



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Scott D. Jackson, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 2017 Data
CT Unemployment Rate = 4.5%
US Unemployment Rate = 4.8%

Nonfarm jobs up 5,700 in January; unemployment rate ticks up to 4.5%

WETHERSFIELD, March 10, 2017 – Preliminary Connecticut nonfarm job estimates from the business survey administered by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the state grew 5,700 net jobs (0.3%) in January 2017, to a level of 1,683,200, seasonally adjusted. Over the year, nonagricultural employment in the state grew by 5,400 jobs (0.3%) after the annual benchmark revision process. December's originally-released job loss of 1,700 was revised upward to a 700 job loss. December's originally posted seasonally adjusted annual job loss of 2,000 was revised upward to essentially flat (-200) after the benchmark revision. Connecticut's unemployment rate for January increased slightly by one tenth of a point to 4.5% - a full percentage point lower than it was a year ago. The number of the state's unemployed increased by 3,000, seasonally adjusted, in January.

"The annual benchmark revision process indicates we saw fairly strong job growth in the first quarter of 2016, followed by a sharp decline in the second quarter," said Andy Condon, Director of the Office of Research. "Third quarter job growth was modest while the fourth quarter was slightly down, ending the year essentially flat. January jobs were up sharply giving us a good start on the New Year."

Nonfarm Jobs Detail (business establishment survey)

January 2017 preliminary seasonally- adjusted nonfarm job estimates show an increase of 5,700 (0.3%) over the month. Six of the ten major industry *supersectors* saw job gains. Over the last twelve months, the state has gained 5,400 net positions (0.3%).

Private sector employment grew by 5,900 (0.4%, 1,449,500 jobs) in January and by 9,800 jobs (0.7%) over the year. The **government supersector** fell by 200 jobs (-0.01%, 233,700) last month and remains down over the year (-4,400, -1.8%). The government *supersector*, which includes all federal, state and local employment, including public higher education and casinos located on tribal land, was the largest contributor to job losses in 2016.

The **leisure & hospitality** (3,100, 2.0%, 158,400 jobs) industry *supersector* added the most jobs last month. **Professional & business services** (1,900, 0.9%, 218,300 positions) was next, while **trade, transportation & utilities** added 1,700 (0.6%, 299,800 total jobs). **Financial activities** (1,400, 1.1%, 131,600 jobs) was also strong in January. The **mining/construction supersector** (700, 1.2%, 60,200) and **other services** (500, 0.8%, 66,100 jobs) industry *supersectors* were also slightly higher.

The **education and health services supersector** led decliners (-2,800, -0.8%, 328,500) largely due to private education services. The **information** industry also lost jobs (-400, -1.3%, 31,500). The **manufacturing** (-200, -0.1%, 156,000 jobs) and **government** (-200, -0.1%, 233,700) each contributed small losses in January.

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Please note: The Bureau of Labor Statistics has added Waterbury and Danbury back to the list of labor market areas with seasonally adjusted data. Five of the six seasonally adjusted LMAs showed job gains in January. The **Hartford LMA** (3,000, 0.5%, 570,800 jobs) led gainers in both numbers and percentage growth. **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk** was next with 2,000 net new jobs (0.5%, 409,600). **Danbury** added 300 jobs (0.4%, 79,200) and **Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI** added 100 (0.1%, 129,400). The **Waterbury LMA** was unchanged. Only the **New Haven LMA** saw losses (-3,000, -1.1%, 279,600).

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 33.7 hours in January 2017, up five-tenths of an hour from the same month a year ago (33.2). Average hourly earnings at \$31.15, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$0.87, or 2.9%, from the January 2016 hourly earnings estimate (\$30.28). The resultant average **private sector** weekly pay amounted to \$1,049.76, up \$44.46, or 4.4% higher than a year ago. The 12-month percent change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in January 2017 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 January 2017 unemployment rate for Connecticut was estimated at **4.5%** (seasonally adjusted), up one-tenth of a percentage point from December 2016 (4.4%) and down a full percentage point from a year ago when it was 5.5%.

Unemployment: Based on the Local Area Unemployment Statistics model (LAUS - a statistical model applying the CPS – the Current Population Survey residential data), the number of Connecticut unemployed residents, seasonally adjusted, increased by 3,000 (3.7%) over the month to 85,100 in January 2017. Over the year, the number of the state’s jobless residents has decreased by 18,800 (-18.1%). The state’s labor force increased (5,900, 0.3%) over the month, and continues to expand slightly over the year (1,800, 0.1%).

The January 2017 seasonally adjusted average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut declined by 316 claimants (-8.3%) to 3,496 from December 2016, but were just slightly higher by eight claims from the January 2016 level of 3,488.

*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, March 23, 2017 (February 2017 data)

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03-10-17

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

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Notes on Labor Data – Connecticut Labor Statistics Revisions, 2016 Benchmark Announcement

**2016 Benchmark Revisions to Connecticut's Establishment Survey Data
(Total Nonfarm Employment Series – CES - Current Employment Statistics)**

The establishment payroll survey data released today have been benchmarked to reflect more comprehensive counts of nonfarm payroll jobs in the state. The process replaces the original monthly sample estimates with job counts derived from unemployment insurance (UI) tax records through March 2016 (considered the focal benchmark month). Preliminary second and third quarter UI tax records replace the sample estimates through September 2016. The survey data are then re-estimated from October 2016 to December 2016 with more complete samples from the newly-benchmarked September 2016 levels. Seasonally adjusted data from January 2011 forward are also subject to revision due to the changing seasonal factors. In addition, data for many industry employment series prior to 2011 (some possibly going back to 1990), both seasonally and not seasonally adjusted, may incorporate some revisions and data reconstruction due to changes in scope of industry coverage and improved information.

Connecticut's total nonfarm employment level for March 2016 (the benchmark month) was revised **downward** by 2,500 from the initially published estimate of 1,686,300 to 1,683,800, or less than -0.2% *seasonally adjusted*. Going forward, the monthly benchmark revision changes to the December 2016 *seasonally adjusted* nonfarm employment monthly levels were revised down just 500 (less than 0.03%).

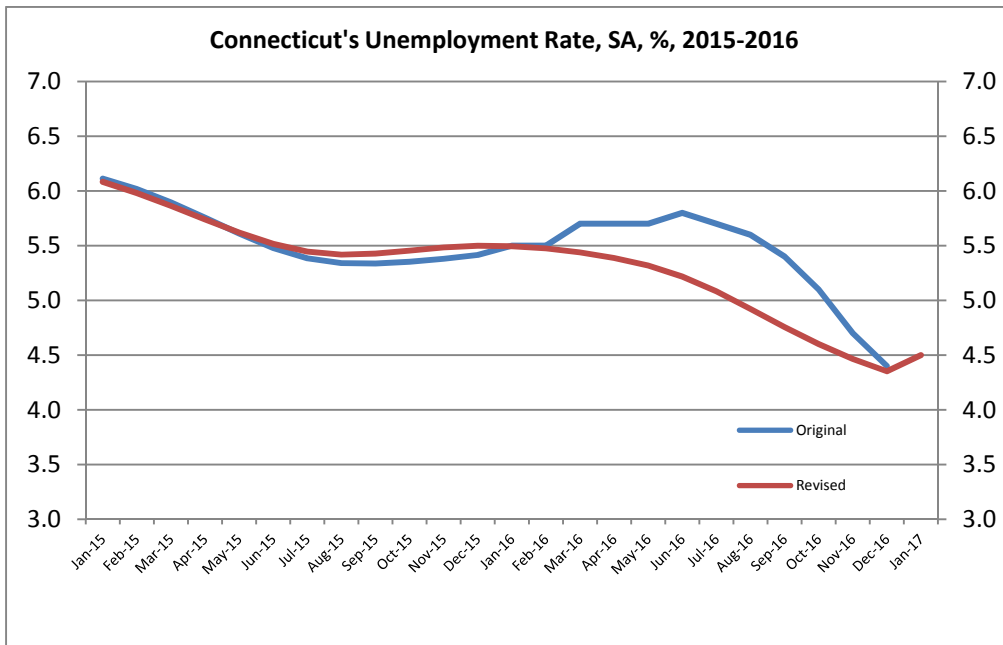
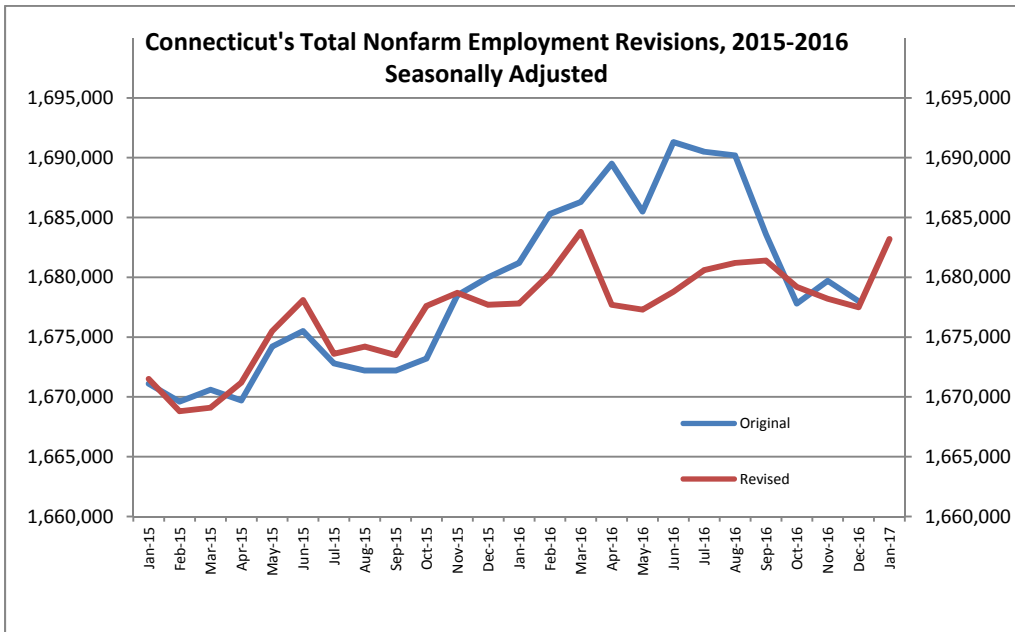
Last year, Connecticut monthly nonfarm employment sample estimates appeared to have overestimated actual employment changes starting in June 2016, resulting in a 12,500 downward revision seasonally adjusted at that point. The CTDOL, Office of Research, **CT TNF Tracker** had predicted this change. However, after June 2016, sample-based employment estimates from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) seemed to track employment levels fairly well through the end of the year (See page 4 for chart comparison).

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) 2016 Annual Processing

This year, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) were revised from 2012 to 2016. As shown in the chart, however, most of the changes occurred in the second half of 2015 and over the full calendar year of 2016. On an annual average basis (with not seasonally adjusted data), the Connecticut unemployment rate was revised up from 5.6% to 5.7% in 2015. Also on revisions, the annual average jobless rate for 2016 went down from 5.3% to 5.1% as the 2016 monthly unemployment rate movement was changed to a certain extent (see page 4 for chart).

All revised nonfarm employment and unemployment data for Connecticut should be available soon on Connecticut's Department of Labor's website under Labor Market Information.

<http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/index.asp>



NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Jobs - by Place of Work

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	January 2017 P	December 2016 R	November 2016	October 2016	January 2016	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,683,200	1,677,500	1,678,200	1,679,200	1,677,800	5,700	0.3%	5,400	0.3%
Total Private	1,449,500	1,443,600	1,443,900	1,445,300	1,439,700	5,900	0.4%	9,800	0.7%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	600	600	600	600	600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	58,700	58,000	58,100	58,600	59,600	700	1.2%	-900	-1.5%
Manufacturing	156,000	156,200	156,000	156,600	156,500	-200	-0.1%	-500	-0.3%
Durable Goods	122,300	122,500	122,600	122,800	123,000	-200	-0.2%	-700	-0.6%
Nondurable Goods	33,700	33,700	33,400	33,800	33,500	0	0.0%	200	0.6%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	299,800	298,100	298,500	298,100	298,500	1,700	0.6%	1,300	0.4%
Wholesale	63,900	63,200	62,800	63,000	62,200	700	1.1%	1,700	2.7%
Retail	184,300	182,800	183,700	184,000	185,100	1,500	0.8%	-800	-0.4%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	51,600	52,100	52,000	51,100	51,200	-500	-1.0%	400	0.8%
Information	31,500	31,900	32,100	32,200	32,500	-400	-1.3%	-1,000	-3.1%
Financial Activities	131,600	130,200	130,200	130,400	130,100	1,400	1.1%	1,500	1.2%
Finance & Insurance	111,200	110,000	110,000	110,100	110,100	1,200	1.1%	1,100	1.0%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	20,400	20,200	20,200	20,300	20,000	200	1.0%	400	2.0%
Professional & Business Services	218,300	216,400	215,800	216,600	218,300	1,900	0.9%	0	0.0%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	96,800	96,600	96,200	96,200	97,100	200	0.2%	-300	-0.3%
Management of Companies	32,400	32,200	32,300	32,300	33,000	200	0.6%	-600	-1.8%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	89,100	87,600	87,300	88,100	88,200	1,500	1.7%	900	1.0%
Educational & Health Services	328,500	331,300	331,200	330,700	327,300	-2,800	-0.8%	1,200	0.4%
Educational Services	61,800	64,100	64,100	63,900	62,800	-2,300	-3.6%	-1,000	-1.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	266,700	267,200	267,100	266,800	264,500	-500	-0.2%	2,200	0.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	158,400	155,300	155,300	155,300	152,000	3,100	2.0%	6,400	4.2%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	28,200	26,300	26,200	26,700	26,900	1,900	7.2%	1,300	4.8%
Accommodation & Food Services	130,200	129,000	129,100	128,600	125,100	1,200	0.9%	5,100	4.1%
Other Services	66,100	65,600	66,100	66,200	64,300	500	0.8%	1,800	2.8%
Government**	233,700	233,900	234,300	233,900	238,100	-200	-0.1%	-4,400	-1.8%
UNITED STATES	145,554,000	145,327,000	145,170,000	145,006,000	143,211,000	227,000	0.2%	2,343,000	1.6%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	January 2017 P	December 2016 R	November 2016	October 2016	January 2016	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	409,600	407,600	408,300	408,800	410,500	2,000	0.5%	-900	-0.2%
Danbury	79,200	78,900	79,000	78,600	78,500	300	0.4%	700	0.9%
Hartford	570,800	567,800	569,200	572,300	569,800	3,000	0.5%	1,000	0.2%
New Haven	279,600	282,600	282,900	281,900	279,900	-3,000	-1.1%	-300	-0.1%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	129,400	129,300	129,100	129,200	128,400	100	0.1%	1,000	0.8%
Waterbury	66,700	66,700	67,000	67,200	67,300	0	0.0%	-600	-0.9%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	44,600	45,300	45,300	45,000	44,900	-700	-1.5%	-300	-0.7%
Torrington-Northwest	32,100	32,900	33,000	33,200	32,300	-800	-2.4%	-200	-0.6%
Danielson-Northeast	26,800	27,000	27,300	27,200	26,700	-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. Danbury and Waterbury LMA's are now back to being seasonally adjusted.

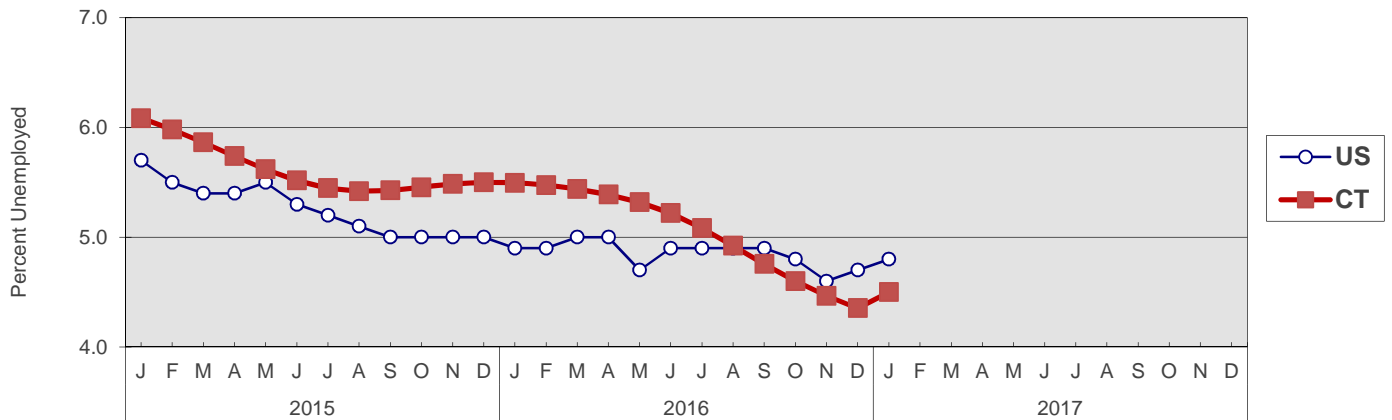
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	January 2017 P		January 2016 R		Change		December 2016 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	85,100	4.5	103,900	5.5	-18,800	-1.0	82,100	4.4
Labor Force	1,892,100		1,890,300		1,800		1,886,200	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	7,635,000	4.8	7,829,000	4.9	-194,000	-0.1	7,529,000	4.7
Labor Force	159,716,000		158,362,000		1,354,000		159,640,000	

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



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	January 2017 P		January 2016 R		Change		December 2016 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	24,800	5.3	27,400	5.9	-2,600	-0.6	18,000	3.9
Danbury	5,100	4.7	5,500	5.2	-400	-0.5	3,500	3.2
Danielson-Northeast*	2,500	5.7	2,900	6.8	-400	-1.1	1,700	4.1
Worcester NECTA	2,300	5.7	2,800	6.9	-500	-1.2	1,700	4.1
Hampton	100	6.0	100	5.1	0	0.9	100	3.5
Enfield	2,700	5.5	3,000	6.1	-300	-0.6	2,000	4.0
Hartford	33,100	5.4	37,500	6.1	-4,400	-0.7	23,900	3.9
New Haven	17,200	5.4	19,400	6.0	-2,200	-0.6	12,300	3.8
Norwich-New London	7,900	5.5	9,100	6.5	-1,200	-1.0	5,800	4.1
Torrington-Northwest**	2,700	5.7	2,900	6.2	-200	-0.5	1,800	3.9
Torrington NECTA	1,700	6.5	1,900	7.1	-200	-0.6	1,200	4.6
Litchfield	1,000	4.7	1,000	5.0	0	-0.3	600	3.0
Waterbury	7,400	6.7	8,300	7.5	-900	-0.8	5,300	4.9
CONNECTICUT	102,400	5.4	114,700	6.1	-12,300	-0.7	73,500	3.9
UNITED STATES	8,149,000	5.1	8,309,000	5.3	-160,000	-0.2	7,170,000	4.5

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

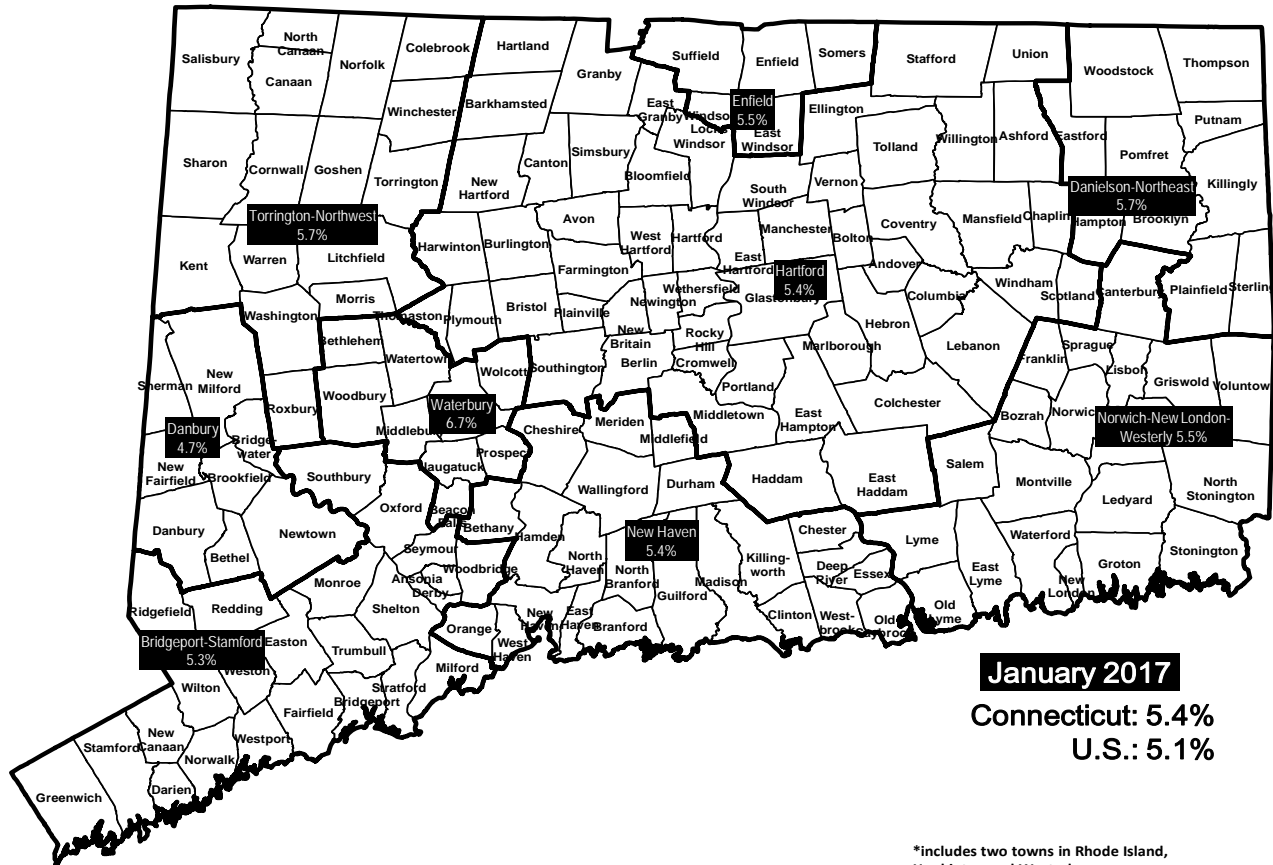
Labor force data included in this publication are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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

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. 2017 P	Jan. 2016	Change over Yr.	Dec. 2016 R	Jan. 2017 P	Jan. 2016	Change over Yr.	Dec. 2016 R	Jan. 2017 P	Jan. 2016	Change over Yr.	Dec. 2016 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,049.76	\$1,005.30	\$44.46	\$1,033.24	33.7	33.2	0.5	33.7	\$31.15	\$30.28	\$0.87	\$30.66
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$1,056.23	\$1,128.61	-\$72.38	\$1,085.33	42.3	41.6	0.7	43.5	\$24.97	\$27.13	-\$2.16	\$24.95

* 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

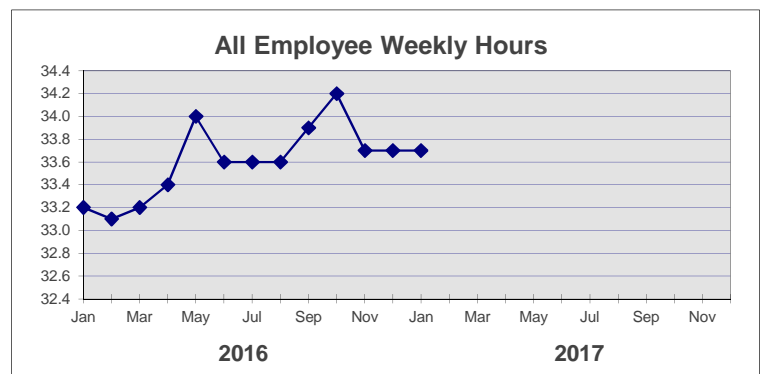
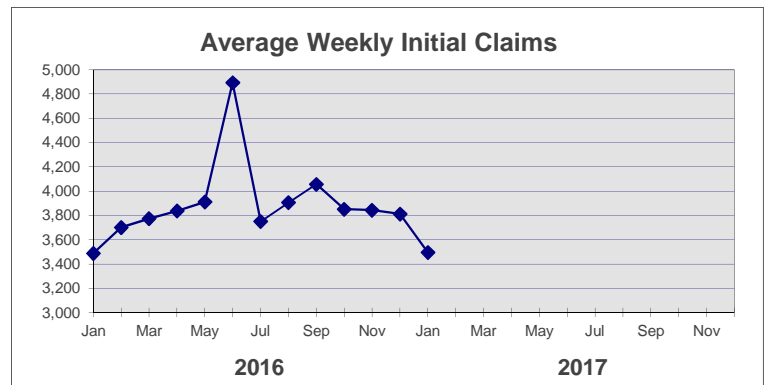
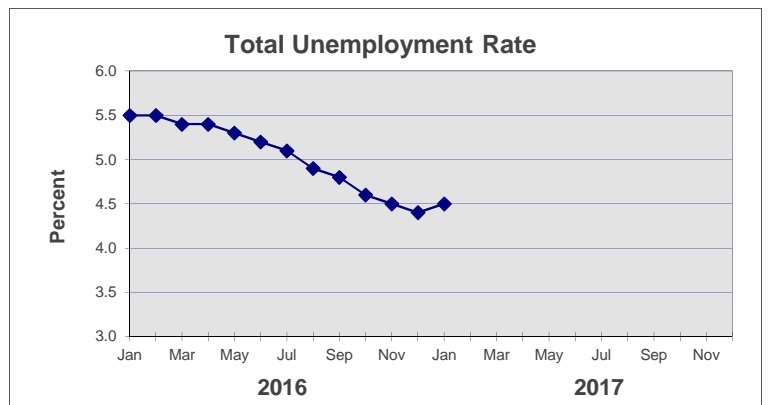
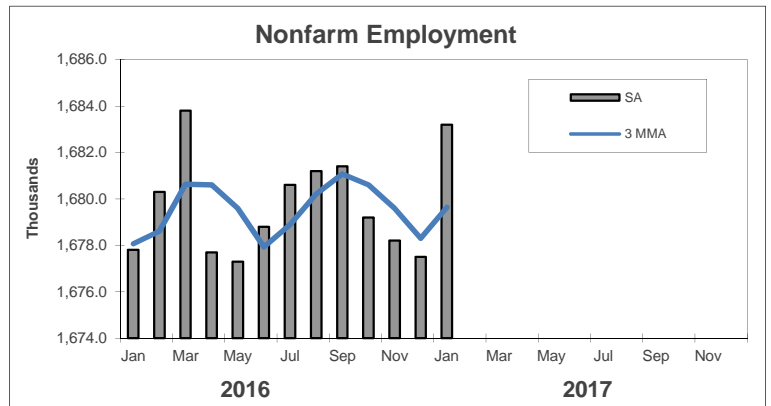
Seasonally Adjusted

	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 R	4.4 R

2017		
Jan	1,683.2 P	4.5 P
Feb		
Mar		
Apr		
May		
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
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 R

2017		
Jan	3,496	33.7 P
Feb		
Mar		
Apr		
May		
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute