



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Kurt Westby, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 2018 Data
CT Unemployment Rate = 4.2%
US Unemployment Rate = 3.7%

Nonfarm jobs grow by 1,500 in October; unemployment rate unchanged at 4.2%

WETHERSFIELD, November 15, 2018 – Preliminary Connecticut nonfarm job estimates from the business payroll survey administered by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the state gained 1,500 net jobs (0.1%) in October 2018, to a level of 1,701,900, seasonally adjusted. Over the year, nonagricultural employment in the state grew by 22,300 jobs (1.3%). The September 2018 originally-released job decrease of 500 was revised down 900 jobs to a loss of 1,400 over the month. The number of the state's unemployed residents was estimated at 80,000, seasonally adjusted unchanged from September. As a result, Connecticut's October unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.2%, seasonally adjusted. Resident employment estimates include the self-employed and residents working out of state and are determined separately from the nonfarm payroll job estimates above. None of the monthly changes in payroll job estimates or residential labor force statistics was considered statistically significant.

"A relatively quiet month in October offset losses we experienced in September," said Andy Condon, Director of the Office of Research. "Most employment *supersectors* are showing annual growth with the exception of the trade, information and government *supersectors*."

Nonfarm Jobs Detail (business establishment survey)

Private sector employment grew by 1,200 (0.1%) to 1,474,100 jobs over the month in October, and added 25,700 (1.8%) seasonally-adjusted jobs over the year. The **government supersector** added 300 jobs in October to a total of 227,800, with over-the-year losses now at 3,400 or -1.5%. The **government supersector** includes all federal, state and local employment, including public higher education and Native American casino employment located on tribal land.

Six of the ten major industry *supersectors* gained employment in October, while three declined and the **construction & mining supersector** remained unchanged (0.0%, 63,500 total jobs). **Financial activities** led growing sectors with 900 net new jobs (0.7%, 129,700). **Professional & business services** added 700 jobs (0.3%, 223,000) while **manufacturing** (0.2%, 164,700) and **government** (0.1%, 227,800) each contributed 300 new jobs. Lastly, the **education & healthcare services** (0.0%, 341,900) and **information** (0.3%, 30,500) *supersectors* each grew by 100.

Once again, the **trade, transportation & utilities supersector** led declines, shedding 400 jobs (-0.1%, 295,800). **Other services** dropped 300 jobs (-0.5%, 65,500) in October while **leisure & hospitality** (-0.1%, 159,500) saw a small loss of 200.

Connecticut has now recovered **90.4%** (107,700 jobs) of the 119,100 seasonally adjusted jobs lost in the "Great Recession" (3/08-2/10). The job recovery is into its 104th month and the state needs an additional 11,400 net new jobs to reach an overall nonfarm employment expansion. The state's **private sector** continues its expansion from the recession and is at **114.2%** (127,600) of the private sector jobs lost in that same employment downturn.

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Four of the six LMAs seasonally adjusted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics saw job increases in October 2018 while two saw small declines. The **New Haven LMA** posted 1,300 net new positions (0.5%, 287,300). The **Hartford LMA** added 800 jobs (0.1%, 582,500), while the **Norwich–New London–Westerly, RI LMA** saw an increase of 200 (0.2%, 132,600). The **Danbury LMA** (0.1%, 79,200) added 100 jobs to the total. The **Waterbury LMA** shed 300 jobs (-0.4%, 66,800) while the **Bridgeport–Stamford–Norwalk LMA** (-0.0%, 408,900) saw a small loss of 100 jobs.

Note: The six major Connecticut LMAs are estimated independently from the statewide data by the BLS and cover more than 90% of the nonfarm employment in the state. Thus, estimates will not fully sum to the statewide total.

Hours and Earnings: The **private sector** workweek, not seasonally adjusted, averaged 34.3 hours in October 2018, up two-tenths of an hour from the same month a year ago (0.6%). Average hourly earnings at \$32.34, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$0.87 (2.8%) from the October 2017 estimate (\$31.47). The resultant average **private sector** weekly pay amounted to \$1,109.26, up \$36.13 from a year ago (3.4%). The 12-month percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in October 2018 was 2.5%. 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)

The October 2018 unemployment rate for Connecticut is estimated at **4.2%** (seasonally adjusted), unchanged from September 2018 and down three-tenths of a percentage point from a year ago when it was 4.5%. The US jobless rate in October 2018 was 3.7%, unchanged from September 2018.

Based on the Local Area Unemployment Statistics model (LAUS - a statistical model using the CPS – Current Population Survey residential data), the number of Connecticut unemployed residents, seasonally adjusted, was unchanged from September at 80,000. Over the year, the number of the state’s jobless residents declined by 6,100 (-7.1%). The state’s labor force increased for the fourth month in a row by 5,800 (0.3%) over the month, but is down over the year (-2,700, -0.1%).

October 2018 seasonally-adjusted average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut grew by 50 claimants (1.7%) to 3,064 from September 2018, but were lower by 459 claims (-13.0%) from the October 2017 level of 3,523.

*The nonfarm employment estimate, derived from a survey of businesses, is a measure of jobs in the state; the unemployment rate and labor force estimates are based on a household survey, and measure the work status of people who live in Connecticut. Overall, as the national and state economies recover, volatility in monthly numbers can be expected. **Job and employment estimates are best understood in the context of their movement over several months rather than observed changes in a single month’s value.***

Next Connecticut Labor Situation release: Thursday, December 20, 2018.

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11-15-18

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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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Jobs - by Place of Work

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	October 2018 P	September 2018 R	August 2018	July 2018	October 2017	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,701,900	1,700,400	1,701,800	1,698,500	1,679,600	1,500	0.1%	22,300	1.3%
Total Private	1,474,100	1,472,900	1,474,700	1,471,000	1,448,400	1,200	0.1%	25,700	1.8%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	600	600	600	600	600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	62,900	62,900	62,400	61,500	59,000	0	0.0%	3,900	6.6%
Manufacturing	164,700	164,400	164,000	163,600	160,400	300	0.2%	4,300	2.7%
Durable Goods	129,200	129,100	128,800	128,500	125,500	100	0.1%	3,700	2.9%
Nondurable Goods	35,500	35,300	35,200	35,100	34,900	200	0.6%	600	1.7%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	295,800	296,200	297,100	298,100	297,400	-400	-0.1%	-1,600	-0.5%
Wholesale	61,800	62,100	62,500	63,000	62,300	-300	-0.5%	-500	-0.8%
Retail	179,400	179,400	181,500	182,300	181,400	0	0.0%	-2,000	-1.1%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	54,600	54,700	53,100	52,800	53,700	-100	-0.2%	900	1.7%
Information	30,500	30,400	30,700	30,800	31,100	100	0.3%	-600	-1.9%
Financial Activities	129,700	128,800	127,700	127,100	127,600	900	0.7%	2,100	1.6%
Finance & Insurance	109,300	108,500	107,600	107,000	107,600	800	0.7%	1,700	1.6%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	20,400	20,300	20,100	20,100	20,000	100	0.5%	400	2.0%
Professional & Business Services	223,000	222,300	222,800	222,300	217,700	700	0.3%	5,300	2.4%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	98,900	98,500	98,700	98,100	96,500	400	0.4%	2,400	2.5%
Management of Companies	30,700	30,800	31,700	31,500	32,100	-100	-0.3%	-1,400	-4.4%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	93,400	93,000	92,400	92,700	89,100	400	0.4%	4,300	4.8%
Educational & Health Services	341,900	341,800	342,800	341,400	335,400	100	0.0%	6,500	1.9%
Educational Services	67,300	67,300	68,400	66,900	65,700	0	0.0%	1,600	2.4%
Health Care & Social Assistance	274,600	274,500	274,400	274,500	269,700	100	0.0%	4,900	1.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	159,500	159,700	161,100	160,600	154,900	-200	-0.1%	4,600	3.0%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	26,700	26,600	27,400	27,300	27,500	100	0.4%	-800	-2.9%
Accommodation & Food Services	132,800	133,100	133,700	133,300	127,400	-300	-0.2%	5,400	4.2%
Other Services	65,500	65,800	65,500	65,000	64,300	-300	-0.5%	1,200	1.9%
Government**	227,800	227,500	227,100	227,500	231,200	300	0.1%	-3,400	-1.5%
UNITED STATES	149,750,000	149,500,000	149,382,000	149,096,000	147,234,000	250,000	0.2%	2,516,000	1.7%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	October 2018 P	September 2018 R	August 2018	July 2018	October 2017	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	408,900	409,000	409,000	407,200	404,700	-100	0.0%	4,200	1.0%
Danbury	79,200	79,100	79,200	79,100	78,000	100	0.1%	1,200	1.5%
Hartford	582,500	581,700	580,600	579,800	574,800	800	0.1%	7,700	1.3%
New Haven	287,300	286,000	285,700	286,200	282,600	1,300	0.5%	4,700	1.7%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	132,600	132,400	132,100	132,000	130,900	200	0.2%	1,700	1.3%
Waterbury	66,800	67,100	67,200	66,500	67,000	-300	-0.4%	-200	-0.3%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	45,000	45,200	44,800	44,900	44,900	-200	-0.4%	100	0.2%
Torrington-Northwest	33,000	33,200	33,500	33,700	32,600	-200	-0.6%	400	1.2%
Danielson-Northeast	27,000	26,900	26,800	26,800	27,200	100	0.4%	-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 back to being seasonally adjusted.

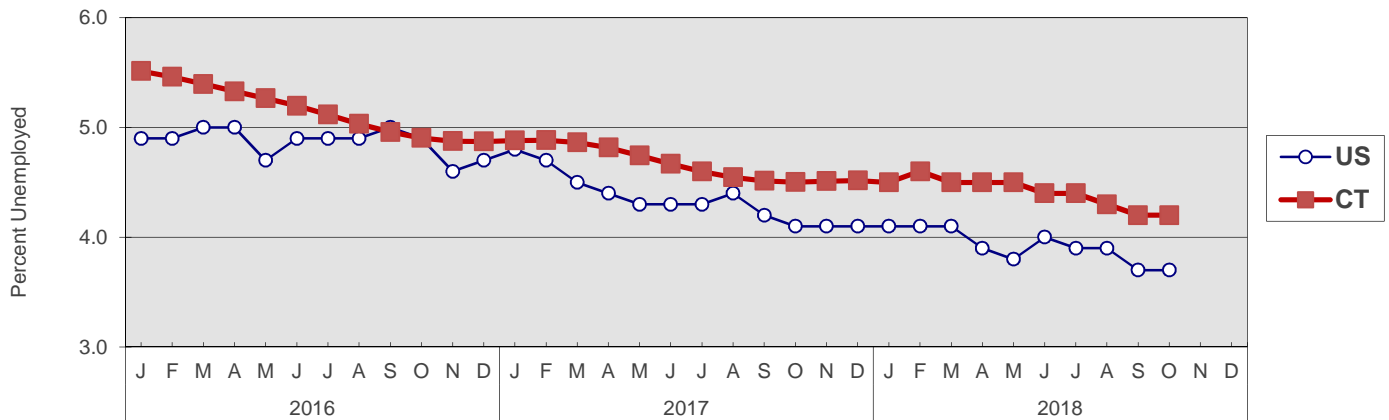
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	October 2018 P		October 2017 R		Change		September 2018 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	80,000	4.2	86,100	4.5	-6,100	-0.3	80,000	4.2
Labor Force	1,909,300		1,912,000		-2,700		1,903,500	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	6,075,000	3.7	6,524,000	4.1	-449,000	-0.4	5,964,000	3.7
Labor Force	162,637,000		160,371,000		2,266,000		161,926,000	

U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2016 - 2018



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	October 2018 P		October 2017 R		Change		September 2018 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford								
Danbury								
Danielson-Northeast*								
Worcester NECTA								
Hampton								
Enfield								
Hartford								
New Haven								
Norwich-New London								
Torrington-Northwest**								
Torrington NECTA								
Litchfield								
Waterbury								
CONNECTICUT	73,500	3.8	78,200	4.1	-4,700	-0.3	73,200	3.8
UNITED STATES	5,771,000	3.5	6,242,000	3.9	-471,000	-0.4	5,766,000	3.6

Release of the October 2018 sub-state labor force data is restricted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics until Friday, November 16, 2018.

An updated *Connecticut Labor Situation* with these data will be available on our website at that time at:

<http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/laborsit.pdf>.

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

* Worcester NECTA, CT part and Hampton LMA are combined ** Torrington Metropolitan NECTA and Litchfield LMA are combined

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	Oct. 2018 P	Oct. 2017	Change over Yr.	Sep. 2018 R	Oct. 2018 P	Oct. 2017	Change over Yr.	Sep. 2018 R	Oct. 2018 P	Oct. 2017	Change over Yr.	Sep. 2018 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,109.26	\$1,073.13	\$36.13	\$1,120.58	34.3	34.1	0.2	34.3	\$32.34	\$31.47	\$0.87	\$32.67
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$1,143.81	\$1,038.33	\$105.48	\$1,101.98	42.6	41.7	0.9	41.6	\$26.85	\$24.90	\$1.95	\$26.49

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

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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

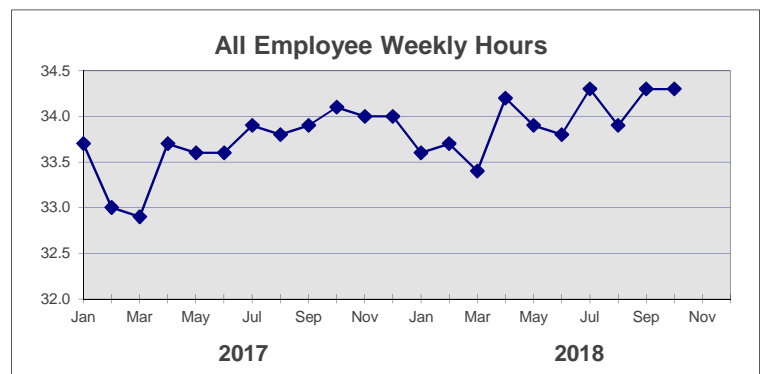
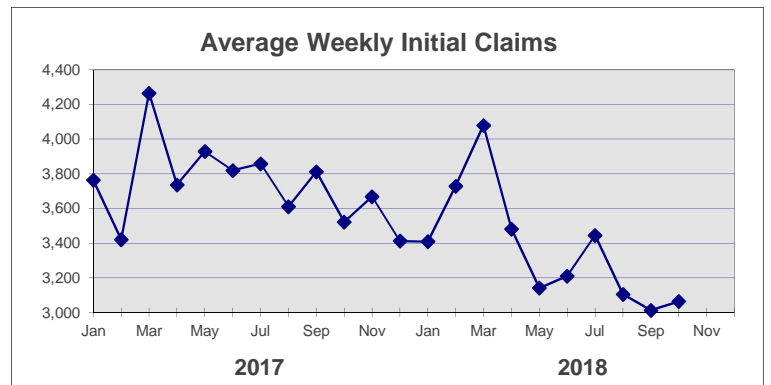
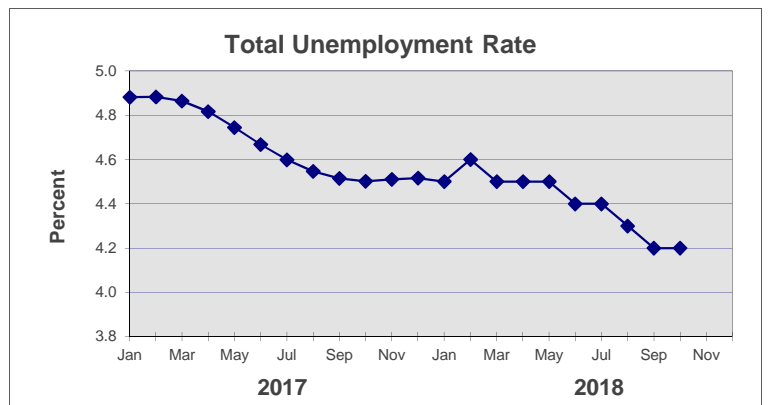
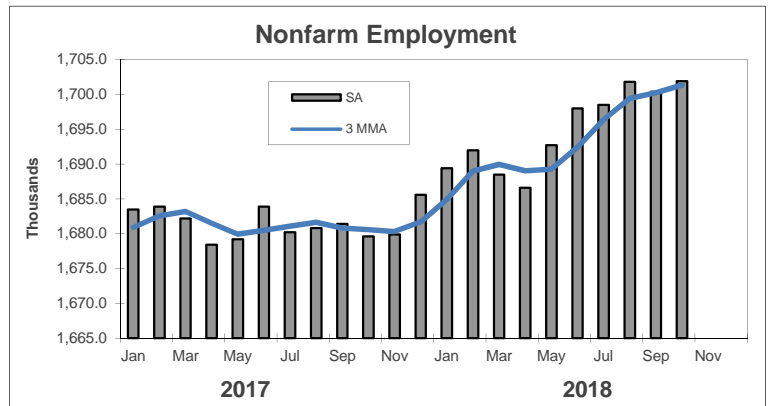
Seasonally Adjusted

	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2017		
Jan	1,683.5	4.9
Feb	1,683.9	4.9
Mar	1,682.2	4.9
Apr	1,678.4	4.8
May	1,679.2	4.7
Jun	1,683.9	4.7
Jul	1,680.2	4.6
Aug	1,680.8	4.5
Sep	1,681.4	4.5
Oct	1,679.6	4.5
Nov	1,679.9	4.5
Dec	1,685.6	4.5

2018		
Jan	1,689.4	4.5
Feb	1,692.0	4.6
Mar	1,688.5	4.5
Apr	1,686.6	4.5
May	1,692.7	4.5
Jun	1,698.0	4.4
Jul	1,698.5	4.4
Aug	1,701.8	4.3
Sep	1,700.4 R	4.2 R
Oct	1,701.9 P	4.2 P
Nov		
Dec		

	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2017		
Jan	3,763	33.7
Feb	3,421	33.0
Mar	4,266	32.9
Apr	3,736	33.7
May	3,929	33.6
Jun	3,820	33.6
Jul	3,858	33.9
Aug	3,611	33.8
Sep	3,812	33.9
Oct	3,523	34.1
Nov	3,668	34.0
Dec	3,413	34.0

2018		
Jan	3,409	33.6
Feb	3,729	33.7
Mar	4,080	33.4
Apr	3,481	34.2
May	3,142	33.9
Jun	3,211	33.8
Jul	3,445	34.3
Aug	3,106	33.9
Sep	3,014	34.3 R
Oct	3,064	34.3 P
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

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** Labor-management dispute