

CONNECTICUT

BUSINESS EMPLOYMENT CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN THE MEDIA

This publication lists start-ups, expansions, staff reductions, and layoffs reported by the media, both current and future. The report provides company name, the number of workers involved, date of the action, the principal product or service of the company, a brief synopsis of the action, and the source and date of the media article.

The Office of Research does not disclose information about individual companies which it collects as part of its statistical programs. This report is based only on information that has been publicly reported through the media for use by jobseekers, public policy makers, economic development professionals, and anyone with an interest in the Connecticut economy. While the Office of Research regularly monitors the media for announcement of business changes, some announcements may have been missed.

In addition to reports in the media, companies may be required to report on the WARN Act. Information about the WARN act is available here: <https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/progsupt/bussrvce/rrwarn.htm>. A listing of WARN notices is available here: <https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/progsupt/bussrvce/warnreports/warnreports.htm>. Information about the Department of Labor’s Rapid Response Unit is available here: <https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/progsupt/bussrvce/rrt.htm>.

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WARN NOTICES FOR 2024

<https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/progsupt/bussrvce/warnreports/warn2024.htm>



Acknowledgement: [Nestor Velez](#) has prepared this report for publication.

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN NOVEMBER 2024

- [Playa Bowls opens new location in Manchester shopping plaza](#)
- [Lazy Sister, a new Chinese restaurant, replaces Enchanted Szechuan in Norwalk](#)
- [L.L.Bean Clearance Center opens in Southington](#)
- [Some CT school districts are still looking to hire hundreds of educators over a month into year](#)
- ['American dream:' Family-owned business opens new Dunkin' store in Stamford](#)
- [Chase bank to open first branch in Bloomfield this week: 'A great location'](#)
- [Meriden's former Avanti to be sold to Red Fox restaurateur, mayor says](#)
- [TJ's Burritos opens its second Connecticut location in Bloomfield](#)
- [Late-night deli, New York Bites, to come to Stamford's Bedford Street](#)
- [Raising Cane's to open new location in Manchester](#)
- [Popular grocery chain with unique store-branded items confirms plan to open 10th location in CT](#)
- [Great Wolf Lodge announces new opening date for Connecticut location, new waterpark rides](#)
- [Himalaya Sono Indian restaurant to open on Washington Street in Norwalk in January](#)
- [Discount grocer Aldi to open new store in Plainville next month](#)

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN OCTOBER 2024

- [CT's 1st Wegmans 'on schedule' to open in Norwalk next summer, hiring underway with in-person event](#)
- [Retail 101 opens discount warehouse in Shelton after closing Naugatuck location](#)
- [CT's Square Peg Pizzeria announces first out-of-state location, plus new restaurants in Columbia and Shelton](#)
- [Former West Hartford Center CVS sells for \\$5.25 million, will become 'upscale' restaurant](#)

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN SEPTEMBER 2024

- ['A great opportunity': Chase bank opens its first branch in New Britain](#)
- [Raising Cane's to open second CT location in Simsbury next month](#)
- [Party City set to return by end of year to Ridgeway Center in Stamford: 'A good fit'](#)
- [Dollar General opens new CT location with grand opening event, giveaways](#)
- [Planet Fitness to open New Milford location in former TJ Maxx space next summer](#)
- [These large employers are hiring right now in Connecticut](#)
- [New Peruvian restaurant The Triple Three opens in Hartford](#)
- [Boot Barn might come to Plainville](#)
- [Plans forge ahead for Amazon facility in Waterbury, Naugatuck](#)
- [Vernon plaza showing signs of life with new Peruvian restaurant, pickleball courts coming](#)
- [L.L. Bean in Enfield expected to open in October](#)
- [L.L. Bean to add fourth Connecticut store in Southington, taking over Bob's Stores location](#)
- [CT-born business Element 119 transforms from one-person operation to global player](#)
- [Discount grocer Aldi looks to hire more than 125 new workers in Connecticut, 1,300 nationwide](#)
- ['American dream:' Family-owned business opens new Dunkin' store in Stamford](#)
- [Barnes & Noble to be latest tenant of The Shops at Stone Bridge in Cheshire, plans show](#)
- [Brunch House 1850 in Southbury a Fresh, Upscale Dining Experience](#)
- [Naugatuck and Waterbury residents oppose planned 4-story Amazon logistics facility](#)

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN AUGUST 2024

- [Square Peg Pizzeria opens newest location in Plainville](#)
- [European-style wine bar coming soon to West Hartford Center](#)

- [The first Connecticut Wegmans Food Markets begins hiring full time workers for its Norwalk store.](#)
- [Chipotle Mexican Grill opens in Waterford.](#)
- [Remediated plaza in Plainville to get Jersey Mike's, cannabis retailer, urgent care center](#)
- [Spirit Halloween stores set August opening in Connecticut](#)
- [The first Connecticut Wegmans Food Markets begins hiring full time workers for its Norwalk store.](#)
- [Avelo to serve Bradley Airport in addition to Tweed, adds international flights](#)
- [Opening Date Announced For New Burlington Store In Milford](#)
- [Milford Mall Adds New Retailer To Its Lineup](#)

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN JULY 2024

- [Construction begins on new L.L. Bean location in CT](#)
- [Electric Boat in Groton is hiring another 2,500 people.](#)
- [Five new Chipotle locations coming to CT by end of 2024](#)
- [A CT company is hiring thousands of workers. A coalition wants to broaden job opportunities across state.](#)
- [Some CT restaurants, like Nardelli's and Haven Hot Chicken, have figured out expansion](#)
- [Restoration Hardware opens outlet in Fairfield retail center, taking space of former Bob's Stores](#)
- [Timex moves to Shelton office, stays in Connecticut after selling Middlebury headquarters](#)
- [From P.F. Changs to pickleball, these stores and restaurants expected to open at CT malls soon](#)
- [HNTB expands Rocky Hill office to accommodate 50% increase in staff](#)

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN JUNE 2024

- [Viral bagel shop PopUp Bagels, that's drawn celebrity investors, opens 5th CT spot](#)
- [7 Brew drive-thru coffee shop proposed for site of lshuttered Denny's in Vernon](#)
- [DG Market opens in Thomaston sooner than expected](#)
- [CT bottled water giant to see split headquarters in merger with Florida rival](#)
- [Frank Pepe Pizzeria opens in Stamford](#)

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN MAY 2024

- [Mamajuana Cafe, Kanoon Restaurant expected to open in Waterbury](#)
- [Two more Wingstop locations are coming to Connecticut](#)
- [Burlington's store at Ridgeway Center in Stamford set to open this summer](#)
- [Sonic opens 7th CT location with new drive-thru restaurant in Torrington](#)
- [From Sally's Apizza to 'Arthur Avenue style' Italian deli, SoNo sees a flurry of change with openings, closings](#)
- [Stafford manufacturer to add 124 CT jobs in next seven years](#)
- [Stamford Shake Shack announces May opening date](#)
- [Babies R Us is set to return to Connecticut in three Kohl's stores](#)
- [New Bridgeport grocery store coming to State Street at former fried chicken restaurant site](#)
- [New Puerto Rican restaurant opens in New Britain](#)
- [In this CT town, manufacturing keeps growing. How they're making it work](#)
- [Connecticut-based manufacturer, Whitman Controls, to add up to 30 new workers with \\$4.5 million investment](#)
- [Danbury-based LesserEvil expands snack biz, adds job at New Milford facility](#)
- [Jersey Mike's, cannabis retailer coming](#)

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN APRIL 2024

- [Southington couple opens new mochi donut shop in Plainville](#)
- [Four Dads Pub closes last location; The Bear's Den to open in its Granby space](#)
- [Apple Cinemas closes Waterbury location before opening another at Brass Mill](#)

Center mall

- Sally's Apizza to open 4 more locations in Connecticut
- Big Y to begin hiring for positions at new Middletown grocery store
- New restaurants planned near CT outdoor mall. Does it mean a famous pizza is heading this way?
- PetSmart and T.J. Maxx set to open new stores in Waterbury's largest shopping center

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN MARCH 2024

- New shop to open in long-vacant Wolcott St. location, bringing 40 jobs to Waterbury
- Norwalk's first cannabis dispensary opens on Main Street
- Texas Roadhouse in Cromwell opens Monday
- State launches sports betting at Bridgeport arena
- Aldi 800 store expansion will likely include a few in Connecticut, experts say
- Sayulita, a Glastonbury restaurant serving Mexican-inspired cuisine, is set to open its 2nd location in Essex
- New Milford to welcome new Dairy Queen this summer; serving ice cream and more at Grill and Chill
- Boston-based biotech company Cure Rare Disease relocating to Woodbridge
- Barnes & Noble to open in Meriden shopping center next week
- Waterbury's iconic Drescher's Restaurant reopening, just in time for St. Patrick's

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN FEBRUARY 2024

- Apple Cinemas coming to Brass Mill Center mall
- Foot Locker opens store in Bridgeport, after closing one in Trumbull
- New automated warehouse ramping up for Stop & Shops across CT
- Fairfield toy store with European brands aims to be an alternative to "big-box"
- Electric Boat pres. predicts annual hiring of 5,000 employees for years to come
- East Hartford-based American Eagle Credit Union seeks merger w/ smaller

Hartford credit union

- Alina's Cakes and Cookies expands to Westport after 10 years in Fairfield
- Big Y supermarket eyes mid-May opening in Middletown
- Japanese restaurant moving into former Denny's on Elm Street in Enfield
- New-Haven based drug developer launches IPO
- Shake Shack is looking to open a location on Route 44 in Avon
- Former North Haven construction owner opens latest Hard Hat Tavern in Durham
- Coffee chain Caffè Nero to replace former frozen yogurt shop in West Hartford
- Consumer Cellular opens in Bristol
- New Aldi supermarket is coming to vacant storefront in Plainville
- Restoration Hardware to fill Fairfield space vacated by Bob's Stores closure
- Cava opens in Westport this week, serving Mediterranean fast casual

STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS IN JANUARY 2024

- Iconic chicken chain Raising Cane's opening 3 CT locations
- Six Flags New England announces over 2,000 job opportunities
- Haven Hot Chicken fans line up for Middletown grand opening
- Aldi grocery store continues expansion, set to open its doors in Plainville
- Cozy new CT cafe to be 'another living room' for customers
- Studio 10 salon opens new Berlin location with help from state loan program
- CT reinsurance giant Gen Re expected to open offices in downtown Stamford in 2025
- Texas Roadhouse to open in Cromwell March 18, company says
- Big Y coming to Brookfield, Westport
- The Oliver Cromwell Tavern, a new restaurant and banquet hall, to open in February in Cromwell
- Ecuadorian deli, restaurant, juice bar opens at former Meriden Agway
- PopUp Bagels eyes expansion, could open 100 new locations
- Here are some of the new Starbucks stores opening in Connecticut this year

- [Peruvian restaurant coming to Hartford](#)
- [Target advances Norwalk store plan, replacing Walmart](#)
- [Vernon's third Dollar General, opening this month, designed to maintain town's 'historic character'](#)
- [Green & Tonic opens in Darien, three more coming to Fairfield County this year](#)
- [Egg and Cheese cafe to open second location in Willimantic](#)
- [These businesses are expected to open in Connecticut in 2024](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR NOVEMBER 2024

- [Walgreens to close 1,200 stores across US. How many are stores in Connecticut?](#)
- [TGI Fridays closes last of its restaurants in Connecticut](#)
- [Popular Italian Restaurant In Meriden Prepares To Close: 'We Have Loved Serving You'](#)
- [Stop & Shop closed 5 stores in Connecticut. Here's where](#)
- [American Freight to close 2 stores in Connecticut](#)
- [Crystal Bees in Southington closes its doors](#)
- [After 32 years in Cheshire and 23 years in Hamden, the Bimonte family has closed Mr. B's Pizza](#)
- [Connecticut-based company has laid off 500 employees this year with plans for more](#)
- [Fuel-cell maker HyAxiom planning to lay off nearly 70 employees in East Hartford, South Windsor](#)
- [Middletown retires aging ice skating rink at Veterans Park](#)
- [Carlo's Bakery to close at Mohegan Sun, making way for Sift Bake Shop, A.T.Y Bar & Bonbons](#)
- [Athena seeks to close two more nursing homes, this time in Bristol](#)
- [CVS Health notifies state of layoffs next year](#)
- [Yale New Haven Health outsources recruiting to national staffing firm, 70 jobs cut](#)
- [Margaritas Mexican Restaurant's Mystic location to close in December](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR OCTOBER 2024

- [Here's how many Rite Aids have closed in CT since they filed for bankruptcy in 2023](#)
- [Scooters Bar & Grill in New Milford to close, with a 'heavy heart,' owners say](#)
- [CVS Health job cuts will affect 107 in Connecticut: officials](#)
- [Waterbury nursing home Abbott Terrace Health Center to close, 209 layoffs planned](#)
- [66 Church in Naugatuck set to close after nearly a decade](#)
- [CVS Health to lay off 416 employees tied to Aetna's Hartford headquarters](#)
- [Torrington's Stop & Shop on High Street prepares for Oct. 31 closure; store emptying out](#)
- [Popular gastropub in this CT town is scheduled to close](#)
- [Hologic to close CT facility and lay off 86 workers that make women's health](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

- [Here's how many Rite Aids have closed in CT since they filed for bankruptcy in 2023](#)
- [CT-based company to lay off about 1,000 employees across US](#)
- [J Restaurant and Bar closing after 54 years to make way for hospital expansion in Hartford](#)
- [Windmill Diner in New Milford to close after over 50 years on Danbury Road, owners say](#)
- [Popular South Meriden restaurant to close](#)
- [Couch Potato shuttered at Wallingford cinema a month after opening](#)
- [Despite 30 branch closings in 5 years, Bank of America says it's 'super committed' to Connecticut](#)
- [Nursing home forced to closed after losing federal funding](#)
- [Ocean State Job Lot in Groton to close](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR AUGUST 2024

- [Big Lots to close additional Connecticut stores, nine in total](#)
- [Stamford-based Pitney Bowes sells e-commerce unit. Layoffs could follow](#)
- [CT-based bioscience firm Cara Therapeutics eliminates most of workforce, filing indicates](#)
- [How many employees is Indeed laying off in CT? The number has been secret, but email offers clue](#)
- [Fairfield-based firearms manufacturer Sturm, Ruger reduces workforce; officials unaware](#)
- [LL Flooring chain to close four CT stores as the company files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection](#)
- ['Hard Decision': After 9 Months, Ridgefield Mail Room Closes Doors](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR JULY 2024

- [Indeed plans about 1,000 layoffs, but CT impact unclear](#)
- [Stop & Shop Closing Stores: See list of Connecticut stores closing](#)
- [Big Lots is closing 35-40 stores: Here's how many Connecticut stores are on the list](#)

- [Five Guys in New Milford is shuttered, again: Signs removed, dining room emptied](#)
- [Corner Pug in West Hartford to close in August](#)
- [Rocky Hill restaurateur says deciding to close Rudy's Little Italy was the 'toughest decision'](#)
- [West Hartford home interior business to close, site could become multifamily housing](#)
- ['Sad to go:' Shelton's Taco Co. latest Market Place eatery to close](#)
- [CT-based parent company to shut down Redbox kiosks across country, lay off 1,000 employees](#)
- [Labyrinth Brewing Company in Manchester to close after 6 years](#)
- [Seven years after acquiring Meriden biotech pioneer, Sanofi to close facility and exit CT](#)
- [Bob's Stores confirms store closures, including all 10 Connecticut locations](#)
- [Hooters restaurant in Manchester closes, leaving only one left operating in CT](#)
- [Greenwich-based Chicken Soup for the Soul, which owns Redbox, declares bankruptcy](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR JUNE 2024

- [Walgreens to close 'significant' number of stores across U.S., impact to Connecticut unclear](#)
- [TD Bank to close two Connecticut branches later this year](#)
- [J Restaurant Bar in Hartford is closing after 54 years](#)
- [Red Lobster moves ahead with plans to close North Haven restaurant amid bankruptcy fallout](#)
- [Postal Service plans to cut back on places to process letters, cards in central Connecticut](#)
- [Bob's Stores, EMS file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection following Connecticut store closures](#)
- [Stop & Shop will close 'underperforming stores.' Here's what experts in Connecticut expect to happen](#)

- [Two Trumbull Center restaurants close, another has a new owner](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR MAY 2024

- [Bob's Stores announces layoffs](#)
- [EMS cutting about 150 jobs at Connecticut facility](#)
- [Great Harvest Bread Co. in Vernon is for sale as longtime owners plan to retire](#)
- [Blaming 'endless shrimp' promotion and costs, Red Lobster files for bankruptcy](#)
- [After 20 years in the heart of downtown, the Blissworks Yoga & Healing Arts studio is preparing to shutter its doors for good](#)
- [Indeed to lay off 1,000 employees](#)
- [Hartford's Tisane Euro-Asian Café abruptly closes after two decades of business](#)
- [Wethersfield Diner being forced to close](#)
- [Plymouth School district to eliminate 4 jobs](#)
- [Shelton schools eliminate 8 teachers and 1 custodian to address budget deficit](#)
- [Rue21 to close two Connecticut mall stores after bankruptcy filing](#)
- [Not just Sikorsky: Here are other recent mass layoffs in Connecticut](#)
- [More than 30 Hartford school employees sent lay-off notices](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR APRIL 2024

- [Express files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy announces store closures, possible sale](#)
- [Eli's Orange to close on Sunday after nearly a decade, company announces](#)
- [Hartford Public Schools to cut nearly 400 positions, citing funding issues](#)
- [Sikorsky to lay off hundreds in Connecticut after Army helicopter decision](#)
- [Four Corners Grocery Store is closing after 83 years: 'End of an era'](#)
- [American Steakhouse to close Meriden location after 53 years](#)
- [Fairfield's Small Medium Large Coffee Co. shuts down after 8 months in business](#)
- [Westport's oldest toy store to close in April after 40 years in business](#)
- [Mancuso's Restaurant & Bar in Fairfield to close its doors after nearly 50 years](#)
- [Walgreen Distribution Center in Dayville to close](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR MARCH 2024

- [Leading baked goods company Bimbo Bakeries closes three CT outlet stores](#)
- [Crafts retailer Joann files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy; it has 10 stores in CT](#)
- [Texas Roadhouse in Cromwell opens Monday](#)
- [Berkins Blend Cafe closes one of its Hartford locations](#)
- [Thomas Baxer Music, the last music store in New Britain, closing in May](#)
- [Discount furniture retailer American Freight closes one Connecticut store](#)
- [Ballou's Restaurant & Wine Bar announces closing after 15 years in Guilford](#)
- [Dick's Sporting Goods closing store at Meriden Mall](#)
- [Layoffs coming at fuel-cell maker HyAxiom sited in South Windsor & East Hartford](#)
- [Hartford loses its 'Steam': City Steam Brewery closing March 31](#)
- [Sudden closing of Branford's Chowder Pot leaves customers w/ worthless gift cards](#)
- [Walgreens will lay off hundreds of people; close distribution center](#)
- [Hundreds of Family Dollar stores to close, CT impact unclear](#)
- [Watertown nursing home Trinity Terraces closing](#)
- [Bristol Hospital announces dozens of layoffs, including eliminating 60 positions](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR FEBRUARY 2024

- [Vernon shopping plaza loses another business as Salvation Army closes](#)
- [Bob's Stores to close in Norwalk, but plans to reopen elsewhere in city](#)
- [Rita's Italian Ice closing after 20 years on Queen Street in Southington](#)
- [National bank eyes more CT branch closures](#)
- [Rural CT ice cream shop, The Ice Box, closes its doors amid legal battle with town of Brooklyn](#)
- [Last anchor store in Waterford's Crystal Mall, JCPenney, to close](#)
- [New Haven biotech firm cuts 45 percent of its workforce](#)
- [Newtown manufacturing facility closing in April, eliminating 71 jobs](#)
- [Banking giant Wells Fargo plans to close another Connecticut branch in May](#)

- [Berlin collectibles store Clutch Cards closes without issuing refunds to customers with orders](#)
- [In huge blow for Sikorsky, Army scraps armed scout helicopter program](#)
- [Chute Gates Steakhouse and Saloon, a popular western and rodeo themed restaurant, closes](#)
- [Over 100 UPS employees are being laid off in Connecticut](#)
- [Freight Handlers LLC will lay off 383 employees when closes Manchester location](#)

LAYOFFS AND RELOCATIONS FOR JANUARY 2024

- [Westport's DeTapas restaurant to close](#)
- [L.L. Bean to close New Haven store](#)
- [Xerox to cut another 15% of workforce, but impact on CT employees not clear](#)
- [Panera closes its location at Trumbull Mall](#)
- [Lena's Italian Kitchen in Manchester will close Jan. 20](#)