



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Scott D. Jackson, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 2018 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 4.5%
US Unemployment Rate = 3.9%

Nonfarm jobs drop by 1,400 in April; unemployment rate unchanged at 4.5%

WETHERSFIELD, May 17, 2018 – Preliminary Connecticut nonfarm job estimates from the business payroll survey administered by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the state lost 1,400 net jobs (-0.1%) in April 2018, to a level of 1,687,100, seasonally adjusted. Over the year, nonagricultural employment in the state grew by 8,700 jobs (0.5%). The March 2018 originally-released job loss of 2,000 revised down by 1,500 to a loss of 3,500 over the month. The number of the state's unemployed residents was estimated at 85,800 seasonally adjusted, down 600 from March. As a result, Connecticut's unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.5% in April, 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.

"April's decline of 1,400 jobs was Connecticut's second consecutive month of job declines," said Andy Condon, Director of the Office of Research. "However, job growth remains ahead of last year's pace. Of note is that the manufacturing employment is now up 2.8% over the year. If this pattern holds, the sector will have overcome a decades-long trend of declining employment."

Nonfarm Jobs Detail (business establishment survey)

Private sector employment fell by 1,200 (-0.1%) to 1,457,000 jobs over the month in April, but remains up by 11,000 (0.8%) seasonally-adjusted jobs over the year. The **government supersector** lost 200 positions in April to a total of 230,100, 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.

Three of the ten major industry *supersectors* gained employment in April, while seven declined. The **leisure & hospitality supersector** led growing industries with 800 net new jobs (0.5%, 154,600 total jobs) in April. **Education and health services** were next with 500 net new jobs (0.1%, 339,000). **Manufacturing** also gained, adding 300 jobs in April (0.2%, 162,900).

On the down side, **trade, transportation and utilities** dropped 1,400 jobs (-0.5%, 297,300) in April. **Financial activities** saw a loss of 900 (-0.7%, 127,500), while **construction & mining** dropped a combined 300 jobs (-0.5%, 59,700). **Professional & business services** (-0.0%, 221,000) and **information** (-0.3%, 30,600) each saw a small decline of 100.

Connecticut has now recovered **78.0%** (92,900 jobs) of the 119,100 seasonally adjusted jobs lost in the "Great Recession" (3/08-2/10). The job recovery is into its 98th month and the state needs an additional 26,200 net new jobs to reach an overall nonfarm employment expansion. The state's **private sector** has now recovered **98.9%** (110,500) of the private sector jobs lost in that same employment downturn.

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Two of the six LMAs that are seasonally adjusted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics saw job increases in April 2018, while four saw declines. The **New Haven LMA** led gainers with 2,300 net new jobs, (0.8%, 285,500), while the **Norwich–New London–Westerly RI LMA** saw an increase of 200 (0.2%, 130,900). The **Hartford LMA** saw the largest decline, shedding 1,900 jobs (-0.3%, 575,600). The **Bridgeport–Stamford–Norwalk LMA** was next with a 900 net loss (-0.2%, 405,800). The **Waterbury LMA** (-0.3%, 66,300) dropped 200 positions in April and the **Danbury LMA** shed just 100 positions (-0.1%, 78,900).

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 April 2018, up five-tenths of an hour from the same month a year ago. Average hourly earnings at \$31.75, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$0.12 (0.4%) from the April 2017 estimate (\$31.63). The resultant average **private sector** weekly pay amounted to \$1,085.85, up \$19.92 from a year ago (1.9%). The 12-month percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in April 2018 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 April 2018 unemployment rate for Connecticut is estimated at **4.5%** (seasonally adjusted), unchanged from March 2018 and down three-tenths of a percentage point from a year ago when it was 4.8%. The US jobless rate in April 2018 was 3.9%, down two tenths of a point from March 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 600 from March at 85,800 in April. Over the year, the number of the state’s jobless residents declined by 6,900 (-7.4%). The state’s labor force decreased by 3,700 (-0.2%) over the month, and is down over the year (-24,000 (-1.2%).

April 2018 seasonally-adjusted average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut fell by 599 claimants (-14.7%) to 3,481 from March 2018, and were lower by 255 claims (-6.8%) from the April 2017 level of 3,736.

*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, June 14, 2018.

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05-17-18

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

	April 2018 P	March 2018 R	February 2018	January 2018	April 2017	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,687,100	1,688,500	1,692,000	1,689,400	1,678,400	-1,400	-0.1%	8,700	0.5%
Total Private	1,457,000	1,458,200	1,461,500	1,458,700	1,446,000	-1,200	-0.1%	11,000	0.8%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	500	600	600	600	500	-100	-16.7%	0	0.0%
Construction	59,200	59,400	58,900	57,100	58,000	-200	-0.3%	1,200	2.1%
Manufacturing	162,900	162,600	162,800	163,200	158,400	300	0.2%	4,500	2.8%
Durable Goods	128,200	127,800	127,700	128,100	124,000	400	0.3%	4,200	3.4%
Nondurable Goods	34,700	34,800	35,100	35,100	34,400	-100	-0.3%	300	0.9%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	297,300	298,700	300,200	300,200	297,000	-1,400	-0.5%	300	0.1%
Wholesale	62,400	63,200	63,300	63,700	62,300	-800	-1.3%	100	0.2%
Retail	181,900	182,200	183,400	182,900	183,800	-300	-0.2%	-1,900	-1.0%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	53,000	53,300	53,500	53,600	50,900	-300	-0.6%	2,100	4.1%
Information	30,600	30,700	30,600	30,700	31,800	-100	-0.3%	-1,200	-3.8%
Financial Activities	127,500	128,400	128,900	128,000	128,000	-900	-0.7%	-500	-0.4%
Finance & Insurance	107,600	108,200	108,700	108,000	108,300	-600	-0.6%	-700	-0.6%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	19,900	20,200	20,200	20,000	19,700	-300	-1.5%	200	1.0%
Professional & Business Services	221,000	221,100	220,500	221,100	218,000	-100	0.0%	3,000	1.4%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	96,900	96,800	97,100	97,600	96,400	100	0.1%	500	0.5%
Management of Companies	31,700	31,700	31,900	32,100	32,000	0	0.0%	-300	-0.9%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	92,400	92,600	91,500	91,400	89,600	-200	-0.2%	2,800	3.1%
Educational & Health Services	339,000	338,500	338,500	337,600	333,500	500	0.1%	5,500	1.6%
Educational Services	65,900	65,400	65,700	65,200	64,500	500	0.8%	1,400	2.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	273,100	273,100	272,800	272,400	269,000	0	0.0%	4,100	1.5%
Leisure and Hospitality	154,600	153,800	155,200	154,700	155,900	800	0.5%	-1,300	-0.8%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	25,800	25,700	25,700	26,600	28,100	100	0.4%	-2,300	-8.2%
Accommodation & Food Services	128,800	128,100	129,500	128,100	127,800	700	0.5%	1,000	0.8%
Other Services	64,400	64,400	65,300	65,500	64,900	0	0.0%	-500	-0.8%
Government**	230,100	230,300	230,500	230,700	232,400	-200	-0.1%	-2,300	-1.0%
UNITED STATES	148,424,000	148,260,000	148,125,000	147,801,000	146,144,000	164,000	0.1%	2,280,000	1.6%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	April 2018 P	March 2018 R	February 2018	January 2018	April 2017	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	405,800	406,700	407,700	406,500	407,500	-900	-0.2%	-1,700	-0.4%
Danbury	78,900	79,000	78,900	78,700	78,100	-100	-0.1%	800	1.0%
Hartford	575,600	577,500	577,000	578,000	571,000	-1,900	-0.3%	4,600	0.8%
New Haven	285,500	283,200	285,000	283,100	284,400	2,300	0.8%	1,100	0.4%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	130,900	130,700	130,800	130,300	130,100	200	0.2%	800	0.6%
Waterbury	66,300	66,500	66,700	66,700	66,900	-200	-0.3%	-600	-0.9%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	45,600	44,800	44,700	44,800	45,400	800	1.8%	200	0.4%
Torrington-Northwest	31,900	31,600	31,600	31,500	32,000	300	0.9%	-100	-0.3%
Danielson-Northeast	26,900	26,600	26,500	26,700	26,900	300	1.1%	0	0.0%

* 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.

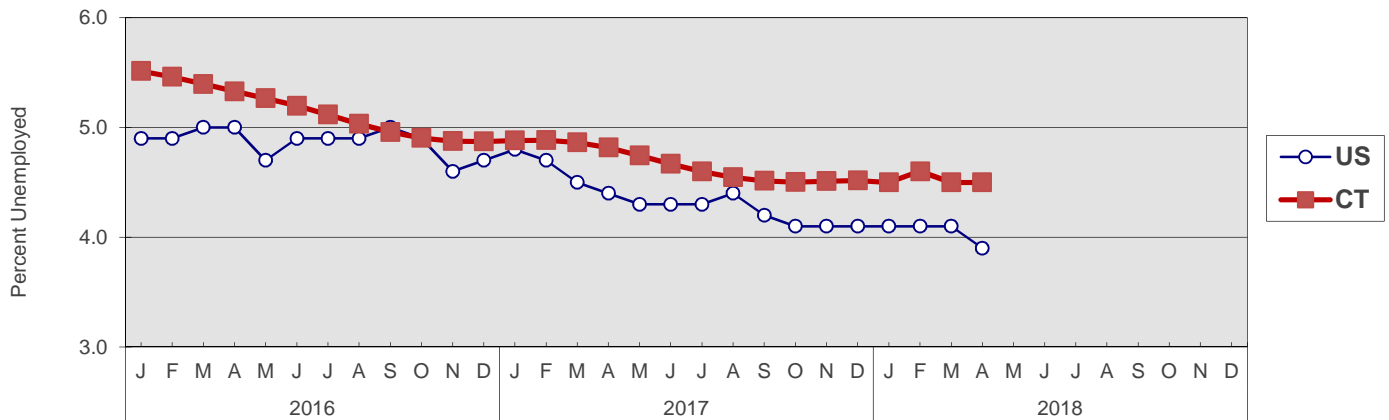
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	April 2018 P		April 2017 R		Change		March 2018 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	85,800	4.5	92,700	4.8	-6,900	-0.3	86,300	4.5
Labor Force	1,901,000		1,925,000		-24,000		1,904,700	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	6,346,000	3.9	7,021,000	4.4	-675,000	-0.5	6,585,000	4.1
Labor Force	161,527,000		160,181,000		1,346,000		161,763,000	

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



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	April 2018 P		April 2017 R		Change		March 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								
<p>Release of the April 2018 sub-state labor force data is restricted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics until Friday, May 18, 2018. 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	80,500	4.3	90,000	4.7	-9,500	-0.4	88,100	4.7
UNITED STATES	5,932,000	3.7	6,555,000	4.1	-623,000	-0.4	6,671,000	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			
	Apr. 2018 P	Apr. 2017	Change over Yr.	Mar. 2018 R	Apr. 2018 P	Apr. 2017	Change over Yr.	Mar. 2018 R	Apr. 2018 P	Apr. 2017	Change over Yr.	Mar. 2018 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,085.85	\$1,065.93	\$19.92	\$1,062.45	34.2	33.7	0.5	33.4	\$31.75	\$31.63	\$0.12	\$31.81
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$1,016.69	\$1,000.81	\$15.88	\$1,025.05	40.7	40.7	0.0	39.7	\$24.98	\$24.59	\$0.39	\$25.82

* 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

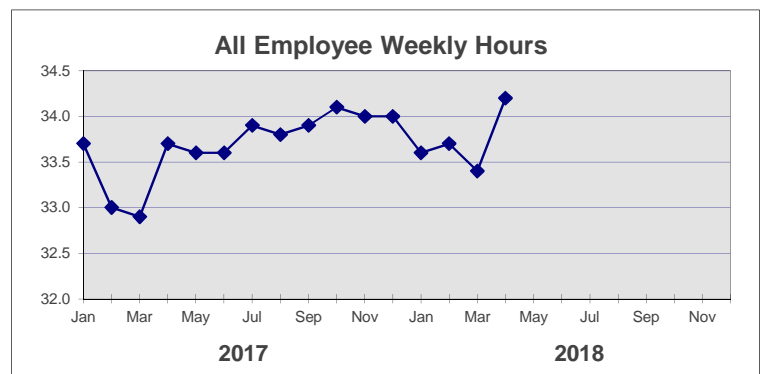
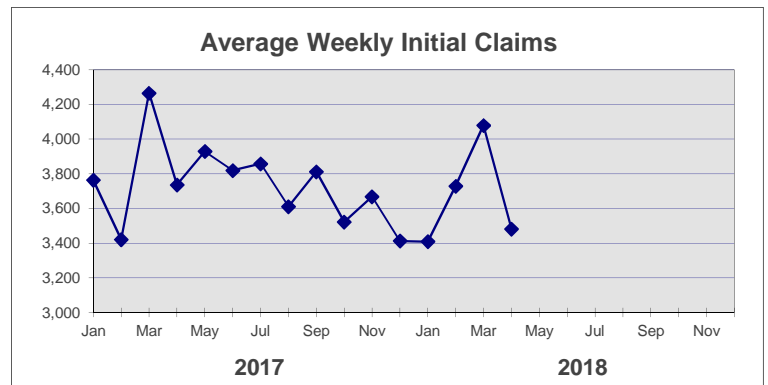
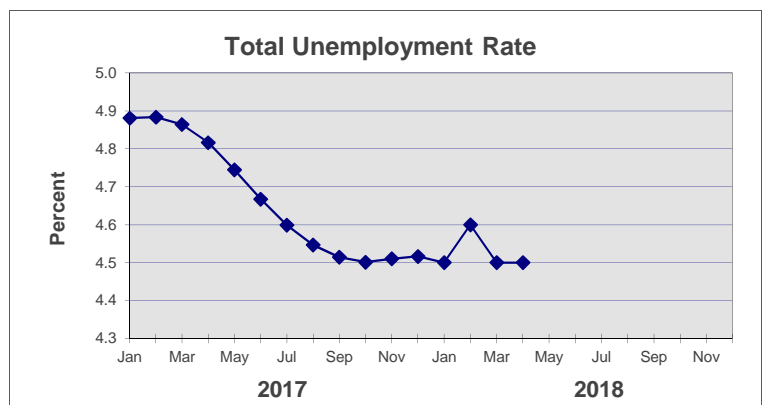
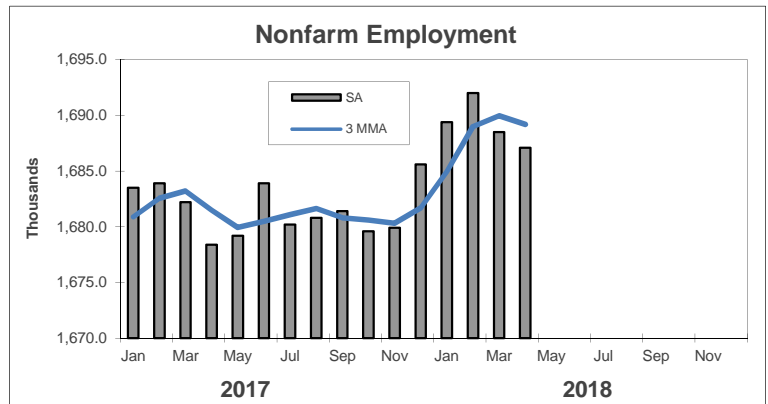
Seasonally Adjusted

	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2017		
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

2018		
Jan	1,689.4	4.5
Feb	1,692.0	4.6
Mar	1,688.5 R	4.5 R
Apr	1,687.1 P	4.5 P
May		
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		

	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2017		
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

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



* Not seasonally adjusted

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** Labor-management dispute