THE CONNECTICUT
ECONOMIC DIGEST

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DECEMBER 2000

- Major changes to the Current Employment Statistics methodology are underway. (article, pp. 1-2, 4)
- Industry clusters: "State Acclaimed" (p. 3)
- New additions to the Connecticut Department of Labor's LMI Web Site (p. 3)
- Nonfarm employment increased by 1,000 in October, and was 23,700 higher than a year ago. (p. 6)
- Unemployment rate in October fell to 2.0 percent, the lowest ever recorded in the State. (p. 6)
- October's new housing permits were up 3.9 percent from a year ago. (p. 3)

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Employment Estimating Methods Evolving

By Arthur Famiglietti, Research Analyst

The Way We Were

When current estimates of the economy's employment levels became a topic of more than casual interest, a method was devised to develop timely estimates in a cost effective manner. The Current Employment Statistics (CES) program, first authorized by a Congressional Act in 1930 as a federal-state cooperative survey, became the source for current estimates of the nation's nonfarm employment, hours and earnings based on a quota sample methodology, the standard in its time. Part of today's difficulties with that methodology is that it was developed when the structure of America and its economy were different. Another is that the existing CES survey is a quota sample whose inception predated the introduction of probability sampling as the internationally recognized standard for survey sampling.

The Way I Always Heard It Should Be

Over time, criticism has been made regarding the CES time series estimates, not the least of which centered on accuracy and revisions. The quota sample design is known to be at risk for potentially significant biases. Additionally, the production of sampling errors and confidence intervals, standard survey accuracy measures, are not possible under the current design. Accuracy assessment came only after the fact via the quantity of change experienced for the primary estimate of interest, the total nonfarm employment level when benchmarked to employment data gathered for the unemployment insurance (UI) program.

Here Comes the Judge

At the request of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), in the fall of 1992 the American Statistical Society (ASA) began to examine the CES program. In November 1993 the panel members came to agreement on five important problems to which they recommended BLS pay early attention. They were: needs of users, probability sampling, births and deaths of establishments, quality measurement and improvement of the ES-202, and methodological documentation and dissemination of research. On the topic of probability sampling the ASA stated "The BLS should adopt immediately the goal of moving to probability samples both for national estimates and for the state data. Probability sampling should assist in reducing bias in the employment estimates and should assist in reducing bias in the hours and earnings estimates, which are not

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benchmarked. Research will be required on some aspects of probability sampling and on how best to introduce the probability estimates into the current series." The progression toward that end will form the basis of the following discussion.

In June of 1995, the BLS began a comprehensive sample redesign of its monthly payroll survey. Three goals of the redesign are: development of a probability-based sample design to replace the current quota sample along with improved estimators; improved techniques for estimating employment change from business births and deaths; and improved sample solicitation procedures designed to achieve higher response rates than historically experienced. The initial research phase for the CES sample redesign was completed in 1997, and the Bureau launched a production test of the new sample design at that time.

The implementation phase began in June 2000 when the first national estimates from the new design for the wholesale trade industry were published with the 1999 benchmark. The remaining industry divisions will be phased in with subsequent years' benchmark releases, between 2001 and 2003. (See table below.) In Connecticut the first estimates based on the new sample design will commence in February 2001. Estimates will be produced for wholesale trade at that time on a statewide basis, but not all areas in Connecticut will have adequate sample coverage under the new probability design to provide estimates using that method.

The new CES Sample Design is a stratified, simple random sample, where the strata, or subpopulations, are defined by state, industry, and employment size. The sampling rates for each stratum are determined through a method known as optimum allocation, which distributes a fixed number of sample units across a set of strata to minimize the overall variance, or sampling error, on the primary estimate of interest. The total nonfarm employment level is the primary estimate of interest, and the new design gives top priority to measuring it as precisely as possible; in other words, minimizing the statistical error around the statewide total nonfarm employment estimates.

Total sample sizes for the states are to remain at current levels, i.e., not to change in quantity of respondents from the old quota sample to the new. Therefore optimum allocation is achieved for a set sample size using a program which seeks to optimally select a sample by drawing it across a state's industry and employment size makeup. This achieves an optimum allocation for the sample size that has been chosen, not the optimum

(Continued on page 4)

Schedule for Implementing CES Sample Redesign

Major Industry Division	National	State and Area
Wholesale	June 2000	March 2001
Manufacturing	June 2001	March 2002
Mining	June 2001	March 2002
Construction	June 2001	March 2002
Transp., Public Util.	June 2002	June 2003
Finance, Ins., Real Est.	June 2002	June 2003
Retail Trade	June 2002	June 2003
Services	June 2003	June 2003
Government	To be determined	

New Additions to the Connecticut Department of Labor's Labor Market Information Web Site

The Connecticut Department of Labor's Labor Market Information Web site, at www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi, is maintained by the Office of Research and provides convenient access to reports and publications. The latest additions in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format include:

Business and Employment Changes Announced in the Media, which lists start-ups, expansions, staff reductions, and layoffs reported by the media, both current and future. This report provides the 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.

Connecticut Labor Market Information At-A-Glance, a monthly tri-fold report, provides a variety of labor market information. This quick reference includes area unemployment rates, Connecticut's 1989-2000 job loss and recovery, consumer price index, hours and earnings of manufacturing production workers, labor force data, nonfarm employment, population projections, and unemployment insurance data.

Occupational Employment & Wages provides employment and wage data including entry-level, mid-range, average hourly and annual wages by occupation. The publication is based on the results of the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey. The OES survey is an annual mail survey measuring occupational employment and wage rates for workers in nonfarm establishments, by industry. The survey relies on a sample of approximately 21,000 Connecticut employers whose voluntary participation makes these publications possible. The Office of Research provides both Statewide and Labor Market Area publications.

HOUSING UPDATE

New Permits Up 3.9% From A Year Ago

Commissioner James F. Abromaitis of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development announced that Connecticut communities authorized 776 new housing units in October 2000, a 3.9 percent increase compared to October of 1999 when 747 units were authorized.

The Department further indicated that the 776 units permitted in October 2000 represent an increase of 3.3 percent from the 751 units permitted in September 2000. The year-to-date permits are down 14.0 percent, from 9,123 through October 1999, to 7,850 through October 2000.

Fairfield County documented the largest number of new, authorized units in October with 165. New Haven County followed with 162 units and Hartford County had 145 units. Danbury led all Connecticut communities with 50 units, followed by Wallingford with 23 and Berlin and Tolland tied with 18. ■

For more information on housing permits, see tables on pages 21-22.

Industry Clusters

State Acclaimed

Three recent indicators demonstrate Connecticut continues to stay in the forefront nationally. The highest average annual pay in the nation, improved income distribution, and strongly competitive existing businesses earned Connecticut "Honor Roll" status in the *2000 Development Report Card for the States* by the non-profit Corporation for Enterprise Development (CFED). In one of the most broad-based ratings of the 50 states, with more than 70 indicators, Connecticut made "Honor Roll" (scoring an A or B in each index) by earning an "A" in Performance, a "B" in Business Vitality, and an "A" in Development Capacity.

The Milken Institute, a Santa Monica based research center, ranked Connecticut the third best state in the nation for growth opportunities in the "new economy." Massachusetts, California, Connecticut, Colorado and Washington were the five top-ranking states based upon 12 criteria critical to future high-tech growth, including research and development dollars, advanced degrees, patents, venture capital investment, business starts, and initial public offerings.

Connecticut also received the 2000 National Alliance of Business Distinguished Performance Award for "State of the Year." Governor Rowland accepted the award at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. October 31st. Connecticut was recognized for its innovative efforts to raise student achievement and improve workforce quality. ■

(Continued from page 2)
level that could be sampled to achieve a desired variance level. Only time will tell how well the new sample method will estimate, and while standard survey accuracy measurements will be produced, overall performance evaluation will continue to be gauged by the level of benchmark revision.

Another change of significance being introduced with the probability sample involves establishment of birth and death modeling. This effort has been undertaken to address the issue of sample bias resulting from the non-capture of employment attributable to establishment openings. The most timely UI universe files available always will be a minimum of six months out of date. Exploratory research indicated that while both the business birth and death portions of total employment are generally significant, their net contribution is relatively small and stable. To account for this net birth/death portion of total employment, BLS is implementing an estimation procedure with two components. The first component uses business deaths to impute employment for business births. The second component is an ARIMA (AutoRegressive Integrated Moving Average) time series model designed to estimate the residual net birth/death employment not accounted for by imputation.

Half Breed

Starting in 2001 data users of the industrial nonfarm employment estimates will be faced with a changing data series. The new probability method will be phased in resulting in total nonfarm employment estimates based on a combination of old and new methods. The CES method of producing total nonfarm employment is a bottom up system of aggregation. Each industry for which an estimate is made is independently estimated and then aggregated to division and summary levels. This will be the first time that a mixed sample method will be used in the production of estimates.

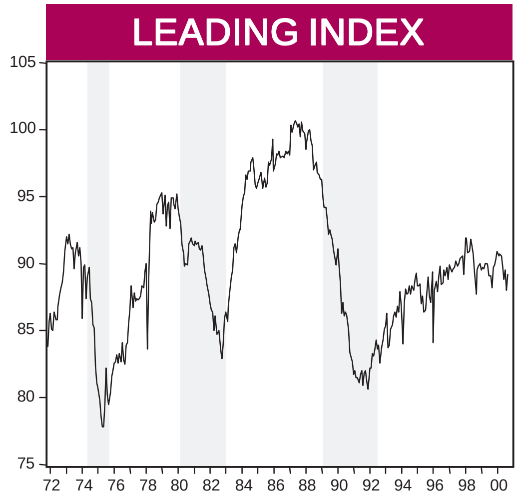
The sample under the probability methodology will not consist of entirely new reporters. Establishments with employment of 100 or greater will be retained as grandfathered units in the sample. The new probability sample will assign weights to reporting units that are equal to the inverse of their probability of being selected. This will result in small size reporters having a much greater impact on the algorithm calculated to produce the monthly estimate. The sample will continue to operate on a matched sample concept. That means that in order for a report to be used in the current monthly estimate its previous monthly report must have been received. Under this method grandfathered units will have a weight of 1.000, thus representing only themselves in the estimate.

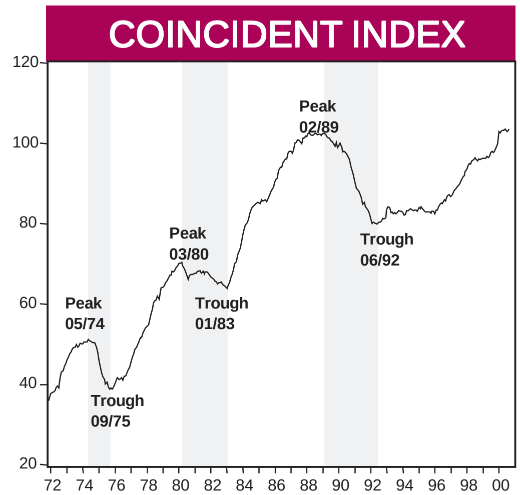
Under redesign, industries in MSAs that do not have 20 sampled unemployment insurance accounts and 10 responding unemployment insurance accounts will be excluded from the probability sample estimation. The criteria exclude UI accounts grandfathered into the probability sample, i.e. current reporters not selected under the probability sample but retained because of their size.

Presently, the methods employed to produce estimates are the same for all sub-state areas and the statewide estimate in Connecticut. This will change with the 2000 benchmark as the Danbury, New London-Norwich, and Waterbury Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) do not have sufficient probability sample to implement wholesale trade redesign estimates. The very small areas of Lower River and Danielson will continue to use the current method.

A source of question surrounding CES estimates involves the non-additivity of disaggregated geographies. Some data users are confused by the fact that summing the fifty states will not produce the national estimate. Similarly the addition of MSAs does not yield a statewide estimate. The new probability design will not eliminate this issue. The estimates produced for each geographic grouping will continue to be independently estimated and benchmarked. A number of factors bear upon this issue, including the method by which UI covered employment is assigned to an area.

Clearly, extensive research over the past two to three years has proved that, in some cases, proposed changes in CES methodology would not produce improved results. The methods which will be used to select the CES sample and produce the estimates are evolving, yet some elements of the existing methodology will remain. Standard survey measurement statistics will be produced, but the ultimate gauge of accuracy will continue to be based on the extent of annual benchmark revisions. A new sample will be drawn using a random sampling method, while self-representing, non-probability units will remain in the system. The goal of additivity across geographies will not be achieved. All areas will not move to the new sample method and benchmark employment issues will continue to exist. In the end, this incremental advance will be a work in progress for some time to come. To our data users I would say, expect improvement, not perfection. After all, evolution is a lengthy process and a journey we will make together. ■





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 1987=100.

Leading Index Recovers: Coincident Index Reaches Prior Peak

Last month, we reported that the leading index, a barometer of future employment activity, had declined during four of the previous five months, suggesting that some uncertainty surrounded the continued expansion over the next year or so. The release of (preliminary) September data added to the uncertainty as the leading index rose significantly. In addition, the coincident index, a gauge of current employment activity, returned to its previous peak in June 2000 with the September release. As noted last month, the current expansion continues to roll along.

So what's it all mean? At the national level, the current 10-year expansion, the longest on record in the United States, shows little evidence of ending. Analysts argue about whether Chairman Alan Greenspan and the Federal Reserve might again raise interest rates to head off an outbreak of the dreaded inflation disease. Those concerns have diminished as recent reports on the economy suggest a slowdown from its recent rapid growth. The third quarter growth in real GDP slowed to only 2.7 percent – still a healthy rate by the standards of the last 20 years or so, but dramatically below the second quarter growth of 5.6 percent. Moreover, consumer confidence fell recently and retail sales saw slower growth. Thus, the best current thinking thinks that the Federal Reserve will not raise interest rates for the rest of this year.

Other analysts of the national economy see the third quarter slowdown as only a temporary blip on the economic radar that will disappear (reverse) in future quarters. We have already seen quarterly growth rates slow on several occasions only to about face in subsequent quarters. The big question: What is the sustainable level of non-inflationary real growth? New and old economy pundits disagree. For economic historians, it is no big deal. The passage of time will answer the question. For most of the rest of us, we need to make decisions based on our outlook. We cannot wait for the real-time data to become historical information.

In summary, the coincident employment index rose from 97.6 in September 1999 to 103.5 in September 2000. 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 rose from 88.2 in September 1999 to 89.2 in September 2000. Three index components sent positive signals on a year-over-year basis with a lower short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, lower initial claims for unemployment insurance, and a higher average workweek of manufacturing production workers. The remaining two components sent negative signals on a year-over-year basis with lower total housing permits and lower Hartford help wanted advertising. ■

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]. Stan McMillen and Jingqui Zhu [(860) 486-3022, Storrs Campus] provided research support.

Total employment increased by 23,700, or 1.4 percent, over the year.

EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISION

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
TOTAL NONFARM	1,698.4	1,674.7	23.7	1.4	1,697.4
Private Sector	1,455.5	1,437.0	18.5	1.3	1,455.3
Construction and Mining	64.3	62.0	2.3	3.7	63.6
Manufacturing	265.4	266.5	-1.1	-0.4	265.4
Transportation, Public Utilities	78.8	78.4	0.4	0.5	78.4
Wholesale, Retail Trade	363.9	359.2	4.7	1.3	363.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	142.1	141.4	0.7	0.5	142.0
Services	541.0	529.5	11.5	2.2	542.6
Government	242.9	237.7	5.2	2.2	242.1

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

The unemployment rate dropped, as the labor force rose from a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

(Seasonally adjusted)	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	2.0	3.1	-1.1	---	2.4
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,702.9	1,694.2	8.7	0.5	1,710.0
Employed (000s)	1,669.4	1,642.2	27.2	1.7	1,669.1
Unemployed (000s)	33.5	52.0	-18.5	-35.6	40.9
Average Weekly Initial Claims	3,427	3,460	-33	-1.0	3,242
Help Wanted Index -- Htfd. (1987=100	30	33	-3	-9.1	28
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	1.73	2.00	-0.27	---	1.66

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; The Conference Board

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

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

(Not seasonally adjusted)	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000	AUG 2000
Average Weekly Hours	42.5	42.6	-0.1	-0.2	42.5	--
Average Hourly Earnings	$15.74	$15.61	$0.13	0.8	$15.70	--
Average Weekly Earnings	$668.95	$664.99	$3.96	0.6	$667.25	--
CT Mfg. Production Index (1982=100)*	125.3	127.4	-2.1	-1.6	125.0	121.2
Production Worker Hours (000s)	6,499	6,545	-46	-0.7	6,510	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)**	500	534	-34.0	-6.4	482	493

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; U.S. Department of Energy
**This new and improved index replaced the Manufacturing Output Index; Seasonally adjusted.*
***Latest two months are forecasted. See June 1999 Digest article for explanation; methodology or historical data back to 1982 is available by contacting the Connecticut Department of Labor, at (860)263-6293.*

Personal income for first quarter 2001 is forecasted to increase 4.7 percent from a year earlier.

INCOME (Quarterly)

(Seasonally adjusted) (Annualized; $ Millions)	1Q* 2001	1Q 2000	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	4Q* 2000
Personal Income	$140,098	$133,809	$6,289	4.7	$138,721
UI Covered Wages	$82,833	$76,465	$6,368	8.3	$80,519

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis: October 2000 release
**Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor*

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

Construction contracts soared 42.6 percent from September a year ago.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	YEAR TO DATE PRIOR	% CHG
New Housing Permits	OCT 2000	776	3.9	7,850	9,123	-14.0
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	AUG 2000	2,687	-0.6	20,134	20,188	-0.3
Retail Sales(Bil. $)	AUG 2000	3.11	7.6	26.36	24.51	7.5
Construction Contracts						
Index (1980=100)	SEP 2000	425.7	42.6	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	OCT 2000	21,841	5.4	215,154	193,712	11.1
Air Cargo Tons	SEP 2000	9,838	-29.2	99,548	107,687	-7.6

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 9.2 percent to 15,988 for the year to date.

	OCT 2000	% CHANGE M/M	% CHANGE Y/Y	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	YEAR TO DATE PRIOR	% CHG
STARTS						
Secretary of the State	1,836	7.2	0.3	19,881	17,986	10.5
Department of Labor	703	-19.5	-0.4	9,039	8,901	1.6
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	460	18.6	22.0	3,893	3,342	16.5
Department of Labor	1,402	143.0	11.4	10,305	10,488	-1.7

Sources: Connecticut Secretary of the State -- corporations and other legal entities
Connecticut Department of Labor -- unemployment insurance program registrations

STATE REVENUES

Overall, year-to-date State tax revenues were up 7.3 percent, paced by personal income taxes, up 14.6 percent.

(Millions of dollars)	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	% CHG	FISCAL YEAR TOTALS 2000-01	FISCAL YEAR TOTALS 1999-00	% CHG
TOTAL ALL REVENUES*	743.1	679.1	9.4	2,213.1	2,062.7	7.3
Corporate Tax	26.8	24.9	7.6	104.0	106.6	-2.4
Personal Income Tax	265.1	243.3	9.0	935.3	816.2	14.6
Real Estate Conv. Tax	8.7	8.9	-2.2	40.9	42.2	-3.1
Sales & Use Tax	305.9	286.2	6.9	797.3	752.6	5.9
Indian Gaming Payments**	27.8	27.2	2.1	116.8	110.3	5.9

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

Air passenger counts were up 20.3 percent from September a year ago.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	YEAR TO DATE PRIOR	% CHG
Tourism Inquiries	OCT 2000	9,984	-8.6	200,498	297,137	-32.5
Info Center Visitors	OCT 2000	54,863	13.2	484,250	481,474	0.6
Major Attraction Visitors	OCT 2000	134,086	-7.7	1,813,176	1,873,080	-3.2
Hotel-Motel Occupancy*	AUG 2000	80.0	-0.5	73.0	72.7	0.3
Air Passenger Count	SEP 2000	557,842	20.3	5,493,235	4,585,992	19.8
Indian Gaming Slots (Mil.$)**	OCT 2000	1,366	2.2	13,612	12,783	6.5

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
**Hotel-Motel Occupancy rate changes are in percentage points. **See page 23 for explanation.*

Compensation costs for the nation rose 4.6 percent over the year, while the Northeast's increased by 4.3 percent.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX (Quarterly)

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
Private Industry Workers	SEP	JUN	3-Mo	SEP	SEP	12-Mo
(June 1989=100)	2000	2000	% Chg	2000	1999	% Chg
UNITED STATES TOTAL	149.7	148.2	1.0	149.9	143.3	4.6
Wages and Salaries	146.7	145.4	0.9	146.8	141.0	4.1
Benefit Costs	157.0	155.3	1.1	157.5	148.6	6.0
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	149.3	143.2	4.3
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	145.3	139.9	3.9

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

The October U.S. inflation rate was 3.4 percent, while the U.S. and New England consumer confidence increased from a year ago, 3.6 and 6.2 percent, respectively.

CONSUMER NEWS

	OCT	SEP	OCT	% CHG	
(Not seasonally adjusted)	2000	2000	1999	M/M	Y/Y
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1982-1984=100)					
All Urban Consumers					
U.S. City Average	174.0	173.7	168.2	0.2	3.4
Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar: (1982-84=$1.00)	$0.575	$0.576	$0.595	-0.2	-3.3
Northeast Region	181.2	180.7	175.5	0.3	3.2
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	184.6	184.4	178.9	0.1	3.2
Boston-Brockton-Nashua*	---	184.3	---	---	4.2
Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers					
U.S. City Average	170.6	170.4	165.0	0.1	3.4
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE (1985=100)					
U.S.	135.2	142.5	130.5	-5.1	3.6
New England	136.8	136.5	128.8	0.2	6.2

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

Long-term treasury rates were lower than a year ago as was the 30-year conventional mortgage rate at 7.80 percent.

INTEREST RATES

	OCT	SEP	OCT
(Percent)	2000	2000	1999
Prime	9.50	9.50	8.25
Federal Funds	6.51	6.52	5.20
3 Month Treasury Bill	6.11	6.00	4.88
6 Month Treasury Bill	6.04	5.98	4.98
1 Year Treasury Bill	6.01	6.13	5.43
3 Year Treasury Note	5.85	6.02	5.94
5 Year Treasury Note	5.78	5.93	6.03
7 Year Treasury Note	5.84	5.98	6.33
10 Year Treasury Note	5.74	5.80	6.11
30 Year Teasury Bond	5.80	5.83	6.26
Conventional Mortgage	7.80	7.91	7.85

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

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

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
Connecticut	1,698.4	1,674.7	23.7	1.4	1,697.4
Maine	596.3	590.2	6.1	1.0	595.2
Massachusetts	3,307.2	3,255.6	51.6	1.6	3,302.6
New Hampshire	611.7	606.6	5.1	0.8	613.3
New Jersey	3,943.9	3,884.6	59.3	1.5	3,936.4
New York	8,662.9	8,496.0	166.9	2.0	8,649.9
Pennsylvania	5,605.7	5,583.0	22.7	0.4	5,602.9
Rhode Island	472.3	467.7	4.6	1.0	473.1
Vermont	296.6	291.0	5.6	1.9	296.6
United States	131,860.0	129,523.0	2,337.0	1.8	131,723.0

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

LABOR FORCE

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

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
Connecticut	1,702.9	1,694.2	8.7	0.5	1,710.0
Maine	687.4	680.9	6.5	1.0	691.2
Massachusetts	3,281.0	3,292.2	-11.2	-0.3	3,278.7
New Hampshire	686.5	672.1	14.4	2.1	683.8
New Jersey	4,241.3	4,229.8	11.5	0.3	4,224.2
New York	8,982.3	8,906.9	75.4	0.8	8,999.4
Pennsylvania	5,974.0	5,973.8	0.2	0.0	5,973.5
Rhode Island	504.2	505.8	-1.6	-0.3	504.0
Vermont	342.0	337.3	4.7	1.4	341.7
United States	140,918.0	139,697.0	1,221.0	0.9	140,639.0

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

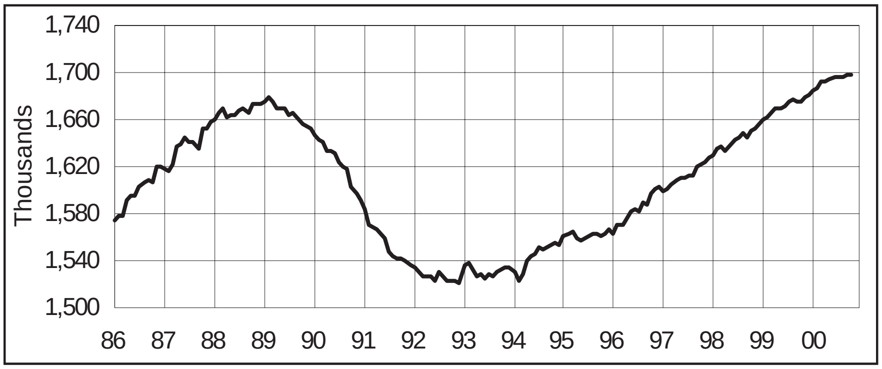
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Connecticut posted the lowest October unemployment rate in the region.

(Seasonally adjusted)	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE	SEP 2000
Connecticut	2.0	3.1	-1.1	2.4
Maine	3.4	3.9	-0.5	3.5
Massachusetts	2.4	3.3	-0.9	2.4
New Hampshire	2.5	2.5	0.0	2.4
New Jersey	3.8	4.5	-0.7	3.8
New York	4.4	5.1	-0.7	4.6
Pennsylvania	4.2	4.3	-0.1	4.0
Rhode Island	3.3	4.0	-0.7	3.8
Vermont	2.7	2.9	-0.2	2.8
United States	3.9	4.1	-0.2	3.9

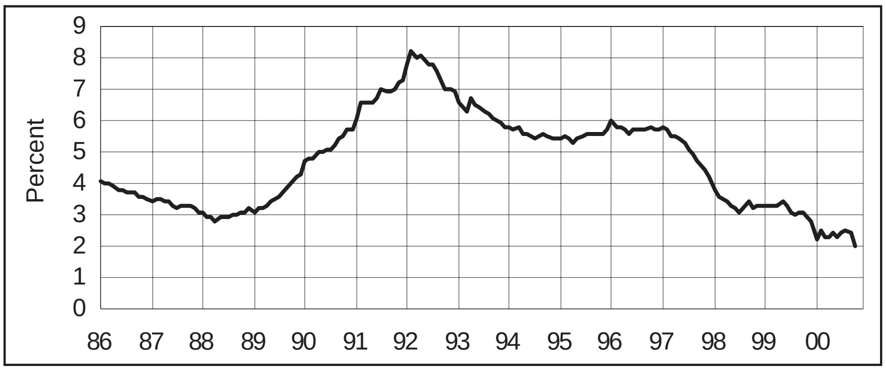
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



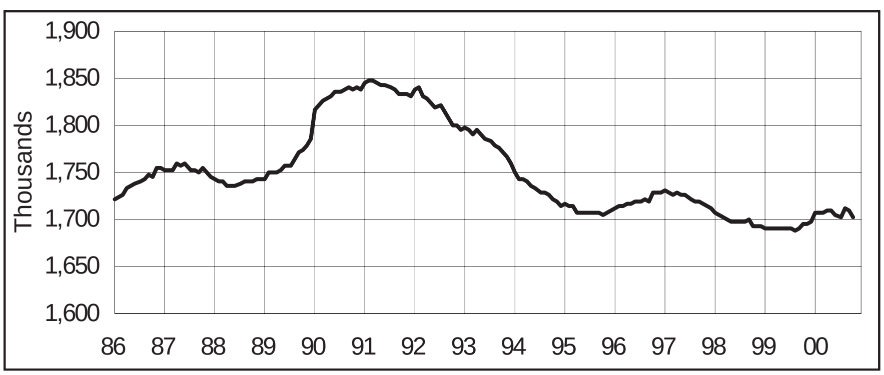
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	1,628.8	1,660.9	1,685.3
Feb	1,634.5	1,662.5	1,686.8
Mar	1,637.6	1,665.1	1,692.1
Apr	1,633.8	1,669.1	1,692.0
May	1,639.5	1,668.8	1,694.5
Jun	1,642.3	1,670.7	1,696.4
Jul	1,644.7	1,675.2	1,696.2
Aug	1,648.6	1,676.2	1,696.6
Sep	1,645.1	1,674.3	1,697.4
Oct	1,649.8	1,674.7	1,698.4
Nov	1,653.0	1,678.2	
Dec	1,655.8	1,680.7	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



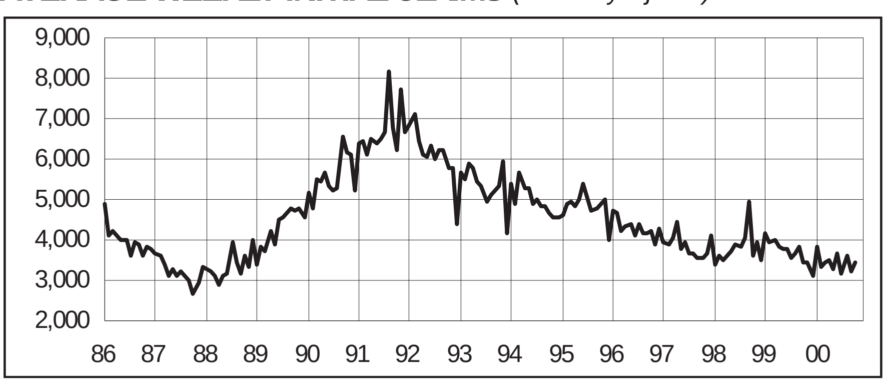
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	3.8	3.3	2.2
Feb	3.6	3.3	2.5
Mar	3.5	3.3	2.3
Apr	3.4	3.3	2.3
May	3.3	3.4	2.4
Jun	3.2	3.3	2.3
Jul	3.1	3.1	2.4
Aug	3.2	3.0	2.5
Sep	3.4	3.1	2.4
Oct	3.2	3.1	2.0
Nov	3.3	2.9	
Dec	3.3	2.8	

LABOR FORCE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



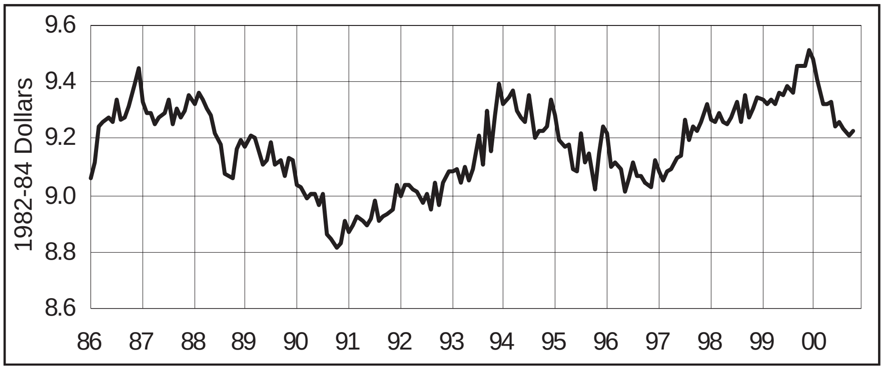
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	1,707.4	1,690.8	1,706.7
Feb	1,704.2	1,689.9	1,707.8
Mar	1,703.4	1,689.9	1,707.2
Apr	1,699.1	1,690.8	1,709.0
May	1,698.5	1,690.4	1,708.8
Jun	1,697.7	1,690.3	1,704.7
Jul	1,697.1	1,689.7	1,703.3
Aug	1,696.8	1,688.9	1,710.9
Sep	1,699.3	1,690.2	1,710.0
Oct	1,693.6	1,694.2	1,702.9
Nov	1,692.7	1,696.0	
Dec	1,691.7	1,697.1	

AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS *(Seasonally adjusted)*



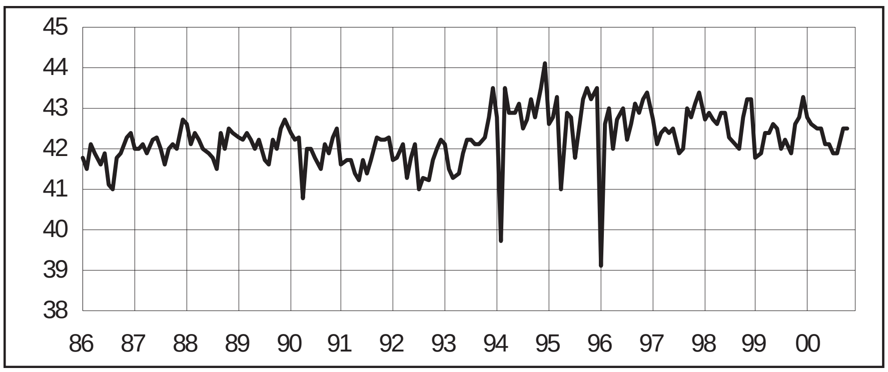
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	3,404	4,184	3,825
Feb	3,602	3,933	3,355
Mar	3,499	4,011	3,436
Apr	3,619	3,841	3,506
May	3,721	3,789	3,276
Jun	3,884	3,800	3,639
Jul	3,828	3,561	3,152
Aug	4,069	3,688	3,608
Sep	4,946	3,836	3,242
Oct	3,594	3,460	3,427
Nov	3,971	3,446	
Dec	3,502	3,127	

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



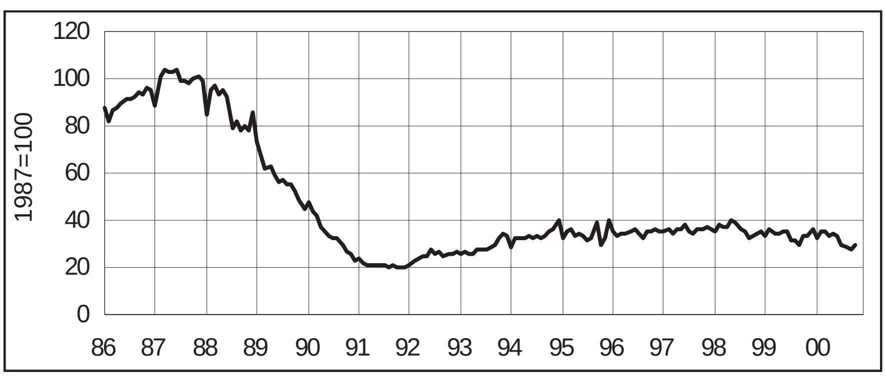
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	$9.27	$9.34	$9.48
Feb	9.26	9.32	9.41
Mar	9.29	9.34	9.32
Apr	9.26	9.32	9.32
May	9.25	9.36	9.33
Jun	9.27	9.36	9.24
Jul	9.33	9.39	9.26
Aug	9.26	9.36	9.23
Sep	9.36	9.46	9.21
Oct	9.28	9.46	9.23
Nov	9.30	9.46	
Dec	9.35	9.52	

AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



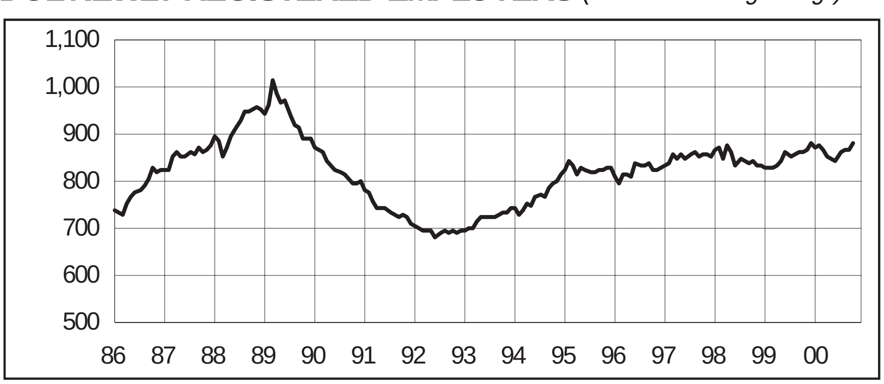
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	42.7	41.8	42.8
Feb	42.9	41.9	42.6
Mar	42.7	42.4	42.5
Apr	42.6	42.4	42.5
May	42.9	42.6	42.1
Jun	42.9	42.5	42.1
Jul	42.3	42.0	41.9
Aug	42.1	42.2	41.9
Sep	42.0	41.9	42.5
Oct	42.8	42.6	42.5
Nov	43.2	42.8	
Dec	43.2	43.3	

HARTFORD HELP WANTED INDEX *(Seasonally adjusted)*



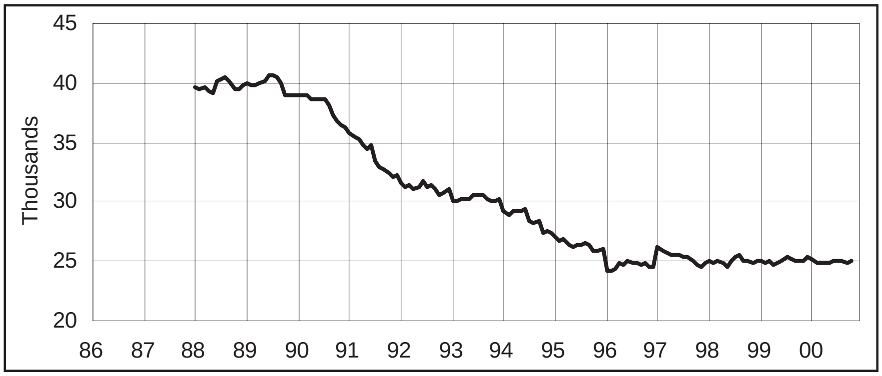
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	35	33	32
Feb	38	36	35
Mar	37	34	35
Apr	37	34	33
May	40	35	34
Jun	39	35	33
Jul	36	31	30
Aug	35	31	29
Sep	32	30	28
Oct	33	33	30
Nov	34	33	
Dec	35	36	

DOL NEWLY REGISTERED EMPLOYERS *(12-month moving average)*



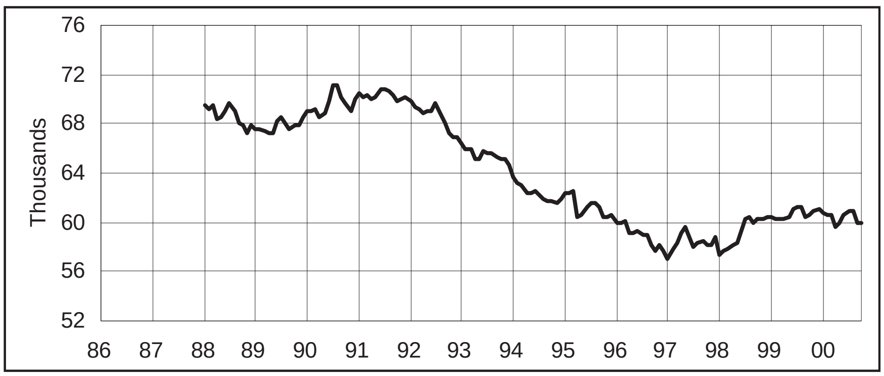
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	868	831	871
Feb	870	828	875
Mar	846	829	865
Apr	878	834	855
May	861	843	847
Jun	836	861	841
Jul	849	854	863
Aug	841	856	865
Sep	838	861	869
Oct	845	860	883
Nov	836	868	
Dec	832	881	

DEPOSITORY BANKING (SIC 60) EMPLOYMENT *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



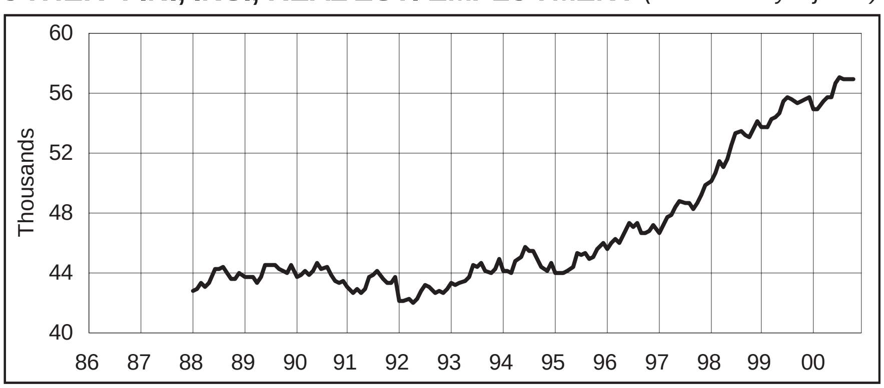
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	25.1	25.1	25.2
Feb	24.8	24.9	24.9
Mar	25.1	25.0	24.8
Apr	24.8	24.7	24.8
May	24.5	24.8	24.9
Jun	25.0	25.1	25.1
Jul	25.4	25.3	25.1
Aug	25.6	25.2	25.0
Sep	25.0	25.0	24.9
Oct	25.0	25.0	25.0
Nov	24.9	25.1	
Dec	25.1	25.3	

INSURANCE CARRIERS (SIC 63) EMPLOYMENT *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



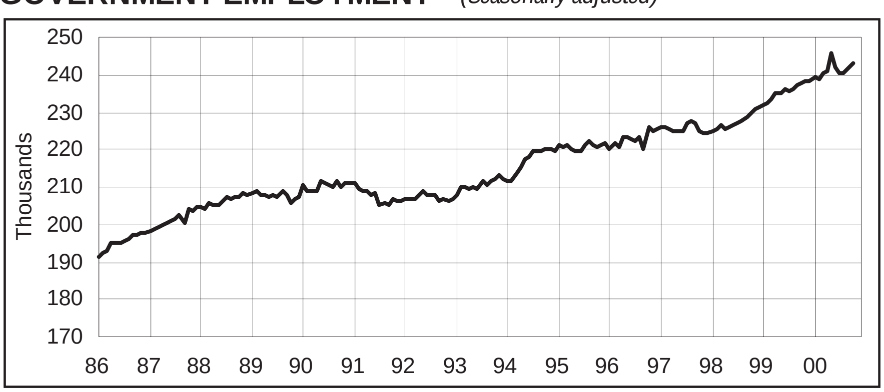
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	57.4	60.4	60.8
Feb	57.6	60.3	60.6
Mar	57.9	60.2	60.6
Apr	58.1	60.3	59.7
May	58.4	60.4	60.0
Jun	59.3	61.1	60.6
Jul	60.2	61.2	60.9
Aug	60.4	61.3	61.0
Sep	60.0	60.5	59.9
Oct	60.2	60.6	59.9
Nov	60.2	61.0	
Dec	60.4	61.1	

OTHER FIN., INS., REAL EST. EMPLOYMENT *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	50.1	53.7	54.9
Feb	50.6	53.8	55.0
Mar	51.4	54.2	55.4
Apr	51.0	54.4	55.7
May	51.6	54.7	55.8
Jun	52.5	55.5	56.6
Jul	53.4	55.7	57.1
Aug	53.4	55.6	56.9
Sep	53.2	55.3	56.9
Oct	53.1	55.5	56.9
Nov	53.6	55.6	
Dec	54.2	55.7	

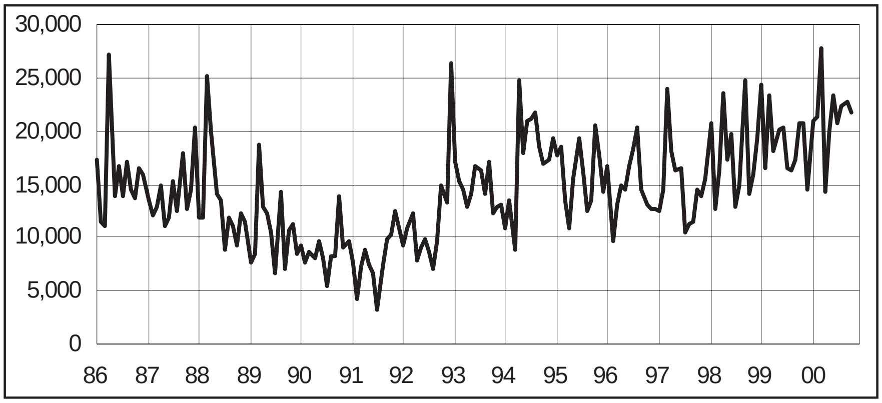
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT* *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	225.0	231.9	239.1
Feb	225.3	232.4	238.7
Mar	226.7	233.3	240.4
Apr	225.5	234.8	240.8
May	226.0	235.2	245.8
Jun	226.5	235.9	242.0
Jul	227.2	235.6	240.4
Aug	227.8	236.3	240.6
Sep	228.6	237.1	242.1
Oct	229.7	237.7	242.9
Nov	230.9	238.2	
Dec	231.6	238.5	

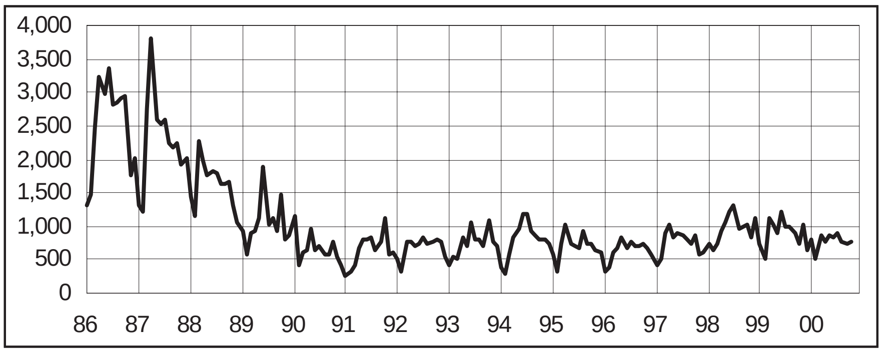
*Includes Indian tribal government employment

NEW AUTO REGISTRATIONS PROCESSED *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



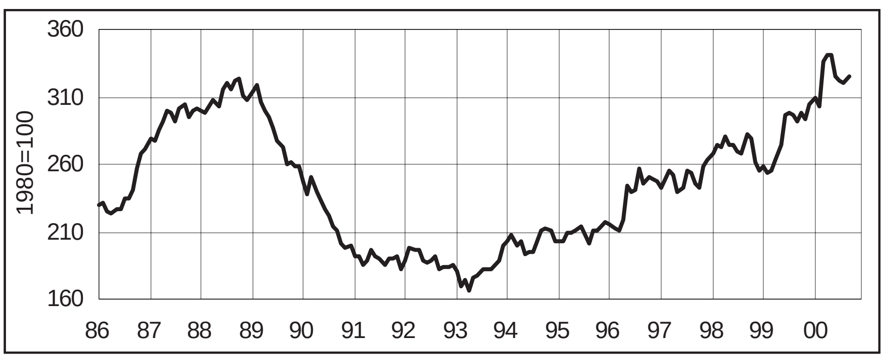
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	20,753	24,372	20,875
Feb	12,604	16,524	21,245
Mar	16,313	23,425	27,856
Apr	23,500	18,173	14,285
May	17,300	20,089	19,956
Jun	19,813	20,254	23,356
Jul	12,812	16,596	20,707
Aug	14,992	16,219	22,249
Sep	24,688	17,331	22,784
Oct	14,106	20,729	21,841
Nov	15,806	20,666	
Dec	19,373	14,517	

NEW HOUSING PERMITS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



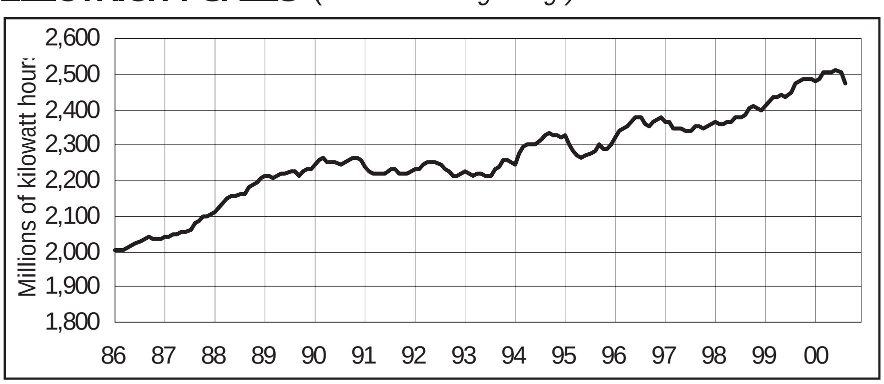
Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	737	749	803
Feb	647	518	508
Mar	747	1,105	859
Apr	928	1,026	771
May	1,051	886	863
Jun	1,203	1,230	844
Jul	1,297	977	898
Aug	976	991	777
Sep	984	894	751
Oct	1,025	747	776
Nov	817	1,023	
Dec	1,129	648	

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS INDEX *(12-month moving average)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	265.7	258.3	308.6
Feb	270.5	254.3	302.4
Mar	268.8	255.5	336.6
Apr	276.3	262.7	341.3
May	269.1	274.6	341.6
Jun	270.4	296.3	325.0
Jul	263.4	297.5	322.6
Aug	260.8	296.4	319.7
Sep	273.0	291.0	325.3
Oct	268.3	298.3	
Nov	249.9	294.0	
Dec	243.1	304.7	

ELECTRICITY SALES (*12-month moving average)*



Month	1998	1999	2000
Jan	2,366	2,412	2,480
Feb	2,357	2,425	2,488
Mar	2,357	2,432	2,502
Apr	2,364	2,438	2,502
May	2,365	2,438	2,503
Jun	2,376	2,436	2,510
Jul	2,379	2,450	2,506
Aug	2,384	2,476	2,473
Sep	2,401	2,477	
Oct	2,409	2,483	
Nov	2,405	2,487	
Dec	2,399	2,488	

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

CONNECTICUT

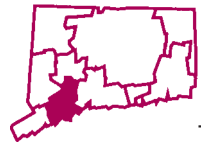
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**1,712,000**	**1,687,900**	**24,100**	**1.4**	**1,701,800**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**331,800**	**330,700**	**1,100**	**0.3**	**332,500**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**66,800**	**64,400**	**2,400**	**3.7**	**67,000**
MANUFACTURING	**265,000**	**266,300**	**-1,300**	**-0.5**	**265,500**
Durable	**184,400**	**185,100**	**-700**	**-0.4**	**184,800**
Lumber & Furniture	6,000	5,900	100	1.7	6,000
Stone, Clay & Glass	2,700	2,700	0	0.0	2,700
Primary Metals	9,200	9,000	200	2.2	9,200
Fabricated Metals	33,800	33,400	400	1.2	33,800
Machinery & Computer Equipment	32,400	33,000	-600	-1.8	32,400
Electronic & Electrical Equipment	26,700	26,500	200	0.8	26,800
Transportation Equipment	47,400	48,200	-800	-1.7	47,700
Instruments	20,100	20,200	-100	-0.5	20,100
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6,100	6,200	-100	-1.6	6,100
Nondurable	**80,600**	**81,200**	**-600**	**-0.7**	**80,700**
Food	8,100	8,000	100	1.3	8,100
Textiles	2,300	2,300	0	0.0	2,300
Apparel	3,400	3,500	-100	-2.9	3,400
Paper	7,900	8,000	-100	-1.3	7,900
Printing & Publishing	25,000	25,100	-100	-0.4	25,000
Chemicals	21,800	21,800	0	0.0	21,900
Rubber & Plastics	10,300	10,500	-200	-1.9	10,300
Other Nondurable Manufacturing	1,800	2,000	-200	-10.0	1,800
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**1,380,200**	**1,357,200**	**23,000**	**1.7**	**1,369,300**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**79,700**	**79,200**	**500**	**0.6**	**78,600**
Transportation	47,500	47,700	-200	-0.4	46,700
Motor Freight & Warehousing	12,800	12,400	400	3.2	12,800
Other Transportation	34,700	35,300	-600	-1.7	33,900
Communications	19,700	18,800	900	4.8	19,500
Utilities	12,500	12,700	-200	-1.6	12,400
TRADE	**365,500**	**360,800**	**4,700**	**1.3**	**362,700**
Wholesale	82,500	82,200	300	0.4	82,100
Retail	283,000	278,600	4,400	1.6	280,600
General Merchandise	27,000	26,300	700	2.7	25,800
Food Stores	52,500	52,900	-400	-0.8	52,600
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	27,800	27,300	500	1.8	27,700
Restaurants	80,400	79,700	700	0.9	80,900
Other Retail Trade	95,300	92,400	2,900	3.1	93,600
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**141,800**	**141,100**	**700**	**0.5**	**141,700**
Finance	53,800	52,600	1,200	2.3	53,600
Banking	25,000	25,000	0	0.0	24,900
Securities	15,300	13,900	1,400	10.1	15,000
Insurance	71,100	71,900	-800	-1.1	71,100
Insurance Carriers	59,900	60,600	-700	-1.2	59,900
Real Estate	16,900	16,700	200	1.2	17,000
SERVICES	**545,300**	**533,700**	**11,600**	**2.2**	**544,200**
Hotels & Lodging Places	11,900	11,800	100	0.8	12,100
Personal Services	18,000	18,000	0	0.0	17,900
Business Services	119,800	114,200	5,600	4.9	119,700
Health Services	158,300	159,300	-1,000	-0.6	158,400
Legal & Engineering Services	55,100	55,000	100	0.2	55,500
Educational Services	48,900	46,800	2,100	4.5	46,500
Other Services	133,300	128,600	4,700	3.7	134,100
GOVERNMENT	**247,900**	**242,400**	**5,500**	**2.3**	**242,100**
Federal	22,400	22,400	0	0.0	22,500
**State, Local & Other Government	225,500	220,000	5,500	2.5	219,600

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

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

BRIDGEPORT LMA

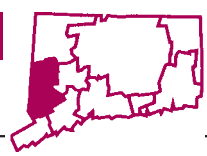


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**189,800**	**187,900**	**1,900**	**1.0**	**189,100**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**43,700**	**43,800**	**-100**	**-0.2**	**43,600**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**7,000**	**6,900**	**100**	**1.4**	**7,000**
MANUFACTURING	**36,700**	**36,900**	**-200**	**-0.5**	**36,600**
Durable Goods	29,500	29,800	-300	-1.0	29,500
Fabricated Metals	4,500	4,500	0	0.0	4,600
Industrial Machinery	6,100	6,200	-100	-1.6	6,100
Electronic Equipment	5,100	5,300	-200	-3.8	5,100
Nondurable Goods	7,200	7,100	100	1.4	7,100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**146,100**	**144,100**	**2,000**	**1.4**	**145,500**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**7,300**	**7,200**	**100**	**1.4**	**6,900**
TRADE	**42,900**	**42,300**	**600**	**1.4**	**42,900**
Wholesale	9,400	9,500	-100	-1.1	9,500
Retail	33,500	32,800	700	2.1	33,400
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**11,800**	**11,500**	**300**	**2.6**	**11,900**
SERVICES	**62,300**	**61,500**	**800**	**1.3**	**61,900**
Business Services	14,900	14,800	100	0.7	15,000
Health Services	21,300	20,800	500	2.4	21,200
GOVERNMENT	**21,800**	**21,600**	**200**	**0.9**	**21,900**
Federal	2,100	2,100	0	0.0	2,200
State & Local	19,700	19,500	200	1.0	19,700

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

DANBURY LMA



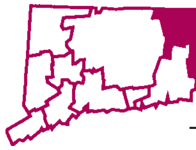
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**89,800**	**89,500**	**300**	**0.3**	**88,900**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**22,900**	**22,900**	**0**	**0.0**	**23,100**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**4,100**	**4,000**	**100**	**2.5**	**4,100**
MANUFACTURING	**18,800**	**18,900**	**-100**	**-0.5**	**19,000**
Durable Goods	10,200	10,200	0	0.0	10,300
Machinery & Electric Equipment	5,400	5,300	100	1.9	5,400
Instruments & Related	2,700	2,800	-100	-3.6	2,800
Nondurable Goods	8,600	8,700	-100	-1.1	8,700
Chemicals	3,600	3,600	0	0.0	3,700
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**66,900**	**66,600**	**300**	**0.5**	**65,800**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**3,200**	**3,000**	**200**	**6.7**	**2,900**
TRADE	**20,900**	**21,300**	**-400**	**-1.9**	**20,800**
Wholesale	3,400	3,500	-100	-2.9	3,400
Retail	17,500	17,800	-300	-1.7	17,400
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**6,000**	**5,500**	**500**	**9.1**	**5,800**
SERVICES	**26,100**	**25,800**	**300**	**1.2**	**26,000**
GOVERNMENT	**10,700**	**11,000**	**-300**	**-2.7**	**10,300**
Federal	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local	9,900	10,200	-300	-2.9	9,500

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 1999.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

DANIELSON LMA

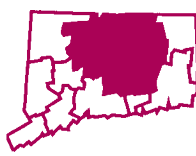


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**21,200**	**21,200**	**0**	**0.0**	**21,100**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**6,300**	**6,400**	**-100**	**-1.6**	**6,300**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**1,000**	**1,000**	**0**	**0.0**	**1,000**
MANUFACTURING	**5,300**	**5,400**	**-100**	**-1.9**	**5,300**
Durable Goods	2,100	2,200	-100	-4.5	2,100
Nondurable Goods	3,200	3,200	0	0.0	3,200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**14,900**	**14,800**	**100**	**0.7**	**14,800**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**500**	**500**	**0**	**0.0**	**500**
TRADE	**5,300**	**5,400**	**-100**	**-1.9**	**5,200**
Wholesale	1,100	1,100	0	0.0	1,100
Retail	4,200	4,300	-100	-2.3	4,100
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**600**	**600**	**0**	**0.0**	**600**
SERVICES	**5,200**	**5,200**	**0**	**0.0**	**5,200**
GOVERNMENT	**3,300**	**3,100**	**200**	**6.5**	**3,300**
Federal	100	100	0	0.0	100
State & Local	3,200	3,000	200	6.7	3,200

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

HARTFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**613,900**	**614,900**	**-1,000**	**-0.2**	**609,700**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**112,500**	**113,100**	**-600**	**-0.5**	**112,600**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**23,300**	**22,800**	**500**	**2.2**	**23,500**
MANUFACTURING	**89,200**	**90,300**	**-1,100**	**-1.2**	**89,100**
Durable Goods	71,200	71,800	-600	-0.8	71,100
Primary & Fabricated Metals	17,600	17,600	0	0.0	17,500
Industrial Machinery	13,000	13,400	-400	-3.0	12,900
Electronic Equipment	6,200	6,300	-100	-1.6	6,300
Transportation Equipment	26,000	25,800	200	0.8	26,100
Nondurable Goods	18,000	18,500	-500	-2.7	18,000
Printing & Publishing	7,700	7,800	-100	-1.3	7,700
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**501,400**	**501,800**	**-400**	**-0.1**	**497,100**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**27,200**	**27,500**	**-300**	**-1.1**	**27,100**
Transportation	16,400	16,500	-100	-0.6	16,400
Communications & Utilities	10,800	11,000	-200	-1.8	10,700
TRADE	**122,400**	**123,200**	**-800**	**-0.6**	**121,500**
Wholesale	28,500	28,900	-400	-1.4	28,600
Retail	93,900	94,300	-400	-0.4	92,900
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**71,600**	**72,900**	**-1,300**	**-1.8**	**71,900**
Deposit & Nondeposit Institutions	11,800	11,900	-100	-0.8	11,800
Insurance Carriers	47,000	47,900	-900	-1.9	47,200
SERVICES	**182,700**	**180,800**	**1,900**	**1.1**	**181,600**
Business Services	39,600	37,800	1,800	4.8	39,500
Health Services	56,600	57,700	-1,100	-1.9	56,800
GOVERNMENT	**97,500**	**97,400**	**100**	**0.1**	**95,000**
Federal	7,900	7,900	0	0.0	7,900
State & Local	89,600	89,500	100	0.1	87,100

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

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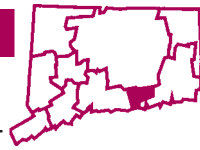
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

LOWER RIVER LMA



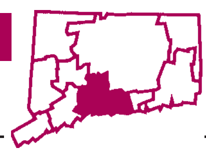
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**10,200**	**10,100**	**100**	**1.0**	**10,000**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**3,300**	**3,300**	**0**	**0.0**	**3,300**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**400**	**400**	**0**	**0.0**	**400**
MANUFACTURING	**2,900**	**2,900**	**0**	**0.0**	**2,900**
Durable Goods	2,400	2,400	0	0.0	2,400
Electronic Equipment	700	700	0	0.0	700
Other Durable Goods	1,700	1,700	0	0.0	1,700
Nondurable Goods	500	500	0	0.0	500
Rubber & Plastics	300	300	0	0.0	300
Other Nondurable Goods	200	200	0	0.0	200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**6,900**	**6,800**	**100**	**1.5**	**6,700**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**300**	**400**	**-100**	**-25.0**	**300**
TRADE	**2,100**	**2,100**	**0**	**0.0**	**2,100**
Wholesale	400	400	0	0.0	400
Retail	1,700	1,700	0	0.0	1,700
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**400**	**300**	**100**	**33.3**	**400**
SERVICES	**3,100**	**3,100**	**0**	**0.0**	**3,000**
GOVERNMENT	**1,000**	**900**	**100**	**11.1**	**900**
Federal	100	100	0	0.0	100
State & Local	900	800	100	12.5	800

* Less than 50

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

NEW HAVEN LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**261,700**	**262,400**	**-700**	**-0.3**	**260,100**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**50,200**	**50,100**	**100**	**0.2**	**50,500**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**10,100**	**10,300**	**-200**	**-1.9**	**10,500**
MANUFACTURING	**40,100**	**39,800**	**300**	**0.8**	**40,000**
Durable Goods	25,400	25,200	200	0.8	25,400
Primary & Fabricated Metals	6,700	6,700	0	0.0	6,800
Electronic Equipment	5,600	5,400	200	3.7	5,600
Nondurable Goods	14,700	14,600	100	0.7	14,600
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,800	5,800	0	0.0	5,800
Chemicals & Allied	5,800	5,600	200	3.6	5,700
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**211,500**	**212,300**	**-800**	**-0.4**	**209,600**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**16,700**	**16,600**	**100**	**0.6**	**16,700**
Communications & Utilities	8,600	8,600	0	0.0	8,600
TRADE	**54,500**	**54,800**	**-300**	**-0.5**	**54,000**
Wholesale	13,800	13,700	100	0.7	13,800
Retail	40,700	41,100	-400	-1.0	40,200
Eating & Drinking Places	11,600	11,700	-100	-0.9	11,600
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**12,500**	**12,800**	**-300**	**-2.3**	**12,500**
Finance	3,900	4,000	-100	-2.5	4,000
Insurance	6,400	6,500	-100	-1.5	6,300
SERVICES	**94,700**	**95,400**	**-700**	**-0.7**	**93,500**
Business Services	13,000	13,000	0	0.0	13,000
Health Services	29,300	29,500	-200	-0.7	29,500
GOVERNMENT	**33,100**	**32,700**	**400**	**1.2**	**32,900**
Federal	5,900	5,700	200	3.5	5,900
State & Local	27,200	27,000	200	0.7	27,000

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

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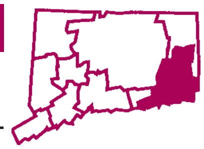
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

NEW LONDON LMA

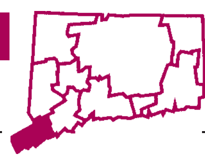


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**140,900**	**139,700**	**1,200**	**0.9**	**141,400**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**28,500**	**28,900**	**-400**	**-1.4**	**28,400**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**5,200**	**5,100**	**100**	**2.0**	**5,100**
MANUFACTURING	**23,300**	**23,800**	**-500**	**-2.1**	**23,300**
Durable Goods	12,900	13,500	-600	-4.4	12,800
Primary & Fabricated Metals	2,100	2,200	-100	-4.5	2,000
Other Durable Goods	10,800	11,300	-500	-4.4	10,800
Nondurable Goods	10,400	10,300	100	1.0	10,500
Paper & Allied	800	800	0	0.0	800
Other Nondurable Goods	8,400	8,200	200	2.4	8,400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**112,400**	**110,800**	**1,600**	**1.4**	**113,000**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**6,800**	**7,200**	**-400**	**-5.6**	**6,900**
TRADE	**28,100**	**27,400**	**700**	**2.6**	**28,700**
Wholesale	2,700	2,600	100	3.8	2,800
Retail	25,400	24,800	600	2.4	25,900
Eating & Drinking Places	7,800	7,600	200	2.6	8,400
Other Retail	17,600	17,200	400	2.3	17,500
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**3,600**	**3,800**	**-200**	**-5.3**	**3,500**
SERVICES	**36,300**	**35,700**	**600**	**1.7**	**36,900**
Personal & Business Services	6,400	6,300	100	1.6	6,400
Health Services	11,700	11,600	100	0.9	11,700
GOVERNMENT	**37,600**	**36,700**	**900**	**2.5**	**37,000**
Federal	2,800	2,800	0	0.0	2,800
State & Local	34,800	33,900	900	2.7	34,200
**Local	30,300	29,600	700	2.4	29,800

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

STAMFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**211,100**	**209,800**	**1,300**	**0.6**	**212,100**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**31,400**	**32,300**	**-900**	**-2.8**	**31,700**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**6,800**	**6,600**	**200**	**3.0**	**6,800**
MANUFACTURING	**24,600**	**25,700**	**-1,100**	**-4.3**	**24,900**
Durable Goods	11,900	12,600	-700	-5.6	12,000
Industrial Machinery	3,400	3,400	0	0.0	3,500
Electronic Equipment	2,000	1,900	100	5.3	2,000
Nondurable Goods	12,700	13,100	-400	-3.1	12,900
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,300	5,600	-300	-5.4	5,300
Chemicals & Allied	3,400	3,600	-200	-5.6	3,500
Other Nondurable	4,000	3,900	100	2.6	4,100
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**179,700**	**177,500**	**2,200**	**1.2**	**180,400**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**10,200**	**10,300**	**-100**	**-1.0**	**10,300**
Communications & Utilities	3,200	3,000	200	6.7	3,200
TRADE	**44,400**	**44,700**	**-300**	**-0.7**	**44,200**
Wholesale	11,100	11,400	-300	-2.6	11,100
Retail	33,300	33,300	0	0.0	33,100
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**28,600**	**27,300**	**1,300**	**4.8**	**28,700**
SERVICES	**78,800**	**77,400**	**1,400**	**1.8**	**79,700**
Business Services	24,100	23,700	400	1.7	24,600
Engineering & Mgmnt. Services	11,700	11,500	200	1.7	11,700
Other Services	43,000	42,200	800	1.9	43,400
GOVERNMENT	**17,700**	**17,800**	**-100**	**-0.6**	**17,500**
Federal	2,000	1,900	100	5.3	2,000
State & Local	15,700	15,900	-200	-1.3	15,500

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 1999.

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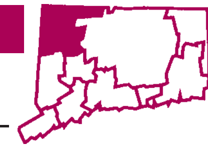
TORRINGTON LMA

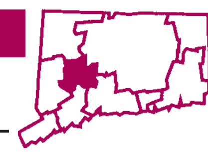


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**30,700**	**30,400**	**300**	**1.0**	**30,700**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**8,400**	**8,200**	**200**	**2.4**	**8,400**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**2,200**	**2,300**	**-100**	**-4.3**	**2,300**
MANUFACTURING	**6,200**	**5,900**	**300**	**5.1**	**6,100**
Durable Goods	3,900	3,800	100	2.6	3,900
Primary & Fabricated Metals	500	500	0	0.0	500
Industrial Machinery	900	900	0	0.0	900
Electronic Equipment	200	200	0	0.0	200
Other Durable Goods	2,300	2,200	100	4.5	2,300
Nondurable Goods	2,300	2,100	200	9.5	2,200
Rubber & Plastics	1,300	1,200	100	8.3	1,300
Other Nondurable Goods	1,000	900	100	11.1	900
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**22,300**	**22,200**	**100**	**0.5**	**22,300**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**500**	**600**	**-100**	**-16.7**	**500**
TRADE	**7,000**	**6,800**	**200**	**2.9**	**6,900**
Wholesale	800	800	0	0.0	800
Retail	6,200	6,000	200	3.3	6,100
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**900**	**900**	**0**	**0.0**	**900**
SERVICES	**10,500**	**10,400**	**100**	**1.0**	**10,600**
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

	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**89,500**	**88,200**	**1,300**	**1.5**	**88,500**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**23,000**	**21,600**	**1,400**	**6.5**	**23,000**
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	**3,800**	**3,500**	**300**	**8.6**	**3,900**
MANUFACTURING	**19,200**	**18,100**	**1,100**	**6.1**	**19,100**
Durable Goods	15,100	14,100	1,000	7.1	15,000
Primary Metals	900	900	0	0.0	1,000
Fabricated Metals	6,800	6,300	500	7.9	6,700
Machinery & Electric Equipment	4,600	4,100	500	12.2	4,500
Nondurable Goods	4,100	4,000	100	2.5	4,100
Paper, Printing & Publishing	1,200	1,200	0	0.0	1,200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**66,500**	**66,600**	**-100**	**-0.2**	**65,500**
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	**4,200**	**4,100**	**100**	**2.4**	**4,100**
TRADE	**18,700**	**18,300**	**400**	**2.2**	**18,200**
Wholesale	3,200	3,100	100	3.2	3,100
Retail	15,500	15,200	300	2.0	15,100
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	**4,000**	**4,000**	**0**	**0.0**	**4,000**
SERVICES	**26,900**	**27,000**	**-100**	**-0.4**	**26,600**
Personal & Business	6,500	6,600	-100	-1.5	6,500
Health Services	10,200	10,400	-200	-1.9	10,200
GOVERNMENT	**12,700**	**13,200**	**-500**	**-3.8**	**12,600**
Federal	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local	11,900	12,400	-500	-4.0	11,800

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

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

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

(Not seasonally adjusted)	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	SEP 2000
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,706,100	1,699,500	6,600	0.4	1,697,700
	Employed	1,672,700	1,647,900	24,800	1.5	1,665,700
	Unemployed	33,400	51,600	-18,200	-35.3	32,000
	Unemployment Rate	2.0	3.0	-1.0	---	1.9
BRIDGEPORT LMA	Civilian Labor Force	215,900	214,400	1,500	0.7	215,000
	Employed	210,900	206,300	4,600	2.2	210,200
	Unemployed	5,000	8,100	-3,100	-38.3	4,800
	Unemployment Rate	2.3	3.8	-1.5	---	2.2
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	109,400	108,500	900	0.8	108,300
	Employed	107,900	106,300	1,600	1.5	106,900
	Unemployed	1,400	2,200	-800	-36.4	1,300
	Unemployment Rate	1.3	2.0	-0.7	---	1.2
DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	33,000	32,800	200	0.6	32,900
	Employed	32,200	31,700	500	1.6	32,100
	Unemployed	900	1,100	-200	-18.2	800
	Unemployment Rate	2.6	3.5	-0.9	---	2.4
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	576,600	577,000	-400	-0.1	572,900
	Employed	564,800	558,700	6,100	1.1	561,500
	Unemployed	11,800	18,300	-6,500	-35.5	11,400
	Unemployment Rate	2.0	3.2	-1.2	---	2.0
LOWER RIVER LMA	Civilian Labor Force	12,500	12,400	100	0.8	12,400
	Employed	12,300	12,100	200	1.7	12,300
	Unemployed	200	300	-100	-33.3	200
	Unemployment Rate	1.3	2.3	-1.0	---	1.2
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	273,500	273,400	100	0.0	271,500
	Employed	267,800	265,100	2,700	1.0	266,000
	Unemployed	5,800	8,300	-2,500	-30.1	5,500
	Unemployment Rate	2.1	3.0	-0.9	---	2.0
NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	151,500	150,700	800	0.5	152,000
	Employed	148,500	145,800	2,700	1.9	149,000
	Unemployed	3,000	4,900	-1,900	-38.8	2,900
	Unemployment Rate	2.0	3.3	-1.3	---	1.9
STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	194,100	193,000	1,100	0.6	194,700
	Employed	191,700	188,900	2,800	1.5	192,400
	Unemployed	2,400	4,100	-1,700	-41.5	2,300
	Unemployment Rate	1.2	2.1	-0.9	---	1.2
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	39,600	39,300	300	0.8	39,600
	Employed	39,100	38,500	600	1.6	39,100
	Unemployed	500	800	-300	-37.5	500
	Unemployment Rate	1.3	2.1	-0.8	---	1.2
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	116,700	114,900	1,800	1.6	115,200
	Employed	113,900	110,900	3,000	2.7	112,600
	Unemployed	2,800	4,000	-1,200	-30.0	2,600
	Unemployment Rate	2.4	3.5	-1.1	---	2.3
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	140,893,000	139,761,000	1,132,000	0.8	140,357,000
	Employed	135,771,000	134,390,000	1,381,000	1.0	135,033,000
	Unemployed	5,122,000	5,372,000	-250,000	-4.7	5,324,000
	Unemployment Rate	3.6	3.8	-0.2	---	3.8

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

CONNECTICUT

(Not seasonally adjusted)	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHG Y/Y	SEP 2000	AVG WEEKLY HOURS OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHG Y/Y	SEP 2000	AVG HOURLY EARNINGS OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHG Y/Y	SEP 2000
MANUFACTURING	**$668.95**	**$664.99**	**$3.96**	**$667.25**	**42.5**	**42.6**	**-0.1**	**42.5**	**$15.74**	**$15.61**	**$0.13**	**$15.70**
DURABLE GOODS	**685.97**	**686.88**	**-0.91**	**683.09**	**42.9**	**43.2**	**-0.3**	**42.8**	**15.99**	**15.90**	**0.09**	**15.96**
Lumber & Furniture	523.30	508.78	14.52	520.83	41.4	40.8	0.6	41.7	12.64	12.47	0.17	12.49
Stone, Clay and Glass	662.03	623.97	38.06	669.14	45.5	46.6	-1.1	45.8	14.55	13.39	1.16	14.61
Primary Metals	679.70	673.43	6.27	668.16	44.6	43.9	0.7	43.5	15.24	15.34	-0.10	15.36
Fabricated Metals	624.02	609.76	14.26	623.34	42.8	42.7	0.1	42.9	14.58	14.28	0.30	14.53
Machinery	712.37	709.25	3.12	710.12	43.2	43.7	-0.5	43.3	16.49	16.23	0.26	16.40
Electrical Equipment	567.01	541.27	25.74	565.04	41.6	41.7	-0.1	41.7	13.63	12.98	0.65	13.55
Trans. Equipment	890.12	914.56	-24.44	887.04	44.0	44.7	-0.7	44.0	20.23	20.46	-0.23	20.16
Instruments	600.28	618.83	-18.55	594.46	41.2	41.7	-0.5	40.8	14.57	14.84	-0.27	14.57
Miscellaneous Mfg	669.98	667.95	2.03	670.54	41.9	43.6	-1.7	41.7	15.99	15.32	0.67	16.08
NONDUR. GOODS	**627.07**	**613.06**	**14.01**	**627.59**	**41.5**	**41.2**	**0.3**	**41.7**	**15.11**	**14.88**	**0.23**	**15.05**
Food	537.20	538.80	-1.60	537.11	42.5	41.8	0.7	42.9	12.64	12.89	-0.25	12.52
Textiles	540.91	526.25	14.66	535.00	43.1	42.1	1.0	42.8	12.55	12.50	0.05	12.50
Apparel	375.74	361.90	13.84	362.69	40.1	40.8	-0.7	39.9	9.37	8.87	0.50	9.09
Paper	739.56	716.18	23.38	741.30	43.3	43.3	0.0	43.3	17.08	16.54	0.54	17.12
Printing & Publishing	633.58	624.00	9.58	641.95	39.5	39.0	0.5	39.7	16.04	16.00	0.04	16.17
Chemicals	790.50	739.54	50.96	782.39	42.5	41.2	1.3	42.2	18.60	17.95	0.65	18.54
Rubber & Misc. Plast.	549.83	539.64	10.19	545.69	42.1	41.8	0.3	42.9	13.06	12.91	0.15	12.72
CONSTRUCTION	**888.22**	**863.93**	**24.29**	**873.53**	**40.8**	**42.6**	**-1.8**	**40.8**	**21.77**	**20.28**	**1.49**	**21.41**

LMAs

MANUFACTURING	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHG Y/Y	SEP 2000	AVG WEEKLY HOURS OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHG Y/Y	SEP 2000	AVG HOURLY EARNINGS OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHG Y/Y	SEP 2000
Bridgeport	$637.70	$662.50	-$24.80	$648.00	40.8	41.2	-0.4	41.3	$15.63	$16.08	-$0.45	$15.69
Danbury	670.95	631.06	39.89	656.86	42.6	41.3	1.3	41.6	15.75	15.28	0.47	15.79
Danielson	518.32	532.06	-13.74	512.82	41.3	41.6	-0.3	42.0	12.55	12.79	-0.24	12.21
Hartford	728.20	710.46	17.74	739.02	44.0	43.4	0.6	44.2	16.55	16.37	0.18	16.72
Lower River	553.60	524.89	28.71	550.00	40.0	39.2	0.8	40.0	13.84	13.39	0.45	13.75
New Haven	660.73	634.30	26.43	665.84	42.6	42.4	0.2	42.6	15.51	14.96	0.55	15.63
New London	717.72	686.94	30.78	701.36	42.9	42.8	0.1	42.2	16.73	16.05	0.68	16.62
Stamford	522.29	551.89	-29.60	516.93	39.9	40.7	-0.8	39.4	13.09	13.56	-0.47	13.12
Torrington	556.59	592.47	-35.88	597.32	40.1	41.9	-1.8	41.8	13.88	14.14	-0.26	14.29
Waterbury	638.31	639.04	-0.73	639.89	43.9	43.8	0.1	44.1	14.54	14.59	-0.05	14.51

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1999.

NEW HOUSING PERMITS

	OCT 2000	OCT 1999	CHANGE Y/Y UNITS	CHANGE Y/Y %	YTD 2000	YTD 1999	CHANGE YTD UNITS	CHANGE YTD %	SEP 2000
Connecticut	776	747	29	3.9	7,850	9,123	-1,273	-14.0	751
Counties:									
Fairfield	165	161	4	2.5	1808	1905	-97	-5.1	110
Hartford	145	142	3	2.1	1404	1873	-469	-25.0	123
Litchfield	74	57	17	29.8	617	717	-100	-13.9	56
Middlesex	70	74	-4	-5.4	757	782	-25	-3.2	97
New Haven	162	139	23	16.5	1629	2085	-456	-21.9	158
New London	74	71	3	4.2	692	767	-75	-9.8	68
Tolland	51	63	-12	-19.0	610	641	-31	-4.8	85
Windham	35	40	-5	-12.5	333	353	-20	-5.7	54

HOUSING PERMIT ACTIVITY BY TOWN

TOWN	OCT 2000	YR TO DATE 2000	YR TO DATE 1999	TOWN	OCT 2000	YR TO DATE 2000	YR TO DATE 1999	TOWN	OCT 2000	YR TO DATE 2000	YR TO DATE 1999
Andover	1	12	20	Griswold	6	35	35	Preston	2	20	17
Ansonia	5	32	37	Groton	13	107	116	Prospect	5	43	52
Ashford	2	18	17	Guilford	5	79	99	Putnam	1	10	15
Avon	4	79	147	Haddam	0	33	34	Redding	1	33	33
Barkhamsted	2	15	16	Hamden	15	235	283	Ridgefield	7	69	105
Beacon Falls	6	38	35	Hampton	2	16	14	Rocky Hill	6	60	81
Berlin	18	92	84	Hartford	1	39	68	Roxbury	3	21	28
Bethany	4	28	21	Hartland	0	3	1	Salem	0	15	17
Bethel	1	36	41	Harwinton	1	19	23	Salisbury	1	9	3
Bethlehem	4	12	17	Hebron	1	54	67	Scotland	0	7	8
Bloomfield	2	24	36	Kent	1	12	12	Seymour	2	37	45
Bolton	3	19	28	Killingly	6	39	26	Sharon	2	10	4
Bozrah	0	10	13	Killingworth	0	29	66	Shelton	10	107	147
Branford	3	34	45	Lebanon	2	34	35	Sherman	3	23	22
Bridgeport	4	44	54	Ledyard	2	32	42	Simsbury	2	26	52
Bridgewater	1	9	6	Lisbon	2	15	22	Somers	5	49	34
Bristol	6	68	77	Litchfield	4	21	41	South Windsor	5	47	90
Brookfield	7	38	64	Lyme	2	15	14	Southbury	6	72	96
Brooklyn	1	22	44	Madison	10	52	69	Southington	12	182	238
Burlington	1	54	54	Manchester	12	43	97	Sprague	1	3	3
Canaan	0	2	4	Mansfield	3	53	59	Stafford	4	35	39
Canterbury	1	19	16	Marlborough	5	35	34	Stamford	10	540	286
Canton	3	34	58	Meriden	10	55	37	Sterling	2	16	20
Chaplin	1	12	14	Middlebury	4	26	22	Stonington	7	57	81
Cheshire	8	60	97	Middlefield	2	17	26	Stratford	2	17	35
Chester	2	12	18	Middletown	13	153	154	Suffield	4	69	79
Clinton	7	47	74	Milford	13	135	219	Thomaston	3	43	39
Colchester	6	87	92	Monroe	2	46	60	Thompson	1	22	36
Colebrook	1	6	5	Montville	11	44	33	Tolland	18	132	125
Columbia	0	19	28	Morris	5	15	14	Torrington	8	60	94
Cornwall	0	4	7	Naugatuck	5	56	51	Trumbull	2	64	85
Coventry	3	52	55	New Britain	1	9	9	Union	0	6	4
Cromwell	6	87	54	New Canaan	5	50	44	Vernon	5	53	55
Danbury	50	244	261	New Fairfield	5	19	27	Voluntown	1	17	23
Darien	7	39	26	New Hartford	3	38	24	Wallingford	23	115	169
Deep River	2	22	19	New Haven	2	22	233	Warren	1	8	9
Derby	5	39	23	New London	0	1	0	Washington	1	9	10
Durham	6	53	49	New Milford	12	115	160	Waterbury	7	87	49
East Granby	1	25	19	Newington	0	37	81	Waterford	5	54	63
East Haddam	7	65	79	Newtown	11	89	195	Watertown	4	52	57
East Hampton	10	69	72	Norfolk	0	3	4	West Hartford	14	52	28
East Hartford	3	10	5	North Branford	2	21	24	West Haven	3	36	40
East Haven	2	35	34	North Canaan	1	4	7	Westbrook	3	57	38
East Lyme	6	72	81	North Haven	3	130	143	Weston	3	24	17
East Windsor	5	41	15	No. Stonington	0	20	28	Westport	7	63	48
Eastford	0	4	3	Norwalk	12	96	132	Wethersfield	2	25	39
Easton	3	27	33	Norwich	2	22	21	Willington	1	17	7
Ellington	7	109	120	Old Lyme	4	25	31	Wilton	2	35	29
Enfield	7	30	50	Old Saybrook	3	19	15	Winchester	0	15	15
Essex	5	37	47	Orange	1	15	13	Windham	0	7	33
Fairfield	3	22	63	Oxford	7	73	66	Windsor	2	26	43
Farmington	8	82	117	Plainfield	6	78	44	Windsor Locks	4	31	13
Franklin	2	7	0	Plainville	1	21	29	Wolcott	5	53	61
Glastonbury	12	110	164	Plymouth	6	45	53	Woodbridge	1	21	22
Goshen	3	34	26	Pomfret	5	19	31	Woodbury	7	36	39
Granby	4	50	65	Portland	4	57	37	Woodstock	7	44	32
Greenwich	8	83	98								

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS
DOL newly registered employers are those businesses newly registered with the Labor Department's unemployment insurance program (including reopened accounts) during the month. DOL discontinued employers are those accounts that are terminated due to inactivity (no employees) or business closure. Registrations and terminations of business entities as recorded with the Secretary of the State are an indication of new business formation and activity. These 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. *There is no separate consumer price index for Connecticut or any area within the state.*

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 five individual employment-related series -the average workweek of manufacturing production workers, Hartford help-wanted advertising, short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, initial claims for unemployment insurance and total housing permits. While not an employment-sector variable, housing permits are closely related to construction employment. The *coincident employment index* is a composite indicator of four individual employment-related series -the total unemployment rate, nonfarm employment (employer survey), total employment (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 5-9 for reference months)

Leading Employment Index	**+1.1**
Coincident Employment Index	**+6.0**
Total Nonfarm Employment	**+1.4**
Unemployment	**-1.1***
Labor Force	+0.5
Employed	+1.7
Unemployed	-35.6
Average Weekly Initial Claims	**-1.0**
Help Wanted Index -- Hartford	**-9.1**
Average Ins. Unempl. Rate	**-0.27***
Average Weekly Hours, Mfg	**-0.2**
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg	**+0.8**
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg	**+0.6**
CT Mfg. Production Index	**-1.6**
Production Worker Hours	-0.7
Industrial Electricity Sales	-6.4
Personal Income	**+4.7**
UI Covered Wages	**+8.3**

Business Activity	
New Housing Permits	+3.9
Electricity Sales	-0.6
Retail Sales	+7.6
Construction Contracts Index	+42.6
New Auto Registrations	+5.4
Air Cargo Tons	-29.2
Business Starts	
Secretary of the State	+0.3
Dept. of Labor	-0.4
Business Terminations	
Secretary of the State	+22.0
Dept. of Labor	+11.4
State Revenues	**+9.4**
Corporate Tax	+7.6
Personal Income Tax	+9.0
Real Estate Conveyance Tax	-2.2
Sales & Use Tax	+6.9
Indian Gaming Payments	+2.1

Tourism and Travel	
Tourism Inquiries	-8.6
Tourism Info Centers	+13.2
Attraction Visitors	-7.7
Hotel-Motel Occupancy	-0.5*
Air Passenger Count	+20.3
Indian Gaming Slots	+2.2
Employment Cost Index (U.S.)	
Total	+4.6
Wages & Salaries	+4.1
Benefit Costs	+6.0
Consumer Price Index	
U.S. City Average	+3.4
Northeast Region	+3.2
NY-NJ-Long Island	+3.2
Boston-Brockton-Nashua	+4.2
Consumer Confidence	
U.S.	+3.6
New England	+6.2
Interest Rates	
Prime	+1.25*
Conventional Mortgage	-0.05*

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

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