



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research

Danté Bartolomeo, Interim Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2021 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 5.8%

US Unemployment Rate = 3.9%

Connecticut's unemployment rate drops to 5.8%; December 2021 job gain at 600

WETHERSFIELD, January 24, 2022 – Connecticut payroll employment increased by 600 jobs (0.04%) in December 2021 (preliminary) to a seasonally adjusted employment level of 1,622,000. Connecticut nonfarm employment is now 51,200 (3.3%) positions higher than the December 2020 job estimate of 1,570,800. This is the twelfth consecutive monthly gain in 2021 for a 4,267 monthly average pace and a total of 51,200 jobs added over the year. Connecticut has now recovered 74.6% (218,100) of the 292,400 positions lost in the March and April 2020 COVID lockdown period. November 2021 job gains were revised lower by 2,800 to a 2,800 (0.2%) gain. The statewide industry employment numbers are estimated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) from a current sample of businesses in the state.

“Job growth slowed at the end of 2021 but continued to add to the very strong gains from earlier in the year,” said Patrick Flaherty, Director of the Office of Research at the Connecticut Department of Labor. “Unusually warm weather during the survey week may have affected some usual winter activities. Manufacturing employment has now increased for six consecutive months. The unemployment rate fell as the labor force expanded indicating new entrants into the labor force are able to find work.”

Private sector employment increased by 500 jobs (0.04%) to 1,397,100 in December 2021 and is now higher by 47,400 positions (3.5%) from the December 2020 levels. The **government supersector** was also higher by 100 jobs (0.4%) in December to a level of 224,900. This is 3,800 (1.7%) positions higher than December 2020. The government *supersector* includes all federal, state, and local employment, including public education and Native American casino employment located on tribal reservation land.

Six of the ten major industry *supersectors* had employment gains and four declined in December.

The six Connecticut industry *supersectors* that produced job growth last month included:

Increasing Sectors			
Industry Sector (preliminary)	Amount of Increase	Percent Change	December 2021 Employment
Manufacturing	+800	0.5%	156,200
Other Services	+600	1.0%	62,000
Education & Health Services	+400	0.1%	334,300
Construction & Mining	+300	0.5%	61,200
Financial Activities	+300	0.3%	118,500
Government	+100	0.04%	224,900

Four industry *supersector* declined in December 2021:

Decreasing Sectors			
Industry Sector (preliminary)	Amount of Decrease	Percent Change	December 2021 Employment
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	-1,000	-0.3%	289,300
Professional & Business Services	-700	-0.3%	212,800
Information	-100	-0.4%	28,000
Leisure & Hospitality	-100	-0.1%	134,800

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Two of the six Connecticut **LMAs**, that are seasonally adjusted by the BLS, had monthly employment gains, while four regional labor markets had job declines in December 2021 (preliminary). The **Danbury LMA** (0.4%, 73,700) added 300 jobs as did the **New Haven LMA** (0.1%, 293,800). The **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (-0.4%, 381,500) posted the largest monthly job loss of 1,500 positions. This was followed by the **Norwich-New London-Westerly LMA** (-0.6%, 117,400) losing 700 jobs. The **Hartford LMA** (-0.1%, 557,000) was next, dropping 500 positions and the **Waterbury LMA** (-0.2%, 65,500) declined by 100 positions.

Note: The six major Connecticut LMAs are estimated independently from the statewide data by the BLS and cover more than 90% of the nonfarm employment in the state. Thus, estimates will not fully sum to the statewide total.

Hours and Earnings: The December 2021 **private sector** workweek, not seasonally adjusted, averaged 34.4 hours. This is up three-tenths of an hour from the December 2020 level (0.9%, 34.1). Average hourly earnings at \$34.11, not seasonally adjusted, were lower by \$0.27 (-0.8%) from the December 2020 estimate of \$34.38. The resulting December 2021 private sector weekly wage averaged \$1,173.38, higher by \$1.02 from a year ago (0.1%). The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in December 2021 was up 7.0% from a year ago. *Current all-employee private sector hours and earnings estimates can be volatile due to fluctuating sample responses.*

Labor Force Data (residential household survey)

The December 2021 unemployment rate for Connecticut was estimated by the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics program (LAUS) to be **5.8%** (seasonally adjusted), down by 0.2 percentage point from the November 2021 level of 6.0%. The Connecticut jobless rate was 8.2% in December 2020. The U.S. unemployment rate in December 2021 was 3.9%, down three-tenths of a percentage point from the November 2021 rate of 4.2% and below the 6.7% from December 2020. Not seasonally adjusted, the Connecticut unemployment rate was 4.4% compared the national average of 3.7%. Not seasonally adjusted, the Connecticut unemployment rate is 3.3% below its December 2020 level – the largest December to December drop on record (records go back to 1976).

Unemployment claims for first-time filers (seasonally adjusted) in Connecticut were an average of 2,624 per week in December 2021, down 642 (-19.7%) from the November 2021 (3,266) level and lower by 1,869 claims (-41.6%) from the average weekly count of 4,493 in December 2020. This level of monthly average weekly initial claims (2,624) for the month in the state is significantly below (-619) the February 2020 (3,243) average weekly claims tally, just before the COVID lockdown.

*The nonfarm employment estimate, derived from a survey of businesses, is a measure of jobs in the state; the unemployment rate and labor force estimates are based on a household survey, and measure the work status of people who live in Connecticut. Overall, as the national and state economies recover, volatility in monthly numbers can be expected. **Job and employment estimates are best understood in the context of their movement over several months rather than observed changes in a single month's value.***

Next Connecticut Labor Situation release: Friday, March 11, 2022
(preliminary January 2021 data on the new benchmark)

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Labor Market Information is available at: www.ctworkforce.info
200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114 www.ct.gov/dol
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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Jobs - by Place of Work

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	December 2021 P	November 2021 R	October 2021	September 2021	December 2020	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,622,000	1,621,400	1,618,600	1,611,500	1,570,800	600	0.0%	51,200	3.3%
Total Private	1,397,100	1,396,600	1,394,300	1,386,700	1,349,700	500	0.0%	47,400	3.5%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	500	500	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	60,700	60,400	59,400	59,400	56,700	300	0.5%	4,000	7.1%
Manufacturing	156,200	155,400	153,600	153,400	152,900	800	0.5%	3,300	2.2%
Durable Goods	121,500	121,300	119,900	120,300	120,700	200	0.2%	800	0.7%
Nondurable Goods	34,700	34,100	33,700	33,100	32,200	600	1.8%	2,500	7.8%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	289,300	290,300	290,700	290,600	287,500	-1,000	-0.3%	1,800	0.6%
Wholesale	57,800	57,600	57,100	56,600	55,400	200	0.3%	2,400	4.3%
Retail	163,900	164,300	165,000	165,300	163,500	-400	-0.2%	400	0.2%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	67,600	68,400	68,600	68,700	68,600	-800	-1.2%	-1,000	-1.5%
Information	28,000	28,100	27,900	28,000	29,200	-100	-0.4%	-1,200	-4.1%
Financial Activities	118,500	118,200	119,100	118,000	119,800	300	0.3%	-1,300	-1.1%
Finance & Insurance	100,300	100,200	100,800	100,200	100,900	100	0.1%	-600	-0.6%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	18,200	18,000	18,300	17,800	18,900	200	1.1%	-700	-3.7%
Professional & Business Services	212,800	213,500	213,400	210,600	203,600	-700	-0.3%	9,200	4.5%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	97,500	97,500	97,200	95,400	91,900	0	0.0%	5,600	6.1%
Management of Companies	32,100	32,400	32,600	32,500	31,800	-300	-0.9%	300	0.9%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	83,200	83,600	83,600	82,700	79,900	-400	-0.5%	3,300	4.1%
Educational & Health Services	334,300	333,900	333,400	332,100	323,000	400	0.1%	11,300	3.5%
Educational Services	67,500	66,500	66,000	66,200	61,800	1,000	1.5%	5,700	9.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	266,800	267,400	267,400	265,900	261,200	-600	-0.2%	5,600	2.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	134,800	134,900	135,100	134,100	118,900	-100	-0.1%	15,900	13.4%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	22,100	22,100	22,400	22,100	18,300	0	0.0%	3,800	20.8%
Accommodation & Food Services	112,700	112,800	112,700	112,000	100,600	-100	-0.1%	12,100	12.0%
Other Services	62,000	61,400	61,200	60,000	57,600	600	1.0%	4,400	7.6%
Government**	224,900	224,800	224,300	224,800	221,100	100	0.0%	3,800	1.7%
UNITED STATES	148,951,000	148,752,000	148,503,000	147,855,000	142,503,000	199,000	0.1%	6,448,000	4.5%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

Labor Market Area employment estimates are made independently of Statewide estimates.

Seasonally Adjusted data	December 2021 P	November 2021 R	October 2021	September 2021	December 2020	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	381,500	383,000	382,900	378,800	370,400	-1,500	-0.4%	11,100	3.0%
Danbury	73,700	73,400	73,500	73,200	71,000	300	0.4%	2,700	3.8%
Hartford	557,000	557,500	557,700	554,800	549,100	-500	-0.1%	7,900	1.4%
New Haven	293,800	293,500	291,100	289,100	282,600	300	0.1%	11,200	4.0%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	117,400	118,100	118,200	118,800	114,700	-700	-0.6%	2,700	2.4%
Waterbury	65,500	65,600	65,600	65,600	64,000	-100	-0.2%	1,500	2.3%
Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated - not BLS)									
Enfield	42,300	42,700	42,300	42,100	42,300	-400	-0.9%	0	0.0%
Torrington-Northwest	31,100	31,300	31,400	31,300	30,500	-200	-0.6%	600	2.0%
Danielson-Northeast	26,300	26,500	26,400	26,300	25,600	-200	-0.8%	700	2.7%

* Less than 0.05%

** Includes Native American tribal government employment

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

Starting with March, 2011, our monthly statewide and major LMA nonfarm job estimates have been taken over by the US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is the final phase of transition in this program, which began in 2008. As a result of changes in the estimation procedures, you are likely to see more variability in month-to-month estimates of job counts. Caution should be used in interpreting any single month's estimate. The data are best interpreted to identify trends and cycles over several months and quarters. If you have any questions about these changes, please email us at: dol.lmi@ct.gov. Danbury and Waterbury LMA's are now back to being seasonally adjusted.

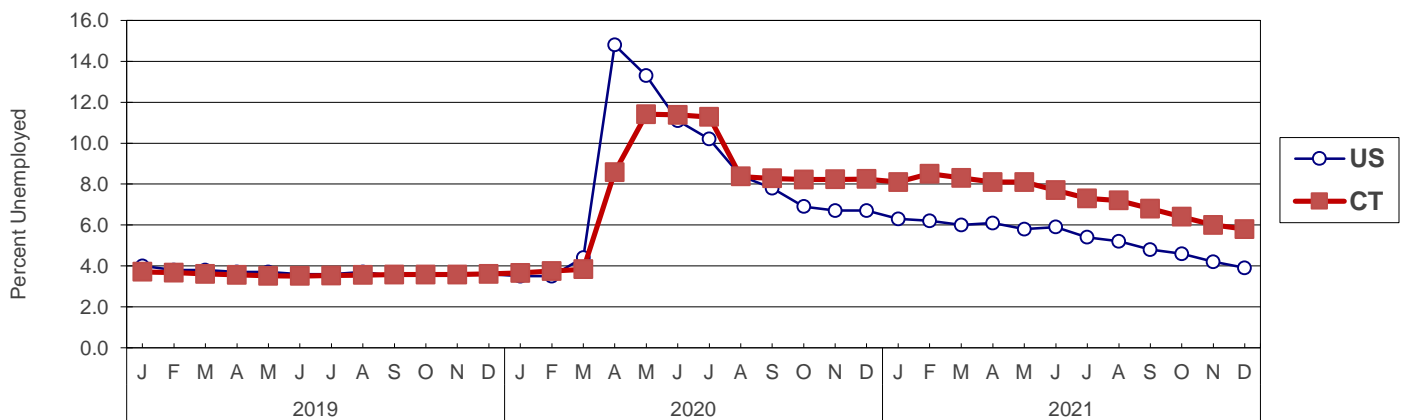
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	Dec 2021 P		Dec 2020 R		Change		Nov 2021 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	105,200	5.8	152,000	8.2	-46,800	-2.4	109,800	6.0
Labor Force	1,826,000		1,843,000		-17,000		1,819,200	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	6,319,000	3.9	10,789,000	6.7	-4,470,000	-2.8	6,802,000	4.2
Labor Force	162,294,000		160,671,000		1,623,000		162,126,000	

U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2019 - 2021



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Dec 2021 P		Dec 2020 R		Change		Nov 2021 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	19,900	4.5	34,800	7.9	-14,900	-3.4	21,800	4.9
Danbury	3,700	3.7	6,800	6.8	-3,100	-3.1	4,100	4.0
Danielson-Northeast*	1,800	4.3	3,000	7.3	-1,200	-3.0	1,900	4.6
Worcester NECTA	1,700	4.3	2,900	7.4	-1,200	-3.1	1,800	4.6
Hampton	100	3.4	100	5.5	0	-2.1	100	3.9
Enfield	2,000	4.1	3,300	7.1	-1,300	-3.0	2,100	4.4
Hartford	26,800	4.5	46,200	7.6	-19,400	-3.1	28,900	4.8
New Haven	13,500	4.1	23,300	7.2	-9,800	-3.1	14,700	4.4
Norwich-New London	6,500	4.9	11,500	8.7	-5,000	-3.8	7,000	5.2
Torrington-Northwest**	1,800	4.0	3,200	7.2	-1,400	-3.2	1,900	4.3
Torrington NECTA	1,200	4.8	2,100	8.4	-900	-3.6	1,300	5.1
Litchfield	600	3.0	1,100	5.6	-500	-2.6	700	3.3
Waterbury	6,000	5.6	9,900	9.1	-3,900	-3.5	6,300	5.8
CONNECTICUT	81,400	4.4	141,000	7.7	-59,600	-3.3	88,200	4.8
UNITED STATES	5,964,000	3.7	10,404,000	6.5	-4,440,000	-2.8	6,302,000	3.9

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

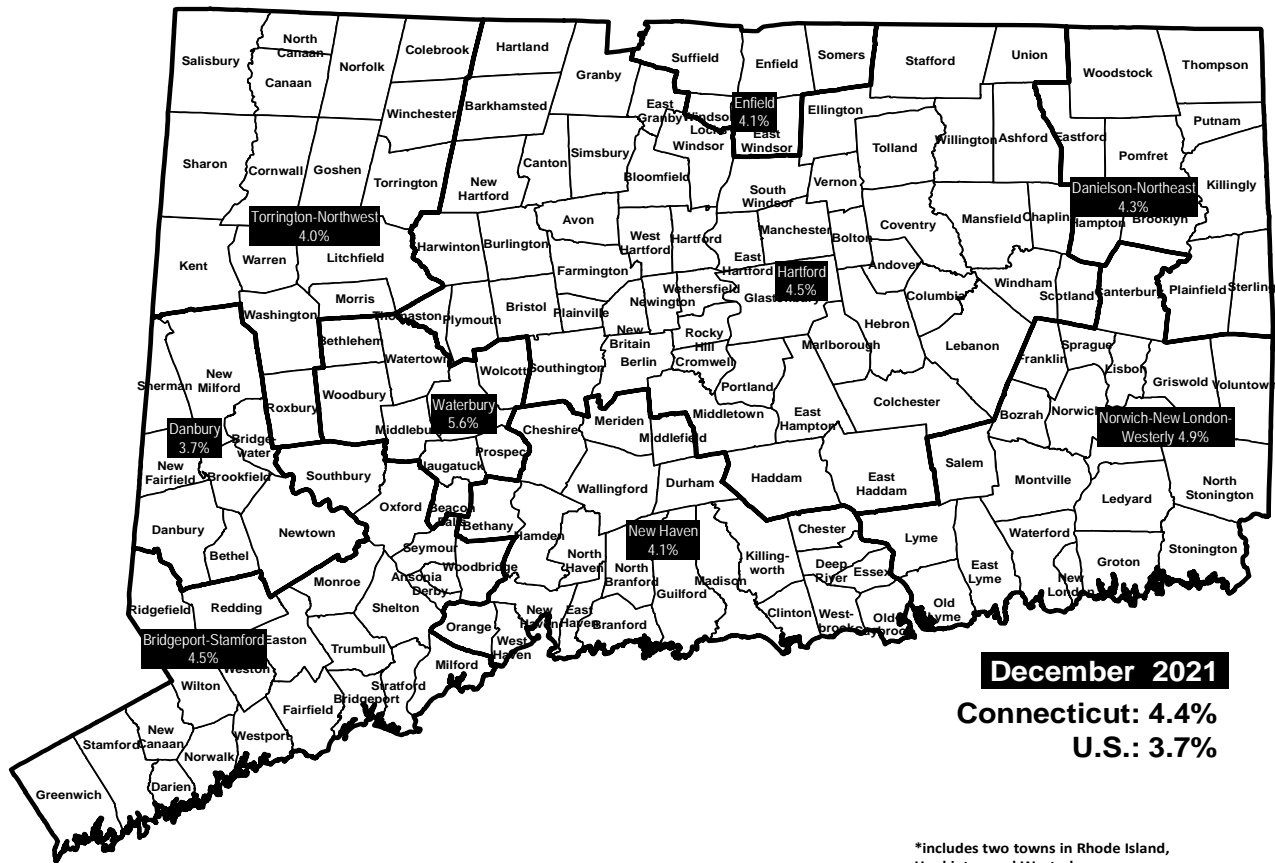
Labor force data included in this publication are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

* Worcester NECTA, CT part and Hampton LMA are combined ** Torrington Micropolitan NECTA and Litchfield LMA are combined

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LABOR MARKET AREAS



HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	Dec. 2021 P	Dec. 2020	Change over Yr.	Nov. 2021 R	Dec. 2021 P	Dec. 2020	Change over Yr.	Nov. 2021 R	Dec. 2021 P	Dec. 2020	Change over Yr.	Nov. 2021 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,173.38	\$1,172.36	\$1.02	\$1,166.90	34.4	34.1	0.3	34.2	\$34.11	\$34.38	-\$0.27	\$34.12
Manufacturing* Production Workers	\$1,127.81	\$1,154.25	-\$26.44	\$1,118.13	39.6	40.5	-0.9	39.0	\$28.48	\$28.50	-\$0.02	\$28.67

* Production worker data have been impacted by the loss of a large, high-paying manufacturer from the monthly sample.

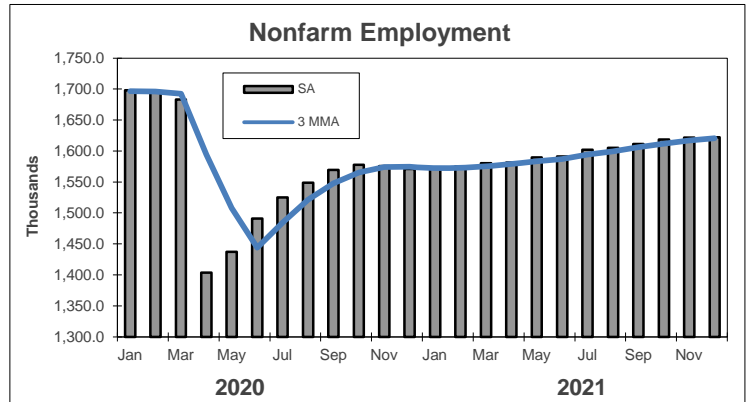
P = Preliminary R = Revised

Hours and earnings are also developed for the state's major industry sectors and Labor Market Areas. They can be found on our website at: www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi

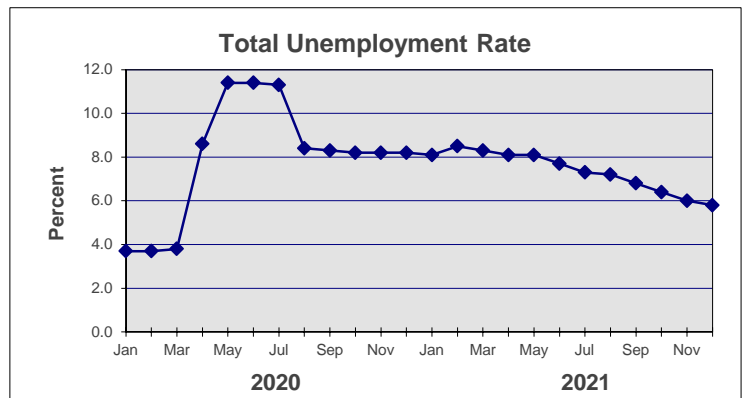
TRENDS

Seasonally Adjusted

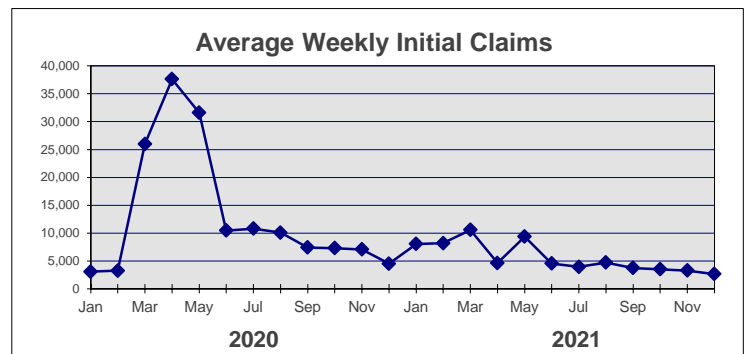
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2020		
Jan	1,698.0	3.7
Feb	1,696.3	3.7
Mar	1,683.3	3.8
Apr	1,403.9	8.6
May	1,437.5	11.4
Jun	1,490.9	11.4
Jul	1,525.0	11.3
Aug	1,549.0	8.4
Sep	1,569.2	8.3
Oct	1,577.7	8.2
Nov	1,575.4	8.2
Dec	1,570.8	8.2



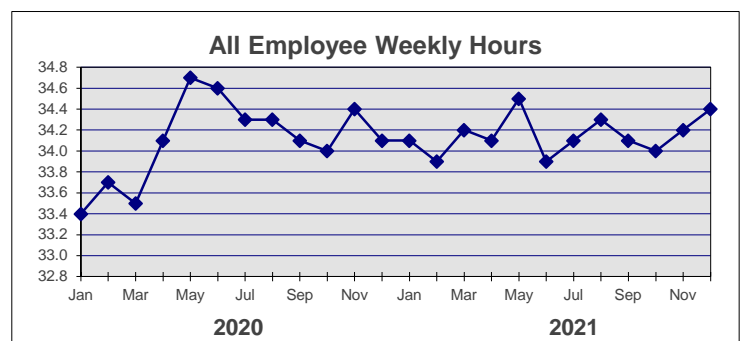
2021		
Jan	1,571.8	8.1
Feb	1,574.9	8.5
Mar	1,580.1	8.3
Apr	1,581.3	8.1
May	1,589.4	8.1
Jun	1,590.9	7.7
Jul	1,602.0	7.3
Aug	1,605.0	7.2
Sep	1,611.5	6.8
Oct	1,618.6	6.4
Nov	1,621.4 R	6.0 R
Dec	1,622.0 P	5.8 P



	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2020		
Jan	3,079	33.4
Feb	3,243	33.7
Mar	25,989	33.5
Apr	37,632	34.1
May	31,592	34.7
Jun	10,446	34.6
Jul	10,794	34.3
Aug	10,073	34.3
Sep	7,408	34.1
Oct	7,295	34.0
Nov	7,072	34.4
Dec	4,493	34.1



2021		
Jan	8,040	34.1
Feb	8,184	33.9
Mar	10,553	34.2
Apr	4,609	34.1
May	9,346	34.5
Jun	4,524	33.9
Jul	3,937	34.1
Aug	4,699	34.3
Sep	3,730	34.1
Oct	3,502	34.0
Nov	3,266	34.2 R
Dec	2,624	34.4 P



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute