



# LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research

Kurt Westby, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 2020 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 8.2%

US Unemployment Rate = 6.7%

## Connecticut loses 1,600 nonfarm jobs as unemployment rises to 8.2%

WETHERSFIELD, December 17, 2020 – Connecticut lost 1,600 payroll jobs in November 2020 (-0.1%) after a revised 11,500 increase in October. This is the first monthly job loss since April’s drop due to the COVID-19 lockdown. Employment in the state is now 96,500 (-5.7%) positions below one year ago at 1,596,000 jobs seasonally adjusted. The preliminary October 2020 job gain of 14,100 was revised lower by 2,600 jobs. These are the nonfarm industry job estimates from the business survey produced by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program.

“Federal government employment fell by 1,000 jobs as temporary Census work ended” said Patrick Flaherty, Acting Director of the Office of Research at the Connecticut Department of Labor. “In addition, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has led to a decrease in leisure and hospitality where accommodation and food service lost a portion of last month’s gains. Offsetting these declines, transportation and warehousing, which includes delivery services, grew in November and now employs more people than one year ago.”

**Private sector** employment decreased by 700 jobs (-0.05%) to 1,375,800 in November 2020 and is lower by 79,800 (-5.5%) jobs compared to November 2019. The **government supersector** shed 900 jobs in November (-0.4%) to a level of 220,200 and is now lower by 16,700 jobs (-7.0%) over the year. The **government supersector** includes all federal, state and local employment, including public education and Native American casino employment located on tribal land.

### Three of the ten major industry *supersectors* had employment gains in November.

Increasing Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Increase	Percent Change	November 2020 Employment
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	+3,700	1.3%	287,700
Construction and Mining	+500	0.9%	58,000
Other Services	+200	0.3%	57,700

### Seven industry *supersectors* experienced November 2020 employment declines.

Declining Sector			
Industry Sector	Amount of Decrease	Percent Change	November 2020 Employment
Leisure & Hospitality	-2,800	-2.1%	129,100
Government	-900	-0.4%	220,200
Education & Health Services	-900	-0.3%	323,600
Financial Activities	-500	-0.4%	119,800
Manufacturing	-500	-0.3%	155,800
Professional & Business Services	-300	-0.1%	214,100
Information	-100	-0.3%	30,000

**Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs):** Only two of the six **LMAs** seasonally adjusted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics exhibited employment gains in November 2020, while four declined. The **Hartford LMA** (0.4%, 558,900) led all regional labor markets in November, adding 2,500 positions. The **Danbury LMA** (1.1%, 73,100) also increased 800 jobs. The **New Haven LMA** (-0.6%, 275,900) had the biggest monthly regional employment decline (-1,700) in November. The **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (-0.2%, 367,900) was lower as well losing 900 positions. Also losing jobs were the **Norwich–New London–Westerly LMA** (-0.6%, 115,600) dropping 700 positions and the **Waterbury LMA** (-0.3%, 61,100) declining 200 jobs.

*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 **private sector** workweek, not seasonally adjusted, averaged 34.3 hours in November 2020, up five-tenths of an hour from the same month a year ago (1.5%). Average hourly earnings at \$34.73, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$1.28 (3.8%) from the November 2019 estimate (\$33.45). Average private sector weekly pay came in at \$1,191.24, up \$60.63 from a year ago (5.4%). The 12-month percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in November 2020 was 1.2%. *Current all-employee private sector hours and earnings estimates can be volatile due to fluctuating sample responses.*

### **Labor Force Data (residential household survey)**

The November 2020 official unemployment rate for Connecticut was estimated by the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics program (LAUS) to be 8.2% (seasonally adjusted), higher by 2.1 percentage points from the revised October level of 6.1%. The Connecticut unemployment rate was 3.8% in November 2019. The US jobless rate in November 2020 was 6.7%, down two-tenths of a percentage points from October's rate of 6.9%. The US rate was 3.5% a year ago. The unemployment rate is now close to its August level after declining the past two months.

Data users must be cautious about trying to compare or reconcile UI claims data with the official unemployment figures derived from the household survey. For additional insight into the Connecticut labor market during the COVID-19 pandemic please see the analysis linked here:

<https://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/claimsdata.asp> Please note that there are conceptual, coverage, and scope differences between the two data sources.

Unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut were an average of 6,738 per week in November 2020, down 278 from October 2020 (-4.0%) level but higher by 3,484 claims (107.1%) from the average weekly level of 3,254 in November 2019.

*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, January 25, 2021 (December 2020, preliminary data)*

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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)  
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# NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## Jobs - by Place of Work

### CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	November 2020 P	October 2020 R	September 2020	August 2020	November 2019	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>	<b>1,596,000</b>	<b>1,597,600</b>	<b>1,586,100</b>	<b>1,568,100</b>	<b>1,692,500</b>	<b>-1,600</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>-96,500</b>	<b>-5.7%</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>1,375,800</b>	<b>1,376,500</b>	<b>1,365,200</b>	<b>1,344,900</b>	<b>1,455,600</b>	<b>-700</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>-79,800</b>	<b>-5.5%</b>
<b>Goods Producing Industries</b>									
Mining	500	500	600	600	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	57,500	57,000	57,400	57,600	60,000	500	0.9%	-2,500	-4.2%
Manufacturing	155,800	156,300	155,900	154,400	162,300	-500	-0.3%	-6,500	-4.0%
Durable Goods	122,000	122,700	122,400	121,400	127,600	-700	-0.6%	-5,600	-4.4%
Nondurable Goods	33,800	33,600	33,500	33,000	34,700	200	0.6%	-900	-2.6%
<b>Service Providing Industries</b>									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	287,700	284,000	278,500	276,000	293,100	3,700	1.3%	-5,400	-1.8%
Wholesale	59,000	59,300	58,700	58,300	59,100	-300	-0.5%	-100	-0.2%
Retail	163,400	163,600	161,800	158,200	173,100	-200	-0.1%	-9,700	-5.6%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	65,300	61,100	58,000	59,500	60,900	4,200	6.9%	4,400	7.2%
Information	30,000	30,100	29,600	29,000	31,200	-100	-0.3%	-1,200	-3.8%
Financial Activities	119,800	120,300	119,500	120,100	123,500	-500	-0.4%	-3,700	-3.0%
Finance & Insurance	100,700	100,900	100,900	101,400	103,100	-200	-0.2%	-2,400	-2.3%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	19,100	19,400	18,600	18,700	20,400	-300	-1.5%	-1,300	-6.4%
Professional & Business Services	214,100	214,400	213,700	208,000	221,700	-300	-0.1%	-7,600	-3.4%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	94,300	94,900	94,500	93,400	96,900	-600	-0.6%	-2,600	-2.7%
Management of Companies	32,600	32,500	33,200	32,800	33,600	100	0.3%	-1,000	-3.0%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	87,200	87,000	86,000	81,800	91,200	200	0.2%	-4,000	-4.4%
Educational & Health Services	323,600	324,500	325,200	321,200	341,900	-900	-0.3%	-18,300	-5.4%
Educational Services	62,000	61,700	63,000	61,700	68,200	300	0.5%	-6,200	-9.1%
Health Care & Social Assistance	261,600	262,800	262,200	259,500	273,700	-1,200	-0.5%	-12,100	-4.4%
Leisure and Hospitality	129,100	131,900	128,500	121,000	157,300	-2,800	-2.1%	-28,200	-17.9%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	21,100	21,700	22,200	20,300	28,300	-600	-2.8%	-7,200	-25.4%
Accommodation & Food Services	108,000	110,200	106,300	100,700	129,000	-2,200	-2.0%	-21,000	-16.3%
Other Services	57,700	57,500	56,300	57,000	64,100	200	0.3%	-6,400	-10.0%
Government**	220,200	221,100	220,900	223,200	236,900	-900	-0.4%	-16,700	-7.0%
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>142,629,000</b>	<b>142,384,000</b>	<b>141,774,000</b>	<b>141,063,000</b>	<b>151,814,000</b>	<b>245,000</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>-9,185,000</b>	<b>-6.1%</b>

### LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	November 2020 P	October 2020 R	September 2020	August 2020	November 2019	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
<b>Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk</b>	367,900	368,800	366,500	359,300	405,800	-900	-0.2%	-37,900	-9.3%
<b>Danbury</b>	73,100	72,300	72,800	73,000	77,600	800	1.1%	-4,500	-5.8%
<b>Hartford</b>	558,900	556,400	554,900	549,200	585,400	2,500	0.4%	-26,500	-4.5%
<b>New Haven</b>	275,900	277,600	272,900	274,900	290,500	-1,700	-0.6%	-14,600	-5.0%
<b>Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI</b>	115,600	116,300	114,800	113,600	129,200	-700	-0.6%	-13,600	-10.5%
<b>Waterbury</b>	61,100	61,300	61,200	61,400	68,200	-200	-0.3%	-7,100	-10.4%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
<b>Enfield</b>	43,000	42,700	42,600	42,600	44,900	300	0.7%	-1,900	-4.2%
<b>Torrington-Northwest</b>	31,000	31,200	30,900	30,800	33,100	-200	-0.6%	-2,100	-6.3%
<b>Danielson-Northeast</b>	26,200	26,200	26,200	26,000	27,500	0	0.0%	-1,300	-4.7%

\* Less than 0.05% \*\* Includes Native American tribal government employment

P = Preliminary

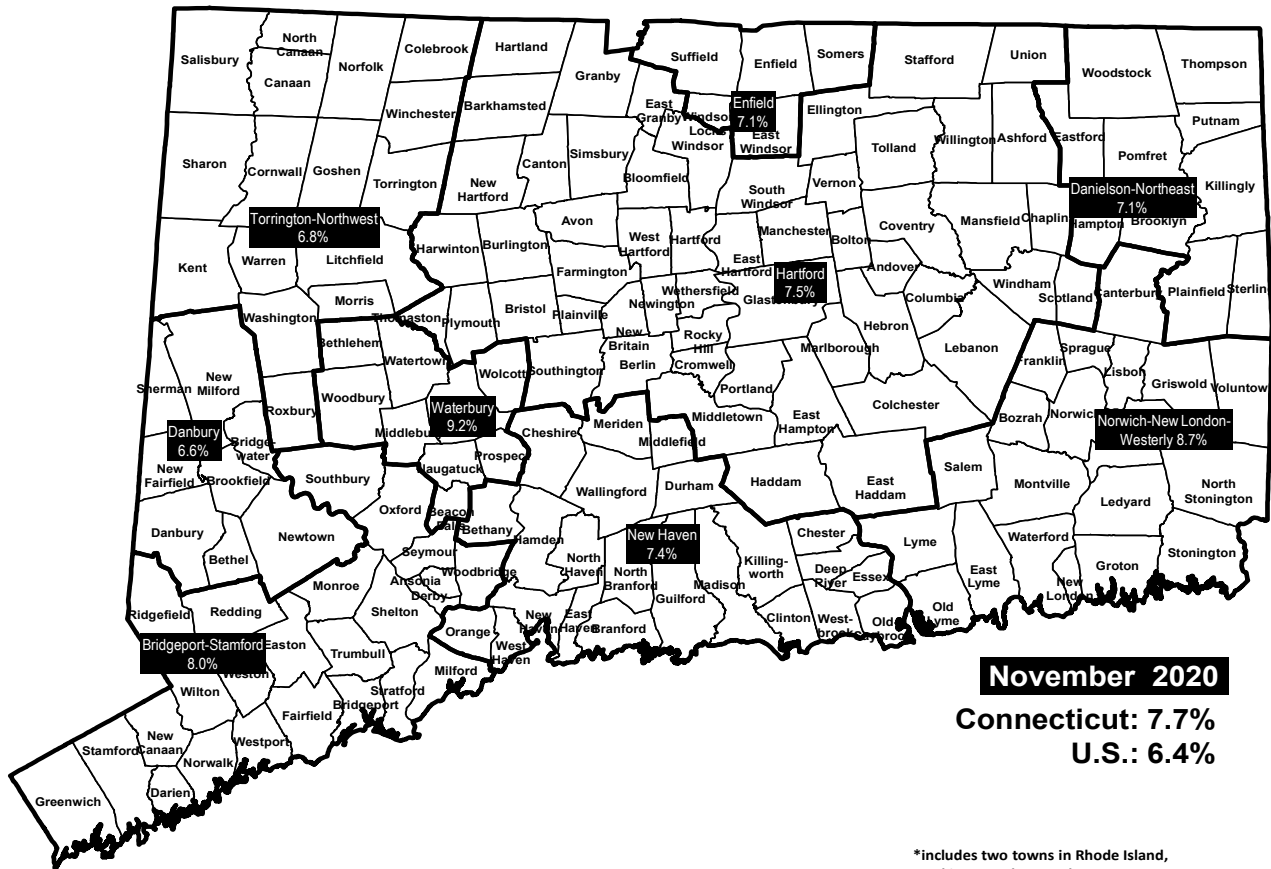
R = Revised

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](mailto:dol.lmi@ct.gov). Danbury and Waterbury LMA's are now back to being seasonally adjusted.

# UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Not Seasonally Adjusted

## LABOR MARKET AREAS



\*includes two towns in Rhode Island, Hopkinton and Westerly.

# HOURS AND EARNINGS

## CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	Nov. 2020 P	Nov. 2019	Change over Yr.	Oct. 2020 R	Nov. 2020 P	Nov. 2019	Change over Yr.	Oct. 2020 R	Nov. 2020 P	Nov. 2019	Change over Yr.	Oct. 2020 R
<b>Private Industry All Employees</b>	\$1,191.24	\$1,130.61	\$60.63	\$1,157.70	34.3	33.8	0.5	34.0	\$34.73	\$33.45	\$1.28	\$34.05
<b>Manufacturing*</b>												
<b>Production Workers</b>	\$1,192.61	\$1,182.36	\$10.25	\$1,181.79	40.4	42.7	-2.3	40.5	\$29.52	\$27.69	\$1.83	\$29.18

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

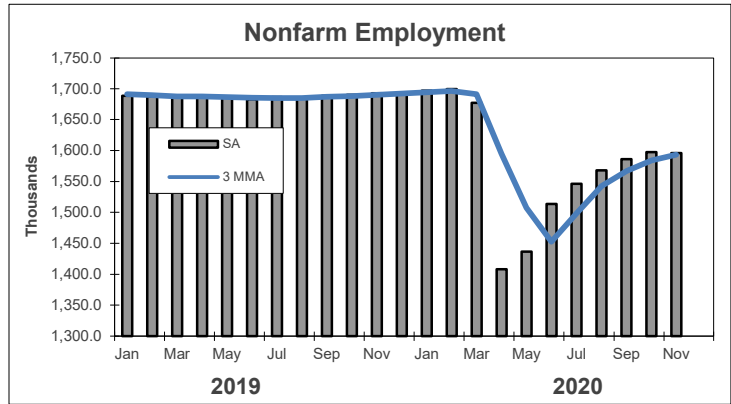
P = Preliminary      R = Revised

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)

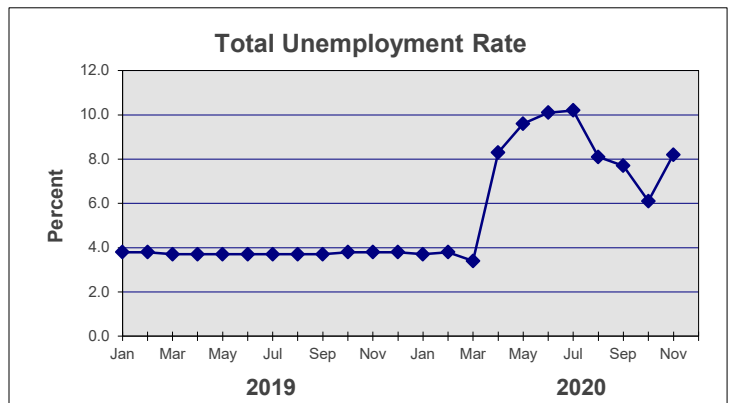
# TRENDS

## Seasonally Adjusted

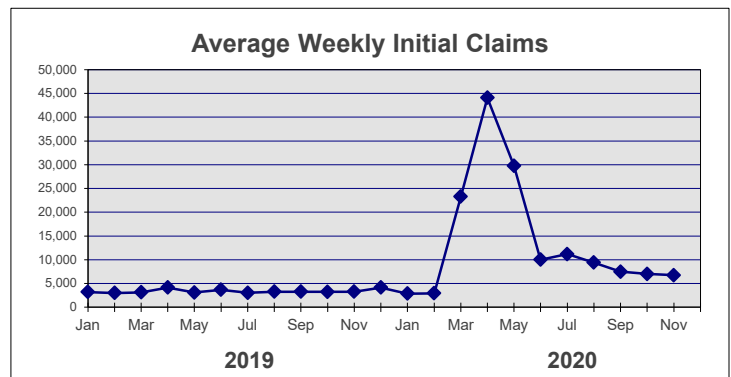
	<b>Nonfarm Employment (000s)</b>	<b>Total Unemployment Rate</b>
<b>2019</b>		
Jan	1,688.3	3.8
Feb	1,687.5	3.8
Mar	1,686.6	3.7
Apr	1,687.9	3.7
May	1,685.4	3.7
Jun	1,682.6	3.7
Jul	1,686.7	3.7
Aug	1,685.3	3.7
Sep	1,688.3	3.7
Oct	1,690.0	3.8
Nov	1,692.5	3.8
Dec	1,693.5	3.8



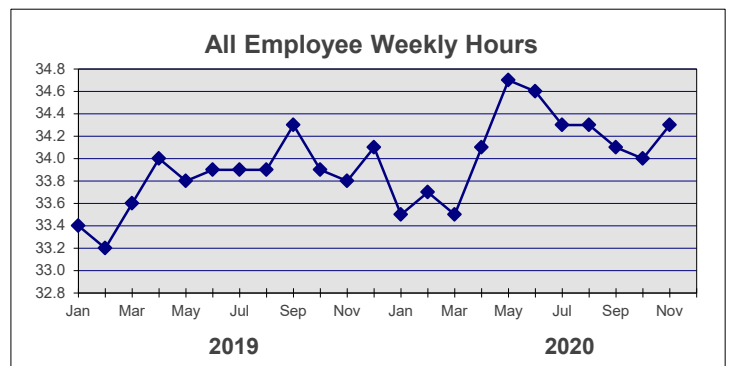
<b>2020</b>		
Jan	1,696.8	3.7
Feb	1,699.5	3.8
Mar	1,677.4	3.4
Apr	1,408.2	8.3
May	1,436.6	9.6
Jun	1,513.9	10.1
Jul	1,546.2	10.2
Aug	1,568.1	8.1
Sep	1,586.1	7.7
Oct	1,597.6 R	6.1 R
Nov	1,596.0 P	8.2 P
Dec		



	<b>Avg Weekly Initial Claims</b>	<b>All Employee Weekly Hours*</b>
<b>2019</b>		
Jan	3,184	33.4
Feb	2,985	33.2
Mar	3,121	33.6
Apr	4,146	34.0
May	3,114	33.8
Jun	3,655	33.9
Jul	3,046	33.9
Aug	3,280	33.9
Sep	3,279	34.3
Oct	3,238	33.9
Nov	3,254	33.8
Dec	4,146	34.1



<b>2020</b>		
Jan	2,854	33.5
Feb	2,927	33.7
Mar	23,264	33.5
Apr	44,075	34.1
May	29,758	34.7
Jun	9,986	34.6
Jul	11,168	34.3
Aug	9,378	34.3
Sep	7,491	34.1
Oct	7,016	34.0 R
Nov	6,738	34.3 P
Dec		



\* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

\*\* Labor-management dispute

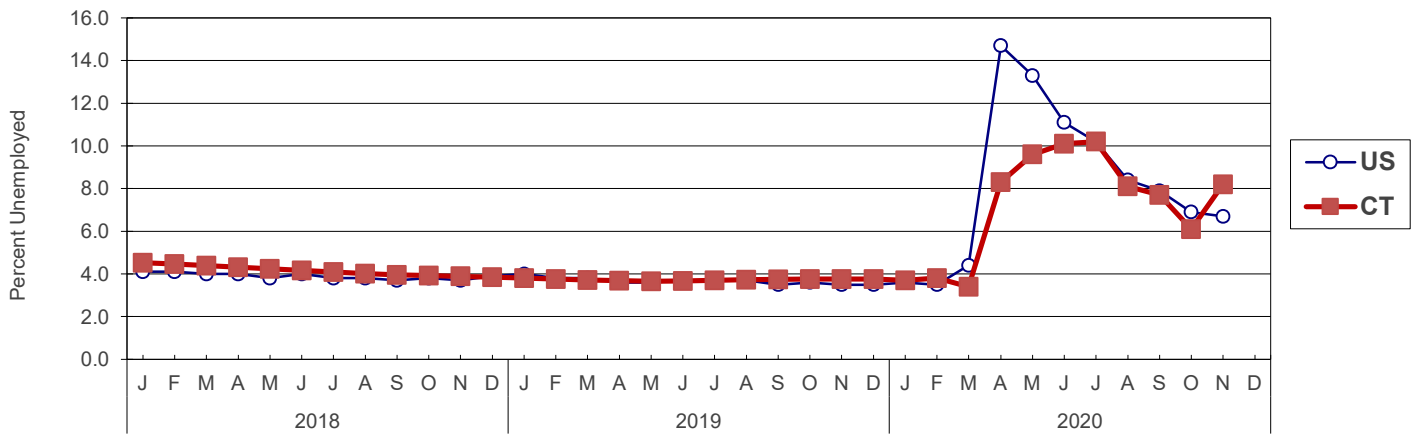
# UNEMPLOYMENT

## Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

### CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	Nov 2020 P		Nov 2019 R		Change		Oct 2020 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>								
Unemployed	154,600	8.2	72,400	3.8	82,200	4.4	112,700	6.1
Labor Force	1,885,800		1,926,900		-41,100		1,848,100	
<b>UNITED STATES</b>								
Unemployed	10,735,000	6.7	5,811,000	3.5	4,924,000	3.2	11,061,000	6.9
Labor Force	160,467,000		164,347,000		-3,880,000		160,867,000	

### U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2018 - 2020



### LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Nov 2020 P		Nov 2019 R		Change		Oct 2020 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	36,100	8.0	15,600	3.3	20,500	4.7	27,100	6.1
Danbury	6,900	6.6	2,900	2.7	4,000	3.9	5,200	5.1
Danielson-Northeast*	3,000	7.1	1,400	3.3	1,600	3.8	2,200	5.2
Worcester NECTA	3,000	7.2	1,400	3.3	1,600	3.9	2,100	5.3
Hampton	100	4.8	100	2.6	0	2.2	100	3.7
Enfield	3,400	7.1	1,600	3.1	1,800	4.0	2,500	5.3
Hartford	47,300	7.5	20,700	3.3	26,600	4.2	34,600	5.6
New Haven	24,400	7.4	10,500	3.2	13,900	4.2	17,700	5.5
Norwich-New London	12,000	8.7	4,600	3.2	7,400	5.5	9,200	6.7
Torrington-Northwest**	3,200	6.8	1,400	2.9	1,800	3.9	2,300	4.9
Torrington NECTA	2,100	8.1	900	3.4	1,200	4.7	1,500	5.9
Litchfield	1,100	5.1	500	2.3	600	2.8	700	3.7
Waterbury	10,000	9.2	4,500	4.0	5,500	5.2	7,400	6.9
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>	<b>145,200</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>62,800</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>82,400</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>107,200</b>	<b>5.8</b>
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>10,264,000</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>5,441,000</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>4,823,000</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>10,620,000</b>	<b>6.6</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