



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Scott D. Jackson, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2017 Data
CT Unemployment Rate = 4.6%
US Unemployment Rate = 4.2%

Nonfarm jobs decline 2,000 in September; unemployment rate falls to 4.6%

WETHERSFIELD, October 19, 2017 – Preliminary Connecticut nonfarm job estimates from the business payroll survey administered by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the state lost 2,000 net jobs (-0.1%) in September 2017, to a level of 1,684,900, seasonally adjusted. Over the year, nonagricultural employment in the state grew by 3,500 jobs (0.2%). August's originally-released job loss of 3,900 was revised down by the BLS to a loss of 4,200. The number of the state's unemployed residents fell by 5,032, while the number of residents employed also fell by 4,344. As a result, Connecticut's unemployment rate fell by two-tenths of a point to 4.6% in September, 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.

"September's decline of 2,000 seasonally adjusted payroll jobs caps a slow third quarter for Connecticut job growth," said Andy Condon, Director of the Office of Research. "Annual job growth is now only 3,500, though the private sector is doing considerably better. Yet, at the same time, the state's unemployment rate fell to a quite low 4.6%."

Nonfarm Jobs Detail (business establishment survey)

Private sector employment fell by 1,100 (-0.1%) to 1,453,000 jobs over the month in September, but remains up by 7,100 jobs (0.5%) over the year. The **government supersector** also declined by 900 (-0.4%) to 231,900 jobs last month and over the year losses have grown to -3,600, -1.5%. The **government supersector** includes all federal, state and local employment, including public higher education and Native American casinos located on tribal land.

Six of the ten major industry *supersectors* lost employment in September, while four increased. **Professional & business services** led growing industries with 1,100 net new jobs (0.5%, 217,600 total jobs). **Financial activities** was next with an increase of 900 jobs (0.7%, 133,000 total). The **information supersector** contributed 300 jobs to growth, (0.9%, 32,100 jobs) and **manufacturing** added 200 jobs (0.1%, 157,200 total)

On the downside, **construction and mining** dropped an estimated 1,400 jobs in September (-2.4%, 56,800 total). **Leisure & hospitality** was next with a loss of 1,200 (-0.8%, 157,600 total). **Education & health services** shed 600 jobs (-0.2%, 332,700) with losses in both major categories. **Trade, transportation, and utilities**, lost 300 positions (-0.1%, 297,700 total), although the retail trade component grew by 200 (0.1%). Finally, **other services** lost 100 jobs (-0.1%, 68,300 total).

Connecticut has now recovered 76.2% (90,700 jobs) of the 119,100 seasonally adjusted jobs lost in the Great Recession (3/08-2/10). The job recovery is into its 91st month and the state needs an additional 28,400 jobs to reach an overall nonfarm employment expansion. The state's **private sector** also slipped a bit in the recovery, regaining **95.3%** (106,500) of the 111,700 private sector jobs lost in that same employment downturn. The **government supersector** has lost a total of 23,200 positions since the recession began in March 2008.

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Three of the six LMAs that are seasonally adjusted by the BLS saw job losses in September 2017 and two were unchanged. Only the **New Haven LMA** saw job gains in September (1,200, 0.4%, 286,100 total). **New Haven** now leads the state in job growth in both numeric and percentage terms. The **Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford LMA** led declines (-2,100, -0.4%, 571,200). The **Bridgeport, Stamford, Norwalk LMA** dropped by 200 (-0.0, 411,000 total) and the **Danbury LMA** saw a small loss of 100 jobs (-0.1%, 79,800 total). The **Norwich-New London LMA** and the **Waterbury LMA** were both unchanged. *Note: 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 33.8 hours in September 2017, down one-tenth of an hour from the same month a year ago. Average hourly earnings at \$30.92, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$0.54 (1.8%) from the September 2016 estimate (\$30.38). The resultant average **private sector** weekly pay amounted to \$1,045.10, up \$15.22 from a year ago (1.5%). The 12-month percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in September 2017 was 2.2%. 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 September 2017 unemployment rate for Connecticut is estimated at **4.6%** (seasonally adjusted), down two-tenths from August 2017 and down two-tenths of a percentage point from a year ago when it was 4.8%. The US jobless rate in September 2017 was 4.2%, down two-tenths point from 4.4% in August.

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, decreased by 5,032 (-5.5%) over the month to 87,200 in September. Over the year, the number of the state’s jobless residents has decreased by 2,747 (-3.1%). The state’s labor force decreased by 9,376 (-0.5%) over the month, but continued to expand over the year (23,713, 1.3%). This is the third consecutive drop in the state’s labor force after 6 months of gains.

September 2017 seasonally adjusted average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut increased by 331 claimants (9.1%) to 3,956 from August 2017, but were lower by 101 claims (-2.5%) from the September 2016 level of 4,057.

*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, November 16, 2017 (October 2017 data)

Contact: Communications Office

(860) 263-6535

10-19-17

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

	September 2017 P	August 2017 R	July 2017	June 2017	September 2016	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,684,900	1,686,900	1,691,100	1,692,800	1,681,400	-2,000	-0.1%	3,500	0.2%
Total Private	1,453,000	1,454,100	1,458,200	1,459,000	1,445,900	-1,100	-0.1%	7,100	0.5%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	600	500	600	600	600	100	20.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	56,200	57,700	58,700	60,500	58,700	-1,500	-2.6%	-2,500	-4.3%
Manufacturing	157,200	157,000	156,400	156,600	156,400	200	0.1%	800	0.5%
Durable Goods	122,900	122,900	122,200	122,300	122,800	0	0.0%	100	0.1%
Nondurable Goods	34,300	34,100	34,200	34,300	33,600	200	0.6%	700	2.1%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	297,700	298,000	299,900	298,200	299,300	-300	-0.1%	-1,600	-0.5%
Wholesale	63,200	63,300	63,700	63,500	62,800	-100	-0.2%	400	0.6%
Retail	181,600	181,400	182,300	181,600	185,300	200	0.1%	-3,700	-2.0%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	52,900	53,300	53,900	53,100	51,200	-400	-0.8%	1,700	3.3%
Information	32,100	31,800	31,800	31,900	32,200	300	0.9%	-100	-0.3%
Financial Activities	133,000	132,100	133,000	132,800	129,700	900	0.7%	3,300	2.5%
Finance & Insurance	112,200	111,400	112,400	112,300	109,600	800	0.7%	2,600	2.4%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	20,800	20,700	20,600	20,500	20,100	100	0.5%	700	3.5%
Professional & Business Services	217,600	216,500	216,400	216,300	218,900	1,100	0.5%	-1,300	-0.6%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	98,500	98,900	99,400	99,000	97,000	-400	-0.4%	1,500	1.5%
Management of Companies	30,700	31,400	31,500	31,800	32,800	-700	-2.2%	-2,100	-6.4%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	88,400	86,200	85,500	85,500	89,100	2,200	2.6%	-700	-0.8%
Educational & Health Services	332,700	333,300	333,400	333,200	330,700	-600	-0.2%	2,000	0.6%
Educational Services	64,500	64,900	65,800	65,500	64,100	-400	-0.6%	400	0.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	268,200	268,400	267,600	267,700	266,600	-200	-0.1%	1,600	0.6%
Leisure and Hospitality	157,600	158,800	159,100	161,100	154,600	-1,200	-0.8%	3,000	1.9%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	28,300	29,300	29,000	28,300	27,200	-1,000	-3.4%	1,100	4.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	129,300	129,500	130,100	132,800	127,400	-200	-0.2%	1,900	1.5%
Other Services	68,300	68,400	68,900	67,800	64,800	-100	-0.1%	3,500	5.4%
Government**	231,900	232,800	232,900	233,800	235,500	-900	-0.4%	-3,600	-1.5%
UNITED STATES	146,659,000	146,692,000	146,523,000	146,385,000	144,882,000	-33,000	0.0%	1,777,000	1.2%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	September 2017 P	August 2017 R	July 2017	June 2017	September 2016	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	411,000	411,200	411,400	412,700	411,200	-200	0.0%	-200	0.0%
Danbury	79,800	79,900	79,900	79,500	79,100	-100	-0.1%	700	0.9%
Hartford	571,200	573,300	575,600	574,400	570,100	-2,100	-0.4%	1,100	0.2%
New Haven	286,100	284,900	284,700	285,300	282,800	1,200	0.4%	3,300	1.2%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	130,000	130,000	131,100	130,400	128,800	0	0.0%	1,200	0.9%
Waterbury	66,900	66,900	67,100	66,500	67,400	0	0.0%	-500	-0.7%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	44,600	44,500	44,700	44,700	44,500	100	0.2%	100	0.2%
Torrington-Northwest	33,200	33,100	33,800	33,200	33,200	100	0.3%	0	0.0%
Danielson-Northeast	27,200	27,100	27,000	27,300	27,100	100	0.4%	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. Danbury and Waterbury LMA's are now back to being seasonally adjusted.

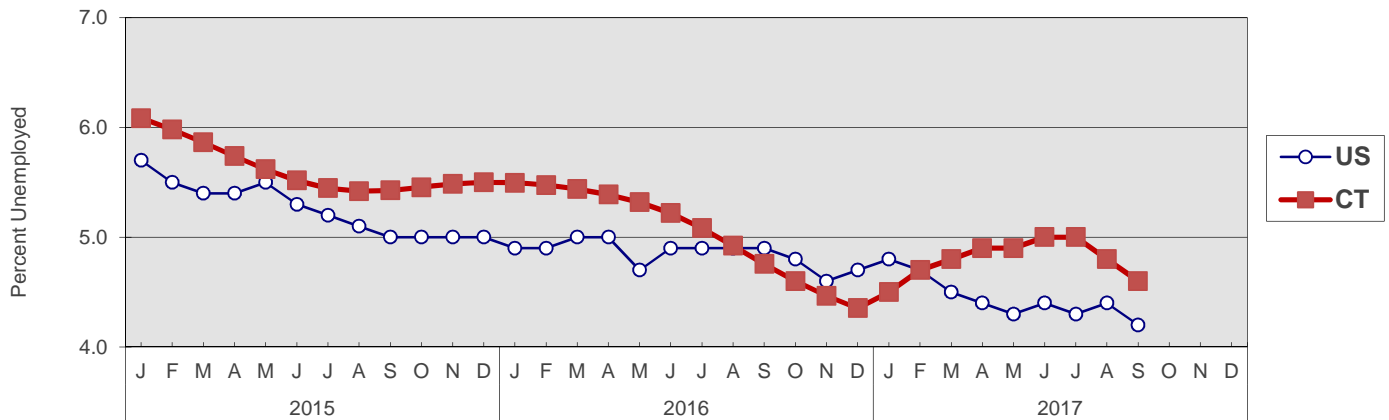
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	September 2017 P		September 2016 R		Change		August 2017 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	87,200	4.6	89,900	4.8	-2,700	-0.2	92,200	4.8
Labor Force	1,913,800		1,890,100		23,700		1,923,200	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	6,801,000	4.2	7,904,000	4.9	-1,103,000	-0.7	7,132,000	4.4
Labor Force	161,146,000		159,830,000		1,316,000		160,571,000	

U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2015 - 2017



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	September 2017 P		September 2016 R		Change		August 2017 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	76,300	4.0	86,800	4.6	-10,500	-0.6	87,300	4.5
UNITED STATES	6,556,000	4.1	7,658,000	4.8	-1,102,000	-0.7	7,287,000	4.5

Release of the September 2017 sub-state labor force data is restricted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics until Friday, October 20, 2017. 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			
	Sept. 2017 P	Sept. 2016	Change over Yr.	Aug. 2017 R	Sept. 2017 P	Sept. 2016	Change over Yr.	Aug. 2017 R	Sept. 2017 P	Sept. 2016	Change over Yr.	Aug. 2017 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,045.10	\$1,029.88	\$15.22	\$1,038.63	33.8	33.9	-0.1	33.7	\$30.92	\$30.38	\$0.54	\$30.82
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$1,026.24	\$1,116.71	-\$90.47	\$1,068.83	41.7	43.0	-1.3	41.8	\$24.61	\$25.97	-\$1.36	\$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.

TRENDS

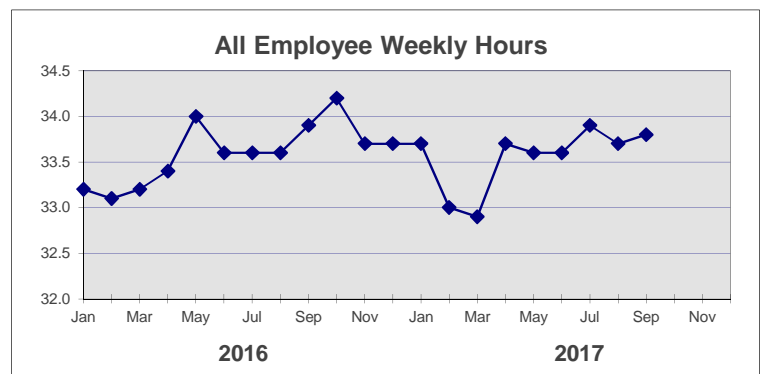
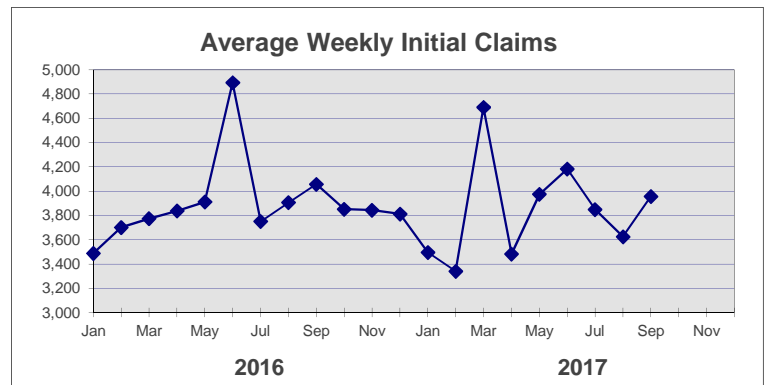
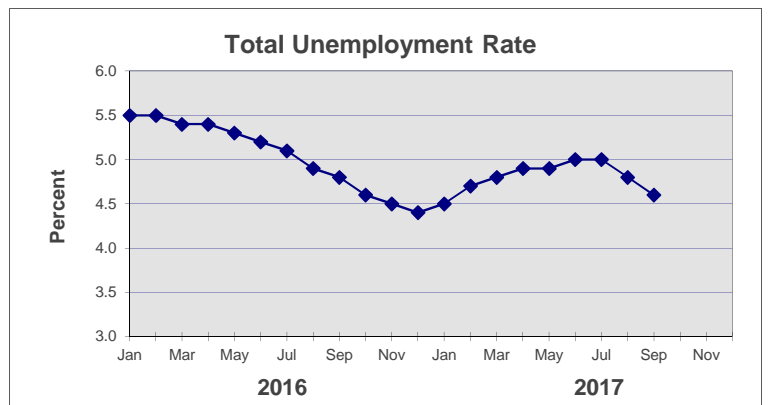
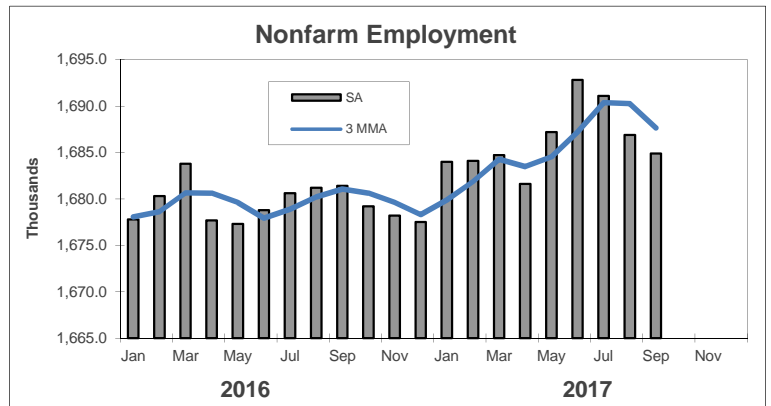
Seasonally Adjusted

	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2016		
Jan	1,677.8	5.5
Feb	1,680.3	5.5
Mar	1,683.8	5.4
Apr	1,677.7	5.4
May	1,677.3	5.3
Jun	1,678.8	5.2
Jul	1,680.6	5.1
Aug	1,681.2	4.9
Sep	1,681.4	4.8
Oct	1,679.2	4.6
Nov	1,678.2	4.5
Dec	1,677.5	4.4

2017		
Jan	1,684.0	4.5
Feb	1,684.1	4.7
Mar	1,684.7	4.8
Apr	1,681.6	4.9
May	1,687.2	4.9
Jun	1,692.8	5.0
Jul	1,691.1	5.0
Aug	1,686.9 R	4.8 P
Sep	1,684.9 P	4.6 R
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		

	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2016		
Jan	3,488	33.2
Feb	3,702	33.1
Mar	3,774	33.2
Apr	3,838	33.4
May	3,911	34.0
Jun	4,894	33.6
Jul	3,750	33.6
Aug	3,906	33.6
Sep	4,057	33.9
Oct	3,852	34.2
Nov	3,844	33.7
Dec	3,812	33.7

2017		
Jan	3,496	33.7
Feb	3,341	33.0
Mar	4,691	32.9
Apr	3,483	33.7
May	3,974	33.6
Jun	4,182	33.6
Jul	3,849	33.9
Aug	3,625	33.7 R
Sep	3,956	33.8 P
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute