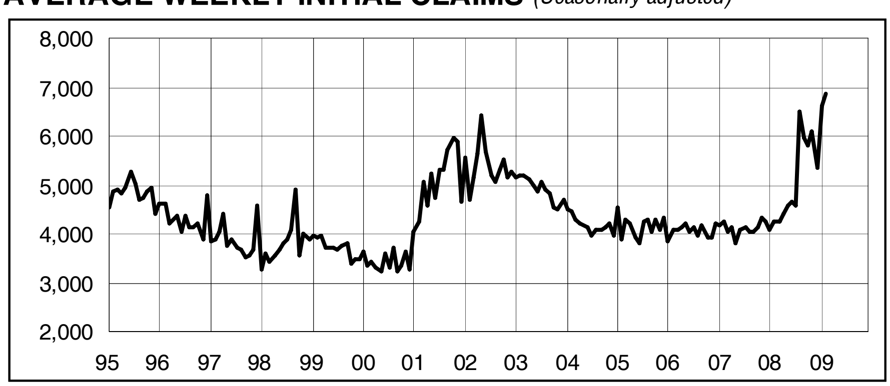
Month	2007	2008	2009
Jan	4.4	5.0	7.3
Feb	4.4	5.2	7.4
Mar	4.4	5.3	
Apr	4.4	5.2	
May	4.4	5.4	
Jun	4.4	5.5	
Jul	4.5	5.8	
Aug	4.6	6.1	
Sep	4.7	6.0	
Oct	4.8	6.1	
Nov	4.9	6.3	
Dec	4.9	6.6	

LABOR FORCE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



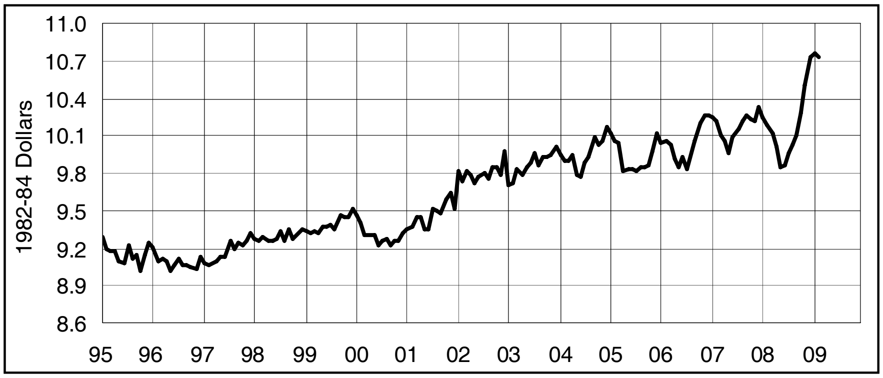
Month	2007	2008	2009
Jan	1,841.3	1,862.3	1,889.5
Feb	1,843.0	1,865.6	1,890.8
Mar	1,844.2	1,868.1	
Apr	1,845.9	1,865.8	
May	1,846.5	1,869.2	
Jun	1,847.2	1,871.9	
Jul	1,849.8	1,877.9	
Aug	1,852.8	1,883.2	
Sep	1,854.4	1,881.9	
Oct	1,858.1	1,884.8	
Nov	1,860.8	1,888.4	
Dec	1,860.1	1,894.2	

AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS *(Seasonally adjusted)*



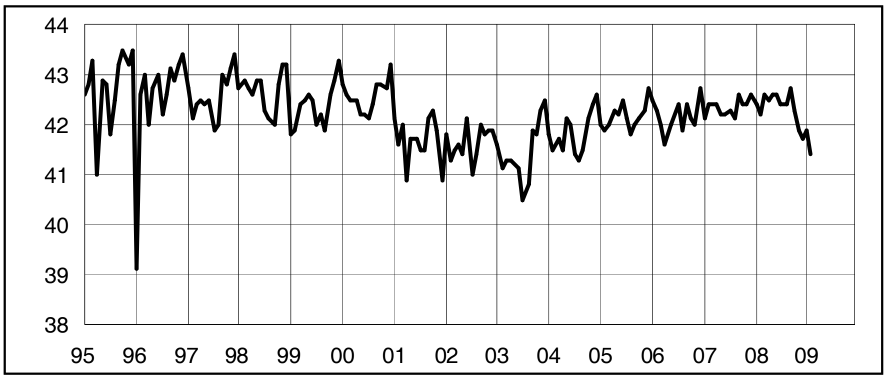
Month	2007	2008	2009
Jan	4,147	4,092	6,599
Feb	4,248	4,244	6,873
Mar	4,050	4,227	
Apr	4,126	4,403	
May	3,805	4,553	
Jun	4,073	4,644	
Jul	4,103	4,569	
Aug	4,033	6,485	
Sep	4,030	5,951	
Oct	4,130	5,808	
Nov	4,321	6,068	
Dec	4,246	5,354	

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



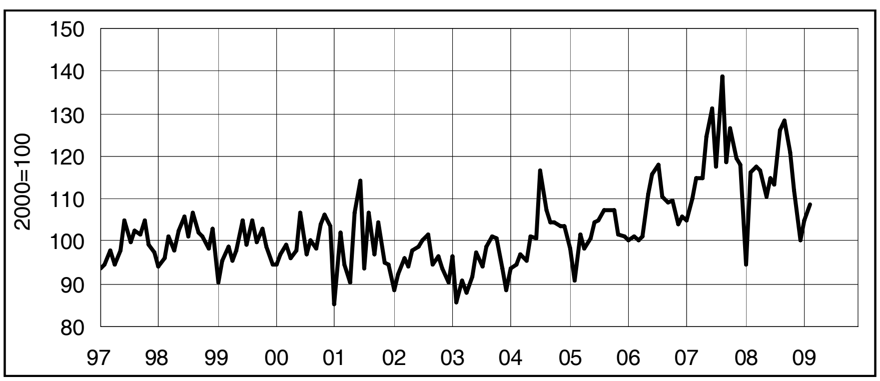
Month	2007	2008	2009
Jan	$10.25	$10.24	$10.76
Feb	$10.22	$10.18	$10.72
Mar	$10.10	$10.11	
Apr	$10.05	$10.01	
May	$9.96	$9.85	
Jun	$10.09	$9.87	
Jul	$10.16	$9.96	
Aug	$10.21	$10.03	
Sep	$10.26	$10.10	
Oct	$10.23	$10.28	
Nov	$10.21	$10.51	
Dec	$10.33	$10.72	

AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



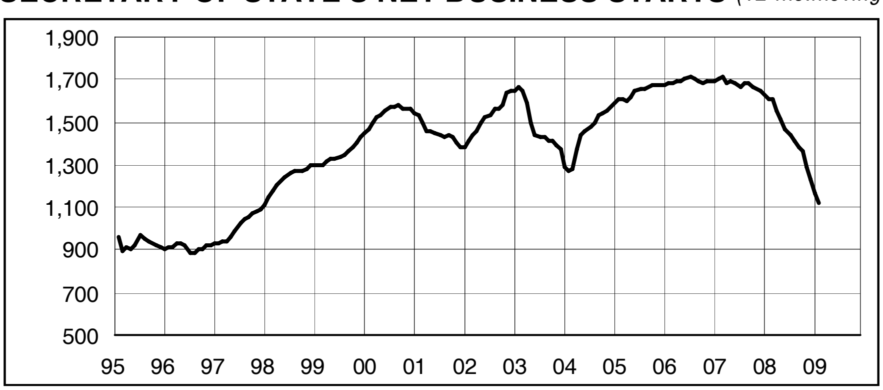
Month	2007	2008	2009
Jan	42.1	42.4	41.9
Feb	42.4	42.2	41.4
Mar	42.4	42.6	
Apr	42.4	42.5	
May	42.2	42.6	
Jun	42.2	42.6	
Jul	42.3	42.4	
Aug	42.1	42.4	
Sep	42.6	42.7	
Oct	42.4	42.3	
Nov	42.4	41.9	
Dec	42.6	41.7	

CT MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION INDEX *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



Month	2007	2008	2009
Jan	104.9	94.7	104.9
Feb	109.9	116.1	108.8
Mar	114.6	117.4	
Apr	114.8	116.6	
May	124.6	110.3	
Jun	131.1	114.7	
Jul	117.7	113.1	
Aug	138.8	126.0	
Sep	118.7	128.5	
Oct	126.3	120.9	
Nov	119.3	112.0	
Dec	117.9	100.2	

SECRETARY OF STATE'S NET BUSINESS STARTS *(12-mo.moving avg)*



Month	2007	2008	2009
Jan	1,698	1,625	1,168
Feb	1,706	1,607	1,122
Mar	1,712	1,605	
Apr	1,688	1,556	
May	1,694	1,512	
Jun	1,681	1,472	
Jul	1,667	1,444	
Aug	1,687	1,412	
Sep	1,682	1,384	
Oct	1,661	1,366	
Nov	1,654	1,292	
Dec	1,649	1,228	

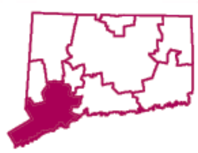
CONNECTICUT

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**1,633,400**	**1,687,800**	**-54,400**	**-3.2**	**1,645,600**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**229,400**	**250,400**	**-21,000**	**-8.4**	**234,700**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**49,400**	**62,500**	**-13,100**	**-21.0**	**52,200**
MANUFACTURING	**180,000**	**187,900**	**-7,900**	**-4.2**	**182,500**
Durable Goods	**138,400**	**143,500**	**-5,100**	**-3.6**	**140,700**
Fabricated Metal	32,700	33,400	-700	-2.1	32,900
Machinery	17,500	17,800	-300	-1.7	17,600
Computer and Electronic Product	13,900	14,000	-100	-0.7	14,000
Transportation Equipment	42,600	43,800	-1,200	-2.7	43,500
Aerospace Product and Parts	31,400	31,900	-500	-1.6	32,000
Non-Durable Goods	**41,600**	**44,400**	**-2,800**	**-6.3**	**41,800**
Chemical	13,800	14,700	-900	-6.1	13,900
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**1,404,000**	**1,437,400**	**-33,400**	**-2.3**	**1,410,900**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**296,800**	**308,100**	**-11,300**	**-3.7**	**301,100**
Wholesale Trade	68,100	69,100	-1,000	-1.4	68,400
Retail Trade	177,000	186,500	-9,500	-5.1	180,700
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	20,400	21,500	-1,100	-5.1	20,500
Building Material	13,900	14,700	-800	-5.4	14,200
Food and Beverage Stores	40,600	41,400	-800	-1.9	41,400
General Merchandise Stores	24,700	24,800	-100	-0.4	25,300
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	51,700	52,500	-800	-1.5	52,000
Utilities	8,800	8,500	300	3.5	8,900
Transportation and Warehousing	42,900	44,000	-1,100	-2.5	43,100
INFORMATION	**35,700**	**38,200**	**-2,500**	**-6.5**	**36,200**
Telecommunications	12,700	13,500	-800	-5.9	12,800
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**139,400**	**143,300**	**-3,900**	**-2.7**	**139,800**
Finance and Insurance	120,100	122,900	-2,800	-2.3	120,400
Credit Intermediation	28,500	30,200	-1,700	-5.6	28,600
Securities and Commodity Contracts	22,500	22,600	-100	-0.4	22,600
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	64,400	65,300	-900	-1.4	64,500
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	19,300	20,400	-1,100	-5.4	19,400
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**187,300**	**203,300**	**-16,000**	**-7.9**	**192,300**
Professional, Scientific	88,600	93,200	-4,600	-4.9	90,200
Legal Services	13,500	14,000	-500	-3.6	13,600
Computer Systems Design	21,600	21,800	-200	-0.9	21,700
Management of Companies	25,800	26,300	-500	-1.9	26,000
Administrative and Support	72,900	83,800	-10,900	-13.0	76,100
Employment Services	25,500	31,000	-5,500	-17.7	25,700
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**299,500**	**295,800**	**3,700**	**1.3**	**297,200**
Educational Services	58,800	59,700	-900	-1.5	55,200
Health Care and Social Assistance	240,700	236,100	4,600	1.9	242,000
Hospitals	60,500	59,300	1,200	2.0	60,600
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	58,900	59,200	-300	-0.5	59,800
Social Assistance	44,600	41,900	2,700	6.4	44,200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**127,300**	**128,300**	**-1,000**	**-0.8**	**130,700**
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	19,600	19,700	-100	-0.5	20,300
Accommodation and Food Services	107,700	108,600	-900	-0.8	110,400
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places	96,600	97,100	-500	-0.5	99,400
OTHER SERVICES	**62,500**	**62,700**	**-200**	**-0.3**	**62,200**
GOVERNMENT	**255,500**	**257,700**	**-2,200**	**-0.9**	**251,400**
Federal Government	19,300	19,600	-300	-1.5	19,400
State Government	72,400	72,100	300	0.4	68,900
Local Government**	163,800	166,000	-2,200	-1.3	163,100

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2008.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.*

BRIDGEPORT - STAMFORD LMA

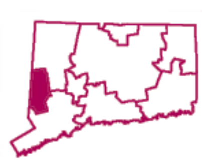


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**400,600**	**413,100**	**-12,500**	**-3.0**	**403,900**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**51,200**	**53,500**	**-2,300**	**-4.3**	**52,300**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**12,500**	**14,100**	**-1,600**	**-11.3**	**13,200**
MANUFACTURING	**38,700**	**39,400**	**-700**	**-1.8**	**39,100**
Durable Goods	**29,400**	**29,600**	**-200**	**-0.7**	**29,600**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**349,400**	**359,600**	**-10,200**	**-2.8**	**351,600**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**71,200**	**75,300**	**-4,100**	**-5.4**	**72,400**
Wholesale Trade	14,400	14,700	-300	-2.0	14,500
Retail Trade	45,900	49,300	-3,400	-6.9	47,000
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	10,900	11,300	-400	-3.5	10,900
INFORMATION	**10,800**	**11,300**	**-500**	**-4.4**	**10,900**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**44,000**	**45,300**	**-1,300**	**-2.9**	**44,900**
Finance and Insurance	38,500	38,900	-400	-1.0	38,500
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**60,800**	**66,800**	**-6,000**	**-9.0**	**62,000**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**66,100**	**63,600**	**2,500**	**3.9**	**64,800**
Health Care and Social Assistance	54,300	53,200	1,100	2.1	54,600
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**32,300**	**32,200**	**100**	**0.3**	**32,900**
Accommodation and Food Services	24,700	24,800	-100	-0.4	25,200
OTHER SERVICES	**16,600**	**16,500**	**100**	**0.6**	**16,600**
GOVERNMENT	**47,600**	**48,600**	**-1,000**	**-2.1**	**47,100**
Federal	3,100	3,200	-100	-3.1	3,100
State & Local	44,500	45,400	-900	-2.0	44,000

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

DANBURY LMA



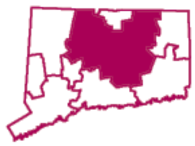
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**65,700**	**69,200**	**-3,500**	**-5.1**	**67,000**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**11,900**	**12,500**	**-600**	**-4.8**	**12,100**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**53,800**	**56,700**	**-2,900**	**-5.1**	**54,900**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**14,700**	**15,700**	**-1,000**	**-6.4**	**15,000**
Retail Trade	11,300	11,700	-400	-3.4	11,200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**7,800**	**8,100**	**-300**	**-3.7**	**7,900**
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**5,200**	**5,600**	**-400**	**-7.1**	**5,300**
GOVERNMENT	**8,400**	**8,400**	**0**	**0.0**	**8,400**
Federal	600	600	0	0.0	600
State & Local	7,800	7,800	0	0.0	7,800

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 2008.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

HARTFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**542,000**	**555,100**	**-13,100**	**-2.4**	**540,600**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**78,200**	**84,000**	**-5,800**	**-6.9**	**78,500**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**16,400**	**20,100**	**-3,700**	**-18.4**	**16,500**
MANUFACTURING	**61,800**	**63,900**	**-2,100**	**-3.3**	**62,000**
Durable Goods	**51,300**	**53,600**	**-2,300**	**-4.3**	**51,600**
Transportation Equipment	17,500	18,500	-1,000	-5.4	17,800
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**463,800**	**471,100**	**-7,300**	**-1.5**	**462,100**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**87,500**	**89,900**	**-2,400**	**-2.7**	**89,100**
Wholesale Trade	20,100	20,000	100	0.5	20,200
Retail Trade	52,300	54,900	-2,600	-4.7	53,900
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	15,100	15,000	100	0.7	15,000
Transportation and Warehousing	11,700	11,700	0	0.0	11,600
INFORMATION	**11,800**	**12,400**	**-600**	**-4.8**	**11,800**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**64,200**	**66,000**	**-1,800**	**-2.7**	**64,400**
Depository Credit Institutions	7,800	7,500	300	4.0	7,900
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	44,100	44,600	-500	-1.1	44,300
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**58,600**	**61,500**	**-2,900**	**-4.7**	**59,200**
Professional, Scientific	28,900	29,500	-600	-2.0	29,100
Administrative and Support	23,600	24,600	-1,000	-4.1	23,900
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**94,200**	**91,600**	**2,600**	**2.8**	**93,900**
Health Care and Social Assistance	81,200	79,000	2,200	2.8	81,400
Ambulatory Health Care	24,100	23,500	600	2.6	24,200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**38,500**	**38,800**	**-300**	**-0.8**	**38,900**
Accommodation and Food Services	34,100	33,700	400	1.2	34,300
OTHER SERVICES	**20,800**	**20,700**	**100**	**0.5**	**20,600**
GOVERNMENT	**88,200**	**90,200**	**-2,000**	**-2.2**	**84,200**
Federal	5,800	5,900	-100	-1.7	5,800
State & Local	82,400	84,300	-1,900	-2.3	78,400

For further information on the Hartford 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 2008.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

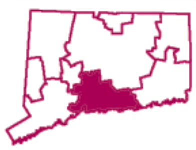
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Seasonally Adjusted

Labor Market Areas	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
BRIDGEPORT-STAMFORD LMA	**407,600**	**419,900**	**-12,300**	**-2.9**	**410,800**
DANBURY LMA	**66,800**	**70,300**	**-3,500**	**-5.0**	**67,900**
HARTFORD LMA	**547,800**	**560,300**	**-12,500**	**-2.2**	**547,400**
NEW HAVEN LMA	**275,400**	**279,700**	**-4,300**	**-1.5**	**277,900**
NORWICH-NEW LONDON LMA	**132,900**	**136,700**	**-3,800**	**-2.8**	**133,200**
WATERBURY LMA	**65,200**	**67,600**	**-2,400**	**-3.6**	**65,900**

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2008.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

NEW HAVEN LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**274,000**	**278,400**	**-4,400**	**-1.6**	**274,200**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**39,500**	**42,100**	**-2,600**	**-6.2**	**40,200**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**9,400**	**10,800**	**-1,400**	**-13.0**	**9,800**
MANUFACTURING	**30,100**	**31,300**	**-1,200**	**-3.8**	**30,400**
Durable Goods	**21,800**	**22,200**	**-400**	**-1.8**	**22,100**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**234,500**	**236,300**	**-1,800**	**-0.8**	**234,000**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**49,800**	**50,600**	**-800**	**-1.6**	**50,500**
Wholesale Trade	12,000	11,800	200	1.7	12,100
Retail Trade	28,900	29,900	-1,000	-3.3	29,400
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	8,900	8,900	0	0.0	9,000
INFORMATION	**7,700**	**8,300**	**-600**	**-7.2**	**7,700**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**12,500**	**13,300**	**-800**	**-6.0**	**12,600**
Finance and Insurance	9,100	9,600	-500	-5.2	9,200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**26,600**	**26,800**	**-200**	**-0.7**	**26,500**
Administrative and Support	12,100	12,900	-800	-6.2	11,800
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**72,200**	**70,800**	**1,400**	**2.0**	**70,900**
Educational Services	27,900	27,400	500	1.8	26,600
Health Care and Social Assistance	44,300	43,400	900	2.1	44,300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**20,700**	**20,000**	**700**	**3.5**	**20,700**
Accommodation and Food Services	17,300	17,600	-300	-1.7	17,200
OTHER SERVICES	**10,600**	**10,700**	**-100**	**-0.9**	**10,600**
GOVERNMENT	**34,400**	**35,800**	**-1,400**	**-3.9**	**34,500**
Federal	5,000	5,100	-100	-2.0	5,000
State & Local	29,400	30,700	-1,300	-4.2	29,500

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

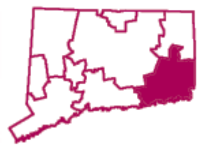
Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2008.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Value less than 50*

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC NEWS

Leisure and illness leave

In March 2008, 85 percent of workers in private industry (in U.S.) had access to leisure leave and 83 percent had access to illness leave. Leisure leave is defined here as any combination of one or more of the following: paid vacation, paid holiday leave, and paid personal leave. According to the March 2008 estimates from the National Compensation Survey, 78 percent of private-industry workers were offered paid vacation leave, 77 percent were offered paid holidays, and 37 percent paid personal leave. The unduplicated total for paid vacation leave, paid holidays, and paid personal leave was 85 percent. (An unduplicated total is computed by counting each worker exactly once.) Illness leave is defined here as any combination of one or more of the following: paid vacation, paid sick leave, paid family leave, and paid personal leave. Sixty-one percent of private-industry workers received paid sick leave in March 2008, and 8 percent received paid family leave. The unduplicated total of paid vacation, paid sick leave, paid family leave, and paid personal leave was 83 percent. Therefore, 83 percent of workers in private industry had access to illness leave. These data are from the BLS National Compensation Survey. To learn more, see Leisure and illness leave: estimating benefits in combination (PDF), by Iris S. Díaz and Richard Wallick, Monthly Labor Review, February 2009. (The Editor's Desk, Bureau of Labor Statistics, March 5, 2009)

NORWICH - NEW LONDON LMA

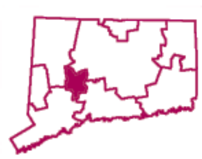


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**129,900**	**133,700**	**-3,800**	**-2.8**	**130,900**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**18,500**	**20,100**	**-1,600**	**-8.0**	**18,800**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**3,300**	**4,200**	**-900**	**-21.4**	**3,500**
MANUFACTURING	**15,200**	**15,900**	**-700**	**-4.4**	**15,300**
Durable Goods	**10,300**	**10,600**	**-300**	**-2.8**	**10,400**
Non-Durable Goods	**4,900**	**5,300**	**-400**	**-7.5**	**4,900**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**111,400**	**113,600**	**-2,200**	**-1.9**	**112,100**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**22,100**	**22,800**	**-700**	**-3.1**	**22,600**
Wholesale Trade	2,400	2,500	-100	-4.0	2,400
Retail Trade	14,800	15,500	-700	-4.5	15,200
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	4,900	4,800	100	2.1	5,000
INFORMATION	**1,600**	**1,900**	**-300**	**-15.8**	**1,600**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**2,900**	**3,200**	**-300**	**-9.4**	**3,000**
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**9,300**	**9,900**	**-600**	**-6.1**	**9,500**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**20,100**	**20,000**	**100**	**0.5**	**19,800**
Health Care and Social Assistance	17,200	17,100	100	0.6	17,400
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**12,500**	**12,400**	**100**	**0.8**	**12,700**
Accommodation and Food Services	10,700	10,600	100	0.9	10,900
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places	9,100	8,800	300	3.4	9,200
OTHER SERVICES	**3,600**	**3,600**	**0**	**0.0**	**3,600**
GOVERNMENT	**39,300**	**39,800**	**-500**	**-1.3**	**39,300**
Federal	2,600	2,700	-100	-3.7	2,700
State & Local**	36,700	37,100	-400	-1.1	36,600

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

WATERBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**64,600**	**67,100**	**-2,500**	**-3.7**	**64,900**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**11,800**	**12,600**	**-800**	**-6.3**	**12,000**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**2,300**	**2,600**	**-300**	**-11.5**	**2,400**
MANUFACTURING	**9,500**	**10,000**	**-500**	**-5.0**	**9,600**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**52,800**	**54,500**	**-1,700**	**-3.1**	**52,900**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**12,700**	**13,100**	**-400**	**-3.1**	**12,900**
Wholesale Trade	2,100	2,200	-100	-4.5	2,100
Retail Trade	8,500	8,800	-300	-3.4	8,700
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	2,100	2,100	0	0.0	2,100
INFORMATION	**800**	**800**	**0**	**0.0**	**800**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**2,100**	**2,300**	**-200**	**-8.7**	**2,200**
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**4,600**	**5,700**	**-1,100**	**-19.3**	**4,700**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**15,100**	**15,000**	**100**	**0.7**	**15,000**
Health Care and Social Assistance	13,800	13,500	300	2.2	13,800
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**4,900**	**4,700**	**200**	**4.3**	**5,100**
OTHER SERVICES	**2,500**	**2,500**	**0**	**0.0**	**2,400**
GOVERNMENT	**10,100**	**10,400**	**-300**	**-2.9**	**9,800**
Federal	500	600	-100	-16.7	500
State & Local	9,600	9,800	-200	-2.0	9,300

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 2008.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.*

SMALLER LMAS

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT					
ENFIELD LMA	**46,800**	**48,000**	**-1,200**	**-2.5**	**47,900**
TORRINGTON LMA	**35,700**	**36,300**	**-600**	**-1.7**	**36,600**
WILLIMANTIC - DANIELSON LMA	**36,300**	**37,300**	**-1,000**	**-2.7**	**36,400**

NOTE: More industry detail data is available for the State and its nine labor market areas at: http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/202/covered.htm. The data published there differ from the data in the preceding tables in that they are developed from a near-universe count of Connecticut employment covered by the unemployment insurance (UI) program, while the data here is sample-based. The data drawn from the UI program does not contain estimates of employment not covered by unemployment insurance, and is lagged several months behind the current employment estimates presented here.

SPRINGFIELD, MA-CT NECTA*

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**287,100**	**293,200**	**-6,100**	**-2.1**	**285,600**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**43,100**	**44,900**	**-1,800**	**-4.0**	**43,700**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**8,200**	**8,900**	**-700**	**-7.9**	**8,600**
MANUFACTURING	**34,900**	**36,000**	**-1,100**	**-3.1**	**35,100**
Durable Goods	**22,300**	**22,800**	**-500**	**-2.2**	**22,500**
Non-Durable Goods	**12,600**	**13,200**	**-600**	**-4.5**	**12,600**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**244,000**	**248,300**	**-4,300**	**-1.7**	**241,900**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**57,500**	**59,400**	**-1,900**	**-3.2**	**58,400**
Wholesale Trade	11,300	11,600	-300	-2.6	11,500
Retail Trade	33,100	34,400	-1,300	-3.8	33,700
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	13,100	13,400	-300	-2.2	13,200
INFORMATION	**4,200**	**4,600**	**-400**	**-8.7**	**4,300**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**17,400**	**17,500**	**-100**	**-0.6**	**17,400**
Finance and Insurance	14,000	13,900	100	0.7	14,000
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	9,100	9,000	100	1.1	9,100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**22,000**	**22,200**	**-200**	**-0.9**	**22,200**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**58,500**	**57,400**	**1,100**	**1.9**	**56,600**
Educational Services	13,000	12,800	200	1.6	11,500
Health Care and Social Assistance	45,500	44,600	900	2.0	45,100
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**22,900**	**24,600**	**-1,700**	**-6.9**	**22,600**
OTHER SERVICES	**11,100**	**11,500**	**-400**	**-3.5**	**11,100**
GOVERNMENT	**50,400**	**51,100**	**-700**	**-1.4**	**49,300**
Federal	6,600	6,700	-100	-1.5	6,600
State & Local	43,800	44,400	-600	-1.4	42,700

* New England City and Town Area

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2008.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

(Not seasonally adjusted)	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	FEB 2009	FEB 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2009
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,872,600	1,844,000	28,600	1.6	1,872,300
	Employed	1,723,700	1,744,800	-21,100	-1.2	1,724,500
	Unemployed	149,000	99,200	49,800	50.2	147,800
	Unemployment Rate	8.0	5.4	2.6	---	7.9
BRIDGEPORT - STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	471,600	465,900	5,700	1.2	473,100
	Employed	436,700	443,300	-6,600	-1.5	438,500
	Unemployed	34,900	22,600	12,300	54.4	34,500
	Unemployment Rate	7.4	4.9	2.5	---	7.3
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	90,400	90,700	-300	-0.3	91,400
	Employed	84,300	86,700	-2,400	-2.8	85,300
	Unemployed	6,100	3,900	2,200	56.4	6,100
	Unemployment Rate	6.8	4.3	2.5	---	6.7
ENFIELD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	50,000	49,000	1,000	2.0	49,200
	Employed	45,900	46,200	-300	-0.6	45,400
	Unemployed	4,100	2,800	1,300	46.4	3,900
	Unemployment Rate	8.2	5.6	2.6	---	7.8
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	592,000	582,100	9,900	1.7	589,200
	Employed	544,800	550,300	-5,500	-1.0	542,300
	Unemployed	47,200	31,900	15,300	48.0	46,900
	Unemployment Rate	8.0	5.5	2.5	---	8.0
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	315,200	309,200	6,000	1.9	314,900
	Employed	290,700	292,300	-1,600	-0.5	290,400
	Unemployed	24,500	16,900	7,600	45.0	24,600
	Unemployment Rate	7.8	5.5	2.3	---	7.8
NORWICH - NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	150,800	148,500	2,300	1.5	151,600
	Employed	138,400	140,800	-2,400	-1.7	139,200
	Unemployed	12,400	7,700	4,700	61.0	12,400
	Unemployment Rate	8.2	5.2	3.0	---	8.2
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	54,900	53,700	1,200	2.2	55,400
	Employed	50,300	50,700	-400	-0.8	50,900
	Unemployed	4,600	3,000	1,600	53.3	4,500
	Unemployment Rate	8.3	5.6	2.7	---	8.1
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	102,300	100,400	1,900	1.9	102,200
	Employed	91,400	92,900	-1,500	-1.6	91,500
	Unemployed	11,000	7,500	3,500	46.7	10,800
	Unemployment Rate	10.7	7.4	3.3	---	10.5
WILLIMANTIC-DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	58,700	57,600	1,100	1.9	58,700
	Employed	53,000	53,800	-800	-1.5	53,000
	Unemployed	5,700	3,800	1,900	50.0	5,700
	Unemployment Rate	9.7	6.6	3.1	---	9.7
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	153,804,000	152,503,000	1,301,000	0.9	153,445,000
	Employed	140,105,000	144,550,000	-4,445,000	-3.1	140,436,000
	Unemployed	13,699,000	7,953,000	5,746,000	72.2	13,009,000
	Unemployment Rate	8.9	5.2	3.7	---	8.5

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2008.

CONNECTICUT	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	FEB		CHG	JAN	FEB		CHG	JAN	FEB		CHG	JAN
(Not seasonally adjusted)	2009	2008	Y/Y	2009	2009	2008	Y/Y	2009	2009	2008	Y/Y	2009
MANUFACTURING	**$917.42**	**$890.84**	**$26.58**	**$927.67**	**41.4**	**42.2**	**-0.8**	**41.9**	**$22.16**	**$21.11**	**$1.05**	**$22.14**
DURABLE GOODS	**944.30**	**918.33**	**25.97**	**956.18**	**41.2**	**42.3**	**-1.1**	**41.7**	**22.92**	**21.71**	**1.21**	**22.93**
Transport. Equipment	1,171.21	1,142.96	28.25	1,198.50	41.4	42.6	-1.2	42.5	28.29	26.83	1.46	28.20
NON-DUR. GOODS	**837.90**	**816.32**	**21.58**	**840.37**	**42.0**	**42.1**	-0.1	**42.4**	**19.95**	**19.39**	**0.56**	**19.82**
CONSTRUCTION	**963.31**	**952.12**	**11.19**	**883.47**	**37.6**	**38.1**	**-0.5**	**35.1**	**25.62**	**24.99**	**0.63**	**25.17**

Due to constraints of the sample upon which estimates are made, statewide manufacturing hours and earnings for fabricated metal, machinery, and computer and electronic sectors are no longer published.

Due to cuts in the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics fiscal year 2008 budget allocations to state agencies that cooperatively develop labor statistics with the BLS, the Office of Research is suspending development and publication of production worker hours and earnings data for its labor market areas.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2008.

BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN THE NEWS MEDIA

- In February 2009, planning got underway for the expansion of Boehringer Ingelheim that will bring 400 new jobs to Danbury. The Holiday Inn in Waterbury began filling 40-50 new positions. Longhorn Steakhouse will open in Waterford in June and hire 65 employees. Basement Systems, a basement waterproofing company in Seymour, will hire 12 new workers. The Yale Cancer Center is in the process of recruiting 30-50 scientists and researchers.

- February 2009 layoffs: Connecticut Junior Republic (107); Rogers Corp. of Killingly (20); Stanadyne Corp. of Windsor (140); Wiremold Co. of West Hartford (170); Eastman Kodak of Norwalk (100); Curtis Packaging of Newtown (20); Ethan Allen Inc. (60); the town of Greenwich (39); Hartford Direct (70-80); Hamilton Sundstrand (47); Risdon International (65); CIGNA (45); Thomas Cadillac (29); Parsons Chevrolet (30); and the Hartford Courant (100).

Business & Employment Changes Announced in the News Media lists start-ups, expansions, staff reductions, and layoffs reported by the media, both current and future. The report provides company name, the number of workers involved, date of the action, the principal product or service of the company, a brief synopsis of the action, and the source and date of the media article. This publication is available in both HTML and PDF formats at the Connecticut Department of Labor Web site, http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/busemp.htm.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES BY TOWN

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

FEBRUARY 2009

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
BRIDGEPORT-STAMFORD				
	471,592	**436,701**	**34,891**	**7.4**
Ansonia	10,055	9,081	974	9.7
Bridgeport	63,510	55,796	7,714	12.1
Darien	9,105	8,620	485	5.3
Derby	6,911	6,303	608	8.8
Easton	3,698	3,498	200	5.4
Fairfield	28,245	26,485	1,760	6.2
Greenwich	30,093	28,453	1,640	5.4
Milford	32,090	29,867	2,223	6.9
Monroe	10,598	9,887	711	6.7
New Canaan	8,834	8,410	424	4.8
Newtown	14,235	13,387	848	6.0
Norwalk	48,615	45,032	3,583	7.4
Oxford	7,424	6,937	487	6.6
Redding	4,642	4,410	232	5.0
Ridgefield	11,581	10,978	603	5.2
Seymour	9,334	8,576	758	8.1
Shelton	23,056	21,407	1,649	7.2
Southbury	9,109	8,508	601	6.6
Stamford	66,381	61,712	4,669	7.0
Stratford	25,897	23,770	2,127	8.2
Trumbull	17,651	16,615	1,036	5.9
Weston	4,862	4,632	230	4.7
Westport	12,634	11,944	690	5.5
Wilton	8,240	7,793	447	5.4
Woodbridge	4,794	4,600	194	4.0
DANBURY	**90,411**	**84,289**	**6,122**	**6.8**
Bethel	10,663	9,950	713	6.7
Bridgewater	1,011	960	51	5.0
Brookfield	8,941	8,390	551	6.2
Danbury	44,139	41,000	3,139	7.1
New Fairfield	7,455	6,973	482	6.5
New Milford	16,094	15,023	1,071	6.7
Sherman	2,109	1,994	115	5.5
ENFIELD	**49,986**	**45,879**	**4,107**	**8.2**
East Windsor	6,362	5,784	578	9.1
Enfield	24,102	22,107	1,995	8.3
Somers	4,743	4,370	373	7.9
Suffield	7,507	7,020	487	6.5
Windsor Locks	7,273	6,598	675	9.3
HARTFORD	**591,966**	**544,812**	**47,154**	**8.0**
Andover	1,979	1,863	116	5.9
Ashford	2,655	2,483	172	6.5
Avon	9,212	8,768	444	4.8
Barkhamsted	2,260	2,075	185	8.2
Berlin	11,571	10,737	834	7.2
Bloomfield	10,199	9,364	835	8.2
Bolton	3,077	2,869	208	6.8
Bristol	34,827	31,687	3,140	9.0
Burlington	5,380	5,072	308	5.7

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
HARTFORD cont....				
Canton	5,822	5,470	352	6.0
Colchester	8,955	8,298	657	7.3
Columbia	3,090	2,882	208	6.7
Coventry	7,092	6,603	489	6.9
Cromwell	7,887	7,354	533	6.8
East Granby	2,989	2,798	191	6.4
East Haddam	5,208	4,881	327	6.3
East Hampton	7,136	6,584	552	7.7
East Hartford	25,879	23,203	2,676	10.3
Ellington	8,947	8,273	674	7.5
Farmington	13,014	12,260	754	5.8
Glastonbury	18,237	17,322	915	5.0
Granby	6,358	6,001	357	5.6
Haddam	4,946	4,631	315	6.4
Hartford	50,543	43,481	7,062	14.0
Hartland	1,210	1,137	73	6.0
Harwinton	3,225	2,974	251	7.8
Hebron	5,542	5,206	336	6.1
Lebanon	4,416	4,077	339	7.7
Manchester	32,511	30,036	2,475	7.6
Mansfield	12,950	12,385	565	4.4
Marlborough	3,695	3,448	247	6.7
Middlefield	2,392	2,231	161	6.7
Middletown	26,859	24,991	1,868	7.0
New Britain	35,582	31,388	4,194	11.8
New Hartford	3,846	3,576	270	7.0
Newington	16,803	15,629	1,174	7.0
Plainville	10,311	9,351	960	9.3
Plymouth	6,974	6,289	685	9.8
Portland	5,412	5,035	377	7.0
Rocky Hill	10,813	10,127	686	6.3
Simsbury	12,070	11,476	594	4.9
Southington	24,413	22,736	1,677	6.9
South Windsor	14,824	13,964	860	5.8
Stafford	7,038	6,369	669	9.5
Thomaston	4,721	4,276	445	9.4
Tolland	8,407	7,923	484	5.8
Union	483	449	34	7.0
Vernon	17,589	16,240	1,349	7.7
West Hartford	29,166	27,373	1,793	6.1
Wethersfield	13,328	12,380	948	7.1
Willington	3,887	3,668	219	5.6
Windsor	16,236	15,119	1,117	6.9

All Labor Market Areas(LMAs) in Connecticut except three are federally-designated areas for developing labor statistics.For the sake of simplicity, the federal Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk NECTA is referred to in Connecticut DOL publications as the Bridgeport-Stamford LMA, and the Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford NECTA is the Hartford LMA.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has identified 17 towns in the northwest part of the state as a separate area for reporting labor force data. For the convenience of our data users, these towns are included in the Torrington LMA. For the same purpose, five towns which are part of the Springfield, MA area are published as the Enfield LMA. Similarly the towns of Putnam, Thompson and Woodstock-part of the Worcester, MA area-plus four towns estimated separately are included in the Willimantic-Danielson LMA.

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

Town

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

FEBRUARY 2009

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
NEW HAVEN	**315,188**	**290,683**	**24,505**	**7.8**
Bethany	3,190	2,995	195	6.1
Branford	17,576	16,428	1,148	6.5
Cheshire	14,651	13,865	786	5.4
Chester	2,337	2,178	159	6.8
Clinton	8,093	7,551	542	6.7
Deep River	2,658	2,447	211	7.9
Durham	4,379	4,109	270	6.2
East Haven	16,381	15,093	1,288	7.9
Essex	3,847	3,609	238	6.2
Guilford	13,132	12,438	694	5.3
Hamden	31,005	28,978	2,027	6.5
Killingworth	3,653	3,449	204	5.6
Madison	10,207	9,659	548	5.4
Meriden	32,632	29,366	3,266	10.0
New Haven	56,894	50,848	6,046	10.6
North Branford	8,560	7,946	614	7.2
North Haven	13,319	12,491	828	6.2
Old Saybrook	5,557	5,231	326	5.9
Orange	7,315	6,928	387	5.3
Wallingford	25,846	23,942	1,904	7.4
Westbrook	3,785	3,505	280	7.4
West Haven	30,173	27,629	2,544	8.4
*NORWICH-NEW LONDON				
	137,525	**126,547**	**10,978**	**8.0**
Bozrah	1,471	1,356	115	7.8
Canterbury	3,226	2,940	286	8.9
East Lyme	9,659	9,004	655	6.8
Franklin	1,175	1,086	89	7.6
Griswold	7,262	6,589	673	9.3
Groton	20,274	18,708	1,566	7.7
Ledyard	8,514	7,898	616	7.2
Lisbon	2,580	2,363	217	8.4
Lyme	1,128	1,061	67	5.9
Montville	10,899	10,075	824	7.6
New London	13,587	12,253	1,334	9.8
No. Stonington	3,314	3,029	285	8.6
Norwich	20,629	18,757	1,872	9.1
Old Lyme	4,132	3,889	243	5.9
Preston	2,847	2,645	202	7.1
Salem	2,590	2,421	169	6.5
Sprague	1,823	1,630	193	10.6
Stonington	10,415	9,781	634	6.1
Voluntown	1,629	1,475	154	9.5
Waterford	10,370	9,587	783	7.6

*Connecticut portion only. For whole NECTA, including Rhode Island town, see below.

NORWICH-NEW LONDON				
	150,757	**138,374**	**12,383**	**8.2**
Westerly, RI	13,232	11,827	1,405	10.6

Labor Force estimates are prepared following statistical procedures developed by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
TORRINGTON	**54,936**	**50,349**	**4,587**	**8.3**
Bethlehem	2,037	1,870	167	8.2
Canaan	616	563	53	8.6
Colebrook	812	781	31	3.8
Cornwall	824	777	47	5.7
Goshen	1,633	1,519	114	7.0
Kent	1,596	1,490	106	6.6
Litchfield	4,386	4,083	303	6.9
Morris	1,294	1,193	101	7.8
Norfolk	942	878	64	6.8
North Canaan	1,751	1,598	153	8.7
Roxbury	1,356	1,286	70	5.2
Salisbury	1,950	1,832	118	6.1
Sharon	1,558	1,462	96	6.2
Torrington	20,022	17,944	2,078	10.4
Warren	740	697	43	5.8
Washington	1,911	1,809	102	5.3
Winchester	6,051	5,464	587	9.7
Woodbury	5,460	5,103	357	6.5
WATERBURY	**102,309**	**91,353**	**10,956**	**10.7**
Beacon Falls	3,328	3,069	259	7.8
Middlebury	3,903	3,651	252	6.5
Naugatuck	17,392	15,688	1,704	9.8
Prospect	5,303	4,888	415	7.8
Waterbury	50,956	44,376	6,580	12.9
Watertown	12,335	11,310	1,025	8.3
Wolcott	9,091	8,370	721	7.9
WILLIMANTIC-DANIELSON				
	58,732	**53,044**	**5,688**	**9.7**
Brooklyn	3,934	3,553	381	9.7
Chaplin	1,505	1,377	128	8.5
Eastford	1,027	951	76	7.4
Hampton	1,263	1,154	109	8.6
Killingly	9,668	8,596	1,072	11.1
Plainfield	8,542	7,592	950	11.1
Pomfret	2,260	2,099	161	7.1
Putnam	5,326	4,807	519	9.7
Scotland	998	963	35	3.5
Sterling	2,128	1,912	216	10.2
Thompson	5,501	4,924	577	10.5
Windham	11,867	10,735	1,132	9.5
Woodstock	4,714	4,381	333	7.1

Not Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	**1,872,600**	**1,723,700**	**149,000**	**8.0**
UNITED STATES	**153,804,000**	**140,105,000**	**13,699,000**	**8.9**
Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	**1,890,800**	**1,750,900**	**139,800**	**7.4**
UNITED STATES	**154,214,000**	**141,748,000**	**12,467,000**	**8.1**

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 2009	YR TO DATE 2009	YR TO DATE 2008	TOWN	FEB 2009	YR TO DATE 2009	YR TO DATE 2008	TOWN	FEB 2009	YR TO DATE 2009	YR TO DATE 2008
Andover	0	0	1	Griswold	na	na	na	Preston	0	1	0
Ansonia	0	0	2	Groton	2	3	10	Prospect	na	na	na
Ashford	0	0	0	Guilford	4	5	2	Putnam	1	2	2
Avon	0	0	3	Haddam	0	0	5	Redding	na	na	na
Barkhamsted	na	na	na	Hamden	1	1	0	Ridgefield	0	1	20
Beacon Falls	na	na	na	Hampton	0	0	1	Rocky Hill	3	3	3
Berlin	2	3	4	Hartford	0	0	0	Roxbury	na	na	na
Bethany	na	na	na	Hartland	na	na	na	Salem	1	1	1
Bethel	1	1	1	Harwinton	0	0	1	Salisbury	na	na	na
Bethlehem	na	na	na	Hebron	na	na	na	Scotland	0	0	0
Bloomfield	na	na	na	Kent	0	0	0	Seymour	0	1	3
Bolton	1	1	0	Killingly	1	3	5	Sharon	1	1	1
Bozrah	0	0	1	Killingworth	na	na	na	Shelton	0	1	6
Branford	na	na	na	Lebanon	0	0	0	Sherman	na	na	na
Bridgeport	6	6	25	Ledyard	0	0	2	Simsbury	1	1	1
Bridgewater	na	na	na	Lisbon	0	0	0	Somers	1	2	1
Bristol	1	1	4	Litchfield	na	na	na	South Windsor	1	2	2
Brookfield	na	na	na	Lyme	0	0	1	Southbury	1	1	1
Brooklyn	2	2	6	Madison	0	3	2	Southington	4	4	14
Burlington	0	1	1	Manchester	1	2	5	Sprague	0	0	2
Canaan	0	0	0	Mansfield	0	1	1	Stafford	na	na	na
Canterbury	0	0	1	Marlborough	0	0	2	Stamford	0	0	190
Canton	0	2	1	Meriden	2	5	6	Sterling	na	na	na
Chaplin	0	0	2	Middlebury	na	na	na	Stonington	0	1	4
Cheshire	0	0	10	Middlefield	0	0	1	Stratford	1	1	1
Chester	na	na	na	Middletown	6	8	22	Suffield	1	1	1
Clinton	0	0	1	Milford	9	16	28	Thomaston	na	na	na
Colchester	1	1	0	Monroe	0	1	1	Thompson	na	na	na
Colebrook	0	0	0	Montville	2	3	4	Tolland	0	2	3
Columbia	1	1	2	Morris	0	0	1	Torrington	0	0	1
Cornwall	0	0	0	Naugatuck	0	1	4	Trumbull	0	0	3
Coventry	0	1	5	New Britain	na	na	na	Union	0	0	0
Cromwell	1	2	4	New Canaan	0	0	4	Vernon	1	3	19
Danbury	0	1	17	New Fairfield	na	na	na	Voluntown	0	1	2
Darien	na	na	na	New Hartford	1	2	0	Wallingford	0	0	6
Deep River	0	0	0	New Haven	0	0	5	Warren	0	0	0
Derby	na	na	na	New London	2	3	5	Washington	na	na	na
Durham	1	2	4	New Milford	1	2	3	Waterbury	2	6	13
East Granby	0	0	1	Newington	2	3	0	Waterford	0	1	5
East Haddam	0	0	1	Newtown	0	2	2	Watertown	1	3	6
East Hampton	2	2	6	Norfolk	0	0	0	West Hartford	6	6	15
East Hartford	na	na	na	North Branford	na	na	na	West Haven	na	na	na
East Haven	0	1	2	North Canaan	0	0	0	Westbrook	0	3	2
East Lyme	1	2	3	North Haven	0	0	1	Weston	na	na	na
East Windsor	1	1	6	North Stonington	0	0	1	Westport	1	3	8
Eastford	0	0	0	Norwalk	92	96	8	Wethersfield	na	na	na
Easton	0	1	1	Norwich	7	8	4	Willington	0	0	1
Ellington	8	10	18	Old Lyme	na	na	na	Wilton	na	na	na
Enfield	na	na	na	Old Saybrook	0	1	0	Winchester	0	0	4
Essex	0	0	0	Orange	na	na	na	Windham	0	2	2
Fairfield	0	3	13	Oxford	1	4	9	Windsor	na	na	na
Farmington	1	2	6	Plainfield	1	2	11	Windsor Locks	na	na	na
Franklin	0	0	1	Plainville	0	2	2	Wolcott	0	1	9
Glastonbury	2	2	0	Plymouth	0	0	1	Woodbridge	na	na	na
Goshen	1	3	2	Pomfret	0	0	1	Woodbury	0	0	3
Granby	0	0	0	Portland	0	0	4	Woodstock	0	0	2
Greenwich	5	8	28								

For further information on the housing permit data, contact Kolie Sun of DECD at (860) 270-8167.

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. These data are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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 signal-plus noise 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. Beginning with the publication of January 2005 data, an improved methodology is being used to develop labor force estimates, by which monthly state model-based employment and unemployment estimates are controlled to add to the national CPS levels. This will ensure that national economic events are reflected in the state estimates, and it will significantly reduce end-of-year revisions. (For more information, please see the Connecticut Economic Digest, December 2004 issue.) 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 (LMAs) in Connecticut except three are federally-designated areas for developing labor statistics. For the sake of simplicity, the federal Bridgeport-Norwalk-Stamford Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is referred to in Connecticut Department of Labor publications as the Bridgeport-Stamford LMA, and the Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford MSA is called the Hartford LMA. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has identified the 17 towns in the in the northwestern part of the state 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 LMA. For the same purpose, data for the towns of East Windsor, Enfield, Somers, Suffield and Windsor Locks, which are officially part of the Springfield MSA, are published as the Enfield LMA. Similarly, the towns of Putnam, Thompson and Woodstock - part of the Worcester MSA - are included in the Willimantic-Danielson LMA. Also, data for Westerly, Rhode Island are included in the Norwich-New London LMA. Industry employment and labor force data estimates contained in Connecticut Department of Labor publications are prepared following the same statistical procedures developed by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, whether for federally designated or state-determined areas.

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 index, 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, the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

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. These data are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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 5-8 for reference months or quarters)

Leading Employment Index .... **-6.3**
Coincident Employment Index .... **-4.4**
Leading General Drift Indicator ...... **-4.0**
Coincident General Drift Indicator . **-1.4**
Banknorth Business Barometer .... **-1.3**

Total Nonfarm Employment .... **-3.0**

Unemployment Rate .... **+2.2***
Labor Force .... +1.3
Employed .... -1.0
Unemployed .... +44.9

Average Weekly Initial Claims ..... **+61.9**
Avg Insured Unempl. Rate .... **+1.72***

Average Weekly Hours, Mfg .... **-1.9**
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg ...... **+5.0**
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg ..... **+3.0**
CT Mfg. Production Index .... **-6.3**
Production Worker Hours .... -6.2
Industrial Electricity Sales .... -9.4

Personal Income .... **+0.6**
UI Covered Wages .... **-0.5**

Business Activity
New Housing Permits .... -19.6
Electricity Sales .... -4.2
Construction Contracts Index .... -18.6
New Auto Registrations .... -38.5
Air Cargo Tons .... -22.3
Exports .... +6.5

Business Starts
Secretary of the State .... -13.9
Dept. of Labor .... -12.8

Business Terminations
Secretary of the State .... +9.2
Dept. of Labor .... -35.3

State Revenues .... **+0.7**
Corporate Tax .... +3.0
Personal Income Tax .... -9.6
Real Estate Conveyance Tax .... -50.0
Sales & Use Tax .... -5.0
Indian Gaming Payments .... -4.5

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

Tourism and Travel
Info Center Visitors .... +6.5
Attraction Visitors .... +18.6
Air Passenger Count .... -13.4
Indian Gaming Slots .... -5.3
Travel and Tourism Index .... -9.3

Employment Cost Index (U.S.)
Total .... +2.4
Wages & Salaries .... +2.6
Benefit Costs .... +2.0

Consumer Prices
U.S. City Average .... +0.2
Northeast Region .... +0.7
NY-NJ-Long Island .... +1.6
Boston-Brockton-Nashua .... -0.5

Interest Rates
Prime .... -2.75*
Conventional Mortgage .... -0.79*

THE CONNECTICUT ECONOMIC DIGEST

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CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Mailing address:

Connecticut Economic Digest
Connecticut Department of Labor
Office of Research
200 Folly Brook Boulevard
Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114

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