



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Scott D. Jackson, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2017 Data
CT Unemployment Rate = 4.9%
US Unemployment Rate = 4.3%

Nonfarm jobs climb 6,700 in May; unemployment rate steady at 4.9%

WETHERSFIELD, June 15, 2017 – Preliminary Connecticut nonfarm job estimates from the business payroll survey administered by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the state gained 6,700 net jobs (0.4%) in May 2017, to a level of 1,688,300, seasonally adjusted. Over the year, nonagricultural employment in the state grew by 11,000 jobs (0.7%). April's originally-released job loss of 1,500 was revised down further by 1,600 to a loss of 3,100. Connecticut's unemployment rate for May remained unchanged at 4.9% - four tenths of a point lower than it was a year ago. The number of the state's unemployed residents increased by 1,501 in May seasonally adjusted, while the number of residents employed grew by 5,313. Resident employment estimates include the self-employed and residents working out of state and are determined separately from the nonfarm job estimates above.

"May payroll job estimates show a sharp increase over April and job growth through May is far ahead of last year's pace," said Andy Condon, Director of the Office of Research. "Our unemployment data continues to show growth in the labor force indicating that workers are entering or rejoining the labor force and most are finding employment."

Nonfarm Jobs Detail (business establishment survey)

Private sector employment grew by 6,000 (0.4%, 1,454,400 jobs) in May, and remains up over the year by 15,300 jobs (1.1%). Although the **government supersector** grew (700, 0.3%, 233,900) last month, it remains down over the year (-4,300, -1.8%). The **government supersector**, which includes all federal, state and local employment, including public higher education and Native American casinos located on tribal land, remains the largest source of job losses in 2017.

Seven of the ten major industry *supersectors* grew jobs in May 2017 while three declined. The **private education and health services** (3,200, 1.0%, 333,400 jobs) industry *supersector* was the biggest job generator in May. The educational services segment (2,100, 3.3%, 65,500) was the main source of this growth, but health services (1,100, 0.4%, 267,900) was positive as well. **Private education and health services** lead in job growth magnitude over the year (6,100, 1.9% OTY). This was followed by the **leisure and hospitality** (1,600, 1.0%, 158,000 jobs) and **professional and business services** (1,600, 0.7%, 217,100 jobs) both adding 1,600 positions. The **financial activities supersector** (800, 0.6%, 132,600) was also higher in May 2017. While the overall **government supersector** (700, 0.3%, 233,900) posted a gain in May, the state government portion was still lower (-500, -0.8%, 65,400) over the month. The **other services** (500, 0.7%, 67,700 positions) *supersector* added a small number of jobs and now leads in percentage job growth (3,200, 5.0% OTY) since May 2017. **The trade, transportation & utilities** (300, 0.1%, 297,100 jobs) industry *supersector* was just slightly higher last month.

Manufacturing (-900, -0.6%, 155,800 jobs) was the largest declining industry *supersector* of the three that lost jobs in May 2017. This important industry is only slightly lower (-300, -0.2% OTY) over the year. **Construction and mining** (-600, -1.0%, 61,700) was next in losses last month, with building industries coming off a big 2,600 gain in April. A smaller job loss of 500 from the **information** (-500, -1.6%, 31,000 jobs) industry *supersector* rounded out declining industries for the month. The **information** (-1,300, -4.0%, OTY) *supersector* now leads in percentage losses over the year.

Connecticut has now recovered 79.0% (94,100, or an average of 1,082 jobs per month) of the 119,100 seasonally adjusted jobs lost in the Great Recession (3/08-2/10). The job recovery is into its 87th month and the state needs an additional 25,000 jobs to reach an employment expansion. The state's private sector has recovered at faster pace, regaining 96.6% (107,900 or about 1,240 per month) of the 111,700 private sector jobs lost in that same employment downturn. Just 3,800 more jobs are needed to be added to have a fully recovered private sector. The **government supersector** has lost a total of 21,200 positions since the recession began in March 2008. This includes an additional 13,800 jobs lost since the state's overall nonfarm employment recovery began in February

2010 – hindering the recovery.

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. Four Connecticut regional Labor Market Areas were up in employment, while two were lower in May 2017. The **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (3,700, 0.9%, 412,800 jobs), the **Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford LMA** (2,700, 0.5%, 576,000), the **New Haven LMA** (2,200, 0.8%, 284,300 positions), and the **Waterbury LMA** (500, 0.7%, 67,500) were all higher in job counts last month. The **Norwich-New London-Westerly LMA** (-1,000, -0.8%, 128,700) and the **Danbury LMA** (-600, -0.8%, 79,100) were both lower. The **Danbury LMA** (1,000, 1.28%, OTY) is still the fastest growing LMA in *percentage terms* while the **Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford LMA** (7,100, 1.25% OTY) leads in *magnitude* since May 2016.

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 33.6 hours in May 2017, down four-tenths of an hour from the same month a year ago (34.0). Average hourly earnings at \$30.92, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$0.21, or 0.7%, from the May 2016 estimate (\$30.71). The resultant average **private sector** weekly pay amounted to \$1,038.91, down \$5.23, or 0.5% lower than a year ago. 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 2017 was 1.9%. 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 2017 unemployment rate for Connecticut estimated at **4.9%** (seasonally adjusted), unchanged from April 2017 and down four-tenths of a percentage point from a year ago when it was 5.3%. The U.S. jobless rate in April 2017 was 4.3%.

Unemployment: Based on the Local Area Unemployment Statistics model (LAUS - a statistical model using the CPS – the Current Population Survey residential data), the number of Connecticut unemployed residents, seasonally adjusted, increased by 1,501 (1.6%) over the month to 95,147 in May. Over the year, the number of the state’s jobless residents has decreased by 5,498 (-5.5%). The state’s labor force increased 6,814 (0.4%) over the month, and continues to expand over the year (36,846, 1.9%). We have seen increases in the labor force every month this year. Both residential employment and unemployment have increased. This indicates that the state is seeing new and returning workers to the labor force and most are finding work.

May 2017 seasonally adjusted average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut decreased by 491 claimants (14.1%) to 3,974 from April 2017, and were higher by 63 claims (1.6%) from the May 2016 level of 3,911.

*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 20, 2017 (June 2017 data)

Contact: Communications Office

(860) 263-6535

06-15-17

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

	May 2017 P	April 2017 R	March 2017	February 2017	May 2016	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,688,300	1,681,600	1,684,700	1,684,100	1,677,300	6,700	0.4%	11,000	0.7%
Total Private	1,454,400	1,448,400	1,451,000	1,450,500	1,439,100	6,000	0.4%	15,300	1.1%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	600	600	600	600	600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	61,100	61,700	59,100	59,300	59,100	-600	-1.0%	2,000	3.4%
Manufacturing	155,800	156,700	156,600	155,700	156,100	-900	-0.6%	-300	-0.2%
Durable Goods	121,100	121,900	122,600	122,000	122,600	-800	-0.7%	-1,500	-1.2%
Nondurable Goods	34,700	34,800	34,000	33,700	33,500	-100	-0.3%	1,200	3.6%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	297,100	296,800	299,300	300,600	298,400	300	0.1%	-1,300	-0.4%
Wholesale	62,600	62,900	63,500	63,800	62,700	-300	-0.5%	-100	-0.2%
Retail	181,900	181,900	182,900	183,000	184,400	0	0.0%	-2,500	-1.4%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	52,600	52,000	52,900	53,800	51,300	600	1.2%	1,300	2.5%
Information	31,000	31,500	31,500	31,200	32,300	-500	-1.6%	-1,300	-4.0%
Financial Activities	132,600	131,800	131,200	131,100	129,800	800	0.6%	2,800	2.2%
Finance & Insurance	111,900	111,200	110,700	110,800	109,900	700	0.6%	2,000	1.8%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	20,700	20,600	20,500	20,300	19,900	100	0.5%	800	4.0%
Professional & Business Services	217,100	215,500	218,700	218,600	217,700	1,600	0.7%	-600	-0.3%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	98,500	98,600	98,500	97,600	96,900	-100	-0.1%	1,600	1.7%
Management of Companies	32,000	32,000	32,000	31,900	33,100	0	0.0%	-1,100	-3.3%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	86,600	84,900	88,200	89,100	87,700	1,700	2.0%	-1,100	-1.3%
Educational & Health Services	333,400	330,200	330,800	331,800	327,300	3,200	1.0%	6,100	1.9%
Educational Services	65,500	63,400	64,300	64,100	63,800	2,100	3.3%	1,700	2.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	267,900	266,800	266,500	267,700	263,500	1,100	0.4%	4,400	1.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	158,000	156,400	156,000	155,600	153,300	1,600	1.0%	4,700	3.1%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	29,200	26,700	26,200	26,600	27,200	2,500	9.4%	2,000	7.4%
Accommodation & Food Services	128,800	129,700	129,800	129,000	126,100	-900	-0.7%	2,700	2.1%
Other Services	67,700	67,200	67,200	66,000	64,500	500	0.7%	3,200	5.0%
Government**	233,900	233,200	233,700	233,600	238,200	700	0.3%	-4,300	-1.8%
UNITED STATES	146,135,000	145,997,000	145,823,000	145,773,000	143,869,000	138,000	0.1%	2,266,000	1.6%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

	May 2017 P	April 2017 R	March 2017	February 2017	May 2016	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
<i>Seasonally Adjusted data</i>									
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	412,800	409,100	408,300	409,600	409,800	3,700	0.9%	3,000	0.7%
Danbury	79,100	79,700	79,300	79,100	78,100	-600	-0.8%	1,000	1.3%
Hartford	576,000	573,300	573,900	571,900	568,900	2,700	0.5%	7,100	1.2%
New Haven	284,300	282,100	281,000	281,200	281,800	2,200	0.8%	2,500	0.9%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	128,700	129,700	130,100	129,800	128,500	-1,000	-0.8%	200	0.2%
Waterbury	67,500	67,000	67,000	66,900	67,600	500	0.7%	-100	-0.1%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	45,000	45,300	44,500	44,700	44,900	-300	-0.7%	100	0.2%
Torrington-Northwest	33,000	32,300	31,700	31,500	33,300	700	2.2%	-300	-0.9%
Danielson-Northeast	27,500	27,100	27,000	26,800	27,400	400	1.5%	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.

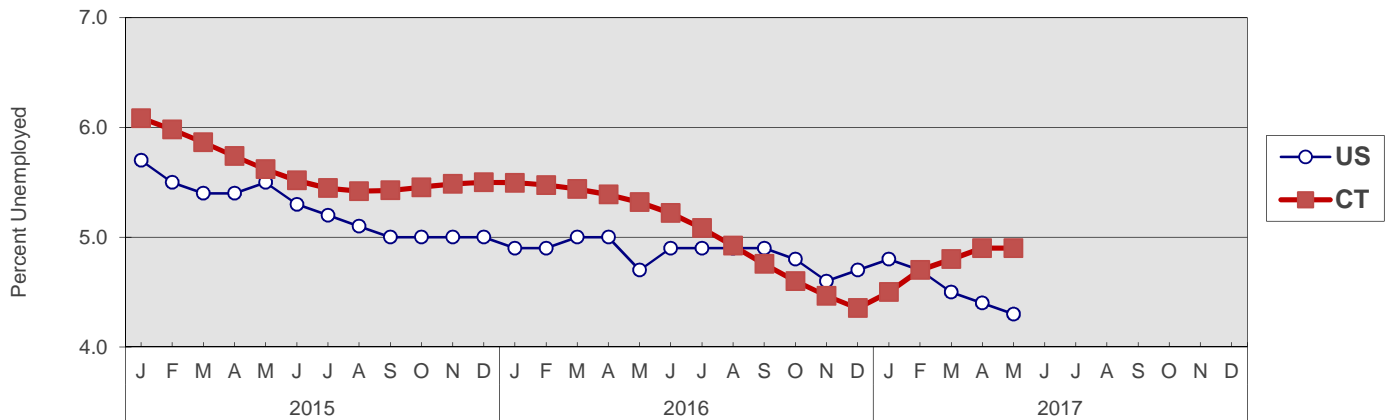
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	May 2017 P		May 2016 R		Change		April 2017 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	95,100	4.9	100,600	5.3	-5,500	-0.4	93,600	4.9
Labor Force	1,929,300		1,892,500		36,800		1,922,500	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	6,861,000	4.3	7,451,000	4.7	-590,000	-0.4	7,056,000	4.4
Labor Force	159,784,000		158,510,000		1,274,000		160,213,000	

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



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	May 2017 P		May 2016 R		Change		April 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								
<p>Release of the May 2017 sub-state labor force data is restricted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics until Friday, June 16, 2017. An updated <i>Connecticut Labor Situation</i> with these data will be available on our website at that time at: http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/laborsit.pdf.</p>								
CONNECTICUT	92,900	4.8	97,100	5.1	-4,200	-0.3	89,200	4.7
UNITED STATES	6,572,000	4.1	7,207,000	4.5	-635,000	-0.4	6,555,000	4.1

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

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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 2017 P	May 2016	Change over Yr.	April 2017 R	May 2017 P	May 2016	Change over Yr.	April 2017 R	May 2017 P	May 2016	Change over Yr.	April 2017 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,038.91	\$1,044.14	-\$5.23	\$1,065.93	33.6	34.0	-0.4	33.7	\$30.92	\$30.71	\$0.21	\$31.63
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$1,013.88	\$1,208.06	-\$194.18	\$997.95	42.0	42.9	-0.9	40.6	\$24.14	\$28.16	-\$4.02	\$24.58

* 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

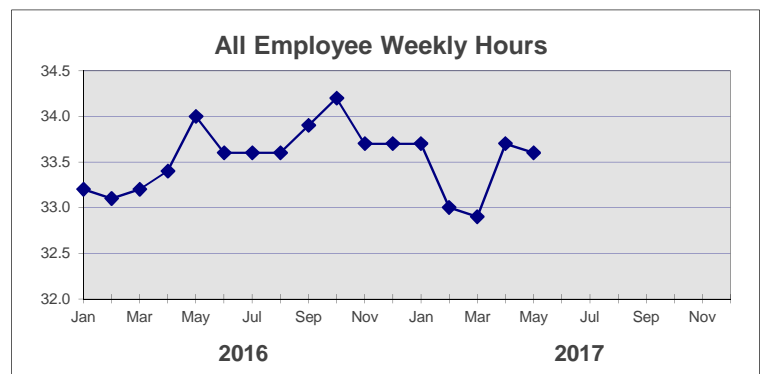
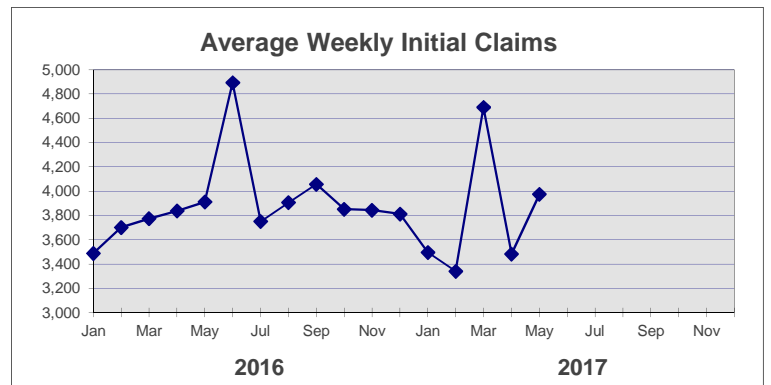
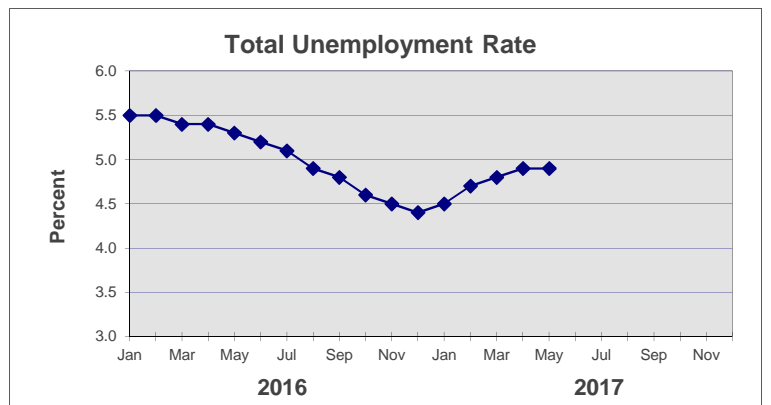
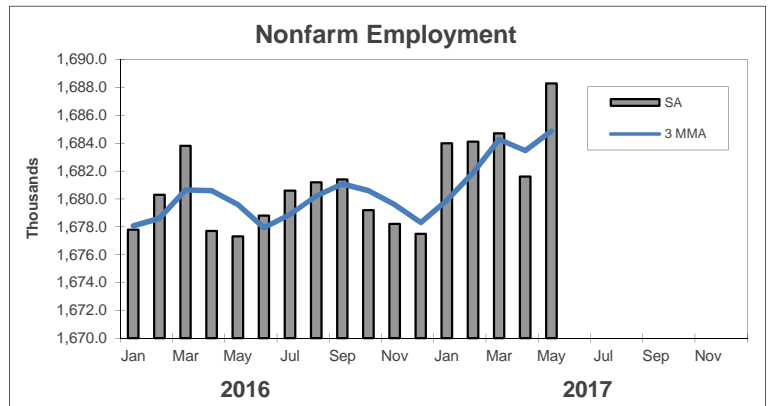
Seasonally Adjusted

	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 R	4.9 R
May	1,688.3 P	4.9 P
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

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



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute