THE CONNECTICUT
ECONOMIC DIGEST
Vol.13 No.11 A joint publication of the Connecticut Department of Labor & the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

NOVEMBER 2008

IN THIS ISSUE...

In September...

Nonfarm Employment
Connecticut 1,702,400
Change over month .... -0.13%
Change over year .... +0.0%

United States 137,318,000
Change over month .... -0.12%
Change over year .... -0.4%

Unemployment Rate
Connecticut 6.1%
United States 6.1%

Consumer Price Index
United States 218.8
Change over year 4.9%

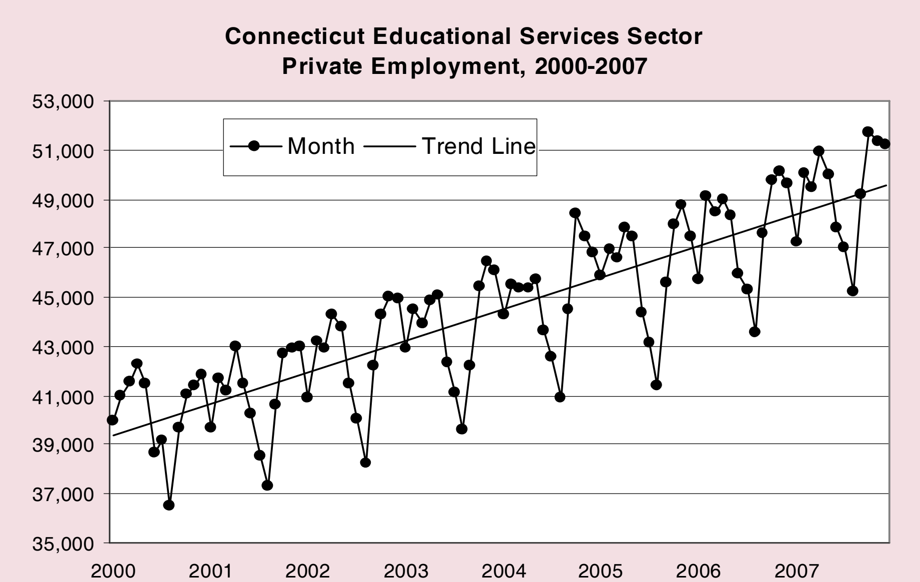
Educating Connecticut

By Edward T. Doukas, Jr., Research Analyst, DOL

Education is an important part of life. Acquiring new knowledge and upgrading one's skills is a lifelong experience particularly in this age of rapid technological and economic changes. The educational services industry includes a variety of institutions that offer academic education, vocational or career and technical instruction, and other education and training

Educational services are usually delivered by teachers or instructors that explain, tell, demonstrate, supervise, and direct learning. Instruction is given in diverse settings, such as educational institutions, the workplace, or the home through correspondence or other means. It can be adapted to the particular needs of the students; for example, sign language can replace verbal language for teaching students with hearing impairments. Within the sector, the level and types of training that are required of the instructors and teachers vary depending on the industry.

The *educational services* sector is structured according to level and type of educational services. Elementary and secondary schools, junior colleges and colleges, universities, and professional schools correspond to a recognized series of formal levels of education designated by diplomas, associate degrees (including equivalent certificates), and degrees. The remaining industry groups are based more on the type of instruction or training offered and the levels are not always as formally defined. The establishments are often highly specialized, many offering instruction in a very limited subject matter; for example, one specific computer software package, or golf lessons.



THE CONNECTICUT ECONOMIC DIGEST

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. 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 annual subscription is $50. Send subscription requests to: ***The Connecticut Economic Digest***, Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research, 200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114. Make checks payable to the Connecticut Department of Labor. Back issues are $4 per copy. The Digest can be accessed free of charge from the DOL Web site. Articles from ***The Connecticut Economic Digest*** may be reprinted if the source is credited. Please send copies of the reprinted material to the Managing Editor. The views expressed by the authors are theirs alone and may not reflect those of the DOL or DECD.

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We would like to acknowledge the contributions of many DOL Research and DECD staff and Rob Damroth (CCT) to the publication of the Digest.

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Sector Description

In 2007, *educational services* had annual average employment of 164,716 making it Connecticut's second largest industry behind health care and social assistance. The *educational services* figure included both public and private sector employment. Among all industry sectors, *educational services* had the highest concentration of government employment, accounting for 70 percent of the sector total. Nearly all government educational employment, 99.6 percent, was found in traditional educational settings that offer formal levels of education such as elementary and secondary schools, junior colleges, and four year colleges and universities.

It is becoming increasingly important to produce a trained and educated workforce. The passage of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 has focused attention on improving the quality of education, assuring that students in public elementary through secondary schools in every community receive a high quality education. The Department of Labor publication, *Connecticut's Industries and Occupations Forecast 2014*, projects *educational services* to be among those industries to produce the most new employment opportunities. This appears to be right on target. Between the years 2000 and 2007, the number of *educational services* worksites grew 23.9 percent, employment in these worksites increased 16.9 percent, and wages earned by workers in these worksites rose 21.3 percent.

In particular, private sector *educational services* showed considerable growth during the 2000-2007 time frame (see chart on the front page). Private *educational services* worksites and employment have shown greater growth than any other private industry sector. Worksites were up 29.9 percent and employment rose 22 percent while workers earned 27.3 percent more (table on page 3). Similar to public sector *educational services*, the majority of employment in the private sector, 85.7 percent, is found in elementary and secondary schools, junior colleges, and four-year colleges and universities. However, unlike public *educational services*, the majority of worksites in the private sector are found in settings that do not offer formal levels of education.

The *Connecticut's Industries and Occupations Forecast 2014* also forecasts that sixty percent of the fastest growing occupations in Connecticut will require a minimum of a bachelor's or master's degree. State education providers have responded to this increased demand with establishments and employment expanding 70.8 percent and 21.5 percent, respectively, from the 2000 level. However, this well trodden trail to higher education may not always lead students to their individual goals. Some choose to look past the status and credentials a college diploma brings in favor of developing specific skills which will enable them to fulfill their unique potential. The correct path one walks to achieve advanced learning is a highly individual choice. However, there is one certainty: Connecticut needs all the educated citizens it can create.

The growth of *technical and trade schools* illustrates that less traditional education choices are increasingly being selected. *Other schools and instruction* have experienced noteworthy growth between 2000-2007. The combined worksites in these two industries have expanded 44 percent, while employment has grown 61.3 percent. The remainder of this article will take a closer look at these two industries.

Technical and Trade Schools

Technical and trade schools is made up of establishments primarily engaged in offering vocational and technical training in a variety of technical subjects and trades. The training often leads to job-specific certification.

There now seem to be three certainties of life: death, taxes, and the continually escalating costs of a college education. College education costs are like a steam locomotive rolling down the track. Expenses have risen faster than consumer prices and family incomes, and increasing numbers of students are leaving school with high debt. According to the College Board, a not-for-profit membership association whose mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity, tuition and fees for public four-year colleges in Connecticut increased six percent during the 2005-2006 period. This figure does not include room and board. The non-profit Project on Student Debt reported that in Connecticut the average debt for 2006 graduates of public and private non-profit four-year institutions was $23,469. That figure ranked fourth nationally. Taking these facts into consideration, it is easy to understand the increasing popularity of technical and trade schools. Technical and trade schools are more affordable and provide specific job skills and job training that is on the cutting edge of technology. The curriculum offered by these schools are highly structured and specialized. Students that complete programs in trade and technical schools enter the workforce much faster than those with a traditional four-year degree, which is increasingly taking five or even six years to complete.

Trade and technical schools train students for a wide variety of careers. Illustrative examples include: computer repair, culinary arts, hair styling, aviation, carpentry, plumbing, electricians, dental technician and hygienist, graphic arts, home heath and nurse's aides, fire fighting, and truck driving.

Other Schools and Instruction

The *other schools and instruction* industry group comprises establishments engaged in offering an assortment of training. These establishments provide instruction in fine arts (including dance, drama, and music), sports and recreation, language (including foreign and sign language), exam preparation and tutoring, automobile driving, and other miscellaneous preparation.

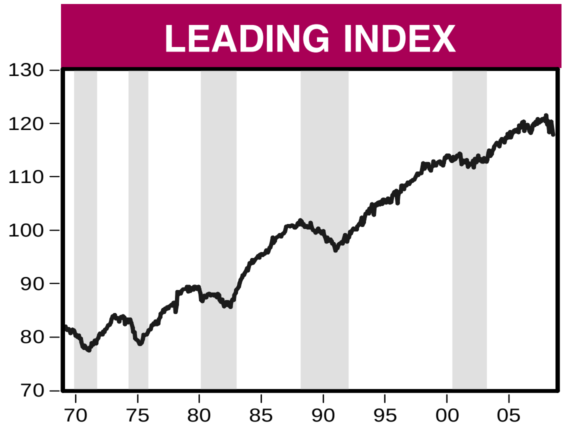
A closer examination of *other schools and instruction* reveals the gain in this industry group was bolstered by *sports and recreation instruction*. During the 2000-2007 period, this industry's worksites jumped over sixty-five percent while its employment leaped 120.8 percent. *Sports and recreation instruction* in the marketplace is evolving rapidly. New trends in leisure and lifestyle, coupled with commercial exposure, have led to an increased demand for sports instruction. Be it swimming, gymnastics, tennis, golf, or basketball, individuals desire for themselves and parents aspire for their children to reach their full potential. Simultaneously, the recognition of unhealthy lifestyles and the bulging obesity epidemic have provided extra momentum to the industry.

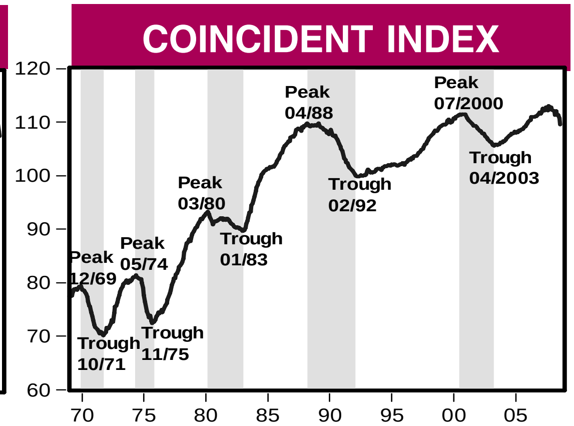
Students today are not only competing against their fellow classmates, but are in direct competition against students from across the globe. A solid and challenging learning experience is a prerequisite for future success, not only for the individual but also for society as a whole.

"Our progress as a nation can be no swifter than our progress in education. Our requirements for world leadership, our hopes for economic growth, and the demands of citizenship itself in an era such as this all require the maximum development of every young American's capacity. The human mind is our fundamental resource." – John Fitzgerald Kennedy. ■

Connecticut UI Covered Employment and Wages, Educational Services Sector, 2000 and 2007

	NAICS Description	Establishments			Employment				Average Annual Wage		
		2000	2007	00-07 % Chg	2000	2007	00-07 No.	00-07 % Chg	2000	2007	00-07 % Chg
	Total private	**104,446**	**109,101**	**4.5**	**1,460,644**	**1,439,300**	**-21,344**	**-1.5**	**46,067**	**59,182**	**28.5**
	Educational services (Private)	**1,080**	**1,403**	**29.9**	**40,391**	**49,271**	**8,880**	**22.0**	**38,181**	**48,614**	**27.3**
6111	**Elementary and secondary schools**	**231**	**229**	**-0.9**	**13,023**	**15,594**	**2,571**	**19.7**	**31,897**	**43,114**	**35.2**
6112	**Junior Colleges**	**7**	**9**	**28.6**	**537**	**621**	**84**	**15.6**	**23,797**	**33,667**	**41.5**
6113	**Colleges and universities**	**34**	**68**	**100.0**	**21,063**	**24,966**	**3,903**	**18.5**	**46,241**	**59,516**	**28.7**
6114	**Business, computer, and management training**	**138**	**148**	**7.2**	**1,072**	**1,045**	**-27**	**-2.5**	**36,627**	**42,044**	**14.8**
6115	**Technical and trade schools**	**80**	**103**	**28.8**	**799**	**1,477**	**678**	**84.9**	**26,975**	**34,119**	**26.5**
611511	Cosmetology and barber schools	27	22	-18.5	151	200	49	32.5	16,760	26,388	57.4
611512	Flight training	12	9	-25.0	171	61	-110	-64.3	27,814	24,936	-10.3
611513	Apprenticeship training	9	11	22.2	54	87	33	61.1	31,826	30,184	-5.2
611519	Other technical and trade schools	32	61	90.6	423	1,129	706	166.9	29,664	36,258	22.2
6116	**Other schools and instruction**	**500**	**732**	**46.4**	**3,108**	**4,825**	**1,717**	**55.2**	**18,295**	**18,425**	**0.7**
611610	Fine arts schools	157	222	41.4	1,037	1,409	372	35.9	15,473	16,562	7.0
611620	Sports and recreation instruction	137	227	65.7	640	1,413	773	120.8	16,343	16,606	1.6
611630	Language schools	16	26	62.5	140	226	86	61.4	13,650	8,740	-36.0
611691	Exam preparation and tutoring	55	91	65.5	569	801	232	40.8	14,415	14,436	0.1
611692	Automobile driving schools	39	47	20.5	323	386	63	19.5	27,536	26,024	-5.5
611699	Miscellaneous schools and instruction	96	119	24.0	399	590	191	47.9	28,492	31,317	9.9
6117	**Educational support services**	**90**	**114**	**26.7**	**789**	**743**	**-46**	**-5.8**	**28,314**	**44,168**	**56.0**
	Educational services (Public)	**257**	**254**	**-1.2**	**100,467**	**115,445**	**14,978**	**14.9**	**40,255**	**47,908**	**19.0**





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.

State Economy Falls at Rates Not Seen Since 1991

The National Outlook

The U.S. economy continues to deteriorate. Through August 2008, total nonfarm employment decreased by 525,000 (-0.5%). There were 304,000 mortgages in default and 91,000 families lost their homes. Housing starts were down 31% from a year ago. Numerous banks lacked sufficient capital to cover reserve requirements and, along with brokerage houses, failures were abundant. The U.S. stock market lost 37% of its value. Financial markets from London to Tokyo lost significant value while world finance authorities convened to coordinate a rescue plan. The U.S. Congress passed the TARP at a potential cost of $750 billion to U.S. taxpayers. The Fed's inter-meeting Federal Funds' rate cut of 0.5% seemed to do little to ease the U.S. and global financial situation. Meanwhile, from August 2007 to August 2008, prices for finished goods climbed 9.6%.

Connecticut Employment Indexes

The DECD-ECRI Connecticut coincident employment index is a measure of contemporaneous activity and declined from 112.0 in August 2007 to 109.5 in August 2008 – the largest year-over-year decrease since the 1988-1992 recession. Total employment (from the household survey) decreased by 0.085% or 15,165 persons, while nonfarm employment (from the employer survey) increased by 0.25% from August 2007, which was the single positive influence on the annual change in this index. Connecticut's insured unemployment rate (2.82% vs. 2.39% a year ago) and total unemployment rate (6.5% vs. 4.6% a year ago) contribute negatively to the year-over-year change in this index.

On a month-over-month basis, the August 2008 index at 109.5 decreased from 110.7 a month ago. This index's 12-month moving average growth rate (-3.7%) continued its negative trend and is the largest monthly decline since October 1991. Total employment that decreased by 12,000 persons to 1.76 million from a downward revision of the previous month's number, as well as the total insured unemployment rate that increased from 2.70% last month to 2.823% in August, contribute negatively to the monthly change in this index. Another negative contributor is the total unemployment rate of 6.5% that increased from the previous month's 5.80%. Only nonfarm employment edged up by 200 jobs from a downward revision of its July 2008 level.

The DECD-ECRI Connecticut leading employment index that estimates future activity decreased by the largest rate (-3.5%) since January 1991 — when this index declined 3.7% — from 120.3 in August 2007 to 117.8 in August 2008. Manufacturing employment decreased by 2,800 jobs from 191,500 jobs a year ago to 188,700 jobs in August 2008, contributing negatively to the year-over-year change in this index. Construction employment rose from 68,700 in August 2007 to 72,100 in August 2008 perhaps reflecting new commercial construction. Otherwise, only average weekly hours that increased fractionally in manufacturing and construction from a year ago were positive contributors, but were outweighed by negative contributions from Moody's Baa bond yield that increased from 6.65% in August 2007 to 7.15% in August 2008; short duration unemployment that increased from 1.48% to 1.89% over the year; and initial claims that increased by 42.5% from 17,440 a year ago. The Hartford help-wanted index declined from eight in August 2007 to five in August 2008. Housing permits also decreased by 51% from 636 units in August 2007 to 310 units in August 2008.

On a month-over-month basis, Connecticut's leading employment index declined from 118.7 to 117.8 in August 2008. Among positive contributors were construction employment that increased by 3,400 jobs from 71,800 the prior month, manufacturing average weekly hours that increased by 0.1 from 42.3, and construction average weekly hours that edged up from 39.0 to 39.4. However, manufacturing employment decreased by 200 jobs; housing permits decreased by 80 units (20.6%) seasonally adjusted (SA); the Hartford help-wanted index declined by one point; initial claims increased by 2,289 (SA), or 13.2%; and the short duration unemployment rate increased from 1.80% to 1.89% (SA). Each was a negative contributor to this index on a month-over-month basis. Moody's corporate bond yield declined by -0.01% from 7.16% to 7.15%.

The near-record decline of each indicator suggests a serious weakening of the Connecticut economy. The decline of the leading indicator may unfortunately portend further economic contraction for the state's economy.

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 Personal Income Grew 1.0 Percent in 2Q 2008

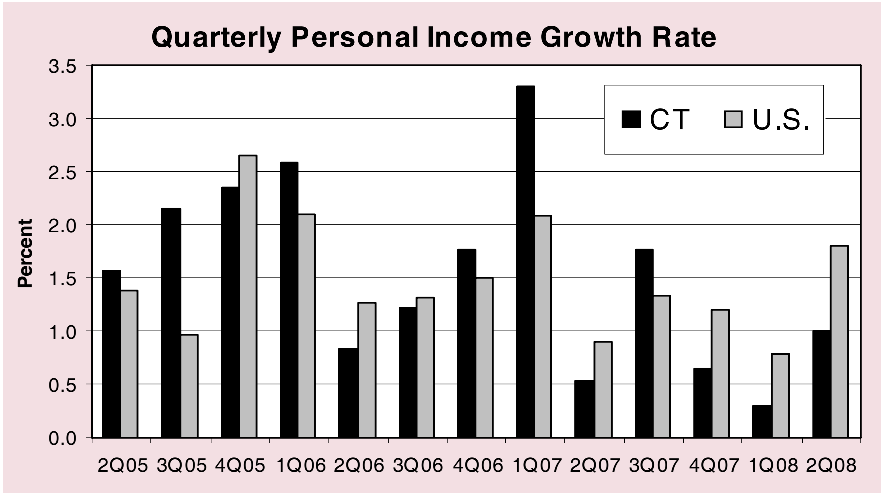
By Jungmin Charles Joo, Associate Research Analyst, DOL

U.S. personal income grew 1.8 percent in the second quarter of 2008 with growth accelerating in all but five states, according to statistics released in September by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. The second-quarter growth was the highest since the first quarter of 2007 and more than double the 0.8 percent pace of the first quarter of 2008. Almost all (0.9 percentage point) of the acceleration is accounted for by the cash rebates taxpayers received from the federal government this spring under the provisions of the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008.

By comparison, personal income grew 1.0 percent in the second quarter of 2008 in Connecticut, which was the highest since the third quarter of 2007. Since 2005, Connecticut's personal income growth lagged the nation's in seven out of 13 quarters (see chart).

Net earnings grew 0.8 percent nationally in the second quarter, up from 0.7 percent growth in the first; property income grew 0.2 percent after falling 0.1 percent in the first quarter; and transfer receipts (in which the economic stimulus payments are recorded) grew 8.3 percent, up from 2.3 percent growth in the first quarter of 2008.

Net earnings in Connecticut rose slightly higher than nation's at 0.9 percent in the second quarter, up from 0.3 percent growth in the first. Property income, however, actually fell again, by 1.1 percent, after declining 0.8 percent in the first quarter. Transfer receipts increased 5.2 percent, up from 2.1 percent growth in the first quarter.



Nationally, earnings in the professional services, state and local government, and health care industries were the largest contributors (of the 24 industries tracked by BEA on a quarterly basis) to personal income growth in the second quarter, together contributing 0.4 percentage point, while lower earnings in construction and retail trade reduced personal income growth by a combined 0.1 percentage point.

For Connecticut, earnings in the finance and insurance, professional services, health care, and state and local government sectors were the largest contributors to personal income growth, while construction and retail trade sector earnings contributed negatively to the second quarter income growth. ■

GENERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

(Seasonally adjusted)	2Q 2008	2Q 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	1Q 2008
Employment Indexes (1992=100)*					
Leading	119.5	120.3	-0.7	-0.6	120.8
Coincident	111.5	111.8	-0.2	-0.2	111.9
General Drift Indicator (1986=100)*					
Leading	111.1	112.5	-1.4	-1.2	111.8
Coincident	114.8	115.0	-0.2	-0.2	114.5
Banknorth Business Barometer (1992=100)**	124.2	123.7	0.5	0.4	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 increased over the year.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
TOTAL NONFARM	1,702.4	1,701.7	0.7	0.0	1,704.7
Natural Res & Mining (Not Sea. Adj.)	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.8
Construction	67.7	68.8	-1.1	-1.6	68.0
Manufacturing	188.5	191.3	-2.8	-1.5	189.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	310.3	311.9	-1.6	-0.5	310.8
Information	38.8	38.9	-0.1	-0.3	38.8
Financial Activities	142.9	144.3	-1.4	-1.0	143.1
Professional and Business Services	204.4	205.6	-1.2	-0.6	205.4
Educational and Health Services	295.0	289.3	5.7	2.0	295.0
Leisure and Hospitality Services	137.3	136.3	1.0	0.7	138.0
Other Services	64.0	64.4	-0.4	-0.6	64.0
Government*	252.7	250.1	2.6	1.0	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)	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	6.1	4.6	1.5	---	6.5
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,898.7	1,872.1	26.6	1.4	1,890.4
Employed (000s)	1,782.3	1,785.3	-3.0	-0.2	1,767.9
Unemployed (000s)	116.4	86.8	29.6	34.1	122.5
Average Weekly Initial Claims	6,209	4,009	2,201	54.9	5,926
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	2.93	2.49	0.45	---	3.09

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor

The production worker weekly earnings rose over the year.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

(Not seasonally adjusted)	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008	JUL 2008
Average Weekly Hours	42.6	42.6	0.0	0.0	42.4	--
Average Hourly Earnings	21.69	20.91	0.78	3.7	21.56	--
Average Weekly Earnings	923.99	890.77	33.22	3.7	914.14	--
CT Mfg. Production Index (2000=100)	117.9	118.8	-0.9	-0.7	124.7	113.3
Production Worker Hours (000s)	4,760	4,841	-81	-1.7	4,774	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)*	429	445	-16.4	-3.7	463	408

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

Personal income for first quarter 2009 is forecasted to increase 3.6 percent from a year earlier.

INCOME

(Seasonally adjusted) (Annualized; $ Millions)	1Q* 2009	1Q 2008	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	4Q* 2008
Personal Income	$203,121	$196,030	7,091	3.6	$200,701
UI Covered Wages	$102,110	$99,731	2,379	2.4	$100,963

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis: September 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*	SEP 2008	440	-20.4	4,119	5,829	-29.3
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	JUL 2008	3,315	4.6	19,673	19,612	0.3
Construction Contracts Index (1980=100)	SEP 2008	402.3	-22.0	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	SEP 2008	14,180	-19.3	149,312	158,669	-5.9
Air Cargo Tons	SEP 2008	11,750	-10.8	110,690	119,350	-7.3
Exports (Bil. $)	2Q 2008	3.90	12.2	7.50	6.70	11.9

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	SEP 2008	2,122	-4.8	21,685	23,932	-9.4
Department of Labor*	1Q2008	2,214	-17.3	2,214	2,676	-17.3
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	SEP 2008	889	14.0	8,363	7,513	11.3
Department of Labor*	1Q2008	1,416	-12.7	1,416	1,622	-12.7

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)	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	% CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	PRIOR	% CHG
TOTAL ALL REVENUES*	1,250.4	1,059.3	18.0	10,974.2	10,537.3	4.1
Corporate Tax	98.4	92.8	6.0	586.8	634.3	-7.5
Personal Income Tax	651.7	650.9	0.1	6,031.3	5,619.0	7.3
Real Estate Conv. Tax	10.2	14.2	-28.2	99.9	172.5	-42.1
Sales & Use Tax	361.8	175.1	106.6	2,672.5	2,629.4	1.6
Indian Gaming Payments**	30.9	36.1	-14.5	306.9	325.0	-5.6

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	SEP 2008	39,206	-5.7	318,383	319,286	-0.3
Major Attraction Visitors	SEP 2008	98,099	-19.5	1,376,195	1,397,124	-1.5
Air Passenger Count	SEP 2008	450,145	-9.0	4,707,001	4,914,120	-4.2
Indian Gaming Slots (Mil.$)*	SEP 2008	1,510	-9.5	14,411	14,966	-3.7
Travel and Tourism Index**	2Q 2008	---	-0.5	---	---	---

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 2.8 percent over the year.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
Private Industry Workers	**SEP**	**JUN**	**3-Mo**	**SEP**	**SEP**	**12-Mo**
(Dec. 2005 = 100)	**2008**	**2008**	**% Chg**	**2008**	**2007**	**% Chg**
UNITED STATES TOTAL	108.6	107.9	0.6	108.7	105.7	2.8
Wages and Salaries	109.0	108.4	0.6	109.1	106.0	2.9
Benefit Costs	107.5	106.9	0.6	107.5	105.0	2.4
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	108.7	106.2	2.4
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	108.7	106.1	2.5

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

U.S. inflation rate increased 4.9 percent over the year.

CONSUMER NEWS

			% CHANGE	
(Not seasonally adjusted)	**MO/QTR**	**LEVEL**	**Y/Y**	**P/P***
CONSUMER PRICES				
CPI-U (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	SEP 2008	218.8	4.9	-0.1
Purchasing Power of $ (1982-84=$1.00)	SEP 2008	$0.457	-4.7	0.1
Northeast Region	SEP 2008	232.8	5.1	-0.4
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	SEP 2008	240.1	5.2	-0.2
Boston-Brockton-Nashua**	SEP 2008	238.5	4.7	-1.2
CPI-W (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	SEP 2008	214.9	5.4	-0.1

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 6.04 percent over the month.

INTEREST RATES

	SEP	**AUG**	**SEP**
(Percent)	**2008**	**2008**	**2007**
Prime	5.00	5.00	8.03
Federal Funds	1.81	2.00	4.94
3 Month Treasury Bill	1.15	1.75	3.99
6 Month Treasury Bill	1.64	1.97	4.20
1 Year Treasury Note	1.91	2.18	4.14
3 Year Treasury Note	2.32	2.70	4.06
5 Year Treasury Note	2.88	3.14	4.20
7 Year Treasury Note	3.25	3.46	4.33
10 Year Treasury Note	3.69	3.89	4.52
20 Year Treasury Note	4.32	4.53	4.84
Conventional Mortgage	6.04	6.48	6.38

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Four of nine states in the region added jobs over the year.

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
Connecticut	1,702.4	1,701.7	0.7	0.0	1,704.7
Maine	615.3	617.7	-2.4	-0.4	616.1
Massachusetts	3,290.5	3,278.8	11.7	0.4	3,294.3
New Hampshire	655.5	653.4	2.1	0.3	657.0
New Jersey	4,061.5	4,070.1	-8.6	-0.2	4,065.4
New York	8,773.2	8,752.3	20.9	0.2	8,775.7
Pennsylvania	5,789.4	5,796.1	-6.7	-0.1	5,801.6
Rhode Island	478.2	490.8	-12.6	-2.6	479.5
Vermont	306.8	307.5	-0.7	-0.2	306.7
United States	137,318.0	137,837.0	-519.0	-0.4	137,477.0

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

LABOR FORCE

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

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
Connecticut	1,898.7	1,872.1	26.6	1.4	1,890.4
Maine	711.7	704.5	7.2	1.0	711.0
Massachusetts	3,414.2	3,405.7	8.5	0.2	3,412.9
New Hampshire	745.8	738.5	7.3	1.0	744.0
New Jersey	4,539.7	4,461.0	78.7	1.8	4,525.5
New York	9,654.4	9,521.2	133.2	1.4	9,587.7
Pennsylvania	6,443.9	6,284.1	159.8	2.5	6,403.4
Rhode Island	572.7	577.2	-4.5	-0.8	571.0
Vermont	353.3	352.6	0.7	0.2	351.1
United States	154,732.0	153,506.0	1,226.0	0.8	154,853.0

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

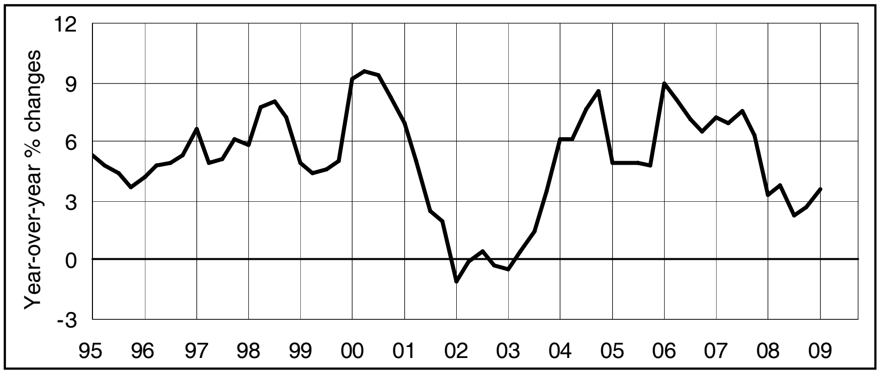
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

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

(Seasonally adjusted)	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE	AUG 2008
Connecticut	6.1	4.6	1.5	6.5
Maine	5.6	4.9	0.7	5.5
Massachusetts	5.3	4.4	0.9	5.2
New Hampshire	4.1	3.4	0.7	4.2
New Jersey	5.8	4.2	1.6	5.9
New York	5.8	4.5	1.3	5.8
Pennsylvania	5.7	4.4	1.3	5.8
Rhode Island	8.8	5.1	3.7	8.6
Vermont	5.2	3.9	1.3	4.9
United States	6.1	4.7	1.4	6.1

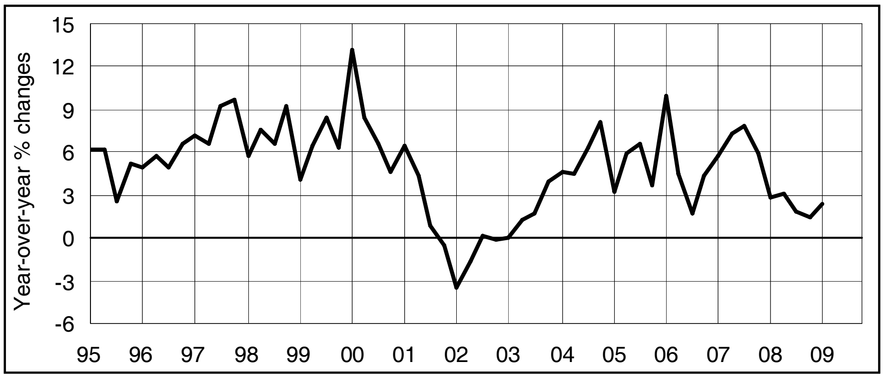
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

PERSONAL INCOME *(Seasonally adjusted)*



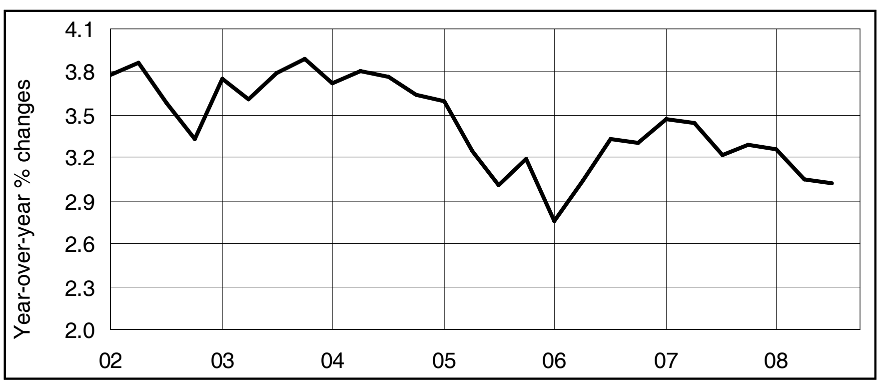
Quarter	2007	2008	2009
First	7.3	3.3	3.6
Second	7.0	3.8	
Third	7.5	2.3	
Fourth	6.4	2.7	

UI COVERED WAGES *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Quarter	2007	2008	2009
First	5.8	2.8	2.4
Second	7.3	3.1	
Third	7.9	1.8	
Fourth	5.9	1.4	

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

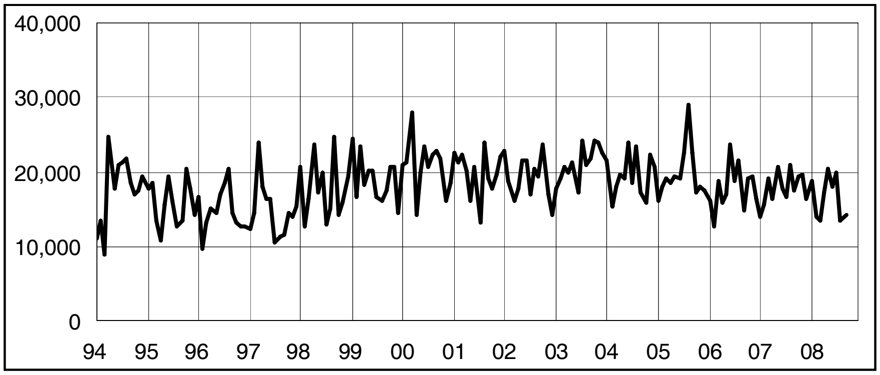


Quarter	2006	2007	2008
First	2.8	3.5	3.3
Second	3.0	3.4	3.0
Third	3.3	3.2	3.0
Fourth	3.3	3.3	

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

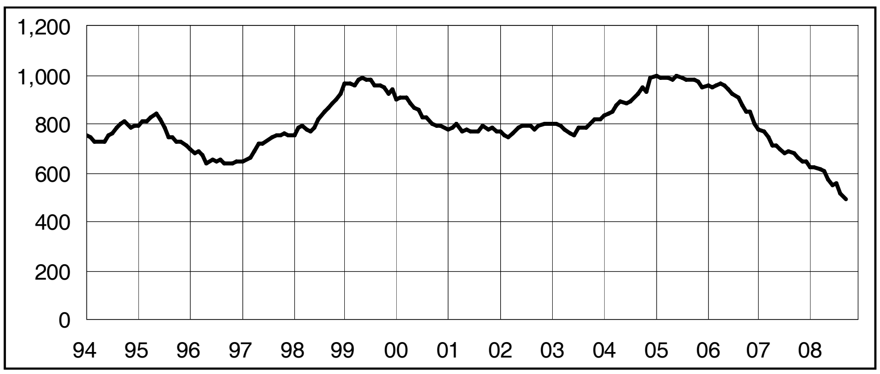
Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	4.0	2.1	4.3
Feb	3.6	2.4	4.0
Mar	3.4	2.8	3.9
Apr	3.5	2.6	3.9
May	4.2	2.7	4.2
Jun	4.3	2.7	5.0
Jul	4.1	2.4	5.6
Aug	3.8	2.0	5.4
Sep	2.1	2.8	4.9
Oct	1.3	3.5	
Nov	2.0	4.3	
Dec	2.5	4.1	

NEW AUTO REGISTRATIONS PROCESSED *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



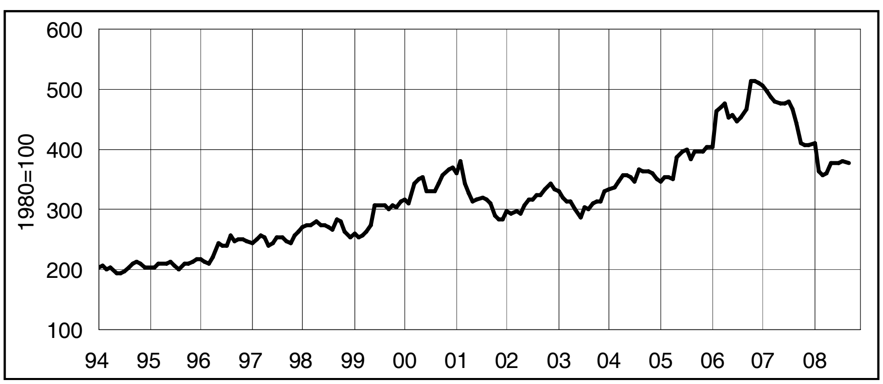
Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	16,166	13,895	18,711
Feb	12,710	15,622	13,880
Mar	18,850	18,958	13,482
Apr	15,744	16,357	17,096
May	16,823	20,690	20,440
Jun	23,548	17,791	18,082
Jul	18,717	16,763	19,916
Aug	21,399	21,026	13,525
Sep	14,739	17,567	14,180
Oct	19,014	19,359	
Nov	19,226	19,591	
Dec	16,427	16,373	

NEW HOUSING PERMITS *(12-month moving average)*



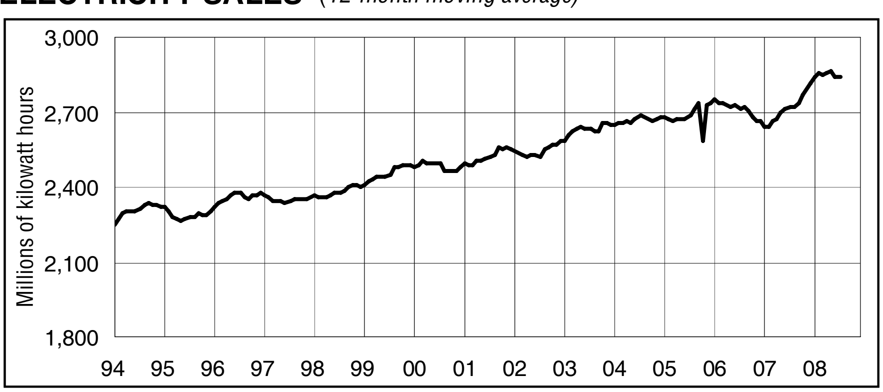
Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	956	772	622
Feb	948	770	621
Mar	958	745	612
Apr	964	710	606
May	954	710	573
Jun	941	698	549
Jul	920	681	552
Aug	906	684	518
Sep	877	681	489
Oct	848	661	
Nov	846	642	
Dec	803	642	

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



Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	404.3	505.1	410.0
Feb	463.4	495.4	363.8
Mar	469.7	487.9	357.4
Apr	477.0	481.6	361.2
May	453.3	476.7	376.1
Jun	455.6	475.7	377.6
Jul	445.7	479.2	376.7
Aug	454.9	465.8	378.6
Sep	465.9	444.0	375.6
Oct	514.4	411.6	
Nov	512.5	408.0	
Dec	509.7	407.9	

ELECTRICITY SALES *(12-month moving average)*



Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	2,755	2,636	2,844
Feb	2,740	2,639	2,854
Mar	2,736	2,660	2,846
Apr	2,729	2,672	2,858
May	2,722	2,695	2,867
Jun	2,727	2,713	2,837
Jul	2,715	2,724	2,837
Aug	2,720	2,717	
Sep	2,702	2,738	
Oct	2,677	2,766	
Nov	2,666	2,791	
Dec	2,662	2,813	

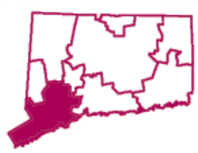
CONNECTICUT

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**1,703,900**	**1,704,000**	**-100**	**0.0**	**1,692,900**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**259,500**	**263,400**	**-3,900**	**-1.5**	**261,700**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**71,400**	**72,600**	**-1,200**	**-1.7**	**72,900**
MANUFACTURING	**188,100**	**190,800**	**-2,700**	**-1.4**	**188,800**
Durable Goods	**143,500**	**144,200**	**-700**	**-0.5**	**143,900**
Fabricated Metal	32,800	33,100	-300	-0.9	32,800
Machinery	17,700	18,100	-400	-2.2	17,900
Computer and Electronic Product	14,000	14,000	0	0.0	14,000
Transportation Equipment	44,300	43,600	700	1.6	44,500
Aerospace Product and Parts	32,400	31,700	700	2.2	32,600
Non-Durable Goods	**44,600**	**46,600**	**-2,000**	**-4.3**	**44,900**
Chemical	14,500	15,600	-1,100	-7.1	14,700
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**1,444,400**	**1,440,600**	**3,800**	**0.3**	**1,431,200**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**308,200**	**310,100**	**-1,900**	**-0.6**	**305,000**
Wholesale Trade	69,200	68,100	1,100	1.6	69,300
Retail Trade	186,100	188,900	-2,800	-1.5	187,500
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	22,000	22,100	-100	-0.5	22,100
Building Material	15,700	16,200	-500	-3.1	16,100
Food and Beverage Stores	41,400	42,000	-600	-1.4	41,800
General Merchandise Stores	25,100	25,400	-300	-1.2	25,200
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	52,900	53,100	-200	-0.4	48,200
Utilities	8,300	8,200	100	1.2	8,300
Transportation and Warehousing	44,600	44,900	-300	-0.7	39,900
INFORMATION	**38,700**	**38,800**	**-100**	**-0.3**	**38,900**
Telecommunications	13,200	13,100	100	0.8	13,400
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**142,800**	**144,200**	**-1,400**	**-1.0**	**144,200**
Finance and Insurance	122,400	123,000	-600	-0.5	123,400
Credit Intermediation	29,400	30,800	-1,400	-4.5	29,800
Securities and Commodity Contracts	22,800	22,400	400	1.8	22,900
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	65,300	65,000	300	0.5	65,700
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	20,400	21,200	-800	-3.8	20,800
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**206,600**	**207,600**	**-1,000**	**-0.5**	**207,300**
Professional, Scientific	92,700	91,400	1,300	1.4	93,400
Legal Services	14,300	14,300	0	0.0	14,500
Computer Systems Design	22,500	21,700	800	3.7	22,600
Management of Companies	24,800	25,100	-300	-1.2	25,000
Administrative and Support	89,100	91,100	-2,000	-2.2	88,900
Employment Services	30,200	32,700	-2,500	-7.6	29,300
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**294,300**	**288,300**	**6,000**	**2.1**	**287,200**
Educational Services	55,200	54,700	500	0.9	48,800
Health Care and Social Assistance	239,100	233,600	5,500	2.4	238,400
Hospitals	59,300	58,500	800	1.4	59,400
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	59,800	59,100	700	1.2	59,700
Social Assistance	43,000	40,700	2,300	5.7	42,600
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**139,800**	**139,100**	**700**	**0.5**	**147,000**
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	25,200	25,400	-200	-0.8	30,000
Accommodation and Food Services	114,600	113,700	900	0.8	117,000
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places	102,400	101,400	1,000	1.0	103,300
OTHER SERVICES	**63,800**	**64,100**	**-300**	**-0.5**	**65,100**
GOVERNMENT	**250,200**	**248,400**	**1,800**	**0.7**	**236,500**
Federal Government	19,000	19,500	-500	-2.6	19,200
State Government	69,600	68,600	1,000	1.5	65,500
Local Government**	161,600	160,300	1,300	0.8	151,800

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

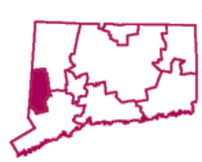


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**424,700**	**421,700**	**3,000**	**0.7**	**423,200**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**57,500**	**57,000**	**500**	**0.9**	**57,700**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**16,500**	**16,300**	**200**	**1.2**	**16,800**
MANUFACTURING	**41,000**	**40,700**	**300**	**0.7**	**40,900**
Durable Goods	**30,500**	**30,200**	**300**	**1.0**	**30,300**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**367,200**	**364,700**	**2,500**	**0.7**	**365,500**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**75,600**	**75,700**	**-100**	**-0.1**	**75,100**
Wholesale Trade	14,400	14,500	-100	-0.7	14,400
Retail Trade	49,500	49,700	-200	-0.4	49,900
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	11,700	11,500	200	1.7	10,800
INFORMATION	**12,200**	**12,100**	**100**	**0.8**	**12,300**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**46,300**	**45,400**	**900**	**2.0**	**46,700**
Finance and Insurance	39,600	38,700	900	2.3	39,900
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**71,100**	**71,400**	**-300**	**-0.4**	**71,300**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**62,000**	**61,500**	**500**	**0.8**	**61,100**
Health Care and Social Assistance	53,300	52,400	900	1.7	53,300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**35,300**	**34,600**	**700**	**2.0**	**37,500**
Accommodation and Food Services	26,200	25,400	800	3.1	26,500
OTHER SERVICES	**17,400**	**17,200**	**200**	**1.2**	**17,900**
GOVERNMENT	**47,300**	**46,800**	**500**	**1.1**	**43,600**
Federal	3,000	3,200	-200	-6.3	3,100
State & Local	44,300	43,600	700	1.6	40,500

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

DANBURY LMA



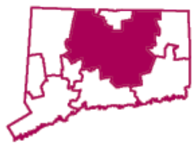
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**70,500**	**69,800**	**700**	**1.0**	**70,200**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**13,200**	**13,100**	**100**	**0.8**	**13,200**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**57,300**	**56,700**	**600**	**1.1**	**57,000**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**15,700**	**15,700**	**0**	**0.0**	**15,800**
Retail Trade	11,600	11,700	-100	-0.9	11,800
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**8,000**	**8,400**	**-400**	**-4.8**	**8,100**
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**6,100**	**5,800**	**300**	**5.2**	**6,300**
GOVERNMENT	**7,900**	**7,900**	**0**	**0.0**	**7,100**
Federal	600	600	0	0.0	600
State & Local	7,300	7,300	0	0.0	6,500

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

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

HARTFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**566,000**	**558,500**	**7,500**	**1.3**	**558,900**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**88,900**	**88,400**	**500**	**0.6**	**89,800**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**23,900**	**23,900**	**0**	**0.0**	**24,400**
MANUFACTURING	**65,000**	**64,500**	**500**	**0.8**	**65,400**
Durable Goods	**53,900**	**53,700**	**200**	**0.4**	**54,300**
Transportation Equipment	18,300	18,300	0	0.0	18,600
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**477,100**	**470,100**	**7,000**	**1.5**	**469,100**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**89,900**	**89,800**	**100**	**0.1**	**88,200**
Wholesale Trade	20,200	19,800	400	2.0	20,200
Retail Trade	54,600	55,200	-600	-1.1	54,400
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	15,100	14,800	300	2.0	13,600
Transportation and Warehousing	12,000	11,800	200	1.7	10,500
INFORMATION	**12,800**	**12,100**	**700**	**5.8**	**12,500**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**65,800**	**66,400**	**-600**	**-0.9**	**66,500**
Depository Credit Institutions	7,600	7,600	0	0.0	7,700
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	44,400	44,900	-500	-1.1	44,700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**62,100**	**61,200**	**900**	**1.5**	**62,600**
Professional, Scientific	30,100	29,400	700	2.4	30,400
Administrative and Support	25,400	25,300	100	0.4	25,300
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**93,600**	**90,300**	**3,300**	**3.7**	**92,500**
Health Care and Social Assistance	80,600	78,600	2,000	2.5	81,000
Ambulatory Health Care	24,100	23,500	600	2.6	24,100
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**43,500**	**41,900**	**1,600**	**3.8**	**45,100**
Accommodation and Food Services	36,100	34,900	1,200	3.4	36,200
OTHER SERVICES	**21,100**	**20,900**	**200**	**1.0**	**21,200**
GOVERNMENT	**88,300**	**87,500**	**800**	**0.9**	**80,500**
Federal	5,900	5,900	0	0.0	5,900
State & Local	82,400	81,600	800	1.0	74,600

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

- **International factory productivity gains, and losses, in 2007**
  Manufacturing labor productivity increased in 2007 in 14 of the 16 economies compared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Republic of Korea and Taiwan had the largest productivity increases of 8.7 percent each, while Germany followed with an increase of 5.0 percent. The United States productivity increase of 4.1 percent was the fourth largest among the 16 economies compared. This was slightly above the 3.9-percent U.S. average annual increase since 1979. Italy and Norway both had declines in productivity. Manufacturing output increased in 15 of the 16 economies in 2007; Taiwan and Korea were the leaders in the growth of output. While 15 of the manufacturing sectors had increases in 2007 in output, 9 had increases in total hours worked; Norway and Denmark had the largest increases in total hours worked. These data are from the Foreign Labor Statistics program. Data are subject to revision. Additional information is available in "International Comparisons of Manufacturing Productivity and Unit Labor Cost Trends, 2007" (PDF) (HTML), news release USDL 08-1343. (The Editor's Desk, Bureau of Labor Statistics, September 30, 2008)

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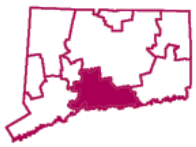
NEW HAVEN LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**277,200**	**277,900**	**-700**	**-0.3**	**272,400**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**43,300**	**43,800**	**-500**	**-1.1**	**43,700**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**12,300**	**12,100**	**200**	**1.7**	**12,600**
MANUFACTURING	**31,000**	**31,700**	**-700**	**-2.2**	**31,100**
Durable Goods	**21,800**	**22,100**	**-300**	**-1.4**	**22,000**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**233,900**	**234,100**	**-200**	**-0.1**	**228,700**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**50,600**	**51,100**	**-500**	**-1.0**	**50,600**
Wholesale Trade	11,600	11,500	100	0.9	11,600
Retail Trade	30,500	30,700	-200	-0.7	31,100
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	8,500	8,900	-400	-4.5	7,900
INFORMATION	**7,700**	**8,000**	**-300**	**-3.8**	**7,900**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**13,300**	**13,500**	**-200**	**-1.5**	**13,400**
Finance and Insurance	9,400	9,700	-300	-3.1	9,500
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**26,900**	**26,500**	**400**	**1.5**	**26,600**
Administrative and Support	13,600	13,300	300	2.3	13,500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**68,000**	**68,300**	**-300**	**-0.4**	**65,500**
Educational Services	24,000	24,900	-900	-3.6	21,300
Health Care and Social Assistance	44,000	43,400	600	1.4	44,200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**22,800**	**21,800**	**1,000**	**4.6**	**23,500**
Accommodation and Food Services	18,400	18,700	-300	-1.6	18,700
OTHER SERVICES	**11,100**	**10,900**	**200**	**1.8**	**11,400**
GOVERNMENT	**33,500**	**34,000**	**-500**	**-1.5**	**29,800**
Federal	5,000	5,100	-100	-2.0	5,000
State & Local	28,500	28,900	-400	-1.4	24,800

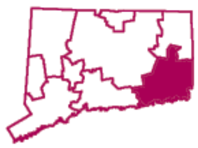
For further information on the New Haven Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 263-6278.

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.)

- **Variation in life insurance benefits by establishment size, 2008**
  In March 2008, over half of workers in private industry (in U.S.) participated in life insurance benefits. Workers in larger establishments were more likely to participate in such benefits than workers in smaller establishments. In establishments with fewer than 50 workers, 36 percent participated in life insurance and in those with 50 to 99 workers, 52 percent participated. In establishments with 100 to 499 workers, 67 participated in life insurance benefits, and in the largest establishments (500 workers or more), 83 percent participated. Overall, 56 percent of private-industry workers participated in life insurance benefits in March 2008. These data are from the BLS National Compensation Survey program. Find out more in National Compensation Survey: Employee Benefits in the United States, March 2008, BLS Bulletin 2715. (The Editor's Desk, Bureau of Labor Statistics, October 3, 2008)

NORWICH - NEW LONDON LMA

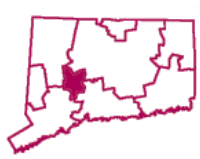


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**137,500**	**137,400**	**100**	**0.1**	**138,900**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**20,400**	**20,900**	**-500**	**-2.4**	**20,500**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**4,400**	**4,700**	**-300**	**-6.4**	**4,500**
MANUFACTURING	**16,000**	**16,200**	**-200**	**-1.2**	**16,000**
Durable Goods	**10,700**	**10,800**	**-100**	**-0.9**	**10,700**
Non-Durable Goods	**5,300**	**5,400**	**-100**	**-1.9**	**5,300**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**117,100**	**116,500**	**600**	**0.5**	**118,400**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**23,200**	**23,400**	**-200**	**-0.9**	**23,200**
Wholesale Trade	2,600	2,400	200	8.3	2,600
Retail Trade	15,700	16,200	-500	-3.1	16,100
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	4,900	4,800	100	2.1	4,500
INFORMATION	**1,800**	**2,000**	**-200**	**-10.0**	**2,000**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**3,200**	**3,400**	**-200**	**-5.9**	**3,200**
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**9,900**	**10,000**	**-100**	**-1.0**	**10,000**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**20,000**	**19,800**	**200**	**1.0**	**19,800**
Health Care and Social Assistance	17,300	17,100	200	1.2	17,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**15,100**	**14,700**	**400**	**2.7**	**16,500**
Accommodation and Food Services	12,600	12,200	400	3.3	13,600
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places	10,400	10,000	400	4.0	11,300
OTHER SERVICES	**3,800**	**3,900**	**-100**	**-2.6**	**3,900**
GOVERNMENT	**40,100**	**39,300**	**800**	**2.0**	**39,800**
Federal	2,700	2,600	100	3.8	2,800
State & Local**	37,400	36,700	700	1.9	37,000

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

WATERBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**68,300**	**68,200**	**100**	**0.1**	**67,300**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**12,600**	**12,900**	**-300**	**-2.3**	**12,700**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**3,000**	**3,000**	**0**	**0.0**	**3,000**
MANUFACTURING	**9,600**	**9,900**	**-300**	**-3.0**	**9,700**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**55,700**	**55,300**	**400**	**0.7**	**54,600**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**13,400**	**13,300**	**100**	**0.8**	**13,400**
Wholesale Trade	2,200	2,200	0	0.0	2,200
Retail Trade	9,000	8,900	100	1.1	9,200
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	2,200	2,200	0	0.0	2,000
INFORMATION	**800**	**800**	**0**	**0.0**	**900**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**2,400**	**2,400**	**0**	**0.0**	**2,400**
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**6,200**	**6,000**	**200**	**3.3**	**6,200**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**15,100**	**14,700**	**400**	**2.7**	**14,800**
Health Care and Social Assistance	13,700	13,500	200	1.5	13,600
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**5,200**	**5,200**	**0**	**0.0**	**5,500**
OTHER SERVICES	**2,500**	**2,500**	**0**	**0.0**	**2,600**
GOVERNMENT	**10,100**	**10,400**	**-300**	**-2.9**	**8,800**
Federal	600	600	0	0.0	600
State & Local	9,500	9,800	-300	-3.1	8,200

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

	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT					
ENFIELD LMA	47,300	48,400	-1,100	-2.3	46,700
TORRINGTON LMA	37,100	37,600	-500	-1.3	36,800
WILLIMANTIC - DANIELSON LMA	37,600	38,400	-800	-2.1	37,100

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

	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**298,000**	**298,900**	**-900**	**-0.3**	**292,800**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**47,300**	**48,300**	**-1,000**	**-2.1**	**47,600**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**10,600**	**11,400**	**-800**	**-7.0**	**10,900**
MANUFACTURING	**36,700**	**36,900**	**-200**	**-0.5**	**36,700**
Durable Goods	**23,500**	**23,500**	**0**	**0.0**	**23,500**
Non-Durable Goods	**13,200**	**13,400**	**-200**	**-1.5**	**13,200**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**250,700**	**250,600**	**100**	**0.0**	**245,200**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**59,500**	**60,000**	**-500**	**-0.8**	**59,100**
Wholesale Trade	11,500	11,500	0	0.0	11,500
Retail Trade	34,400	35,100	-700	-2.0	34,700
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	13,600	13,400	200	1.5	12,900
INFORMATION	**4,300**	**4,400**	**-100**	**-2.3**	**4,300**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**17,000**	**17,200**	**-200**	**-1.2**	**17,200**
Finance and Insurance	13,400	13,500	-100	-0.7	13,500
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	8,700	8,600	100	1.2	8,700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**23,100**	**23,600**	**-500**	**-2.1**	**23,300**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**58,000**	**56,200**	**1,800**	**3.2**	**56,800**
Educational Services	12,400	12,100	300	2.5	11,300
Health Care and Social Assistance	45,600	44,100	1,500	3.4	45,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**27,700**	**28,000**	**-300**	**-1.1**	**28,400**
OTHER SERVICES	**11,100**	**11,400**	**-300**	**-2.6**	**11,600**
GOVERNMENT	**50,000**	**49,800**	**200**	**0.4**	**44,500**
Federal	7,200	6,700	500	7.5	7,300
State & Local	42,800	43,100	-300	-0.7	37,200

* 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.*

LMA LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

(Not seasonally adjusted)	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	SEP 2008	SEP 2007	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	AUG 2008
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,886,700	1,862,300	24,400	1.3	1,912,000
	Employed	1,775,000	1,779,100	-4,100	-0.2	1,788,600
	Unemployed	111,600	83,200	28,400	34.1	123,300
	Unemployment Rate	5.9	4.5	1.4	---	6.5
BRIDGEPORT - STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	480,900	473,900	7,000	1.5	489,300
	Employed	454,300	454,500	-200	0.0	459,900
	Unemployed	26,600	19,400	7,200	37.1	29,300
	Unemployment Rate	5.5	4.1	1.4	---	6.0
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	93,000	91,700	1,300	1.4	94,700
	Employed	88,700	88,500	200	0.2	89,800
	Unemployed	4,300	3,200	1,100	34.4	4,900
	Unemployment Rate	4.6	3.5	1.1	---	5.2
ENFIELD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	49,600	49,500	100	0.2	49,300
	Employed	46,700	47,100	-400	-0.8	46,500
	Unemployed	2,900	2,300	600	26.1	2,800
	Unemployment Rate	5.8	4.7	1.1	---	5.7
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	595,700	584,500	11,200	1.9	601,900
	Employed	560,000	557,900	2,100	0.4	562,300
	Unemployed	35,700	26,700	9,000	33.7	39,700
	Unemployment Rate	6.0	4.6	1.4	---	6.6
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	312,700	310,400	2,300	0.7	315,500
	Employed	293,400	295,600	-2,200	-0.7	294,000
	Unemployed	19,300	14,800	4,500	30.4	21,500
	Unemployment Rate	6.2	4.8	1.4	---	6.8
NORWICH - NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	153,100	151,900	1,200	0.8	157,300
	Employed	144,000	145,600	-1,600	-1.1	147,300
	Unemployed	9,100	6,300	2,800	44.4	9,900
	Unemployment Rate	6.0	4.1	1.9	---	6.3
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	54,700	55,000	-300	-0.5	55,600
	Employed	51,900	52,900	-1,000	-1.9	52,300
	Unemployed	2,800	2,200	600	27.3	3,300
	Unemployment Rate	5.1	4.0	1.1	---	5.8
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	102,200	100,900	1,300	1.3	103,400
	Employed	94,400	95,000	-600	-0.6	94,700
	Unemployed	7,800	5,800	2,000	34.5	8,700
	Unemployment Rate	7.6	5.8	1.8	---	8.4
WILLIMANTIC-DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	58,200	58,100	100	0.2	58,900
	Employed	54,100	55,000	-900	-1.6	54,600
	Unemployed	4,100	3,100	1,000	32.3	4,300
	Unemployment Rate	7.1	5.3	1.8	---	7.2
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	154,509,000	153,400,000	1,109,000	0.7	155,387,000
	Employed	145,310,000	146,448,000	-1,138,000	-0.8	145,909,000
	Unemployed	9,199,000	6,952,000	2,247,000	32.3	9,479,000
	Unemployment Rate	6.0	4.5	1.5	---	6.1

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			
	SEP		CHG	AUG	SEP		CHG	AUG	SEP		CHG	AUG
(Not seasonally adjusted)	2008	2007	Y/Y	2008	2008	2007	Y/Y	2008	2008	2007	Y/Y	2008
MANUFACTURING	**$923.99**	**$890.77**	**$33.23**	**$914.14**	**42.6**	**42.6**	**0.0**	**42.4**	**$21.69**	**$20.91**	**$0.78**	**$21.56**
DURABLE GOODS	**956.48**	**922.29**	**34.19**	**947.33**	**42.7**	**42.6**	**0.1**	**42.5**	**22.40**	**21.65**	**0.75**	**22.29**
Fabricated Metal	830.04	807.03	23.01	826.98	41.9	42.7	-0.8	42.0	19.81	18.90	0.91	19.69
Transport. Equipment	1,204.35	1,160.78	43.57	1,188.09	43.4	43.2	0.2	43.0	27.75	26.87	0.88	27.63
NON-DUR. GOODS	**833.58**	**803.25**	**30.33**	**824.00**	**42.4**	**42.5**	-0.1	**42.3**	**19.66**	**18.90**	**0.76**	**19.48**
CONSTRUCTION	**1,016.85**	**942.10**	**74.75**	**995.28**	**39.2**	**38.5**	**0.7**	**39.0**	**25.94**	**24.47**	**1.47**	**25.52**

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 September 2008, Accel International Holdings, a manufacturer of wire, disclosed plans to relocate from Waterbury to Meriden and add 41 new positions. A new Kohl's Department store will open in Waterbury in November with 150 employees. A new Target store will open in October in the Westfield Trumbull Mall employing 500 people. With the passage of a new defense budget, Electric Boat of Groton will hire 100 additional draftsmen.

- On September 19th, the City of New Haven laid off 35 workers to help close a budget deficit. Cartus, a global relocation company with headquarters in Danbury, laid off 50 employees. Due to lower profits, the Ponderosa Steakhouse in Southington, with 35-40 employees, has closed. To help close a growing budget deficit, the City of Bridgeport will lay off 31 workers.

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)

SEPTEMBER 2008

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
BRIDGEPORT-STAMFORD	480,921	454,322	26,599	5.5
Ansonia	10,202	9,433	769	7.5
Bridgeport	64,057	58,278	5,779	9.0
Darien	9,369	8,988	381	4.1
Derby	7,060	6,537	523	7.4
Easton	3,847	3,656	191	5.0
Fairfield	28,985	27,553	1,432	4.9
Greenwich	30,895	29,555	1,340	4.3
Milford	32,458	30,685	1,773	5.5
Monroe	10,838	10,320	518	4.8
New Canaan	9,147	8,729	418	4.6
Newtown	14,575	13,960	615	4.2
Norwalk	49,406	47,030	2,376	4.8
Oxford	7,406	7,057	349	4.7
Redding	4,795	4,598	197	4.1
Ridgefield	11,902	11,426	476	4.0
Seymour	9,438	8,866	572	6.1
Shelton	23,497	22,234	1,263	5.4
Southbury	9,252	8,811	441	4.8
Stamford	67,520	64,312	3,208	4.8
Stratford	26,585	24,859	1,726	6.5
Trumbull	18,183	17,305	878	4.8
Weston	5,020	4,819	201	4.0
Westport	12,973	12,404	569	4.4
Wilton	8,527	8,131	396	4.6
Woodbridge	4,984	4,776	208	4.2
DANBURY	92,957	88,659	4,298	4.6
Bethel	10,969	10,480	489	4.5
Bridgewater	1,050	1,014	36	3.4
Brookfield	9,222	8,788	434	4.7
Danbury	45,144	43,019	2,125	4.7
New Fairfield	7,732	7,373	359	4.6
New Milford	16,659	15,880	779	4.7
Sherman	2,182	2,105	77	3.5
ENFIELD	49,593	46,702	2,891	5.8
East Windsor	6,222	5,843	379	6.1
Enfield	24,029	22,592	1,437	6.0
Somers	4,708	4,454	254	5.4
Suffield	7,507	7,140	367	4.9
Windsor Locks	7,127	6,673	454	6.4
HARTFORD	595,703	560,049	35,654	6.0
Andover	2,006	1,930	76	3.8
Ashford	2,654	2,543	111	4.2
Avon	9,346	9,005	341	3.6
Barkhamsted	2,243	2,156	87	3.9
Berlin	11,519	10,959	560	4.9
Bloomfield	10,337	9,590	747	7.2
Bolton	3,109	2,961	148	4.8
Bristol	34,946	32,716	2,230	6.4
Burlington	5,450	5,211	239	4.4

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
HARTFORD cont....				
Canton	5,844	5,613	231	4.0
Colchester	8,954	8,472	482	5.4
Columbia	3,121	2,980	141	4.5
Coventry	7,132	6,790	342	4.8
Cromwell	7,966	7,548	418	5.2
East Granby	2,976	2,851	125	4.2
East Haddam	5,230	5,016	214	4.1
East Hampton	7,109	6,715	394	5.5
East Hartford	25,894	23,937	1,957	7.6
Ellington	8,884	8,461	423	4.8
Farmington	13,172	12,564	608	4.6
Glastonbury	18,514	17,734	780	4.2
Granby	6,382	6,145	237	3.7
Haddam	4,935	4,722	213	4.3
Hartford	50,381	44,690	5,691	11.3
Hartland	1,221	1,174	47	3.8
Harwinton	3,213	3,075	138	4.3
Hebron	5,599	5,347	252	4.5
Lebanon	4,386	4,162	224	5.1
Manchester	32,829	30,770	2,059	6.3
Mansfield	13,300	12,669	631	4.7
Marlborough	3,689	3,524	165	4.5
Middlefield	2,420	2,306	114	4.7
Middletown	27,032	25,536	1,496	5.5
New Britain	35,337	32,313	3,024	8.6
New Hartford	3,881	3,705	176	4.5
Newington	16,877	16,028	849	5.0
Plainville	10,239	9,667	572	5.6
Plymouth	6,991	6,544	447	6.4
Portland	5,474	5,203	271	5.0
Rocky Hill	10,967	10,412	555	5.1
Simsbury	12,301	11,783	518	4.2
Southington	24,542	23,400	1,142	4.7
South Windsor	15,009	14,385	624	4.2
Stafford	7,003	6,559	444	6.3
Thomaston	4,698	4,452	246	5.2
Tolland	8,537	8,171	366	4.3
Union	473	462	11	2.3
Vernon	17,690	16,700	990	5.6
West Hartford	29,877	28,246	1,631	5.5
Wethersfield	13,602	12,846	756	5.6
Willington	3,965	3,807	158	4.0
Windsor	16,447	15,494	953	5.8

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 purpuse, 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

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

SEPTEMBER 2008

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
NEW HAVEN	**312,746**	**293,444**	**19,302**	**6.2**
Bethany	3,132	2,992	140	4.5
Branford	17,492	16,590	902	5.2
Cheshire	14,659	13,981	678	4.6
Chester	2,287	2,199	88	3.8
Clinton	8,030	7,639	391	4.9
Deep River	2,601	2,478	123	4.7
Durham	4,283	4,117	166	3.9
East Haven	16,318	15,248	1,070	6.6
Essex	3,802	3,647	155	4.1
Guilford	13,118	12,520	598	4.6
Hamden	31,124	29,293	1,831	5.9
Killingworth	3,633	3,471	162	4.5
Madison	10,151	9,720	431	4.2
Meriden	31,990	29,719	2,271	7.1
New Haven	56,366	51,301	5,065	9.0
North Branford	8,451	8,037	414	4.9
North Haven	13,355	12,610	745	5.6
Old Saybrook	5,553	5,290	263	4.7
Orange	7,327	7,006	321	4.4
Wallingford	25,485	24,175	1,310	5.1
Westbrook	3,708	3,530	178	4.8
West Haven	29,883	27,884	1,999	6.7
*NORWICH-NEW LONDON	**139,641**	**131,430**	**8,211**	**5.9**
Bozrah	1,507	1,418	89	5.9
Canterbury	3,300	3,093	207	6.3
East Lyme	9,778	9,281	497	5.1
Franklin	1,213	1,146	67	5.5
Griswold	7,304	6,850	454	6.2
Groton	19,534	18,365	1,169	6.0
Ledyard	8,735	8,304	431	4.9
Lisbon	2,619	2,475	144	5.5
Lyme	1,161	1,119	42	3.6
Montville	11,198	10,549	649	5.8
New London	13,957	12,912	1,045	7.5
No. Stonington	3,348	3,183	165	4.9
Norwich	21,154	19,706	1,448	6.8
Old Lyme	4,299	4,112	187	4.3
Preston	2,948	2,776	172	5.8
Salem	2,668	2,543	125	4.7
Sprague	1,839	1,717	122	6.6
Stonington	10,720	10,237	483	4.5
Voluntown	1,658	1,548	110	6.6
Waterford	10,702	10,097	605	5.7

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

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
NORWICH-NEW LONDON	**153,142**	**144,026**	**9,116**	**6.0**
Westerly, RI	13,501	12,596	905	6.7

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	**54,734**	**51,943**	**2,791**	**5.1**
Bethlehem	2,023	1,942	81	4.0
Canaan	610	584	26	4.3
Colebrook	839	813	26	3.1
Cornwall	835	806	29	3.5
Goshen	1,629	1,558	71	4.4
Kent	1,604	1,544	60	3.7
Litchfield	4,448	4,244	204	4.6
Morris	1,316	1,249	67	5.1
Norfolk	960	918	42	4.4
North Canaan	1,737	1,663	74	4.3
Roxbury	1,387	1,339	48	3.5
Salisbury	1,982	1,915	67	3.4
Sharon	1,585	1,524	61	3.8
Torrington	19,419	18,236	1,183	6.1
Warren	744	719	25	3.4
Washington	1,968	1,880	88	4.5
Winchester	6,063	5,691	372	6.1
Woodbury	5,585	5,317	268	4.8
WATERBURY	**102,209**	**94,418**	**7,791**	**7.6**
Beacon Falls	3,326	3,136	190	5.7
Middlebury	3,893	3,714	179	4.6
Naugatuck	17,346	16,196	1,150	6.6
Prospect	5,325	5,051	274	5.1
Waterbury	50,726	45,932	4,794	9.5
Watertown	12,525	11,805	720	5.7
Wolcott	9,069	8,584	485	5.3
WILLIMANTIC-DANIELSON	**58,188**	**54,083**	**4,105**	**7.1**
Brooklyn	3,915	3,624	291	7.4
Chaplin	1,487	1,405	82	5.5
Eastford	1,027	977	50	4.9
Hampton	1,251	1,166	85	6.8
Killingly	9,594	8,833	761	7.9
Plainfield	8,495	7,813	682	8.0
Pomfret	2,278	2,164	114	5.0
Putnam	5,198	4,835	363	7.0
Scotland	1,022	988	34	3.3
Sterling	2,075	1,932	143	6.9
Thompson	5,329	4,986	343	6.4
Windham	11,885	10,961	924	7.8
Woodstock	4,632	4,399	233	5.0

Not Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	**1,886,700**	**1,775,000**	**111,600**	**5.9**
UNITED STATES	**154,509,000**	**145,310,000**	**9,199,000**	**6.0**
Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	**1,898,700**	**1,782,300**	**116,400**	**6.1**
UNITED STATES	**154,732,000**	**145,255,000**	**9,477,000**	**6.1**

LABOR FORCE CONCEPTS (Continued)

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

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

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

Town

HOUSING PERMIT ACTIVITY BY TOWN

TOWN	SEP 2008	YR TO DATE 2008	YR TO DATE 2007
Andover	1	3	6
Ansonia	0	5	10
Ashford	0	6	9
Avon	1	13	33
Barkhamsted	na	na	na
Beacon Falls	na	na	na
Berlin	2	33	83
Bethany	na	na	na
Bethel	1	19	6
Bethlehem	na	na	na
Bloomfield	na	na	na
Bolton	0	4	11
Bozrah	0	2	7
Branford	na	na	na
Bridgeport	2	64	85
Bridgewater	na	na	na
Bristol	0	26	90
Brookfield	na	na	na
Brooklyn	3	22	30
Burlington	2	12	20
Canaan	0	1	5
Canterbury	2	8	11
Canton	0	11	18
Chaplin	1	9	12
Cheshire	3	33	35
Chester	na	na	na
Clinton	0	4	5
Colchester	2	19	40
Colebrook	0	1	0
Columbia	0	5	7
Cornwall	0	2	7
Coventry	1	12	30
Cromwell	2	19	30
Danbury	2	74	229
Darien	na	na	na
Deep River	0	2	4
Derby	na	na	na
Durham	2	18	25
East Granby	5	17	16
East Haddam	1	14	29
East Hampton	4	35	58
East Hartford	na	na	na
East Haven	0	11	23
East Lyme	4	25	85
East Windsor	22	90	76
Eastford	1	2	5
Easton	0	5	4
Ellington	2	78	72
Enfield	na	na	na
Essex	0	7	25
Fairfield	4	47	71
Farmington	2	23	34
Franklin	0	2	5
Glastonbury	5	32	71
Goshen	2	18	27
Granby	0	9	24
Greenwich	11	109	146
Griswold	na	na	na
Groton	4	53	47
Guilford	7	39	26
Haddam	1	24	38
Hamden	1	16	17
Hampton	1	8	12
Hartford	0	38	111
Hartland	na	na	na
Harwinton	0	8	13
Hebron	na	na	na
Kent	0	4	6
Killingly	1	24	62
Killingworth	na	na	na
Lebanon	2	8	14
Ledyard	0	4	11
Lisbon	1	6	9
Litchfield	na	na	na
Lyme	0	5	6
Madison	2	15	19
Manchester	2	222	319
Mansfield	1	15	36
Marlborough	0	4	18
Meriden	2	26	46
Middlebury	na	na	na
Middlefield	0	1	4
Middletown	11	155	162
Milford	15	240	207
Monroe	2	14	17
Montville	1	16	27
Morris	0	2	4
Naugatuck	4	31	35
New Britain	na	na	na
New Canaan	6	23	35
New Fairfield	na	na	na
New Hartford	3	10	12
New Haven	2	28	32
New London	3	27	40
New Milford	3	27	31
Newington	8	54	50
Newtown	4	20	33
Norfolk	0	2	4
North Branford	na	na	na
North Canaan	1	6	5
North Haven	0	4	8
North Stonington	0	4	14
Norwalk	5	61	73
Norwich	2	20	73
Old Lyme	na	na	na
Old Saybrook	2	11	8
Orange	na	na	na
Oxford	9	64	51
Plainfield	1	18	9
Plainville	4	24	38
Plymouth	1	8	11
Pomfret	1	7	6
Portland	0	9	9
Preston	1	6	12
Prospect	na	na	na
Putnam	1	13	20
Redding	na	na	na
Ridgefield	1	103	81
Rocky Hill	2	16	24
Roxbury	na	na	na
Salem	1	7	7
Salisbury	na	na	na
Scotland	1	4	7
Seymour	11	31	25
Sharon	0	5	7
Shelton	2	105	65
Sherman	na	na	na
Simsbury	1	5	14
Somers	1	19	29
South Windsor	2	21	28
Southbury	0	6	26
Southington	14	87	88
Sprague	0	9	4
Stafford	na	na	na
Stamford	84	338	480
Sterling	na	na	na
Stonington	2	27	38
Stratford	4	12	41
Suffield	0	18	26
Thomaston	na	na	na
Thompson	na	na	na
Tolland	3	13	38
Torrington	3	15	53
Trumbull	1	19	23
Union	1	3	1
Vernon	5	152	141
Voluntown	0	4	8
Wallingford	7	31	63
Warren	0	2	9
Washington	na	na	na
Waterbury	9	51	119
Waterford	2	22	42
Watertown	3	30	37
West Hartford	6	102	71
West Haven	na	na	na
Westbrook	3	12	17
Weston	na	na	na
Westport	3	47	59
Wethersfield	na	na	na
Willington	1	5	3
Wilton	na	na	na
Winchester	1	13	19
Windham	1	10	13
Windsor	na	na	na
Windsor Locks	na	na	na
Wolcott	2	22	30
Woodbridge	na	na	na
Woodbury	2	14	21
Woodstock	2	15	21

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	**-2.1**
Coincident Employment Index	**-2.2**
Leading General Drift Indicator	**-1.2**
Coincident General Drift Indicator	**-0.2**
Banknorth Business Barometer	**+0.4**
Total Nonfarm Employment	**+0.0**
Unemployment Rate	**+1.5***
Labor Force	+1.4
Employed	-0.2
Unemployed	+34.1
Average Weekly Initial Claims	**+54.9**
Avg Insured Unempl. Rate	**+0.45***
Average Weekly Hours, Mfg	**0.0**
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg	**+3.7**
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg	**+3.7**
CT Mfg. Production Index	**-0.7**
Production Worker Hours	-1.7
Industrial Electricity Sales	-3.7
Personal Income	**+3.6**
UI Covered Wages	**+2.4**

Business Activity	
New Housing Permits	-20.4
Electricity Sales	-0.1
Construction Contracts Index	-22.0
New Auto Registrations	-19.3
Air Cargo Tons	-10.8
Exports	+12.2
Business Starts	
Secretary of the State	-4.8
Dept. of Labor	-17.3
Business Terminations	
Secretary of the State	+14.0
Dept. of Labor	-12.7
State Revenues	**+18.0**
Corporate Tax	+6.0
Personal Income Tax	+0.1
Real Estate Conveyance Tax	-28.2
Sales & Use Tax	+106.6
Indian Gaming Payments	-14.5

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

Tourism and Travel	
Info Center Visitors	-5.7
Attraction Visitors	-19.5
Air Passenger Count	-9.0
Indian Gaming Slots	-9.5
Travel and Tourism Index	-0.5
Employment Cost Index (U.S.)	
Total	+2.8
Wages & Salaries	+2.9
Benefit Costs	+2.4
Consumer Prices	
U.S. City Average	+4.9
Northeast Region	+5.1
NY-NJ-Long Island	+5.2
Boston-Brockton-Nashua	+4.7
Interest Rates	
Prime	-3.03*
Conventional Mortgage	-0.34*

THE CONNECTICUT ECONOMIC DIGEST

A joint publication of The Connecticut Departments of Labor and Economic and Community Development

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200 Folly Brook Boulevard
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