



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research

Danté Bartolomeo, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 2023 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 3.6%

US Unemployment Rate = 3.7%

Connecticut adds 500 jobs in November; jobless rate at 3.6%

WETHERSFIELD, December 21, 2023 – Nonfarm payroll jobs in Connecticut increased 500 (0.03%) in November 2023 to a level of 1,698,900. The state’s unemployment rate ticked up to 3.6%, just off post-COVID lows (preliminary, seasonally adjusted data). Connecticut’s nonfarm industry employment is 24,300 (1.5%) positions higher than year-ago levels. The state built on its fully recovered job status to **100.5%** (290,500) of the 289,100 nonagricultural jobs lost during the March-April 2020 COVID lockdown. The preliminary October 2023 gain of 3,700 positions was revised slightly lower by 300 jobs to a still solid 3,400 jobs increase. Connecticut’s November unemployment rate is lower by four-tenths of a percentage point from the 4.0% rate calculated a year ago. *The CT Labor Situation represents labor statistics from two monthly surveys (residential and worksites) produced by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in cooperation with the states.*

“While November gains were smaller than in recent months, job growth in 2023 has been slightly faster than the solid pace set in 2022,” said Patrick Flaherty, Director of the Office of Research at the Connecticut Department of Labor. “A wide range of industries added jobs in November while declines were largely concentrated in the Administrative & Support Services industry in the Professional and Business Services *supersector*. As long as the nation continues to avoid a recession, Connecticut is well-positioned for balanced growth in 2024.”

Connecticut’s private sector employment decreased a small 300 (-0.02%) positions in November 2023 to 1,465,800 but is higher by 20,700 jobs (1.4%) from the November 2022 level. The state’s private sector has fully recovered (101.9%) from the April 2020 COVID employment lockdown low point. October’s preliminary private sector job gain of 3,600 was revised down by 900 jobs to a 2,700 jobs increase. The **government** *supersector* was higher by 800 jobs (0.3%) last month to a level of 233,100 jobs. The entire government sector employment in the state is 3,600 positions (1.6%) higher than year-ago levels. The public sector is now 84.4% recovered from the COVID April 2020 employment lockdown trough. October’s government gain was revised up by 600 to 700 (0.3%) from the previously reported 100 job gain. *Connecticut’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.*

Four of the ten major industry *supersectors* added jobs in November 2023, while five declined, and the Other Services *supersector* was unchanged.

The five industry *supersectors* that increased employment or were unchanged in November 2023 included:

Increasing Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Increase	Percent Change	November 2023 Employment
Education & Health Services	+1,000	0.3%	358,600
Leisure & Hospitality	+800	0.5%	154,800
Government	+800	0.3%	233,100
Manufacturing	+300	0.2%	158,400
Other Services	unchanged	0.0%	62,800

The five industry *supersectors* that decreased jobs in November 2023 were:

Decreasing Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Decrease	Percent Change	November 2023 Employment
Professional & Business Services	-1,200	-0.5%	221,900
Financial Activities	-500	-0.4%	113,800
Information	-300	-0.9%	31,600
Construction & Mining	-200	-0.3%	61,700
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	-200	-0.1%	302,200

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Two of the six major Connecticut **LMAs** that are seasonally adjusted by the BLS put out nonfarm employment increases in November 2023, while four posted declines. The **New Haven LMA** (0.5%, 308,100) led in numerical and percentage gains adding 1,600 and the **Norwich-New London-Westerly LMA** (0.3%, 127,500) chipped in another 400 positions. The largest **Hartford LMA** (-0.1%, 578,000) lost 600 jobs while the **Waterbury LMA** (-0.4%, 67,900) and the **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (-0.1%, 406,000) decreased 300 jobs each. The **Danbury LMA** (-0.3%, 76,600) decreased 200 positions 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 November 2023 **private sector** workweek, *not seasonally adjusted*, averaged 33.5 hours. This is two-tenths of an hour lower (-0.6%) than the November 2022 average of 33.7 hours. Average hourly earnings at \$36.64 in November 2023, *not seasonally adjusted*, were up by \$1.60 (4.6%) from the November 2022 estimate of \$35.04. The consequent November 2023 private sector weekly wage averaged \$1,227.44, higher by \$46.59 (3.9%) from a year ago. The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, *not seasonally adjusted*) for November 2023 was up 3.1% from a year ago.

Note: 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 November 2023 unemployment rate for Connecticut was estimated by the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics program (LAUS) to be **3.6%** (seasonally adjusted). This is higher by one-tenth of a percentage point over-the-month but is down four-tenths of one percent compared to the November 2022 level of 4.0%. This is just off the 3.5% rate that was the post-COVID low for the state. The U.S. unemployment rate for November 2023 was 3.7%, down two-tenths from the October 2023 rate of 3.9% but a little higher over-the-year from the U.S. jobless rate of 3.6% in November 2022. The CT jobless rate continues to be below the US rate again this month (3.6% CT compared to 3.7% US).

Average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers (AWIC) in Connecticut in November 2023 were 2,885, *not seasonally adjusted*. The twelve-month moving average was 4,033 per week through November 2023, lower by 10 (-0.2%) from the twelve months ending October 2023 (4,043) but higher by 158 (4.1%) than the average weekly count of 3,875 for the twelve months ending in November 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, January 22, 2024
(Preliminary December 2023 data)

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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*

	November 2023 P	October 2023 R	September 2023	August 2023	November 2022	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,698,900	1,698,400	1,695,000	1,691,300	1,674,600	500	0.0%	24,300	1.5%
Total Private	1,465,800	1,466,100	1,463,400	1,461,700	1,445,100	-300	0.0%	20,700	1.4%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	500	500	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	61,200	61,400	60,600	61,600	61,500	-200	-0.3%	-300	-0.5%
Manufacturing	158,400	158,100	158,800	157,800	158,800	300	0.2%	-400	-0.3%
<i>Durable Goods</i>	123,600	123,100	123,800	122,900	124,100	500	0.4%	-500	-0.4%
<i>Nondurable Goods</i>	34,800	35,000	35,000	34,900	34,700	-200	-0.6%	100	0.3%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	302,200	302,400	300,000	300,100	294,700	-200	-0.1%	7,500	2.5%
<i>Wholesale</i>	64,400	64,500	63,600	63,200	60,700	-100	-0.2%	3,700	6.1%
<i>Retail</i>	165,800	166,200	166,200	166,400	166,000	-400	-0.2%	-200	-0.1%
<i>Transp, Warehousing & Utilities</i>	72,000	71,700	70,200	70,500	68,000	300	0.4%	4,000	5.9%
Information	31,600	31,900	31,700	31,600	31,500	-300	-0.9%	100	0.3%
Financial Activities	113,800	114,300	114,700	114,700	117,200	-500	-0.4%	-3,400	-2.9%
<i>Finance & Insurance</i>	94,700	95,300	95,700	95,600	97,700	-600	-0.6%	-3,000	-3.1%
<i>Real Estate, Rental & Leasing</i>	19,100	19,000	19,000	19,100	19,500	100	0.5%	-400	-2.1%
Professional & Business Services	221,900	223,100	223,600	223,800	220,900	-1,200	-0.5%	1,000	0.5%
<i>Prof, Scientific & Tech Services</i>	103,000	102,600	102,700	102,800	101,100	400	0.4%	1,900	1.9%
<i>Management of Companies</i>	31,300	31,100	31,200	31,200	30,800	200	0.6%	500	1.6%
<i>Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv</i>	87,600	89,400	89,700	89,800	89,000	-1,800	-2.0%	-1,400	-1.6%
Educational & Health Services	358,600	357,600	356,100	355,300	346,100	1,000	0.3%	12,500	3.6%
<i>Educational Services</i>	73,000	72,600	72,500	72,300	70,300	400	0.6%	2,700	3.8%
<i>Health Care & Social Assistance</i>	285,600	285,000	283,600	283,000	275,800	600	0.2%	9,800	3.6%
Leisure and Hospitality	154,800	154,000	155,100	155,500	152,200	800	0.5%	2,600	1.7%
<i>Arts, Entertainment & Recreation</i>	31,000	30,300	30,600	31,000	27,300	700	2.3%	3,700	13.6%
<i>Accommodation & Food Services</i>	123,800	123,700	124,500	124,500	124,900	100	0.1%	-1,100	-0.9%
Other Services	62,800	62,800	62,300	60,800	61,700	0	0.0%	1,100	1.8%
Government**	233,100	232,300	231,600	229,600	229,500	800	0.3%	3,600	1.6%
UNITED STATES	157,087,000	156,888,000	156,738,000	156,476,000	154,296,000	199,000	0.1%	2,791,000	1.8%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

<i>Seasonally Adjusted data</i>	November 2023 P	October 2023 R	September 2023	August 2023	November 2022	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	406,000	406,300	406,500	407,800	401,400	-300	-0.1%	4,600	1.1%
Danbury	76,600	76,800	77,000	77,200	76,900	-200	-0.3%	-300	-0.4%
Hartford	578,000	578,600	577,500	578,100	573,900	-600	-0.1%	4,100	0.7%
New Haven	308,100	306,500	306,200	305,200	299,700	1,600	0.5%	8,400	2.8%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	127,500	127,100	126,700	126,500	124,700	400	0.3%	2,800	2.2%
Waterbury	67,900	68,200	68,000	67,700	66,600	-300	-0.4%	1,300	2.0%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated - not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	43,400	43,300	43,100	42,800	42,700	100	0.2%	700	1.6%
Torrington-Northwest	33,100	33,200	33,200	33,400	33,100	-100	-0.3%	0	0.0%
Danielson-Northeast	27,800	27,600	27,500	27,400	27,400	200	0.7%	400	1.5%

* 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.

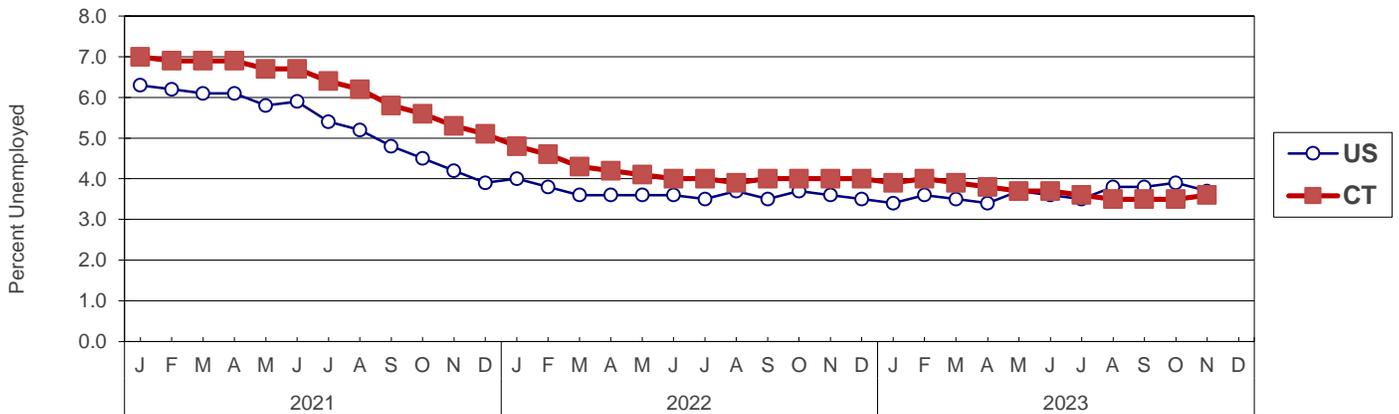
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	Nov 2023 P		Nov 2022 R		Change		Oct 2023 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	67,800	3.6	76,600	4.0	-8,800	-0.4	65,700	3.5
Labor Force	1,900,100		1,913,700		-13,600		1,899,000	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	6,291,000	3.7	6,000,000	3.6	291,000	0.1	6,506,000	3.9
Labor Force	168,260,000		164,527,000		3,733,000		167,728,000	

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



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Nov 2023 P		Nov 2022 R		Change		Oct 2023 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	17,400	3.8	16,600	3.6	800	0.2	16,900	3.6
Danbury	3,300	3.2	3,200	3.0	100	0.2	3,200	3.0
Danielson-Northeast*	1,400	3.3	1,500	3.3	-100	0.0	1,400	3.3
Worcester NECTA	1,400	3.3	1,400	3.4	0	-0.1	1,400	3.3
Hampton	100	2.5	100	2.9	0	-0.4	100	2.5
Enfield	1,600	3.1	1,600	3.2	0	-0.1	1,500	3.0
Hartford	21,300	3.4	21,200	3.4	100	0.0	20,100	3.3
New Haven	11,100	3.3	11,000	3.2	100	0.1	10,700	3.1
Norwich-New London	4,600	3.2	4,700	3.4	-100	-0.2	4,300	3.1
Torrington-Northwest**	1,400	3.0	1,500	3.1	-100	-0.1	1,300	2.8
Torrington NECTA	900	3.5	900	3.6	0	-0.1	800	3.3
Litchfield	500	2.4	600	2.6	-100	-0.2	500	2.3
Waterbury	4,600	4.2	4,500	4.1	100	0.1	4,600	4.1
CONNECTICUT	66,500	3.5	65,300	3.4	1,200	0.1	63,700	3.3
UNITED STATES	5,827,000	3.5	5,523,000	3.4	304,000	0.1	6,098,000	3.6

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

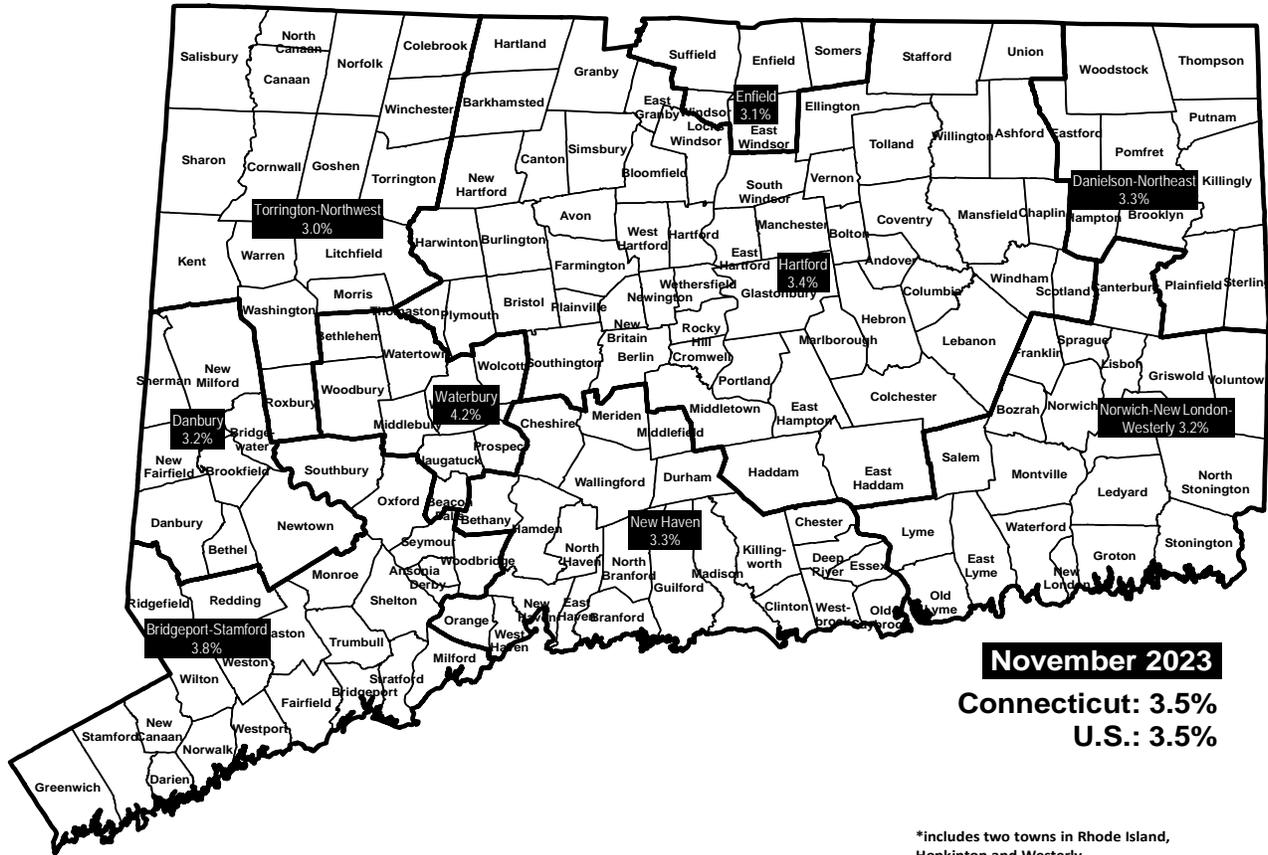
Labor force data included in this publication are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

* 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			
	Nov. 2023 P	Nov. 2022	Change over Yr.	Oct. 2023 R	Nov. 2023 P	Nov. 2022	Change over Yr.	Oct. 2023 R	Nov. 2023 P	Nov. 2022	Change over Yr.	Oct. 2023 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,227.44	\$1,180.85	\$46.59	\$1,244.18	33.5	33.7	-0.2	33.8	\$36.64	\$35.04	\$1.60	\$36.81
Manufacturing* Production Workers	\$1,177.50	\$1,188.70	-\$11.20	\$1,175.85	39.7	41.9	-2.2	39.9	\$29.66	\$28.37	\$1.29	\$29.47

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

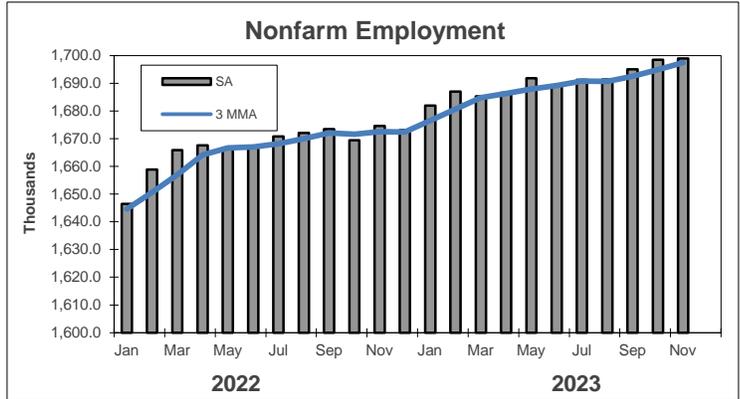
P = Preliminary R = Revised

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

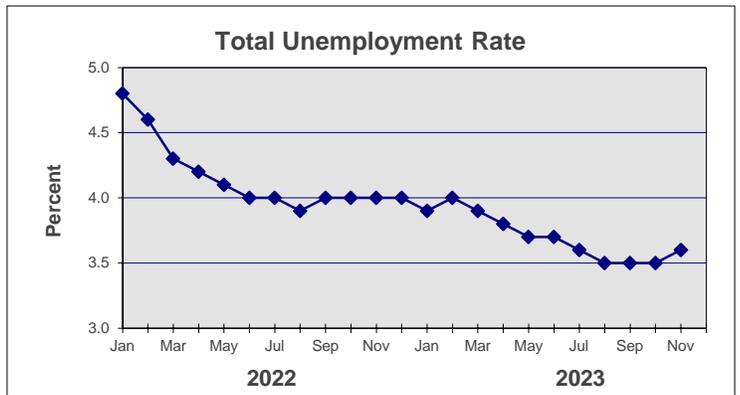
TRENDS

Seasonally Adjusted

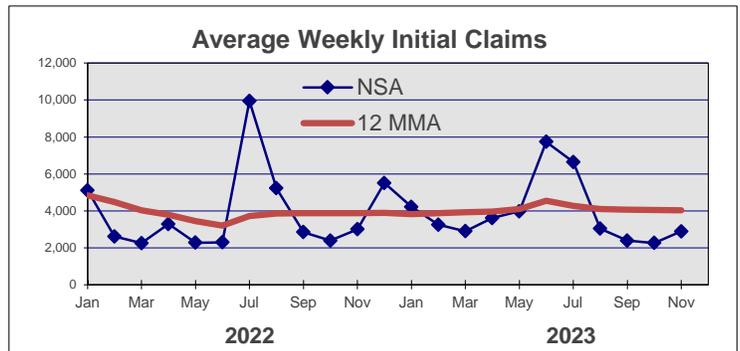
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2022		
Jan	1,646.5	4.8
Feb	1,658.8	4.6
Mar	1,665.9	4.3
Apr	1,667.6	4.2
May	1,666.6	4.1
Jun	1,666.9	4.0
Jul	1,670.8	4.0
Aug	1,672.1	3.9
Sep	1,673.4	4.0
Oct	1,669.4	4.0
Nov	1,674.6	4.0
Dec	1,673.1	4.0



2023		
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	3.7
Jul	1,691.2	3.6
Aug	1,691.3	3.5
Sep	1,695.0	3.5
Oct	1,698.4 R	3.5 R
Nov	1,698.9 P	3.6 P
Dec		



	NSA Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2022		
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



2023		
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
Jul	6,646	33.5
Aug	3,035	33.3
Sep	2,387	33.4
Oct	2,253	33.8 R
Nov	2,885	33.5 P
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute