



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Kurt Westby, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2019 Data
CT Unemployment Rate = 3.8%
US Unemployment Rate = 3.6%

Nonfarm jobs fall by 1,500 in May; unemployment rate unchanged at 3.8%

WETHERSFIELD, June 20, 2019 – Preliminary Connecticut nonfarm job estimates from the business payroll survey administered by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the state lost 1,500 net jobs (-0.1%) in May 2019, to a level of 1,694,000 seasonally adjusted. Over the year, nonagricultural employment in the state grew by 6,600 (0.4%). The April 2019 originally-released job gain of 300 was revised up by 200 to a gain of 500. The number of the state's unemployed residents was estimated at 71,700, seasonally adjusted, down 800 from April. As a result, Connecticut's April unemployment rate is at 3.8%, seasonally adjusted, unchanged from the revised April level. 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 movements in payroll job estimates or residential employment are considered statistically significant.

"With May's decline of 1,500 jobs, seasonally adjusted employment growth through the first five months of the year is looking rather flat," said Andy Condon, Director of the Office of Research. "Most sectors are seeing at least some annual growth, but trade, particularly retail trade, professional & business services and other services are behind last year's job numbers."

Nonfarm Jobs Detail (business establishment survey)

Private sector employment fell by 1,600 (-0.1%) to 1,457,400 jobs over the month in May, and remains up 6,300 (0.4%) seasonally-adjusted jobs over May 2018. The **government supersector** was up slightly in May (100, 0.0%) to a total of 236,300, and is up 300 jobs (0.1%) over the year. 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 and the **information supersector** remained unchanged. **Leisure & hospitality** led gainers with an increase of 500 jobs (0.3%, 161,300 total jobs). The **financial activities supersector** (0.2%, 127,300) was next with a gain of 300 jobs. The **professional & business services** (0.1%, 219,100) *supersector* picked up 200 jobs while **education & health services** added 100 (0.0%, 338,500). The above mentioned **government supersector** added 100 positions.

The **trade, transportation, and utilities supersector** led declines, dropping 1,400 jobs (-0.5%, 294,100). **Construction and mining** was next, losing 900 positions (-1.5%, 59,600). **Other services** dropped 300, (-0.5%, 64,000) while **manufacturing** saw a small decline of 100 jobs (-0.1%, 160,700).

Connecticut has now recovered **80.8%** (97,200 jobs) of the 120,300 seasonally adjusted jobs lost in the "Great Recession" (3/08-1/10). The job recovery is into its 111th month and the state needs an additional 23,100 net new jobs to reach an overall nonfarm employment expansion. The state's private sector continues fully recovered at **100.0%** (112,000) of the 112,000 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 May 2019 and one saw a decline. The **Waterbury LMA** (69,500) remained unchanged. The **Hartford LMA** saw an increase of 2,400 jobs (0.4%, 584,900). The **Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI LMA** (0.4%, 130,400) gained 500. The **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (0.0%, 410,600) and the **Danbury LMA** (0.1%, 77,800) each saw small increases of 100 jobs. The New Haven **LMA** (-0.1%, 286,000) dropped 200 net 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 33.9 hours in May 2019, up by one-tenth of an hour from the same month a year ago. Average hourly earnings at \$32.59, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$1.19 (3.8%) from the May 2018 estimate (\$31.40). The resultant average private sector weekly pay amounted to \$1,104.80, up \$43.48 from a year ago (4.1%). 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 2019 was 1.8%. 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 2019 unemployment rate for Connecticut is estimated at **3.8%** (seasonally adjusted), unchanged from the revised April 2019 figure and down four-tenths of a percentage point from a year ago when it was 4.2%. The US jobless rate in May 2019 was 3.6%, down two-tenths of a point from May 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 800 from April at 71,700. Over the year, the number of the state’s jobless residents declined by 8,500 (-10.6%). The state’s labor force was down an estimated 4,500 over the month at 1,911,100, but is higher over the year by 15,100 (0.8%). The annual growth margin in the state’s labor force has been shrinking in recent months.

May 2019 seasonally adjusted average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut was 3,038 - down from April by 1,281 claims and lower by 207 claims (-6.4%) from the May 2018 level of 3,245.

*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 18, 2019 (June 2019 data)

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06-20-19

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

	May 2019 P	April 2019 R	March 2019	February 2019	May 2018	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,694,000	1,695,500	1,695,000	1,694,700	1,687,400	-1,500	-0.1%	6,600	0.4%
Total Private	1,457,400	1,459,000	1,458,200	1,457,600	1,451,100	-1,600	-0.1%	6,300	0.4%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	500	500	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	59,100	60,000	62,300	61,600	58,300	-900	-1.5%	800	1.4%
Manufacturing	160,700	160,800	161,300	161,500	160,500	-100	-0.1%	200	0.1%
Durable Goods	126,300	126,400	126,800	127,000	126,200	-100	-0.1%	100	0.1%
Nondurable Goods	34,400	34,400	34,500	34,500	34,300	0	0.0%	100	0.3%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	294,100	295,500	294,900	294,100	296,900	-1,400	-0.5%	-2,800	-0.9%
Wholesale	62,900	63,000	61,800	61,000	61,600	-100	-0.2%	1,300	2.1%
Retail	175,900	177,000	177,900	177,700	181,100	-1,100	-0.6%	-5,200	-2.9%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	55,300	55,500	55,200	55,400	54,200	-200	-0.4%	1,100	2.0%
Information	32,800	32,800	32,800	32,900	31,600	0	0.0%	1,200	3.8%
Financial Activities	127,300	127,000	127,100	126,700	125,500	300	0.2%	1,800	1.4%
Finance & Insurance	106,600	106,500	106,600	106,300	105,700	100	0.1%	900	0.9%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	20,700	20,500	20,500	20,400	19,800	200	1.0%	900	4.5%
Professional & Business Services	219,100	218,900	217,100	217,800	220,800	200	0.1%	-1,700	-0.8%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	96,900	97,500	98,400	97,800	96,500	-600	-0.6%	400	0.4%
Management of Companies	32,800	32,800	32,900	32,900	33,700	0	0.0%	-900	-2.7%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	89,400	88,600	85,800	87,100	90,600	800	0.9%	-1,200	-1.3%
Educational & Health Services	338,500	338,400	337,600	337,100	334,300	100	0.0%	4,200	1.3%
Educational Services	67,500	67,400	67,200	67,500	65,100	100	0.1%	2,400	3.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	271,000	271,000	270,400	269,600	269,200	0	0.0%	1,800	0.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	161,300	160,800	160,300	161,200	157,100	500	0.3%	4,200	2.7%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	28,900	28,800	28,300	28,800	28,200	100	0.3%	700	2.5%
Accommodation & Food Services	132,400	132,000	132,000	132,400	128,900	400	0.3%	3,500	2.7%
Other Services	64,000	64,300	64,300	64,200	65,600	-300	-0.5%	-1,600	-2.4%
Government**	236,600	236,500	236,800	237,100	236,300	100	0.0%	300	0.1%
UNITED STATES	151,095,000	151,020,000	150,796,000	150,643,000	148,745,000	75,000	0.0%	2,350,000	1.6%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	May 2019 P	April 2019 R	March 2019	February 2019	May 2018	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	410,600	410,500	410,000	409,700	408,200	100	0.0%	2,400	0.6%
Danbury	77,800	77,700	77,700	77,600	77,300	100	0.1%	500	0.6%
Hartford	584,900	582,500	582,100	582,100	581,000	2,400	0.4%	3,900	0.7%
New Haven	286,000	286,200	287,400	288,200	285,100	-200	-0.1%	900	0.3%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	130,400	129,900	130,200	129,700	129,800	500	0.4%	600	0.5%
Waterbury	69,500	69,500	69,400	69,300	68,800	0	0.0%	700	1.0%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	45,300	45,400	44,600	44,400	45,200	-100	-0.2%	100	0.2%
Torrington-Northwest	33,500	32,700	32,200	32,100	33,000	800	2.4%	500	1.5%
Danielson-Northeast	27,300	26,900	26,500	26,400	27,100	400	1.5%	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.

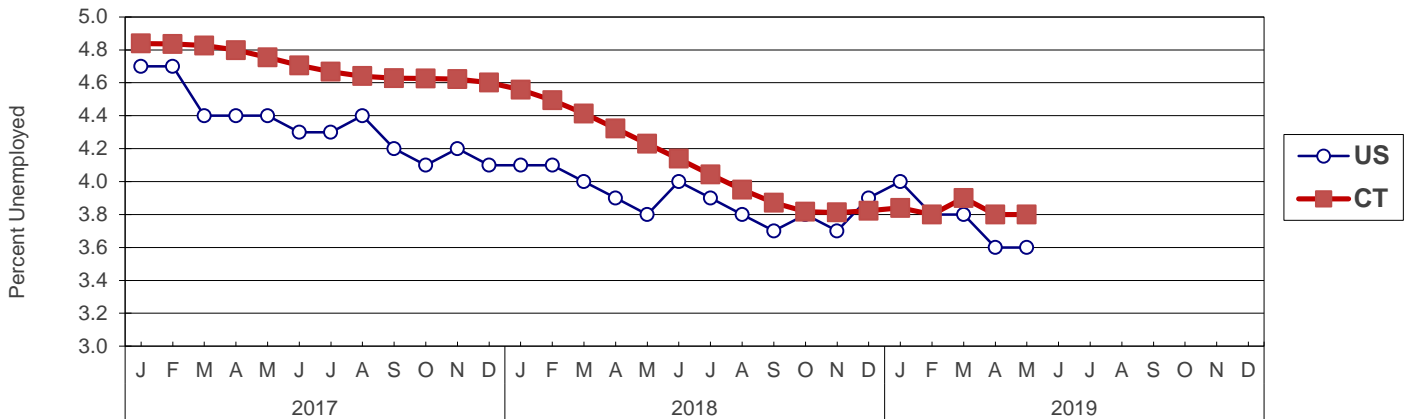
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	May 2019 P		May 2018 R		Change		Apr 2019 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	71,700	3.8	80,200	4.2	-8,500	-0.4	72,500	3.8
Labor Force	1,911,100		1,896,000		15,100		1,915,600	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	5,888,000	3.6	6,128,000	3.8	-240,000	-0.2	5,824,000	3.6
Labor Force	162,646,000		161,667,000		979,000		162,470,000	

U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2017 - 2019



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	May 2019 P		May 2018 R		Change		Apr 2019 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	68,300	3.6	78,100	4.1	-9,800	-0.5	61,500	3.3
UNITED STATES	5,503,000	3.4	5,756,000	3.6	-253,000	-0.2	5,387,000	3.3

Release of the May 2019 sub-state labor force data is restricted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics until Friday, June 21, 2019. 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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HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	May 2019 P	May 2018	Change over Yr.	April 2019 R	May 2019 P	May 2018	Change over Yr.	April 2019 R	May 2019 P	May 2018	Change over Yr.	April 2019 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,104.80	\$1,061.32	\$43.48	\$1,124.72	33.9	33.8	0.1	34.0	\$32.59	\$31.40	\$1.19	\$33.08
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$1,146.07	\$1,077.23	\$68.84	\$1,182.56	42.4	41.1	1.3	42.8	\$27.03	\$26.21	\$0.82	\$27.63

* 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

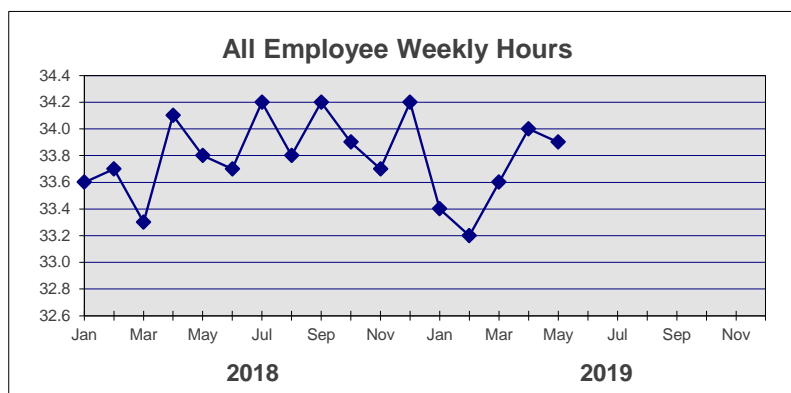
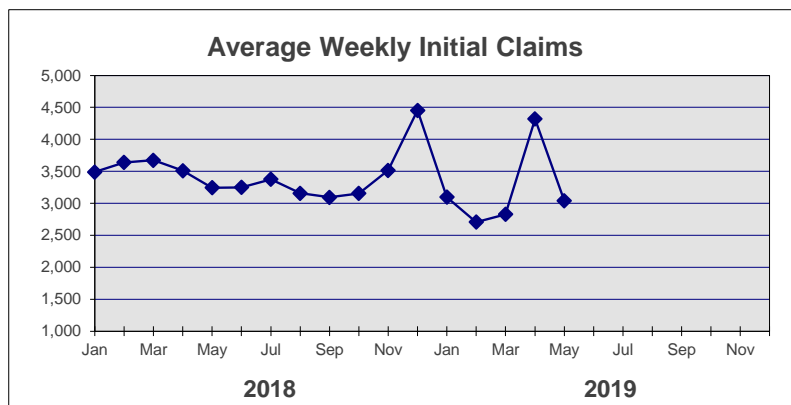
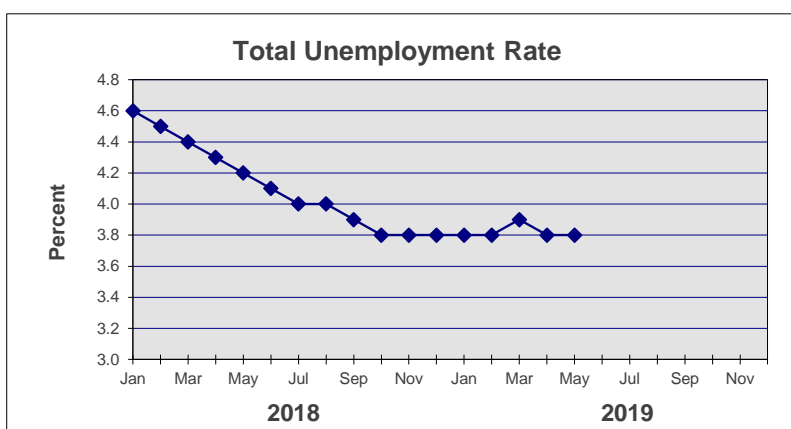
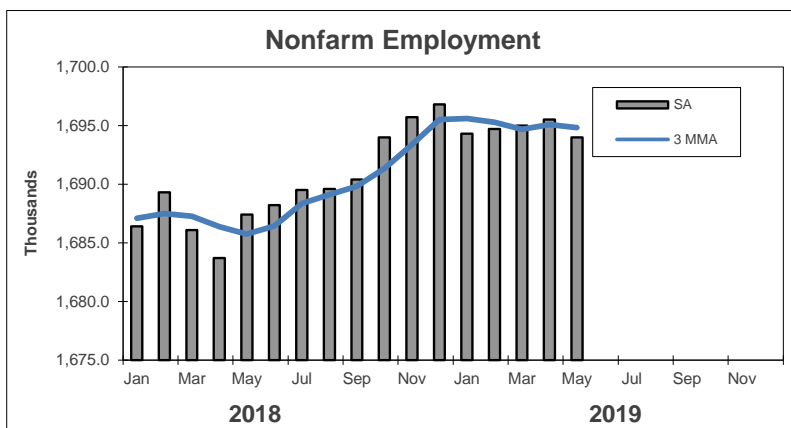
Seasonally Adjusted

	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2018		
Jan	1,686.4	4.6
Feb	1,689.3	4.5
Mar	1,686.1	4.4
Apr	1,683.7	4.3
May	1,687.4	4.2
Jun	1,688.2	4.1
Jul	1,689.5	4.0
Aug	1,689.6	4.0
Sep	1,690.4	3.9
Oct	1,694.0	3.8
Nov	1,695.7	3.8
Dec	1,696.8	3.8

2019		
Jan	1,694.3	3.8
Feb	1,694.7	3.8
Mar	1,695.0	3.9
Apr	1,695.5 R	3.8 R
May	1,694.0 P	3.8 P
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		

	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2018		
Jan	3,490	33.6
Feb	3,639	33.7
Mar	3,674	33.3
Apr	3,511	34.1
May	3,245	33.8
Jun	3,249	33.7
Jul	3,376	34.2
Aug	3,157	33.8
Sep	3,093	34.2
Oct	3,154	33.9
Nov	3,516	33.7
Dec	4,454	34.2

2019		
Jan	3,096	33.4
Feb	2,707	33.2
Mar	2,828	33.6
Apr	4,319	34.0 R
May	3,038	33.9 P
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

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** Labor-management dispute