THE CONNECTICUT
ECONOMIC DIGEST

Vol.14 No.2 A joint publication of the Connecticut Department of Labor & the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

FEBRUARY 2009

IN THIS ISSUE...

In December...

Nonfarm Employment

Connecticut	1,677,200
Change over month	-0.68%
Change over year	-1.7%
United States	135,489,000
Change over month	-0.39%
Change over year	-1.9%

Unemployment Rate

Connecticut	7.1%
United States	7.2%

Consumer Price Index

United States	210.2
Change over year	0.1%

It's an Exciting Time to be an Economist

By Cynthia L. DeLisa, Research Analyst, DOL

A geologist, a physicist, and an economist are marooned on a desert island with nothing to eat, except for a can of soup that has washed ashore. They ponder how to open it, and the geologist says, "Lets smash it open with a rock." The physicist says, "Lets heat it up and blow the can open." The economist says, "No, you'll waste most of the soup that way. Let's ***assume*** *that we have a can opener..."*

What is Economics?

Economics is the study of how people choose to use resources. Resources include the time and talent people have available, the land, buildings, equipment, tools on hand, and the knowledge of how to combine them to create useful products and services. Important choices involve how much time to devote to work, to school, and to leisure; how many dollars to spend and how many to save; how to combine resources to produce goods and services; and how to vote and shape tax levels and the roles of government.

In short, economics includes the study of labor, land, and investments of money, income, production, taxes and government expenditures among many other things. Although the behavior of individuals is important, economics also addresses the collective behavior of businesses and industries, governments and nations, and the world as a whole. The two primary points of view that are essential in understanding most economic phenomena are: Microeconomics which starts by thinking about **how** individuals make decisions; and Macroeconomics which considers aggregate or collective outcomes.

An Economist is...

Someone with exceptional quantitative skills and a critical thinker. Basically, what economists do is analyze how people create goods and services by allocating limited resources like raw materials, land, technology, and labor. They do this by researching and monitoring things like exchange rates, business trends, taxation, employment rates, inflation, and costs of materials. They often try to find trends and develop predictions or forecasts based on the data.

Economists use many different methods for collecting their data. They might survey random samples, or use various math and statistical models. They not only need to collect data, but also must be able to communicate and share it in an effective manner so companies or government leaders can make informed decisions and the media can relay the information to the world at large. For this reason, many

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economists spend much of their time writing reports and presenting their economic and statistical findings at high-level corporate meetings and state or national economic conferences.

Types of Economists

Though all economists need to be familiar with general principles, most economists specialize. The skills and knowledge gained in each of these areas are often applied to other fields like agriculture, education, labor, energy, and environmental production.

Microeconomists study individual companies or people. They examine supply and demand to find out how to maximize production, for example, or to project how high the demand for a particular product would be.

Macroeconomists look at the economy as a whole to find long-term, overarching trends throughout history, of which they can make generalizations and draw conclusions about investment, productivity, inflation, unemployment, etc.

Financial Economists are similar to macroeconomists, except they study interest rates and other monetary activities to see their effect on banking systems and the financial markets.

Organizational or Industrial Economists examine the markets of individual industries, studying competitors and making predictions based on the decisions of competitors. They may also be involved in protecting the industry against trusts and monopolies.

International Economists look at markets all around the world, studying currency exchange and the effects of tariffs and trade procedures and laws.

Demographic or Labor Economists look at trends in salary, such as how it's determined, and the need for labor. They are especially interested in causes of unemployment and the results of changes in demographics, such as an aging workforce, on labor.

Public Finance Economists look at the government's involvement in the economy, such as taxation, budget deficits or surpluses, or welfare policies.

Economics is not necessarily the study of money or investments. While this science certainly has something to say on these issues, economics is really the study of human behavior and how individuals in society interact with one another. As an economist with the Department of Labor, I enjoy analyzing policy issues that have real impacts on residents of Connecticut. ~ Nicholas Jolly, Ph.D., CT DOL Economist

Econometricians use mathematics in every branch of economics. They put together economic models using methods like calculus, regression analysis, and game theory. These models explain economic happenings and help to project future economic occurrences and trends like how new taxation laws will affect employment or the duration of business cycles.

A Day In The Life...

Economists have very structured work schedules. They often work alone, at their computers, writing reports and preparing statistical products. Most work under pressure of deadlines and their tight routines may be interrupted by special data requests which often require overtime. Nonetheless, high levels of satisfaction are found throughout this field, which encourages discussion, detailed examination, and lively disagreement.

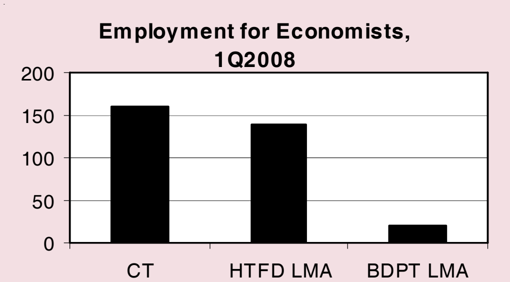
I enjoy the vocation because I think economics is the "every man's (person's) science" and everyone should have exposure to it. It helps me understand how society can operate and gives me a toolbox to try to understand how it may work. I said try because the human element makes it so humbling as well as challenging. It is not all in the data and the past is not prologue. As an Economist at the Labor Department, I have become fully aware of how conventional wisdom is so often wrong and misleading. It helps me think for myself and look beyond what seems apparent. ~ Lincoln Dyer, DOL Economist

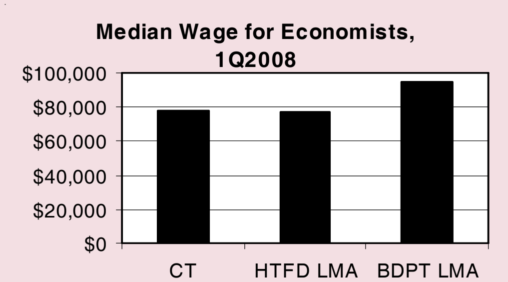
Economists work closely with each other and share ideas, which leads to a strong sense of community within the profession. Perhaps the most challenging aspect of the job is its highly theoretical nature. As one economist says, "It's all numbers which *assume* perfect market behavior. The real world doesn't work that way. People don't buy goods and services according to their optimal strategy, they buy because they feel like it." This lack of a clear-cut relationship between theoretical modeling and reality eats away at some economists' belief in what they do.

Economic Forecast: Job Market and Earnings Look Good for Economists...

In 2006, there were about 15,000 jobs held by economists in the United States. The government sector employed more than half (52%) of economists in various agencies, with 32% in federal and 20% in state and local government offices. The remaining jobs were spread throughout private industry, particularly in scientific research and development services; and management, scientific, and technical consulting services. Many economists combine a full-time job in government, academia, or business with part-time or consulting work in another setting.

As the chart below shows, there were 160 jobs held by economists last year in Connecticut, and the majority of those jobs were in public administration which includes positions in government agencies and higher education institutions. Most economists in Connecticut are employed in either the Hartford LMA or Bridgeport-Stamford LMA. In 2008, the statewide median wage for economists was $78,110, while those working in the Bridgeport-Stamford area earned $94,846.





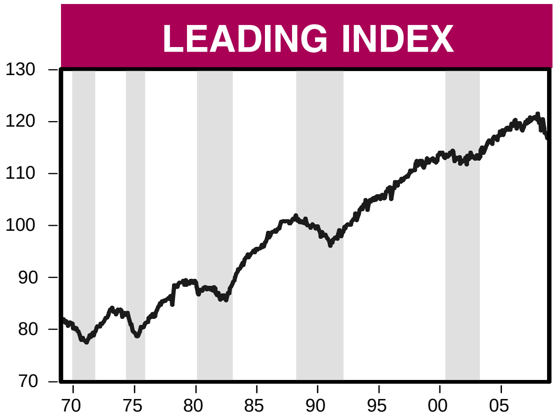
Famous Economists

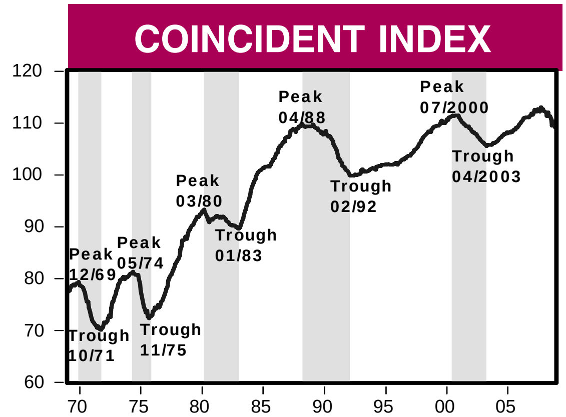
Current well-known American economists include 2008 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics winner Paul Krugman, a public intellectual, advocate of modern liberal policies, known for his descriptions of rising inequality; Jeffrey Sachs, former United Nations economic adviser to the Secretary-General and author of *The End of Poverty*; and Alan Greenspan, the former chairman of the Federal Reserve.

British economist, developer of Keynesian economics, and influential founder of modern theoretical macroeconomics, John Maynard Keynes (1883–1946) said about a Master economist that "He must be mathematician, historian, statesman, philosopher…He must understand symbols and speak in words. He must contemplate the particular in terms of the general, and touch abstract and concrete in the same flight of thought. He must study the present in the light of the past for the purposes of the future. No part of man's nature or his institutions must lie entirely outside his regard. He must be purposeful and disinterested in a simultaneous mood; as aloof and incorruptible as an artist, yet sometimes as near the earth as a politician."

The Point Of It All...

What drives most economists is that they actually find economics **FUN!** An economist achieves delight and comfort in finding that the great events that move history, the forces that determine the destiny of societies and the fate of governments, can sometimes be explained, predicted, or even controlled by a few symbols and mathematical equations on paper. In the end, the ultimate reward for any economist is the simple joy of understanding. ■





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.

Connecticut Falls Into Recession

The National Outlook

The U.S. economy continues to fall deeper into recession. Consumer confidence fell to a 28-year low. Auto sales fell 31.9% in October and then plunged 37% to a 26-year low in November. The "Big Three" automakers (Ford, GM, and Chrysler) sought a rescue from "imminent peril" by the federal government. The Conference Board's Help-Wanted Online index noted that jobs advertised for the first time declined by 507,000 in December. The December unemployment rate stands at 7.2% up from 6.8% in November. Revised nonfarm payroll employment sank by 584,000 (preliminary) jobs in November and job losses amounted to 524,000 in December. The National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) that dates business cycles found the peak in payroll employment in December 2007 marked the beginning of the current recession. The Federal Reserve Bank lowered interest rates to almost zero in its ongoing attempts to inject liquidity into credit markets. While the bailouts will likely generate inflationary pressure in the years ahead, the situation now is a threatening deflation in which prices and profits fall (the CPI fell by 0.7% in December after a 1.7% fall in November). It remains to be seen how the fiscal and monetary stimuli affect the length and depth of the current recession.

Connecticut Employment Indexes

The DECD-ECRI Connecticut coincident employment index is a measure of contemporaneous activity and declined from 112.1 in November 2007 to 109.1 in November 2008. Total employment (from the household survey) decreased by 0.75% or 13,500 persons while nonfarm employment (from the employer survey) declined by 0.62% (10,500 jobs) from November 2007. Connecticut's deteriorating insured unemployment rate (3.16% vs. 2.36% a year ago) and total unemployment rate (6.6% vs. 4.88% a year ago). Each of these factors contributed negatively to the year-over-year change in this index.

On a month-over-month basis, the November 2008 index at 109.1 declined from 109.8 a month ago. This index's 12-month moving average growth rate (-3.5%) accelerated its downward trend. Since October total employment declined by 9,800 persons to 1.7759 million persons, total nonfarm employment decreased by 5,100 jobs (0.3%), the total unemployment rate increased to 6.6% from 6.5%, and the insured unemployment rate increased from 3% to 3.16%, with each contributing negatively to the month-over-month change in this index value.

The DECD-ECRI Connecticut leading employment index that estimates future economic activity declined from 120.8 in November 2007 to 117.4 in November 2008. Year-over-year, manufacturing employment declined by 3,100 jobs to 187,700 jobs while construction declined by 900 jobs from 68,900 in November 2007; each contributed negatively to the year-over-year change in this index. Year-over-year, November's manufacturing average weekly hours (42) declined by 0.4 but construction average weekly hours edged up slightly by 1.3 hours to 39.5 (the only positive contributor). Year-over-year, Moody's Baa bond yield rose from 6.37% to 9.22%. Short duration unemployment increased to 2.19% from 1.43% while initial claims increased by 4,956 (26%); each was a negative contributor to the year-over-year change in this index. The Hartford help-wanted index stood at 10 in November 2007 but slumped to 4 a year later and housing permits, down 10.3% from 619 units in November 2007 to 555 units a year later together helped bring down the leading index.

On a month-over-month basis, Connecticut's leading employment index of 117.4 edged up in November 2008 from 116.8 the previous month. Negative contributors to the over-the-month change in this index include manufacturing employment (down 900 jobs), construction (down 700 jobs), the short duration unemployment rate (up from the previous month's 1.93% to 2.19%), and Moody's corporate bond yield (up from 8.88% to 9.22%). Average weekly hours in manufacturing and construction each edged down by 0.3, pushing the index down on a month-over-month basis. Three bright spots include the increase in housing permits (154 units), the Hartford help-wanted index that ticked up from 3 to 4, and, initial claims that declined by 1,574 (6%).

Connecticut's leading index has fallen for four consecutive months, suggesting we have passed the latest peak, the latest uptick notwithstanding. The question is how deep and long will the trough be and when will recovery begin? Connecticut's resourcefulness and creativity will be tested in the months ahead.

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.

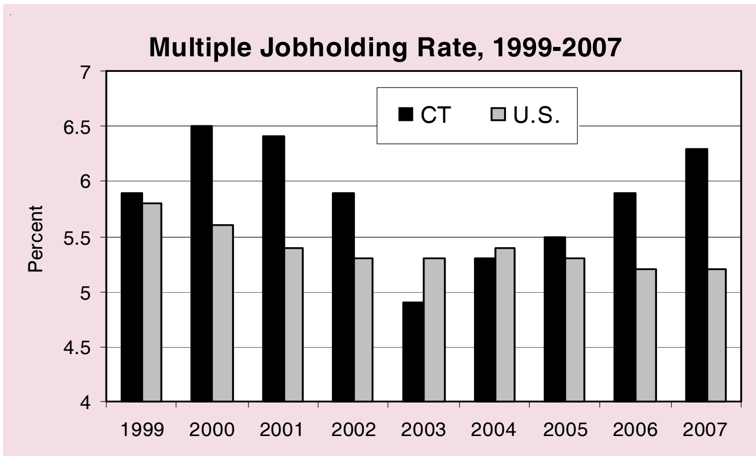
CT's Multiple Jobholders Rise to 6.3 Percent in 2007

By Jungmin Charles Joo, Associate Research Analyst, DOL

Of all jobholders in Connecticut in 2007, 6.3 percent held more than one job, up from 5.9 percent in 2006, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. By comparison, the national multiple jobholding rate was unchanged in 2007, at 5.2 percent, which is more than a full percentage point lower than Connecticut's.

Multiple jobholders are employed persons who had two or more jobs as wage and salary workers, were self-employed and also held a wage and salary job, or worked as an unpaid family worker and also held a wage and salary job.

As the chart shows, Connecticut's 6.3 percent in 2007 was the highest level since 6.4 percent in 2001. Also, multiple jobholding rates have increased for the last four consecutive years in the State, while they were trending down nationally. In fact, in seven of the last nine years, Connecticut's rates have been higher than the national rates.



The multiple jobholding rates for individual states varied considerably from the U.S. average: 28 states had higher multiple jobholding rates than the national average, 20 states and the District of Columbia had lower rates, and two states had the same rate.

Northern states generally had higher rates than southern states. All seven states in the West North Central division of the Midwest continued to register multiple jobholding rates above that of the nation. The northern states in the Mountain and New England divisions also continued to have relatively high rates. South Dakota recorded the highest rate, 10.2 percent, followed by Nebraska and Vermont, at 9.7 and 9.4 percent, respectively.

Thirteen of the 16 states in the South region, as well as the District of Columbia, had multiple jobholding rates below the U.S. figure. Among the nine states with rates below 4.5 percent, six were in the South. Nevada recorded the lowest multiple jobholding rate in 2007, 3.8 percent, followed by Florida, at 3.9 percent, and Georgia, at 4.1 percent. ■

GENERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

(Seasonally adjusted)	3Q 2008	3Q 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	2Q 2008
Employment Indexes (1992=100)*					
Leading	118.1	120.5	-2.4	-2.0	119.5
Coincident	110.2	112.0	-1.9	-1.7	111.5
General Drift Indicator (1986=100)*					
Leading	109.2	114.2	-5.0	-4.4	112.4
Coincident	114.3	116.0	-1.7	-1.5	114.4
Banknorth Business Barometer (1992=100)**	124.5	125.7	-1.2	-0.9	124.9

*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)	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
TOTAL NONFARM	1,677.2	1,706.5	-29.3	-1.7	1,688.7
Natural Res & Mining (Not Sea. Adj.)	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.8
Construction	63.1	68.5	-5.4	-7.9	65.0
Manufacturing	185.7	190.7	-5.0	-2.6	186.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	301.2	313.1	-11.9	-3.8	305.7
Information	38.0	39.2	-1.2	-3.1	38.5
Financial Activities	141.5	143.2	-1.7	-1.2	141.7
Professional and Business Services	201.3	206.5	-5.2	-2.5	202.8
Educational and Health Services	295.2	290.8	4.4	1.5	295.1
Leisure and Hospitality Services	136.2	138.0	-1.8	-1.3	138.1
Other Services	62.9	64.6	-1.7	-2.6	63.2
Government*	251.4	251.2	0.2	0.1	251.6

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

Initial claims for unemployment insurance rose from a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

(Seasonally adjusted)	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	7.1	4.8	2.3	---	6.6
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,894.7	1,882.2	12.5	0.7	1,903.5
Employed (000s)	1,760.5	1,791.5	-31.0	-1.7	1,777.1
Unemployed (000s)	134.2	90.7	43.5	48.0	126.4
Average Weekly Initial Claims	5,374	4,275	1,099	25.7	6,170
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	3.84	2.38	1.46	---	3.51

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor

The production worker weekly earnings rose over the year.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

(Not seasonally adjusted)	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008	OCT 2008
Average Weekly Hours	41.7	42.6	-0.9	-2.1	41.9	--
Average Hourly Earnings	21.90	21.24	0.66	3.1	21.83	--
Average Weekly Earnings	913.23	904.82	8.41	0.9	914.68	--
CT Mfg. Production Index (2000=100)	112.9	118.3	-5.4	-4.6	115.2	121.2
Production Worker Hours (000s)	4,584	4,868	-284	-5.8	4,608	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)*	406	438	-31.8	-7.3	418	445

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*	DEC 2008	171	-56.8	5,086	7,576	-32.9
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	OCT 2008	2,663	-2.7	28,197	28,398	-0.7
Construction Contracts Index (1980=100)	DEC 2008	164.8	-35.4	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	DEC 2008	10,401	-36.5	189,955	213,992	-11.2
Air Cargo Tons	DEC 2008	12,343	-9.7	146,375	161,264	-9.2
Exports (Bil. $)	3Q 2008	3.92	16.3	11.42	10.07	13.4

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 up over the year.

	MO/QTR	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	PRIOR	% CHG
STARTS						
Secretary of the State	DEC 2008	1,807	-10.2	27,483	30,868	-11.0
Department of Labor*	2Q2008	1,553	-18.8	3,747	4,470	-16.2
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	DEC 2008	2,411	27.2	13,456	11,372	18.3
Department of Labor*	2Q2008	1,316	-21.5	2,828	3,317	-14.7

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)	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	% CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	PRIOR	% CHG
TOTAL ALL REVENUES*	1,124.5	1,176.2	-4.4	13,874.5	13,639.5	1.7
Corporate Tax	73.0	104.7	-30.3	702.5	799.6	-12.1
Personal Income Tax	548.4	651.8	-15.9	7,368.9	7,039.2	4.7
Real Estate Conv. Tax	7.4	10.4	-28.8	123.3	211.3	-41.6
Sales & Use Tax	355.6	278.2	27.8	3,531.8	3,628.8	-2.7
Indian Gaming Payments**	27.0	30.4	-11.2	394.8	421.2	-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	DEC 2008	18,142	-3.0	400,804	400,163	0.2
Major Attraction Visitors	DEC 2008	84,548	-9.5	1,676,017	1,716,452	-2.4
Air Passenger Count	DEC 2008	458,839	-8.9	6,112,979	6,519,181	-6.2
Indian Gaming Slots (Mil.$)*	DEC 2008	1,278	-22.4	18,621	19,710	-5.5
Travel and Tourism Index**	3Q 2008	---	-5.2	---	---	---

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	Seasonally Adjusted DEC	SEP	3-Mo	Not Seasonally Adjusted DEC	DEC	12-Mo
(Dec. 2005 = 100)	2008	2008	% Chg	2008	2007	% 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 0.1 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	DEC 2008	210.2	0.1	-1.0
Purchasing Power of $ (1982-84=$1.00)	DEC 2008	$0.476	-0.1	1.0
Northeast Region	DEC 2008	225.1	0.8	-0.9
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	DEC 2008	233.0	1.6	-0.6
Boston-Brockton-Nashua**	NOV 2008	232.4	0.7	-2.6
CPI-W (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	DEC 2008	204.8	-0.5	-1.2

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 fell to 5.33 percent over the month.

INTEREST RATES

(Percent)	DEC 2008	NOV 2008	DEC 2007
Prime	3.61	4.00	7.33
Federal Funds	0.16	0.39	4.24
3 Month Treasury Bill	0.03	0.19	3.07
6 Month Treasury Bill	0.26	0.74	3.34
1 Year Treasury Note	0.49	1.07	3.26
3 Year Treasury Note	1.07	1.51	3.13
5 Year Treasury Note	1.52	2.29	3.49
7 Year Treasury Note	1.89	2.82	3.74
10 Year Treasury Note	2.42	3.53	4.10
20 Year Treasury Note	3.18	4.27	4.57
Conventional Mortgage	5.33	6.09	6.10

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

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

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
Connecticut	1,677.2	1,706.5	-29.3	-1.7	1,688.7
Maine	608.1	619.8	-11.7	-1.9	611.5
Massachusetts	3,244.1	3,288.0	-43.9	-1.3	3,260.9
New Hampshire	647.2	654.7	-7.5	-1.1	653.1
New Jersey	4,019.6	4,082.6	-63.0	-1.5	4,034.8
New York	8,661.2	8,781.1	-119.9	-1.4	8,715.2
Pennsylvania	5,732.1	5,808.3	-76.2	-1.3	5,759.2
Rhode Island	468.8	490.8	-22.0	-4.5	471.8
Vermont	302.7	308.5	-5.8	-1.9	305.1
United States	135,489.0	138,078.0	-2,589.0	-1.9	136,013.0

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)	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
Connecticut	1,894.7	1,882.2	12.5	0.7	1,903.5
Maine	710.7	706.5	4.2	0.6	711.9
Massachusetts	3,418.1	3,402.8	15.3	0.4	3,421.2
New Hampshire	739.5	740.6	-1.1	-0.1	742.4
New Jersey	4,550.6	4,463.8	86.8	1.9	4,519.6
New York	9,635.3	9,542.2	93.1	1.0	9,619.1
Pennsylvania	6,442.2	6,290.1	152.1	2.4	6,419.4
Rhode Island	566.2	576.7	-10.5	-1.8	570.6
Vermont	356.9	352.9	4.0	1.1	356.9
United States	154,447.0	153,836.0	611.0	0.4	154,620.0

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

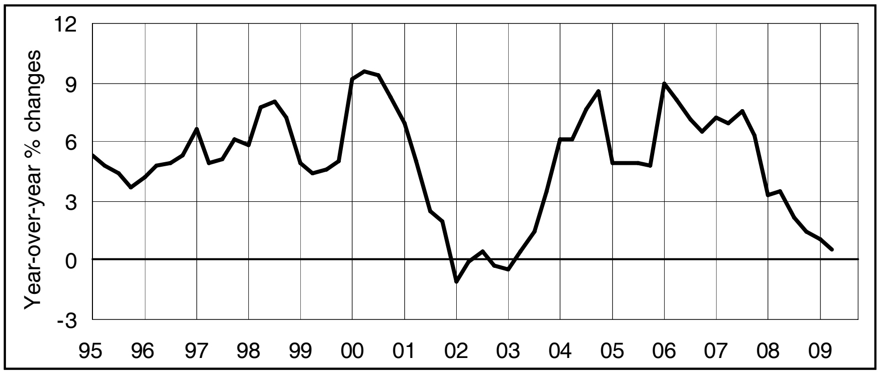
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

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

(Seasonally adjusted)	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE	NOV 2008
Connecticut	7.1	4.8	2.3	6.6
Maine	7.0	4.9	2.1	6.3
Massachusetts	6.9	4.3	2.6	5.9
New Hampshire	4.6	3.4	1.2	4.3
New Jersey	7.1	4.2	2.9	6.1
New York	7.0	4.6	2.4	6.0
Pennsylvania	6.7	4.4	2.3	6.2
Rhode Island	10.0	5.2	4.8	9.3
Vermont	6.4	3.9	2.5	5.7
United States	7.2	4.9	2.3	6.8

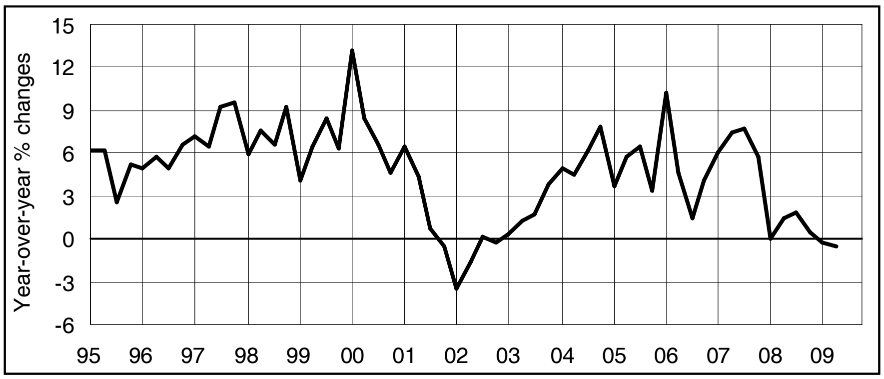
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

PERSONAL INCOME *(Seasonally adjusted)*



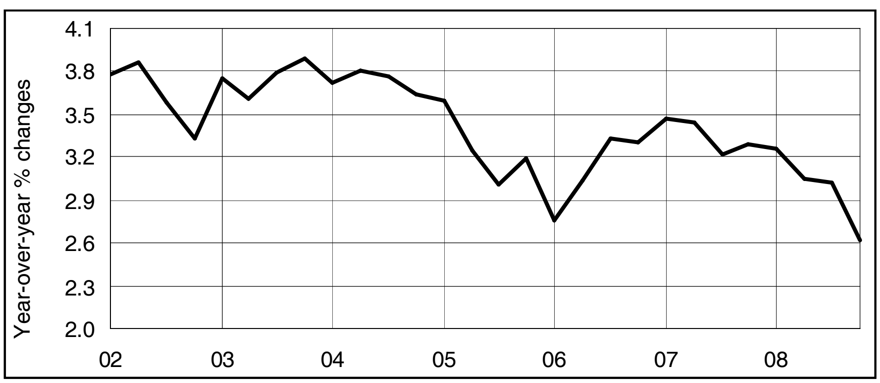
Quarter	2007	2008	2009
First	7.3	3.3	1.0
Second	7.0	3.5	0.6
Third	7.5	2.1	
Fourth	6.4	1.4	

UI COVERED WAGES *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Quarter	2007	2008	2009
First	6.0	0.1	-0.2
Second	7.5	1.4	-0.5
Third	7.7	1.9	
Fourth	5.7	0.4	

U.S. EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX *(Seasonally adjusted)*

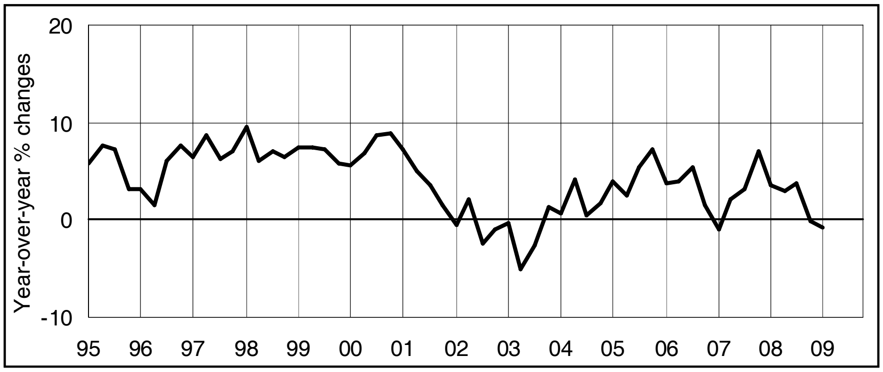


Quarter	2006	2007	2008
First	2.8	3.5	3.3
Second	3.0	3.4	3.0
Third	3.3	3.2	3.0
Fourth	3.3	3.3	2.6

U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX *(Not seasonally adjusted)*

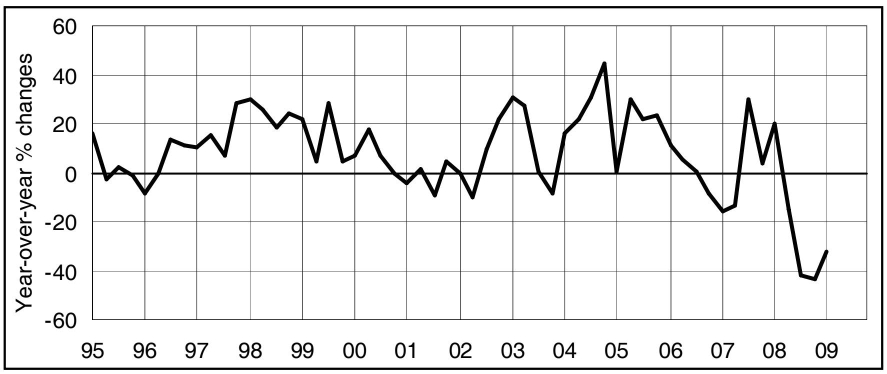
Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	4.0	2.1	4.3
Feb	3.6	2.4	4.0
Mar	3.4	2.8	3.9
Apr	3.5	2.6	3.9
May	4.2	2.7	4.2
Jun	4.3	2.7	5.0
Jul	4.1	2.4	5.6
Aug	3.8	2.0	5.4
Sep	2.1	2.8	4.9
Oct	1.3	3.5	3.7
Nov	2.0	4.3	1.0
Dec	2.5	4.1	0.1

SALES TAX



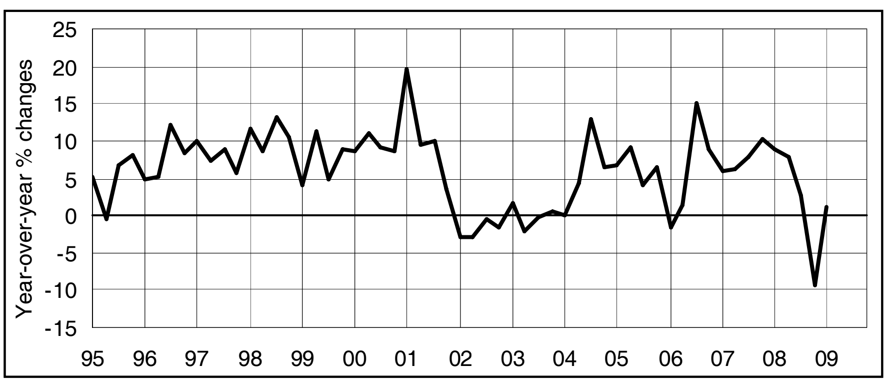
Quarter	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
First	-0.9	3.6	-0.7
Second	2.1	3.0	
Third	3.1	3.8	
Fourth	7.0	-0.2	

REAL ESTATE TAX



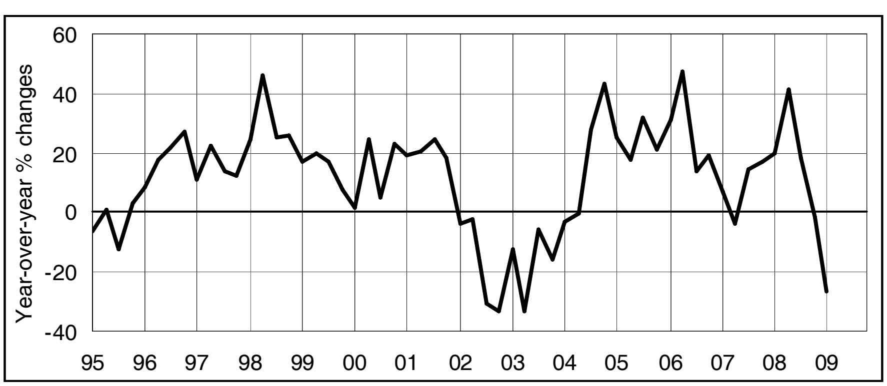
Quarter	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
First	-15.8	20.0	-32.1
Second	-13.7	-15.5	
Third	29.6	-41.8	
Fourth	3.7	-43.6	

PERSONAL INCOME TAX : SALARIES & WAGES



Quarter	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
First	5.9	8.9	1.1
Second	6.1	7.7	
Third	7.8	2.6	
Fourth	10.3	-9.3	

PERSONAL INCOME TAX : ALL OTHER SOURCES



Quarter	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
First	7.0	19.8	-26.4
Second	-3.9	41.0	
Third	14.6	18.6	
Fourth	16.8	-1.9	

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

STATE NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

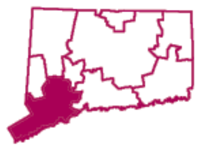
CONNECTICUT

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**1,699,500**	**1,729,300**	**-29,800**	**-1.7**	**1,706,800**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**249,800**	**260,300**	**-10,500**	**-4.0**	**253,800**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**63,500**	**68,900**	**-5,400**	**-7.8**	**67,300**
MANUFACTURING	**186,300**	**191,400**	**-5,100**	**-2.7**	**186,500**
Durable Goods	**142,900**	**144,700**	**-1,800**	**-1.2**	**142,900**
Fabricated Metal	32,700	33,100	-400	-1.2	32,800
Machinery	17,500	18,100	-600	-3.3	17,500
Computer and Electronic Product	14,000	14,100	-100	-0.7	13,900
Transportation Equipment	43,900	43,700	200	0.5	43,900
Aerospace Product and Parts	32,100	31,700	400	1.3	32,100
Non-Durable Goods	**43,400**	**46,700**	**-3,300**	**-7.1**	**43,600**
Chemical	14,200	15,400	-1,200	-7.8	14,200
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**1,449,700**	**1,469,000**	**-19,300**	**-1.3**	**1,453,000**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**313,300**	**325,800**	**-12,500**	**-3.8**	**312,300**
Wholesale Trade	69,200	68,600	600	0.9	69,300
Retail Trade	190,300	202,100	-11,800	-5.8	190,300
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	21,700	22,100	-400	-1.8	21,800
Building Material	15,200	16,000	-800	-5.0	15,500
Food and Beverage Stores	41,800	42,800	-1,000	-2.3	41,700
General Merchandise Stores	26,500	28,100	-1,600	-5.7	26,300
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	53,800	55,100	-1,300	-2.4	52,700
Utilities	8,400	8,200	200	2.4	8,300
Transportation and Warehousing	45,400	46,900	-1,500	-3.2	44,400
INFORMATION	**38,100**	**39,300**	**-1,200**	**-3.1**	**38,500**
Telecommunications	12,900	13,100	-200	-1.5	13,000
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**141,700**	**143,400**	**-1,700**	**-1.2**	**141,800**
Finance and Insurance	121,900	122,800	-900	-0.7	122,000
Credit Intermediation	29,000	30,500	-1,500	-4.9	29,100
Securities and Commodity Contracts	22,800	22,300	500	2.2	22,800
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	65,200	65,200	0	0.0	65,200
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	19,800	20,600	-800	-3.9	19,800
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**202,800**	**208,000**	**-5,200**	**-2.5**	**203,800**
Professional, Scientific	93,000	93,700	-700	-0.7	93,200
Legal Services	14,400	14,500	-100	-0.7	14,300
Computer Systems Design	22,700	22,000	700	3.2	22,700
Management of Companies	24,700	25,400	-700	-2.8	24,500
Administrative and Support	85,100	88,900	-3,800	-4.3	86,100
Employment Services	29,400	32,900	-3,500	-10.6	28,800
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**299,100**	**294,800**	**4,300**	**1.5**	**300,200**
Educational Services	57,700	57,500	200	0.3	59,800
Health Care and Social Assistance	241,400	237,300	4,100	1.7	240,400
Hospitals	59,500	58,700	800	1.4	59,200
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	59,700	60,000	-300	-0.5	60,000
Social Assistance	44,800	42,400	2,400	5.7	44,200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**133,700**	**135,200**	**-1,500**	**-1.1**	**134,500**
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	20,200	23,400	-3,200	-13.7	21,500
Accommodation and Food Services	113,500	111,800	1,700	1.5	113,000
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places.	101,800	100,200	1,600	1.6	101,400
OTHER SERVICES	**63,000**	**64,700**	**-1,700**	**-2.6**	**62,900**
GOVERNMENT	**258,000**	**257,800**	**200**	**0.1**	**259,000**
Federal Government	18,900	19,500	-600	-3.1	19,000
State Government	73,100	72,700	400	0.6	73,400
Local Government**	166,000	165,600	400	0.2	166,600

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2007.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.*

BRIDGEPORT - STAMFORD LMA

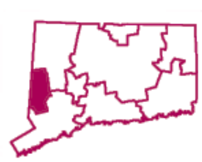


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**424,600**	**428,900**	**-4,300**	**-1.0**	**425,700**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**55,900**	**56,600**	**-700**	**-1.2**	**56,500**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**15,000**	**15,700**	**-700**	**-4.5**	**15,700**
MANUFACTURING	**40,900**	**40,900**	**0**	**0.0**	**40,800**
Durable Goods	**30,300**	**30,200**	**100**	**0.3**	**30,200**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**368,700**	**372,300**	**-3,600**	**-1.0**	**369,200**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**76,300**	**80,100**	**-3,800**	**-4.7**	**75,800**
Wholesale Trade	14,300	14,700	-400	-2.7	14,200
Retail Trade	50,100	53,500	-3,400	-6.4	49,900
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	11,900	11,900	0	0.0	11,700
INFORMATION	**12,300**	**12,300**	**0**	**0.0**	**12,200**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**46,100**	**45,800**	**300**	**0.7**	**46,400**
Finance and Insurance	39,700	39,100	600	1.5	39,500
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**68,500**	**71,800**	**-3,300**	**-4.6**	**69,700**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**65,000**	**63,600**	**1,400**	**2.2**	**64,400**
Health Care and Social Assistance	55,200	53,300	1,900	3.6	54,400
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**34,600**	**33,400**	**1,200**	**3.6**	**34,800**
Accommodation and Food Services	26,100	25,300	800	3.2	26,400
OTHER SERVICES	**17,600**	**17,500**	**100**	**0.6**	**17,500**
GOVERNMENT	**48,300**	**47,800**	**500**	**1.0**	**48,400**
Federal	3,000	3,200	-200	-6.3	3,000
State & Local	45,300	44,600	700	1.6	45,400

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

DANBURY LMA



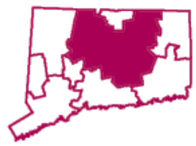
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**70,800**	**71,600**	**-800**	**-1.1**	**71,400**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**12,800**	**13,000**	**-200**	**-1.5**	**13,000**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**58,000**	**58,600**	**-600**	**-1.0**	**58,400**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**15,900**	**17,200**	**-1,300**	**-7.6**	**16,100**
Retail Trade	12,000	12,900	-900	-7.0	12,200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**7,900**	**8,200**	**-300**	**-3.7**	**7,900**
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**5,800**	**5,800**	**0**	**0.0**	**5,800**
GOVERNMENT	**8,900**	**8,300**	**600**	**7.2**	**8,900**
Federal	600	600	0	0.0	600
State & Local	8,300	7,700	600	7.8	8,300

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 2007.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

HARTFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**559,200**	**565,600**	**-6,400**	**-1.1**	**565,600**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**82,100**	**87,500**	**-5,400**	**-6.2**	**85,400**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**18,300**	**22,600**	**-4,300**	**-19.0**	**21,300**
MANUFACTURING	**63,800**	**64,900**	**-1,100**	**-1.7**	**64,100**
Durable Goods	**52,500**	**54,000**	**-1,500**	**-2.8**	**53,000**
Transportation Equipment	17,700	18,400	-700	-3.8	17,700
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**477,100**	**478,100**	**-1,000**	**-0.2**	**480,200**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**90,700**	**94,100**	**-3,400**	**-3.6**	**90,500**
Wholesale Trade	20,100	19,800	300	1.5	20,100
Retail Trade	55,300	58,800	-3,500	-6.0	55,300
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	15,300	15,500	-200	-1.3	15,100
Transportation and Warehousing	12,300	12,400	-100	-0.8	12,000
INFORMATION	**12,600**	**12,200**	**400**	**3.3**	**12,600**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**65,100**	**66,400**	**-1,300**	**-2.0**	**65,400**
Depository Credit Institutions	7,600	7,700	-100	-1.3	7,500
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	44,400	45,000	-600	-1.3	44,400
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**61,400**	**61,300**	**100**	**0.2**	**62,500**
Professional, Scientific	30,800	30,200	600	2.0	30,400
Administrative and Support	23,900	24,300	-400	-1.6	24,300
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**94,300**	**92,000**	**2,300**	**2.5**	**95,000**
Health Care and Social Assistance	81,900	79,600	2,300	2.9	81,300
Ambulatory Health Care	24,400	23,900	500	2.1	24,300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**40,900**	**41,200**	**-300**	**-0.7**	**40,700**
Accommodation and Food Services	36,200	34,700	1,500	4.3	35,300
OTHER SERVICES	**20,600**	**20,900**	**-300**	**-1.4**	**20,500**
GOVERNMENT	**91,500**	**90,000**	**1,500**	**1.7**	**93,000**
Federal	6,000	6,000	0	0.0	5,900
State & Local	85,500	84,000	1,500	1.8	87,100

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 2007.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC NEWS

- **Working in 2007**
  The proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population age 16 years and over who worked at some time during 2007 (in U.S.) was 67.7 percent, essentially unchanged from 2006. The percent of men who worked during 2007 was 74.1 percent, down slightly from 74.4 percent in 2006. The proportion of women who worked at some point during 2007 held at 61.6 percent. The proportions of whites (68.3 percent), blacks (63.5 percent), and Asians (67.8 percent) who worked at some time during the year were essentially unchanged in 2007. The proportion of Hispanics who worked at some point during 2007 (68.5 percent) was down from 2006 (69.1 percent). These data are from the Current Population Survey. To learn more, see "Work Experience of the Population in 2007," USDL news release (PDF) (HTML) news release USDL 08-1803. (The Editor's Desk, Bureau of Labor Statistics, December 24, 2008)

- **401(k) plans and employer stock**
  A look at the trend in 401(k) investment options over the past two decades (in U.S.) shows a steady

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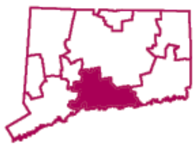
NEW HAVEN LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**277,500**	**282,500**	**-5,000**	**-1.8**	**279,100**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**42,100**	**43,200**	**-1,100**	**-2.5**	**42,700**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**11,300**	**11,500**	**-200**	**-1.7**	**11,800**
MANUFACTURING	**30,800**	**31,700**	**-900**	**-2.8**	**30,900**
Durable Goods	**21,800**	**22,200**	**-400**	**-1.8**	**21,800**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**235,400**	**239,300**	**-3,900**	**-1.6**	**236,400**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**52,000**	**53,500**	**-1,500**	**-2.8**	**51,700**
Wholesale Trade	11,600	11,600	0	0.0	11,600
Retail Trade	31,700	32,800	-1,100	-3.4	31,500
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	8,700	9,100	-400	-4.4	8,600
INFORMATION	**7,700**	**8,000**	**-300**	**-3.8**	**7,800**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**13,200**	**13,500**	**-300**	**-2.2**	**13,300**
Finance and Insurance	9,400	9,700	-300	-3.1	9,400
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**26,400**	**26,600**	**-200**	**-0.8**	**26,500**
Administrative and Support	13,500	13,000	500	3.8	13,400
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**70,200**	**70,200**	**0**	**0.0**	**70,500**
Educational Services	26,100	26,200	-100	-0.4	26,800
Health Care and Social Assistance	44,100	44,000	100	0.2	43,700
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**20,900**	**21,300**	**-400**	**-1.9**	**21,300**
Accommodation and Food Services	18,200	18,100	100	0.6	18,200
OTHER SERVICES	**11,400**	**11,300**	**100**	**0.9**	**11,200**
GOVERNMENT	**33,600**	**34,900**	**-1,300**	**-3.7**	**34,100**
Federal	4,900	5,200	-300	-5.8	5,000
State & Local	28,700	29,700	-1,000	-3.4	29,100

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

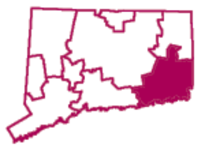
Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2007.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Value less than 50*

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC NEWS (Cont.)

move away from employer stock as an investment vehicle. BLS data provide some indication of the use of employer stock as a 401(k) investment vehicle. They indicate that workers' exposure to own-employer stock has declined substantially since 1985. Among funds contributed by employers, a significant fraction of this decline was likely caused by the increased control of the funds given to workers. Since employer stock was more prevalent among employer-provided funds with no investment choice than among employer-provided funds in which employees chose investment allocation, the increasing fraction of funds having employee choice caused employer stock exposure to decline. Another source of decline in workers' exposure to own-employer stock was that, within those plans allowing choice, there was a marked decline in the fraction allowing employer stock as a possibility. This trend applied to both employer- and employee-provided funds. These data are from the BLS National Compensation Survey program. To learn more, see 401(k) plans move away from employer stock as investment vehicle, by William J. Wiatrowski, Monthly Labor Review, November 2008. (The Editor's Desk, Bureau of Labor Statistics, December 30, 2008)

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

NORWICH - NEW LONDON LMA

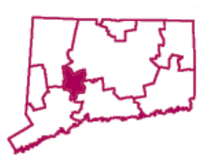


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**135,100**	**138,000**	**-2,900**	**-2.1**	**135,300**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**19,800**	**20,900**	**-1,100**	**-5.3**	**19,800**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**3,900**	**4,600**	**-700**	**-15.2**	**4,000**
MANUFACTURING	**15,900**	**16,300**	**-400**	**-2.5**	**15,800**
Durable Goods	**10,600**	**10,800**	**-200**	**-1.9**	**10,600**
Non-Durable Goods	**5,300**	**5,500**	**-200**	**-3.6**	**5,200**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**115,300**	**117,100**	**-1,800**	**-1.5**	**115,500**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**23,500**	**24,700**	**-1,200**	**-4.9**	**23,300**
Wholesale Trade	2,400	2,400	0	0.0	2,400
Retail Trade	16,000	17,300	-1,300	-7.5	15,900
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	5,100	5,000	100	2.0	5,000
INFORMATION	**1,800**	**2,000**	**-200**	**-10.0**	**1,800**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**3,100**	**3,300**	**-200**	**-6.1**	**3,100**
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**9,800**	**10,000**	**-200**	**-2.0**	**9,800**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**20,100**	**20,100**	**0**	**0.0**	**20,000**
Health Care and Social Assistance	17,400	17,300	100	0.6	17,300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**13,300**	**13,100**	**200**	**1.5**	**13,300**
Accommodation and Food Services	11,500	11,200	300	2.7	11,600
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places	9,600	9,300	300	3.2	9,700
OTHER SERVICES	**3,700**	**3,900**	**-200**	**-5.1**	**3,800**
GOVERNMENT	**40,000**	**40,000**	**0**	**0.0**	**40,400**
Federal	2,700	2,600	100	3.8	2,700
State & Local**	37,300	37,400	-100	-0.3	37,700

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

WATERBURY LMA



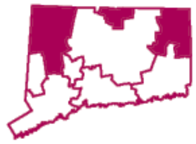
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**68,700**	**69,400**	**-700**	**-1.0**	**68,700**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**12,300**	**12,700**	**-400**	**-3.1**	**12,500**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**2,700**	**2,800**	**-100**	**-3.6**	**2,900**
MANUFACTURING	**9,600**	**9,900**	**-300**	**-3.0**	**9,600**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**56,400**	**56,700**	**-300**	**-0.5**	**56,200**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**14,100**	**14,200**	**-100**	**-0.7**	**13,800**
Wholesale Trade	2,200	2,200	0	0.0	2,200
Retail Trade	9,700	9,600	100	1.0	9,500
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	2,200	2,400	-200	-8.3	2,100
INFORMATION	**800**	**800**	**0**	**0.0**	**900**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**2,400**	**2,400**	**0**	**0.0**	**2,400**
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**6,100**	**6,400**	**-300**	**-4.7**	**6,000**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**15,200**	**14,900**	**300**	**2.0**	**15,200**
Health Care and Social Assistance	13,800	13,600	200	1.5	13,700
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**4,900**	**5,100**	**-200**	**-3.9**	**5,000**
OTHER SERVICES	**2,600**	**2,600**	**0**	**0.0**	**2,600**
GOVERNMENT	**10,300**	**10,300**	**0**	**0.0**	**10,300**
Federal	500	600	-100	-16.7	500
State & Local	9,800	9,700	100	1.0	9,800

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 2007.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.*

SMALLER LMAS



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT					
ENFIELD LMA	**47,400**	**49,300**	**-1,900**	**-3.9**	**48,200**
TORRINGTON LMA	**37,000**	**37,400**	**-400**	**-1.1**	**37,600**
WILLIMANTIC - DANIELSON LMA	**38,300**	**38,200**	**100**	**0.3**	**38,600**

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

	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**296,300**	**300,400**	**-4,100**	**-1.4**	**296,900**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**45,800**	**47,400**	**-1,600**	**-3.4**	**46,300**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**9,700**	**10,400**	**-700**	**-6.7**	**10,100**
MANUFACTURING	**36,100**	**37,000**	**-900**	**-2.4**	**36,200**
Durable Goods	**22,900**	**23,500**	**-600**	**-2.6**	**23,000**
Non-Durable Goods	**13,200**	**13,500**	**-300**	**-2.2**	**13,200**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**250,500**	**253,000**	**-2,500**	**-1.0**	**250,600**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**60,600**	**62,200**	**-1,600**	**-2.6**	**60,300**
Wholesale Trade	11,500	11,600	-100	-0.9	11,500
Retail Trade	35,600	36,800	-1,200	-3.3	35,400
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	13,500	13,800	-300	-2.2	13,400
INFORMATION	**4,300**	**4,400**	**-100**	**-2.3**	**4,300**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**17,100**	**17,000**	**100**	**0.6**	**17,000**
Finance and Insurance	13,400	13,500	-100	-0.7	13,400
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	8,700	8,600	100	1.2	8,700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**22,300**	**22,900**	**-600**	**-2.6**	**22,500**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**58,700**	**57,700**	**1,000**	**1.7**	**59,100**
Educational Services	13,000	12,900	100	0.8	13,200
Health Care and Social Assistance	45,700	44,800	900	2.0	45,900
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**25,000**	**25,500**	**-500**	**-2.0**	**25,500**
OTHER SERVICES	**11,200**	**11,700**	**-500**	**-4.3**	**11,200**
GOVERNMENT	**51,300**	**51,600**	**-300**	**-0.6**	**50,700**
Federal	7,700	7,600	100	1.3	7,300
State & Local	43,600	44,000	-400	-0.9	43,400

* New England City and Town Area

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2007.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

(Not seasonally adjusted)	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	DEC 2008	DEC 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	NOV 2008
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,882,800	1,871,800	11,000	0.6	1,901,300
	Employed	1,758,900	1,787,400	-28,500	-1.6	1,779,400
	Unemployed	123,900	84,400	39,500	46.8	121,900
	Unemployment Rate	6.6	4.5	2.1	---	6.4
BRIDGEPORT - STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	480,600	477,000	3,600	0.8	484,100
	Employed	451,600	457,800	-6,200	-1.4	455,200
	Unemployed	29,000	19,100	9,900	51.8	28,900
	Unemployment Rate	6.0	4.0	2.0	---	6.0
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	93,200	92,700	500	0.5	94,100
	Employed	88,400	89,500	-1,100	-1.2	89,400
	Unemployed	4,800	3,100	1,700	54.8	4,700
	Unemployment Rate	5.1	3.4	1.7	---	5.0
ENFIELD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	49,700	49,400	300	0.6	50,000
	Employed	46,300	47,100	-800	-1.7	46,700
	Unemployed	3,400	2,300	1,100	47.8	3,200
	Unemployment Rate	6.8	4.7	2.1	---	6.5
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	591,600	587,600	4,000	0.7	599,600
	Employed	551,900	560,300	-8,400	-1.5	560,900
	Unemployed	39,600	27,300	12,300	45.1	38,700
	Unemployment Rate	6.7	4.6	2.1	---	6.5
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	312,700	312,200	500	0.2	315,800
	Employed	292,000	297,600	-5,600	-1.9	295,100
	Unemployed	20,700	14,600	6,100	41.8	20,700
	Unemployment Rate	6.6	4.7	1.9	---	6.6
NORWICH - NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	151,600	151,400	200	0.1	152,600
	Employed	141,200	144,900	-3,700	-2.6	142,500
	Unemployed	10,400	6,600	3,800	57.6	10,100
	Unemployment Rate	6.9	4.3	2.6	---	6.6
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	54,700	54,400	300	0.6	55,600
	Employed	51,300	52,100	-800	-1.5	52,300
	Unemployed	3,500	2,300	1,200	52.2	3,300
	Unemployment Rate	6.3	4.2	2.1	---	5.9
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	103,400	102,100	1,300	1.3	103,800
	Employed	94,500	95,800	-1,300	-1.4	95,100
	Unemployed	8,900	6,300	2,600	41.3	8,700
	Unemployment Rate	8.6	6.1	2.5	---	8.3
WILLIMANTIC-DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	59,000	58,400	600	1.0	59,300
	Employed	54,100	55,100	-1,000	-1.8	54,700
	Unemployed	4,900	3,300	1,600	48.5	4,600
	Unemployment Rate	8.2	5.6	2.6	---	7.7
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	154,349,000	153,705,000	644,000	0.4	154,624,000
	Employed	143,350,000	146,334,000	-2,984,000	-2.0	144,609,000
	Unemployed	10,999,000	7,371,000	3,628,000	49.2	10,015,000
	Unemployment Rate	7.1	4.8	2.3	---	6.5

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2007.

CONNECTICUT	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	DEC		CHG	NOV	DEC		CHG	NOV	DEC		CHG	NOV
(Not seasonally adjusted)	2008	2007	Y/Y	2008	2008	2007	Y/Y	2008	2008	2007	Y/Y	2008
MANUFACTURING	**$913.23**	**$904.82**	**$8.41**	**$914.68**	**41.7**	**42.6**	**-0.9**	**41.9**	**$21.90**	**$21.24**	**$0.66**	**$21.83**
DURABLE GOODS	**938.91**	**933.42**	**5.49**	**938.83**	**41.6**	**42.7**	**-1.1**	**41.8**	**22.57**	**21.86**	**0.71**	**22.46**
Fabricated Metal	816.09	832.46	-16.37	811.44	41.3	42.8	-1.5	41.4	19.76	19.45	0.31	19.60
Transport. Equipment	1,190.75	1,168.01	22.73	1,185.33	42.3	43.1	-0.8	42.5	28.15	27.10	1.05	27.89
NON-DUR. GOODS	**839.58**	**826.12**	**13.46**	**846.53**	**42.0**	**42.3**	-0.3	**42.2**	**19.99**	**19.53**	**0.46**	**20.06**
CONSTRUCTION	**961.63**	**944.12**	**17.51**	**992.12**	**37.1**	**38.1**	**-1.0**	**38.8**	**25.92**	**24.78**	**1.14**	**25.57**

Due to constraints of the sample upon which estimates are made, statewide manufacturing hours and earnings for 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 2007.

BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN THE NEWS MEDIA

- In December 2008, Electric Boat in Groton announced plans to hire 650 additional employees. MTU Aero Engines, a jet engine maker in Rocky Hill, will hire 10 additional engineers. Greenwich will get two new apparel stores as Cole Haan and Madewell will open in the winter, with each store employing 12 people. Dupont Systems Inc. will build a new records storage center in Bristol, creating 15 new jobs. Amarin Biopharm Inc. has established its research and development headquarters in Mystic with a work force of 12. Foxwoods has rehired 21 dealers. Neopost USA, a postage meter maker, is moving from California to Milford, with 150 jobs.

- December layoffs: Waterbury Garment, 40; Big Y in East Harford, 100; Westport Shaw's, 89; Pratt & Whitney, 280; AT&T, 389; Cox Communications, 50-100; Gerber Scientific, 160; Student Loan Corp. in Stamford, 69; Lincoln Financial in Hartford, 15; Direct Response of Meriden, 60; Waterbury Post Office, 20; Stanley Bostitch of Clinton, 60; Cuno of Meriden, 70; Aetna, 375; DriveSol of Watertown, 241; DHL, 200; ASML of Wilton, 40.

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)

DECEMBER 2008

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
BRIDGEPORT-STAMFORD	**480,590**	**451,566**	**29,024**	**6.0**
Ansonia	10,192	9,376	816	8.0
Bridgeport	64,402	57,924	6,478	10.1
Darien	9,363	8,933	430	4.6
Derby	7,026	6,497	529	7.5
Easton	3,808	3,634	174	4.6
Fairfield	28,875	27,386	1,489	5.2
Greenwich	30,748	29,376	1,372	4.5
Milford	32,265	30,498	1,767	5.5
Monroe	10,846	10,257	589	5.4
New Canaan	9,051	8,676	375	4.1
Newtown	14,629	13,876	753	5.1
Norwalk	49,646	46,744	2,902	5.8
Oxford	7,437	7,014	423	5.7
Redding	4,785	4,570	215	4.5
Ridgefield	11,889	11,357	532	4.5
Seymour	9,392	8,812	580	6.2
Shelton	23,454	22,100	1,354	5.8
Southbury	9,225	8,757	468	5.1
Stamford	67,691	63,922	3,769	5.6
Stratford	26,515	24,709	1,806	6.8
Trumbull	18,065	17,200	865	4.8
Weston	4,983	4,790	193	3.9
Westport	12,896	12,329	567	4.4
Wilton	8,479	8,082	397	4.7
Woodbridge	4,925	4,747	178	3.6
DANBURY	**93,152**	**88,398**	**4,754**	**5.1**
Bethel	11,011	10,449	562	5.1
Bridgewater	1,049	1,011	38	3.6
Brookfield	9,217	8,762	455	4.9
Danbury	45,311	42,892	2,419	5.3
New Fairfield	7,724	7,352	372	4.8
New Milford	16,664	15,833	831	5.0
Sherman	2,175	2,099	76	3.5
ENFIELD	**49,651**	**46,287**	**3,364**	**6.8**
East Windsor	6,319	5,791	528	8.4
Enfield	24,020	22,391	1,629	6.8
Somers	4,691	4,415	276	5.9
Suffield	7,469	7,076	393	5.3
Windsor Locks	7,152	6,614	538	7.5
HARTFORD	**591,573**	**551,944**	**39,629**	**6.7**
Andover	1,992	1,902	90	4.5
Ashford	2,640	2,506	134	5.1
Avon	9,246	8,875	371	4.0
Barkhamsted	2,248	2,125	123	5.5
Berlin	11,470	10,801	669	5.8
Bloomfield	10,187	9,452	735	7.2
Bolton	3,066	2,918	148	4.8
Bristol	34,733	32,243	2,490	7.2
Burlington	5,408	5,135	273	5.0

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
HARTFORD cont....				
Canton	5,797	5,532	265	4.6
Colchester	8,893	8,349	544	6.1
Columbia	3,099	2,937	162	5.2
Coventry	7,128	6,692	436	6.1
Cromwell	7,902	7,438	464	5.9
East Granby	2,957	2,809	148	5.0
East Haddam	5,198	4,943	255	4.9
East Hampton	7,088	6,618	470	6.6
East Hartford	25,773	23,590	2,183	8.5
Ellington	8,858	8,338	520	5.9
Farmington	13,012	12,382	630	4.8
Glastonbury	18,284	17,478	806	4.4
Granby	6,345	6,056	289	4.6
Haddam	4,892	4,653	239	4.9
Hartford	50,429	44,044	6,385	12.7
Hartland	1,217	1,157	60	4.9
Harwinton	3,220	3,031	189	5.9
Hebron	5,585	5,270	315	5.6
Lebanon	4,377	4,102	275	6.3
Manchester	32,412	30,325	2,087	6.4
Mansfield	13,091	12,485	606	4.6
Marlborough	3,694	3,473	221	6.0
Middlefield	2,395	2,273	122	5.1
Middletown	26,759	25,166	1,593	6.0
New Britain	35,348	31,845	3,503	9.9
New Hartford	3,870	3,651	219	5.7
Newington	16,766	15,796	970	5.8
Plainville	10,272	9,527	745	7.3
Plymouth	6,966	6,450	516	7.4
Portland	5,434	5,128	306	5.6
Rocky Hill	10,870	10,261	609	5.6
Simsbury	12,114	11,612	502	4.1
Southington	24,369	23,062	1,307	5.4
South Windsor	14,859	14,177	682	4.6
Stafford	6,992	6,464	528	7.6
Thomaston	4,732	4,388	344	7.3
Tolland	8,491	8,053	438	5.2
Union	470	455	15	3.2
Vernon	17,548	16,458	1,090	6.2
West Hartford	29,448	27,837	1,611	5.5
Wethersfield	13,448	12,660	788	5.9
Willington	3,930	3,752	178	4.5
Windsor	16,251	15,270	981	6.0

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 referred to as 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)

DECEMBER 2008

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
NEW HAVEN	**312,657**	**292,007**	**20,650**	**6.6**
Bethany	3,125	2,977	148	4.7
Branford	17,456	16,509	947	5.4
Cheshire	14,581	13,912	669	4.6
Chester	2,312	2,188	124	5.4
Clinton	8,025	7,602	423	5.3
Deep River	2,616	2,465	151	5.8
Durham	4,296	4,097	199	4.6
East Haven	16,241	15,173	1,068	6.6
Essex	3,814	3,630	184	4.8
Guilford	13,085	12,458	627	4.8
Hamden	30,919	29,149	1,770	5.7
Killingworth	3,615	3,454	161	4.5
Madison	10,091	9,672	419	4.2
Meriden	32,233	29,573	2,660	8.3
New Haven	56,458	51,050	5,408	9.6
North Branford	8,456	7,998	458	5.4
North Haven	13,278	12,548	730	5.5
Old Saybrook	5,538	5,264	274	4.9
Orange	7,341	6,972	369	5.0
Wallingford	25,551	24,057	1,494	5.8
Westbrook	3,723	3,513	210	5.6
West Haven	29,906	27,747	2,159	7.2
*NORWICH-NEW LONDON	**138,170**	**128,908**	**9,262**	**6.7**
Bozrah	1,485	1,391	94	6.3
Canterbury	3,273	3,034	239	7.3
East Lyme	9,596	9,103	493	5.1
Franklin	1,186	1,124	62	5.2
Griswold	7,288	6,719	569	7.8
Groton	19,320	18,013	1,307	6.8
Ledyard	8,631	8,144	487	5.6
Lisbon	2,598	2,427	171	6.6
Lyme	1,153	1,098	55	4.8
Montville	11,058	10,346	712	6.4
New London	13,859	12,664	1,195	8.6
No. Stonington	3,349	3,121	228	6.8
Norwich	21,020	19,328	1,692	8.0
Old Lyme	4,227	4,033	194	4.6
Preston	2,885	2,722	163	5.6
Salem	2,626	2,494	132	5.0
Sprague	1,840	1,684	156	8.5
Stonington	10,593	10,040	553	5.2
Voluntown	1,644	1,519	125	7.6
Waterford	10,536	9,903	633	6.0

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

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
*NORWICH-NEW LONDON	**151,626**	**141,199**	**10,427**	**6.9**
Westerly, RI	13,456	12,291	1,165	8.7

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	**54,725**	**51,266**	**3,459**	**6.3**
Bethlehem	2,033	1,913	120	5.9
Canaan	617	575	42	6.8
Colebrook	830	801	29	3.5
Cornwall	825	794	31	3.8
Goshen	1,610	1,535	75	4.7
Kent	1,597	1,521	76	4.8
Litchfield	4,397	4,181	216	4.9
Morris	1,321	1,230	91	6.9
Norfolk	946	904	42	4.4
North Canaan	1,759	1,639	120	6.8
Roxbury	1,376	1,320	56	4.1
Salisbury	1,977	1,887	90	4.6
Sharon	1,563	1,502	61	3.9
Torrington	19,595	18,055	1,540	7.9
Warren	742	708	34	4.6
Washington	1,934	1,852	82	4.2
Winchester	6,083	5,607	476	7.8
Woodbury	5,518	5,239	279	5.1
WATERBURY	**103,361**	**94,452**	**8,909**	**8.6**
Beacon Falls	3,361	3,137	224	6.7
Middlebury	3,909	3,715	194	5.0
Naugatuck	17,537	16,202	1,335	7.6
Prospect	5,345	5,053	292	5.5
Waterbury	51,395	45,948	5,447	10.6
Watertown	12,625	11,809	816	6.5
Wolcott	9,189	8,587	602	6.6
WILLIMANTIC-DANIELSON	**58,953**	**54,095**	**4,858**	**8.2**
Brooklyn	3,973	3,639	334	8.4
Chaplin	1,486	1,384	102	6.9
Eastford	1,031	963	68	6.6
Hampton	1,226	1,149	77	6.3
Killingly	9,778	8,869	909	9.3
Plainfield	8,643	7,844	799	9.2
Pomfret	2,306	2,173	133	5.8
Putnam	5,285	4,817	468	8.9
Scotland	1,008	974	34	3.4
Sterling	2,120	1,940	180	8.5
Thompson	5,410	4,966	444	8.2
Windham	12,006	10,996	1,010	8.4
Woodstock	4,682	4,382	300	6.4

Not Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	**1,882,800**	**1,758,900**	**123,900**	**6.6**
UNITED STATES	**154,349,000**	**143,350,000**	**10,999,000**	**7.1**
Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	**1,894,700**	**1,760,500**	**134,200**	**7.1**
UNITED STATES	**154,447,000**	**143,338,000**	**11,108,000**	**7.2**

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	DEC 2008	YR TO DATE 2008	YR TO DATE 2007	TOWN	DEC 2008	YR TO DATE 2008	YR TO DATE 2007	TOWN	DEC 2008	YR TO DATE 2008	YR TO DATE 2007
Andover	1	4	8	Griswold	na	na	na	Preston	0	8	15
Ansonia	0	5	13	Groton	9	69	64	Prospect	na	na	na
Ashford	1	9	11	Guilford	0	41	38	Putnam	0	15	24
Avon	5	19	39	Haddam	0	28	46	Redding	na	na	na
Barkhamsted	na	na	na	Hamden	0	16	20	Ridgefield	5	110	107
Beacon Falls	na	na	na	Hampton	0	10	15	Rocky Hill	1	18	33
Berlin	3	43	93	Hartford	4	69	116	Roxbury	na	na	na
Bethany	na	na	na	Hartland	na	na	na	Salem	0	7	8
Bethel	0	25	8	Harwinton	0	11	14	Salisbury	na	na	na
Bethlehem	na	na	na	Hebron	na	na	na	Scotland	1	5	8
Bloomfield	na	na	na	Kent	0	6	8	Seymour	2	37	28
Bolton	0	5	12	Killingly	1	30	74	Sharon	0	7	9
Bozrah	0	2	9	Killingworth	na	na	na	Shelton	0	111	93
Branford	na	na	na	Lebanon	1	9	15	Sherman	na	na	na
Bridgeport	9	129	187	Ledyard	1	5	18	Simsbury	1	10	26
Bridgewater	na	na	na	Lisbon	0	7	9	Somers	2	24	37
Bristol	1	29	101	Litchfield	na	na	na	South Windsor	1	27	34
Brookfield	na	na	na	Lyme	0	6	6	Southbury	0	9	33
Brooklyn	1	27	38	Madison	2	21	27	Southington	3	99	108
Burlington	0	13	28	Manchester	1	225	326	Sprague	0	10	6
Canaan	0	1	5	Mansfield	0	22	44	Stafford	na	na	na
Canterbury	1	9	14	Marlborough	0	5	22	Stamford	2	684	512
Canton	0	11	23	Meriden	0	31	70	Sterling	na	na	na
Chaplin	0	10	14	Middlebury	na	na	na	Stonington	1	30	70
Cheshire	1	40	51	Middlefield	0	2	8	Stratford	0	13	47
Chester	na	na	na	Middletown	7	178	216	Suffield	1	28	29
Clinton	0	6	10	Milford	8	269	277	Thomaston	na	na	na
Colchester	2	26	58	Monroe	0	16	20	Thompson	na	na	na
Colebrook	0	3	1	Montville	1	19	35	Tolland	2	18	55
Columbia	0	9	8	Morris	1	4	5	Torrington	0	17	63
Cornwall	0	2	8	Naugatuck	0	39	45	Trumbull	1	21	41
Coventry	1	15	32	New Britain	na	na	na	Union	0	3	2
Cromwell	1	23	39	New Canaan	0	26	51	Vernon	1	161	184
Danbury	2	89	290	New Fairfield	na	na	na	Voluntown	1	6	9
Darien	na	na	na	New Hartford	0	11	15	Wallingford	0	36	67
Deep River	0	2	5	New Haven	0	58	32	Warren	0	2	10
Derby	na	na	na	New London	2	33	51	Washington	na	na	na
Durham	1	22	31	New Milford	1	29	34	Waterbury	11	63	146
East Granby	2	20	20	Newington	1	67	81	Waterford	1	27	64
East Haddam	1	19	35	Newtown	0	20	34	Watertown	1	35	45
East Hampton	2	43	72	Norfolk	0	2	4	West Hartford	6	118	104
East Hartford	na	na	na	North Branford	na	na	na	West Haven	na	na	na
East Haven	0	11	28	North Canaan	0	8	5	Westbrook	0	12	23
East Lyme	0	27	116	North Haven	0	4	16	Weston	na	na	na
East Windsor	0	107	108	North Stonington	1	5	19	Westport	4	61	80
Eastford	0	2	6	Norwalk	1	205	95	Wethersfield	na	na	na
Easton	0	5	5	Norwich	0	21	97	Willington	0	5	3
Ellington	1	86	95	Old Lyme	na	na	na	Wilton	na	na	na
Enfield	na	na	na	Old Saybrook	3	15	14	Winchester	0	15	21
Essex	0	7	26	Orange	na	na	na	Windham	1	13	17
Fairfield	2	58	94	Oxford	3	73	69	Windsor	na	na	na
Farmington	2	28	53	Plainfield	2	21	11	Windsor Locks	na	na	na
Franklin	0	2	5	Plainville	2	28	44	Wolcott	1	25	31
Glastonbury	2	40	88	Plymouth	0	8	15	Woodbridge	na	na	na
Goshen	1	21	32	Pomfret	1	10	7	Woodbury	0	16	27
Granby	0	10	26	Portland	0	9	13	Woodstock	0	16	27
Greenwich	7	133	183								

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	**-2.8**
Coincident Employment Index	**-2.7**
Leading General Drift Indicator	**-4.4**
Coincident General Drift Indicator	**-1.5**
Banknorth Business Barometer	**-0.9**
Total Nonfarm Employment	**-1.7**
Unemployment Rate	**+2.3***
Labor Force	+0.7
Employed	-1.7
Unemployed	+48.0
Average Weekly Initial Claims	**+25.7**
Avg Insured Unempl. Rate	**+1.46***
Average Weekly Hours, Mfg	**-2.1**
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg	**+3.1**
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg	**+0.9**
CT Mfg. Production Index	**-4.6**
Production Worker Hours	-5.8
Industrial Electricity Sales	-7.3
Personal Income	**+0.6**
UI Covered Wages	**-0.5**

Business Activity	
New Housing Permits	-56.8
Electricity Sales	-2.7
Construction Contracts Index	-35.4
New Auto Registrations	-36.5
Air Cargo Tons	-9.7
Exports	+16.3
Business Starts	
Secretary of the State	-10.2
Dept. of Labor	-18.8
Business Terminations	
Secretary of the State	+27.2
Dept. of Labor	-21.5
State Revenues	**-4.4**
Corporate Tax	-30.3
Personal Income Tax	-15.9
Real Estate Conveyance Tax	-28.8
Sales & Use Tax	+27.8
Indian Gaming Payments	-11.2

Tourism and Travel	
Info Center Visitors	-3.0
Attraction Visitors	-9.5
Air Passenger Count	-8.9
Indian Gaming Slots	-22.4
Travel and Tourism Index	-5.2
Employment Cost Index (U.S.)	
Total	+2.4
Wages & Salaries	+2.6
Benefit Costs	+2.0
Consumer Prices	
U.S. City Average	+0.1
Northeast Region	+0.8
NY-NJ-Long Island	+1.6
Boston-Brockton-Nashua	+0.7
Interest Rates	
Prime	-3.72*
Conventional Mortgage	-0.77*

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

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