



# LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research  
Scott D. Jackson, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2018 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 4.5%  
US Unemployment Rate = 3.8%

## **Nonfarm jobs increase by 4,100 in May; unemployment rate unchanged at 4.5%**

WETHERSFIELD, June 14, 2018 – Preliminary Connecticut nonfarm job estimates from the business payroll survey administered by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the state grew 4,100 net jobs (0.2%) in May 2018, to a level of 1,690,700, seasonally adjusted. Over the year, nonagricultural employment in the state grew by 11,500 jobs (0.7%). The April 2018 originally-released job loss of 1,400 was revised down by 500 to a loss of 1,900 over the month. The number of the state's unemployed residents was estimated at 84,900 seasonally adjusted, down 900 from April. As a result, Connecticut's May unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.5, 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.

"May's increase of 4,100 jobs overcame most of the decline we saw in March and April," said Andy Condon, Director of the Office of Research. "There was surprising strength in **retail trade** and a good showing for **financial activities**, both of which are now ahead of last year's pace."

### **Nonfarm Jobs Detail (business establishment survey)**

**Private sector employment** grew by 4,300 (0.3%) to 1,460,800 jobs over the month in May, and remains up by 13,800 (1.0%) seasonally-adjusted jobs over the year. The **government supersector** lost 200 positions in May to a total of 229,900, with over-the-year losses at -2,300 or -1.0%. The **government supersector** includes all federal, state and local employment, including public higher education and Native American casino employment located on tribal land.

Five of the ten major industry *supersectors* gained employment in May, while four declined. The **manufacturing supersector** was unchanged. The **trade, transportation and utilities supersector** led growing industries with 2,600 net new jobs (0.9%, 300,200 total jobs) in May. **Other services** were next with 1,000 net new jobs (1.6%, 65,400). **Education & health services** (0.1%, 339,300) and **leisure & hospitality** (0.3%, 155,000) both added 500 jobs in May. Lastly, the **financial activities supersector** was up by 400 jobs (0.3%, 128,000).

On the down side, the **mining & construction supersector** dropped 300 jobs (-0.5%, 59,400) in May, while **professional & business services** (-0.1%, 220,300) and the **information** (-0.7%, 30,400) *supersectors* both saw small losses of 200.

Connecticut has now recovered **81.0%** (96,500 jobs) of the 119,100 seasonally adjusted jobs lost in the "Great Recession" (3/08-2/10). The job recovery is into its 99th month and the state needs an additional 22,600 net new jobs to reach an overall nonfarm employment expansion. The state's **private sector** has now recovered **102.3%** (114,300) of the private sector jobs lost in that same employment downturn.

**Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs):** Five of the six LMAs that are seasonally adjusted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics saw job increases in May 2018 and the **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** was unchanged. The **Hartford LMA** led gainers with 900 net new positions (0.2%, 576,600). The **New Haven LMA** was next with 700 new jobs, (0.2%, 286,000), while the **Norwich–New London–Westerly RI LMA** saw an increase of 600 (0.5%, 131,500). The **Danbury LMA** gained 200 jobs (0.3%, 79,100) and the **Waterbury LMA** saw a small increase of 100 (0.2%, 66,400).

*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 34.2 hours in May 2018, up six-tenths of an hour from the same month a year ago (1.8%). Average hourly earnings at \$31.51, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$0.48 (1.5%) from the May 2017 estimate (\$31.03). The resultant average **private sector** weekly pay amounted to \$1,077.64, up \$35.03 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 May 2018 was 2.8%. 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 May 2018 unemployment rate for Connecticut is estimated at **4.5%** (seasonally adjusted), unchanged from April 2018 and down two-tenths of a percentage point from a year ago when it was 4.7%. The US jobless rate in May 2018 was 3.8%, down one tenth of a point from April 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 down 900 from April at 84,900 in May. Over the year, the number of the state’s jobless residents declined by 6,300 (-6.9%). The state’s labor force decreased by 2,500 (-0.1%) over the month, and is down over the year (-24,400, -1.3%).

May 2018 seasonally-adjusted average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut fell by 339 claimants (-9.7%) to 3,142 from April 2018, and were lower by 787 claims (-20.0%) from the May 2017 level of 3,929.

*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, July 19, 2018.

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06-14-18

Labor market information is available on the Internet at [www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi](http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi)  
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# NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

## Jobs - by Place of Work

### CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	May 2018 P	April 2018 R	March 2018	February 2018	May 2017	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>	<b>1,690,700</b>	<b>1,686,600</b>	<b>1,688,500</b>	<b>1,692,000</b>	<b>1,679,200</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>11,500</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>1,460,800</b>	<b>1,456,500</b>	<b>1,458,200</b>	<b>1,461,500</b>	<b>1,447,000</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>13,800</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
<b>Goods Producing Industries</b>									
Mining	600	500	600	600	600	100	20.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	58,800	59,200	59,400	58,900	58,400	-400	-0.7%	400	0.7%
Manufacturing	162,800	162,800	162,600	162,800	158,700	0	0.0%	4,100	2.6%
Durable Goods	128,000	128,000	127,800	127,700	124,200	0	0.0%	3,800	3.1%
Nondurable Goods	34,800	34,800	34,800	35,100	34,500	0	0.0%	300	0.9%
<b>Service Providing Industries</b>									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300,200	297,600	298,700	300,200	297,500	2,600	0.9%	2,700	0.9%
Wholesale	63,000	62,600	63,200	63,300	62,400	400	0.6%	600	1.0%
Retail	183,800	181,900	182,200	183,400	183,700	1,900	1.0%	100	0.1%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	53,400	53,100	53,300	53,500	51,400	300	0.6%	2,000	3.9%
Information	30,400	30,600	30,700	30,600	31,700	-200	-0.7%	-1,300	-4.1%
Financial Activities	128,000	127,600	128,400	128,900	127,900	400	0.3%	100	0.1%
Finance & Insurance	107,900	107,500	108,200	108,700	108,200	400	0.4%	-300	-0.3%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	20,100	20,100	20,200	20,200	19,700	0	0.0%	400	2.0%
Professional & Business Services	220,300	220,500	221,100	220,500	217,700	-200	-0.1%	2,600	1.2%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	97,300	97,100	96,800	97,100	96,300	200	0.2%	1,000	1.0%
Management of Companies	31,500	31,600	31,700	31,900	31,900	-100	-0.3%	-400	-1.3%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	91,500	91,800	92,600	91,500	89,500	-300	-0.3%	2,000	2.2%
Educational & Health Services	339,300	338,800	338,500	338,500	333,900	500	0.1%	5,400	1.6%
Educational Services	65,900	65,800	65,400	65,700	64,900	100	0.2%	1,000	1.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	273,400	273,000	273,100	272,800	269,000	400	0.1%	4,400	1.6%
Leisure and Hospitality	155,000	154,500	153,800	155,200	155,700	500	0.3%	-700	-0.4%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	26,500	25,900	25,700	25,700	27,600	600	2.3%	-1,100	-4.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	128,500	128,600	128,100	129,500	128,100	-100	-0.1%	400	0.3%
Other Services	65,400	64,400	64,400	65,300	64,900	1,000	1.6%	500	0.8%
Government**	229,900	230,100	230,300	230,500	232,200	-200	-0.1%	-2,300	-1.0%
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>148,662,000</b>	<b>148,439,000</b>	<b>148,280,000</b>	<b>148,125,000</b>	<b>146,299,000</b>	<b>223,000</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>2,363,000</b>	<b>1.6%</b>

### LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	May 2018 P	April 2018 R	March 2018	February 2018	May 2017	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
<b>Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk</b>	406,200	406,200	406,700	407,700	406,700	0	0.0%	-500	-0.1%
<b>Danbury</b>	79,100	78,900	79,000	78,900	78,100	200	0.3%	1,000	1.3%
<b>Hartford</b>	576,600	575,700	577,500	577,000	571,100	900	0.2%	5,500	1.0%
<b>New Haven</b>	286,000	285,300	283,200	285,000	284,200	700	0.2%	1,800	0.6%
<b>Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI</b>	131,500	130,900	130,700	130,800	129,900	600	0.5%	1,600	1.2%
<b>Waterbury</b>	66,400	66,300	66,500	66,700	66,600	100	0.2%	-200	-0.3%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
<b>Enfield</b>	45,500	45,600	44,800	44,700	45,200	-100	-0.2%	300	0.7%
<b>Torrington-Northwest</b>	32,700	31,900	31,600	31,600	32,800	800	2.5%	-100	-0.3%
<b>Danielson-Northeast</b>	27,200	27,000	26,600	26,500	27,100	200	0.7%	100	0.4%

\* 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](mailto:dol.lmi@ct.gov). Danbury and Waterbury LMA's are now back to being seasonally adjusted.

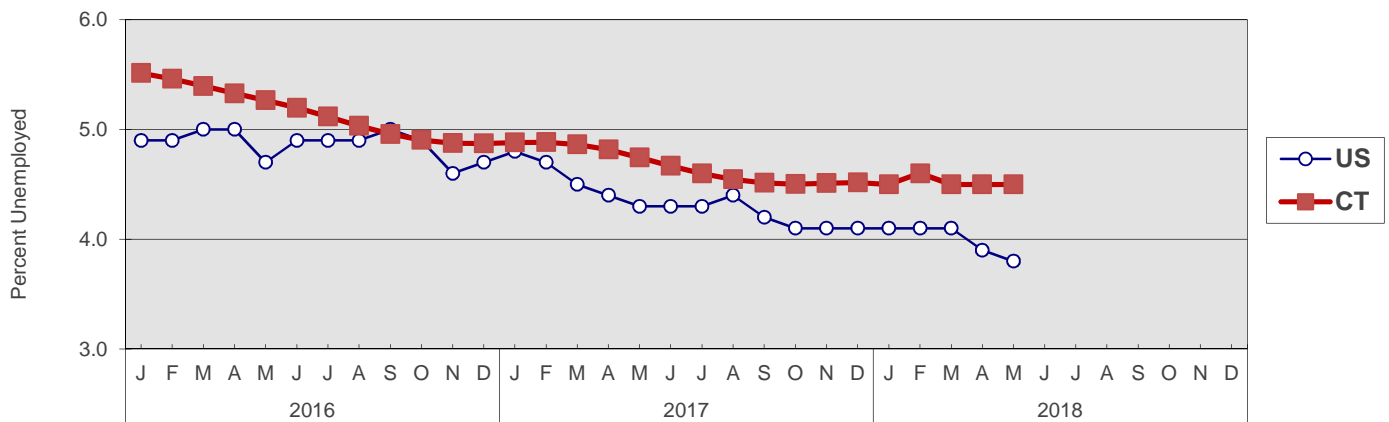
# UNEMPLOYMENT

## Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

### CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	May 2018 P		May 2017 R		Change		April 2018 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>								
Unemployed	84,900	4.5	91,200	4.7	-6,300	-0.2	85,800	4.5
Labor Force	1,898,500		1,922,900		-24,400		1,901,000	
<b>UNITED STATES</b>								
Unemployed	6,065,000	3.8	6,837,000	4.3	-772,000	-0.5	6,346,000	3.9
Labor Force	161,539,000		159,729,000		1,810,000		161,527,000	

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



### LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	May 2018 P		May 2017 R		Change		April 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	80,900	4.3	89,800	4.7	-8,900	-0.4	80,500	4.3
UNITED STATES	5,756,000	3.6	6,572,000	4.1	-816,000	-0.5	5,932,000	3.7

Release of the May 2018 sub-state labor force data is restricted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics until Friday, June 15, 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>.

P = Preliminary

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

## HOURS AND EARNINGS

### CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	May 2018 P	May 2017	Change over Yr.	April 2018 R	May 2018 P	May 2017	Change over Yr.	April 2018 R	May 2018 P	May 2017	Change over Yr.	April 2018 R
<b>Private Industry All Employees</b>	\$1,077.64	\$1,042.61	\$35.03	\$1,095.77	34.2	33.6	0.6	34.2	\$31.51	\$31.03	\$0.48	\$32.04
<b>Manufacturing*</b>												
<b>Production Workers</b>	\$1,058.18	\$1,022.43	\$35.75	\$1,043.26	41.4	41.8	-0.4	40.8	\$25.56	\$24.46	\$1.10	\$25.57

\* 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](http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi).

# TRENDS

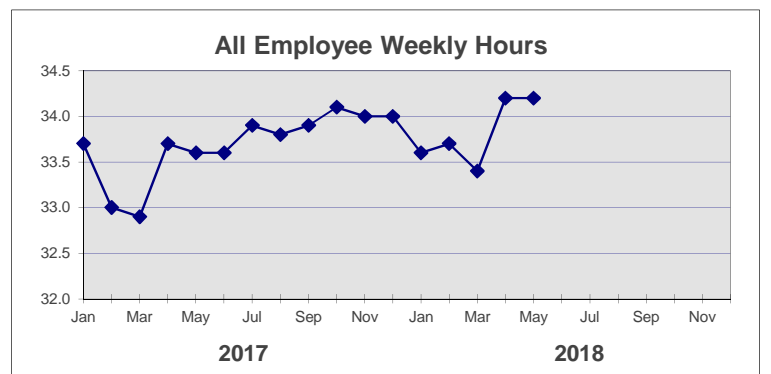
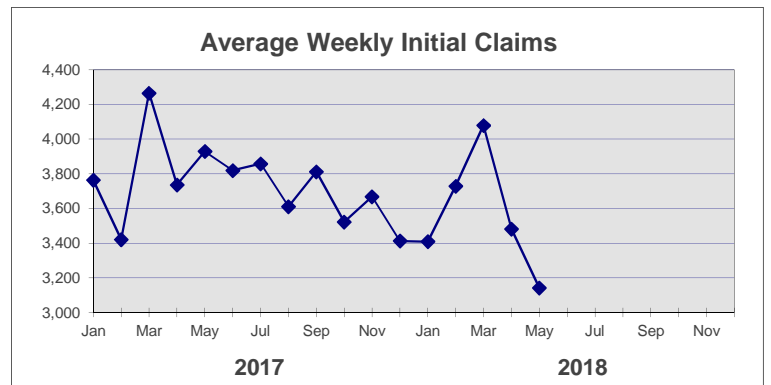
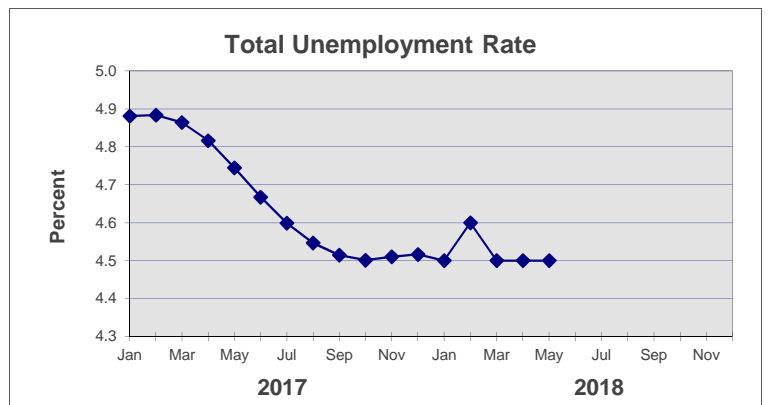
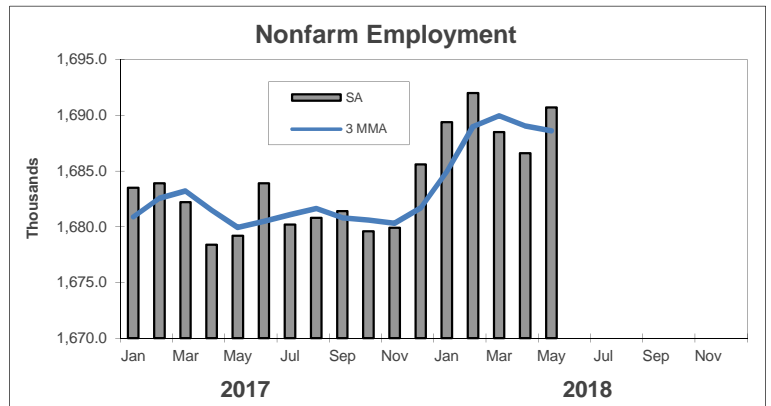
## Seasonally Adjusted

	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
<b>2017</b>		
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

<b>2018</b>		
Jan	1,689.4	4.5
Feb	1,692.0	4.6
Mar	1,688.5	4.5
Apr	1,686.6 R	4.5 R
May	1,690.7 P	4.5 P
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		

	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
<b>2017</b>		
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

<b>2018</b>		
Jan	3,409	33.6
Feb	3,729	33.7
Mar	4,080	33.4
Apr	3,481	34.2 R
May	3,142	34.2 P
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



\* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

\*\* Labor-management dispute