

ECONOMIC DIGEST

SEPTEMBER 1999

- Connecticut's gross state product trends are analyzed. (article, pp.1-4)
- Industry clusters: human resources. (p.3)
- Nonfarm employment increased by 4,900 in July, and was 20,800 higher than a year ago. (p.6)
- Unemployment rate in July: 2.6 percent, down from prior month and from last year. (p.6)
- July's new housing permits were down 24.7 percent over the year. (Business Activity, p.7)
- Initial unemployment claims in July were down 7.4 percent over the year. (p.6)

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Gross State Product Reviewed

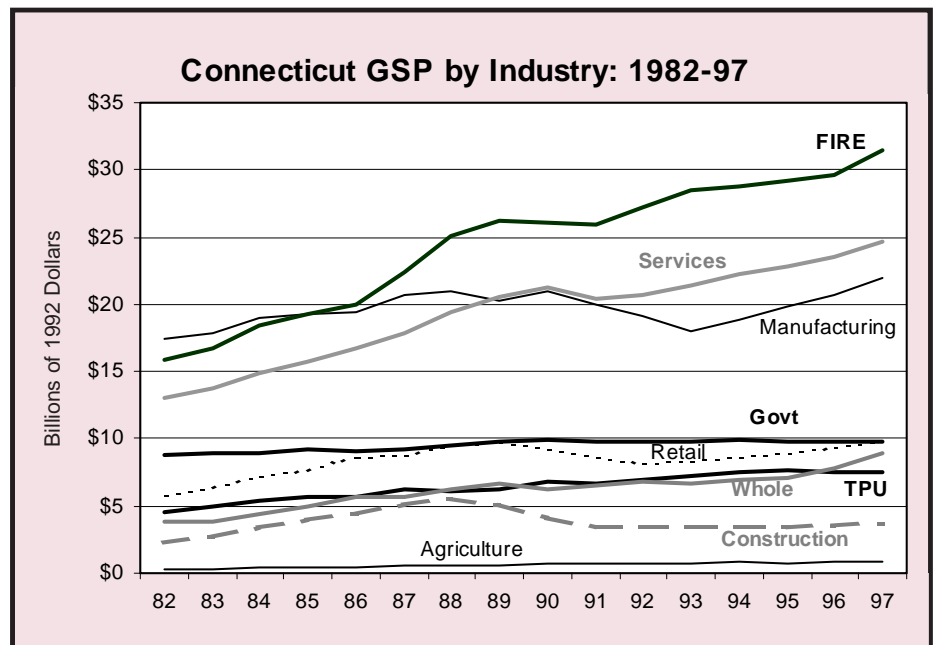
By J. Charles Joo, Research Analyst

The Bureau of Economic Analysis of the U.S. Department of Commerce recently released the latest gross state product (GSP) estimates for states and industries. GSP is the value added in production by the labor and property located in a state. It is defined as total gross output (sales or receipts and other operating income, commodity taxes, and inventory change) minus intermediate inputs (consumption of goods and services purchased from other U.S. industries or imported). Thus, GSP is often considered the state counterpart of the nation's gross domestic product (GDP), measuring each state's health of the overall economy.

In this report, Connecticut's economic output for 1997, in current dollars, was estimated at \$134.6 billion, or 1.7 percent of the U.S. total of \$8.1 trillion. This article will touch on current data and review the historical data for both the total and industry trends. Comparisons between Connecticut and the nation will also be discussed. A complete table of Connecticut real GSP data for 1982 through 1997 by major industry division is on page 4.

1996 - 1997

According to the Bureau, Connecticut's GSP, in 1992 dollars (adjusting for inflation), increased by 5.3 percent over the



ECONOMIC DIGEST

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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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GSP Industry Shares

Industry	Connecticut		U.S.		CT relative to U.S.	
	1982	1997	1982	1997	1982	1997
Agriculture	0.4%	0.7%	1.7%	1.8%	-1.3%	-1.1%
Construction	3.1%	3.1%	3.8%	3.8%	-0.7%	-0.7%
Manufacturing	24.2%	18.5%	17.8%	18.9%	6.4%	-0.4%
TPU	6.4%	6.4%	8.3%	8.9%	-1.9%	-2.5%
Wholesale	5.3%	7.5%	5.4%	7.3%	-0.1%	0.2%
Retail	8.0%	8.3%	8.5%	9.8%	-0.5%	-1.5%
FIRE	22.1%	26.6%	19.2%	17.7%	2.9%	8.9%
Services	18.1%	20.8%	18.4%	19.3%	-0.3%	1.5%
Government	12.2%	8.2%	15.4%	11.4%	-3.2%	-3.2%

year, outpacing the nation's 4.3 percent. Connecticut's growth ranked 10th among the 50 states, and was the second largest among the New England states; New Hampshire was tops at 7.5 percent.

In Connecticut, all major industries but mining and government experienced increases in output in 1997. The major contributors to the growth in real GSP were wholesale trade (14%), agriculture (9%), retail trade (6%), and finance, insurance, & real estate (FIRE) (6%). Even manufacturing industry output increased by 6 percent over the year, as its employment also began to rise. The services sector produced 4.5 percent more, while construction and transportation & public utilities (TPU) outputs increased by 2.5 and 1.1 percent each.

1982 - 1997

In the last 15 years, Connecticut's GSP growth rate averaged 3.4 percent per year, faster than the U.S. growth rate of 3.2 percent. However, when the periods before and after the recession are observed, Connecticut's economy paints a different picture. Between 1982 and 1989, our State's economy

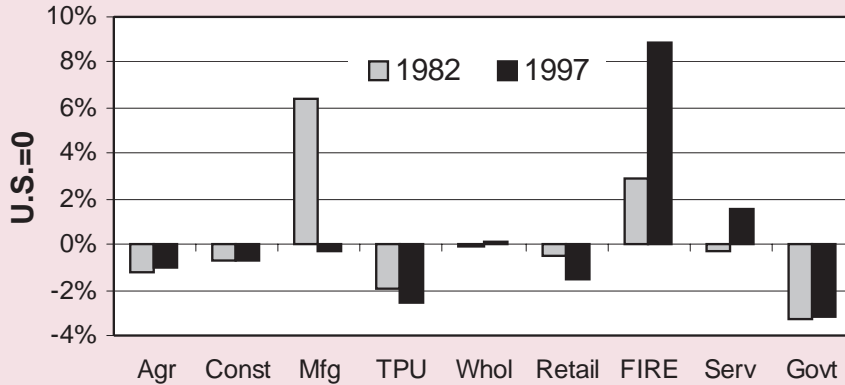
grew at an annual rate of 5.7 percent, significantly faster than the national rate of 4.0 percent. Subsequently, output declined in 1990 and 1991 by 0.3 and 3.0 percent, respectively, while it declined only in 1991 for the U.S., by 0.8 percent (measured by *employment*, the State's recession lasted four years, 1989 through 1992). Then from 1992 to 1997, Connecticut's economy turned around at an annual rate of only 2.5 percent, now producing at a *slower* pace than the nation's 3.3 percent.

Industry Growth

The chart on the front page depicts the real gross state product originating in Connecticut's industrial sectors from 1982 to 1997. This figure not only shows the growth of various sectors, but also their relative contribution to the overall economy and shifts in importance over time.

From 1982-1990, growth trends were very different among individual sectors. Government, TPU, and agriculture showed consistent growth over those years. The construction sector followed a similar pattern, with some acceleration during the 1983-87 period, and reached its

Industry Shares of GSP
CT relative to U.S.



peak in 1988. The wholesale and retail trade, services, and FIRE sectors all showed marked increases in output until the recession. Even manufacturing, despite losing jobs, sustained positive growth in output through 1988.

Since the recession, patterns of growth have changed. While government, TPU, and agriculture have maintained their shares of GSP, construction returned closer to its earlier levels. Wholesale trade, except for a decline in 1993, continued

HOUSING UPDATE

July Permits Keeping Pace with Record '98

Commissioner James F. Abromaitis of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development announced that Connecticut communities authorized 977 new housing units in July 1999, a 24.7 percent decrease compared to July of 1998 when 1,297 were authorized.

The Department further indicated that the 977 units permitted in July 1999 represent a decrease of 20.6 percent from the 1230 units permitted in June 1999. The year-to-date permits are down 1.8 percent, from 6,610 through July 1998, to 6,491 through July 1999.

"With the exception of 1998's record level, permits for July are at their highest level in five years," Commissioner Abromaitis said. "I am pleased to note that

six out of Connecticut's eight counties continue to experience growth exceeding last year's record level of housing permits."

Reports from municipal officials throughout the state indicate that Tolland County with 125.0 percent showed the greatest percentage increase in July compared to the same month a year ago. Middlesex County followed with a 72.1 percent increase.

New Haven County documented the largest number of new, authorized units in July with 227. Hartford County followed with 166 units and Fairfield County had 153 units. Ellington led all Connecticut communities with 50 units, followed by Cheshire with 44 and Hamden with 29. ■

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

Industry Clusters

Human Resources

In addition to (1) strategic location, (2) integration with local clusters, and (3) unmet local demand, the fourth and final competitive advantage of the inner city cited by Harvard Business Professor Michael Porter is (4) the strength of its human resources. Many employers surveyed in Porter's research report great satisfaction with their inner-city workforce.

Porter's research debunks three deeply entrenched myths, namely, a lack of a work ethic, a lack of entrepreneurs, and a tendency to relocate to more affluent areas. Porter notes that many problems associated with inner city workforces can be remedied with new approaches to education, job placement, and training. Workforce readiness challenges can be overcome. Faulty perceptions are more of an obstacle to progress than reality.

Moreover, despite an undoubtedly undereducated, under-skilled, and disproportionately ill equipped for work population, research shows a meaningful proportion of unemployed or underemployed inner-city residents who are ready and able to be good employees. The inner-city workforce may be diverse and complex, but the urban initiative is aimed at fostering the climate whereby the inner-city residents' talent and commitment can build businesses that become meaningful employers and create wealth for the inner city. Porter adds that as the awareness of inner city economic opportunities grows, more will follow. ■

Connecticut Real Gross State Product: 1982 - 1997

(in millions of chained 1992 dollars)

Industry	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Total	71,817	75,525	82,121	86,287	90,083	96,700	103,344	105,485	105,171	101,999	103,031	104,197	107,242	109,465	112,563	118,537
Private Industries	63,241	66,768	73,308	77,195	81,076	87,451	93,798	95,651	95,264	92,180	93,290	94,433	97,352	99,723	102,757	108,802
Agriculture	311	306	371	429	491	566	567	556	665	645	730	744	812	765	782	849
Mining	63	58	67	72	91	107	113	104	74	64	61	69	42	45	42	35
Construction	2,218	2,752	3,400	3,945	4,372	5,088	5,480	5,117	4,047	3,431	3,360	3,399	3,444	3,418	3,541	3,630
Manufacturing	17,376	17,900	18,996	19,316	19,384	20,640	21,008	20,312	20,976	19,920	19,171	18,037	18,877	19,799	20,712	21,950
TPU*	4,603	4,938	5,349	5,647	5,617	6,188	6,148	6,301	6,825	6,728	6,978	7,191	7,538	7,688	7,457	7,542
Wholesale	3,838	3,878	4,446	4,905	5,604	5,626	6,240	6,670	6,269	6,485	6,850	6,694	6,977	7,154	7,789	8,861
Retail trade	5,767	6,440	7,210	7,714	8,594	8,778	9,548	9,716	9,233	8,591	8,272	8,389	8,640	8,870	9,287	9,871
FIRE**	15,888	16,708	18,440	19,207	20,048	22,395	25,106	26,259	26,023	25,921	27,178	28,545	28,831	29,175	29,638	31,517
Services	13,025	13,676	14,891	15,792	16,719	17,893	19,463	20,566	21,189	20,409	20,689	21,354	22,256	22,833	23,572	24,640
Government	8,738	8,888	8,871	9,141	9,030	9,252	9,538	9,828	9,904	9,821	9,741	9,845	9,984	9,749	9,818	9,761

* Transportation & Public Utilities ** Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

rising rapidly, reaching a new peak in 1997. Retail trade output fell during 1990 through 1992, then steadily increased and regained its peak 1989 level in 1997. Despite falling in 1990 and 1991, FIRE output continued to soar to a new high in 1997, nearly doubling 1982's level. The services industry continued to produce more after a setback in 1991. Manufacturing, after three years of decline, bounced back strongly, its output reaching a new high in 1997.

Industry Shares

As the table on page 2 shows, since 1982, manufacturing's share of Connecticut's real GSP dropped from nearly a quarter of the total output to 18.5 percent in 1997. Construction's share was the same in 1997 as it was in 1982. Despite the decline in its employment share in the last 15 years, output in wholesale trade actually has increased. Even though TPU's employment share was 4.6 percent in 1997, its output share was higher at 6.4 percent. Retail trade's employment made up almost one-fifth of total State employment in 1997, but its output share was less than 10 percent. FIRE, on the other hand, commanded over a quarter of the State's total

output, even though its employment share was less than one-tenth of total State employment. The services sector's employment share increased from 20.2 percent in 1982 to 30.7 percent in 1997, while its GSP share increased by only 2.7 percentage points (18.1% to 20.8%). Government's job share was maintained at 13 percent over the years, but its output share dropped from 12.2 percent in 1982 to 8.2 percent in 1997.

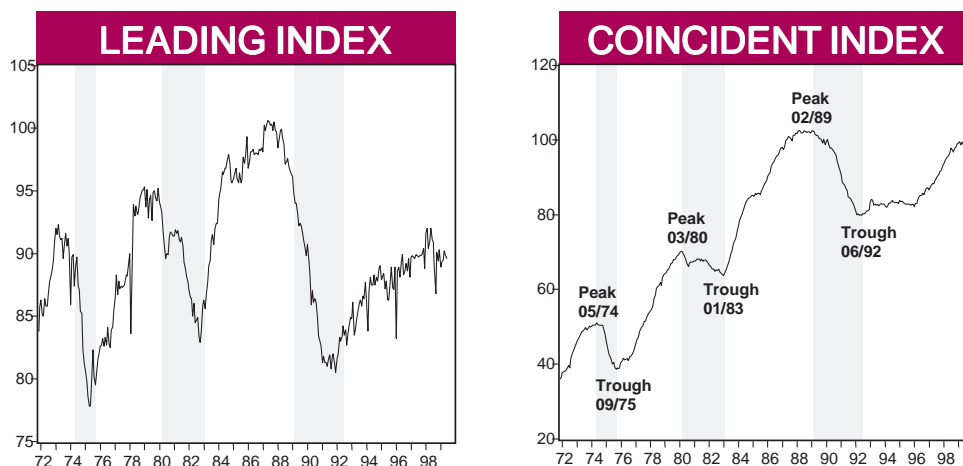
CT and U.S.

Comparing Connecticut's dependence on each industry sector with the national average reveals some interesting differences. The table on page 2 contains data on the industry share of real GSP for both the State and nation for 1982 and 1997. These data reveal changes both within regions and between regions over time. For instance, manufacturing as a share of GSP has dropped dramatically in Connecticut, falling from 24.2 percent in 1982 to 18.5 percent in 1997, while the FIRE sector has increased its share of State output from 22.1 percent to 26.6 percent.

The chart on page 3 also shows the differences in industry

sector share of GSP in Connecticut *relative* to the nation. For instance, the share of manufacturing sector product in Connecticut in 1982 was 6.4 percentage points higher than in the nation. By 1997, it had dropped to a level just below the nation's share. This confirms that Connecticut, which used to be more manufacturing-dependent than the nation as a whole, is now comparable to the U.S. Elsewhere, we find an increasing relevance and divergence from the national norm in the FIRE sector. Unlike in the past, the services sector contributes relatively more to our economy than it does to the nation's.

Negative numbers indicate sectors whose relative contribution to the State are less than their role nationally. TPU and retail trade, for example, are less of a factor in Connecticut than in the U.S. and the differences between the two regions are increasing over time. The biggest divergence from the U.S. average, however, was in the government sector. Government declined in its share of gross product by four percentage points both nationally and in the State between 1982 and 1997, indicating a reduced relative role in the economy at both levels. ■



The distance from peak to trough, indicated by the shaded areas, measures the duration of an employment cycle recession. The vertical scale in both charts is an index with 1987=100.

Connecticut Indexes Continue to Send Mixed Signals

With the release of (preliminary) June data, the Connecticut leading and coincident employment indexes continue to drift with no obvious trend in 1999. The coincident and leading indexes both dropped slightly and currently lie just below their December 1998 levels.

The most recent June data records the first instance in our data, which extend back to January 1969, that total employment falls below nonfarm employment. In every other month, total employment exceeds nonfarm employment. We discussed this issue previously in "Employment: A Tale of Two Series" (*The Connecticut Economic Digest*, June 1999, p. 5) when the total employment number came very close to, but was still just above, the nonfarm employment number. Nonfarm employment, which is developed from the employer survey, measures jobs; total employment, which is developed from the household survey, measures people. So people with multiple jobs are counted once in the

household survey, but more than once in the employer survey. The employer survey, however, does not include the self-employed; the household survey does. The relationship between the total employment and nonfarm employment series may have experienced a structural change. Of course, those data series are still subject to revision. Whether current observations will continue to hold after next year's benchmark revisions, only time will tell. We shall evaluate revisions when they occur.

The national economy slowed considerably in the second quarter of 1999, with real GDP growing at 2.3 percent. This performance compares to a first quarter growth of 4.3 percent and a fourth quarter 1998 growth of 6.0 percent. But it was a year ago in the second quarter that real GDP grew by only 1.8 percent. As noted before in this column, the Connecticut economy cannot long follow a growth path different from the national economy. As a consequence, slowed growth for the

nation could translate into slowed growth for Connecticut.

In summary, the coincident employment index rose from 96.5 in June 1998 to 98.3 in June 1999. Two components of the index point in a positive direction on a year-over-year basis with higher nonfarm employment and higher total employment. The other two components point in a negative direction on a year-over-year basis with a higher insured unemployment rate and a higher total unemployment rate.

The leading employment index fell from 91.1 in June 1998 to 89.6 in June 1999. Four index components sent negative signals on a year-over-year basis with a lower average work week of manufacturing production workers, lower Hartford help wanted advertising, a higher short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, and lower total housing permits. The fifth component sent a positive signal on a year-over-year basis with lower initial claims for unemployment insurance. ■

Source: Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut. Developed by Pami Dua [Economic Cycle Research Center; NY, NY] and Stephen M. Miller [(860) 486-3853, Storrs Campus]. Kathryn E. Parr and Hulya Varol [(860) 486-0485, Storrs Campus] provided research support.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF EMPLOYMENT

Total employment increased by 20,800 over the year, or 1.3 percent.

EMPLOYMENT BY MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISION

	JUL		CHANGE		JUN
	1999	1998	NO.	%	1999
<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>					
TOTAL NONFARM	1,670.1	1,649.3	20.8	1.3	1,665.2
Private Sector	1,437.4	1,421.5	15.9	1.1	1,434.1
Construction and Mining	60.9	58.3	2.6	4.5	60.8
Manufacturing	273.3	279.2	-5.9	-2.1	274.1
Transportation, Public Utilities	76.6	77.0	-0.4	-0.5	74.9
Wholesale, Retail Trade	358.4	355.1	3.3	0.9	358.7
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	139.6	137.2	2.4	1.7	139.3
Services	528.6	514.7	13.9	2.7	526.3
Government	232.7	227.8	4.9	2.2	231.1

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor

Both the unemployment rate and the labor force decreased from a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

	JUL		CHANGE		JUN
	1999	1998	NO.	%	1999
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	2.6	3.0	-0.4	---	3.4
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,706.5	1,706.7	-0.2	0.0	1,719.2
Employed (000s)	1,661.8	1,655.2	6.6	0.4	1,660.6
Unemployed (000s)	44.7	51.5	-6.8	-13.2	58.5
Average Weekly Initial Claims	3,498	3,779	-281	-7.4	3,894
Help Wanted Index -- Htfd. (1987=100)	31	36	-5	-13.9	35
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	2.07	2.04	0.03	---	1.99

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; The Conference Board

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

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

	JUL		CHANGE		JUN	MAY
	1999	1998	NO.	%	1999	1999
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>						
Average Weekly Hours	42.5	42.2	0.3	0.7	42.4	--
Average Hourly Earnings	\$15.28	\$14.89	\$0.39	2.6	\$15.23	--
Average Weekly Earnings	\$649.40	\$628.36	\$21.04	3.3	\$645.75	--
CT Mfg. Production Index (1982=100)*	128.5	125.2	3.3	2.6	125.8	126.2
Production Worker Hours (000s)	6,528	6,686	-158	-2.4	6,721	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)**	518	502	16.0	3.2	536	491

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor; U.S. Department of Energy

*This new and improved index replaced the Manufacturing Output Index; Seasonally adjusted.

**Latest two months are forecasted. See June 1999 Digest article for explanation; methodology or historical data back to 1982 is available by contacting Connecticut Department of Labor, at (860)263-6293.

Personal income for fourth quarter 1999 is forecasted to increase 5.2 percent from a year earlier.

INCOME (Quarterly)

	4Q*		CHANGE		3Q*
	1999	1998	NO.	%	1999
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>					
<i>(Annualized; \$ Millions)</i>					
Personal Income	\$133,199	\$126,664	\$6,535	5.2	\$131,507
UI Covered Wages	\$73,600	\$69,639	\$3,961	5.7	\$72,507

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis; July 1999 release

*Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor

NA= Not Available

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %	YEAR TO DATE		%
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
New Housing Permits	JUL 1999	977	-24.7	6,491	6,610	-1.8
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	MAY 1999	2,215	-1.1	11,940	11,650	2.5
Retail Sales (Bil. \$)	APR 1999	2.87	-1.0	11.64	10.96	6.2
Construction Contracts						
Index (1980=100)	JUL 1999	280.1	-12.2	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	JUL 1999	16,596	29.5	139,433	123,095	13.3
Air Cargo Tons	JUN 1999	12,558	-0.7	70,649	68,363	3.3

Construction contracts were down 12.2 percent in July compared with the same month a year ago.

Sources: Department of Economic and Community Development; U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration; Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; F.W. Dodge; Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles; Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation and Ports

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

	JUL	% CHANGE		YEAR TO DATE		%
	1999	M/M	Y/Y	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
STARTS						
Secretary of the State	1,691	-8.1	5.4	12,660	12,082	4.8
Department of Labor	697	-15.0	3.1	6,403	6,103	4.9
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	295	-14.0	-1.0	2,337	2,256	3.6
Department of Labor	1,385	75.5	-18.5	7,840	8,191	-4.3

Net business formation as measured by starts minus stops registered with the Secretary of the State was up by 10,323 for the year through July.

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

STATE TAX COLLECTIONS

(Millions of dollars)				FISCAL YEAR TOTALS		
	JUL 1999	JUL 1998	% CHG	1998-99	1997-98	% CHG
TOTAL ALL TAXES*	48.2	57.9	-16.8	48.2	57.9	-16.8
Corporate Tax	0.0	0.0	---	0.0	0.0	---
Personal Income Tax	12.3	13.8	-10.9	12.3	13.8	-10.9
Real Estate Conv. Tax	11.5	11.8	-0.3	11.5	11.8	-2.5
Sales & Use Tax	4.3	2.9	48.3	4.3	2.9	48.3

The 1999-2000 fiscal year began with a 16.8 percent decrease in revenue from all taxes compared to the start of the last fiscal year. The largest gain was in sales and use taxes, up 48.3 percent. Corporate taxes were accrued to the previous fiscal year.

Source: Connecticut Department of Revenue Services
*Includes all sources of tax revenue; Only selected taxes are displayed; Most July collections are credited to the prior fiscal year and are not shown.

TOURISM AND TRAVEL

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %	YEAR TO DATE		%
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
Tourism Inquiries	JUL 1999	33,103	10.9	238,108	220,120	8.2
Info Center Visitors	JUL 1999	97,579	-4.8	323,179	310,562	4.1
Major Attraction Visitors	JUL 1999	339,038	2.3	1,082,772	1,143,258	-5.3
Hotel-Motel Occupancy*	JUN 1999	79.5	-4.5	70.0	71.0	-1.0
Air Passenger Count	JUN 1999	566,341	12.6	3,559,305	3,204,445	11.1

The air passenger count was up 12.6 percent in July compared to July one year ago and up 11.1 percent for the year through July.

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

*Hotel-Motel Occupancy rate changes are in percentage points.

Compensation costs for both the nation and Northeast rose 3.3 percent over the year.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX (Quarterly)

Private Industry Workers (June 1989=100)	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	JUN 1999	MAR 1999	3-Mo % Chg	JUN 1999	JUN 1998	12-Mo % Chg
UNITED STATES TOTAL	141.8	140.2	1.1	142.0	137.5	3.3
Wages and Salaries	139.8	138.1	1.2	139.7	134.9	3.6
Benefit Costs	146.8	145.4	1.0	147.3	143.7	2.5
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	141.5	137.0	3.3
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	138.2	133.8	3.3

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

U.S. inflation remained at a tame 2.1 percent in July. Only the Boston rate of 2.7 percent was accelerating compared with the Northeast and New York.

CONSUMER NEWS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	JUL 1999	JUN 1999	JUL 1998	% CHG	
				M/M	Y/Y
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1982-1984=100)					
<i>All Urban Consumers</i>					
U.S. City Average	166.7	166.2	163.2	0.3	2.1
Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar: (1982-84=\$1.00)	\$0.600	\$0.602	\$0.613	-0.3	-2.1
Northeast Region	173.4	173.1	169.9	0.2	2.1
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	177.2	176.8	173.6	0.2	2.1
Boston-Brockton-Nashua*	175.3	---	170.7	---	2.7
<i>Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers</i>					
U.S. City Average	163.3	162.8	159.8	0.3	2.2
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE (1985=100)					
U.S.	135.6	139.0	137.2	-2.4	-1.2
New England	131.8	131.7	122.7	0.1	7.4

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

The prime rate edged up a notch since June to 8.00 percent. Short-term rates were lower and long-term rates were higher, including the conventional 30-year mortgage rate, now up to 7.63 percent.

INTEREST RATES

(Percent)	JUL 1999	JUN 1999	JUL 1998
Prime	8.00	7.75	8.50
Federal Funds	4.99	4.76	5.54
3 Month Treasury Bill	4.60	4.59	4.96
6 Month Treasury Bill	4.62	4.81	5.03
1 Year Treasury Bill	5.03	5.10	5.36
3 Year Treasury Note	5.62	5.70	5.47
5 Year Treasury Note	5.68	5.81	5.46
7 Year Treasury Note	5.94	6.05	5.52
10 Year Treasury Note	5.79	5.90	5.46
30 Year Treasury Bond	5.98	6.04	5.68
Conventional Mortgage	7.63	7.55	6.95

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

COMPARATIVE REGIONAL DATA

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

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

<i>(Seasonally adjusted: 000s)</i>	JUL	JUL	CHANGE		JUN
	1999	1998	NO.	%	1999
Connecticut	1,670.1	1,649.3	20.8	1.3	1,665.2
Maine	583.7	570.0	13.7	2.4	583.8
Massachusetts	3,226.2	3,183.5	42.7	1.3	3,220.4
New Hampshire	600.4	586.5	13.9	2.4	598.3
New Jersey	3,870.2	3,800.9	69.3	1.8	3,864.7
New York	8,386.1	8,235.8	150.3	1.8	8,353.1
Pennsylvania	5,535.5	5,503.2	32.3	0.6	5,533.0
Rhode Island	465.7	459.9	5.8	1.3	462.8
Vermont	291.3	286.0	5.3	1.9	291.2
United States	128,745.0	125,808.0	2,937.0	2.3	128,435.0

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

LABOR FORCE

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

<i>(Seasonally adjusted: 000s)</i>	JUL	JUL	CHANGE		JUN
	1999	1998	NO.	%	1999
Connecticut	1,706.5	1,706.7	-0.2	0.0	1,719.2
Maine	670.2	648.6	21.6	3.3	668.5
Massachusetts	3,286.1	3,274.4	11.7	0.4	3,277.1
New Hampshire	672.5	647.8	24.7	3.8	671.3
New Jersey	4,248.6	4,138.4	110.2	2.7	4,239.2
New York	8,910.2	8,850.1	60.1	0.7	8,884.5
Pennsylvania	5,978.1	5,931.5	46.6	0.8	5,989.0
Rhode Island	509.7	496.8	12.9	2.6	503.9
Vermont	339.9	330.0	9.9	3.0	338.8
United States	139,254.0	137,407.0	1,847.0	1.3	139,408.0

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

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

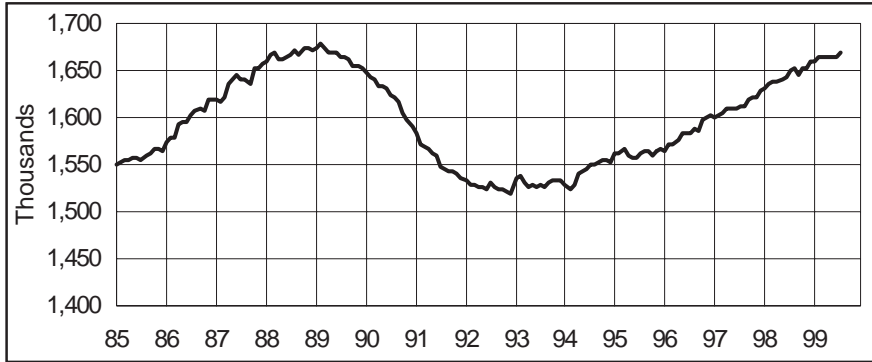
Seven of the nine states in the region posted lower unemployment rates than a year ago.

<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	JUL	JUL	CHANGE	JUN
	1999	1998		1999
Connecticut	2.6	3.0	-0.4	3.4
Maine	4.2	4.4	-0.2	4.4
Massachusetts	3.2	3.2	0.0	3.0
New Hampshire	2.5	2.7	-0.2	2.6
New Jersey	4.8	4.6	0.2	4.9
New York	5.2	5.5	-0.3	5.2
Pennsylvania	4.3	4.6	-0.3	4.3
Rhode Island	4.1	4.8	-0.7	4.0
Vermont	3.1	3.4	-0.3	3.0
United States	4.3	4.5	-0.2	4.3

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

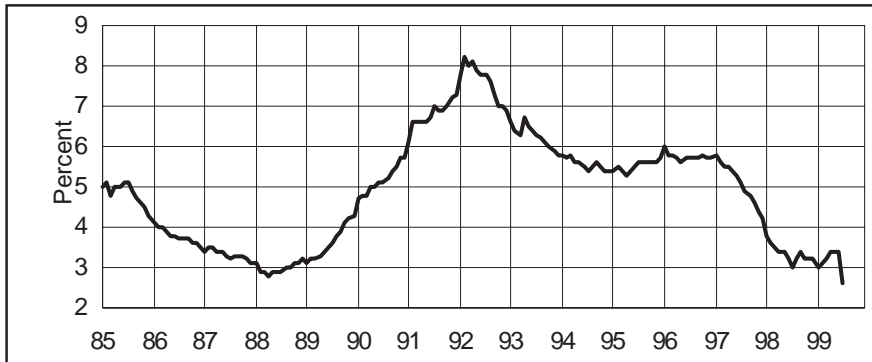
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



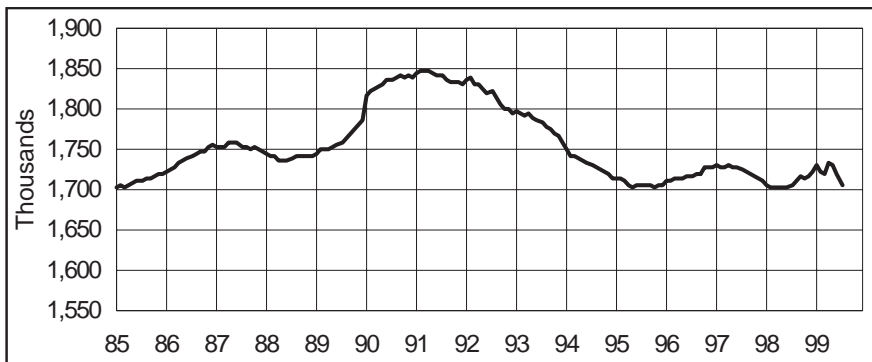
Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	1,599.4	1,631.4	1,660.5
Feb	1,601.5	1,635.5	1,663.4
Mar	1,605.1	1,638.4	1,663.9
Apr	1,609.3	1,638.5	1,665.4
May	1,610.3	1,640.8	1,663.3
Jun	1,610.2	1,643.3	1,665.2
Jul	1,612.9	1,649.3	1,670.1
Aug	1,612.5	1,651.3	
Sep	1,618.3	1,645.8	
Oct	1,620.7	1,651.4	
Nov	1,622.4	1,652.5	
Dec	1,627.4	1,660.3	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



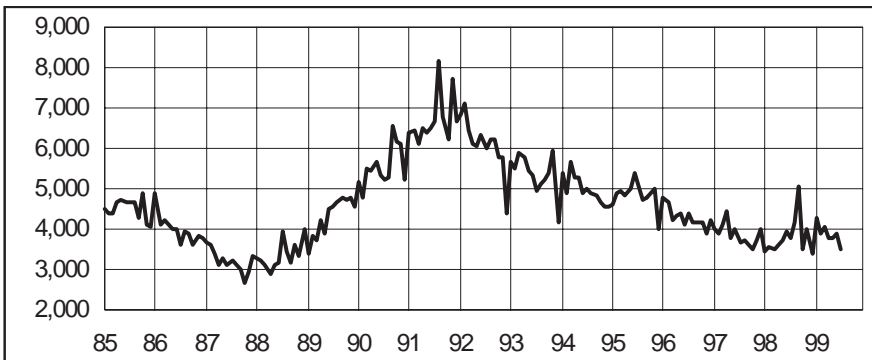
Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	5.8	3.8	3.0
Feb	5.6	3.6	3.1
Mar	5.5	3.5	3.2
Apr	5.5	3.4	3.4
May	5.4	3.4	3.4
Jun	5.3	3.2	3.4
Jul	5.1	3.0	2.6
Aug	4.9	3.2	
Sep	4.8	3.4	
Oct	4.6	3.2	
Nov	4.4	3.2	
Dec	4.2	3.2	

LABOR FORCE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	1,729.2	1,706.3	1,729.5
Feb	1,728.2	1,703.2	1,722.8
Mar	1,728.1	1,704.0	1,718.6
Apr	1,729.9	1,702.9	1,732.6
May	1,727.6	1,703.4	1,731.2
Jun	1,726.9	1,704.1	1,719.2
Jul	1,724.3	1,706.7	1,706.5
Aug	1,721.1	1,710.0	
Sep	1,720.0	1,715.8	
Oct	1,718.0	1,714.2	
Nov	1,713.7	1,718.0	
Dec	1,712.0	1,722.0	

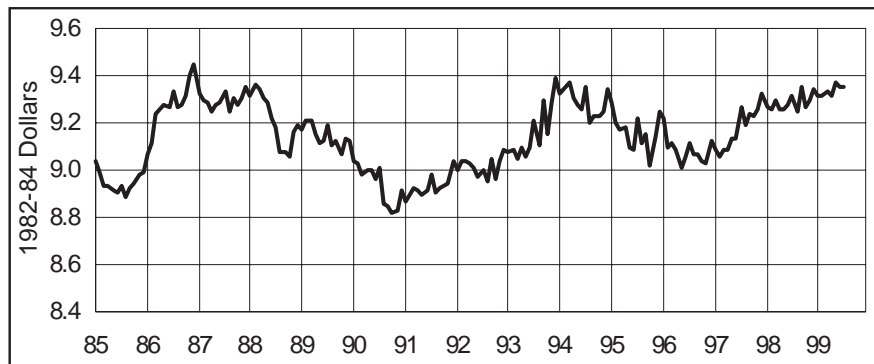
AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	4,010	3,450	4,252
Feb	3,892	3,573	3,885
Mar	4,084	3,518	4,047
Apr	4,434	3,584	3,805
May	3,791	3,710	3,776
Jun	3,990	3,962	3,894
Jul	3,678	3,779	3,498
Aug	3,736	4,164	
Sep	3,621	5,076	
Oct	3,502	3,500	
Nov	3,699	4,026	
Dec	4,026	3,394	

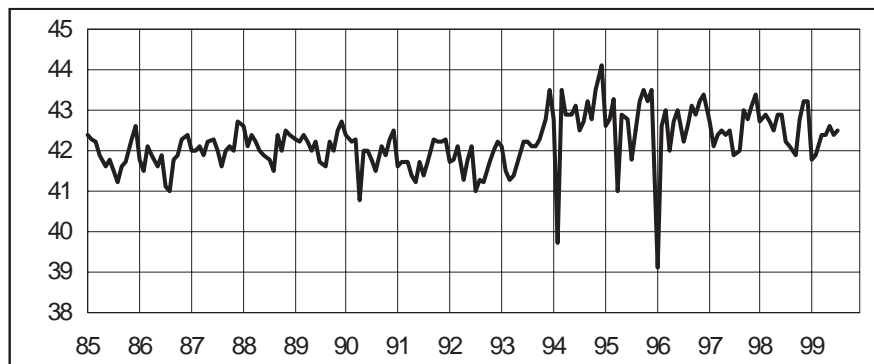
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

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



Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	\$9.09	\$9.27	\$9.32
Feb	9.06	9.26	9.31
Mar	9.08	9.29	9.33
Apr	9.09	9.26	9.32
May	9.13	9.25	9.37
Jun	9.14	9.27	9.36
Jul	9.26	9.32	9.36
Aug	9.20	9.24	
Sep	9.24	9.35	
Oct	9.22	9.27	
Nov	9.26	9.30	
Dec	9.32	9.34	

AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



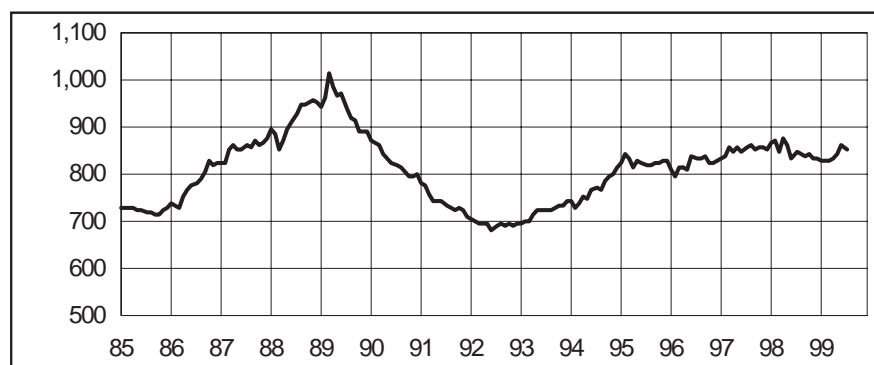
Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	42.7	42.7	41.8
Feb	42.1	42.9	41.9
Mar	42.4	42.7	42.4
Apr	42.5	42.5	42.4
May	42.4	42.9	42.6
Jun	42.5	42.9	42.4
Jul	41.9	42.2	42.5
Aug	42.0	42.1	
Sep	43.0	41.9	
Oct	42.8	42.8	
Nov	43.1	43.2	
Dec	43.4	43.2	

HARTFORD HELP WANTED INDEX *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	35	35	33
Feb	36	38	36
Mar	34	37	34
Apr	36	37	34
May	36	40	35
Jun	38	39	35
Jul	35	36	31
Aug	34	35	
Sep	36	32	
Oct	35	33	
Nov	37	34	
Dec	36	35	

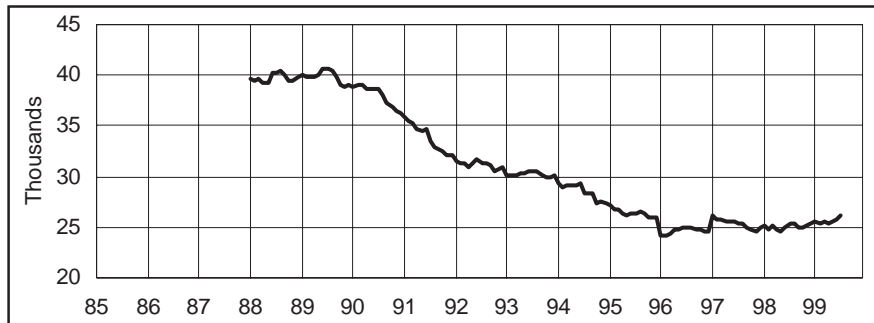
DOL NEWLY REGISTERED EMPLOYERS *(12-month moving average)*



Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	833	868	831
Feb	840	870	828
Mar	856	846	829
Apr	849	878	834
May	856	861	843
Jun	848	836	861
Jul	856	849	854
Aug	862	841	
Sep	854	838	
Oct	859	845	
Nov	859	836	
Dec	852	832	

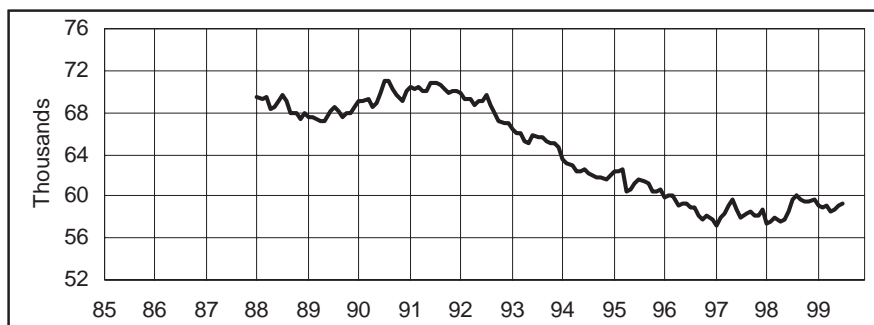
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

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



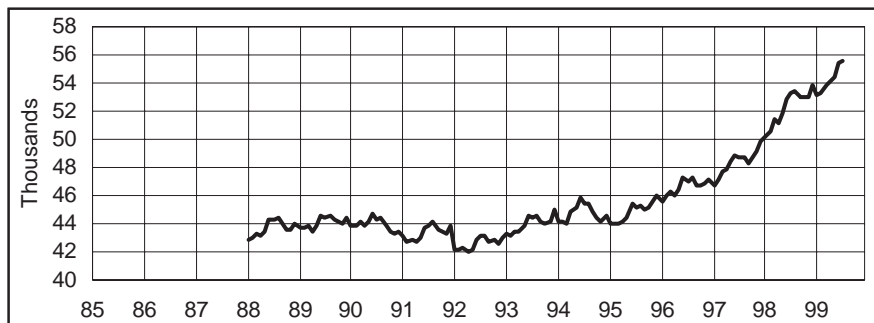
Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	26.2	25.1	25.6
Feb	25.8	24.8	25.3
Mar	25.7	25.1	25.5
Apr	25.6	24.8	25.4
May	25.5	24.5	25.5
Jun	25.6	25.0	25.8
Jul	25.4	25.4	26.1
Aug	25.3	25.4	
Sep	25.0	25.0	
Oct	24.7	24.9	
Nov	24.6	25.1	
Dec	24.9	25.3	

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



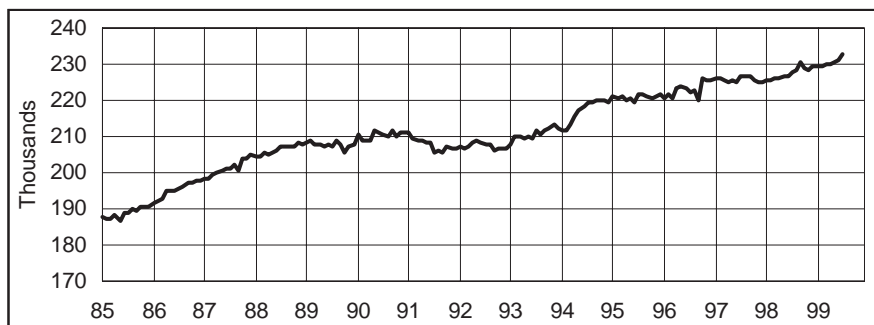
Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	57.1	57.4	59.1
Feb	57.9	57.6	59.0
Mar	58.4	57.9	59.1
Apr	59.1	57.6	58.6
May	59.7	57.8	58.7
Jun	58.8	58.6	59.1
Jul	58.0	59.7	59.3
Aug	58.4	60.0	
Sep	58.5	59.6	
Oct	58.2	59.4	
Nov	58.2	59.4	
Dec	58.8	59.6	

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



Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	46.7	50.1	53.1
Feb	47.2	50.6	53.3
Mar	47.7	51.4	53.8
Apr	47.9	51.2	54.1
May	48.4	51.8	54.5
Jun	48.8	52.8	55.4
Jul	48.7	53.3	55.5
Aug	48.7	53.5	
Sep	48.3	53.0	
Oct	48.7	53.0	
Nov	49.2	53.0	
Dec	49.9	53.8	

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT* *(Seasonally adjusted)*

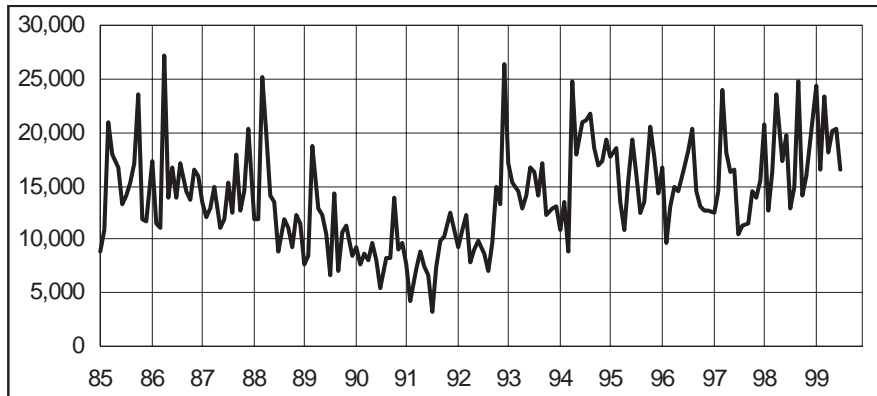


Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	226.0	225.3	229.6
Feb	226.2	225.3	229.2
Mar	225.5	226.2	230.2
Apr	225.2	226.2	230.2
May	225.4	226.4	230.3
Jun	225.0	226.8	231.1
Jul	226.4	227.8	232.7
Aug	226.9	228.4	
Sep	226.7	230.5	
Oct	225.6	229.1	
Nov	225.0	228.6	
Dec	225.2	229.7	

*Includes Indian tribal government employment

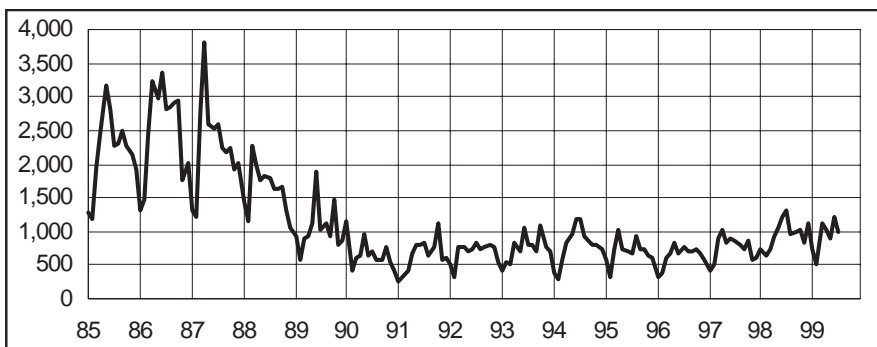
ECONOMIC INDICATOR TRENDS

NEW AUTO REGISTRATIONS PROCESSED *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



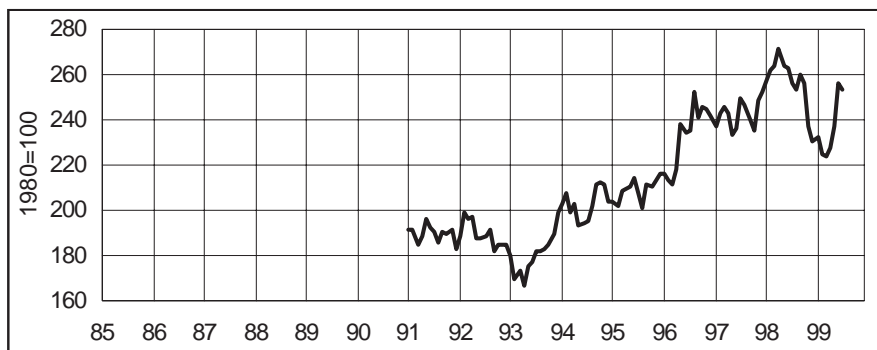
Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	12,436	20,753	24,372
Feb	14,401	12,604	16,524
Mar	23,952	16,313	23,425
Apr	18,038	23,500	18,173
May	16,364	17,300	20,089
Jun	16,464	19,813	20,254
Jul	10,386	12,812	16,596
Aug	11,210	14,992	
Sep	11,485	24,688	
Oct	14,563	14,106	
Nov	13,884	15,806	
Dec	15,416	19,373	

NEW HOUSING PERMITS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



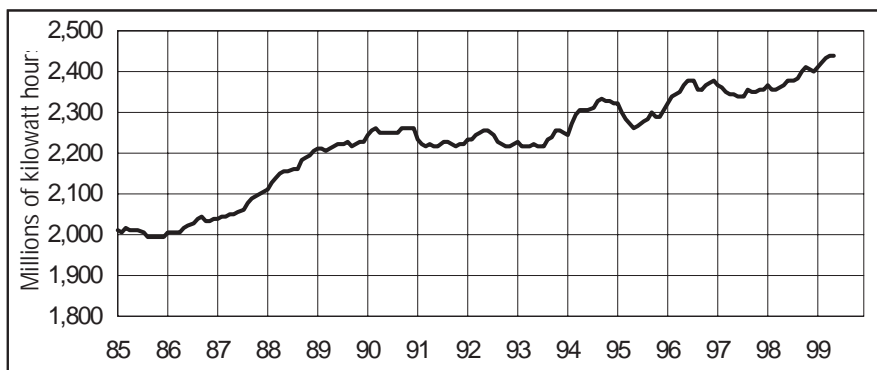
Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	427	737	749
Feb	520	647	518
Mar	911	747	1,105
Apr	1,036	928	1,026
May	836	1,051	886
Jun	886	1,203	1,230
Jul	871	1,297	977
Aug	792	976	
Sep	740	984	
Oct	852	1,025	
Nov	561	817	
Dec	622	1,129	

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



Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	236.8	256.7	231.9
Feb	242.8	258.2	224.5
Mar	246.1	258.4	223.7
Apr	242.9	262.7	227.5
May	233.5	255.2	236.9
Jun	236.2	252.1	256.6
Jul	249.3	242.3	253.5
Aug	247.0	238.7	
Sep	239.9	246.0	
Oct	235.5	241.4	
Nov	248.7	223.0	
Dec	252.5	216.1	

ELECTRICITY SALES *(12-month moving average)*



Month	1997	1998	1999
Jan	2,366	2,366	2,412
Feb	2,364	2,357	2,425
Mar	2,348	2,357	2,432
Apr	2,345	2,364	2,438
May	2,344	2,365	2,438
Jun	2,338	2,376	
Jul	2,342	2,379	
Aug	2,355	2,384	
Sep	2,350	2,402	
Oct	2,349	2,409	
Nov	2,355	2,406	
Dec	2,356	2,399	

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

CONNECTICUT



Not Seasonally Adjusted

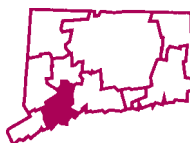
	JUL	JUL	CHANGE		JUN
	1999	1998	NO.	%	1999
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	1,665,900	1,644,600	21,300	1.3	1,679,900
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	337,400	340,400	-3,000	-0.9	340,100
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	65,900	63,100	2,800	4.4	64,500
MANUFACTURING	271,500	277,300	-5,800	-2.1	275,600
Durable	191,500	195,600	-4,100	-2.1	194,000
Lumber & Furniture	5,200	5,300	-100	-1.9	5,300
Stone, Clay & Glass	2,900	2,800	100	3.6	2,900
Primary Metals	9,100	9,200	-100	-1.1	9,300
Fabricated Metals	34,400	35,300	-900	-2.5	35,500
Machinery & Computer Equipment	34,600	35,100	-500	-1.4	34,800
Electronic & Electrical Equipment	28,900	29,100	-200	-0.7	28,800
Transportation Equipment	48,500	50,300	-1,800	-3.6	48,900
Instruments	22,000	22,300	-300	-1.3	22,200
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	5,900	6,200	-300	-4.8	6,300
Nondurable	80,000	81,700	-1,700	-2.1	81,600
Food	8,000	8,000	0	0.0	8,100
Textiles	1,700	1,800	-100	-5.6	2,000
Apparel	4,000	4,400	-400	-9.1	4,000
Paper	7,500	7,600	-100	-1.3	7,700
Printing & Publishing	25,800	26,300	-500	-1.9	26,200
Chemicals	20,900	20,900	0	0.0	21,100
Rubber & Plastics	10,100	10,500	-400	-3.8	10,500
Other Nondurable Manufacturing	2,000	2,200	-200	-9.1	2,000
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	1,328,500	1,304,200	24,300	1.9	1,339,800
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	75,500	75,900	-400	-0.5	76,400
Transportation	43,600	43,900	-300	-0.7	44,900
Motor Freight & Warehousing	12,100	12,500	-400	-3.2	12,100
Other Transportation	31,500	31,400	100	0.3	32,800
Communications	19,700	19,600	100	0.5	19,300
Utilities	12,200	12,400	-200	-1.6	12,200
TRADE	359,100	355,700	3,400	1.0	361,600
Wholesale	85,200	83,800	1,400	1.7	85,100
Retail	273,900	271,900	2,000	0.7	276,500
General Merchandise	24,800	26,600	-1,800	-6.8	24,600
Food Stores	52,600	52,700	-100	-0.2	52,800
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	27,400	27,200	200	0.7	27,500
Restaurants	78,500	78,000	500	0.6	80,700
Other Retail Trade	90,600	87,400	3,200	3.7	90,900
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE.	140,900	138,400	2,500	1.8	140,300
Finance	53,400	51,400	2,000	3.9	52,800
Banking	26,100	25,400	700	2.8	25,800
Insurance	70,800	71,000	-200	-0.3	70,600
Insurance Carriers	59,300	59,700	-400	-0.7	59,100
Real Estate	16,700	16,000	700	4.4	16,800
SERVICES	533,900	519,800	14,100	2.7	531,000
Hotels & Lodging Places	13,000	12,700	300	2.4	12,500
Personal Services	18,200	17,500	700	4.0	18,800
Business Services	109,900	106,600	3,300	3.1	109,500
Health Services	158,300	157,000	1,300	0.8	158,900
Legal & Engineering Services	56,900	54,800	2,100	3.8	56,800
Educational Services	39,500	38,400	1,100	2.9	39,900
Other Services	138,100	132,800	5,300	4.0	134,600
GOVERNMENT	219,100	214,400	4,700	2.2	230,500
Federal	22,100	22,400	-300	-1.3	22,000
**State, Local & Other Government	197,000	192,000	5,000	2.6	208,500

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1998.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

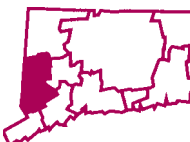
BRIDGEPORT LMA



	JUL 1999	JUL 1998	Not Seasonally Adjusted		JUN 1999
			CHANGE NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	185,000	183,800	1,200	0.7	188,300
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	44,200	44,800	-600	-1.3	45,100
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	7,000	6,800	200	2.9	6,900
MANUFACTURING	37,200	38,000	-800	-2.1	38,200
Durable Goods	30,200	30,900	-700	-2.3	30,800
Fabricated Metals	4,000	4,500	-500	-11.1	4,400
Industrial Machinery	6,100	6,200	-100	-1.6	6,200
Electronic Equipment	6,300	5,800	500	8.6	6,300
Transportation Equipment	7,700	8,100	-400	-4.9	7,800
Nondurable Goods	7,000	7,100	-100	-1.4	7,400
Printing & Publishing	2,000	2,000	0	0.0	2,000
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	140,800	139,000	1,800	1.3	143,200
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	6,900	7,000	-100	-1.4	7,000
TRADE	41,100	41,200	-100	-0.2	41,600
Wholesale	10,300	10,200	100	1.0	10,200
Retail	30,800	31,000	-200	-0.6	31,400
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	10,700	10,600	100	0.9	10,900
SERVICES	61,600	60,700	900	1.5	61,800
Business Services	15,400	14,900	500	3.4	15,400
Health Services	19,800	19,500	300	1.5	19,800
GOVERNMENT	20,500	19,500	1,000	5.1	21,900
Federal	2,100	2,100	0	0.0	2,100
State & Local	18,400	17,400	1,000	5.7	19,800

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

DANBURY LMA



	JUL 1999	JUL 1998	Not Seasonally Adjusted		JUN 1999
			CHANGE NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	87,800	87,700	100	0.1	88,800
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	22,600	23,300	-700	-3.0	22,800
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	4,100	4,000	100	2.5	4,000
MANUFACTURING	18,500	19,300	-800	-4.1	18,800
Durable Goods	10,200	10,700	-500	-4.7	10,200
Machinery & Electric Equipment	5,400	5,600	-200	-3.6	5,400
Instruments & Related	2,400	2,700	-300	-11.1	2,500
Nondurable Goods	8,300	8,600	-300	-3.5	8,600
Printing & Publishing	2,400	2,600	-200	-7.7	2,400
Chemicals	3,300	3,300	0	0.0	3,500
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	65,200	64,400	800	1.2	66,000
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	2,700	2,500	200	8.0	2,700
TRADE	22,000	21,800	200	0.9	22,100
Wholesale	3,400	3,500	-100	-2.9	3,400
Retail	18,600	18,300	300	1.6	18,700
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	5,000	4,800	200	4.2	5,100
SERVICES	26,200	25,800	400	1.6	26,000
GOVERNMENT	9,300	9,500	-200	-2.1	10,100
Federal	800	900	-100	-11.1	900
State & Local	8,500	8,600	-100	-1.2	9,200

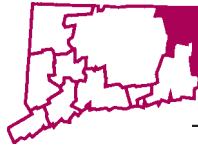
For further information on the Danbury Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1998.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

DANIELSON LMA



			<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>		JUN 1999
	JUL 1999	JUL 1998	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	20,100	20,100	0	0.0	20,300
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	6,300	6,600	-300	-4.5	6,400
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	800	900	-100	-11.1	800
MANUFACTURING	5,500	5,700	-200	-3.5	5,600
Durable Goods	2,200	2,300	-100	-4.3	2,300
Nondurable Goods	3,300	3,400	-100	-2.9	3,300
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	13,800	13,500	300	2.2	13,900
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	500	500	0	0.0	500
TRADE	5,100	4,900	200	4.1	5,100
Wholesale	1,000	900	100	11.1	1,000
Retail	4,100	4,000	100	2.5	4,100
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	600	600	0	0.0	600
SERVICES	4,700	4,600	100	2.2	4,700
GOVERNMENT	2,900	2,900	0	0.0	3,000
Federal	100	100	0	0.0	100
State & Local	2,800	2,800	0	0.0	2,900

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

HARTFORD LMA



			<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>		JUN 1999
	JUL 1999	JUL 1998	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	602,600	600,500	2,100	0.3	607,700
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	115,300	116,200	-900	-0.8	116,200
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	21,800	21,000	800	3.8	21,000
MANUFACTURING	93,500	95,200	-1,700	-1.8	95,200
Durable Goods	73,400	75,400	-2,000	-2.7	74,400
Primary & Fabricated Metals	18,200	18,400	-200	-1.1	18,700
Industrial Machinery	13,900	14,500	-600	-4.1	13,900
Electronic Equipment	6,200	6,600	-400	-6.1	6,100
Transportation Equipment	26,800	27,600	-800	-2.9	26,900
Nondurable Goods	20,100	19,800	300	1.5	20,800
Printing & Publishing	9,000	8,700	300	3.4	9,200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	487,300	484,300	3,000	0.6	491,500
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	26,100	25,900	200	0.8	27,000
Transportation	14,700	14,800	-100	-0.7	15,700
Communications & Utilities	11,400	11,100	300	2.7	11,300
TRADE	122,900	123,400	-500	-0.4	124,700
Wholesale	30,400	30,200	200	0.7	30,100
Retail	92,500	93,200	-700	-0.8	94,600
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	70,500	71,000	-500	-0.7	70,400
Deposit & Nondeposit Institutions	11,700	11,800	-100	-0.8	11,700
Insurance Carriers	45,300	46,000	-700	-1.5	45,300
SERVICES	177,900	176,200	1,700	1.0	176,800
Business Services	34,600	33,300	1,300	3.9	34,300
Health Services	57,700	59,000	-1,300	-2.2	57,500
GOVERNMENT	89,900	87,800	2,100	2.4	92,600
Federal	7,700	7,900	-200	-2.5	7,700
State & Local	82,200	79,900	2,300	2.9	84,900

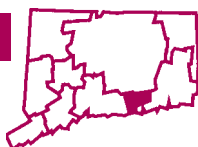
For further information on the Hartford Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

LOWER RIVER LMA



	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				
	JUL 1999	JUL 1998	CHANGE		JUN 1999
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	9,600	9,700	-100	-1.0	9,700
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	3,400	3,300	100	3.0	3,400
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	500	400	100	25.0	500
MANUFACTURING	2,900	2,900	0	0.0	2,900
Durable Goods	2,300	2,300	0	0.0	2,300
Electronic Equipment	700	700	0	0.0	700
Other Durable Goods	1,600	1,600	0	0.0	1,600
Nondurable Goods	600	600	0	0.0	600
Rubber & Plastics	300	300	0	0.0	300
Other Nondurable Goods	300	300	0	0.0	300
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	6,200	6,400	-200	-3.1	6,300
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	400	400	0	0.0	400
TRADE	2,100	2,200	-100	-4.5	2,100
Wholesale	400	400	0	0.0	400
Retail	1,700	1,800	-100	-5.6	1,700
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	300	300	0	0.0	300
SERVICES	2,700	2,700	0	0.0	2,700
GOVERNMENT	700	800	-100	-12.5	800
Federal	0	0	0	0.0	0
State & Local	700	800	-100	-12.5	800

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

NEW HAVEN LMA



	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				
	JUL 1999	JUL 1998	CHANGE		JUN 1999
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	256,400	254,500	1,900	0.7	258,300
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	50,800	50,600	200	0.4	50,600
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	10,600	10,400	200	1.9	10,400
MANUFACTURING	40,200	40,200	0	0.0	40,200
Durable Goods	25,700	25,600	100	0.4	25,700
Primary & Fabricated Metals	6,700	6,700	0	0.0	6,800
Electronic Equipment	5,300	5,100	200	3.9	5,300
Nondurable Goods	14,500	14,600	-100	-0.7	14,500
Paper, Printing & Publishing	5,200	5,300	-100	-1.9	5,200
Chemicals & Allied	5,500	5,500	0	0.0	5,400
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	205,600	203,900	1,700	0.8	207,700
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	16,500	16,300	200	1.2	16,900
Communications & Utilities	8,900	8,700	200	2.3	8,900
TRADE	54,800	54,500	300	0.6	55,100
Wholesale	14,200	13,900	300	2.2	14,100
Retail	40,600	40,600	0	0.0	41,000
Eating & Drinking Places	11,800	11,800	0	0.0	12,100
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13,800	13,800	0	0.0	13,800
Finance	4,200	4,200	0	0.0	4,200
Insurance	7,400	7,400	0	0.0	7,400
SERVICES	90,300	89,000	1,300	1.5	90,900
Business Services	12,300	12,400	-100	-0.8	12,400
Health Services	28,700	28,700	0	0.0	28,800
GOVERNMENT	30,200	30,300	-100	-0.3	31,000
Federal	5,100	5,400	-300	-5.6	5,200
State & Local	25,100	24,900	200	0.8	25,800

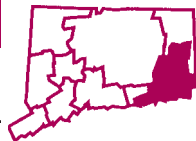
For further information on the New Haven Labor Market Area contact J. Charles Joo at (860) 263-6293.

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

NEW LONDON LMA

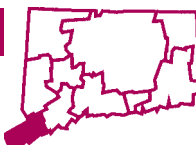


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	JUL 1999	JUL 1998	CHANGE		JUN 1999
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	141,600	139,800	1,800	1.3	141,600
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	29,000	28,800	200	0.7	29,200
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	5,100	4,800	300	6.3	5,000
MANUFACTURING	23,900	24,000	-100	-0.4	24,200
Durable Goods	13,900	14,300	-400	-2.8	14,000
Primary & Fabricated Metals	2,200	2,200	0	0.0	2,300
Other Durable Goods	11,700	12,100	-400	-3.3	11,700
Nondurable Goods	10,000	9,700	300	3.1	10,200
Paper & Allied	800	900	-100	-11.1	900
Other Nondurable Goods	8,100	7,700	400	5.2	8,000
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	112,600	111,000	1,600	1.4	112,400
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	6,900	6,800	100	1.5	7,000
TRADE	28,700	28,600	100	0.3	28,500
Wholesale	2,800	2,700	100	3.7	2,800
Retail	25,900	25,900	0	0.0	25,700
Eating & Drinking Places	8,500	8,600	-100	-1.2	8,500
Other Retail	17,400	17,300	100	0.6	17,300
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3,900	3,800	100	2.6	3,900
SERVICES	36,700	36,200	500	1.4	36,700
Personal & Business Services	6,400	6,400	0	0.0	6,400
Health Services	11,700	11,600	100	0.9	11,800
GOVERNMENT	36,400	35,600	800	2.2	36,300
Federal	2,700	2,800	-100	-3.6	2,700
State & Local	33,700	32,800	900	2.7	33,600
**Local	29,500	28,700	800	2.8	29,400

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

STAMFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	JUL 1999	JUL 1998	CHANGE		JUN 1999
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	208,700	209,000	-300	-0.1	209,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	32,700	33,600	-900	-2.7	32,900
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	6,000	6,400	-400	-6.3	6,000
MANUFACTURING	26,700	27,200	-500	-1.8	26,900
Durable Goods	14,600	14,500	100	0.7	14,500
Industrial Machinery	3,800	3,700	100	2.7	3,700
Electronic Equipment	2,300	2,500	-200	-8.0	2,200
Nondurable Goods	12,100	12,700	-600	-4.7	12,400
Paper, Printing & Publishing	6,000	6,100	-100	-1.6	6,000
Chemicals & Allied	3,100	3,200	-100	-3.1	3,200
Other Nondurable	3,000	3,400	-400	-11.8	3,200
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	176,000	175,400	600	0.3	176,500
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	9,900	10,800	-900	-8.3	10,000
Communications & Utilities	2,700	3,500	-800	-22.9	2,700
TRADE	43,000	44,400	-1,400	-3.2	43,600
Wholesale	11,300	11,700	-400	-3.4	11,300
Retail	31,700	32,700	-1,000	-3.1	32,300
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	25,900	25,100	800	3.2	25,700
SERVICES	79,800	77,300	2,500	3.2	79,200
Business Services	23,300	22,700	600	2.6	23,200
Engineering & Mgmt. Services	11,200	10,900	300	2.8	11,300
Other Services	45,300	43,700	1,600	3.7	44,700
GOVERNMENT	17,400	17,800	-400	-2.2	18,000
Federal	1,900	1,900	0	0.0	1,900
State & Local	15,500	15,900	-400	-2.5	16,100

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 1998.

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

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

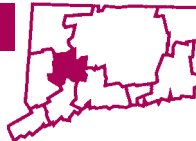
TORRINGTON LMA



	Not Seasonally Adjusted				JUN 1999
	JUL 1999	JUL 1998	CHANGE		
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	29,700	29,900	-200	-0.7	30,100
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	7,900	8,600	-700	-8.1	8,000
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	2,100	2,300	-200	-8.7	2,100
MANUFACTURING	5,800	6,300	-500	-7.9	5,900
Durable Goods	4,100	4,500	-400	-8.9	4,200
Primary & Fabricated Metals	600	600	0	0.0	600
Industrial Machinery	1,000	1,200	-200	-16.7	1,100
Electronic Equipment	400	500	-100	-20.0	400
Other Durable Goods	2,100	2,200	-100	-4.5	2,100
Nondurable Goods	1,700	1,800	-100	-5.6	1,700
Rubber & Plastics	800	900	-100	-11.1	800
Other Nondurable Goods	900	900	0	0.0	900
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	21,800	21,300	500	2.3	22,100
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	900	800	100	12.5	900
TRADE	6,800	6,400	400	6.3	6,900
Wholesale	600	700	-100	-14.3	700
Retail	6,200	5,700	500	8.8	6,200
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE.	800	800	0	0.0	800
SERVICES	9,900	10,000	-100	-1.0	10,100
GOVERNMENT	3,400	3,300	100	3.0	3,400
Federal	200	200	0	0.0	200
State & Local	3,200	3,100	100	3.2	3,200

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

WATERBURY LMA



	Not Seasonally Adjusted				JUN 1999
	JUL 1999	JUL 1998	CHANGE		
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	86,100	86,700	-600	-0.7	87,100
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	22,000	22,100	-100	-0.5	22,200
CONSTRUCTION & MINING	3,600	3,500	100	2.9	3,500
MANUFACTURING	18,400	18,600	-200	-1.1	18,700
Durable Goods	14,600	14,500	100	0.7	14,800
Primary Metals	900	800	100	12.5	900
Fabricated Metals	6,200	6,400	-200	-3.1	6,400
Machinery & Electric Equipment	4,900	5,000	-100	-2.0	4,900
Nondurable Goods	3,800	4,100	-300	-7.3	3,900
Paper, Printing & Publishing	1,200	1,200	0	0.0	1,300
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	64,100	64,600	-500	-0.8	64,900
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	3,400	3,500	-100	-2.9	3,700
TRADE	18,000	17,700	300	1.7	18,300
Wholesale	2,900	3,200	-300	-9.4	2,800
Retail	15,100	14,500	600	4.1	15,500
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE.	3,600	3,700	-100	-2.7	3,600
SERVICES	27,300	27,600	-300	-1.1	27,100
Personal & Business	7,200	7,100	100	1.4	7,100
Health Services	10,800	10,800	0	0.0	10,800
GOVERNMENT	11,800	12,100	-300	-2.5	12,200
Federal	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local	11,000	11,300	-300	-2.7	11,400

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

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

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	JUL	JUL	CHANGE		JUN
		1999	1998	NO.	%	1999
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,756,100	1,757,900	-1,800	-0.1	1,747,100
	Employed	1,701,700	1,696,600	5,100	0.3	1,683,900
	Unemployed	54,400	61,200	-6,800	-11.1	63,200
	Unemployment Rate	3.1	3.5	-0.4	---	3.6
BRIDGEPORT LMA	Civilian Labor Force	221,500	221,500	0	0.0	223,200
	Employed	213,000	212,100	900	0.4	212,900
	Unemployed	8,600	9,400	-800	-8.5	10,300
	Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.2	-0.3	---	4.6
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	112,300	112,900	-600	-0.5	111,800
	Employed	109,600	110,000	-400	-0.4	108,900
	Unemployed	2,700	2,800	-100	-3.6	2,900
	Unemployment Rate	2.4	2.5	-0.1	---	2.6
DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	33,000	33,500	-500	-1.5	33,000
	Employed	31,800	31,900	-100	-0.3	31,600
	Unemployed	1,200	1,600	-400	-25.0	1,400
	Unemployment Rate	3.6	4.8	-1.2	---	4.3
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	593,300	594,800	-1,500	-0.3	591,100
	Employed	574,400	573,600	800	0.1	569,000
	Unemployed	18,900	21,100	-2,200	-10.4	22,100
	Unemployment Rate	3.2	3.6	-0.4	---	3.7
LOWER RIVER LMA	Civilian Labor Force	12,700	12,900	-200	-1.6	12,500
	Employed	12,400	12,600	-200	-1.6	12,200
	Unemployed	300	300	0	0.0	300
	Unemployment Rate	2.2	2.6	-0.4	---	2.4
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	280,800	278,600	2,200	0.8	278,300
	Employed	272,000	268,900	3,100	1.2	268,300
	Unemployed	8,800	9,700	-900	-9.3	10,000
	Unemployment Rate	3.1	3.5	-0.4	---	3.6
NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	159,900	158,400	1,500	0.9	156,800
	Employed	154,900	152,100	2,800	1.8	151,300
	Unemployed	5,100	6,300	-1,200	-19.0	5,600
	Unemployment Rate	3.2	4.0	-0.8	---	3.5
STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	201,000	201,400	-400	-0.2	198,200
	Employed	197,000	196,800	200	0.1	193,400
	Unemployed	4,000	4,500	-500	-11.1	4,800
	Unemployment Rate	2.0	2.3	-0.3	---	2.4
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	40,700	41,100	-400	-1.0	40,200
	Employed	39,700	40,100	-400	-1.0	39,200
	Unemployed	1,000	1,000	0	0.0	1,100
	Unemployment Rate	2.4	2.4	0.0	---	2.6
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	117,800	119,300	-1,500	-1.3	118,200
	Employed	113,400	114,400	-1,000	-0.9	113,100
	Unemployed	4,400	4,900	-500	-10.2	5,100
	Unemployment Rate	3.7	4.1	-0.4	---	4.3
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	141,119,000	139,336,000	1,783,000	1.3	140,666,000
	Employed	134,800,000	132,769,000	2,031,000	1.5	134,395,000
	Unemployed	6,319,000	6,567,000	-248,000	-3.8	6,271,000
	Unemployment Rate	4.5	4.7	-0.2	---	4.5

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MANUFACTURING HOURS AND EARNINGS

	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	JUL		CHG	JUN	JUL		CHG	JUN	JUL		CHG	JUN
	1999	1998	Y/Y	1999	1999	1998	Y/Y	1999	1999	1998	Y/Y	1999
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>												
MANUFACTURING	\$649.40	\$628.36	\$21.04	\$645.75	42.5	42.2	0.3	42.4	\$15.28	\$14.89	\$0.39	\$15.23
DURABLE GOODS	666.93	642.36	24.57	666.93	43.0	42.4	0.6	43.0	15.51	15.15	0.36	15.51
Lumber & Furniture	506.51	496.27	10.24	492.38	42.6	42.2	0.4	41.1	11.89	11.76	0.13	11.98
Stone, Clay and Glass	604.78	617.42	-12.65	642.16	42.5	45.6	-3.1	46.0	14.23	13.54	0.69	13.96
Primary Metals	662.94	623.09	39.85	630.75	45.5	43.3	2.2	43.5	14.57	14.39	0.18	14.50
Fabricated Metals	595.78	583.08	12.70	605.32	42.8	41.5	1.3	42.9	13.92	14.05	-0.13	14.11
Machinery	678.69	677.54	1.15	710.22	43.9	43.6	0.3	44.5	15.46	15.54	-0.08	15.96
Electrical Equipment	546.13	507.99	38.14	530.01	42.5	41.0	1.5	41.7	12.85	12.39	0.46	12.71
Trans. Equipment	869.19	812.53	56.67	857.60	43.7	42.9	0.8	43.8	19.89	18.94	0.95	19.58
Instruments	606.96	587.97	18.99	602.76	40.9	42.3	-1.4	41.2	14.84	13.90	0.94	14.63
Miscellaneous Mfg	595.60	596.73	-1.13	632.05	38.6	40.9	-2.3	41.5	15.43	14.59	0.84	15.23
NONDUR. GOODS	604.40	597.08	7.33	595.32	41.2	41.9	-0.7	41.0	14.67	14.25	0.42	14.52
Food	524.91	544.62	-19.71	531.22	42.4	43.5	-1.1	43.4	12.38	12.52	-0.14	12.24
Textiles	479.04	478.38	0.66	485.07	40.7	40.2	0.5	40.9	11.77	11.90	-0.13	11.86
Apparel	326.34	331.74	-5.40	339.69	37.0	37.4	-0.4	39.0	8.82	8.87	-0.05	8.71
Paper	721.23	707.94	13.29	719.28	43.5	46.0	-2.5	43.2	16.58	15.39	1.19	16.65
Printing & Publishing	611.52	594.40	17.12	571.81	39.2	39.6	-0.4	37.3	15.60	15.01	0.59	15.33
Chemicals	777.29	821.19	-43.90	769.27	43.4	45.8	-2.4	43.0	17.91	17.93	-0.02	17.89
Rubber & Misc. Plast.	536.76	487.63	49.13	551.68	42.0	40.4	1.6	42.7	12.78	12.07	0.71	12.92
CONSTRUCTION	865.16	835.39	29.77	856.26	43.0	42.6	0.4	42.6	20.12	19.61	0.51	20.10

LMAs

	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	JUL		CHG	JUN	JUL		CHG	JUN	JUL		CHG	JUN
	1999	1998	Y/Y	1999	1999	1998	Y/Y	1999	1999	1998	Y/Y	1999
MANUFACTURING												
Bridgeport	\$631.05	\$631.58	-\$0.53	\$630.80	40.4	40.8	-0.4	41.5	\$15.62	\$15.48	\$0.14	\$15.20
Danbury	621.26	641.02	-19.76	622.44	41.5	43.4	-1.9	42.0	14.97	14.77	0.20	14.82
Danielson	507.47	450.00	57.47	504.71	40.5	38.2	2.3	41.1	12.53	11.78	0.75	12.28
Hartford	687.23	676.08	11.15	693.36	42.5	43.2	-0.7	42.8	16.17	15.65	0.52	16.20
Lower River	534.89	533.48	1.41	559.94	40.8	40.6	0.2	41.6	13.11	13.14	-0.03	13.46
New Haven	621.80	609.24	12.56	627.45	41.9	41.7	0.2	42.8	14.84	14.61	0.23	14.66
New London	674.86	661.30	13.56	669.80	42.1	42.5	-0.4	42.5	16.03	15.56	0.47	15.76
Stamford	548.23	545.48	2.75	533.41	39.9	39.3	0.6	39.6	13.74	13.88	-0.14	13.47
Torrington	562.00	538.47	23.53	577.55	40.2	42.2	-2.0	41.7	13.98	12.76	1.22	13.85
Waterbury	621.22	600.48	20.74	629.64	43.2	42.8	0.4	44.0	14.38	14.03	0.35	14.31

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 1998.

NEW HOUSING PERMITS

	JUL		CHANGE Y/Y		YTD		CHANGE YTD		JUN
	1999	1998	UNITS	%	1999	1998	UNITS	%	1999
	Connecticut	977	1,297	-320	-24.7	6,491	6,610	-119	-1.8
Counties:									
Fairfield	153	548	-395	-72.1	1,315	1,819	-504	-27.7	218
Hartford	166	261	-95	-36.4	1,322	1,708	-386	-22.6	269
Litchfield	79	73	6	8.2	525	413	112	27.1	119
Middlesex	105	61	44	72.1	544	398	146	36.7	79
New Haven	227	170	57	33.5	1,556	1,131	425	37.6	320
New London	90	92	-2	-2.2	534	532	2	0.4	96
Tolland	126	56	70	125.0	476	406	70	17.2	76
Windham	31	36	-5	-13.9	219	203	16	7.9	53

HOUSING PERMIT ACTIVITY BY TOWN

TOWN	JUL 1999	YR TO DATE 1999	YR TO DATE 1998	TOWN	JUL 1999	YR TO DATE 1999	YR TO DATE 1998	TOWN	JUL 1999	YR TO DATE 1999	YR TO DATE 1998
Andover	2	17	14	Griswold	2	26	20	Preston	0	13	11
Ansonia	3	24	11	Groton	12	82	74	Prospect	9	25	32
Ashford	5	14	21	Guilford	8	69	89	Putnam	2	11	7
Avon	11	123	132	Haddam	6	23	9	Redding	3	18	26
Barkhamsted	2	12	17	Hamden	29	175	62	Ridgefield	11	76	81
Beacon Falls	5	26	17	Hampton	1	10	10	Rocky Hill	12	62	62
Berlin	10	53	56	Hartford	8	46	67	Roxbury	1	14	16
Bethany	3	16	16	Hartland	0	0	3	Salem	0	6	14
Bethel	3	21	22	Harwinton	3	17	12	Salisbury	0	2	6
Bethlehem	1	12	9	Hebron	8	48	45	Scotland	1	5	10
Bloomfield	6	26	19	Kent	2	8	7	Seymour	3	28	33
Bolton	4	22	11	Killingly	3	17	15	Sharon	1	3	2
Bozrah	2	12	4	Killingworth	12	43	33	Shelton	24	113	140
Branford	9	36	19	Lebanon	4	27	15	Sherman	2	11	9
Bridgeport	8	30	80	Ledyard	8	33	46	Simsbury	4	42	53
Bridgewater	0	4	6	Lisbon	2	15	13	Somers	4	22	20
Bristol	6	51	51	Litchfield	3	36	23	South Windsor	10	81	91
Brookfield	6	40	116	Lyme	2	10	10	Southbury	11	52	62
Brooklyn	1	30	5	Madison	5	47	57	Southington	15	168	132
Burlington	5	37	26	Manchester	6	57	331	Sprague	0	2	1
Canaan	1	3	0	Mansfield	17	43	31	Stafford	6	31	22
Canterbury	2	9	13	Marlborough	3	20	18	Stamford	10	229	141
Canton	5	43	25	Meriden	2	23	31	Sterling	1	11	10
Chaplin	1	9	10	Middlebury	3	14	13	Stonington	7	64	53
Cheshire	44	80	60	Middlefield	3	19	8	Stratford	3	30	27
Chester	0	5	7	Middletown	21	131	79	Suffield	4	48	156
Clinton	10	40	48	Milford	14	191	83	Thomaston	5	32	26
Colchester	11	62	71	Monroe	5	46	62	Thompson	2	17	12
Colebrook	0	5	7	Montville	4	23	26	Tolland	17	96	75
Columbia	6	21	17	Morris	1	11	4	Torrington	11	72	41
Cornwall	1	3	4	Naugatuck	8	32	29	Trumbull	8	66	85
Coventry	7	36	34	New Britain	1	5	4	Union	1	4	3
Cromwell	4	36	30	New Canaan	4	30	35	Vernon	4	41	16
Danbury	9	117	497	New Fairfield	1	20	16	Voluntown	4	16	13
Darien	4	19	12	New Hartford	3	19	18	Wallingford	13	122	112
Deep River	3	14	14	New Haven	16	232	58	Warren	1	6	5
Derby	2	17	18	New London	0	0	1	Washington	1	7	6
Durham	8	37	26	New Milford	11	104	65	Waterbury	2	26	34
East Granby	5	14	12	Newington	3	53	64	Waterford	9	42	47
East Haddam	12	60	40	Newtown	13	151	158	Watertown	11	43	49
East Hampton	8	46	27	Norfolk	0	2	1	West Hartford	4	18	9
East Hartford	1	4	2	North Branford	6	20	37	West Haven	5	30	15
East Haven	2	24	34	North Canaan	2	6	3	Westbrook	6	28	38
East Lyme	13	53	49	North Haven	11	133	74	Weston	1	11	11
East Windsor	2	13	14	No. Stonington	4	15	26	Westport	6	33	27
Eastford	0	1	6	Norwalk	9	96	78	Wethersfield	3	17	52
Easton	4	22	25	Norwich	4	13	16	Willington	0	4	8
Ellington	50	91	110	Old Lyme	2	20	22	Wilton	3	20	26
Enfield	7	40	42	Old Saybrook	1	12	15	Winchester	3	11	6
Essex	4	27	18	Orange	1	9	11	Windham	1	14	17
Fairfield	6	46	74	Oxford	6	44	53	Windsor	4	30	27
Farmington	9	70	71	Plainfield	7	29	20	Windsor Locks	1	7	5
Franklin	0	0	0	Plainville	3	20	15	Wolcott	5	43	45
Glastonbury	9	131	142	Plymouth	3	45	25	Woodbridge	2	18	26
Goshen	4	18	8	Pomfret	0	24	19	Woodbury	8	30	47
Granby	9	43	27	Portland	7	23	6	Woodstock	4	18	28
Greenwich	10	70	71								

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

DOL newly registered employers are those businesses newly registered with the Labor Department's unemployment insurance program (including reopened accounts) during the month. DOL discontinued employers are those accounts that are terminated due to inactivity (no employees) or business closure. Registrations and terminations of business entities as recorded with the Secretary of the State are an indication of new business formation and activity. These registrations include limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, and foreign-owned (out-of-state) and domestic-owned (in-state) corporations.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index (CPI), computed and published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. It is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs and other goods and services that people buy for their day-to-day living. The Northeast region is comprised of the New England states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. *There is no separate consumer price index for Connecticut or any area within the state.*

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

The Employment Cost Index (ECI) covers both wages and salaries and employer costs for employee benefits for all occupations and establishments in both the private nonfarm sector and state and local government. The ECI measures employers' labor costs free from the influences of employment shifts among industries and occupations. The base period for all data is June 1989 when the ECI is 100.

HOURS AND EARNINGS ESTIMATES

Production worker earnings and hours estimates include full- and part-time employees working within manufacturing industries. Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month. Average hourly earnings are affected by such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

INITIAL CLAIMS

Average weekly initial claims are calculated by dividing the total number of new claims for unemployment insurance received in the month by the number of weeks in the month. A minor change in methodology took effect with data published in the March 1997 issue of the DIGEST. Data have been revised back to January 1980.

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Primarily a measure of unemployment insurance program activity, the insured unemployment rate is the 13-week average of the number of people claiming unemployment benefits divided by the number of workers covered by the unemployment insurance system.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

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

LABOR MARKET AREAS

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

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

LEADING AND COINCIDENT EMPLOYMENT INDICES

The *leading employment index* is a composite of five individual employment-related series -the average workweek of manufacturing production workers, Hartford help-wanted advertising, short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, initial claims for unemployment insurance and total housing permits. While not an employment-sector variable, housing permits are closely related to construction employment. The *coincident employment index* is a composite indicator of four individual employment-related series -the total unemployment rate, nonfarm employment (employer survey), total employment (household survey) and the insured unemployment rate. All data are seasonally adjusted and come from the Connecticut Labor Department and from the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

Nonfarm employment estimates are derived from a survey of businesses to measure *jobs* by industry. The estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary employees who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Excluded from these estimates are proprietors, self-employed workers, private household employees and unpaid family workers. In some cases, due to space constraints, all industry estimates are not shown. Call (860) 263-6275 for a more comprehensive breakout of nonfarm employment estimates.

UI COVERED WAGES

UI covered wages is the total amount paid to those employees who are covered under the Connecticut's Unemployment Insurance (UI) law for services performed during the quarter. The fluctuations in the 1992-93 period reflect the effect of the changes in the tax law and the massive restructuring in the state's economy.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS AT A GLANCE

(Percent change from prior year; see pages 5-9 for reference months)

Leading Employment Index	-1.6	Business Activity		Tourism and Travel	
Coincident Employment Index	+1.9	New Housing Permits	-24.7	Tourism Inquiries	+10.9
Total Nonfarm Employment	+1.3	Electricity Sales	-1.1	Tourism Info Centers	-4.8
Unemployment	-0.4*	Retail Sales	-1.0	Attraction Visitors	+2.3
Labor Force	0.0	Construction Contracts Index	-12.2	Hotel-Motel Occupancy	-4.5*
Employed	+0.4	New Auto Registrations	+29.5	Air Passenger Count	+12.6
Unemployed	-13.2	Air Cargo Tons	-0.7		
Average Weekly Initial Claims	-7.4	Business Starts		Employment Cost Index (U.S.)	
Help Wanted Index -- Hartford	-13.9	Secretary of the State	+5.4	Total	+3.3
Average Ins. Unempl. Rate	+0.03*	Dept. of Labor	+3.1	Wages & Salaries	+3.6
Average Weekly Hours, Mfg	+0.7	Business Terminations		Benefit Costs	+2.5
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg	+2.6	Secretary of the State	-1.0	Consumer Price Index	
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg	+3.3	Dept. of Labor	-18.5	U.S. City Average	+2.1
CT Mfg. Production Index	+2.6	State Tax Collections	-16.8	Northeast Region	+2.1
Production Worker Hours	-2.4	Corporate Tax	NA	NY-NJ-Long Island	+2.1
Industrial Electricity Sales	+3.2	Personal Income Tax	-10.9	Boston-Brockton-Nashua	+2.7
Personal Income	+5.2	Real Estate Conveyance Tax	-0.3	Consumer Confidence	
UI Covered Wages	+5.7	Sales & Use Tax	+48.3	U.S.	-1.2
				New England	+7.4
				Interest Rates	
				Prime	-0.50*
				Conventional Mortgage	+0.68*

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

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