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Profiles of the Connecticut Workforce

By Jungmin Charles Joo, Research Analyst, DOL

Every year, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) provides a great deal of detailed data on the characteristics of Connecticut's workforce in the publication called *Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment*, which is based on annual average data from the Current Population Survey (CPS). Below are some of the findings for 2001 (2002 data are not yet available), along with some comparisons from 1986 and 1996. For the profiles of the workforce in 1986 and 1996, see the August 1998 issue of the *Digest* at <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/misc/ctdigest.htm>.

nation's 66.9 percent, but lower than New England's 68.2 percent. In fact, while both the U.S. and New England saw increases in their labor force participation rates since both 1986 and 1996, Connecticut's rates have declined over both periods.

As the chart below shows, the largest portion of Connecticut's workforce in 2001 was employed in the *professional specialty* occupational group, making up nearly 20 percent of all workers. In fact, this group has experienced steady growth in its job share from 1986. Other occupational groups with increases in employment share since 1986 were *sales and technicians and related support*. Those with a declining trend in employment share included *administrative support (including clerical); machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors; and handlers,*

Connecticut Workforce

In 2001, 67.5 percent of Connecticut residents, 16 years and older, participated in the labor force. This was higher than the

In May...

Nonfarm Employment

Connecticut 1,655,700
 Change over month 0.0%
 Change over year -1.0%

United States 130,067,000
 Change over month -0.01%
 Change over year -0.3%

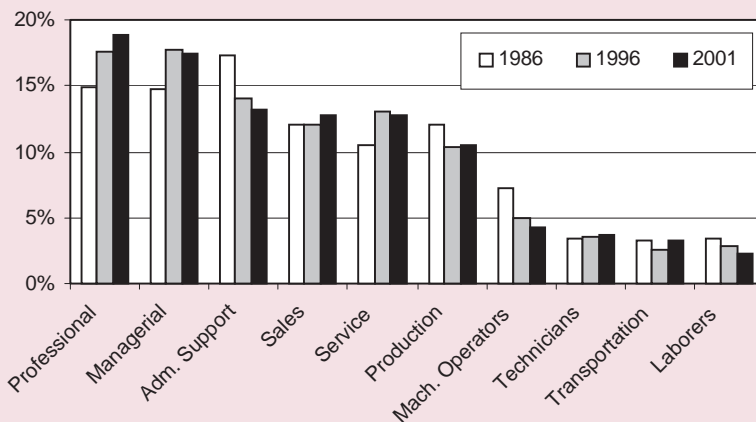
Unemployment Rate

Connecticut 4.9%
 United States 6.1%

Consumer Price Index

United States 183.5
 Change over year 2.1%

Distribution of employed persons by occupation in Connecticut



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

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

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equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers. This continues to support the notion that today's economy is moving toward hiring more educated and highly skilled workers, while persons with less education and skill are facing more limited job prospects.

The data further confirm that Connecticut workers shifted from manufacturing jobs to service jobs in the past 15 years, as the percentage of workers in manufacturing declined from 26.2 percent in 1986 to 14.8 percent in 2001. The services industries now employ nearly one of every three workers (29.4 percent in 2001), and almost one out of five are employed in wholesale and retail trade (17.5 percent).

Women in the Workforce

Women's labor force participation rate declined slightly to 61.8 percent in 2001 from 62.5 percent in 1996, mainly due to the recession, but is still above the 60.8 percent recorded in 1986. By contrast, men's participation rate decreased further from 80.0 percent in 1986 to 73.7 percent in 2001 (Chart below). This is, in part, from the increasing number of older workers retiring because of the availability of Social Security to men 62 years of age.

In 2001, 28.8 percent of working females worked part time, while this was the case for only 11.0 percent of men – both their

shares fell slightly from 1996 levels. More than a third of the women (38.2 percent) cited other family or personal obligations as reasons for working part time. Other reasons included their being in school or training (17.6 percent), being retired or having the Social Security limit on earnings (7.8 percent), and child care problems (6.9 percent).

Many women continued to work in the services and trade sectors, where part-time positions are plentiful. In 2001, more than a third of women worked in the services industry, and almost 16 percent in the trade sector. For men, one in five were employed in services and another one in five worked in manufacturing in 2001.

While one in five women still worked in *administrative support (including clerical)* occupations in 2001, one in five also worked in the *professional* field, which was a higher proportion than men held (16.9 percent). More women were employed in *management* positions than previously, despite the recession, rising in employment share from 16.2 percent in 1996 to 17.1 percent in 2001. A greater proportion of women workers also entered *technical* fields (37.7 percent) than men (22.2 percent).

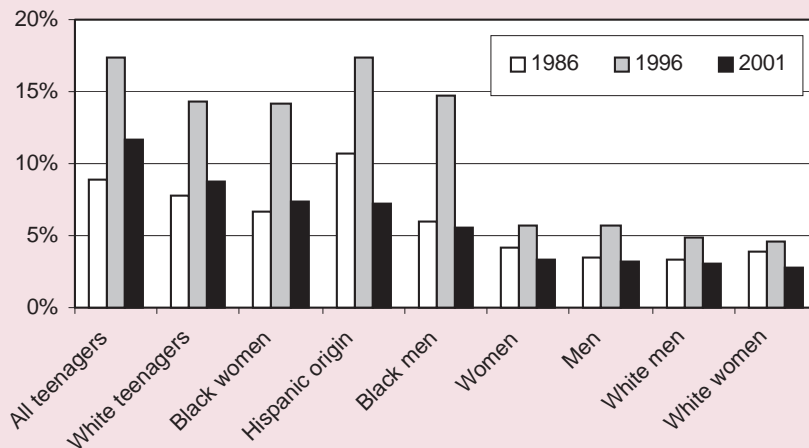
A Diverse Workforce

The black and Hispanic share of the labor force essentially has not changed from five years ago.

Connecticut labor force participation rates



Connecticut unemployment rates



They constituted 10.7 percent and 5.6 percent, respectively, of the total labor force in 2001, while 87 percent was white. (Detail for race and Hispanic-origin groups will not add to 100 percent because data for the “other races” group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups).

Five years later, whites still dominate in the *managerial* and *professional* fields, while the largest percentage of blacks and Hispanics held jobs in *service* occupations. In fact, while whites’ share of workers in these fields increased, they declined for blacks and Hispanics since 1996. There were no noticeable changes in the percent share in other occupational groups for whites and blacks in the last five years. For Hispanics, however, there were dramatic increases of employed persons in *sales; administrative support, including clerical; and precision production, craft, and repair*.

Involuntary Part-Timers

Connecticut had a total of 20,000 involuntary part-time workers in 2001. These are persons who work part time for economic reasons which include: slack work or business conditions, inability to find full-time work, and seasonal declines in demand. Men had a slightly larger share of involuntary part-time workers (8.3

percent) than women did (5.7 percent) in 2001. Almost one in five blacks (18.2 percent) and Hispanics (18.8 percent) worked as involuntary part-timers, while this was the case for 5.5 percent of whites.

Hours of Work

In 2001, of those who usually worked full time, the biggest reason for working less than 35 hours a week was due to taking vacation or personal days (39.3 percent). For workers who usually worked part time, the major factor for working less than 35 hours was attributed to other family or personal obligations (27.8 percent). This was especially the case for women (38.2 percent), whereas four out of every ten men said that being in school or training caused them to work fewer hours. For those not at work, over half of the persons with a job said they were on vacation at the time of the survey. About 17.1 percent cited their own illnesses as reason for not being at work.

Unemployment

Any comparison of unemployment in the years 1986, 1996, and 2001 needs to consider the difference in economic conditions in the three years. In 1986, Connecticut was in the midst of an economic boom and had a low unemployment rate of 3.8 percent, compared to 5.7 percent in 1996. In

2001, the jobless rate fell further, to 3.3 percent. Unemployment rates were lower in 2001 than in 1996 among all population groups. As the chart left shows, joblessness for blacks was 6.5 percent in 2001, compared with 14.4 percent in 1996. The Hispanic labor force had 7.2 percent who were unemployed, down from 17.3 percent in 1996. White women experienced the lowest rate in both 1996 (4.6 percent) and 2001 (2.8 percent).

Those who involuntarily lost jobs made up half (50.7 percent) of the total number of unemployed persons in 2001. Reentrants, who previously worked but were out of the labor force prior to beginning their job search, made up 29.5 percent of the total unemployed. Their situations were essentially the same as five years ago. The proportion of voluntary job leavers did increase, however, from 9.7 percent in 1996 to 13.9 percent in 2001, though still below 1986’s 20.4 percent. Only the proportion of new entrants showed continued declines, with 9.1 percent in 1986, 7.1 percent in 1996, and 5.8 percent in 2001, suggesting that the current recession is discouraging job seekers from even entering the tight job market.

In 2001, about a third (36.1 percent) of the total unemployed experienced jobless spells lasting less than 5 weeks. This was somewhat less than in 1996 (30.6 percent). More than a quarter (28.6 percent) remained unemployed for more than 15 weeks in 2001, which was slightly below 1996’s 36.6 percent. Of these long-term unemployed, 11.8 percent were without a job for more than 27 weeks, compared to 18.8 percent back in 1996. About one out of every twenty unemployed persons in 2001 had been looking for a job for over a year. ■

For more information from the *Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, 2001*, visit the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Web site, <http://stats.bls.gov/opub/gp/laugp.htm>.

OCCUPATION PROFILE

COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALISTS

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

Introduction

Computer support specialists are the front line of business and industry who provide the necessary technical and procedural assistance to clients and employees. Living and working in a highly technical society, utilizing computers and software, often generates questions requiring answers from competent, knowledgeable, and well-trained specialists. We look to these individuals for guidance in all sectors of our computerized society.

What They Do

Computer support specialists administer the help desk of companies or institutions and offer help primarily in the area of technical support dealing with practices and procedures of data and information processing. The maintenance and operation of all aspects of technology include keyboards, printers, monitors, mainframes, servers, and multi office equipment.

Those companies that sell computer equipment and software employ support specialists who are on call at all hours of the day, offering suggestions to clients on how best to operate programs or equipment or trouble shoot technical problems dealing with programs and equipment.

Education

Requirements for computer support specialists are somewhat broad based. It is recommended that candidates acquire an Associate's Degree for entry level purposes. Advanced degrees or education above this level would enhance opportunities for advancement in the field. Experience in the information and data processing field is usually a

prerequisite together with a certificate or degree. "Hands on" experience is another qualification which enhances one's ability to generate career opportunities.

Community colleges and private vendors offer coursework, seminars, and workshops in computer related fields for those who are seeking other alternatives to a formal four-year degree. Some companies and institutions may require vendor-

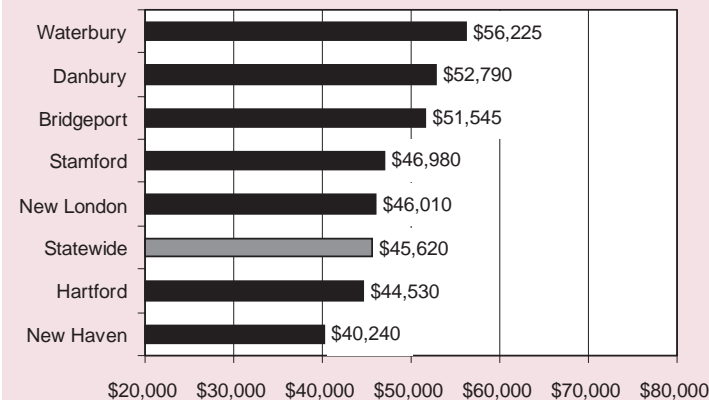
the fastest growing occupations over the 2000-10 period. In Connecticut, 7,720 persons are currently employed as computer support specialists. By the year 2010, this occupation is projected to grow by another 5,260 positions. In fact, this is expected to be the fastest growing occupation in the State, growing by 68.1 percent over the decade. Following computer support specialists, the next six occupations are also

computer related. With regard to the number of jobs being generated, this occupation ranks fourth overall. In terms of the total number of the annual job openings (due to both job growth and replacement needs), it is ranked in the top twenty.

Although the computer industry is presently in a holding pattern regarding sales and production, it is expected to generate a much higher level of growth due to the need of businesses and individuals

to replace old equipment and as a result of continuing innovation in the industry. Job prospects are likely to remain very optimistic for the foreseeable future. ■

Average Annual Wage for Computer Support Specialists by Selected Labor Market Area, 2001



based certificates which qualify candidates for certain specialized software and hardware based programs.

Earnings

Computer support specialists in Connecticut earn an average annual wage of \$45,620 (See chart). Earnings higher than the statewide average are generally found in southwestern and western Connecticut. For those persons who are beginning this career, the entry level wage is around \$32,000. At the national level, the average salary is \$20.16 per hour, or \$41,920 annually.

Employment Outlook

Nationally, computer support specialists are projected to be among

For additional information about a career as a computer support specialist, contact:

Association of Computer Support Specialists, 218 Huntington Rd., Bridgeport, CT 06608. Internet: <http://www.acss.org>

Association of Support Professionals, 66 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown, MA 02472.

BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN THE NEWS MEDIA

- May of 2003 saw the opening of the Price Chopper supermarket in Waterbury, employing approximately 400 people. Norden Systems of Norwalk is seeking to fill between 40 and 50 engineering positions, due to increased demand for the defense radar systems that this company produces. Cleary's Restaurant and Pub has opened in the old Ground Round in Waterbury employing 30 people.
- The Hartford Financial Services Group announced the layoff of 850 Connecticut employees in May in an effort to offset the costs of asbestos related claims. The closing of the Adams Supermarket stores in New Britain and New London, slated for late June, will result in the loss of 99 jobs.

Business and 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>.

HOUSING UPDATE

916 Units Authorized in May

Commissioner James F. Abromaitis of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development announced that Connecticut communities authorized 916 new housing units in May 2003, a 4.3 percent decrease compared to May of 2002 when 957 units were authorized.

The Department further indicated that the 916 units permitted in May 2003 represent a seven percent

increase from the 856 units permitted in April 2003. The year-to-date permits are down 13.9 percent, from 4,014 through May 2002, to 3,455 through May 2003.

The Waterbury Labor Market Area (LMA) showed the largest number (70 units) and percentage (137 percent) increase of permits issued when compared to a year ago. Torrington and Bridgeport LMAs also had net gain of 20 units and 19 units respec-

tively. For year-to-date, the Torrington Labor Market Area is the only LMA to show an increase in permit authorizations. Waterbury led all Connecticut communities with 70 new units, followed by Southington with 28 and Ellington with 26. From a county perspective, Tolland County had the smallest year-to-date loss of 5.3 percent.

See data tables on pages 19 and 22.

GENERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	1Q	1Q	CHANGE		4Q
	2003	2002	NO.	%	2002
Employment Indexes (1992=100)*					
Leading	113.3	112.3	1.0	0.9	112.8
Coincident	107.6	109.3	-1.7	-1.6	108.7
General Drift Indicator (1986=100)*					
Leading	98.1	99.3	-1.2	-1.2	98.1
Coincident	101.2	102.4	-1.2	-1.2	101.5
Business Barometer (1992=100)**	116.9	117.6	-0.7	-0.6	117.5

Sources: *The Connecticut Economy, Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut

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

Total nonfarm employment decreased by 17,500 over the year, largely the result of manufacturing job losses.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

	MAY		CHANGE		APR
	2003	2002	NO.	%	2003
TOTAL NONFARM	1,655.7	1,673.2	-17.5	-1.0	1,655.7
Construction	60.4	64.2	-3.8	-5.9	60.8
Manufacturing	204.6	213.4	-8.8	-4.1	205.4
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	317.6	312.0	5.6	1.8	318.6
Information	40.0	41.7	-1.7	-4.1	40.1
Financial Activities	143.0	142.9	0.1	0.1	142.4
Professional and Business Services	200.4	203.3	-2.9	-1.4	201.4
Education and Health Services	265.1	259.1	6.0	2.3	266.2
Government*	246.7	250.2	-3.5	-1.4	245.8

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor (see page 12 for other industries, not seasonally adjusted)
* Includes Native American tribal government employment

The unemployment rate rose while initial claims for unemployment insurance fell from a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

	MAY		CHANGE		APR
	2003	2002	NO.	%	2003
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	4.9	4.2	0.7	---	5.3
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,776.1	1,770.6	5.5	0.3	1,785.2
Employed (000s)	1,689.1	1,696.0	-6.9	-0.4	1,690.8
Unemployed (000s)	87.0	74.7	12.3	16.5	94.5
Average Weekly Initial Claims	4,625	6,058	-1,433	-23.7	5,384
Help Wanted Index -- Htfd. (1987=100)	12	17	-5	-29.4	11
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	3.37	3.22	0.15	---	3.63

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; The Conference Board

Both the production worker weekly earnings and output increased over the year.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

	MAY		CHANGE		APR	MAR
	2003	2002	NO.	%	2003	2003
Average Weekly Hours	41.3	41.4	-0.1	-0.2	41.3	--
Average Hourly Earnings	17.67	17.09	0.58	3.4	17.57	--
Average Weekly Earnings	729.77	707.53	22.24	3.1	725.64	--
CT Mfg. Production Index (1986=100)*	109.6	107.1	2.5	2.3	106.8	106.3
Production Worker Hours (000s)	5,117	4,925	192	3.9	5,170	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)**	456	463	-7.0	-1.5	417	440

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

Personal income for third quarter 2003 is forecasted to increase 2.2 percent from a year earlier.

INCOME

	3Q*		CHANGE		2Q*
	2003	2002	NO.	%	2003
Personal Income	\$151,509	\$148,255	\$3,254	2.2	\$150,719
UI Covered Wages	\$78,854	\$77,412	\$1,442	1.9	\$78,488

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis: April 2003 release
*Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %	YEAR TO DATE		%
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
New Housing Permits	MAY 2003	916	-4.3	3,455	4,014	-13.9
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	JAN 2003	2,945	11.0	2,945	2,653	11.0
Retail Sales (Bil. \$)	MAR 2003	3.78	-2.8	9.42	9.54	-1.3
Construction Contracts						
Index (1980=100)	APR 2003	255.6	-39.4	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	MAY 2003	21,302	-1.3	98,605	96,986	1.7
Air Cargo Tons	MAR 2003	11,253	-7.2	33,194	34,759	-4.5
Exports (Bil. \$)	1Q 2003	1.99	-3.4	1.99	2.06	-3.4

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

Year-to-date new auto registrations were up 1.7 percent from the same period a year ago.

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

	MO/QTR	LEVEL	Y/Y %	YEAR TO DATE		%
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
STARTS						
Secretary of the State	MAY 2003	2,179	-9.4	11,360	11,657	-2.5
Department of Labor*	3Q 2002	2,151	-7.7	4,685	5,395	-13.2
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	MAY 2003	852	110.4	4,580	2,385	92.0
Department of Labor*	3Q 2002	1,257	-35.8	2,679	3,718	-27.9

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

Net business formation, as measured by starts minus stops registered with the Secretary of the State, was down 26.9 percent to 6,780 from the same period last year.

STATE REVENUES

				YEAR TO DATE		
	MAY 2003	MAY 2002	% CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	% CHG
<i>(Millions of dollars)</i>						
TOTAL ALL REVENUES*	617.4	741.0	-16.7	4,223.4	4,109.6	2.8
Corporate Tax	9.0	87.5	-89.7	184.5	151.5	21.8
Personal Income Tax	268.0	295.4	-9.3	2,021.9	2,042.2	-1.0
Real Estate Conv. Tax	9.7	8.5	14.1	44.4	45.4	-2.2
Sales & Use Tax	243.3	209.2	16.3	1,258.8	1,271.1	-1.0
Indian Gaming Payments**	36.2	33.0	9.8	159.7	153.7	3.9

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.

Total State revenues were up 2.8 percent so far this year from the year-to-date level last year.

TOURISM AND TRAVEL

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %	YEAR TO DATE		%
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
Info Center Visitors	MAY 2003	34,695	-32.8	131,617	200,228	-34.3
Major Attraction Visitors	MAY 2003	170,697	-9.4	588,276	680,014	-13.5
Air Passenger Count	MAY 2003	543,437	-6.2	2,533,777	2,653,079	-4.5
Indian Gaming Slots (Mil.\$)*	MAY 2003	1,774	9.8	7,850	7,569	3.7
Travel and Tourism Index**	1Q 2003	---	-5.3	---	---	---

Sources: Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation and Ports; Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development; Connecticut Lodging & Attractions Association; Division of Special Revenue

*See page 23 for explanation

**The Connecticut Economy, Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut

Year-to-date air passenger traffic was down 4.5 percent from the same period a year ago.

Compensation costs for the nation rose 3.8 percent, while the Northeast's increased 3.5 percent over the year.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	MAR	DEC	3-Mo	MAR	MAR	12-Mo
	2003	2002	% Chg	2003	2002	% Chg
Private Industry Workers (June 1989=100)						
UNITED STATES TOTAL	164.9	162.7	1.4	165.0	158.9	3.8
Wages and Salaries	159.3	157.7	1.0	159.3	154.7	3.0
Benefit Costs	178.9	174.7	2.4	179.6	169.3	6.1
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	163.8	158.3	3.5
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	157.3	153.5	2.5

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

The May U.S. inflation rate was 2.1 percent, while U.S. and New England consumer confidence declined 24.0 and 20.5 percent from May a year ago, respectively.

CONSUMER NEWS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	MO/QTR	LEVEL	% CHANGE	
			Y/Y	P/P*
CONSUMER PRICES				
Connecticut**	1Q 2003	---	3.2	---
CPI-U (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	MAY 2003	183.5	2.1	-0.2
Purchasing Power of \$ (1982-84=\$1.00)	MAY 2003	\$0.545	-2.0	0.2
Northeast Region	MAY 2003	192.7	2.7	0.1
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	MAY 2003	196.8	2.8	0.1
Boston-Brockton-Nashua***	MAY 2003	202.3	3.9	-0.2
CPI-W (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	MAY 2003	179.4	2.0	-0.2
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE (1985=100)				
Connecticut**	1Q 2003	82.3	-28.0	17.4
New England	MAY 2003	85.3	-20.5	28.5
U.S.	MAY 2003	83.8	-24.0	3.5

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; The Conference Board

*Change over prior monthly or quarterly period

**The Connecticut Economy, Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut

***The Boston CPI can be used as a proxy for New England and is measured every other month.

Interest rates were uniformly lower than a year ago, including the 30-year conventional mortgage rate at 5.48 percent.

INTEREST RATES

(Percent)	MAY	APR	MAY
	2003	2003	2002
Prime	4.25	4.25	4.75
Federal Funds	1.26	1.26	1.75
3 Month Treasury Bill	1.07	1.13	1.76
6 Month Treasury Bill	1.08	1.14	1.91
1 Year Treasury Bill	1.26	1.36	2.66
3 Year Treasury Note	2.05	2.43	4.25
5 Year Treasury Note	2.84	3.29	4.93
7 Year Treasury Note	3.38	3.83	5.33
10 Year Treasury Note	3.91	4.34	5.67
30 Year Treasury Bond	4.81	5.18	6.17
Conventional Mortgage	5.48	5.81	6.81

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Six out of the nine states in the region lost jobs over the year.

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	MAY	MAY	CHANGE		APR
	2003	2002	NO.	%	2003
Connecticut	1,655.7	1,673.2	-17.5	-1.0	1,655.7
Maine	605.2	606.4	-1.2	-0.2	605.2
Massachusetts	3,217.4	3,258.0	-40.6	-1.2	3,209.5
New Hampshire	617.3	617.7	-0.4	-0.1	615.3
New Jersey	4,009.0	3,991.4	17.6	0.4	4,012.4
New York	8,391.1	8,457.4	-66.3	-0.8	8,386.2
Pennsylvania	5,641.3	5,656.9	-15.6	-0.3	5,629.1
Rhode Island	481.1	478.7	2.4	0.5	479.9
Vermont	303.3	299.9	3.4	1.1	303.4
United States	130,067.0	130,411.0	-344.0	-0.3	130,084.0

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

LABOR FORCE

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

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	MAY	MAY	CHANGE		APR
	2003	2002	NO.	%	2003
Connecticut	1,776.1	1,770.6	5.5	0.3	1,785.2
Maine	693.0	685.4	7.6	1.1	697.5
Massachusetts	3,450.7	3,478.7	-28.0	-0.8	3,451.2
New Hampshire	712.3	704.9	7.4	1.0	714.7
New Jersey	4,421.2	4,360.6	60.6	1.4	4,425.0
New York	9,338.0	9,349.8	-11.8	-0.1	9,354.5
Pennsylvania	6,176.4	6,282.5	-106.1	-1.7	6,217.8
Rhode Island	572.1	553.7	18.4	3.3	569.2
Vermont	351.9	348.1	3.8	1.1	353.2
United States	146,485.0	144,911.0	1,574.0	1.1	146,473.0

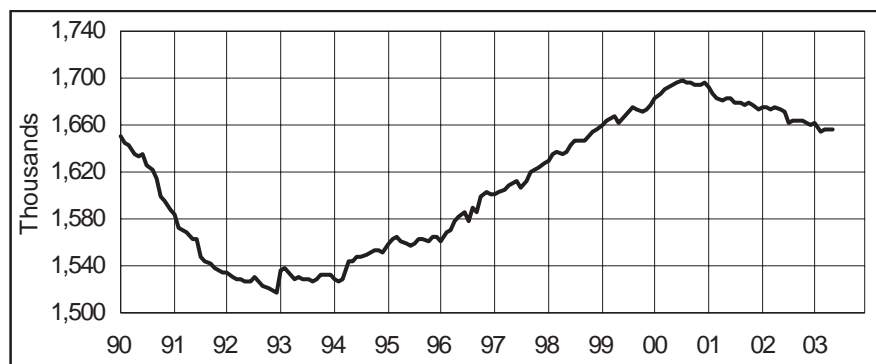
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

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

<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	MAY	MAY	CHANGE	APR
	2003	2002		2003
Connecticut	4.9	4.2	0.7	5.3
Maine	4.5	4.2	0.3	4.8
Massachusetts	5.5	5.1	0.4	5.5
New Hampshire	3.9	4.7	-0.8	4.0
New Jersey	5.6	5.8	-0.2	5.8
New York	6.1	6.1	0.0	6.1
Pennsylvania	5.6	5.6	0.0	5.9
Rhode Island	5.4	4.9	0.5	5.3
Vermont	4.1	3.8	0.3	4.2
United States	6.1	5.8	0.3	6.0

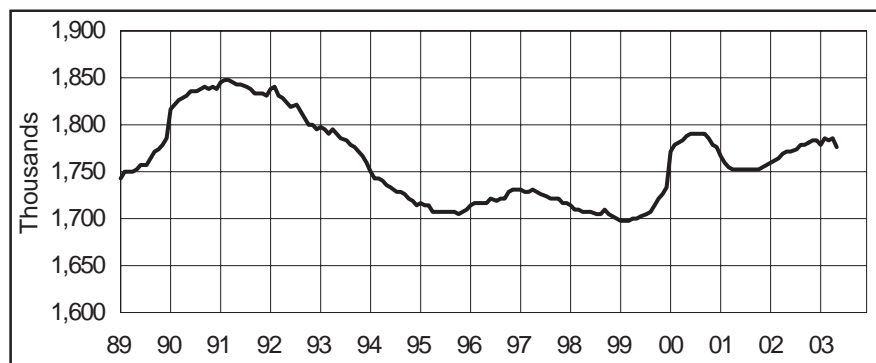
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT (Seasonally adjusted)

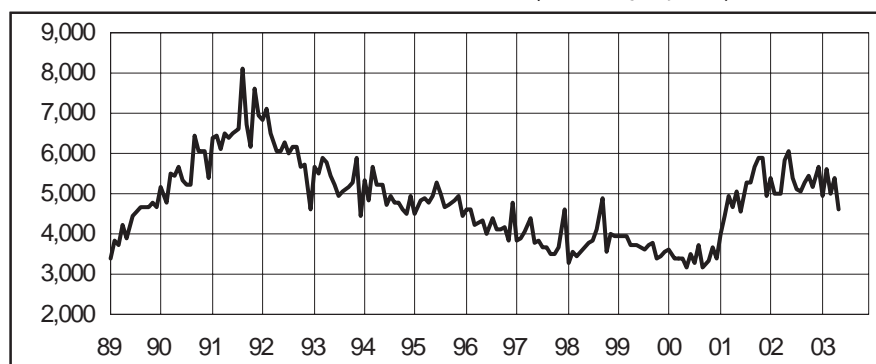
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	1,692.3	1,674.6	1,661.7
Feb	1,686.3	1,674.3	1,655.0
Mar	1,682.8	1,673.5	1,656.2
Apr	1,681.8	1,675.2	1,655.7
May	1,683.5	1,673.2	1,655.7
Jun	1,682.4	1,672.1	
Jul	1,679.2	1,661.7	
Aug	1,680.0	1,664.5	
Sep	1,677.3	1,663.9	
Oct	1,678.2	1,662.9	
Nov	1,676.5	1,662.4	
Dec	1,673.4	1,660.2	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (Seasonally adjusted)

Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	2.4	4.1	4.9
Feb	2.5	4.1	5.0
Mar	2.8	4.1	5.2
Apr	2.9	4.2	5.3
May	3.1	4.2	4.9
Jun	3.3	4.2	
Jul	3.4	4.4	
Aug	3.6	4.4	
Sep	3.6	4.5	
Oct	3.7	4.5	
Nov	3.9	4.6	
Dec	4.0	4.7	

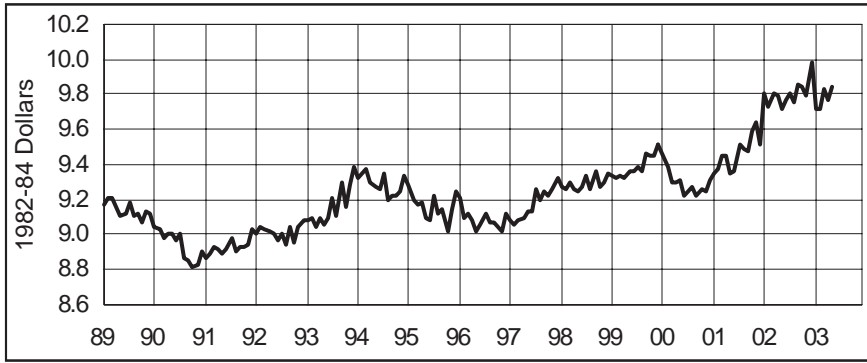
LABOR FORCE (Seasonally adjusted)

Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	1,766.8	1,760.2	1,777.5
Feb	1,759.3	1,761.7	1,785.2
Mar	1,755.8	1,764.5	1,782.7
Apr	1,753.2	1,768.9	1,785.2
May	1,753.4	1,770.6	1,776.1
Jun	1,752.7	1,771.2	
Jul	1,753.3	1,774.5	
Aug	1,753.3	1,777.5	
Sep	1,751.5	1,778.2	
Oct	1,753.4	1,781.3	
Nov	1,755.2	1,782.7	
Dec	1,757.2	1,783.3	

AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS (Seasonally adjusted)

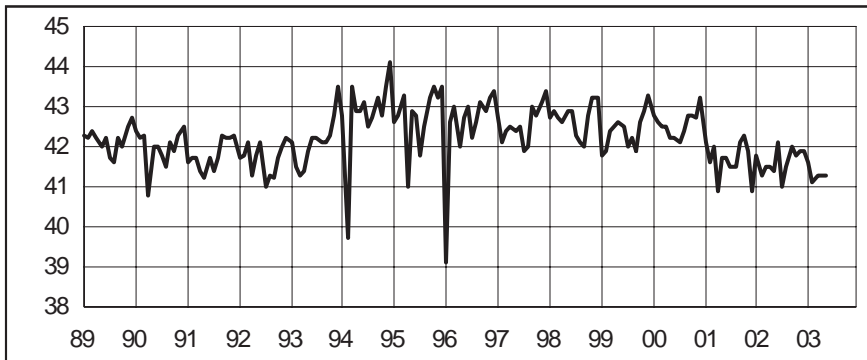
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	3,980	5,406	4,931
Feb	4,419	4,988	5,594
Mar	4,967	5,004	5,006
Apr	4,673	5,850	5,384
May	5,045	6,058	4,625
Jun	4,547	5,374	
Jul	5,267	5,128	
Aug	5,298	5,072	
Sep	5,688	5,263	
Oct	5,916	5,452	
Nov	5,889	5,148	
Dec	4,939	5,678	

REAL AVG MANUFACTURING HOURLY EARNINGS (Not seasonally adjusted)*



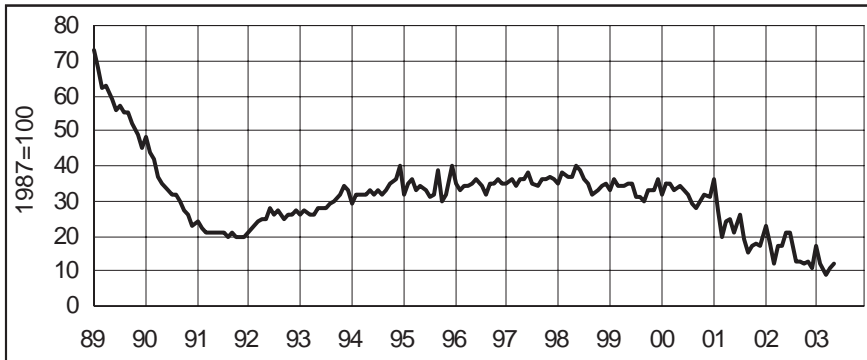
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	\$9.35	\$9.81	\$9.71
Feb	9.37	9.74	9.72
Mar	9.45	9.81	9.83
Apr	9.45	9.79	9.77
May	9.35	9.72	9.85
Jun	9.36	9.77	
Jul	9.52	9.80	
Aug	9.49	9.75	
Sep	9.47	9.86	
Oct	9.59	9.85	
Nov	9.64	9.79	
Dec	9.52	9.99	

AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS (Not seasonally adjusted)



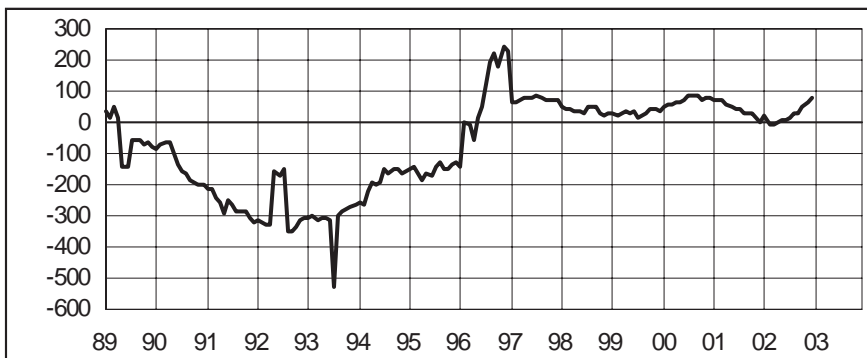
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	42.1	41.8	41.6
Feb	41.6	41.3	41.1
Mar	42.0	41.5	41.3
Apr	40.9	41.5	41.3
May	41.7	41.4	41.3
Jun	41.7	42.1	
Jul	41.5	41.0	
Aug	41.5	41.5	
Sep	42.1	42.0	
Oct	42.3	41.8	
Nov	41.9	41.9	
Dec	40.9	41.9	

HARTFORD HELP WANTED INDEX (Seasonally adjusted)



Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	36	23	17
Feb	27	18	12
Mar	20	12	9
Apr	24	17	11
May	25	17	12
Jun	21	21	
Jul	26	21	
Aug	19	13	
Sep	15	13	
Oct	17	12	
Nov	18	13	
Dec	17	11	

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



Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	69	22	
Feb	72	-9	
Mar	71	-4	
Apr	55	1	
May	51	5	
Jun	45	6	
Jul	40	16	
Aug	29	28	
Sep	27	30	
Oct	26	51	
Nov	13	66	
Dec	3	78	

*New series began in 2001; prior years are not directly comparable

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

CONNECTICUT

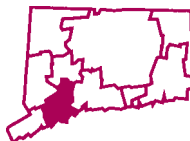
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	MAY	MAY	CHANGE		APR
	2003	2002	NO.	%	2003
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	1,660,700	1,680,400	-19,700	-1.2	1,652,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	266,800	279,100	-12,300	-4.4	265,400
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	62,200	65,800	-3,600	-5.5	60,200
MANUFACTURING	204,600	213,300	-8,700	-4.1	205,200
Durable Goods	150,700	158,000	-7,300	-4.6	151,500
Fabricated Metal.....	34,100	35,400	-1,300	-3.7	34,300
Machinery.....	18,600	20,600	-2,000	-9.7	18,900
Computer and Electronic Product.....	16,100	18,200	-2,100	-11.5	16,000
Electrical Equipment.....	11,000	11,600	-600	-5.2	11,100
Transportation Equipment.....	43,700	45,500	-1,800	-4.0	43,800
Aerospace Product and Parts.....	30,500	32,300	-1,800	-5.6	30,500
Non-Durable Goods	53,900	55,300	-1,400	-2.5	53,700
Printing and Related.....	8,300	8,900	-600	-6.7	8,300
Chemical.....	18,100	19,100	-1,000	-5.2	18,200
Plastics and Rubber Products.....	8,200	8,300	-100	-1.2	8,100
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	1,393,900	1,401,300	-7,400	-0.5	1,387,000
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	308,700	310,200	-1,500	-0.5	307,100
Wholesale Trade.....	64,800	66,400	-1,600	-2.4	64,600
Retail Trade.....	194,700	194,000	700	0.4	193,400
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers.....	22,200	22,400	-200	-0.9	22,200
Building Material.....	17,200	16,900	300	1.8	16,800
Food and Beverage Stores.....	45,900	45,900	0	0.0	45,800
General Merchandise Stores.....	22,900	24,000	-1,100	-4.6	22,500
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities.....	49,200	49,800	-600	-1.2	49,100
Utilities.....	8,900	9,000	-100	-1.1	8,900
Transportation and Warehousing.....	40,300	40,800	-500	-1.2	40,200
INFORMATION	39,900	41,500	-1,600	-3.9	39,900
Telecommunications.....	13,900	15,000	-1,100	-7.3	14,000
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	142,100	142,400	-300	-0.2	141,400
Finance and Insurance.....	122,000	121,800	200	0.2	121,600
Credit Intermediation.....	31,400	31,800	-400	-1.3	31,400
Securities and Commodity Contracts.....	17,700	17,300	400	2.3	17,700
Insurance Carriers.....	55,500	55,700	-200	-0.4	55,200
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing.....	20,100	20,600	-500	-2.4	19,800
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	199,800	203,800	-4,000	-2.0	199,200
Professional, Scientific.....	87,100	91,400	-4,300	-4.7	88,500
Legal Services.....	14,700	14,900	-200	-1.3	14,700
Computer Systems Design.....	18,900	20,500	-1,600	-7.8	19,100
Management of Companies.....	26,800	27,500	-700	-2.5	26,800
Administrative and Support.....	85,900	84,900	1,000	1.2	83,900
Employment Services.....	29,600	28,700	900	3.1	28,200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	264,300	259,500	4,800	1.8	265,300
Educational Services.....	49,000	46,500	2,500	5.4	50,900
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	215,300	213,000	2,300	1.1	214,400
Hospitals.....	53,400	53,400	0	0.0	53,100
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities.....	56,400	55,800	600	1.1	56,000
Social Assistance.....	34,500	33,800	700	2.1	34,600
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	127,000	126,400	600	0.5	121,500
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation.....	24,700	24,600	100	0.4	22,600
Accommodation and Food Services.....	102,300	101,800	500	0.5	98,900
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places.....	91,200	90,400	800	0.9	88,200
OTHER SERVICES	62,100	63,400	-1,300	-2.1	62,100
GOVERNMENT	250,000	254,100	-4,100	-1.6	250,500
Federal Government.....	20,400	21,000	-600	-2.9	20,600
State Government.....	66,700	71,600	-4,900	-6.8	68,900
**Local Government.....	162,900	161,500	1,400	0.9	161,000

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.

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

BRIDGEPORT LMA



	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				
	MAY 2003	MAY 2002	CHANGE		APR 2003
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT.....	187,400	187,600	-200	-0.1	186,600
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES.....	35,600	37,900	-2,300	-6.1	35,700
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING....	6,500	7,100	-600	-8.5	6,500
MANUFACTURING.....	29,100	30,800	-1,700	-5.5	29,200
Durable Goods.....	24,200	25,800	-1,600	-6.2	24,300
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES.....	151,800	149,700	2,100	1.4	150,900
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES.....	37,900	37,200	700	1.9	37,800
Wholesale Trade.....	7,000	7,200	-200	-2.8	7,200
Retail Trade.....	25,400	24,300	1,100	4.5	25,200
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	5,500	5,700	-200	-3.5	5,400
INFORMATION.....	5,000	4,600	400	8.7	5,000
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES.....	10,700	11,600	-900	-7.8	10,800
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	20,000	21,200	-1,200	-5.7	19,900
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	33,100	31,700	1,400	4.4	33,100
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY.....	14,000	13,700	300	2.2	13,300
Accommodation and Food Services.....	11,000	10,600	400	3.8	10,600
OTHER SERVICES.....	7,000	6,900	100	1.4	7,000
GOVERNMENT	24,100	22,800	1,300	5.7	24,000
Federal.....	1,900	2,000	-100	-5.0	1,900
State & Local.....	22,200	20,800	1,400	6.7	22,100

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

DANBURY LMA



	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				
	MAY 2003	MAY 2002	CHANGE		APR 2003
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT.....	91,100	89,200	1,900	2.1	91,000
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES.....	18,600	18,300	300	1.6	18,500
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING....	4,400	4,200	200	4.8	4,200
MANUFACTURING.....	14,200	14,100	100	0.7	14,300
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES.....	72,500	70,900	1,600	2.3	72,500
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES.....	18,600	18,100	500	2.8	18,300
Wholesale Trade.....	2,700	2,600	100	3.8	2,600
Retail Trade.....	14,000	13,600	400	2.9	13,800
INFORMATION.....	3,000	3,000	0	0.0	3,000
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES.....	4,300	4,200	100	2.4	4,300
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	10,500	11,100	-600	-5.4	10,500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	12,900	12,400	500	4.0	13,000
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY.....	7,300	6,800	500	7.4	7,100
OTHER SERVICES.....	3,800	3,700	100	2.7	3,800
GOVERNMENT	12,100	11,600	500	4.3	12,500
Federal.....	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local.....	11,300	10,800	500	4.6	11,700

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 2002.

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

DANIELSON LMA



Due to recent staff cuts, data for this labor market area are no longer being developed for publication.

HARTFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

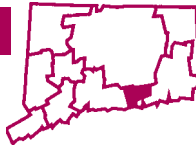
	MAY	MAY	CHANGE		APR
	2003	2002	NO.	%	2003
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT.....	606,900	612,400	-5,500	-0.9	603,900
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES.....	97,200	102,000	-4,800	-4.7	96,500
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING.....	22,400	23,100	-700	-3.0	21,700
MANUFACTURING.....	74,800	78,900	-4,100	-5.2	74,800
Durable Goods.....	61,900	65,200	-3,300	-5.1	62,000
Fabricated Metal.....	15,300	16,100	-800	-5.0	15,300
Non-Durable Goods.....	12,900	13,700	-800	-5.8	12,800
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES.....	509,700	510,400	-700	-0.1	507,400
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES.....	106,000	106,100	-100	-0.1	105,800
Wholesale Trade.....	21,100	22,300	-1,200	-5.4	21,200
Retail Trade.....	65,300	63,500	1,800	2.8	64,900
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	19,600	20,300	-700	-3.4	19,700
Transportation and Warehousing.....	16,100	16,600	-500	-3.0	16,200
INFORMATION.....	11,000	12,100	-1,100	-9.1	11,000
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES.....	71,500	72,400	-900	-1.2	71,200
Finance and Insurance.....	66,300	66,500	-200	-0.3	66,000
Insurance Carriers.....	44,500	44,300	200	0.5	44,300
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	60,700	62,800	-2,100	-3.3	60,600
Professional, Scientific.....	27,500	28,600	-1,100	-3.8	28,200
Management of Companies.....	6,400	6,600	-200	-3.0	6,400
Administrative and Support.....	26,800	27,600	-800	-2.9	26,000
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	89,800	87,800	2,000	2.3	89,200
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	79,000	77,400	1,600	2.1	78,700
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY.....	41,400	41,200	200	0.5	39,700
Accommodation and Food Services.....	33,900	33,900	0	0.0	33,300
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places.	30,600	30,400	200	0.7	30,100
OTHER SERVICES.....	26,000	24,600	1,400	5.7	25,700
GOVERNMENT.....	103,300	103,400	-100	-0.1	104,200
Federal.....	7,100	7,100	0	0.0	7,100
State & Local.....	96,200	96,300	-100	-0.1	97,100

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 2002.

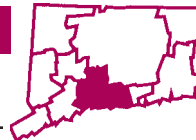
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

LOWER RIVER LMA



Due to recent staff cuts, data for this labor market area are no longer being developed for publication.

NEW HAVEN LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

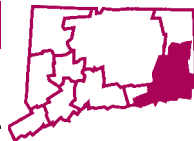
	MAY 2003	MAY 2002	CHANGE		APR 2003
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	261,000	261,900	-900	-0.3	260,900
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	43,100	43,200	-100	-0.2	43,000
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	11,000	10,700	300	2.8	10,600
MANUFACTURING	32,100	32,500	-400	-1.2	32,400
Durable Goods.....	21,300	21,700	-400	-1.8	21,600
Non-Durable Goods.....	10,800	10,800	0	0.0	10,800
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	217,900	218,700	-800	-0.4	217,900
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	46,100	47,100	-1,000	-2.1	46,500
Wholesale Trade.....	9,600	10,400	-800	-7.7	9,800
Retail Trade.....	28,800	28,900	-100	-0.3	29,100
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	7,700	7,800	-100	-1.3	7,600
INFORMATION	9,900	9,500	400	4.2	9,800
Telecommunications.....	5,800	6,100	-300	-4.9	5,900
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	13,400	13,800	-400	-2.9	13,900
Finance and Insurance.....	10,100	10,400	-300	-2.9	10,700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	28,100	27,300	800	2.9	27,300
Administrative and Support.....	12,300	13,000	-700	-5.4	11,900
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	59,200	58,700	500	0.9	60,200
Educational Services.....	21,400	21,200	200	0.9	22,800
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	37,800	37,500	300	0.8	37,400
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	17,600	17,600	0	0.0	17,100
Accommodation and Food Services.....	14,100	14,300	-200	-1.4	14,200
OTHER SERVICES	10,200	10,200	0	0.0	9,800
GOVERNMENT	33,400	34,500	-1,100	-3.2	33,300
Federal.....	5,600	5,700	-100	-1.8	5,600
State & Local.....	27,800	28,800	-1,000	-3.5	27,700

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 2002.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Value less than 50*

NEW LONDON LMA

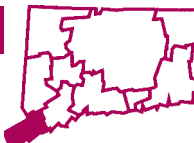


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	MAY 2003	MAY 2002	CHANGE		APR 2003
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	146,700	145,300	1,400	1.0	144,300
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	24,000	24,700	-700	-2.8	23,800
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	4,300	4,700	-400	-8.5	4,200
MANUFACTURING	19,700	20,000	-300	-1.5	19,600
Durable Goods.....	11,800	12,000	-200	-1.7	11,800
Non-Durable Goods.....	7,900	8,000	-100	-1.3	7,800
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	122,700	120,600	2,100	1.7	120,500
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	24,100	23,900	200	0.8	23,800
Wholesale Trade.....	2,300	2,300	0	0.0	2,200
Retail Trade.....	17,700	17,500	200	1.1	17,400
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	4,100	4,100	0	0.0	4,200
INFORMATION	2,400	2,500	-100	-4.0	2,400
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	3,600	3,700	-100	-2.7	3,600
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	11,200	11,100	100	0.9	11,200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	19,100	18,500	600	3.2	19,000
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	16,500	16,100	400	2.5	16,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	15,600	15,600	0	0.0	14,300
Accommodation and Food Services.....	13,000	13,100	-100	-0.8	12,000
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places....	10,000	9,900	100	1.0	9,000
OTHER SERVICES	4,400	4,300	100	2.3	4,300
GOVERNMENT	42,300	41,000	1,300	3.2	41,900
Federal.....	2,800	2,900	-100	-3.4	2,800
**State & Local.....	39,500	38,100	1,400	3.7	39,100

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

STAMFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	MAY 2003	MAY 2002	CHANGE		APR 2003
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	197,400	200,600	-3,200	-1.6	196,100
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	17,900	18,800	-900	-4.8	17,800
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	6,200	6,300	-100	-1.6	6,000
MANUFACTURING	11,700	12,500	-800	-6.4	11,800
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	179,500	181,800	-2,300	-1.3	178,300
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	34,000	35,700	-1,700	-4.8	33,600
Wholesale Trade.....	8,100	8,000	100	1.3	8,000
Retail Trade.....	21,500	23,100	-1,600	-6.9	21,200
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	4,400	4,600	-200	-4.3	4,400
INFORMATION	6,500	6,900	-400	-5.8	6,600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	28,300	27,500	800	2.9	28,200
Finance and Insurance.....	25,000	23,600	1,400	5.9	24,900
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	43,200	44,900	-1,700	-3.8	43,500
Professional, Scientific.....	21,400	21,900	-500	-2.3	21,700
Management of Companies.....	9,700	9,900	-200	-2.0	9,600
Administrative and Support.....	12,100	13,100	-1,000	-7.6	12,200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	22,600	22,300	300	1.3	22,400
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	19,400	19,200	200	1.0	19,200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	15,900	16,000	-100	-0.6	15,300
Accommodation and Food Services.....	11,000	10,800	200	1.9	10,600
OTHER SERVICES	9,000	9,000	0	0.0	9,000
GOVERNMENT	20,000	19,500	500	2.6	19,700
Federal.....	1,700	1,700	0	0.0	1,700
State & Local.....	18,300	17,800	500	2.8	18,000

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

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.

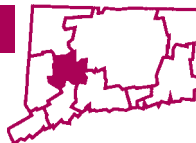
*Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.

TORRINGTON LMA



Due to recent staff cuts, data for this labor market area are no longer being developed for publication.

WATERBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	MAY 2003	MAY 2002	CHANGE		APR 2003
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT.....	83,300	84,400	-1,100	-1.3	83,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES.....	16,400	17,600	-1,200	-6.8	16,400
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING.....	3,800	3,900	-100	-2.6	3,600
MANUFACTURING.....	12,600	13,700	-1,100	-8.0	12,800
Durable Goods.....	10,300	11,300	-1,000	-8.8	10,500
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES.....	66,900	66,800	100	0.1	67,000
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES.....	15,300	15,400	-100	-0.6	15,300
Wholesale Trade.....	2,400	2,400	0	0.0	2,400
Retail Trade.....	10,400	10,400	0	0.0	10,500
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	2,500	2,600	-100	-3.8	2,400
INFORMATION.....	1,400	1,400	0	0.0	1,400
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES.....	3,800	3,700	100	2.7	3,800
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	7,900	8,200	-300	-3.7	8,000
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	15,100	14,900	200	1.3	15,100
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	13,700	13,700	0	0.0	13,700
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY.....	6,700	6,500	200	3.1	6,600
OTHER SERVICES.....	3,400	3,300	100	3.0	3,400
GOVERNMENT	13,300	13,400	-100	-0.7	13,400
Federal.....	700	700	0	0.0	700
State & Local.....	12,600	12,700	-100	-0.8	12,700

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

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.

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

LMA LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

(Not seasonally adjusted)	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	MAY 2003	MAY 2002	CHANGE		APR 2003
				NO.	%	
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,777,000	1,770,900	6,100	0.3	1,772,700
	Employed	1,687,400	1,693,500	-6,100	-0.4	1,680,600
	Unemployed	89,600	77,400	12,200	15.8	92,100
	Unemployment Rate	5.0	4.4	0.6	---	5.2
BRIDGEPORT LMA	Civilian Labor Force	227,400	225,600	1,800	0.8	226,200
	Employed	213,100	213,400	-300	-0.1	212,200
	Unemployed	14,200	12,200	2,000	16.4	14,000
	Unemployment Rate	6.3	5.4	0.9	---	6.2
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	116,100	113,400	2,700	2.4	115,900
	Employed	112,100	109,600	2,500	2.3	111,800
	Unemployed	4,000	3,800	200	5.3	4,100
	Unemployment Rate	3.4	3.4	0.0	---	3.5
DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	37,100	36,800	300	0.8	36,800
	Employed	35,200	35,000	200	0.6	34,700
	Unemployed	2,000	1,700	300	17.6	2,100
	Unemployment Rate	5.3	4.7	0.6	---	5.7
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	603,700	603,400	300	0.0	602,700
	Employed	571,400	576,700	-5,300	-0.9	568,800
	Unemployed	32,300	26,700	5,600	21.0	33,900
	Unemployment Rate	5.3	4.4	0.9	---	5.6
LOWER RIVER LMA	Civilian Labor Force	13,200	13,300	-100	-0.8	12,700
	Employed	12,700	12,900	-200	-1.6	12,300
	Unemployed	500	400	100	25.0	500
	Unemployment Rate	3.5	3.1	0.4	---	3.7
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	287,800	285,500	2,300	0.8	288,100
	Employed	273,600	274,000	-400	-0.1	274,100
	Unemployed	14,200	11,500	2,700	23.5	14,000
	Unemployment Rate	4.9	4.0	0.9	---	4.9
NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	166,900	162,900	4,000	2.5	165,100
	Employed	159,500	156,700	2,800	1.8	157,600
	Unemployed	7,400	6,100	1,300	21.3	7,600
	Unemployment Rate	4.4	3.8	0.6	---	4.6
STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	190,100	191,800	-1,700	-0.9	189,600
	Employed	183,800	185,500	-1,700	-0.9	183,100
	Unemployed	6,300	6,400	-100	-1.6	6,500
	Unemployment Rate	3.3	3.3	0.0	---	3.4
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	37,400	39,100	-1,700	-4.3	37,300
	Employed	35,900	37,600	-1,700	-4.5	35,400
	Unemployed	1,600	1,600	0	0.0	1,800
	Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.1	0.0	---	4.9
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	116,400	117,300	-900	-0.8	117,300
	Employed	108,600	110,000	-1,400	-1.3	109,000
	Unemployed	7,800	7,300	500	6.8	8,300
	Unemployment Rate	6.7	6.2	0.5	---	7.1
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	146,067,000	144,527,000	1,540,000	1.1	145,925,000
	Employed	137,567,000	136,559,000	1,008,000	0.7	137,424,000
	Unemployed	8,500,000	7,969,000	531,000	6.7	8,501,000
	Unemployment Rate	5.8	5.5	0.3	---	5.8

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.

MANUFACTURING HOURS AND EARNINGS

LMA

CONNECTICUT

	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS				
	MAY		CHG	APR	MAY		CHG	APR	MAY		CHG	APR	
	2003	2002	Y/Y	2003	2003	2002	Y/Y	2003	2003	2002	Y/Y	2003	
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>													
MANUFACTURING	\$729.77	\$707.53	\$22.25	\$725.64	41.3	41.4	-0.1	41.3	\$17.67	\$17.09	\$0.58	\$17.57	
DURABLE GOODS	761.44	732.25	29.19	749.22	41.7	41.7	0.0	41.6	18.26	17.56	0.70	18.01	
Fabricated Metal	675.20	644.86	30.34	679.76	42.2	41.1	1.1	42.3	16.00	15.69	0.31	16.07	
Machinery	766.26	767.52	-1.26	734.81	40.5	41.6	-1.1	39.4	18.92	18.45	0.47	18.65	
Computer & Electronic	571.68	547.87	23.82	572.87	39.7	39.5	0.2	39.7	14.40	13.87	0.53	14.43	
Transport. Equipment	922.20	879.75	42.45	909.41	42.4	42.5	-0.1	42.2	21.75	20.70	1.05	21.55	
NON-DUR. GOODS	650.44	645.13	5.30	666.23	40.2	40.6	-0.4	40.5	16.18	15.89	0.29	16.45	
CONSTRUCTION	910.38	880.40	29.98	866.69	40.3	40.0	0.3	38.4	22.59	22.01	0.58	22.57	

LMA

	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS				
	MAY		CHG	APR	MAY		CHG	APR	MAY		CHG	APR	
	2003	2002	Y/Y	2003	2003	2002	Y/Y	2003	2003	2002	Y/Y	2003	
MANUFACTURING													
Bridgeport	\$752.25	\$711.90	\$40.35	\$727.20	40.4	42.0	-1.6	40.0	\$18.62	\$16.95	\$1.67	\$18.18	
Danbury	692.81	746.79	-53.98	717.88	38.9	41.1	-2.2	39.1	17.81	18.17	-0.36	18.36	
Danielson*													
Hartford	812.31	736.24	76.07	779.82	43.3	41.2	2.1	42.8	18.76	17.87	0.89	18.22	
Lower River*													
New Haven	734.45	749.92	-15.47	741.30	42.9	43.0	-0.1	42.8	17.12	17.44	-0.32	17.32	
New London	734.55	730.82	3.73	726.05	41.5	41.5	0.0	41.3	17.70	17.61	0.09	17.58	
Stamford*													
Torrington*													
Waterbury	649.04	606.49	42.55	642.03	39.6	37.6	2.0	37.9	16.39	16.13	0.26	16.94	

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.

*Due to staff cuts, data for the Danielson, Lower River and Torrington labor market areas are no longer being prepared for publication. Manufacturing hours and earnings estimates for the Stamford labor market area will no longer be published due to their not meeting sample reliability tests.

NEW HOUSING PERMITS

LMA

	MAY	MAY	CHANGE Y/Y		YTD		CHANGE YTD		APR
	2003	2002	UNITS	%	2003	2002	UNITS	%	2003
	Connecticut	916	957	-41	-4.3	3,455	4,014	-559	-13.9
LMA:									
Bridgeport	111	92	19	20.7	317	388	-71	-18.3	64
Danbury	60	71	-11	-15.5	238	393	-155	-39.4	66
Danielson	32	38	-6	-15.8	127	132	-5	-3.8	39
Hartford	346	378	-32	-8.5	1,416	1,502	-86	-5.7	349
Lower River	9	13	-4	-30.8	40	47	-7	-14.9	7
New Haven	68	121	-53	-43.8	319	486	-167	-34.4	97
New London	87	119	-32	-26.9	321	378	-57	-15.1	96
Stamford	45	57	-12	-21.1	315	334	-19	-5.7	53
Torrington	37	17	20	117.6	113	101	12	11.9	28
Waterbury	121	51	70	137.3	249	253	-4	-1.6	57

Additional data by town are on page 22.

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

MAY 2003

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%	LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
BRIDGEPORT	227,374	213,148	14,226	6.3	HARTFORD cont....				
Ansonia	8,983	8,252	731	8.1	Burlington	4,500	4,288	212	4.7
Beacon Falls	2,941	2,785	156	5.3	Canton	4,714	4,514	200	4.2
BRIDGEPORT	63,785	58,040	5,745	9.0	Chaplin	1,215	1,162	53	4.4
Derby	6,617	6,126	491	7.4	Colchester	6,788	6,479	309	4.6
Easton	3,387	3,285	102	3.0	Columbia	2,686	2,602	84	3.1
Fairfield	27,451	26,373	1,078	3.9	Coventry	6,262	5,974	288	4.6
Milford	27,185	25,734	1,451	5.3	Cromwell	6,973	6,669	304	4.4
Monroe	10,226	9,832	394	3.9	Durham	3,607	3,455	152	4.2
Oxford	4,999	4,736	263	5.3	East Granby	2,487	2,388	99	4.0
Seymour	8,044	7,569	475	5.9	East Haddam	4,173	4,001	172	4.1
Shelton	20,924	19,811	1,113	5.3	East Hampton	6,304	6,007	297	4.7
Stratford	25,541	24,043	1,498	5.9	East Hartford	25,953	24,213	1,740	6.7
Trumbull	17,289	16,561	728	4.2	East Windsor	5,696	5,376	320	5.6
DANBURY	116,110	112,130	3,980	3.4	Ellington	6,980	6,709	271	3.9
Bethel	10,210	9,868	342	3.3	Enfield	23,187	22,000	1,187	5.1
Bridgewater	996	979	17	1.7	Farmington	11,371	10,930	441	3.9
Brookfield	8,635	8,340	295	3.4	Glastonbury	15,945	15,352	593	3.7
DANBURY	38,350	36,743	1,607	4.2	Granby	5,347	5,159	188	3.5
New Fairfield	7,418	7,173	245	3.3	Haddam	4,229	4,090	139	3.3
New Milford	14,740	14,242	498	3.4	HARTFORD	54,621	49,292	5,329	9.8
Newtown	13,116	12,706	410	3.1	Harwinton	2,985	2,875	110	3.7
Redding	4,702	4,560	142	3.0	Hebron	4,448	4,269	179	4.0
Ridgefield	12,904	12,591	313	2.4	Lebanon	3,373	3,231	142	4.2
Roxbury	1,097	1,081	16	1.5	Manchester	29,044	27,372	1,672	5.8
Sherman	1,768	1,733	35	2.0	Mansfield	9,136	8,948	188	2.1
Washington	2,174	2,115	59	2.7	Marlborough	3,121	2,992	129	4.1
DANIELSON	37,129	35,162	1,967	5.3	Middlefield	2,306	2,181	125	5.4
Brooklyn	4,267	4,122	145	3.4	Middletown	24,491	23,226	1,265	5.2
Eastford	962	935	27	2.8	New Britain	34,695	32,097	2,598	7.5
Hampton	1,231	1,175	56	4.5	New Hartford	3,680	3,553	127	3.5
KILLINGLY	9,444	8,768	676	7.2	Newington	15,744	15,032	712	4.5
Pomfret	2,357	2,265	92	3.9	Plainville	9,501	8,939	562	5.9
Putnam	5,236	4,953	283	5.4	Plymouth	6,552	6,143	409	6.2
Scotland	948	928	20	2.1	Portland	4,669	4,478	191	4.1
Sterling	1,801	1,687	114	6.3	Rocky Hill	9,831	9,409	422	4.3
Thompson	4,613	4,337	276	6.0	Simsbury	11,671	11,307	364	3.1
Union	434	422	12	2.8	Somers	4,139	3,969	170	4.1
Voluntown	1,508	1,415	93	6.2	Southington	21,511	20,440	1,071	5.0
Woodstock	4,325	4,155	170	3.9	South Windsor	13,494	13,022	472	3.5
HARTFORD	603,727	571,437	32,290	5.3	Stafford	5,925	5,666	259	4.4
Andover	1,663	1,594	69	4.1	Suffield	5,961	5,707	254	4.3
Ashford	2,182	2,101	81	3.7	Tolland	7,211	6,973	238	3.3
Avon	7,563	7,327	236	3.1	Vernon	16,785	15,980	805	4.8
Barkhamsted	2,093	2,012	81	3.9	West Hartford	28,752	27,624	1,128	3.9
Berlin	9,162	8,765	397	4.3	Wethersfield	12,391	11,823	568	4.6
Bloomfield	10,201	9,567	634	6.2	Willington	3,485	3,367	118	3.4
Bolton	2,747	2,655	92	3.3	Winchester	5,998	5,606	392	6.5
Bristol	32,310	30,473	1,837	5.7	Windham	10,322	9,611	711	6.9
					Windsor	14,770	14,005	765	5.2
					Windsor Locks	6,778	6,438	340	5.0

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)

MAY 2003

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%	LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
LOWER RIVER	13,182	12,723	459	3.5	STAMFORD	190,130	183,797	6,333	3.3
Chester	2,295	2,216	79	3.4	Darien	9,430	9,164	266	2.8
Deep River	2,851	2,761	90	3.2	Greenwich	30,809	30,051	758	2.5
Essex	3,491	3,385	106	3.0	New Canaan	9,293	9,104	189	2.0
Lyme	1,152	1,117	35	3.0	NORWALK	47,891	45,981	1,910	4.0
Westbrook	3,393	3,243	150	4.4	STAMFORD	65,066	62,576	2,490	3.8
					Weston	4,740	4,606	134	2.8
NEW HAVEN	287,802	273,571	14,231	4.9	Westport	14,016	13,657	359	2.6
Bethany	2,706	2,607	99	3.7	Wilton	8,886	8,658	228	2.6
Branford	16,494	15,831	663	4.0					
Cheshire	14,108	13,673	435	3.1	TORRINGTON	37,446	35,892	1,554	4.1
Clinton	7,708	7,453	255	3.3	Canaan**	648	634	14	2.2
East Haven	15,525	14,661	864	5.6	Colebrook	763	749	14	1.8
Guilford	11,950	11,622	328	2.7	Cornwall	780	751	29	3.7
Hamden	30,394	29,031	1,363	4.5	Goshen	1,313	1,268	45	3.4
Killingworth	3,072	2,973	99	3.2	Hartland	966	936	30	3.1
Madison	8,656	8,382	274	3.2	Kent**	1,886	1,855	31	1.6
MERIDEN	31,403	29,441	1,962	6.2	Litchfield	4,257	4,113	144	3.4
NEW HAVEN	59,853	55,781	4,072	6.8	Morris	1,097	1,054	43	3.9
North Branford	8,480	8,158	322	3.8	Norfolk	1,040	1,007	33	3.2
North Haven	12,802	12,384	418	3.3	North Canaan**	1,994	1,950	44	2.2
Orange	6,767	6,559	208	3.1	Salisbury**	2,161	2,144	17	0.8
Wallingford	23,838	22,746	1,092	4.6	Sharon**	1,814	1,798	16	0.9
West Haven	29,554	27,908	1,646	5.6	TORRINGTON	18,071	16,990	1,081	6.0
Woodbridge	4,490	4,360	130	2.9	Warren	654	642	12	1.8
*NEW LONDON	147,683	140,935	6,748	4.6	WATERBURY	116,424	108,575	7,849	6.7
Bozrah	1,560	1,498	62	4.0	Bethlehem	1,933	1,851	82	4.2
Canterbury	2,986	2,844	142	4.8	Middlebury	3,333	3,202	131	3.9
East Lyme	9,949	9,651	298	3.0	Naugatuck	16,640	15,571	1,069	6.4
Franklin	1,178	1,134	44	3.7	Prospect	4,759	4,507	252	5.3
Griswold	6,286	5,930	356	5.7	Southbury	6,880	6,544	336	4.9
Groton	18,637	17,797	840	4.5	Thomaston	4,159	3,910	249	6.0
Ledyard	8,604	8,315	289	3.4	WATERBURY	52,659	48,192	4,467	8.5
Lisbon	2,403	2,303	100	4.2	Watertown	12,236	11,602	634	5.2
Montville	10,501	10,011	490	4.7	Wolcott	8,727	8,292	435	5.0
NEW LONDON	14,141	13,288	853	6.0	Woodbury	5,101	4,905	196	3.8
No. Stonington	3,130	3,013	117	3.7					
NORWICH	20,382	19,136	1,246	6.1					
Old Lyme	4,095	3,952	143	3.5					
Old Saybrook	6,236	6,030	206	3.3					
Plainfield	9,337	8,805	532	5.7					
Preston	2,752	2,638	114	4.1					
Salem	2,185	2,108	77	3.5					
Sprague	1,803	1,690	113	6.3					
Stonington	10,447	10,119	328	3.1					
Waterford	11,072	10,675	397	3.6					

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

NEW LONDON	166,940	159,540	7,400	4.4
Hopkinton, RI	4,925	4,767	158	3.2
Westerly, RI	14,332	13,838	494	3.4

Not Seasonally Adjusted				
CONNECTICUT	1,777,000	1,687,400	89,600	5.0
UNITED STATES	146,067,000	137,567,000	8,500,000	5.8
Seasonally Adjusted				
CONNECTICUT	1,776,100	1,689,100	87,000	4.9
UNITED STATES	146,485,000	137,487,000	8,998,000	6.1

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

LABOR FORCE CONCEPTS (Continued)

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

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

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

TOWN	MAY 2003	YR TO DATE 2003	2002	TOWN	MAY 2003	YR TO DATE 2003	2002	TOWN	MAY 2003	YR TO DATE 2003	2002
Andover	1	3	6	Griswold	3	12	15	Preston	2	9	7
Ansonia	1	7	8	Groton	5	41	26	Prospect	1	7	9
Ashford	2	8	11	Guilford	7	29	34	Putnam	2	5	6
Avon	9	83	49	Haddam	5	18	16	Redding	3	13	23
Barkhamsted	2	6	5	Hamden	4	29	74	Ridgefield	4	13	24
Beacon Falls	1	3	8	Hampton	2	7	7	Rocky Hill	4	28	63
Berlin	8	38	58	Hartford	7	129	36	Roxbury	1	7	7
Bethany	5	10	10	Hartland	1	2	2	Salem	3	5	8
Bethel	6	23	35	Harwinton	1	10	16	Salisbury	2	6	5
Bethlehem	3	6	7	Hebron	3	15	15	Scotland	1	3	7
Bloomfield	2	14	28	Kent	1	4	6	Seymour	3	13	51
Bolton	0	0	2	Killingly	15	41	21	Sharon	1	3	7
Bozrah	1	3	2	Killingworth	3	11	17	Shelton	16	36	81
Branford	3	17	25	Lebanon	3	16	20	Sherman	3	9	10
Bridgeport	16	50	25	Ledyard	5	27	37	Simsbury	2	5	17
Bridgewater	1	1	3	Lisbon	1	5	9	Somers	4	14	22
Bristol	10	44	52	Litchfield	0	8	12	South Windsor	10	23	102
Brookfield	10	28	24	Lyme	0	3	7	Southbury	10	40	52
Brooklyn	1	11	18	Madison	2	15	14	Southington	28	94	94
Burlington	7	26	30	Manchester	5	39	22	Sprague	1	3	3
Canaan	0	1	0	Mansfield	4	15	23	Stafford	4	15	11
Canterbury	4	11	15	Marlborough	4	19	9	Stamford	14	37	148
Canton	9	28	21	Meriden	7	35	37	Sterling	2	15	7
Chaplin	2	7	7	Middlebury	3	7	10	Stonington	5	21	37
Cheshire	7	17	32	Middlefield	2	8	4	Stratford	18	27	14
Chester	0	4	6	Middletown	18	68	72	Suffield	7	22	24
Clinton	1	14	70	Milford	6	20	58	Thomaston	1	5	13
Colchester	16	38	26	Monroe	6	14	10	Thompson	1	6	13
Colebrook	0	1	2	Montville	8	33	23	Tolland	7	37	47
Columbia	3	11	10	Morris	1	2	8	Torrington	23	54	31
Cornwall	1	5	5	Naugatuck	5	18	22	Trumbull	13	53	50
Coventry	3	21	23	New Britain	4	11	6	Union	0	1	2
Cromwell	10	28	19	New Canaan	3	21	20	Vernon	18	62	68
Danbury	6	40	124	New Fairfield	1	3	9	Voluntown	0	6	6
Darien	2	101	16	New Hartford	6	18	16	Wallingford	12	50	57
Deep River	1	3	2	New Haven	5	8	17	Warren	2	6	3
Derby	2	5	6	New London	0	1	8	Washington	1	1	3
Durham	5	20	27	New Milford	10	43	55	Waterbury	70	93	31
East Granby	2	12	13	Newington	4	8	19	Waterford	6	22	18
East Haddam	11	24	28	Newtown	14	57	76	Watertown	5	15	31
East Hampton	10	49	37	Norfolk	0	1	0	West Hartford	1	7	14
East Hartford	0	1	1	North Branford	2	9	22	West Haven	0	3	15
East Haven	2	22	23	North Canaan	0	4	3	Westbrook	4	17	19
East Lyme	5	24	29	North Haven	1	28	19	Weston	1	6	13
East Windsor	3	14	16	North Stonington	4	10	14	Westport	4	50	29
Eastford	2	3	4	Norwalk	4	39	45	Wethersfield	2	5	13
Easton	1	4	7	Norwich	14	39	70	Willington	2	9	11
Ellington	26	64	42	Old Lyme	4	11	14	Wilton	2	10	11
Enfield	2	14	19	Old Saybrook	7	15	14	Winchester	1	7	8
Essex	4	13	13	Orange	5	13	7	Windham	1	6	16
Fairfield	9	29	32	Oxford	19	56	38	Windsor	1	14	18
Farmington	15	39	28	Plainfield	8	25	24	Windsor Locks	9	17	10
Franklin	1	4	5	Plainville	5	26	9	Wolcott	12	39	66
Glastonbury	3	19	48	Plymouth	2	11	25	Woodbridge	2	9	13
Goshen	5	16	17	Pomfret	3	18	17	Woodbury	11	19	12
Granby	6	19	27	Portland	5	10	23	Woodstock	3	11	24
Greenwich	15	51	52								

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

LABOR MARKET AREAS

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

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

LEADING AND COINCIDENT EMPLOYMENT INDICES

The leading employment index is a composite of six individual largely employment-related series -- the average workweek of manufacturing production and construction workers, Hartford help-wanted advertising 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	+1.7
Coincident Employment Index	-1.9
Leading General Drift Indicator	-1.2
Coincident General Drift Indicator	-1.2
Business Barometer	-0.6
Total Nonfarm Employment	-1.0
Unemployment	+0.7*
Labor Force	+0.3
Employed	-0.4
Unemployed	+16.5
Average Weekly Initial Claims	-23.7
Help Wanted Index – Hartford	-29.4
Average Ins. Unempl. Rate	+0.15*
Average Weekly Hours, Mfg	-0.2
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg	+3.4
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg	+3.1
CT Mfg. Production Index	+2.3
Production Worker Hours	+3.9
Industrial Electricity Sales	-1.5
Personal Income	+2.2
UI Covered Wages	+1.9

Business Activity	
New Housing Permits	-4.3
Electricity Sales	+11.0
Retail Sales	-2.8
Construction Contracts Index	-39.4
New Auto Registrations	-1.3
Air Cargo Tons	-7.2
Exports	-3.4
Business Starts	
Secretary of the State	-9.4
Dept. of Labor	-7.7
Business Terminations	
Secretary of the State	+110.4
Dept. of Labor	-35.8
State Revenues	-16.7
Corporate Tax	-89.7
Personal Income Tax	-9.3
Real Estate Conveyance Tax	+14.1
Sales & Use Tax	+16.3
Indian Gaming Payments	+9.8

Tourism and Travel	
Info Center Visitors	-32.8
Attraction Visitors	-9.4
Air Passenger Count	-6.2
Indian Gaming Slots	+9.8
Travel and Tourism Index	-5.3
Employment Cost Index (U.S.)	
Total	+3.8
Wages & Salaries	+3.0
Benefit Costs	+6.1
Consumer Prices	
Connecticut	+3.2
U.S. City Average	+2.1
Northeast Region	+2.7
NY-NJ-Long Island	+2.8
Boston-Brockton-Nashua	+3.9
Consumer Confidence	
Connecticut	-28.0
New England	-20.5
U.S.	-24.0
Interest Rates	
Prime	-0.50*
Conventional Mortgage	-1.33*

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

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Beginning with the October 2003 issue of the Connecticut Economic Digest, printed copies of the Digest will be available on a paid subscription basis only. We have had to take this step due to constraints placed on the Connecticut Department of Labor's and Department of Economic and Community Development's budgets. Next month's issue will include an order form which can be returned to us with remittance for a year's subscription. The Digest will continue to be available to be downloaded free of charge from our website at: www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/misc/ctdigest.htm.

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