



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Sharon M. Palmer, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 2015 Data
CT Unemployment Rate = 6.3%
US Unemployment Rate = 5.7%

Unemployment rate holds firm at 6.3%; Nonfarm job gains continue into January

WETHERSFIELD, March 16, 2015 – Preliminary nonfarm job estimates from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics's (BLS) monthly establishment survey point to continuing Connecticut job growth to start out 2015. The state added 6,400 jobs (0.38%) in January 2015 - seasonally adjusted - to an estimated level of 1,684,500. This is the seventh consecutive monthly employment gain going back to July 2014. Connecticut's nonfarm employment has now increased 24,600 jobs (1.48%, 2,050 jobs per month) since January 2014. The nonfarm employment increase for December (5,200, 0.31%) was adjusted higher by 400 positions from the original release and after the annual benchmark revision procedures that take place this time of year (see revisions pages 4-6).

Connecticut's unemployment rate was unchanged in January 2015 at 6.3%, seasonally adjusted, according to the federal residential household survey (Current Population Survey). This is down by eight-tenths of a percentage point from the January 2014 unemployment rate of 7.1%. The jobless rate has held steady at 6.3% since September 2014. Over the year, the number of unemployed in the state has fallen by 12,906 (-9.7%) to 120,361, while the labor force has grown by 29,484 participants (1.6%, considered statistically significant), elevating Connecticut's labor force back above 1.9 million (1,904,496).

"Following the 2014 annual revision process undertaken by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Connecticut's job growth picture and unemployment levels remain largely unchanged from their originally-published patterns," said Andy Condon, Director of the Office of Research. "Payroll job levels fell about 12,100 over what was originally published in December 2014, but levels were also adjusted down in December 2013, leaving seasonally adjusted annual growth at 25,100, or slightly less than what was reported previously."

Nonfarm Jobs (business establishment survey)

Preliminary employment estimates indicate Connecticut added 6,400 (0.38%) nonfarm jobs in January 2015, on a seasonally adjusted basis. Six of the ten major industry *supersectors* increased jobs in January, while four declined. Recently benchmarked data show this is the seventh consecutive monthly nonfarm employment gain starting with July 2014. Over-the-year job gains now total 24,600 (1.48%, 2,050 per month) as eight industry *supersectors* have exhibited positive job gains, while just two declined.

The state's **private sector** added 5,500 positions (also 0.38%) in January 2015 and has generated 23,000 (1.62%) more jobs since January 2014. The **government supersector** job gains were somewhat weaker over-the-year (1,600, 0.68%) and have continued to prolong the job recovery (Native American employment on reservations including casinos are tallied in local government). Monthly **government** job levels did increase in January 2015 (900, 0.38%).

Six of the ten major industry *supersectors* increased jobs in January 2015 while four posted losses. **Education and health services** (2,800, 0.9%, 331,500 jobs) led all other industries. It is also the largest growing industry *supersector* over the year (9,200, 2.9%). The **leisure and hospitality** (2,100, 1.4%) and **professional and business services** (2,100, 1.0%) *supersectors* both added 2,100 positions. The **financial activities** (1,500, 1.2%) *supersector* exhibited a fairly strong month for a change and is now slightly positive over-the-year (600, 0.5%, with 500 of it being **real estate**). The combined **construction and mining** (1,300, 2.3%) *supersector* was also gaining jobs, but the survey week, which includes the week of the twelfth of each month, occurred before the harshest part of winter really set in later in the month. The **government supersector** also added positions (900, 0.4%).

Trade, transportation & utilities (-3,000, -1.0%) led the declining industry *supersectors* with **retail trade** (-3,000, -1.6%) accounting for all losses following the holiday season. **Manufacturing** (-900, -0.6%) declined in January while smaller job losses came from the **information** (-300, -1.0%) and **other services** (-100, -0.2%) industry *supersectors*.

Recession recovery: Connecticut has now recovered 90,500 positions, or 76.1% of the now 119,000 seasonally adjusted **total nonfarm** jobs that were lost in the state during the March 2008 - February 2010 employment recession (post-benchmark). Connecticut's jobs recovery is now 59 months old and is averaging approximately 1,534 jobs per month since February 2010. The **private sector** has recovered employment at a better pace and has now recovered 97,100 (87.0%) of the now 111,600 private sector jobs that were lost during the same recessionary downturn (a pace of 1,646 per month). At 1,684,500 overall nonfarm jobs for January 2015, the state needs to reach the 1,713,000 level to start a true nonfarm employment expansion. This will require an additional 28,500 nonfarm jobs. A total of just 14,500 additional private sector positions are needed to have a fully-recovered private sector. The **government supersector** has continued to lose net jobs (-6,600) throughout the overall nonfarm employment recovery which began in February 2010.

Labor Market Areas (LMAs): *It should be noted that due to some larger town composition changes of greater than 4% in two of the six BLS – recognized LMAs that went into effect this month, the Danbury and Waterbury LMAs are no longer seasonally adjusted.* The January 2015 preliminary nonfarm job numbers show that two of the four major Connecticut Labor Market Areas that continue to be seasonally adjusted posted job gains. The **Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford LMA** (3,200, 0.6%) posted the largest monthly regional job market gain, while a smaller increase was also seen in the **New Haven LMA** (400, 0.1%). The **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (-600, -0.1%) and the **Norwich-New London-Westerly LMA** (-300, -0.2%) were slightly lower in January. Over-the-year, all six of the major Connecticut BLS-recognized LMAs are now positive, as are the three smaller state-estimated LMAs. *Note: The major Connecticut LMAs are estimated and seasonally adjusted independently from the statewide numbers by the BLS and cover about 90% of the nonfarm employment in the state; they will not fully sum to the statewide total.* (Please see Labor Notes at the end of this report for geographic/town changes now in effect for Connecticut's federally and non-federally recognized labor markets – LMAs/NECTAs).

Hours and Earnings: The **private sector** workweek, not seasonally adjusted, averaged 33.7 hours in January 2015, and is higher by half an hour (1.5%) from the year-ago estimate of 33.2 hours. Average hourly earnings at \$28.26, not seasonally adjusted, were up 42 cents, or 1.5%, from January 2014. The resulting average **private sector** weekly pay was calculated at \$952.36, up \$28.07, or 3.0% over the year. The year-to-year change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in January 2015 was -0.1%. Information for the manufacturing production workweek and earnings can be found in the table section of this release under the "Hours and Earnings" data category. *Current all-employee private sector hours and earnings estimates can be volatile due to fluctuating sample responses.*

Labor Force Data (residential household survey)

Connecticut's unemployment rate was calculated at **6.3%** for January 2015 (seasonally adjusted). This is unchanged from the December 2014 rate of 6.3%, and down eight-tenths of a percentage point from the January 2014 unemployment rate of 7.1%. The unemployment rate has held constant at 6.3% since September 2014 – five months in a row, following the annual re-processing updates incorporated this time of year.

Unemployment: Based on the household survey, the number of unemployed, seasonally adjusted, posted an increase of 500 (0.4%) over the month to 120,361 in January 2015. The number of unemployed residents has decreased by 12,906 (-9.7%) since January 2014. Over the year, labor force growth now measures 29,484 (1.6%, considered statistically significant). January 2015 saw Connecticut's civilian labor force estimate grow (5,133, 0.3%) for the sixteenth straight month since October 2013 and is back over 1.9 million (1,904,496). The United States unemployment rate was 5.7% in January (preliminary to compare to Connecticut's), up one-tenth of a percentage point from the December 2014 rate of 5.6%, but lower by nine-tenths of a percentage point from the January 2014 rate of 6.6%.

As always, the sample size underlying labor force and unemployment data is very small and caution is advised in interpreting these preliminary estimated trends.

The January 2015 average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time Connecticut filers (seasonally adjusted) decreased over the month by 497 claims (-11.1%) to 3,984, and are lower by 1,029 claims (-20.5%) from the January 2014 tally (5,013). The level of average weekly initial unemployment claims in January 2015 was the second lowest since the recovery began in February 2010, with February 2014 showing the lowest level, at 3,959 claims.

*The nonfarm employment estimate, derived from a survey of businesses, is a measure of jobs in the state; the unemployment rate, based on a household survey, is a measure of the work status of people who live in Connecticut. Overall, as the national and state economies recover, volatility in monthly numbers can be expected. Additionally, changes in methodology that culminated in March 2011 with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics assuming complete responsibility for estimating all states' monthly nonfarm job counts, have contributed to the month-to-month variability in the numbers. **Jobs estimates are best understood in the context of their movement over several months rather than observed changes in a single month's estimate.***

Next Connecticut Labor Situation release: Thursday, March 26, 2015 (February 2015 data)

Contact: Communications Office

(860) 263-6535

03-16-15

Labor market information is available on the Internet at www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi

200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114 - www.ct.gov/dol

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**2014 Benchmark Revisions to Connecticut's Establishment Survey Data
(Total Nonfarm Employment Series, Current Employment Statistics)**

In accordance with annual practices, the establishment survey data released today have been benchmarked to reflect more comprehensive counts of nonfarm payroll jobs in the state. These revised job counts are derived primarily from unemployment insurance (UI) tax records through March 2014 (considered the benchmark month) but also include additional preliminary universe UI employment tabulations through September 2014. The employment data are then re-estimated from October 2014 to December 2014 with more complete samples from the newly benchmarked levels. This benchmark process results in revisions to *not seasonally adjusted* data mostly from April 2013 forward. Seasonally adjusted data from January 2009 forward are also subject to revision due to the changing seasonal factors. In addition, data for many industry employment series prior to 2009 (some possibly going back to 1990), both seasonally and not seasonally adjusted, may incorporate some revisions due to a changes in scope of industry coverage and to the changing geographical compositions of the labor markets, which takes place this year.

Connecticut's total nonfarm employment level for March 2014 (the benchmark month) was revised **upward** by 1,600 from the initially published estimate of 1,658,000 to 1,659,600, or 0.1% higher seasonally adjusted (-1,600 or -0.1% on a not seasonally adjusted basis from 1,639,600 to 1,638,000). Going forward, the monthly benchmark revision changes to the December 2014 seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment monthly levels were revised down 12,100 or about -0.7% lower for a new seasonally adjusted December 2014 level of 1,678,100 (-8,100 or about -0.5% lower on a not seasonally adjusted basis from 1,707,800 initially published to 1,699,700).

All revised employment data for Connecticut should be available soon on Connecticut's Department of Labor's website under Labor Market Information. <http://www.l.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/index.asp>

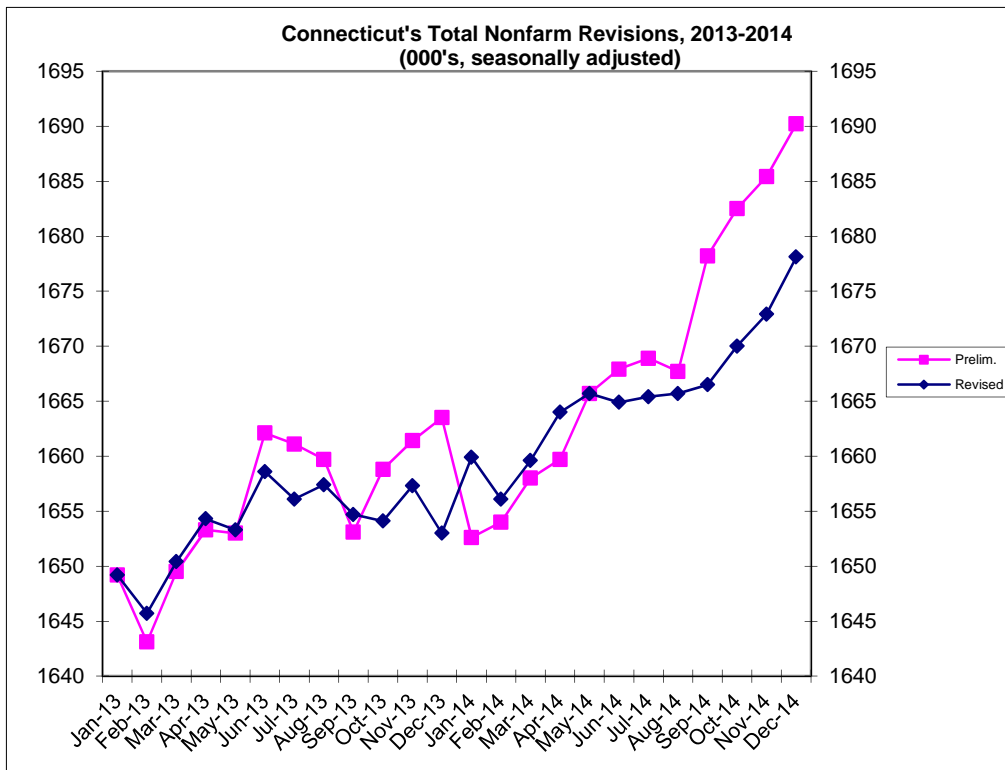


Table A. Revisions in total nonfarm employment, January-December 2014, seasonally adjusted (Numbers in thousands).

<u>Year and</u> <u>Month</u>	Level			<u>Year and</u> <u>Month</u>	Over - the - month change		
	<u>Initial</u> <u>Estimate</u>	<u>As</u> <u>Revised</u>	<u>Difference</u>		<u>Initial</u> <u>Estimate</u>	<u>As</u> <u>Revised</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Jan-14	1652.6	1659.9	7.3	Jan-14	-10.9	6.9	17.8
Feb-14	1654.0	1656.1	2.1	Feb-14	1.4	-3.8	-5.2
Mar-14	1658.0	1659.6	1.6	Mar-14	4.0	3.5	-0.5
Apr-14	1659.7	1664	4.3	Apr-14	1.7	4.4	2.7
May-14	1665.7	1665.7	0	May-14	6.0	1.7	-4.3
Jun-14	1667.9	1664.9	-3	Jun-14	2.2	-0.8	-3.0
Jul-14	1668.9	1665.4	-3.5	Jul-14	1.0	0.5	-0.5
Aug-14	1667.7	1665.7	-2	Aug-14	-1.2	0.3	1.5
Sep-14	1678.2	1666.5	-11.7	Sep-14	10.5	0.8	-9.7
Oct-14	1682.5	1670	-12.5	Oct-14	4.3	3.5	-0.8
Nov-14	1685.4	1672.9	-12.5	Nov-14	2.9	2.9	0.0
Dec-14	1690.2	1678.1	-12.1	Dec-14	4.8	5.2	0.4

Pre and Post Benchmark

**CONNECTICUT'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
SUPERSECTOR NONFARM EMPLOYMENT Revisions (000's)**

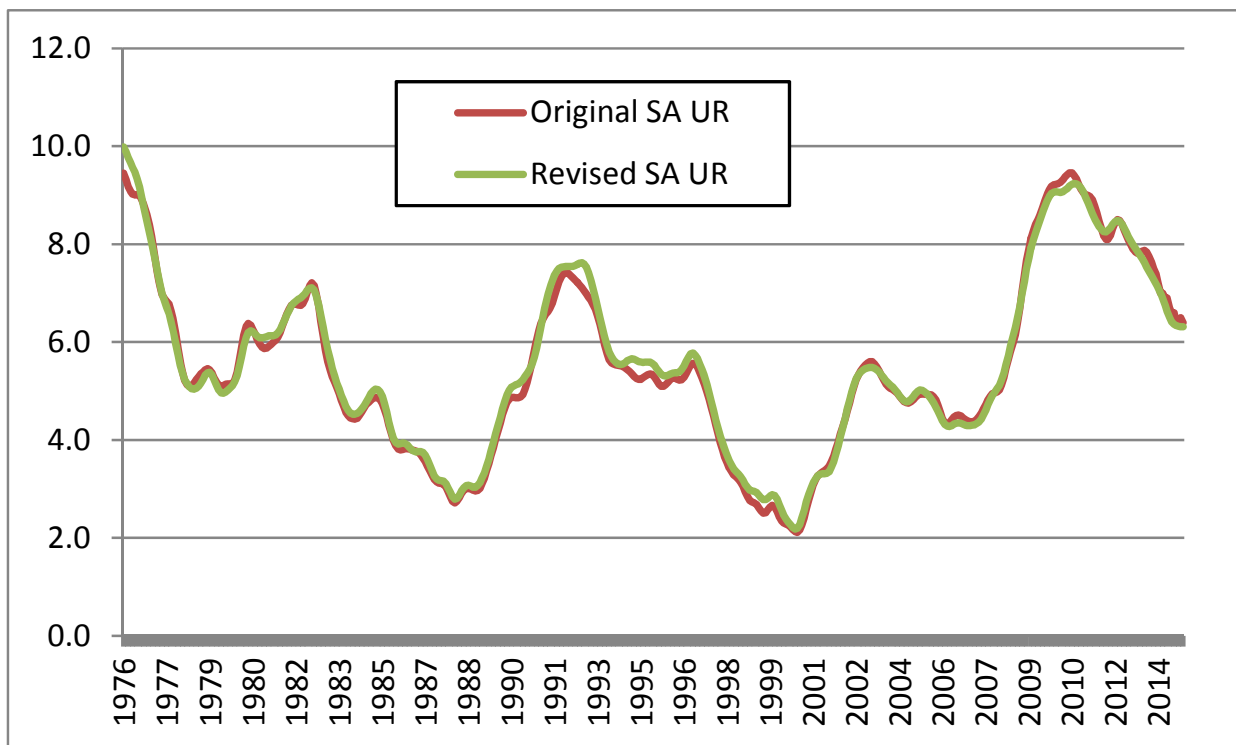
<u>INDUSTRY</u>	<u>Pre-BM</u> <u>Mar-14</u>	<u>Post-BM</u> <u>Mar-14</u>	<u>Difference</u> <u>(000's)</u>	<u>Pre-BM</u> <u>Dec-14</u>	<u>Post-BM</u> <u>Dec-14</u>	<u>Difference</u> <u>(000's)</u>
Total Nonfarm Emp.	1658.0	1659.6	1.6	1690.2	1678.1	-12.1
Total Private	1424.0	1421.9	-2.1	1453.6	1440.4	-13.2
Construction & Min.	56.6	54.9	-1.7	56.8	55.5	-1.3
Manufacturing	162.1	160.3	-1.8	164.2	159.7	-4.5
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	300.5	300.3	-0.2	309.6	304.1	-5.5
Information	31.7	32.1	0.4	31.5	31.4	-0.1
Financial Activities	130.7	128.5	-2.2	129.9	128.3	-1.6
Professional & Business Services	203.5	209.9	6.4	210.3	214.7	4.4
Education and Health Services	325.6	322.4	-3.2	331.9	328.7	-3.2
Leisure & Hospitality	151.1	150.7	-0.4	157.0	155.0	-2.0
Other Services	62.2	62.8	0.6	62.4	63.0	0.6
Government**	234.0	237.7	3.7	236.6	237.7	1.1

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) 2015 Redesign

In addition to reflecting the 2010 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) delineations for metropolitan areas, metropolitan divisions, and micropolitan areas and new LAUS small labor market areas as described earlier, the 2015 Redesign is also being implemented with the publication of January 2015 estimates. LAUS conducts major redesigns to its methodology every 10 years. For Connecticut the entire historical series from January 1976 forward is replaced with estimates based on the redesigned models (see unemployment rate chart below). For the remaining substate areas, the re-estimation with the new methodology will be carried back to 2010. Hence, many areas can be expected to display breaks in series between 2009 and 2010.

Some issues have been identified with the 2005 methods of estimation at the state and substate levels that affect accuracy and analysis of the estimates. Because LAUS is committed to producing high-quality data, it must conduct research and improve its methods and procedures. Moreover, when data sources cease to exist, it must find new sources to replace them. The 2015 state and substate estimation approaches generate more accurate and reliable estimates.

The 2015 LAUS Redesign includes improved time-series models for the census divisions, states, select substate areas, and the balances of those states; an improved real-time benchmarking procedure to the national Current Population Survey (CPS) estimates; an improved smoothed seasonal adjustment procedure; and improved treatment of outliers. Non-modeled area estimation improvements include: updated Dynamic Residency Ratios (DRR); more accurate estimates for all-other employment; more accurate estimation of agricultural employment; and improved estimation of non-covered agricultural unemployment. Handbook estimation is now done at the city/town level instead of at the Labor Market Area (LMA) level in Connecticut, which better reflects local conditions. The Redesign also introduces estimation inputs from the American Community Survey (ACS) to replace inputs that were previously obtained from the decennial census long-form survey.



NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Jobs - by Place of Work

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	January 2015 P	December 2014 R	November 2014	October 2014	January 2014	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,684,500	1,678,100	1,672,900	1,670,000	1,659,900	6,400	0.4%	24,600	1.5%
Total Private	1,445,900	1,440,400	1,435,500	1,432,700	1,422,900	5,500	0.4%	23,000	1.6%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	600	600	600	600	600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	56,200	54,900	55,700	56,200	53,900	1,300	2.4%	2,300	4.3%
Manufacturing	158,800	159,700	158,500	158,800	160,900	-900	-0.6%	-2,100	-1.3%
Durable Goods	123,500	124,200	123,000	123,300	125,400	-700	-0.6%	-1,900	-1.5%
Nondurable Goods	35,300	35,500	35,500	35,500	35,500	-200	-0.6%	-200	-0.6%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	301,100	304,100	303,700	302,000	300,000	-3,000	-1.0%	1,100	0.4%
Wholesale	62,800	62,400	62,700	62,800	63,100	400	0.6%	-300	-0.5%
Retail	185,300	188,300	187,900	186,500	184,700	-3,000	-1.6%	600	0.3%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	53,000	53,400	53,100	52,700	52,200	-400	-0.7%	800	1.5%
Information	31,100	31,400	31,200	31,500	32,200	-300	-1.0%	-1,100	-3.4%
Financial Activities	129,800	128,300	128,400	128,300	129,200	1,500	1.2%	600	0.5%
Finance & Insurance	110,300	108,900	109,000	109,000	110,200	1,400	1.3%	100	0.1%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	19,500	19,400	19,400	19,300	19,000	100	0.5%	500	2.6%
Professional & Business Services	216,800	214,700	213,800	212,300	209,800	2,100	1.0%	7,000	3.3%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	96,100	96,500	95,900	95,600	94,200	-400	-0.4%	1,900	2.0%
Management of Companies	30,400	30,400	30,600	30,400	30,300	0	0.0%	100	0.3%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	90,300	87,800	87,300	86,300	85,300	2,500	2.8%	5,000	5.9%
Educational & Health Services	331,500	328,700	327,600	327,100	322,300	2,800	0.9%	9,200	2.9%
Educational Services	66,000	63,500	63,500	63,400	62,900	2,500	3.9%	3,100	4.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	265,500	265,200	264,100	263,700	259,400	300	0.1%	6,100	2.4%
Leisure and Hospitality	157,100	155,000	153,100	152,700	151,500	2,100	1.4%	5,600	3.7%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	28,300	28,300	27,300	26,800	26,800	0	0.0%	1,500	5.6%
Accommodation & Food Services	128,800	126,700	125,800	125,900	124,700	2,100	1.7%	4,100	3.3%
Other Services	62,900	63,000	62,900	63,200	62,500	-100	-0.2%	400	0.6%
Government**	238,600	237,700	237,400	237,300	237,000	900	0.4%	1,600	0.7%
UNITED STATES	140,849,000	140,592,000	140,263,000	139,840,000	137,642,000	257,000	0.2%	3,207,000	2.3%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	January 2015 P	December 2014 R	November 2014	October 2014	January 2014	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	410,400	411,000	409,000	408,700	403,800	-600	-0.1%	6,600	1.6%
Hartford	571,800	568,600	566,600	566,100	562,000	3,200	0.6%	9,800	1.7%
New Haven	281,500	281,100	280,300	279,300	278,000	400	0.1%	3,500	1.3%
Norwich-New London-Westerly	128,000	128,300	128,100	127,700	127,800	-300	-0.2%	200	0.2%
Danbury - Not Seasonally Adjusted	78,300	80,600	79,600	79,000	76,400	-2,300	-2.9%	1,900	2.5%
Waterbury - Not Seasonally Adjusted	66,700	69,200	68,800	67,900	65,600	-2,500	-3.6%	1,100	1.7%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	44,700	45,800	45,600	45,300	43,900	-1,100	-2.4%	800	1.8%
Torrington-Northwest	33,000	33,900	33,800	34,100	32,700	-900	-2.7%	300	0.9%
Danielson-Northeast	27,200	27,600	27,700	27,500	27,000	-400	-1.4%	200	0.7%

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

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

Starting with March, 2011, our monthly statewide and major LMA nonfarm job estimates have been taken over by the US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is the final phase of transition in this program, which began in 2008. As a result of changes in the estimation procedures, you are likely to see more variability in month-to-month estimates of job counts. Caution should be used in interpreting any single month's estimate. The data are best interpreted to identify trends and cycles over several months and quarters. If you have any questions about these changes, please email us at: dol.lmi@ct.gov. Danbury and Waterbury LMA's are now not seasonally adjusted.

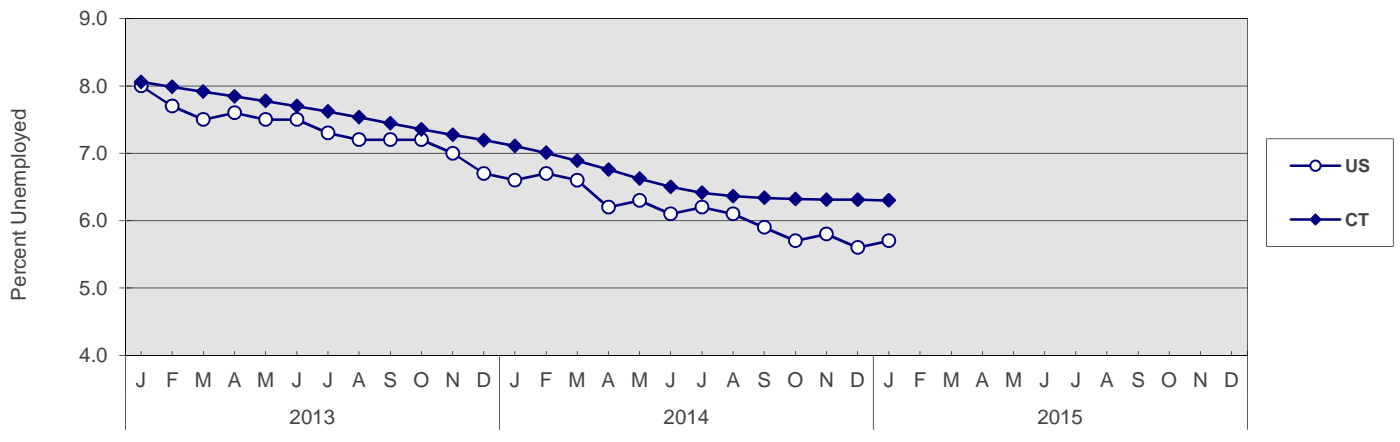
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	Jan. 2015 P		Jan. 2014 R		Change		Dec. 2014 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	120,400	6.3	133,300	7.1	-12,900	-0.8	121,406	6.3
Labor Force	1,904,500		1,875,000		29,500		1,906,038	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	8,979,000	5.7	10,280,000	6.6	-1,301,000	-0.9	8,688,000	5.6
Labor Force	157,180,000		155,486,000		1,694,000		156,129,000	

U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2013 - 2015



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Jan. 2015 P		Jan. 2014 R		Change		Dec. 2014 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	29,800	6.5	32,800	7.2	-3,000	-0.7	24,900	5.4
Danbury	5,700	5.4	6,300	6.0	-600	-0.6	4,600	4.3
Danielson-Northeast	3,200	7.5	3,500	8.4	-300	-0.9	2,700	6.3
Enfield	3,200	6.5	3,400	7.2	-200	-0.7	2,600	5.4
Hartford	42,000	6.8	46,200	7.6	-4,200	-0.8	34,900	5.7
New Haven	21,700	6.7	24,400	7.6	-2,700	-0.9	18,100	5.6
Norwich-New London	10,600	7.5	11,600	8.2	-1,000	-0.7	8,800	6.2
Torrington-Northwest	3,300	6.8	3,500	7.3	-200	-0.5	2,500	5.3
Waterbury	9,600	8.5	10,400	9.4	-800	-0.9	7,900	7.0
CONNECTICUT	127,800	6.8	140,400	7.6	-12,600	-0.8	105,900	5.6
UNITED STATES	9,498,000	6.1	10,855,000	7.0	-1,357,000	-0.9	8,331,000	5.4

P = Preliminary

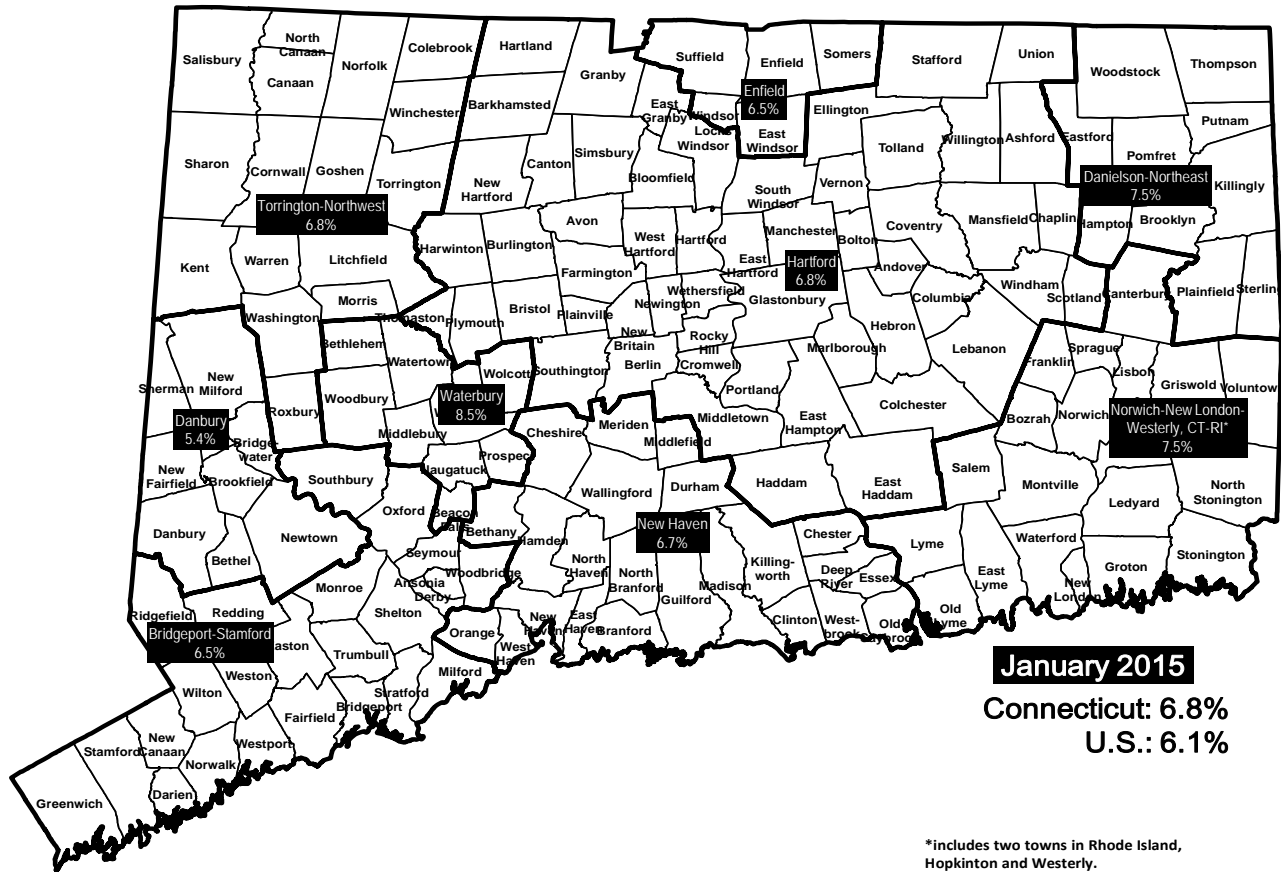
R = Revised

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

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LABOR MARKET AREAS



HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	Jan. 2015 P	Jan. 2014	Change over Yr.	Dec. 2014 R	Jan. 2015 P	Jan. 2014	Change over Yr.	Dec. 2014 R	Jan. 2015 P	Jan. 2014	Change over Yr.	Dec. 2014 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$952.36	\$924.29	\$28.07	\$959.44	33.7	33.2	0.5	33.7	\$28.26	\$27.84	\$0.42	\$28.47
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$964.81	\$903.42	\$61.39	\$981.60	40.1	42.0	-1.9	40.9	\$24.06	\$21.51	\$24.00	\$23.74

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

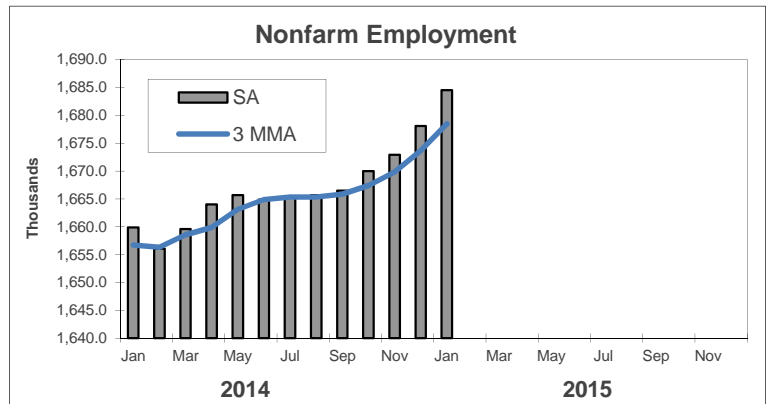
P = Preliminary R = Revised

Hours and earnings are also developed for the state's major industry sectors and Labor Market Areas. They can be found on our website at: www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi.

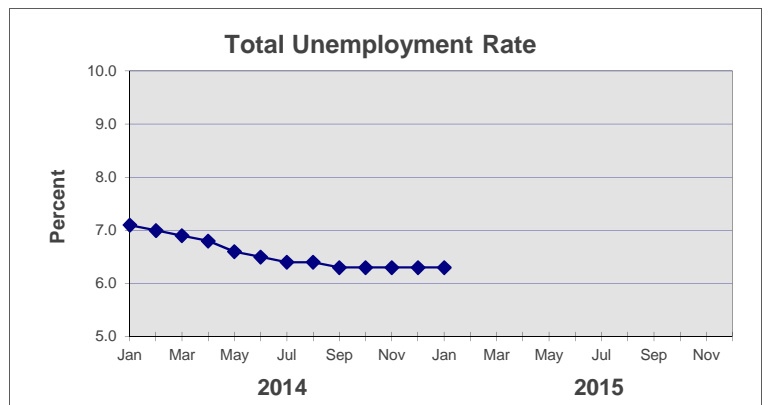
TRENDS

Seasonally Adjusted

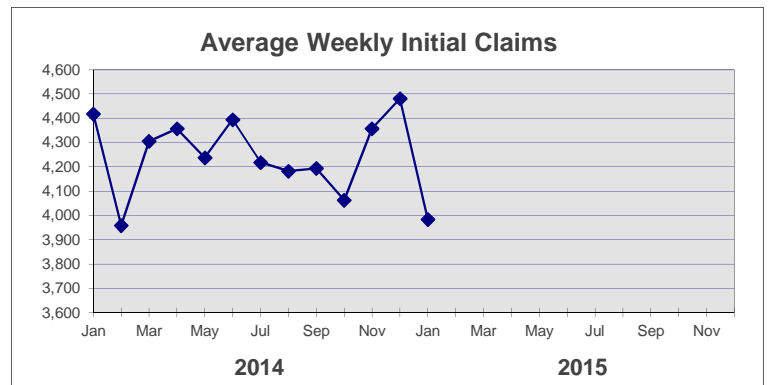
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2014		
Jan	1,659.9	7.1
Feb	1,656.1	7.0
Mar	1,659.6	6.9
Apr	1,664.0	6.8
May	1,665.7	6.6
Jun	1,664.9	6.5
Jul	1,665.4	6.4
Aug	1,665.7	6.4
Sep	1,666.5	6.3
Oct	1,670.0	6.3
Nov	1,672.9	6.3
Dec	1,678.1 R	6.3 R



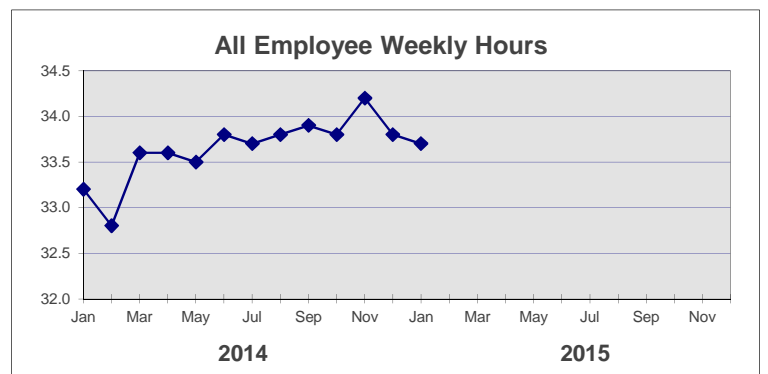
2015		
Jan	1,684.5 P	6.3 P
Feb		
Mar		
Apr		
May		
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2014		
Jan	4,418	33.2
Feb	3,959	32.8
Mar	4,306	33.6
Apr	4,357	33.6
May	4,238	33.5
Jun	4,395	33.8
Jul	4,218	33.7
Aug	4,183	33.8
Sep	4,194	33.9
Oct	4,063	33.8
Nov	4,358	34.2
Dec	4,481	33.8 R



2015		
Jan	3,984	33.7 P
Feb		
Mar		
Apr		
May		
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute

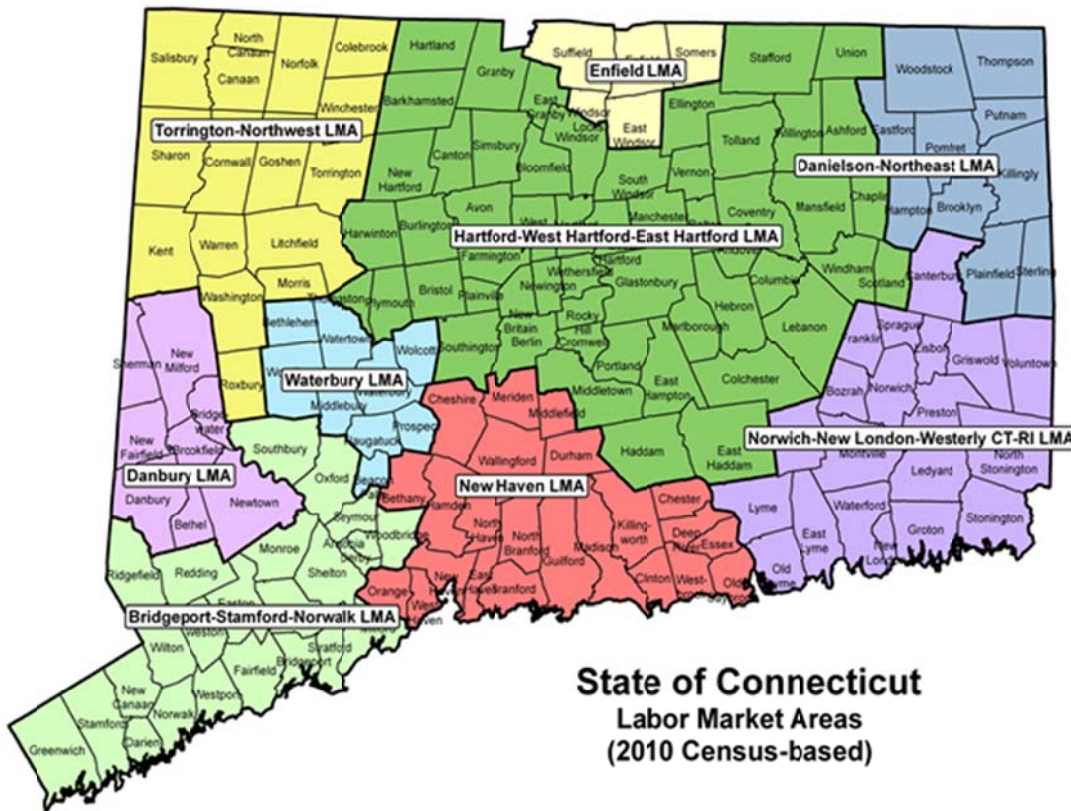
NOTES ON LABOR DATA

Updated Metropolitan Statistical Areas - MSAs (NECTAs in the New England states)

This issue of the Connecticut *Labor Situation* includes the publication of regional labor market data based on the newly defined metropolitan statistical areas. Each mid-decade, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) updates statistical area definitions (geographical composition) or labor market areas based on population and commuter patterns from the most recent decennial Census (2010). These newly delineated federal statistical areas or metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) will be utilized going forward and will have reconstructed monthly employment data made comparable back to 1990. New England states call these MSAs, NECTAs – for New England City and Town Areas because of the heightened importance of the city and town civil jurisdictions as opposed to counties used extensively elsewhere in the nation. The same criteria used in delineating NECTAs are used for MSAs, except that cities and towns in New England are utilized as building blocks instead of counties used by the rest of the nation.

The changes to Connecticut's *nine* Labor Market Areas (LMAs) or NECTAs are less far reaching this time around as compared to the last area redefinition in 2005. Connecticut will still have the same *six* federally recognized statistical areas (NECTAs) as before, but some town changes around the population core will be based on new commuter patterns. These newly defined federal statistical areas (NECTAs) still make up over 90% of the employment in the state and are comprised of the major employment centers across Connecticut. To complete the full geography of Connecticut with comparable labor statistics, the Connecticut Labor Department will continue to estimate and publish labor data for the other *three* (non-federal) labor market areas, including all cities and towns in the new Torrington-Northwest Labor Market Area (formerly just the Torrington LMA), the new Danielson-Northeast Labor Market Area (formerly the Willimantic-Danielson LMA), and the unchanged Enfield Labor Market Area (which is still Connecticut's part of the Springfield, MA-CT NECTA).

Changes in the town composition of the six newly *federally* recognized NECTAs include the movement of Newtown to the Danbury, CT NECTA from the Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk, CT NECTA. There is also the addition of three towns (Chaplin, Scotland, and Windham – formerly of the old Willimantic-Danielson LMA) to the Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford, CT NECTA, while Middlefield, formerly in the Hartford NECTA, moves to the New Haven, CT NECTA. The Waterbury, CT NECTA adds two towns, Bethlehem and Woodbury (formerly of the old Torrington LMA). Additionally, the now named Norwich-New London-Westerly, CT-RI NECTA, a cross-state NECTA, gains one town in Rhode Island, Hopkinton. As the state's population centers have grown in economic importance, the smaller state labor markets (the new Danielson-Northeast LMA, and the new Torrington-Northwest LMA, the Enfield Labor Market Area remains unchanged) have lost towns because of stronger commuter patterns into larger major employment centers.



Note: Norwich-New London LMA includes the Rhode Island towns of Westerly and Hopkinton