THE CONNECTICUT
ECONOMIC DIGEST

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APRIL 2003

ARTICLES

ALSO INSIDE

In February...

- Employment .... down 5,000
- Unemployment rate 5.0%
- Housing permits .. down 28.3%

Connecticut Industry Employment Outlook to Second Quarter 2004

By Daniel W. Kennedy, Ph.D., Senior Economist, DOL

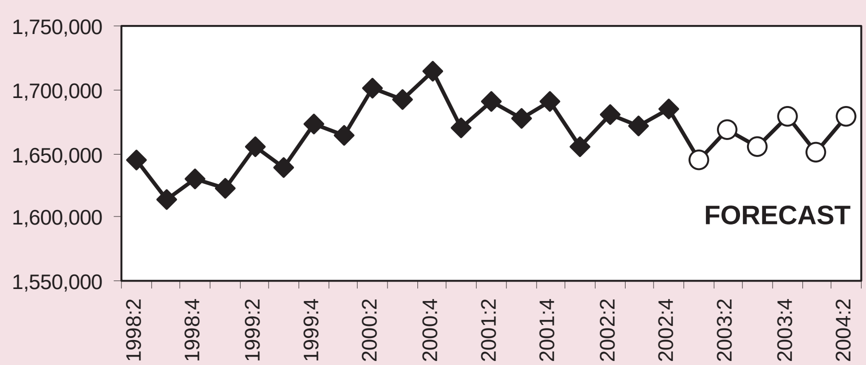
Introduction

This outlook for Connecticut industry employment covers a two-year forecast horizon to the second calendar year quarter of 2004. This forecast was done using the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. With the conversion to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) future forecasts will use the NAICS. Finally, it is important to keep in mind that the following discussion is based on the unadjusted employment series; seasonally adjusted series are not available at the industry detail level that is used to construct the forecast.

Connecticut Employment: Recent History

This analysis is divided into three time periods: two, two-year historical periods and the two-year forecast period. The first historical period, 1998:Q2 to 2000:Q2, covers the late nineties boom. The second historical period, 2000:Q2 to 2002:Q2, includes the "bust," and the September 11th terrorist attacks. The end point serves as the base quarter for the two-year forecast period, 2002:Q2 to 2004:Q2. The table on page 3 presents employment levels, changes, and percent changes for State total nonfarm employment and the major SIC divisions for these three reference periods, and

GRAPH 1: Connecticut Nonfarm Employment, 1998:Q2 to 2004:Q2
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



SOURCE: Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research

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The views expressed by authors are theirs alone and do not necessarily reflect those of the Departments of Labor or Economic and Community Development.

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is the principal reference for much of what follows. The next section briefly sketches the two historical periods of analysis, which span the boom and the bust years.

The Boom and the Bust

The Connecticut economy went along for the ride as it benefited from the rapid growth and declining unemployment produced by the U.S. economy. The American economic machine turned in a performance that had not been seen since the 1960's. Productivity increased, inflation declined, the stock market climbed, dot.coms popped up faster than mushrooms, and Federal budget deficits turned into surpluses. The stock market had not experienced a run-up like that of 1999-2000 since, well, 1929. And, by March 2000, the boom abruptly went bust. The NASDAQ fell to earth, and the Dow and S&P 500 soon followed. In the summer of 2000, business investment spending collapsed. By March 2001, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), the U.S. economy had entered a recession ending the longest expansion in U.S. history. Since then, further damage has been inflicted on the economy by the September 11th attacks, the impending war with Iraq, tensions with North Korea, the Venezuelan oil worker strike, and the corporate accounting and fraud scandals, which contributed to the second wave of wealth destruction in the stock market in two years.

Throughout this whole period Connecticut's economic fortunes were closely tied to those of the U.S. economy. Thus, while it was along for the ride during the boom, it has also been along for the ride during the bust.

Connecticut Employment in the Boom Years

Connecticut's economy created 71,000 jobs over the boom, and destroyed just under 15,000 jobs, for a net gain of 56,000 jobs. That represents a 3.4 percent net growth in Connecticut nonfarm employment over the 1998:Q2-2000:Q2 period. Connecticut's sources of growth were similar to those that generated job growth in the U.S. economy. Construction was the fastest growing division in the State and the nation, growing over 11 percent for both Connecticut and the U.S. Though services and government were among the fastest growing divisions in both the Connecticut and U.S. economies, the growth rankings in these two divisions were reversed for Connecticut, reflecting the expansions of the Indian casinos. Also, reflecting rapid growth, especially in Stamford and Fairfield County, finance, insurance, and real estate (FIRE) employment grew faster in Connecticut than it did nationally over the boom period.

Services accounted for the largest number of new jobs created in both the Connecticut and U.S. economies. Over the boom period, Connecticut's services division added 25,000 new jobs, representing 35 percent of all job growth. Services' contribution was even larger in the national economy, accounting for 44 percent of all new jobs. Government also accounted for a larger share of job growth in the U.S. than in Connecticut. Nevertheless, Connecticut's government division, driven by the expansion of the New London County casinos, contributed the second largest number of new jobs (more than 16,000), and accounted for 23 percent of boom period growth in employment.

Even as the economy booms, jobs are still being destroyed, but at a lower rate. Manufacturing accounted for all of the nearly 15,000 jobs that Connecticut lost between 1998:Q2 and 2000:Q2, with durable goods accounting for over 12,000 of those lost jobs. The U.S. too, suffered significant erosion in manufacturing jobs, as employment declined by nearly 2 percent over the late-nineties boom, which represented 87 percent of job losses. The U.S. mining sector suffered the steepest decline; its employment contracted by nearly 9 percent, accounting for almost 13 percent of job losses.

Connecticut Employment after the Bust

The beginning point for the bust period, 2000:Q2, is just one period before the peak in Connecticut's nonfarm employment, which was in July 2000, eight months before the peak in U.S. employment. From 2000:Q2 to 2002:Q2, Connecticut's economy created 10,000 jobs, but it also destroyed over 30,000 jobs, for a net loss of 20,132 jobs. Connecticut's employment base contracted by 1.2 percent over that 24-month period.

After the bust, Connecticut's steepest declines in employment are found in the same industries as those that suffered the biggest hits nationally. Both the Connecticut and U.S. manufacturing divisions had the largest percent loss in employment after 2002:Q2. However, with a much higher concentration of semiconductor manufacturing and other hard hit IT-related sectors, U.S. manufacturing employment suffered a steeper 9.4 percent decline between 2000:Q2 and 2002:Q2, than Connecticut manufacturing, which declined 7.9 percent. Manufacturing accounted for three-quarters of all jobs lost in the U.S. economy after the bust, compared to two-thirds of Connecticut's job losses.

Connecticut manufacturing shed over 20,000 jobs between 2000:Q2 and 2002:Q2. Though durable goods eliminated close to the same number of jobs during the bust (-13,600) as it did over the boom (-12,500), it was non-durable goods that took a big hit after 2000:Q2. During the boom years, non-durable goods shed a little over 2,000 jobs. During the bust years, Connecticut's non-durable goods sector lost three times as many jobs as it did over the previous period. Between 2000:Q2 and 2002:Q2, over 7,000 jobs were destroyed.

Wholesale trade eliminated over 5,000 jobs accounting for just under 18 percent of Connecticut's job losses over the 2000:Q2-2002:Q2 period. Transportation, communications, and public utilities (TCPU) lost almost 2,500 jobs, accounting for nearly 8 percent of the decline in nonfarm employment. The bust's impact on construction and retail trade were quite different for Connecticut compared to the U.S. Due to casino expansion, construction accounted for only 1 percent of Connecticut's job losses, compared to accounting for 3 percent of losses nationally. Nationally, retail trade accounted for 2 percent of all jobs created, but it accounted for 5 percent of all jobs *lost* in Connecticut.

As jobs were still being destroyed over the boom, so too, jobs were still being created during the bust. Research indicates that the collapse in the job creation rate plays a larger role in rising unemployment during a recession, than does the rise in the job destruction rate. The behavior of job creation and destruction in the Connecticut economy, over the boom and

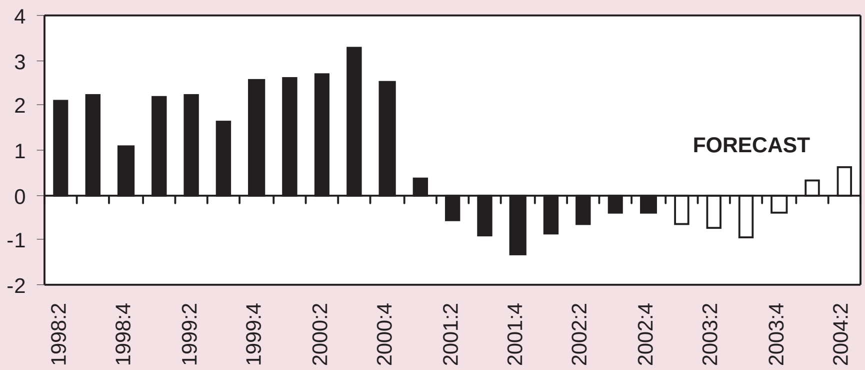
Connecticut Nonfarm Employment by Industry: 1998Q2 - 2004Q2

INDUSTRY	HISTORICAL			FORECAST	NUMERICAL CHANGES			PERCENT CHANGES		
	1998:Q2	2000:Q2	2002:Q2	2004:Q2	98Q2-00Q2	00Q2-02Q2	02Q2-04Q2	98Q2-00Q2	00Q2-02Q2	02Q2-04Q2
TOTAL	**1,644,177**	**1,700,650**	**1,680,518**	**1,678,406**	**56,473**	**-20,132**	**-2,112**	**3.43**	**-1.18**	**-0.13**
MINING	**808**	**862**	**884**	**900**	**54**	**22**	**16**	**6.68**	**2.55**	**1.81**
CONSTRUCTION	**58,910**	**65,714**	**65,262**	**65,267**	**6,804**	**-452**	**5**	**11.55**	**-0.69**	**0.01**
MANUFACTURING	**278,416**	**263,670**	**242,925**	**227,544**	**-14,746**	**-20,745**	**-15,381**	**-5.30**	**-7.87**	**-6.33**
Durable Goods	195,702	183,218	169,619	156,244	-12,484	-13,600	-13,375	-6.38	-7.42	-7.89
Nondurable Goods	82,714	80,451	73,306	71,300	-2,263	-7,145	-2,006	-2.74	-8.88	-2.74
Transp., Comm., & Public Utilities	**76,153**	**79,222**	**76,797**	**77,037**	**3,069**	**-2,425**	**240**	**4.03**	**-3.06**	**0.31**
Transportation	43,563	44,494	45,071	45,200	931	577	129	2.14	1.30	0.29
Communications	19,200	20,919	19,976	19,955	1,719	-943	-21	8.95	-4.51	-0.11
Utilities	13,390	13,809	11,750	11,882	419	-2,059	132	3.13	-14.91	1.12
WHOLESALE TRADE	**83,112**	**83,628**	**78,251**	**78,121**	**516**	**-5,377**	**-130**	**0.62**	**-6.43**	**-0.17**
RETAIL TRADE	**270,518**	**282,352**	**280,953**	**280,843**	**11,834**	**-1,399**	**-110**	**4.37**	**-0.50**	**-0.04**
FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL EST.	**134,134**	**141,070**	**141,666**	**141,832**	**6,936**	**596**	**166**	**5.17**	**0.42**	**0.12**
Finance	49,390	52,954	53,466	53,998	3,564	512	532	7.22	0.97	1.00
Insurance	69,108	71,111	71,797	71,950	2,003	686	153	2.90	0.96	0.21
Real Estate	15,636	17,005	16,403	15,884	1,369	-602	-519	8.76	-3.54	-3.16
SERVICES	**511,593**	**537,332**	**543,224**	**561,138**	**25,739**	**5,892**	**17,914**	**5.03**	**1.10**	**3.30**
Health Services	156,491	157,163	162,673	168,325	672	5,510	5,652	0.43	3.51	3.47
Business Services	102,496	117432	108,598	111,204	14,936	-8,834	2,606	14.57	-7.52	2.40
Engineering/Management Services	38,773	39,412	40,077	41,151	639	665	1,074	1.65	1.69	2.68
Social Services	42,018	48,318	51,093	51,785	6,300	2,775	692	14.99	5.74	1.35
Educational Services	37,357	41,109	45,811	46,135	3,752	4,702	324	10.04	11.44	0.71
Travel/Tourism/Leisure*	35,567	39,220	41,455	44,537	3,653	2,235	3,082	10.27	5.70	7.43
Other Services**	98,891	94,678	93,517	98,001	-4,213	-1,161	4,484	-4.26	-1.23	4.79
GOVERNMENT	**230,533**	**246,800**	**250,556**	**245,724**	**16,267**	**3,756**	**-4,832**	**7.06**	**1.52**	**-1.93**

* SIC's 70, 78, 79, and 84 ** SIC's 07, 72, 75, 76, 81, 86, 88, and 89

SOURCE: Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research

GRAPH 2: Year-to-Year Employment Percent Changes, 1998:Q2 to 2004:Q2



SOURCE: Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research

bust periods, seemed to conform to those findings. Though the number of jobs destroyed doubled from the boom to the bust period, the Connecticut economy created seven times as many jobs during the boom as it did during the bust years (i.e., job-creation fell to 1/7th its boom period rate).

The fastest growing U.S. industry divisions between 2000:Q2 and 2002:Q2 are ranked differently than those for Connecticut. Discounting mining, the fastest growing division for the U.S. was services, followed by government, which reverses the Connecticut rankings of these two divisions. The most pronounced differences in growth were in the FIRE division. Fueled by the low interest rate environment, the housing market boom ignited an explosion in employment growth in the mortgage banking and other related sectors. Consequently, employment the FIRE division, nationally, grew by 2.4 percent. However, employment in Connecticut's FIRE division grew an anemic 0.4 percent.

Again, in what seems to reaffirm the importance of the collapse in job creation as a critical factor in a downturn, the services division failed to be the engine of growth that it had been in the previous period. The services job machine cranked out over 25,000 jobs during the boom, but shut down during the bust and only produced just under 5,900 jobs. That is, for every 4.2 jobs the services division created over the 1998:Q2-2000:Q2 period, it only created one job in the 2000:Q2-2002:Q2, bust period. Nevertheless, the services division's meager performance still accounted for nearly 59 percent of the total number of jobs created. The next most important engine of job growth over the boom period, the government division (which includes the Tribal Nations), also sputtered. While creating over 16,000 jobs between 1998:Q2 and 2000:Q2, it only created just over 3,700 jobs between 2000:Q2 and 2002:Q2. That is, for every 4.3 jobs created by the government division over the boom, it only created one job during the bust years. However, government still accounted for over 37 percent of the all jobs created over this period.

The relative collapse of job creation was probably the most dramatic in the FIRE division. While creating 7,000 jobs over the 1998:Q2-2000:Q2 period, the FIRE division added less than 600 jobs from 2000:Q2 to 2002:Q2. For every job the FIRE division created during the bust period, it had created 11.7 jobs in the previous boom period. FIRE accounted for just under 6 percent of the jobs created from 2000:Q2-2002:Q2.

Outlook for Connecticut Employment: 2002:Q2-2004:Q2

Graph 1 on the front page presents the forecast for Connecticut nonfarm employment over the period 2002:Q2 to 2004:Q2. Graph 2 on left shows the year-to-year (YTY) quarterly growth rate, and depicts the employment growth pattern expected over the eight-quarter forecast period. The rate of job loss is expected to re-intensify over the first half of 2003, and then abate in the last half of the year. Modest growth should return in the first half of 2004, the end-point of the forecast period. This will still leave a net decline of approximately 2,100 jobs over the two-year forecast period.

It is expected that some 18,000 jobs will be created while another 20,000 will be lost, producing the net result of –2,100. That represents a net decline of 0.13 percent in the nonfarm employment base over the eight quarters of the forecast period. The only major division that is expected to generate any job growth at all is the services division. It is forecasted to grow by 3.3 percent between 2002:Q2 and 2004:Q2. It will account for nearly 17,900, or 98 percent, of the slightly more than 18,000 jobs added to the Connecticut economy over the forecast period.

The State's concentration of "day-trip" destinations, especially in New London County, is expected to make travel, tourism, and leisure the fastest growing industries in the services division, which is forecasted to grow by 7.4 percent. The next fastest growth is expected to be in other services (+4.8 percent). Driving the creation of jobs in this category are membership organizations and services provided by those working on their own, such as actuaries, artists, writers, geologists, etc.

Health Services is expected to grow by 3.5 percent, and business services, engineering and management, and social services are all expected to grow between 1 percent to 3 percent during the 2002:Q2-2004:Q2 forecast period. Just over 10,000, or 57 percent, of new services jobs will be in health services and other services. Growth in health care employment reflects the rising elderly population and other demographic and public health trends and pressures. In fact, were it not for the Federal caps on Medicaid and Medicare and the nursing shortage, employment growth in health services would be even stronger.

Two other industry sectors expected to have increases, TCPU and FIRE, will each grow by less than 1 percent. Construction and mining are expected to contribute few new jobs through early 2004.

Reflecting the current recession, and the continuation of the long-run trend, manufacturing will decline by another 6.3 percent between 2002:Q2 and 2004:Q2. It will account for more than 15,000, or three-quarters, of the 20,000 jobs the Connecticut economy is expected to shed over the forecast period. Over 13,000 of the 15,000 jobs lost in manufacturing are expected to be in durable goods, with the furniture and fixtures industry taking the biggest hit. Employment is expected to fall by 20 percent over the forecast period. Primary metals and lumber and wood products are expected to decline by 16 percent and 14 percent. Fabricated metals, industrial machinery and equipment, and miscellaneous manufacturing are expected to lose between 9 percent and 12 percent of their employment base.

Non-durable goods employment is expected to account for more than 2,000 of the manufacturing jobs lost between 2002:Q2 and 2004:Q2. The two steepest declining industries, textile mill products and apparel and textile products, are each forecasted to lose over 22 percent of their jobs over the forecast period. The next biggest declines will be in leather and leather products (-17 percent), and petroleum and coal products (-14 percent).

Six of manufacturing's 20 industries are expected to lose 1,000 or more jobs over the forecast period. They will account for over 12,500, or 94 percent, of the 13,000 lost manufacturing jobs. All but one of those industries is in durable goods. The five durable goods industries are fabricated metal products (-3,380), electronic and other electrical equipment (-2,851), industrial machinery and equipment (-2,648), primary metals (-1,289), and instruments and related products (-1,101). The only non-durable goods industry forecasted to lose more than 1,000 jobs over the forecast period is printing and publishing (-1,252).

Most of the remaining job losses will be in the government division. Based on current and projected reductions in government employment at the State and local levels, almost 5,000, or 23 percent, of the employment losses are expected to come from the government division. Since gambling usually holds up pretty well during economic downturns, employment should remain stable at the casinos. Retail and wholesale trade are expected to have small declines in employment (fewer than 200 each).

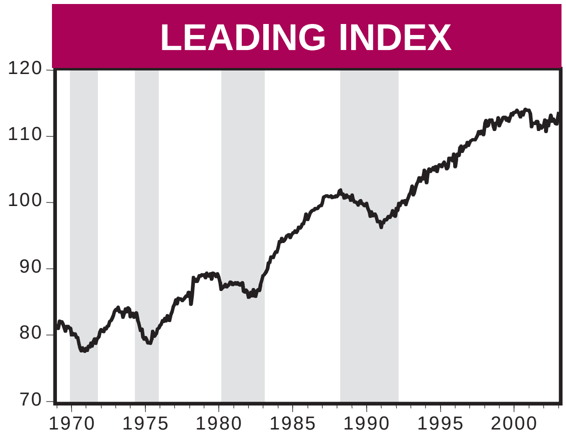
Forecast Assumptions and Risks

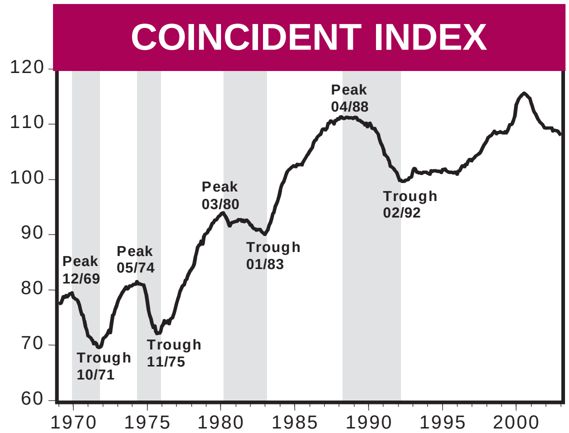
Three State-specific events will affect the forecast outcome. First, the forecast is based on the assumption that the budget deficit for the fiscal year beginning July 1st 2003 will not exceed, or significantly fall below, current projections. Second, it is assumed that the effects of deteriorating labor markets, in conjunction with rising house prices, will bring about a decline in housing activity in 2003. Third, a short bump-up in electricity rates, followed by a temporary rough spot, following the end of the Standard Offer on December 31st is assumed.

It is assumed that U.S. GDP will have annual growth of between 1.0 percent and 2.0 percent in 2003, and between 2.0 percent and 3.0 percent in 2004. Another critical assumption is that the Federal Reserve will cut the Federal funds rate 25 basis points at least once, maybe twice in 2003, and remain neutral in the first half 2004. Finally, the U.S. labor market will further deteriorate in 2003, and U.S. housing will cool, especially in the Northeast and Midwest.

The principal non-economic geopolitical cloud hanging over everything is, of course, the impending war with Iraq, which may be underway as this goes to press. The risks to the forecast are quite high. If war with Iraq, its aftermath, and U.S. occupation do not go well, the forecasts would be very optimistic, especially if it destabilizes the Middle-East or inspires new terrorist attacks against U.S. domestic targets, or both. Further, damage to Iraqi and possibly Kuwaiti oil fields could spike oil to \$50-\$100 per barrel. If the war were short and decisive, with no complications, then the forecast would be too pessimistic. Other geopolitical negative risks include the escalation of the North Korean standoff, and potential crises that could develop in Pakistan. ■

For the complete paper with forecast methodology contact Daniel Kennedy at 860-263-6268, or email daniel.kennedy@po.state.ct.us.





The distance from peak to trough, indicated by the shaded areas, measures the duration of an employment cycle recession. The vertical scale in both charts is an index with 1992=100.

How Did We Do in Year 2002? Part Two

With the release of the CCEA-ECRI coincident and leading employment indexes for January 2003, both indexes have been recalibrated and re-benchmarked. I will start with a discussion of the new series for January 2003, and provide a summary comparison of the old and new series at the end.

For the month of January, the CCEA-ECRI coincident employment index (new series) fell on a year-to-year basis from 109.3 in January 2002 to 108.0 in January 2003. Three of the four components are negative contributors to the index, with a higher insured unemployment rate, a higher total unemployment rate, and lower total nonfarm employment. Total employment is the sole positive contributor to this index. On a sequential month-to-month basis, the CCEA-ECRI Connecticut coincident employment index declined from 108.4 in December 2002 to 108.0 in January 2003. Three components are negative contributors, with a higher insured unemployment rate, a higher total unemployment rate, and lower total employment, while total nonfarm employment is the sole positive contributor.

The CCEA-ECRI Connecticut leading employment index (new series) provided some good news in January 2003, rising from 111.5 in January 2002 to 113.72 in January 2003. Five components of this index are positive contributors, with a lower Moody's Baa corporate bond yield, higher total housing permits, lower initial claims for unemployment insurance, a lower short duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, and higher average weekly hours worked in manufacturing and construction. The only negative contributor is a lower Hartford help-wanted advertising index. On a sequential month-to-month basis, this index rose from 111.80 in December 2002 to 113.72 in January 2003, with all six components being positive contributors.

For 2002, the new series of the CCEA-ECRI Connecticut coincident employment index provides a brighter picture than the old series. The old series shows that the coincident index has fallen eight out of twelve months, has risen in three months, and remained stable in one month. The new series now shows that the coincident index has fallen five out of twelve months, has risen in two months, and has remained stable in five months out of twelve. There is also good and bad news in the individual components. The bad news is that, in the new series, the total unemployment rate is higher every month than in the old series. The good news is that the new series shows total employment being higher every month than the old series.

The old and new series of the CCEA-ECRI Connecticut leading employment index show only minor differences with one notable exception. In the new series, average weekly hours worked in manufacturing and construction are lower every month since February 2002 than in the old series.

The new series of the CCEA-ECRI coincident employment index suggests that my gloomy assessment of the performance of the Connecticut economy in 2002 in last month's issue may be off the mark. The picture may be brighter, but clearly the new series do not yet suggest that we have emerged from the recession and are on our way to a healthy recovery. ■

PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW YOU USE THE INDICATORS. RESPOND TO THE SURVEY AT OUR WEBSITE: HTTP://CCEA.UCONN.EDU. THANK YOU!

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Leading and coincident employment indexes were developed by Pami Dua and Stephen M. Miller, in cooperation with Anirvan Banerji at the Economic Cycle Research Institute. Components of Indexes are described in the Technical Notes on page 27.

Permits Down in February

Commissioner James F. Abromaitis of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development announced that Connecticut communities authorized 454 new housing units in February 2003, a 28.3 percent decrease compared to February of 2002 when 633 units were authorized.

The Department further indicated that the 454 units permitted in February 2003 represent a 27.8 percent decrease from the 629 units permitted in January 2003. The year-to-date permits are down 12.2 percent, from 1,234 through February 2002, to 1,083 through February 2003.

Only the Stamford Labor Market Area (LMA) showed an increase of housing units (20) compared to a year ago. The remaining nine LMAs experienced losses. Westport led all Connecticut communities with 31 units, followed by North Haven with 20 and Southington with 13 units. From a county perspective, only Tolland County had a gain of units (9) compared to a year ago. ■

See data tables on pages 23 and 26.

Industry Clusters

The British are Coming! The British are Coming!

More than 200 years after the colonists named their cities "new" versions of the British municipalities they left behind, representatives looking to revitalize three English cities and four boroughs of London came to Connecticut February 25 to see how the State is doing just that through Governor Rowland's Inner City Business Strategy.

The British group – called City Growth Strategies (CGS) – visited Bridgeport in the morning, where they heard from City Champion Mickey Hebert, President and CEO of the Bridgeport Bluefish; Kevin Nunn, President of the Bridgeport Economic Resource Center; and George Dunbar, President of U.S. Baird Corporation and Chairman of the METAL (Metal Manufacturing Education and Training Alliance) cluster.

In the afternoon, a trip to Hartford introduced the group to City Champion Robert Patricelli of Women's Health USA; Oz Griebel of the MetroHartford Regional Alliance; Harry Freeman of the Hartford Economic Development Commission; and Eddie Lacy and Joseph Barber of the Hartford 2000 Community Economic Development Committee.

During their one-day visit, CGS gained valuable insights into Connecticut's Inner City Business Strategy and the different approaches being used in Bridgeport and Hartford to promote inner-city revitalization through market-driven business and human resource development.

GENERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

(Seasonally adjusted)	4Q 2002	4Q 2001	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	3Q 2002
Employment Indexes (1992=100)*					
Leading	112.7	111.7	1.0	0.9	113.6
Coincident	107.0	107.7	-0.7	-0.6	107.7
General Drift Indicator (1986=100)*					
Leading	101.1	99.0	2.1	2.1	99.8
Coincident	100.8	102.7	-1.9	-1.9	102.2
Business Barometer (1992=100)**	118.9	118.9	0.0	0.0	118.7

*Sources: *The Connecticut Economy, Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut*
***People's Bank*

The Connecticut Economy's **General Drift Indicators** are composite measures of the four-quarter change in three coincident (Connecticut Manufacturing Production Index, nonfarm employment, and real personal income) and four leading (housing permits, manufacturing average weekly hours, Hartford help-wanted advertising, and initial unemployment claims) economic variables, and are indexed so 1986 = 100.

The **People's Bank Business Barometer** is a measure of overall economic growth in the state of Connecticut that is derived from non-manufacturing employment, real disposable personal income, and manufacturing production. The index is calculated by DataCore Partners, Inc for People's Bank.

Total nonfarm employment decreased by 17,600 over the year, largely the result of manufacturing job losses.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
TOTAL NONFARM	1,656.7	1,674.3	-17.6	-1.1	1,661.7
Construction	60.8	65.1	-4.3	-6.6	61.0
Manufacturing	206.9	216.2	-9.3	-4.3	208.6
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	315.2	309.8	5.4	1.7	306.8
Information	40.1	42.1	-2.0	-4.8	40.2
Financial Activities	141.4	143.2	-1.8	-1.3	141.1
Professional and Business Services	198.2	203.9	-5.7	-2.8	198.2
Education and Health Services	265.0	257.8	7.2	2.8	260.1
Government*	246.4	250.2	-3.8	-1.5	251.2

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor (see page 16 for other industries, not seasonally adjusted)
** Includes Native American tribal government employment*

Both unemployment rate and initial claims for unemployment insurance rose from a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

(Seasonally adjusted)	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	5.0	4.1	0.9	---	4.9
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,785.3	1,761.7	23.6	1.3	1,777.5
Employed (000s)	1,696.8	1,690.0	6.8	0.4	1,691.1
Unemployed (000s)	88.5	71.7	16.8	23.4	86.3
Average Weekly Initial Claims	5,594	4,988	606	12.1	4,931
Help Wanted Index -- Htfd. (1987=100)	12	18	-6	-33.3	17
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	3.39	3.10	0.29	---	2.89

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; The Conference Board

Both the production worker weekly earnings and output increased over the year.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

(Not seasonally adjusted)	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003	DEC 2002
Average Weekly Hours	41.2	41.3	-0.1	-0.2	41.6	--
Average Hourly Earnings	17.42	16.91	0.51	3.0	17.26	--
Average Weekly Earnings	717.70	698.38	19.32	2.8	718.02	--
CT Mfg. Production Index (1986=100)*	107.6	103.7	3.9	3.8	105.5	106.9
Production Worker Hours (000s)	5,130	5,009	121	2.4	5,269	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)**	427	421	6.0	1.4	383	432

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; U.S. Department of Energy
**Seasonally adjusted.*
***Latest two months are forecasted.*

Personal income for second quarter 2003 is forecasted to increase 2.4 percent from a year earlier.

INCOME

(Seasonally adjusted) (Annualized; $ Millions)	2Q* 2003	2Q 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	1Q* 2003
Personal Income	$150,428	$146,949	$3,479	2.4	$149,680
UI Covered Wages	$80,068	$77,638	$2,430	3.1	$79,695

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis: January 2003 release
**Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor*

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	YEAR TO DATE PRIOR	% CHG
New Housing Permits	FEB 2003	454	-28.3	1,083	1,234	-12.2
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	NOV 2002	2,450	4.8	28,249	27,806	1.6
Retail Sales (Bil. $)	DEC 2002	6.39	13.7	44.27	41.90	5.7
Construction Contracts						
Index (1980=100)	FEB 2003	268.3	-9.0	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	FEB 2003	18,956	1.5	36,554	41,459	-11.8
Air Cargo Tons	FEB 2003	10,361	-5.2	21,351	22,634	-5.7
Exports (Bil. $)	4Q 2002	2.11	-4.1	8.31	8.61	-3.5

Sources: Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development; U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration; Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; F.W. Dodge; Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles; Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation and Ports

Electricity sales were up 4.8 percent from November a year ago.

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

	MO/QTR	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	YEAR TO DATE PRIOR	% CHG
STARTS						
Secretary of the State	FEB 2003	2,112	-2.6	4,628	4,559	1.5
Department of Labor*	3Q 2002	2,151	-7.7	4,685	5,395	-13.2
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	FEB 2003	498	18.9	1,085	1,029	5.4
Department of Labor*	3Q 2002	1,257	-35.8	2,679	3,718	-27.9

Sources: Connecticut Secretary of the State; Connecticut Department of Labor

** Revised methodology applied back to 1996; 3-months total*

Net business formation, as measured by starts minus stops registered with the Secretary of the State, was up 0.4 percent to 3,543 from the same period last year.

STATE REVENUES

(Millions of dollars)	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	% CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	YEAR TO DATE PRIOR	% CHG
TOTAL ALL REVENUES*	594.2	587.8	1.1	1,580.2	1,572.8	0.5
Corporate Tax	7.2	14.4	-50.0	34.0	25.2	34.9
Personal Income Tax	281.3	277.7	1.3	756.8	773.4	-2.1
Real Estate Conv. Tax	8.5	7.0	21.4	17.7	16.6	6.6
Sales & Use Tax	205.1	209.4	-2.1	540.1	555.4	-2.8
Indian Gaming Payments**	28.9	30.1	-3.9	58.0	56.9	2.0

Sources: Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; Division of Special Revenue

**Includes all sources of revenue; Only selected sources are displayed; Most July receipts are credited to the prior fiscal year and are not shown. **See page 23 for explanation.*

Total State revenues were up 0.5 percent so far this year from the year-to-date level last year.

TOURISM AND TRAVEL

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y % CHG	YEAR TO DATE CURRENT	YEAR TO DATE PRIOR	% CHG
Info Center Visitors	FEB 2003	20,842	-33.1	41,983	58,733	-28.5
Major Attraction Visitors	FEB 2003	87,695	-35.9	162,381	202,532	-19.8
Air Passenger Count	FEB 2003	457,784	-5.0	906,678	919,614	-1.4
Indian Gaming Slots (Mil.$)*	FEB 2003	1,428	-3.1	2,895	2,803	3.3
Travel and Tourism Index**	4Q2002	---	-2.1	---	---	---

Sources: Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation and Ports; Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development; Connecticut Lodging & Attractions Association; Division of Special Revenue

**See page 27 for explanation*

***The Connecticut Economy, Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut*

Year-to-date air passenger traffic was down 1.4 percent from the same period a year ago.

Compensation costs for both the nation and Northeast rose 3.2 percent over the year.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

Private Industry Workers (June 1989=100)	Seasonally Adjusted DEC 2002	SEP 2002	3-Mo % Chg	Not Seasonally Adjusted DEC 2002	DEC 2001	12-Mo % Chg
UNITED STATES TOTAL	162.5	161.4	0.7	162.3	157.2	3.2
Wages and Salaries	157.6	156.9	0.4	157.5	153.3	2.7
Benefit Costs	174.7	172.6	1.2	174.6	166.7	4.7
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	161.3	156.3	3.2
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	155.7	151.7	2.6

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

The February U.S. inflation rate was 3.0 percent, while U.S. and New England consumer confidence both declined around 40 percent.

CONSUMER NEWS

(Not seasonally adjusted)	MO/QTR	LEVEL	% CHANGE Y/Y	P/P*
CONSUMER PRICES				
Connecticut**	4Q 2002	---	-1.3	---
CPI-U (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	FEB 2003	183.1	3.0	0.8
Purchasing Power of $ (1982-84=$1.00)	FEB 2003	$0.546	-2.9	-0.8
Northeast Region	FEB 2003	191.7	3.0	0.6
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	FEB 2003	196.2	3.3	0.8
Boston-Brockton-Nashua***	JAN 2003	199.8	3.6	-0.3
CPI-W (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	FEB 2003	179.2	3.2	0.8
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE (1985=100)				
Connecticut**	4Q 2002	70.1	-40.7	-21.7
New England	FEB 2003	61.0	-40.1	-18.0
U.S.	FEB 2003	64.0	-42.2	-18.8

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; The Conference Board
**Change over prior monthly or quarterly period*
***The Connecticut Economy, Connecticut Center for Economic Analysis, University of Connecticut*
****The Boston CPI can be used as a proxy for New England and is measured every other month.*

Interest rates were uniformly lower than a year ago, including the 30-year conventional mortgage rate at 5.84 percent.

INTEREST RATES

(Percent)	FEB 2003	JAN 2003	FEB 2002
Prime	4.25	4.25	4.75
Federal Funds	1.26	1.24	1.74
3 Month Treasury Bill	1.19	1.19	1.73
6 Month Treasury Bill	1.20	1.22	1.82
1 Year Treasury Bill	1.40	1.48	2.23
3 Year Treasury Note	2.46	2.61	3.55
5 Year Treasury Note	3.29	3.44	4.30
7 Year Treasury Note	3.82	3.97	4.71
10 Year Treasury Note	4.33	4.47	4.91
30 Year Treasury Bond	5.17	5.31	6.08
Conventional Mortgage	5.84	5.92	6.89

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Seven out of the nine states in the region lost jobs over the year.

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
Connecticut	1,656.7	1,674.3	-17.6	-1.1	1,661.7
Maine	603.3	604.7	-1.4	-0.2	605.4
Massachusetts	3,209.4	3,258.2	-48.8	-1.5	3,215.1
New Hampshire	616.2	617.8	-1.6	-0.3	618.2
New Jersey	3,984.5	4,002.4	-17.9	-0.4	3,993.1
New York	8,395.5	8,460.0	-64.5	-0.8	8,417.5
Pennsylvania	5,623.3	5,648.5	-25.2	-0.4	5,626.0
Rhode Island	479.4	477.5	1.9	0.4	479.7
Vermont	301.3	299.6	1.7	0.6	302.9
United States	130,547.0	130,706.0	-159.0	-0.1	130,855.0

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

LABOR FORCE

Seven out of the nine states posted increases in the labor force from last year.

(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
Connecticut	1,785.3	1,761.7	23.6	1.3	1,777.5
Maine	700.1	684.4	15.7	2.3	697.9
Massachusetts	3,452.3	3,454.3	-2.0	-0.1	3,454.9
New Hampshire	715.1	702.0	13.1	1.9	719.1
New Jersey	4,407.1	4,360.5	46.6	1.1	4,409.0
New York	9,337.0	9,271.1	65.9	0.7	9,355.4
Pennsylvania	6,250.2	6,264.3	-14.1	-0.2	6,263.9
Rhode Island	571.6	551.0	20.6	3.7	573.7
Vermont	350.4	345.2	5.2	1.5	351.8
United States	145,857.0	144,510.0	1,347.0	0.9	145,838.0

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

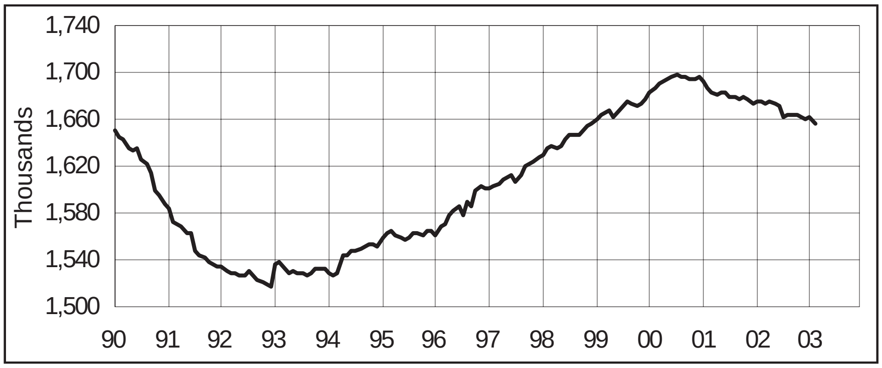
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

All but one showed an increase in its unemployment rate over the year.

(Seasonally adjusted)	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE	JAN 2003
Connecticut	5.0	4.1	0.9	4.9
Maine	4.6	4.2	0.4	4.5
Massachusetts	5.3	5.0	0.3	5.2
New Hampshire	3.8	4.4	-0.6	4.6
New Jersey	5.7	5.5	0.2	5.5
New York	6.1	6.0	0.1	6.3
Pennsylvania	6.2	5.5	0.7	6.1
Rhode Island	5.1	4.9	0.2	5.2
Vermont	4.0	3.8	0.2	4.0
United States	5.8	5.6	0.2	5.7

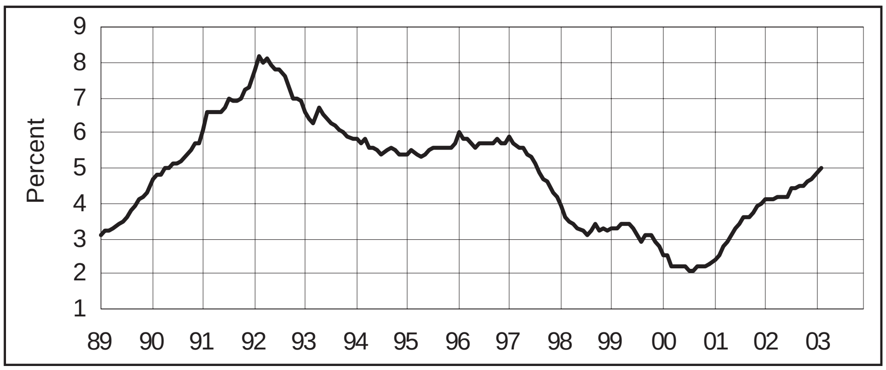
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



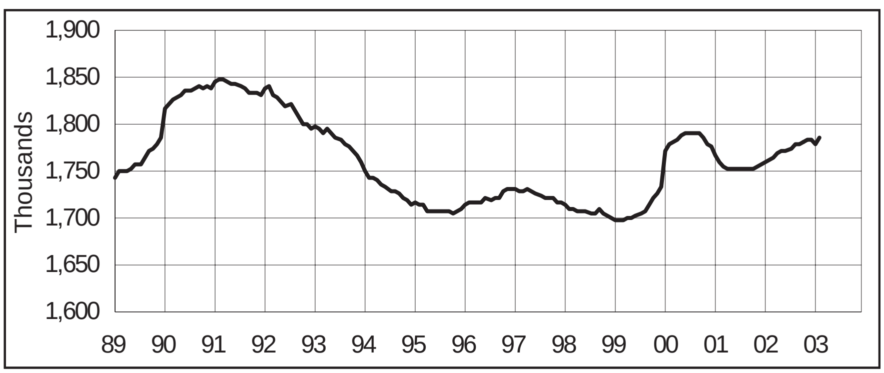
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	1,692.3	1,674.6	1,661.7
Feb	1,686.3	1,674.3	1,656.7
Mar	1,682.8	1,673.5	
Apr	1,681.8	1,675.2	
May	1,683.5	1,673.2	
Jun	1,682.4	1,672.1	
Jul	1,679.2	1,661.7	
Aug	1,680.0	1,664.5	
Sep	1,677.3	1,663.9	
Oct	1,678.2	1,662.9	
Nov	1,676.5	1,662.4	
Dec	1,673.4	1,660.2	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



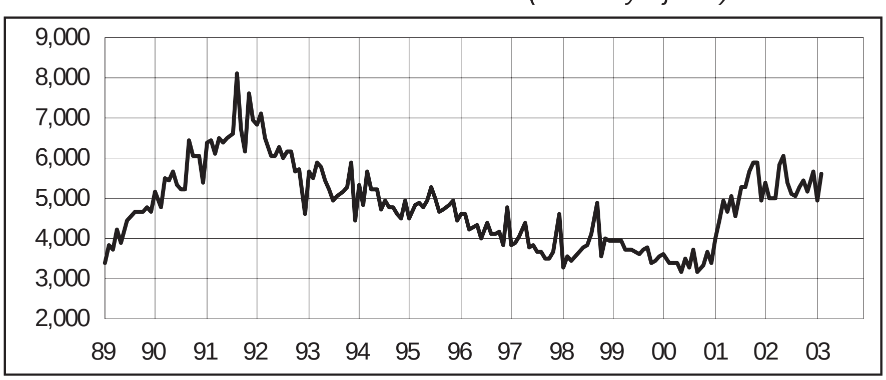
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	2.4	4.1	4.9
Feb	2.5	4.1	5.0
Mar	2.8	4.1	
Apr	2.9	4.2	
May	3.1	4.2	
Jun	3.3	4.2	
Jul	3.4	4.4	
Aug	3.6	4.4	
Sep	3.6	4.5	
Oct	3.7	4.5	
Nov	3.9	4.6	
Dec	4.0	4.7	

LABOR FORCE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



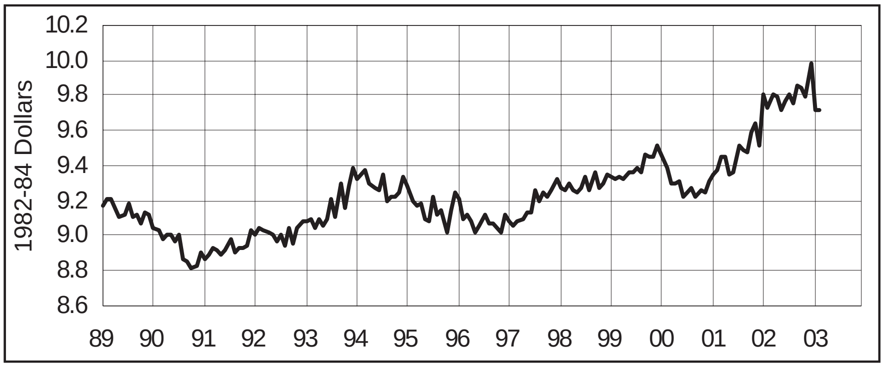
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	1,766.8	1,760.2	1,777.5
Feb	1,759.3	1,761.7	1,785.3
Mar	1,755.8	1,764.5	
Apr	1,753.2	1,768.9	
May	1,753.4	1,770.6	
Jun	1,752.7	1,771.2	
Jul	1,753.3	1,774.5	
Aug	1,753.3	1,777.5	
Sep	1,751.5	1,778.2	
Oct	1,753.4	1,781.3	
Nov	1,755.2	1,782.7	
Dec	1,757.2	1,783.3	

AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS *(Seasonally adjusted)*



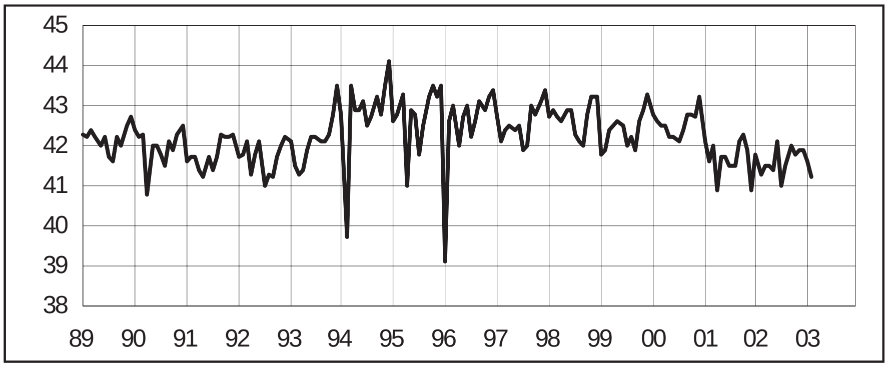
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	3,980	5,406	4,931
Feb	4,419	4,988	5,594
Mar	4,967	5,004	
Apr	4,673	5,850	
May	5,045	6,058	
Jun	4,547	5,374	
Jul	5,267	5,128	
Aug	5,298	5,072	
Sep	5,688	5,263	
Oct	5,916	5,452	
Nov	5,889	5,148	
Dec	4,939	5,678	

REAL AVG MANUFACTURING HOURLY EARNINGS *(Not seasonally adjusted)**



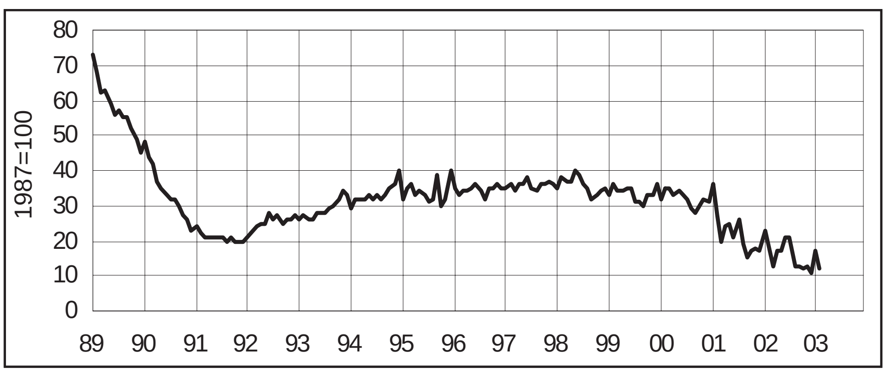
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	$9.35	$9.81	$9.71
Feb	9.37	9.74	$9.72
Mar	9.45	9.81	
Apr	9.45	9.79	
May	9.35	9.72	
Jun	9.36	9.77	
Jul	9.52	9.80	
Aug	9.49	9.75	
Sep	9.47	9.86	
Oct	9.59	9.85	
Nov	9.64	9.79	
Dec	9.52	9.99	

AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



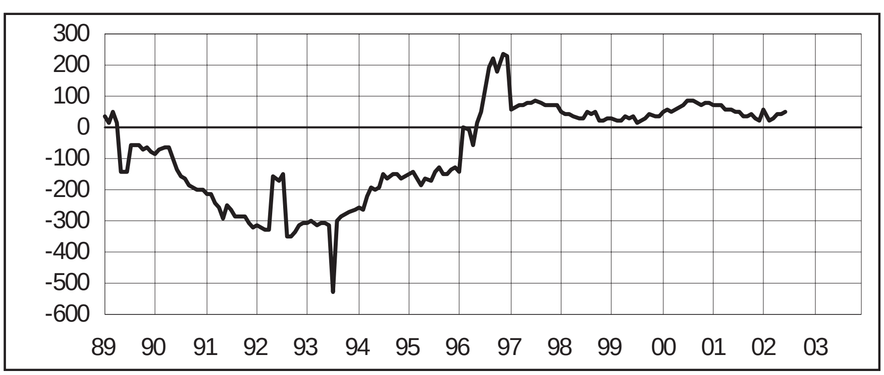
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	42.1	41.8	41.6
Feb	41.6	41.3	41.2
Mar	42.0	41.5	
Apr	40.9	41.5	
May	41.7	41.4	
Jun	41.7	42.1	
Jul	41.5	41.0	
Aug	41.5	41.5	
Sep	42.1	42.0	
Oct	42.3	41.8	
Nov	41.9	41.9	
Dec	40.9	41.9	

HARTFORD HELP WANTED INDEX *(Seasonally adjusted)*



Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	36	23	17
Feb	27	18	12
Mar	20	13	
Apr	24	17	
May	25	17	
Jun	21	21	
Jul	26	21	
Aug	19	13	
Sep	15	13	
Oct	17	12	
Nov	18	13	
Dec	17	11	

DOL NET BUSINESS STARTS *(12-month moving average)***

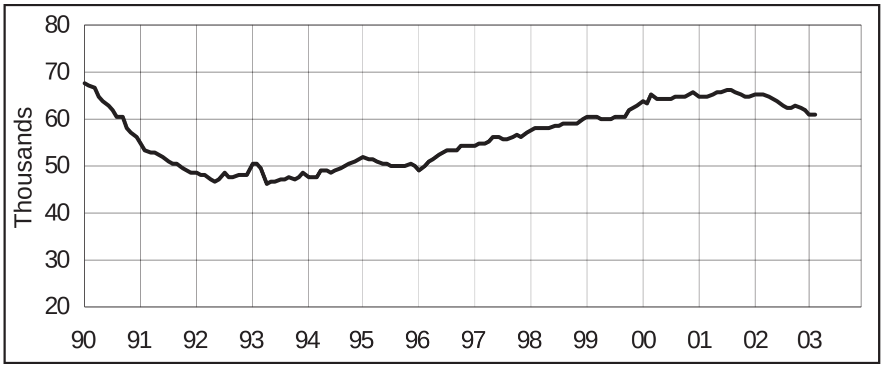


Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	69	56	
Feb	72	24	
Mar	72	30	
Apr	59	40	
May	56	46	
Jun	51	52	
Jul	49		
Aug	39		
Sep	39		
Oct	43		
Nov	31		
Dec	23		

*New series began in 2001; prior years are not directly comparable

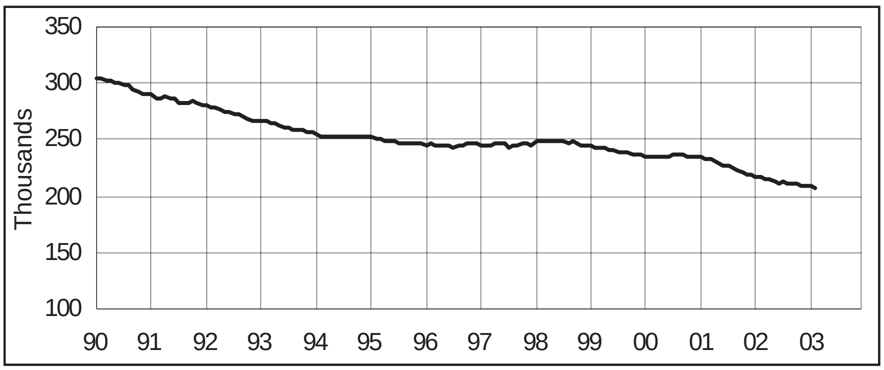
**New series began in 1996; prior years are not directly comparable

CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



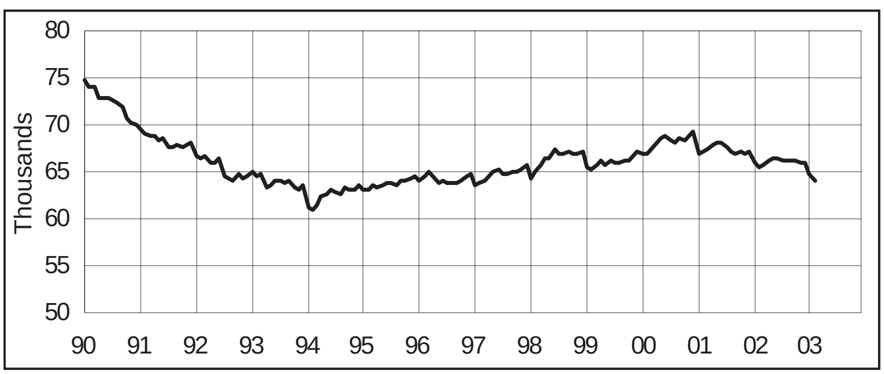
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	64.8	65.1	61.0
Feb	64.8	65.1	60.8
Mar	64.9	65.1	
Apr	65.4	64.6	
May	65.8	64.2	
Jun	65.9	63.8	
Jul	66.1	62.8	
Aug	66.0	62.2	
Sep	65.6	62.4	
Oct	65.3	62.7	
Nov	64.9	62.6	
Dec	64.8	62.1	

MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



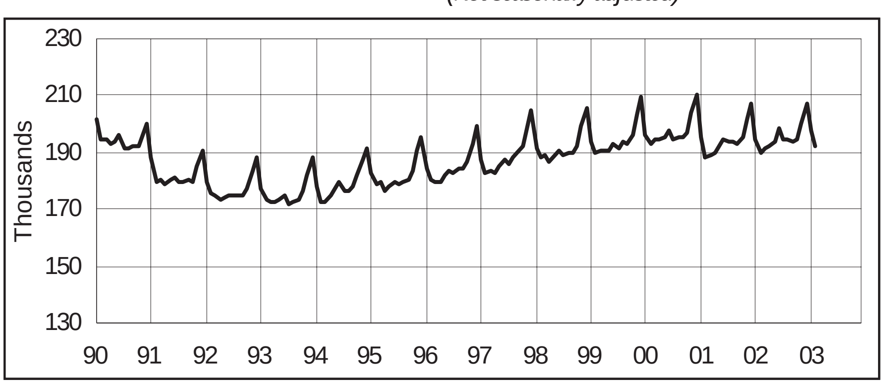
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	234.3	217.6	208.6
Feb	233.2	216.2	206.9
Mar	232.4	215.1	
Apr	230.7	214.1	
May	229.4	213.4	
Jun	227.7	212.0	
Jul	226.4	213.2	
Aug	224.7	212.1	
Sep	222.3	211.7	
Oct	221.1	210.6	
Nov	219.6	209.9	
Dec	218.4	209.3	

WHOLESALE TRADE EMPLOYMENT *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



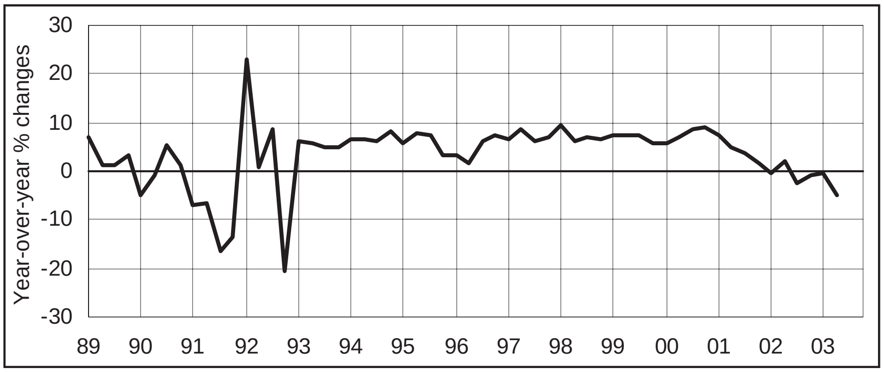
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	67.0	65.9	64.8
Feb	67.1	65.5	64.1
Mar	67.3	65.7	
Apr	67.9	66.2	
May	68.1	66.4	
Jun	68.2	66.4	
Jul	67.7	66.2	
Aug	67.2	66.1	
Sep	66.9	66.2	
Oct	67.2	66.1	
Nov	66.8	66.0	
Dec	67.2	65.9	

RETAIL TRADE EMPLOYMENT *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



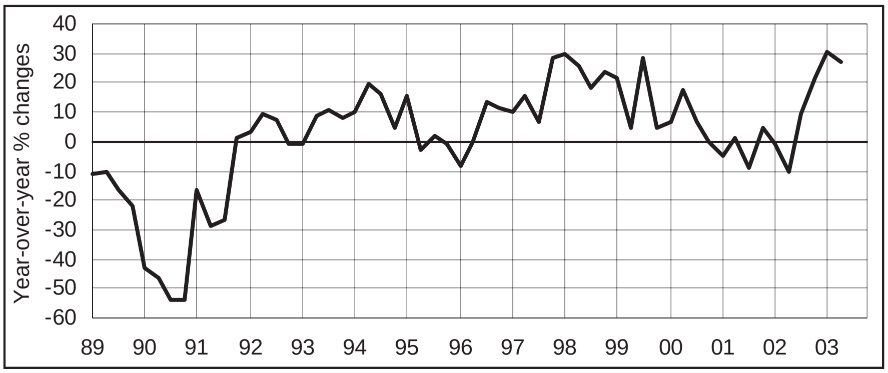
Month	2001	2002	2003
Jan	195.6	194.9	197.5
Feb	188.6	189.5	192.1
Mar	189.4	191.1	
Apr	190.0	192.1	
May	192.3	194.0	
Jun	194.6	198.3	
Jul	193.6	194.5	
Aug	193.8	194.3	
Sep	193.0	194.1	
Oct	195.3	194.8	
Nov	201.4	200.4	
Dec	206.8	207.3	

SALES TAX



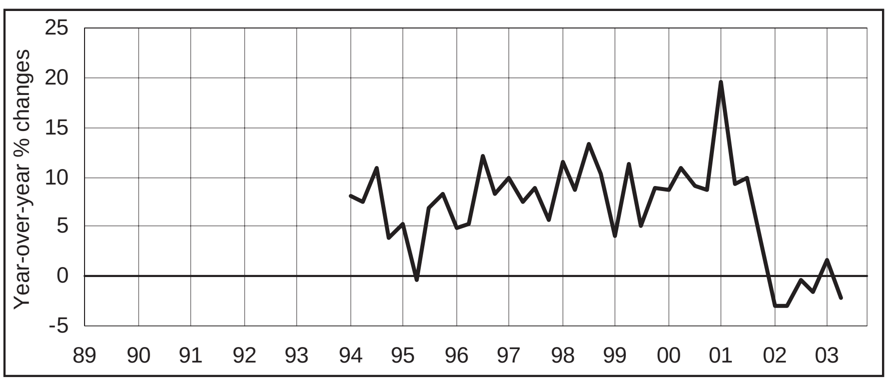
Quarter	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
First	7.3	-0.5	-0.3
Second	4.9	2.1	-5.1
Third	3.5	-2.3	
Fourth	1.5	-1.0	

REAL ESTATE TAX



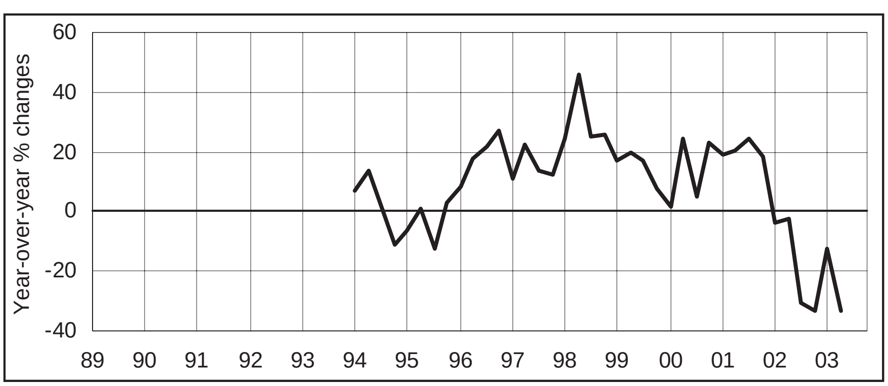
Quarter	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
First	-4.8	-0.8	30.8
Second	1.4	-10.2	27.2
Third	-9.0	9.6	
Fourth	4.5	21.7	

PERSONAL INCOME TAX : SALARIES & WAGES



Quarter	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
First	19.5	-3.0	1.6
Second	9.3	-3.0	-2.1
Third	9.9	-0.4	
Fourth	3.4	-1.6	

PERSONAL INCOME TAX : ALL OTHER SOURCES



Quarter	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
First	19.2	-3.5	-12.6
Second	20.6	-2.3	-33.4
Third	24.6	-30.6	
Fourth	18.3	-33.5	

Note*: These economic growth rates were derived by the Office of Fiscal Analysis and were made by comparing tax collections in each quarter with the same quarter in the previous year and were adjusted for legislative changes*

CONNECTICUT

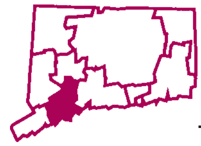
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**1,635,200**	**1,648,700**	**-13,500**	**-0.8**	**1,636,800**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**262,200**	**274,500**	**-12,300**	**-4.5**	**264,800**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**55,700**	**59,100**	**-3,400**	**-5.8**	**56,400**
MANUFACTURING	**206,500**	**215,400**	**-8,900**	**-4.1**	**208,400**
Durable Goods	**152,600**	**159,700**	**-7,100**	**-4.4**	**154,300**
Fabricated Metal	34,100	35,600	-1,500	-4.2	34,500
Machinery	19,000	20,700	-1,700	-8.2	19,300
Computer and Electronic Product	16,400	18,800	-2,400	-12.8	16,600
Electrical Equipment	11,200	11,800	-600	-5.1	11,300
Transportation Equipment	44,100	46,100	-2,000	-4.3	44,500
Aerospace Product and Parts	30,600	32,700	-2,100	-6.4	31,100
Non-Durable Goods	**53,900**	**55,700**	**-1,800**	**-3.2**	**54,100**
Printing and Related	8,400	9,400	-1,000	-10.6	8,500
Chemical	18,100	19,200	-1,100	-5.7	18,200
Plastics and Rubber Products	8,000	8,300	-300	-3.6	8,000
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**1,373,000**	**1,374,200**	**-1,200**	**-0.1**	**1,372,000**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**304,200**	**303,800**	**400**	**0.1**	**310,200**
Wholesale Trade	64,100	65,500	-1,400	-2.1	64,800
Retail Trade	192,100	189,500	2,600	1.4	197,500
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	21,900	22,000	-100	-0.5	22,000
Building Material	15,600	14,300	1,300	9.1	15,800
Food and Beverage Stores	45,400	45,000	400	0.9	45,900
General Merchandise Stores	22,800	23,100	-300	-1.3	24,300
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	48,000	48,800	-800	-1.6	47,900
Utilities	8,800	9,100	-300	-3.3	8,800
Transportation and Warehousing	39,200	39,700	-500	-1.3	39,100
INFORMATION	**39,900**	**41,900**	**-2,000**	**-4.8**	**39,900**
Telecommunications	14,100	15,400	-1,300	-8.4	14,100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**140,800**	**142,100**	**-1,300**	**-0.9**	**141,000**
Finance and Insurance	121,000	122,100	-1,100	-0.9	121,100
Credit Intermediation	31,000	31,900	-900	-2.8	31,100
Securities and Commodity Contracts	17,600	17,100	500	2.9	17,500
Insurance Carriers	67,400	67,700	-300	-0.4	67,500
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	19,800	20,000	-200	-1.0	19,900
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**194,200**	**197,700**	**-3,500**	**-1.8**	**194,600**
Professional, Scientific	88,100	92,400	-4,300	-4.7	88,700
Legal Services	14,500	14,600	-100	-0.7	14,500
Computer Systems Design	18,900	20,800	-1,900	-9.1	18,900
Management of Companies	26,900	27,700	-800	-2.9	26,800
Administrative and Support	79,200	77,600	1,600	2.1	79,100
Employment Services	27,800	26,400	1,400	5.3	27,600
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**264,300**	**258,900**	**5,400**	**2.1**	**259,600**
Educational Services	49,500	47,400	2,100	4.4	45,500
Health Care and Social Assistance	214,800	211,500	3,300	1.6	214,100
Hospitals	53,600	53,900	-300	-0.6	53,400
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	56,100	55,400	700	1.3	56,100
Social Assistance	34,700	33,300	1,400	4.2	34,100
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**117,100**	**113,000**	**4,100**	**3.6**	**116,000**
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	22,100	19,300	2,800	14.5	20,700
Accommodation and Food Services	95,000	93,700	1,300	1.4	95,300
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places	84,800	83,200	1,600	1.9	85,300
OTHER SERVICES	**61,900**	**61,900**	**0**	**0.0**	**62,600**
GOVERNMENT	**250,600**	**254,900**	**-4,300**	**-1.7**	**248,100**
Federal Government	20,700	21,200	-500	-2.4	20,900
State Government	69,200	73,000	-3,800	-5.2	67,000
**Local Government	160,700	160,700	0	0.0	160,200

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.*

BRIDGEPORT LMA

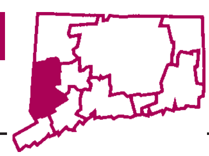


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT……………	**183,200**	**183,100**	**100**	**0.1**	**183,400**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES……………	**35,300**	**37,400**	**-2,100**	**-5.6**	**35,400**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING……..	**6,300**	**6,600**	**-300**	**-4.5**	**6,300**
MANUFACTURING……………………………..	**29,000**	**30,800**	**-1,800**	**-5.8**	**29,100**
Durable Goods……………………………….	**24,300**	**25,900**	**-1,600**	**-6.2**	**24,400**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES………….	**147,900**	**145,700**	**2,200**	**1.5**	**148,000**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES…..	**37,000**	**36,200**	**800**	**2.2**	**37,900**
Wholesale Trade………………………………	7,100	7,100	0	0.0	7,200
Retail Trade……………………………………	24,700	23,600	1,100	4.7	25,500
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities……..	5,200	5,500	-300	-5.5	5,200
INFORMATION………………………………….	**5,000**	**4,600**	**400**	**8.7**	**5,100**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES……………………….	**10,800**	**11,700**	**-900**	**-7.7**	**10,900**
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**19,300**	**20,500**	**-1,200**	**-5.9**	**19,200**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**32,600**	**31,300**	**1,300**	**4.2**	**31,600**
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY…………………	**12,500**	**12,300**	**200**	**1.6**	**12,600**
Accommodation and Food Services…………	10,200	9,800	400	4.1	10,300
OTHER SERVICES…………………………….	**6,900**	**6,800**	**100**	**1.5**	**6,900**
GOVERNMENT ……………………………….	**23,800**	**22,300**	**1,500**	**6.7**	**23,800**
Federal…………………………………………	1,900	2,000	-100	-5.0	1,900
State & Local………………………………….	21,900	20,300	1,600	7.9	21,900

For further information on the Bridgeport Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

DANBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

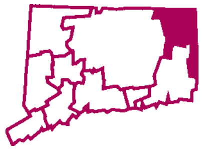
	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT……………	**89,500**	**87,400**	**2,100**	**2.4**	**89,900**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES……………	**18,200**	**18,000**	**200**	**1.1**	**18,400**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING……..	**3,900**	**3,800**	**100**	**2.6**	**4,000**
MANUFACTURING……………………………..	**14,300**	**14,200**	**100**	**0.7**	**14,400**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES………….	**71,300**	**69,400**	**1,900**	**2.7**	**71,500**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES…..	**18,200**	**17,600**	**600**	**3.4**	**18,800**
Wholesale Trade………………………………	2,600	2,500	100	4.0	2,600
Retail Trade……………………………………	13,700	13,300	400	3.0	14,300
INFORMATION………………………………….	**3,100**	**3,100**	**0**	**0.0**	**3,100**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES……………………….	**4,300**	**4,200**	**100**	**2.4**	**4,300**
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**9,700**	**10,300**	**-600**	**-5.8**	**9,900**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**12,900**	**12,400**	**500**	**4.0**	**12,900**
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY…………………	**6,700**	**6,300**	**400**	**6.3**	**6,700**
OTHER SERVICES…………………………….	**3,700**	**3,600**	**100**	**2.8**	**3,800**
GOVERNMENT ……………………………….	**12,700**	**11,900**	**800**	**6.7**	**12,000**
Federal…………………………………………	800	800	0	0.0	800
State & Local………………………………….	11,900	11,100	800	7.2	11,200

For further information on the Danbury Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.

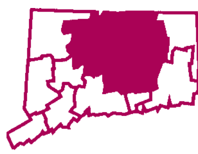
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

DANIELSON LMA



Due to recent staff cuts, data for this labor market area are no longer being developed for publication.

HARTFORD LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

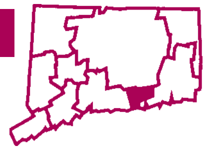
	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**599,400**	**604,700**	**-5,300**	**-0.9**	**599,600**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**95,000**	**99,700**	**-4,700**	**-4.7**	**96,100**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**19,800**	**20,400**	**-600**	**-2.9**	**20,200**
MANUFACTURING	**75,200**	**79,300**	**-4,100**	**-5.2**	**75,900**
Durable Goods	**62,500**	**65,800**	**-3,300**	**-5.0**	**63,000**
Fabricated Metal	15,400	16,300	-900	-5.5	15,500
Non-Durable Goods	**12,700**	**13,500**	**-800**	**-5.9**	**12,900**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**504,400**	**505,000**	**-600**	**-0.1**	**503,500**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**104,900**	**105,200**	**-300**	**-0.3**	**106,600**
Wholesale Trade	21,300	22,600	-1,300	-5.8	21,400
Retail Trade	64,200	62,500	1,700	2.7	65,600
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	19,400	20,100	-700	-3.5	19,600
Transportation and Warehousing	15,900	16,400	-500	-3.0	16,100
INFORMATION	**11,000**	**12,100**	**-1,100**	**-9.1**	**11,100**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**71,800**	**72,600**	**-800**	**-1.1**	**72,100**
Finance and Insurance	66,600	67,000	-400	-0.6	66,900
Insurance Carriers	44,600	44,400	200	0.5	44,800
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**59,200**	**61,200**	**-2,000**	**-3.3**	**59,200**
Professional, Scientific	28,300	29,400	-1,100	-3.7	28,200
Management of Companies	6,400	6,600	-200	-3.0	6,400
Administrative and Support	24,500	25,200	-700	-2.8	24,600
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**89,600**	**87,700**	**1,900**	**2.2**	**89,000**
Health Care and Social Assistance	79,200	77,600	1,600	2.1	78,900
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**38,100**	**37,900**	**200**	**0.5**	**37,900**
Accommodation and Food Services	31,800	31,800	0	0.0	31,700
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places	28,700	28,500	200	0.7	28,600
OTHER SERVICES	**25,400**	**24,000**	**1,400**	**5.8**	**25,400**
GOVERNMENT	**104,400**	**104,300**	**100**	**0.1**	**102,200**
Federal	7,100	7,100	0	0.0	7,200
State & Local	97,300	97,200	100	0.1	95,000

For further information on the Hartford Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.

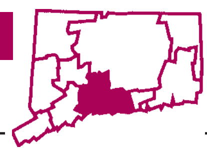
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

LOWER RIVER LMA



Due to recent staff cuts, data for this labor market area are no longer being developed for publication.

NEW HAVEN LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

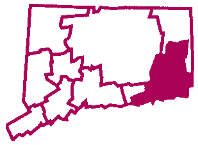
	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT……………	**257,800**	**257,500**	**300**	**0.1**	**257,700**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES……………	**42,000**	**42,500**	**-500**	**-1.2**	**42,000**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING……	**9,400**	**9,400**	**0**	**0.0**	**9,400**
MANUFACTURING……………………………	**32,600**	**33,100**	**-500**	**-1.5**	**32,600**
Durable Goods………………………………	**21,600**	**22,100**	**-500**	**-2.3**	**21,800**
Non-Durable Goods…………………………	**11,000**	**11,000**	**0**	**0.0**	**10,800**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES…………	**215,800**	**215,000**	**800**	**0.4**	**215,700**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES…..	**45,600**	**45,800**	**-200**	**-0.4**	**46,900**
Wholesale Trade………………………………	9,900	10,300	-400	-3.9	10,000
Retail Trade……………………………………	28,400	28,000	400	1.4	29,400
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities……	7,300	7,500	-200	-2.7	7,500
INFORMATION…………………………………	**9,900**	**9,800**	**100**	**1.0**	**9,800**
Telecommunications…………………………..	6,100	6,300	-200	-3.2	6,100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES………………………	**14,000**	**13,500**	**500**	**3.7**	**14,000**
Finance and Insurance…………………………	10,700	10,300	400	3.9	10,700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**27,300**	**26,700**	**600**	**2.2**	**27,100**
Administrative and Support……………………	12,600	12,200	400	3.3	12,400
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**59,400**	**59,000**	**400**	**0.7**	**58,300**
Educational Services…………………………..	22,500	22,700	-200	-0.9	21,400
Health Care and Social Assistance……………	36,900	36,300	600	1.7	36,900
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY…………………	**15,600**	**15,300**	**300**	**2.0**	**15,500**
Accommodation and Food Services…………	13,500	12,900	600	4.7	13,200
OTHER SERVICES……………………………	**10,000**	**9,900**	**100**	**1.0**	**10,000**
GOVERNMENT …………………………………	**34,000**	**35,000**	**-1,000**	**-2.9**	**34,100**
Federal…………………………………………	5,700	5,700	0	0.0	5,700
State & Local……………………………………	28,300	29,300	-1,000	-3.4	28,400

For further information on the New Haven Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 263-6278.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Value less than 50*

NEW LONDON LMA

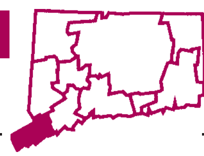


Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**143,300**	**142,300**	**1,000**	**0.7**	**144,000**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**23,900**	**24,700**	**-800**	**-3.2**	**24,200**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**4,000**	**4,700**	**-700**	**-14.9**	**4,100**
MANUFACTURING	**19,900**	**20,000**	**-100**	**-0.5**	**20,100**
Durable Goods	**11,900**	**12,000**	**-100**	**-0.8**	**11,900**
Non-Durable Goods	**8,000**	**8,000**	**0**	**0.0**	**8,200**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**119,400**	**117,600**	**1,800**	**1.5**	**119,800**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**23,700**	**23,100**	**600**	**2.6**	**24,300**
Wholesale Trade	2,200	2,300	-100	-4.3	2,300
Retail Trade	17,400	16,900	500	3.0	17,900
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	4,100	3,900	200	5.1	4,100
INFORMATION	**2,400**	**2,500**	**-100**	**-4.0**	**2,400**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**3,600**	**3,600**	**0**	**0.0**	**3,600**
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**10,900**	**10,800**	**100**	**0.9**	**10,900**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**19,100**	**18,500**	**600**	**3.2**	**18,600**
Health Care and Social Assistance	16,500	16,200	300	1.9	16,400
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**13,300**	**12,900**	**400**	**3.1**	**13,400**
Accommodation and Food Services	11,300	11,000	300	2.7	11,400
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places	8,600	8,400	200	2.4	8,600
OTHER SERVICES	**4,300**	**4,200**	**100**	**2.4**	**4,300**
GOVERNMENT	**42,100**	**42,000**	**100**	**0.2**	**42,300**
Federal	2,800	2,900	-100	-3.4	2,900
**State & Local	39,300	39,100	200	0.5	39,400

For further information on the New London Labor Market Area contact Lincoln Dyer at (860) 263-6292.

STAMFORD LMA



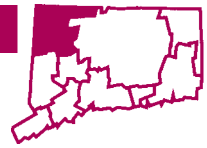
Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	**193,900**	**196,700**	**-2,800**	**-1.4**	**194,300**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	**17,500**	**18,500**	**-1,000**	**-5.4**	**17,700**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	**5,600**	**5,600**	**0**	**0.0**	**5,700**
MANUFACTURING	**11,900**	**12,900**	**-1,000**	**-7.8**	**12,000**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	**176,400**	**178,200**	**-1,800**	**-1.0**	**176,600**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	**33,400**	**35,200**	**-1,800**	**-5.1**	**34,000**
Wholesale Trade	8,000	8,000	0	0.0	8,100
Retail Trade	21,100	22,700	-1,600	-7.0	21,500
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	4,300	4,500	-200	-4.4	4,400
INFORMATION	**6,600**	**7,200**	**-600**	**-8.3**	**6,600**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**28,000**	**27,200**	**800**	**2.9**	**27,500**
Finance and Insurance	24,700	23,300	1,400	6.0	24,200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**43,300**	**44,300**	**-1,000**	**-2.3**	**43,500**
Professional, Scientific	22,000	22,200	-200	-0.9	22,300
Management of Companies	9,700	10,000	-300	-3.0	9,600
Administrative and Support	11,600	12,100	-500	-4.1	11,600
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**21,800**	**22,000**	**-200**	**-0.9**	**22,000**
Health Care and Social Assistance	18,700	19,100	-400	-2.1	18,900
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	**14,400**	**14,200**	**200**	**1.4**	**14,200**
Accommodation and Food Services	10,300	10,200	100	1.0	10,200
OTHER SERVICES	**9,000**	**8,900**	**100**	**1.1**	**9,000**
GOVERNMENT	**19,900**	**19,200**	**700**	**3.6**	**19,800**
Federal	1,700	1,800	-100	-5.6	1,700
State & Local	18,200	17,400	800	4.6	18,100

For further information on the Stamford Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 263-6278.

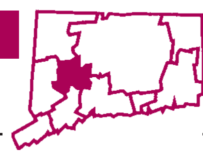
Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.
**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.*

TORRINGTON LMA



Due to recent staff cuts, data for this labor market area are no longer being developed for publication.

WATERBURY LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT……………	**82,800**	**82,700**	**100**	**0.1**	**83,300**
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES……………	**16,000**	**17,300**	**-1,300**	**-7.5**	**16,500**
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING……..	**3,300**	**3,300**	**0**	**0.0**	**3,400**
MANUFACTURING……………………………	**12,700**	**14,000**	**-1,300**	**-9.3**	**13,100**
Durable Goods………………………………	**10,400**	**11,600**	**-1,200**	**-10.3**	**10,700**
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES…………..	**66,800**	**65,400**	**1,400**	**2.1**	**66,800**
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES…..	**15,400**	**15,000**	**400**	**2.7**	**15,400**
Wholesale Trade………………………………	2,400	2,300	100	4.3	2,500
Retail Trade……………………………………	10,600	10,200	400	3.9	10,500
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities……..	2,400	2,500	-100	-4.0	2,400
INFORMATION…………………………………	**1,400**	**1,400**	**0**	**0.0**	**1,400**
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES………………………	**3,800**	**3,700**	**100**	**2.7**	**3,700**
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	**7,800**	**7,900**	**-100**	**-1.3**	**7,800**
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	**15,400**	**15,100**	**300**	**2.0**	**15,300**
Health Care and Social Assistance……………	14,000	13,700	300	2.2	13,900
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY…………………	**6,300**	**5,800**	**500**	**8.6**	**6,500**
OTHER SERVICES……………………………	**3,400**	**3,200**	**200**	**6.3**	**3,400**
GOVERNMENT ………………………………	**13,300**	**13,300**	**0**	**0.0**	**13,300**
Federal…………………………………………	700	700	0	0.0	700
State & Local…………………………………	12,600	12,600	0	0.0	12,600

For further information on the Waterbury Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepski at (860) 263-6278.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

(Not seasonally adjusted)	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE NO.	CHANGE %	JAN 2003
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,763,000	1,739,200	23,800	1.4	1,758,400
	Employed	1,666,300	1,659,300	7,000	0.4	1,664,100
	Unemployed	96,700	80,000	16,700	20.9	94,400
	Unemployment Rate	5.5	4.6	0.9	---	5.4
BRIDGEPORT LMA	Civilian Labor Force	224,000	220,300	3,700	1.7	222,800
	Employed	209,300	207,600	1,700	0.8	208,500
	Unemployed	14,700	12,700	2,000	15.7	14,400
	Unemployment Rate	6.6	5.7	0.9	---	6.4
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	114,700	110,900	3,800	3.4	114,700
	Employed	110,400	106,800	3,600	3.4	110,500
	Unemployed	4,300	4,100	200	4.9	4,200
	Unemployment Rate	3.7	3.7	0.0	---	3.7
DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	36,700	35,400	1,300	3.7	36,800
	Employed	34,500	33,600	900	2.7	34,600
	Unemployed	2,200	1,800	400	22.2	2,200
	Unemployment Rate	6.0	5.2	0.8	---	6.0
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	602,600	595,900	6,700	1.1	599,600
	Employed	566,800	567,900	-1,100	-0.2	564,700
	Unemployed	35,800	28,000	7,800	27.9	34,800
	Unemployment Rate	5.9	4.7	1.2	---	5.8
LOWER RIVER LMA	Civilian Labor Force	12,900	12,600	300	2.4	12,900
	Employed	12,400	12,200	200	1.6	12,300
	Unemployed	600	400	200	50.0	500
	Unemployment Rate	4.3	3.4	0.9	---	4.3
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	284,900	280,800	4,100	1.5	284,300
	Employed	270,400	269,100	1,300	0.5	270,200
	Unemployed	14,500	11,700	2,800	23.9	14,100
	Unemployment Rate	5.1	4.2	0.9	---	5.0
NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	164,900	160,100	4,800	3.0	165,300
	Employed	156,800	154,200	2,600	1.7	157,500
	Unemployed	8,100	5,900	2,200	37.3	7,900
	Unemployment Rate	4.9	3.7	1.2	---	4.7
STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	187,700	188,900	-1,200	-0.6	187,600
	Employed	181,000	182,100	-1,100	-0.6	181,100
	Unemployed	6,700	6,800	-100	-1.5	6,500
	Unemployment Rate	3.6	3.6	0.0	---	3.5
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	36,800	38,100	-1,300	-3.4	37,100
	Employed	34,700	36,400	-1,700	-4.7	35,100
	Unemployed	2,100	1,800	300	16.7	2,000
	Unemployment Rate	5.7	4.6	1.1	---	5.5
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	117,300	114,900	2,400	2.1	116,900
	Employed	108,600	107,400	1,200	1.1	108,400
	Unemployed	8,800	7,500	1,300	17.3	8,500
	Unemployment Rate	7.5	6.5	1.0	---	7.3
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	145,693,000	144,266,000	1,427,000	1.0	145,301,000
	Employed	136,433,000	135,443,000	990,000	0.7	135,907,000
	Unemployed	9,260,000	8,823,000	437,000	5.0	9,395,000
	Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.1	0.3	---	6.5

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.

CONNECTICUT

(Not seasonally adjusted)	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHG Y/Y	JAN 2003	AVG WEEKLY HOURS FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHG Y/Y	JAN 2003	AVG HOURLY EARNINGS FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHG Y/Y	JAN 2003
MANUFACTURING	**$717.70**	**$698.38**	**$19.32**	**$718.02**	**41.2**	**41.3**	**-0.1**	**41.6**	**$17.42**	**$16.91**	**$0.51**	**$17.26**
DURABLE GOODS	**744.64**	**727.38**	**17.26**	**739.95**	**41.6**	**41.9**	**-0.3**	**41.9**	**17.90**	**17.36**	**0.54**	**17.66**
Fabricated Metal	660.43	637.26	23.17	658.47	42.2	41.3	0.9	42.4	15.65	15.43	0.22	15.53
Machinery	734.10	729.04	5.06	721.16	38.8	39.6	-0.8	39.3	18.92	18.41	0.51	18.35
Computer & Electronic	590.23	572.70	17.53	592.76	39.8	41.5	-1.7	40.6	14.83	13.80	1.03	14.60
Transport. Equipment	898.86	858.77	40.09	901.84	42.2	42.2	0.0	42.3	21.30	20.35	0.95	21.32
NON-DUR. GOODS	**650.03**	**628.03**	**22.01**	**662.99**	**40.2**	**39.9**	**0.3**	**40.9**	**16.17**	**15.74**	**0.43**	**16.21**
CONSTRUCTION	**863.62**	**858.00**	**5.62**	**883.57**	**38.4**	**39.0**	**-0.6**	**39.2**	**22.49**	**22.00**	**0.49**	**22.54**

LMAs

MANUFACTURING	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHG Y/Y	JAN 2003	AVG WEEKLY HOURS FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHG Y/Y	JAN 2003	AVG HOURLY EARNINGS FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHG Y/Y	JAN 2003
Bridgeport	$731.43	$651.20	$80.23	$739.27	40.5	40.7	-0.2	41.3	$18.06	$16.00	$2.06	$17.90
Danbury	732.60	752.69	-20.09	743.33	40.7	41.7	-1.0	41.0	18.00	18.05	-0.05	18.13
Danielson*												
Hartford	769.73	731.84	37.89	763.82	42.2	41.3	0.9	42.6	18.24	17.72	0.52	17.93
Lower River*												
New Haven	698.41	757.76	-59.35	741.63	40.7	43.4	-2.7	42.5	17.16	17.46	-0.30	17.45
New London	704.09	707.16	-3.07	729.12	39.6	40.9	-1.3	42.0	17.78	17.29	0.49	17.36
Stamford*												
Torrington*												
Waterbury	664.62	603.76	60.86	610.09	40.6	37.2	3.4	37.8	16.37	16.23	0.14	16.14

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2002.

**Due to staff cuts, data for the Danielson, Lower River and Torrington labor market areas are no longer being prepared for publication. Manufacturing hours and earnings estimates for the Stamford labor market area will no longer be published due to their not meeting sample reliability tests.*

NEW HOUSING PERMITS LMA

	FEB 2003	FEB 2002	CHANGE Y/Y UNITS	CHANGE Y/Y %	YTD 2003	YTD 2002	CHANGE YTD UNITS	CHANGE YTD %	JAN 2002
Connecticut	454	633	-179	-28.3	1,083	1,234	-151	-12.2	629
LMAs:									
Bridgeport	43	59	-16	-27.1	88	115	-27	-23.5	45
Danbury	29	71	-42	-59.2	68	119	-51	-42.9	39
Danielson	19	29	-10	-34.5	36	43	-7	-16.3	17
Hartford	182	271	-89	-32.8	454	494	-40	-8.1	272
Lower River	5	8	-3	-37.5	13	14	-1	-7.1	8
New Haven	57	70	-13	-18.6	102	180	-78	-43.3	45
New London	36	55	-19	-34.5	84	108	-24	-22.2	48
Stamford	56	36	20	55.6	173	71	102	143.7	117
Torrington	11	17	-6	-35.3	33	28	5	17.9	22
Waterbury	16	17	-1	-5.9	32	62	-30	-48.4	16

Additional data by town are on page 26.

Town

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES BY TOWN

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

FEBRUARY 2003

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
BRIDGEPORT	**224,013**	**209,332**	**14,681**	**6.6**
Ansonia	8,841	8,104	737	8.3
Beacon Falls	2,910	2,735	175	6.0
BRIDGEPORT	**62,899**	**57,001**	**5,898**	**9.4**
Derby	6,496	6,017	479	7.4
Easton	3,340	3,226	114	3.4
Fairfield	26,998	25,901	1,097	4.1
Milford	26,773	25,273	1,500	5.6
Monroe	10,110	9,656	454	4.5
Oxford	4,968	4,651	317	6.4
Seymour	7,958	7,433	525	6.6
Shelton	20,687	19,457	1,230	5.9
Stratford	25,038	23,613	1,425	5.7
Trumbull	16,994	16,265	729	4.3
DANBURY	**114,741**	**110,447**	**4,294**	**3.7**
Bethel	10,104	9,720	384	3.8
Bridgewater	983	964	19	1.9
Brookfield	8,554	8,215	339	4.0
DANBURY	**37,887**	**36,191**	**1,696**	**4.5**
New Fairfield	7,322	7,065	257	3.5
New Milford	14,609	14,028	581	4.0
Newtown	12,969	12,515	454	3.5
Redding	4,625	4,492	133	2.9
Ridgefield	12,699	12,402	297	2.3
Roxbury	1,090	1,064	26	2.4
Sherman	1,753	1,707	46	2.6
Washington	2,144	2,083	61	2.8
DANIELSON	**36,743**	**34,528**	**2,215**	**6.0**
Brooklyn	4,205	4,044	161	3.8
Eastford	963	918	45	4.7
Hampton	1,226	1,152	74	6.0
KILLINGLY	**9,322**	**8,602**	**720**	**7.7**
Pomfret	2,325	2,222	103	4.4
Putnam	5,171	4,859	312	6.0
Scotland	958	911	47	4.9
Sterling	1,773	1,655	118	6.7
Thompson	4,612	4,287	325	7.0
Union	429	414	15	3.5
Voluntown	1,478	1,388	90	6.1
Woodstock	4,281	4,076	205	4.8
HARTFORD	**602,561**	**566,777**	**35,784**	**5.9**
Andover	1,663	1,581	82	4.9
Ashford	2,199	2,084	115	5.2
Avon	7,511	7,267	244	3.2
Barkhamsted	2,104	1,995	109	5.2
Berlin	9,179	8,693	486	5.3
Bloomfield	10,070	9,489	581	5.8
Bolton	2,742	2,633	109	4.0
Bristol	32,393	30,224	2,169	6.7
HARTFORD cont....				
Burlington	4,475	4,253	222	5.0
Canton	4,709	4,477	232	4.9
Chaplin	1,229	1,153	76	6.2
Colchester	6,819	6,426	393	5.8
Columbia	2,665	2,581	84	3.2
Coventry	6,266	5,925	341	5.4
Cromwell	6,947	6,615	332	4.8
Durham	3,580	3,427	153	4.3
East Granby	2,486	2,369	117	4.7
East Haddam	4,205	3,968	237	5.6
East Hampton	6,335	5,958	377	6.0
East Hartford	25,939	24,016	1,923	7.4
East Windsor	5,736	5,332	404	7.0
Ellington	6,989	6,654	335	4.8
Enfield	22,999	21,821	1,178	5.1
Farmington	11,308	10,841	467	4.1
Glastonbury	15,833	15,227	606	3.8
Granby	5,351	5,117	234	4.4
Haddam	4,239	4,057	182	4.3
HARTFORD	**54,644**	**48,890**	**5,754**	**10.5**
Harwinton	3,017	2,852	165	5.5
Hebron	4,432	4,235	197	4.4
Lebanon	3,378	3,204	174	5.2
Manchester	28,841	27,149	1,692	5.9
Mansfield	9,130	8,875	255	2.8
Marlborough	3,112	2,968	144	4.6
Middlefield	2,290	2,164	126	5.5
Middletown	24,307	23,037	1,270	5.2
New Britain	34,704	31,836	2,868	8.3
New Hartford	3,697	3,524	173	4.7
Newington	15,724	14,910	814	5.2
Plainville	9,555	8,866	689	7.2
Plymouth	6,603	6,093	510	7.7
Portland	4,668	4,441	227	4.9
Rocky Hill	9,822	9,332	490	5.0
Simsbury	11,597	11,215	382	3.3
Somers	4,143	3,937	206	5.0
Southington	21,495	20,273	1,222	5.7
South Windsor	13,419	12,916	503	3.7
Stafford	5,987	5,620	367	6.1
Suffield	5,952	5,660	292	4.9
Tolland	7,199	6,916	283	3.9
Vernon	16,713	15,849	864	5.2
West Hartford	28,510	27,399	1,111	3.9
Wethersfield	12,337	11,726	611	5.0
Willington	3,484	3,339	145	4.2
Winchester	6,073	5,560	513	8.4
Windham	10,245	9,533	712	6.9
Windsor	14,778	13,891	887	6.0
Windsor Locks	6,735	6,385	350	5.2

LABOR FORCE CONCEPTS

The **civilian labor force** comprises all state residents age 16 years and older classified as employed or unemployed in accordance with criteria described below. Excluded are members of the military and persons in institutions (correctional and mental health, for example).

The **employed** are all persons who did any work as paid employees or in their own business during the survey week, or who have worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a family member. Persons temporarily absent from a job because of illness, bad weather, strike or for personal reasons are also counted as employed whether they were paid by their employer or were seeking other jobs.

The **unemployed** are all persons who did not work, but were available for work during the survey week (except for temporary illness) and made specific efforts to find a job in the prior four weeks. Persons waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES BY TOWN

Town

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

FEBRUARY 2003

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
LOWER RIVER	**12,909**	**12,357**	**552**	**4.3**
Chester	2,219	2,152	67	3.0
Deep River	2,818	2,681	137	4.9
Essex	3,422	3,288	134	3.9
Lyme	1,122	1,085	37	3.3
Westbrook	3,328	3,150	178	5.3
NEW HAVEN	**284,897**	**270,403**	**14,494**	**5.1**
Bethany	2,674	2,576	98	3.7
Branford	16,343	15,648	695	4.3
Cheshire	13,969	13,515	454	3.3
Clinton	7,709	7,367	342	4.4
East Haven	15,388	14,492	896	5.8
Guilford	11,862	11,487	375	3.2
Hamden	30,012	28,695	1,317	4.4
Killingworth	3,059	2,939	120	3.9
Madison	8,526	8,284	242	2.8
MERIDEN	**31,130**	**29,100**	**2,030**	**6.5**
NEW HAVEN	**58,997**	**55,135**	**3,862**	**6.5**
North Branford	8,445	8,064	381	4.5
North Haven	12,729	12,241	488	3.8
Orange	6,677	6,483	194	2.9
Wallingford	23,689	22,483	1,206	5.1
West Haven	29,257	27,585	1,672	5.7
Woodbridge	4,431	4,310	121	2.7
***NEW LONDON**	**145,332**	**138,199**	**7,133**	**4.9**
Bozrah	1,550	1,469	81	5.2
Canterbury	2,969	2,789	180	6.1
East Lyme	9,816	9,464	352	3.6
Franklin	1,161	1,112	49	4.2
Griswold	6,198	5,815	383	6.2
Groton	18,304	17,451	853	4.7
Ledyard	8,457	8,154	303	3.6
Lisbon	2,365	2,258	107	4.5
Montville	10,336	9,816	520	5.0
NEW LONDON	**13,878**	**13,030**	**848**	**6.1**
No. Stonington	3,059	2,955	104	3.4
NORWICH	**19,955**	**18,765**	**1,190**	**6.0**
Old Lyme	4,035	3,875	160	4.0
Old Saybrook	6,147	5,913	234	3.8
Plainfield	9,211	8,634	577	6.3
Preston	2,707	2,587	120	4.4
Salem	2,184	2,067	117	5.4
Sprague	1,776	1,657	119	6.7
Stonington	10,283	9,922	361	3.5
Waterford	10,942	10,468	474	4.3

*Connecticut portion only. For whole MSA, including Rhode Island towns, see below.

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
NEW LONDON	**164,926**	**156,840**	**8,086**	**4.9**
Hopkinton, RI	5,015	4,776	239	4.8
Westerly, RI	14,579	13,865	714	4.9

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
STAMFORD	**187,651**	**180,977**	**6,674**	**3.6**
Darien	9,262	9,024	238	2.6
Greenwich	30,369	29,590	779	2.6
New Canaan	9,168	8,965	203	2.2
NORWALK	**47,308**	**45,275**	**2,033**	**4.3**
STAMFORD	**64,383**	**61,616**	**2,767**	**4.3**
Weston	4,659	4,535	124	2.7
Westport	13,760	13,448	312	2.3
Wilton	8,743	8,525	218	2.5
TORRINGTON	**36,811**	**34,711**	**2,100**	**5.7**
Canaan**	645	618	27	4.2
Colebrook	742	723	19	2.6
Cornwall	757	725	32	4.2
Goshen	1,298	1,224	74	5.7
Hartland	944	904	40	4.2
Kent**	1,854	1,806	48	2.6
Litchfield	4,181	3,970	211	5.0
Morris	1,085	1,017	68	6.3
Norfolk	1,012	972	40	4.0
North Canaan**	1,985	1,899	86	4.3
Salisbury**	2,128	2,087	41	1.9
Sharon**	1,796	1,751	45	2.5
TORRINGTON	**17,746**	**16,397**	**1,349**	**7.6**
Warren	640	620	20	3.1
WATERBURY	**117,318**	**108,562**	**8,756**	**7.5**
Bethlehem	1,950	1,851	99	5.1
Middlebury	3,338	3,202	136	4.1
Naugatuck	16,927	15,569	1,358	8.0
Prospect	4,794	4,506	288	6.0
Southbury	6,875	6,543	332	4.8
Thomaston	4,211	3,909	302	7.2
WATERBURY	**52,924**	**48,186**	**4,738**	**9.0**
Watertown	12,353	11,600	753	6.1
Wolcott	8,799	8,291	508	5.8
Woodbury	5,147	4,904	243	4.7

Not Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	**1,763,000**	**1,666,300**	**96,700**	**5.5**
UNITED STATES	**145,693,000**	**136,433,000**	**9,260,000**	**6.4**
Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	**1,785,300**	**1,696,800**	**88,500**	**5.0**
UNITED STATES	**145,857,000**	**137,408,000**	**8,450,000**	**5.8**

**The Bureau of Labor Statistics has identified these five towns as a separate area to report labor force data. For the convenience of our data users, data for these towns are included in the Torrington LMA. For the same purpose, data for the town of Thompson, which is officially part of the Worcester, MA MSA, is included in the Danielson LMA.

LABOR FORCE CONCEPTS (Continued)

The **unemployment rate** represents the number unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

With the exception of those persons temporarily absent from a job or waiting to be recalled to one, persons with no job and who are not actively looking for one are counted as "not in the labor force".

Over the course of a year, the size of the labor force and the levels of employment undergo fluctuations due to such seasonal events as changes in weather, reduced or expanded production, harvests, major holidays and the opening and closing of schools. Because these seasonal events follow a regular pattern each year, their influence on statistical trends can be eliminated by adjusting the monthly statistics. **Seasonal Adjustment** makes it easier to observe cyclical and other nonseasonal developments.

HOUSING PERMIT ACTIVITY BY TOWN

TOWN	FEB 2003	YR TO DATE 2003	YR TO DATE 2002	TOWN	FEB 2003	YR TO DATE 2003	YR TO DATE 2002	TOWN	FEB 2003	YR TO DATE 2003	YR TO DATE 2002
Andover	0	1	1	Griswold	0	1	0	Preston	1	2	2
Ansonia	4	4	2	Groton	2	11	9	Prospect	2	2	1
Ashford	1	3	4	Guilford	2	4	13	Putnam	0	0	1
Avon	10	21	18	Haddam	5	6	6	Redding	2	5	3
Barkhamsted	1	2	1	Hamden	9	18	28	Ridgefield	3	5	5
Beacon Falls	0	0	2	Hampton	1	2	2	Rocky Hill	7	10	22
Berlin	5	7	18	Hartford	0	109	8	Roxbury	0	2	2
Bethany	0	1	2	Hartland	0	0	1	Salem	1	2	2
Bethel	3	8	8	Harwinton	1	2	3	Salisbury	1	2	0
Bethlehem	0	0	2	Hebron	2	5	5	Scotland	0	0	4
Bloomfield	2	5	8	Kent	0	1	2	Seymour	2	5	11
Bolton	0	0	0	Killingly	1	4	4	Sharon	0	1	3
Bozrah	0	0	0	Killingworth	2	3	6	Shelton	2	5	25
Branford	2	7	10	Lebanon	0	2	4	Sherman	0	1	3
Bridgeport	10	20	13	Ledyard	3	11	13	Simsbury	1	1	6
Bridgewater	0	0	2	Lisbon	1	2	3	Somers	2	5	8
Bristol	2	6	11	Litchfield	0	0	1	South Windsor	2	6	78
Brookfield	2	9	6	Lyme	0	0	4	Southbury	4	9	9
Brooklyn	1	4	6	Madison	2	5	2	Southington	13	21	23
Burlington	3	3	13	Manchester	5	11	8	Sprague	0	1	0
Canaan	1	1	0	Mansfield	4	5	7	Stafford	0	2	1
Canterbury	1	3	5	Marlborough	3	4	4	Stamford	6	7	4
Canton	3	5	7	Meriden	8	14	18	Sterling	3	4	3
Chaplin	1	2	2	Middlebury	1	1	0	Stonington	5	7	12
Cheshire	4	4	14	Middlefield	0	3	0	Stratford	0	2	4
Chester	1	1	1	Middletown	11	22	25	Suffield	3	6	6
Clinton	0	4	27	Milford	4	9	20	Thomaston	0	0	4
Colchester	5	11	4	Monroe	2	3	3	Thompson	1	2	2
Colebrook	0	0	0	Montville	5	9	8	Tolland	9	15	21
Columbia	3	3	5	Morris	0	0	2	Torrington	5	19	12
Cornwall	0	2	2	Naugatuck	1	4	7	Trumbull	9	13	16
Coventry	3	5	7	New Britain	2	3	1	Union	0	0	1
Cromwell	5	7	6	New Canaan	3	10	6	Vernon	12	20	22
Danbury	5	8	34	New Fairfield	0	1	2	Voluntown	1	2	3
Darien	2	92	6	New Hartford	3	5	2	Wallingford	0	5	14
Deep River	0	1	1	New Haven	1	2	10	Warren	1	2	0
Derby	0	1	2	New London	0	0	0	Washington	0	0	2
Durham	1	6	10	New Milford	5	13	19	Waterbury	2	5	14
East Granby	2	3	4	Newington	0	1	8	Waterford	0	6	7
East Haddam	2	4	8	Newtown	9	16	33	Watertown	2	3	12
East Hampton	8	17	10	Norfolk	1	1	0	West Hartford	1	1	5
East Hartford	0	1	1	North Branford	0	2	4	West Haven	1	2	5
East Haven	2	4	10	North Canaan	0	1	1	Westbrook	2	8	3
East Lyme	2	6	9	North Haven	20	22	9	Weston	0	2	4
East Windsor	3	5	5	North Stonington	3	3	5	Westport	31	34	10
Eastford	0	1	1	Norwalk	6	9	18	Wethersfield	2	3	5
Easton	0	2	0	Norwich	6	9	16	Willington	2	4	1
Ellington	7	19	16	Old Lyme	0	1	3	Wilton	0	2	6
Enfield	1	7	3	Old Saybrook	1	4	4	Winchester	2	3	3
Essex	2	3	5	Orange	1	2	2	Windham	0	2	2
Fairfield	5	11	9	Oxford	5	13	8	Windsor	4	4	3
Farmington	7	10	4	Plainfield	5	6	9	Windsor Locks	1	1	4
Franklin	0	0	1	Plainville	3	4	4	Wolcott	3	7	7
Glastonbury	4	6	16	Plymouth	2	5	8	Woodbridge	3	3	6
Goshen	2	3	4	Pomfret	10	13	6	Woodbury	1	1	6
Granby	1	4	6	Portland	0	0	3	Woodstock	1	4	10
Greenwich	8	17	17								

For further information on the housing permit data, contact Kolie Chang of DECD at (860) 270-8167.

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

Registrations and terminations of business entities as recorded with the Secretary of the State and the Connecticut Department of Labor (DOL) are an indication of new business formation and activity. DOL business starts include new employers which have become liable for unemployment insurance taxes during the quarter, as well as new establishments opened by existing employers. DOL business terminations are those accounts discontinued due to inactivity (no employees) or business closure, and accounts for individual business establishments that are closed by still active employers. The Secretary of the State registrations include limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, and foreign-owned (out-of-state) and domestic-owned (in-state) corporations.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index (CPI), computed and published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. It is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs and other goods and services that people buy for their day-to-day living. The Northeast region is comprised of the New England states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

The Employment Cost Index (ECI) covers both wages and salaries and employer costs for employee benefits for all occupations and establishments in both the private nonfarm sector and state and local government. The ECI measures employers' labor costs free from the influences of employment shifts among industries and occupations. The base period for all data is June 1989 when the ECI is 100.

HOURS AND EARNINGS ESTIMATES

Production worker earnings and hours estimates include full- and part-time employees working within manufacturing industries. Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month. Average hourly earnings are affected by such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings. These data are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

INDIAN GAMING DATA

Indian Gaming Payments are amounts received by the State as a result of the slot compact with the two Federally recognized tribes in Connecticut, which calls for 25 percent of net slot receipts to be remitted to the State. Indian Gaming Slots are the total net revenues from slot machines only received by the two Federally recognized Indian tribes.

INITIAL CLAIMS

Average weekly initial claims are calculated by dividing the total number of new claims for unemployment insurance received in the month by the number of weeks in the month. A minor change in methodology took effect with data published in the March 1997 issue of the DIGEST. Data have been revised back to January 1980.

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Primarily a measure of unemployment insurance program activity, the insured unemployment rate is the 13-week average of the number of people claiming unemployment benefits divided by the number of workers covered by the unemployment insurance system.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

Labor force estimates are a measure of the work status of people who live in Connecticut. Prepared under the direction of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the statewide estimates are the product of a multiple variable coefficient regression model, which uses results from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey of Connecticut households, counts of claimants for unemployment benefits, and establishment employment estimates. Due to the small size of the sample taken in Connecticut, the CPS results are subject to significant sampling error and produce considerable month-to-month fluctuations in estimates derived from the sample. In general, the CPS estimates, at the 90 percent confidence level, have an error range of about 1.5 percentage points on a rate of 6.0 percent. An accepted method for calculating the error range for model estimates is currently not available. Labor force data, reflecting persons employed by place of residence, are not directly comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series. In the labor force estimates, workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. The labor force data also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics and the self-employed. Because of these conceptual differences, total labor force employment is almost always different from nonfarm wage and salary employment.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

All Labor Market Areas in Connecticut except three are federally designated areas for developing labor statistics. Industry employment data for the Danielson, Lower River and Torrington Labor Market Areas are prepared exclusively by the Connecticut Department of Labor, following the same statistical procedures used to prepare estimates for the other Labor Market Areas, which are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has identified the five towns of Canaan, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon as a separate area for reporting labor force data. For the convenience of our data users, data for these towns are included in the Torrington Labor Market Area. For the same purpose, data for the town of Thompson, which is officially part of the Worcester Metropolitan Statistical Area, are included in the Danielson Labor Market Area. Also, data for Hopkinton and Westerly, Rhode Island are included in the New London Labor Market Area.

LEADING AND COINCIDENT EMPLOYMENT INDICES

The leading employment index is a composite of six individual largely employment-related series -- the average workweek of manufacturing production and construction workers, Hartford help-wanted advertising index, short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, initial claims for unemployment insurance, total housing permits, and Moody's BAA corporate bond yield. While not employment-sector variables, housing permits are closely related to construction employment and the corporate bond yield adds important information about the movement in interest rates. The coincident employment index is a composite indicator of four individual employment-related series -- the total unemployment rate, nonfarm employment (employer survey), total employment (state residents employed measured by a household survey), and the insured unemployment rate. All data are seasonally adjusted and come from the Connecticut Labor Department, the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

Nonfarm employment estimates are derived from a survey of businesses to measure *jobs* by industry. The estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary employees who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Excluded from these estimates are proprietors, self-employed workers, private household employees and unpaid family workers. In some cases, due to space constraints, all industry estimates are not shown. Call (860) 263-6275 for a more comprehensive breakout of nonfarm employment estimates. These data are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

UI COVERED WAGES

UI covered wages is the total amount paid to those employees who are covered under the Connecticut's Unemployment Insurance (UI) law for services performed during the quarter. The fluctuations in the 1992-93 period reflect the effect of the changes in the tax law and the massive restructuring in the state's economy.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS AT A GLANCE

(Percent change from prior year; see pages 6-10 for reference months or quarters)

Leading Employment Index	**+2.0**
Coincident Employment Index	**-1.2**
Leading General Drift Indicator	**+2.1**
Coincident General Drift Indicator	**-1.9**
Business Barometer	**0.0**
Total Nonfarm Employment	**-1.1**
Unemployment	**+0.9***
Labor Force	+1.3
Employed	+0.4
Unemployed	+23.4
Average Weekly Initial Claims	**+12.1**
Help Wanted Index -- Hartford	**-33.3**
Average Ins. Unempl. Rate	**+0.29***
Average Weekly Hours, Mfg	**-0.2**
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg	**+3.0**
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg	**+2.8**
CT Mfg. Production Index	**+3.8**
Production Worker Hours	+2.4
Industrial Electricity Sales	+1.4
Personal Income	**+2.4**
UI Covered Wages	**+3.1**

Business Activity	
New Housing Permits	-28.3
Electricity Sales	+4.8
Retail Sales	+13.7
Construction Contracts Index	-9.0
New Auto Registrations	+1.5
Air Cargo Tons	-5.2
Exports	-4.1
Business Starts	
Secretary of the State	-2.6
Dept. of Labor	-7.7
Business Terminations	
Secretary of the State	+18.9
Dept. of Labor	-35.8
State Revenues	**+1.1**
Corporate Tax	-50.0
Personal Income Tax	+1.3
Real Estate Conveyance Tax	+21.4
Sales & Use Tax	-2.1
Indian Gaming Payments	-3.9

Tourism and Travel	
Info Center Visitors	-33.1
Attraction Visitors	-35.9
Air Passenger Count	-5.0
Indian Gaming Slots	-3.1
Travel and Tourism Index	-2.1
Employment Cost Index (U.S.)	
Total	+3.2
Wages & Salaries	+2.7
Benefit Costs	+4.7
Consumer Prices	
Connecticut	-1.3
U.S. City Average	+3.0
Northeast Region	+3.0
NY-NJ-Long Island	+3.3
Boston-Brockton-Nashua	+3.6
Consumer Confidence	
Connecticut	-40.7
New England	-40.1
U.S.	-42.2
Interest Rates	
Prime	-0.50*
Conventional Mortgage	-1.05*

**Percentage point change; **Less than 0.05 percent; NA = Not Available*

THE CONNECTICUT

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