



# LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research

Danté Bartolomeo, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 2023 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 3.6%

US Unemployment Rate = 3.5%

## Connecticut's July unemployment rate goes lower (3.6%); payroll jobs pick up 2,900

WETHERSFIELD, August 17, 2023 – Connecticut nonfarm payroll jobs increased 2,900 (0.2%) in July 2023 to a level of 1,692,200 and the state's unemployment rate hit a new post-COVID low at 3.6% (preliminary, seasonally adjusted data). Nonfarm industry employment in the state is now 21,400 (1.3%) positions higher than the July 2022 level. The state has now recovered **98.2%** (283,800) of the 289,100 nonfarm jobs lost during the March-April 2020 COVID lockdown. The reported June 2023 preliminary loss of 4,600 (-0.3%) positions was revised higher by 2,100 to a 2,500 (-0.2%) job loss. Connecticut's unemployment rate ticked one-tenth of a percentage point lower to 3.6% (the lowest since September 2019) from the June 2023 level and is now lower by four-tenths of a percentage point from the 4.0% rate in July 2022. The CT Labor Situation presents the most recent labor statistics from two different monthly surveys (establishments and households) produced by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in association with the states.

"Connecticut gained 19,100 jobs so far this year after gaining 26,800 jobs in all of 2022," said Patrick Flaherty, Director of the Office of Research at the Connecticut Department of Labor. "The number of unemployed is below 70,000 for the first time since August 2019. While job growth may slow toward the end of the year as it has in recent years, Connecticut's labor market is healthy as we start the second half of 2023."

**Connecticut's private sector** employment gained 2,900 (0.2%) jobs in July 2023 to 1,460,700 and is higher by 17,100 positions (1.2%) from the July 2022 level. The state's private sector is **99.9%** recovered from the April 2020 COVID employment nadir. Just 100 more jobs are needed to reach February 2020 private sector level. A similar upward revision of 2,100 occurred to June's preliminary private sector job loss estimate (-5,300, -0.4%) to now a -3,200 (-0.2%) job decrease. The **government supersector** was unchanged last month and stayed at a level of 231,500 jobs. Combined government sector employment in the state is 4,300 positions (1.9%) above year-ago levels. The public sector is 77.5% recovered from the overall COVID April 2020 employment trough. The state's government *supersector* includes all civilian federal, state, local, and tribal government employment, including public education and Native American casino jobs located on federally recognized tribal reservations.

Five of the ten major industry *supersectors* added jobs in July 2023, while four declined, and the government *supersector* was unchanged.

### The five industry *supersectors* that increased employment or were unchanged in July 2023:

Increasing Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Increase	Percent Change	July 2023 Employment
Education & Health Services	+3,000	0.9%	354,200
Construction & Mining	+1,400	2.3%	61,700
Financial Activities	+600	0.5%	115,300
Other Services	+100	0.2%	61,600
Leisure & Hospitality	+100	0.1%	156,800
Government	Unchanged	0.0%	231,500

### The four industry *supersectors* that decreased jobs in July 2023:

Decreasing Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Decrease	Percent Change	July 2023 Employment
Professional & Business Services	-1,400	-0.6%	223,400
Manufacturing	-700	-0.4%	157,000
Information	-100	-0.3%	31,300
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	-100	-0.03%	299,400

**Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs):** Four of the six major Connecticut **LMAs** that are seasonally adjusted by the BLS disclosed nonfarm payroll gains in July 2023, while the **Danbury LMA** (-0.3%, 76,700) declined 200 positions and the **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (0.0%, 406,900) was unchanged. The state's largest **Hartford LMA** (0.2%, 577,300) led in monthly job gains (1,300) while the **New Haven LMA** (0.4%, 302,100) added 1,200. The **Waterbury LMA** (0.7%, 67,200) was the best monthly percentage job gainer, adding 500. The more seasonal southeastern **Norwich-New London-Westerly LMA** (0.2%, 126,300) contributed 300 positions this July as well.

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

**Hours and Earnings:** The July 2023 **private sector** workweek, *not seasonally adjusted*, averaged 33.4 hours. This is lower by one-tenth of an hour (-0.3%) than the July 2022 average of 33.5 hours. Average hourly earnings at \$35.74 last month, *not seasonally adjusted*, were up by \$1.16 (3.4%) from the July 2022 estimate of \$34.58. The resulting July 2023 private sector weekly wage averaged \$1,193.72, higher by \$35.29 from a year ago (3.0%, \$1,158.43). The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) for July 2023 was up 3.2% 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 preliminary July 2023 unemployment rate for Connecticut was estimated by the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics program (LAUS) to be **3.6%** (seasonally adjusted). This is a new post COVID lockdown low and is down one-tenth of one percent compared to the June 2023 level of 3.7%. The Connecticut unemployment rate was 4.0% in July 2022. The U.S. unemployment rate for July 2023 was calculated at 3.5%, down one-tenth of a percentage point from the June 2023 rate (3.6%) and is matching the U.S. jobless rate of 3.5% a year ago.

Average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers (AWIC) in Connecticut in July 2023 were 6,646, *not seasonally adjusted*. The twelve-month moving average was 4,274 per week through July 2023, lower by 275 (-6.0%) from the twelve months ending June 2023 (4,549) but higher by 565 (15.2%) than the average weekly count of 3,709 for the twelve months ending in July 2022.

*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: Monday, September 18, 2023  
(Preliminary August 2023 data on the updated benchmark)*

Contact:  
Communications, CT Department of Labor  
[CTDOL.SocialMedia@ct.gov](mailto:CTDOL.SocialMedia@ct.gov)

Labor Market Information is available at: [www.ctworkforce.info](http://www.ctworkforce.info)  
200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114 [www.ct.gov/dol](http://www.ct.gov/dol)  
*An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer*

# NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## Jobs - by Place of Work

### CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	July 2023 P	June 2023 R	May 2023	April 2023	July 2022	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>	<b>1,692,200</b>	<b>1,689,300</b>	<b>1,691,800</b>	<b>1,686,500</b>	<b>1,670,800</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>21,400</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>1,460,700</b>	<b>1,457,800</b>	<b>1,461,000</b>	<b>1,455,800</b>	<b>1,443,600</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>17,100</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
<b>Goods Producing Industries</b>									
Mining	500	500	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	61,200	59,800	58,800	59,400	60,300	1,400	2.3%	900	1.5%
Manufacturing	157,000	157,700	157,600	157,500	157,200	-700	-0.4%	-200	-0.1%
Durable Goods	122,300	122,900	122,600	122,600	122,700	-600	-0.5%	-400	-0.3%
Nondurable Goods	34,700	34,800	35,000	34,900	34,500	-100	-0.3%	200	0.6%
<b>Service Providing Industries</b>									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	299,400	299,500	300,100	298,800	299,300	-100	0.0%	100	0.0%
Wholesale	62,800	62,900	62,900	63,000	60,700	-100	-0.2%	2,100	3.5%
Retail	166,500	166,400	167,100	166,300	168,500	100	0.1%	-2,000	-1.2%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	70,100	70,200	70,100	69,500	70,100	-100	-0.1%	0	0.0%
Information	31,300	31,400	32,100	31,500	31,200	-100	-0.3%	100	0.3%
Financial Activities	115,300	114,700	115,300	114,800	118,300	600	0.5%	-3,000	-2.5%
Finance & Insurance	96,000	95,600	96,100	95,600	98,800	400	0.4%	-2,800	-2.8%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	19,300	19,100	19,200	19,200	19,500	200	1.0%	-200	-1.0%
Professional & Business Services	223,400	224,800	225,300	224,500	222,000	-1,400	-0.6%	1,400	0.6%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	103,200	103,000	103,000	101,600	99,400	200	0.2%	3,800	3.8%
Management of Companies	30,900	30,900	30,800	30,900	31,000	0	0.0%	-100	-0.3%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	89,300	90,900	91,500	92,000	91,600	-1,600	-1.8%	-2,300	-2.5%
Educational & Health Services	354,200	351,200	351,500	352,400	343,100	3,000	0.9%	11,100	3.2%
Educational Services	72,000	71,200	71,200	71,800	68,900	800	1.1%	3,100	4.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	282,200	280,000	280,300	280,600	274,200	2,200	0.8%	8,000	2.9%
Leisure and Hospitality	156,800	156,700	156,400	154,100	150,400	100	0.1%	6,400	4.3%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	31,300	31,300	29,000	28,900	26,900	0	0.0%	4,400	16.4%
Accommodation & Food Services	125,500	125,400	127,400	125,200	123,500	100	0.1%	2,000	1.6%
Other Services	61,600	61,500	63,400	62,300	61,300	100	0.2%	300	0.5%
Government**	231,500	231,500	230,800	230,700	227,200	0	0.0%	4,300	1.9%
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>156,342,000</b>	<b>156,155,000</b>	<b>155,970,000</b>	<b>155,689,000</b>	<b>152,980,000</b>	<b>187,000</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>3,362,000</b>	<b>2.2%</b>

### LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

	July 2023 P	June 2023 R	May 2023	April 2023	July 2022	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
<i>Seasonally Adjusted data</i>									
<b>Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk</b>	406,900	406,900	407,700	406,900	401,500	0	0.0%	5,400	1.3%
<b>Danbury</b>	76,700	76,900	77,100	76,900	76,300	-200	-0.3%	400	0.5%
<b>Hartford</b>	577,300	576,000	578,000	577,900	571,900	1,300	0.2%	5,400	0.9%
<b>New Haven</b>	302,100	300,900	302,800	302,900	297,300	1,200	0.4%	4,800	1.6%
<b>Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI</b>	126,300	126,000	125,700	124,900	122,400	300	0.2%	3,900	3.2%
<b>Waterbury</b>	67,200	66,700	67,300	67,300	66,000	500	0.7%	1,200	1.8%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated - not BLS)</i>									
<b>Enfield</b>	42,600	42,900	42,400	41,800	42,100	-300	-0.7%	500	1.2%
<b>Torrington-Northwest</b>	33,700	33,700	33,000	32,500	33,600	0	0.0%	100	0.3%
<b>Danielson-Northeast</b>	27,400	27,700	27,500	27,100	26,900	-300	-1.1%	500	1.9%

\* 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](mailto:dol.lmi@ct.gov).

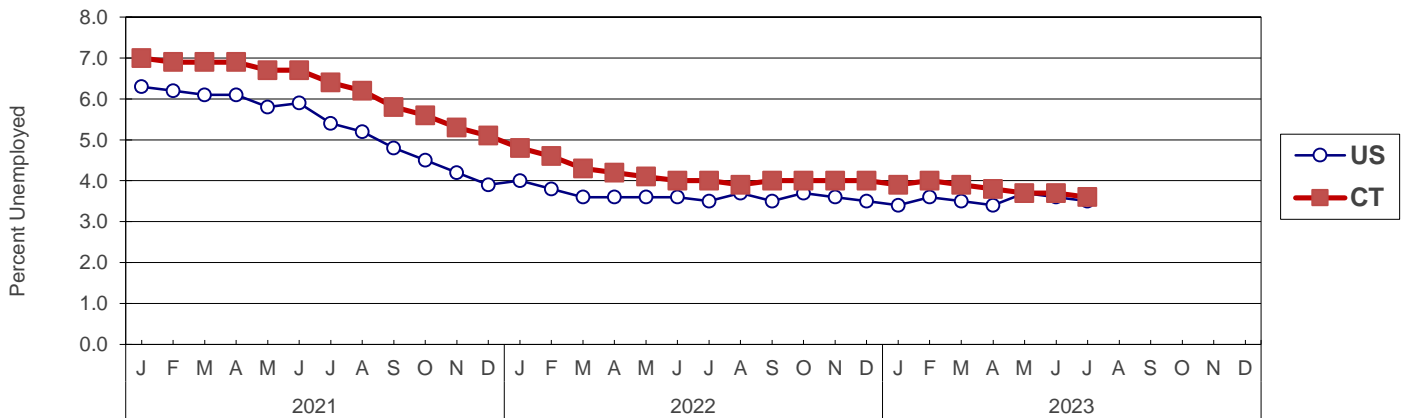
# UNEMPLOYMENT

## Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

### CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	Jul 2023 P		Jul 2022 R		Change		Jun 2023 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>								
Unemployed	69,000	3.6	76,200	4.0	-7,200	-0.4	70,100	3.7
Labor Force	1,896,800		1,928,700		-31,900		1,897,300	
<b>UNITED STATES</b>								
Unemployed	5,841,000	3.5	5,718,000	3.5	123,000	0.0	5,957,000	3.6
Labor Force	167,103,000		163,990,000		3,113,000		166,951,000	

### U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2021 - 2023



### LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Jul 2023 P		Jul 2022 R		Change		Jun 2023 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	19,700	4.1	20,900	4.3	-1,200	-0.2	19,800	4.2
Danbury	3,900	3.6	4,200	3.8	-300	-0.2	3,800	3.5
Danielson-Northeast*	1,700	3.9	1,800	4.0	-100	-0.1	1,700	3.8
Worcester NECTA	1,700	3.9	1,700	4.0	0	-0.1	1,600	3.8
Hampton	100	3.1	100	3.4	0	-0.3	100	3.2
Enfield	1,800	3.6	2,000	3.9	-200	-0.3	1,800	3.6
Hartford	24,600	4.0	27,400	4.3	-2,800	-0.3	24,500	3.9
New Haven	12,600	3.7	14,200	4.1	-1,600	-0.4	12,800	3.8
Norwich-New London	5,200	3.6	5,900	4.1	-700	-0.5	5,200	3.7
Torrington-Northwest**	1,600	3.3	1,900	3.8	-300	-0.5	1,500	3.2
Torrington NECTA	1,000	4.0	1,200	4.5	-200	-0.5	1,000	3.8
Litchfield	600	2.6	700	3.1	-100	-0.5	600	2.6
Waterbury	5,400	4.8	5,700	5.1	-300	-0.3	5,300	4.8
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>	<b>76,200</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>83,300</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>-7,100</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>76,000</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>6,372,000</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>6,255,000</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>117,000</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>6,351,000</b>	<b>3.8</b>

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

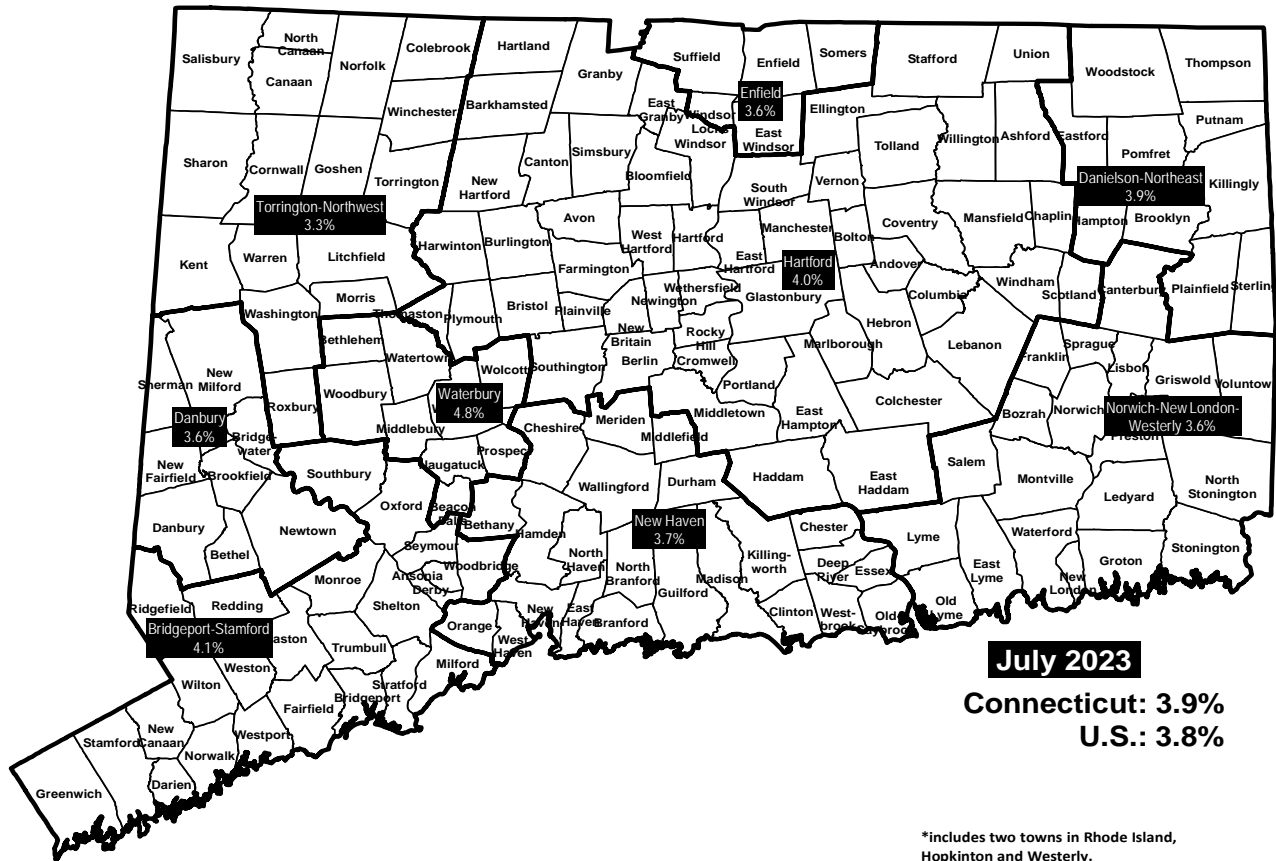
Labor force data included in this publication are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

\* 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			
	July 2023 P	July 2022	Change over Yr.	June 2023 R	July 2023 P	July 2022	Change over Yr.	June 2023 R	July 2023 P	July 2022	Change over Yr.	June 2023 R
<b>Private Industry All Employees</b>	\$1,193.72	\$1,158.43	\$35.29	\$1,162.92	33.4	33.5	-0.1	33.0	\$35.74	\$34.58	\$1.16	\$35.24
<b>Manufacturing* Production Workers</b>	\$1,163.75	\$1,164.81	-\$1.06	\$1,125.66	39.8	41.0	-1.2	39.4	\$29.24	\$28.41	\$0.83	\$28.57

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

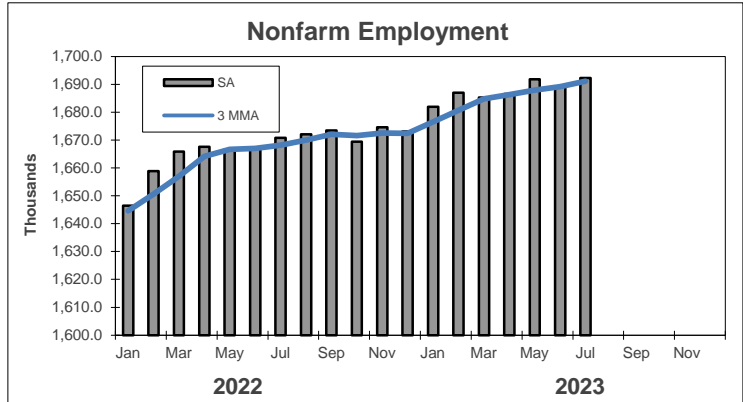
P = Preliminary      R = Revised

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](http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi)

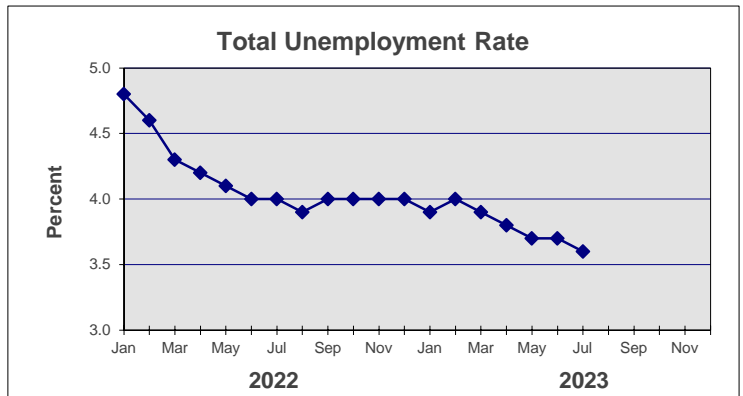
# TRENDS

## Seasonally Adjusted

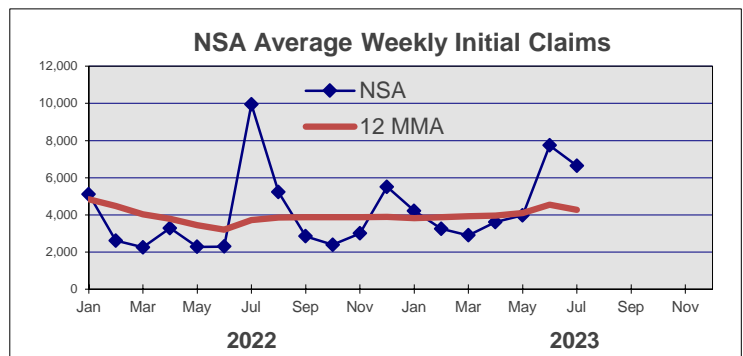
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
<b>2022</b>		
Jan	1,646.5	4.8
Feb	1,658.8	4.6
Mar	1,665.9	4.3
Apr	1,667.6	4.2
May	1,666.6	4.1
Jun	1,666.9	4.0
Jul	1,670.8	4.0
Aug	1,672.1	3.9
Sep	1,673.4	4.0
Oct	1,669.4	4.0
Nov	1,674.6	4.0
Dec	1,673.1	4.0



<b>2023</b>		
Jan	1,681.9	3.9
Feb	1,687.0	4.0
Mar	1,685.3	3.9
Apr	1,686.5	3.8
May	1,691.8	3.7
Jun	1,689.3 R	3.7 R
Jul	1,692.2 P	3.6 P
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



	NSA Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
<b>2022</b>		
Jan	5,111	34.1
Feb	2,611	34.0
Mar	2,247	33.9
Apr	3,283	33.8
May	2,277	34.2
Jun	2,294	33.8
Jul	9,947	33.5
Aug	5,218	33.7
Sep	2,838	33.8
Oct	2,389	34.0
Nov	3,001	33.7
Dec	5,508	33.5



<b>2023</b>		
Jan	4,215	33.5
Feb	3,249	33.0
Mar	2,898	32.9
Apr	3,610	33.7
May	3,972	33.0
Jun	7,738	33.0 R
Jul	6,646	33.4 P
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



\* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

\*\* Labor-management dispute