



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research

Danté Bartolomeo, Interim Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2021 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 6.8%

US Unemployment Rate = 4.8%

Connecticut jobless rate falls as employment recovery continues (+4,700)

WETHERSFIELD, October 21, 2021 – Connecticut employment gains were estimated at 4,700 (0.3%) for September 2021 (seasonally adjusted). Connecticut nonfarm jobs are now 40,500 (2.6%) positions higher than the September 2020 job levels at 1,609,700. This is the ninth consecutive monthly gain in 2021. Connecticut has now recovered 70.4% (205,800) of the 292,400 positions lost in the March and April 2020 COVID lockdown period. August 2021 job gains were revised slightly lower by 300 to a 3,000 (0.2%) gain. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) produces these monthly statewide industry job estimates through the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program from a sample of businesses in the state.

“Connecticut gained jobs in September, building on the strong gains seen over the summer,” said Patrick Flaherty, Director of the Office of Research at the Connecticut Department of Labor. “The unemployment rate has fallen in six of the last seven months, and September’s decline came as the labor force expanded and the number of unemployed fell by more than 6,000.”

Private sector employment improved by 4,900 jobs (0.4%) to 1,385,300 in September 2021 – now up 41,000 jobs (3.1%) from September 2020. The **government supersector** was just slightly lower by 200 jobs (-0.1%) in September to a level of 224,400. This is 500 (-0.2%) positions lower than September 2020. Year-ago federal government job levels were temporarily bolstered from the Census jobs at that time. The government *supersector* includes all federal, state, and local employment, including public education and Native American casino employment located on tribal reservation land.

Seven of the ten major industry *supersectors* produced employment gains while three decreased in September 2021.

Seven increasing industry *supersectors* last month included:

Increasing Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Increase	Percent Change	September 2021 Employment
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	+3,600	1.3%	291,000
Construction & Mining	+1,700	2.9%	59,800
Education & Health Services	+1,100	0.3%	332,200
Manufacturing	+400	0.3%	153,000
Information	+300	1.1%	27,900
Leisure & Hospitality	+200	0.2%	133,600
Financial Activities	+100	0.1%	117,900

Three industry *supersectors* declined in September 2021:

Declining Sectors			
Industry Sector	Amount of Decrease	Percent Change	September 2021 Employment
Other Services	-1,400	-2.3%	59,600
Professional & Business Services	-1,100	-0.5%	210,300
Government	-200	-0.1%	224,400

In the Trade, Transportation & Utilities *supersector*, Wholesale Trade and Transportation & Warehousing added 1,900 and 1,300 jobs respectively. In Education & Health Services, Health Care & Social Assistance rose 900 with Educational Services up 200.

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Five out of the six Connecticut **LMAs**, that are seasonally adjusted by the BLS, had employment gains in September 2021, with just one regional labor market posting a small decline. The **Hartford LMA** (0.8%, 555,000) posted the largest monthly gain of 4,400. The **Norwich-New London-Westerly LMA** (2.9%, 119,000) was next, adding 3,300 jobs. The **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (0.5%, 377,900) added 2,000 positions, while the **New Haven LMA** (0.4%, 289,800) increased employment by 1,000. The **Danbury LMA** was also higher by 400 jobs (0.6%, 73,400). The **Waterbury LMA** declined slightly (-200, -0.3%, 65,600).

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 September 2021 **private sector** workweek, not seasonally adjusted, averaged 34.1 hours - this is unchanged from the September 2020 level (0.0%, 34.1). Average hourly earnings at \$33.93, not seasonally adjusted, were higher by just \$0.18 (0.05%) from the September 2020 estimate of \$33.75. The resultant September 2021 private sector weekly wage averaged \$1,157.01, up only \$6.13 from a year ago (0.05%). The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in September 2021 was up 5.4% from September 2020. *Current all-employee private sector hours and earnings estimates can be volatile due to fluctuating sample responses.*

Labor Force Data (residential household survey)

The September 2021 unemployment rate for Connecticut was estimated by the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics program (LAUS) to be **6.8%** (seasonally adjusted), down by 0.4 percentage point from the August 2021 level of 7.2%. The Connecticut unemployment rate was 8.3% in September 2020. The U.S. jobless rate in September 2021 was 4.8%, down four-tenths of a percentage point from the August 2021 rate of 5.2% and below the 7.8% year-ago U.S. unemployment rate.

Unemployment claims for first-time filers (seasonally adjusted) in Connecticut were an average of 3,730 per week in September 2021, down 969 (-20.6%) from the August 2021 (4,699) level and much lower by 3,678 claims (-49.6%) from the average weekly count of 7,408 in September 2020. This level of monthly average weekly initial claims is the lowest in the state since February 2020 (3,243), 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: Thursday, November 18, 2021
(preliminary October 2021 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

	September 2021 P	August 2021 R	July 2021	J/une 2021	September 2020	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,609,700	1,605,000	1,602,000	1,590,900	1,569,200	4,700	0.3%	40,500	2.6%
Total Private	1,385,300	1,380,400	1,374,200	1,366,100	1,344,300	4,900	0.4%	41,000	3.0%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	500	500	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	59,300	57,600	56,700	55,400	57,200	1,700	3.0%	2,100	3.7%
Manufacturing	153,000	152,600	151,700	151,300	152,000	400	0.3%	1,000	0.7%
Durable Goods	120,000	119,900	118,800	119,000	120,200	100	0.1%	-200	-0.2%
Nondurable Goods	33,000	32,700	32,900	32,300	31,800	300	0.9%	1,200	3.8%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	291,000	287,400	287,300	285,400	282,800	3,600	1.3%	8,200	2.9%
Wholesale	56,600	54,700	54,900	53,900	55,900	1,900	3.5%	700	1.3%
Retail	164,900	164,500	164,800	164,500	163,900	400	0.2%	1,000	0.6%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	69,500	68,200	67,600	67,000	63,000	1,300	1.9%	6,500	10.3%
Information	27,900	27,600	27,600	27,200	28,600	300	1.1%	-700	-2.4%
Financial Activities	117,900	117,800	117,100	117,400	119,100	100	0.1%	-1,200	-1.0%
Finance & Insurance	100,100	100,100	99,800	99,800	100,800	0	0.0%	-700	-0.7%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	17,800	17,700	17,300	17,600	18,300	100	0.6%	-500	-2.7%
Professional & Business Services	210,300	211,400	209,500	208,000	203,200	-1,100	-0.5%	7,100	3.5%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	95,100	95,000	94,100	93,900	91,300	100	0.1%	3,800	4.2%
Management of Companies	32,500	32,800	32,600	32,400	32,200	-300	-0.9%	300	0.9%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	82,700	83,600	82,800	81,700	79,700	-900	-1.1%	3,000	3.8%
Educational & Health Services	332,200	331,100	331,700	329,700	323,400	1,100	0.3%	8,800	2.7%
Educational Services	66,300	66,100	65,900	65,700	61,900	200	0.3%	4,400	7.1%
Health Care & Social Assistance	265,900	265,000	265,800	264,000	261,500	900	0.3%	4,400	1.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	133,600	133,400	131,600	129,800	120,700	200	0.1%	12,900	10.7%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	21,900	21,900	21,400	21,700	20,600	0	0.0%	1,300	6.3%
Accommodation & Food Services	111,700	111,500	110,200	108,100	100,100	200	0.2%	11,600	11.6%
Other Services	59,600	61,000	60,500	61,400	56,800	-1,400	-2.3%	2,800	4.9%
Government**	224,400	224,600	227,800	224,800	224,900	-200	-0.1%	-500	-0.2%
UNITED STATES	147,553,000	147,359,000	146,993,000	145,902,000	141,865,000	194,000	0.1%	5,688,000	4.0%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	September 2021 P	August 2021 R	July 2021	J/une 2021	September 2020	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	377,900	375,900	373,000	373,900	370,000	2,000	0.5%	7,900	2.1%
Danbury	73,400	73,000	72,800	72,600	71,700	400	0.5%	1,700	2.4%
Hartford	555,000	550,600	548,200	546,800	546,900	4,400	0.8%	8,100	1.5%
New Haven	289,800	288,800	288,000	283,900	280,900	1,000	0.3%	8,900	3.2%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	119,000	115,700	115,400	114,700	114,000	3,300	2.9%	5,000	4.4%
Waterbury	65,600	65,800	65,500	65,600	63,400	-200	-0.3%	2,200	3.5%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	42,000	41,600	41,700	41,800	41,500	400	1.0%	500	1.2%
Torrington-Northwest	31,300	31,000	31,400	31,500	30,800	300	1.0%	500	1.6%
Danielson-Northeast	26,100	25,800	25,800	25,900	25,300	300	1.2%	800	3.2%

* 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.

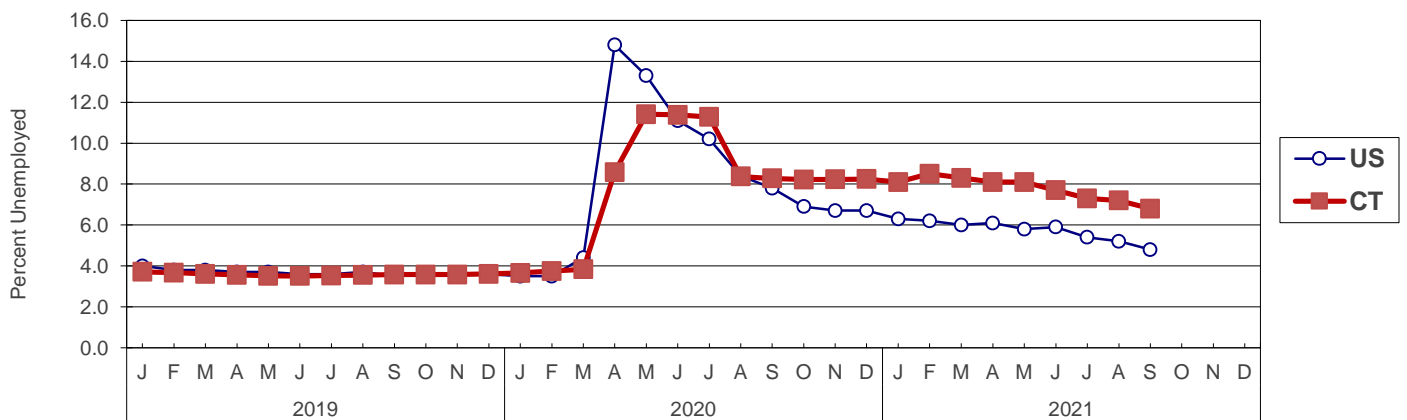
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	Sep 2021 P		Sep 2020 R		Change		Aug 2021 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	123,400	6.8	152,600	8.3	-29,200	-1.5	129,900	7.2
Labor Force	1,812,100		1,844,100		-32,000		1,810,200	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	7,674,000	4.8	12,535,000	7.8	-4,861,000	-3.0	8,384,000	5.2
Labor Force	161,354,000		160,078,000		1,276,000		161,537,000	

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



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Sep 2021 P		Sep 2020 R		Change		Aug 2021 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	24,400	5.6	37,900	8.5	-13,500	-2.9	27,200	6.2
Danbury	4,400	4.4	7,400	7.3	-3,000	-2.9	5,100	5.1
Danielson-Northeast*	2,100	5.0	3,100	7.6	-1,000	-2.6	2,300	5.6
Worcester NECTA	2,000	5.1	3,000	7.7	-1,000	-2.6	2,300	5.7
Hampton	100	4.2	100	5.5	0	-1.3	100	4.5
Enfield	2,300	4.9	3,500	7.4	-1,200	-2.5	2,500	5.4
Hartford	32,000	5.4	48,500	8.0	-16,500	-2.6	36,400	6.2
New Haven	16,300	5.1	24,800	7.6	-8,500	-2.5	18,400	5.8
Norwich-New London	7,700	5.8	13,400	9.9	-5,700	-4.1	8,700	6.6
Torrington-Northwest**	2,100	4.7	3,100	6.8	-1,000	-2.1	2,400	5.4
Torrington NECTA	1,400	5.6	2,100	8.2	-700	-2.6	1,600	6.5
Litchfield	700	3.5	1,000	5.0	-300	-1.5	800	4.0
Waterbury	7,100	6.6	10,400	9.5	-3,300	-2.9	8,000	7.5
CONNECTICUT	97,800	5.4	150,500	8.2	-52,700	-2.8	110,200	6.1
UNITED STATES	7,366,000	4.6	12,277,000	7.7	-4,911,000	-3.1	8,556,000	5.3

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

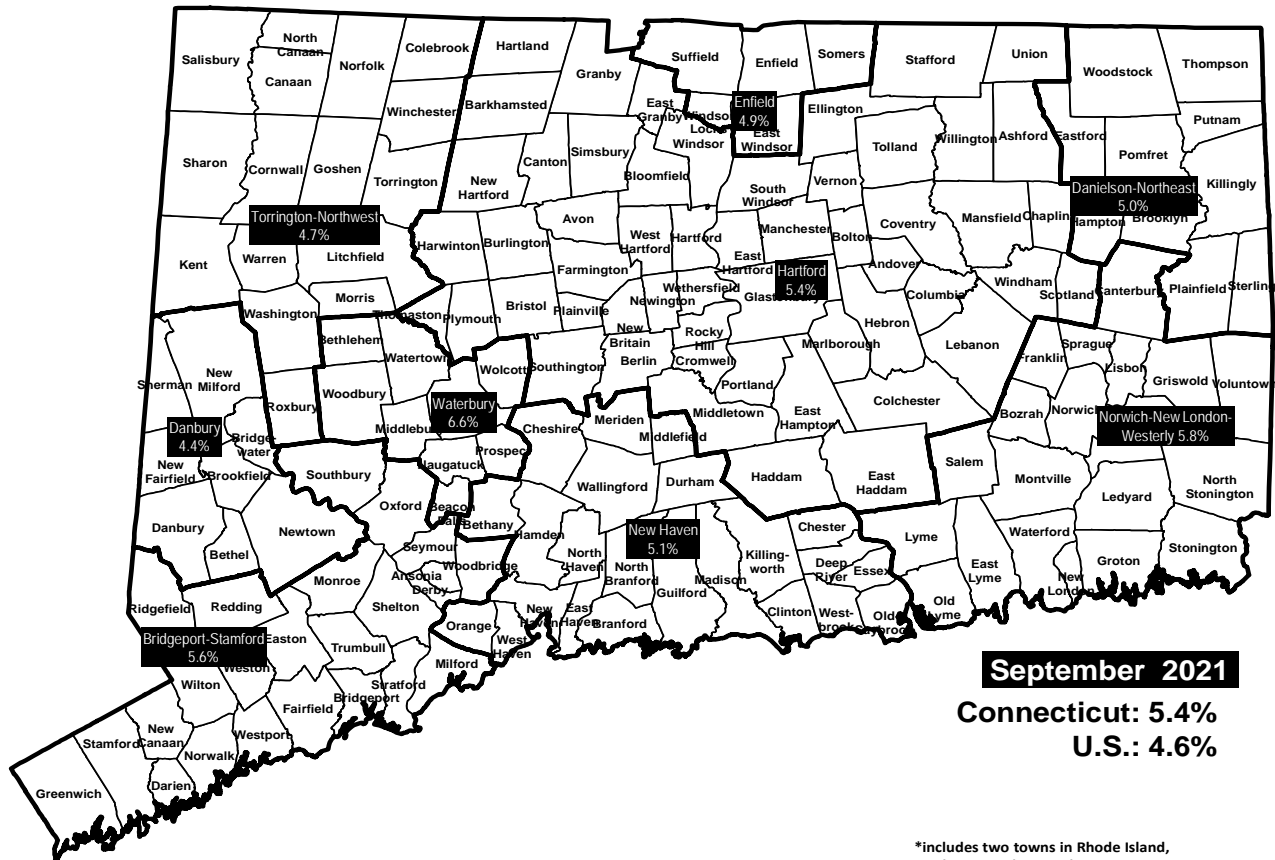
Labor force data included in this publication are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

* 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



*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			
	Sept. 2021 P	Sept. 2020	Change over Yr.	Aug. 2021 R	Sept. 2021 P	Sept. 2020	Change over Yr.	Aug. 2021 R	Sept. 2021 P	Sept. 2020	Change over Yr.	Aug. 2021 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,157.01	\$1,150.88	\$6.13	\$1,163.80	34.1	34.1	0.0	34.3	\$33.93	\$33.75	\$0.18	\$33.93
Manufacturing* Production Workers	\$1,098.47	\$1,199.02	-\$100.55	\$1,088.49	39.4	40.7	-1.3	39.0	\$27.88	\$29.46	-\$1.58	\$27.91

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

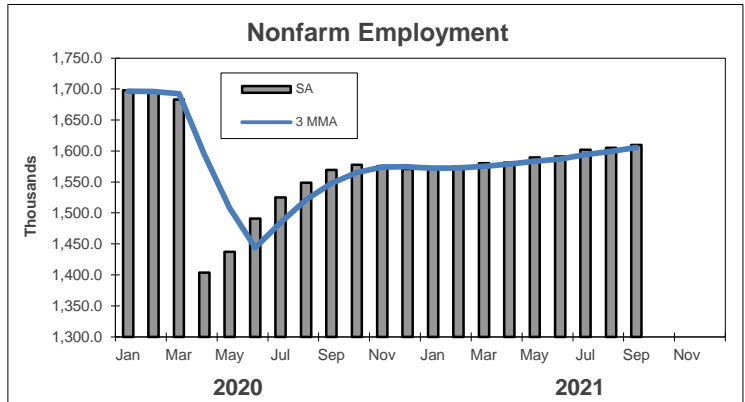
P = Preliminary R = Revised

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

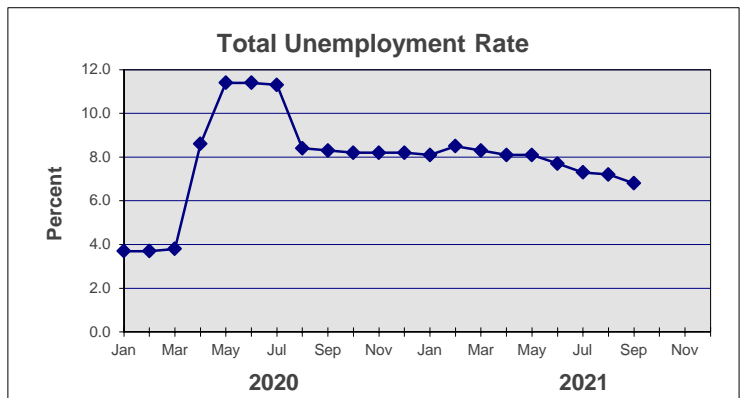
TRENDS

Seasonally Adjusted

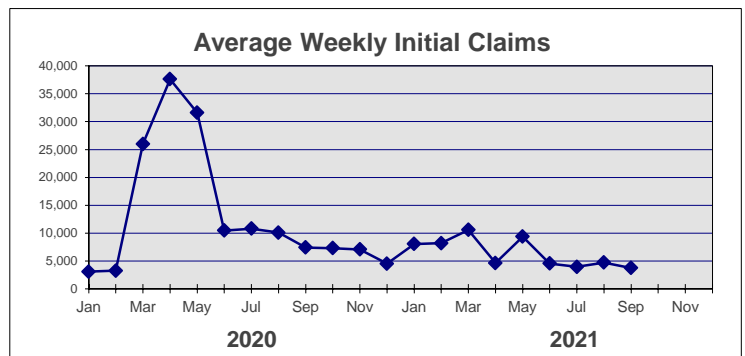
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2020		
Jan	1,698.0	3.7
Feb	1,696.3	3.7
Mar	1,683.3	3.8
Apr	1,403.9	8.6
May	1,437.5	11.4
Jun	1,490.9	11.4
Jul	1,525.0	11.3
Aug	1,549.0	8.4
Sep	1,569.2	8.3
Oct	1,577.7	8.2
Nov	1,575.4	8.2
Dec	1,570.8	8.2



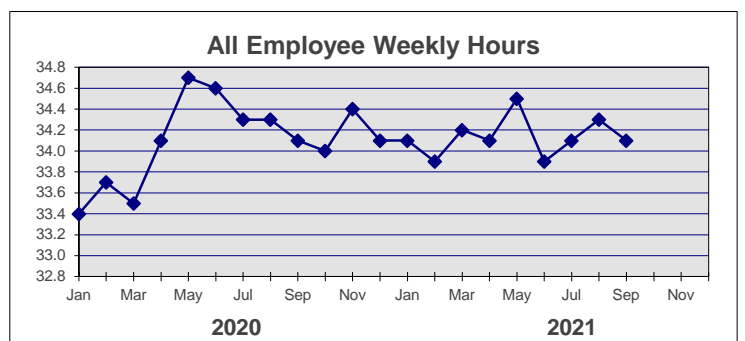
2021		
Jan	1,571.8	8.1
Feb	1,574.9	8.5
Mar	1,580.1	8.3
Apr	1,581.3	8.1
May	1,589.4	8.1
Jun	1,590.9	7.7
Jul	1,602.0	7.3
Aug	1,605.0 R	7.2 R
Sep	1,609.7 P	6.8 P
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



	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 R
Sep	3,700	34.1 P
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute