



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Kurt Westby, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2018 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 4.3%

US Unemployment Rate = 3.9%

Nonfarm jobs grow by 1,100 in August; unemployment rate falls to 4.3%

WETHERSFIELD, September 20, 2018 – Preliminary Connecticut nonfarm job estimates from the business payroll survey administered by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the state gained 1,100 net jobs (0.1%) in August 2018, to a level of 1,699,600, seasonally adjusted. Over the year, nonagricultural employment in the state grew by 18,800 jobs (1.1%). The July 2018 originally-released job decline of 1,200 was revised up to a gain of 500 over the month. The number of the state's unemployed residents was estimated at 80,900, seasonally adjusted, down 1,900 from July. As a result, Connecticut's August unemployment rate dropped by one-tenth of a point to 4.3%, 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.

"After dips in March and April, we have now seen four straight months of employment gains in Connecticut," said Andy Condon, Director of the Office of Research. "On an annual basis, the construction, manufacturing, education & health services and leisure & hospitality sectors are all showing good growth. However, financial activities, a traditional employment foundation in Connecticut, continues to show some weakness."

Nonfarm Jobs Detail (business establishment survey)

Private sector employment grew by 1,900 (0.1%) to 1,472,900 jobs over the month in August, and added 23,900 (1.6%) seasonally-adjusted jobs over the year. The **government supersector** continues to slip with a loss of 800 in August to a total of 226,700, with over-the-year losses at -5,100 or -2.2%. The **government supersector** includes all federal, state and local employment, including public higher education and Native American casino employment located on tribal land.

Six of the ten major industry *supersectors* gained employment in August, while four declined. The **education & health services supersector** led growing industries with 1,000 net new jobs (0.3%, 342,400 total jobs), while **leisure & hospitality** added 700 jobs (0.4%, 161,300). **Professional & business services** (0.2%, 222,800) and **construction** (including mining) (0.8%, 62,600 jobs) were next, adding 500 new positions each. The **financial activities supersector** contributed 200 new jobs (0.2%, 127,300) while the **other services supersector** added 100 jobs (0.2%, 65,100) in August.

In addition to the **government supersector** mentioned above, the **trade, transportation & utilities supersector** lost 900 jobs (-0.3%, 297,200) in August, while **manufacturing** (-0.1%, 163,500) and **information** (-0.3%, 30,700) both saw small losses of 100.

Connecticut has now recovered **88.5%** (105,400 jobs) of the 119,100 seasonally adjusted jobs lost in the "Great Recession" (3/08-2/10). The job recovery is into its 102nd month and the state needs an additional 13,700 net new jobs to reach an overall nonfarm employment expansion. The state's **private sector** continues its expansion from the recession and is at **113.2%** (126,400) of the private sector jobs lost in that same employment downturn.

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Three of the six LMAs seasonally adjusted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics saw job increases in August 2018. Two LMAs saw declines and the **Danbury LMA** was unchanged at 79,100 jobs. The **Hartford LMA** posted 1,000 net new positions (0.2%, 580,800). The **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** was next, adding 900 jobs (0.2%, 408,100), and the **Waterbury LMA** added 700 new jobs (1.1%, 67,200). The **Norwich–New London–Westerly, RI LMA** saw a 200 job loss (-0.2%, 131,800) and the **New Haven LMA** (-0.0%, 286,100) saw a small decline of 100 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 34.1 hours in August 2018, up three-tenths of an hour from the same month a year ago (0.9%). Average hourly earnings at \$31.53, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$0.71 (2.3%) from the August 2017 estimate (\$30.82). The resultant average **private sector** weekly pay amounted to \$1,075.17, up \$33.45 from a year ago (3.2%). The 12-month percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in August 2018 was 2.7%. 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 August 2018 unemployment rate for Connecticut is estimated at **4.3%** (seasonally adjusted), down one-tenth of a point from July 2018 and down two-tenths of a percentage point from a year ago when it was 4.5%. The US jobless rate in August 2018 was 3.9%, unchanged from July 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 1,900 from July at 80,900 in August. Over the year, the number of the state’s jobless residents declined by 6,100 (-7.0%). The state’s labor force increased for the second month in a row by 700 (0.0%) over the month, but is down over the year (-15,100, -0.8%).

August 2018 seasonally-adjusted average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut fell by 339 claimants (-9.8%) to 3,106 from July 2018, and were lower by 505 claims (-14.0%) from the August 2017 level of 3,611.

*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, October 18, 2018.

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09-20-18

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

	August 2018 P	July 2018 R	June 2018	May 2018	August 2017	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,699,600	1,698,500	1,698,000	1,692,700	1,680,800	1,100	0.1%	18,800	1.1%
Total Private	1,472,900	1,471,000	1,470,000	1,463,100	1,449,000	1,900	0.1%	23,900	1.6%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	600	600	600	600	600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	62,000	61,500	61,000	59,500	58,300	500	0.8%	3,700	6.3%
Manufacturing	163,500	163,600	163,700	163,100	159,300	-100	-0.1%	4,200	2.6%
Durable Goods	128,400	128,500	128,600	128,200	124,700	-100	-0.1%	3,700	3.0%
Nondurable Goods	35,100	35,100	35,100	34,900	34,600	0	0.0%	500	1.4%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	297,200	298,100	299,300	299,600	298,100	-900	-0.3%	-900	-0.3%
Wholesale	62,600	63,000	62,900	62,800	62,500	-400	-0.6%	100	0.2%
Retail	181,700	182,300	183,000	183,500	183,500	-600	-0.3%	-1,800	-1.0%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	52,900	52,800	53,400	53,300	52,100	100	0.2%	800	1.5%
Information	30,700	30,800	30,900	30,700	31,200	-100	-0.3%	-500	-1.6%
Financial Activities	127,300	127,100	127,400	127,500	127,800	200	0.2%	-500	-0.4%
Finance & Insurance	107,300	107,000	107,300	107,400	108,000	300	0.3%	-700	-0.6%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	20,000	20,100	20,100	20,100	19,800	-100	-0.5%	200	1.0%
Professional & Business Services	222,800	222,300	222,700	221,200	217,900	500	0.2%	4,900	2.2%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	98,700	98,100	98,100	98,000	96,500	600	0.6%	2,200	2.3%
Management of Companies	31,700	31,500	31,500	31,600	31,900	200	0.6%	-200	-0.6%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	92,400	92,700	93,100	91,600	89,500	-300	-0.3%	2,900	3.2%
Educational & Health Services	342,400	341,400	340,800	339,200	333,800	1,000	0.3%	8,600	2.6%
Educational Services	67,800	66,900	67,000	65,900	65,400	900	1.3%	2,400	3.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	274,600	274,500	273,800	273,300	268,400	100	0.0%	6,200	2.3%
Leisure and Hospitality	161,300	160,600	158,300	156,100	156,900	700	0.4%	4,400	2.8%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	27,700	27,300	27,400	26,900	28,200	400	1.5%	-500	-1.8%
Accommodation & Food Services	133,600	133,300	130,900	129,200	128,700	300	0.2%	4,900	3.8%
Other Services	65,100	65,000	65,300	65,600	65,100	100	0.2%	0	0.0%
Government**	226,700	227,500	228,000	229,600	231,800	-800	-0.4%	-5,100	-2.2%
UNITED STATES	149,279,000	149,078,000	148,931,000	148,723,000	146,949,000	201,000	0.1%	2,330,000	1.6%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	August 2018 P	July 2018 R	June 2018	May 2018	August 2017	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	408,100	407,200	407,800	405,600	406,600	900	0.2%	1,500	0.4%
Danbury	79,100	79,100	79,300	79,200	78,100	0	0.0%	1,000	1.3%
Hartford	580,800	579,800	580,300	577,100	571,500	1,000	0.2%	9,300	1.6%
New Haven	286,100	286,200	285,200	285,700	285,500	-100	0.0%	600	0.2%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	131,800	132,000	131,500	131,000	130,300	-200	-0.2%	1,500	1.2%
Waterbury	67,200	66,500	66,500	66,500	67,200	700	1.1%	0	0.0%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	44,800	44,900	45,300	45,400	44,400	-100	-0.2%	400	0.9%
Torrington-Northwest	33,400	33,700	33,500	32,900	33,200	-300	-0.9%	200	0.6%
Danielson-Northeast	26,900	26,800	27,200	27,100	26,900	100	0.4%	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.

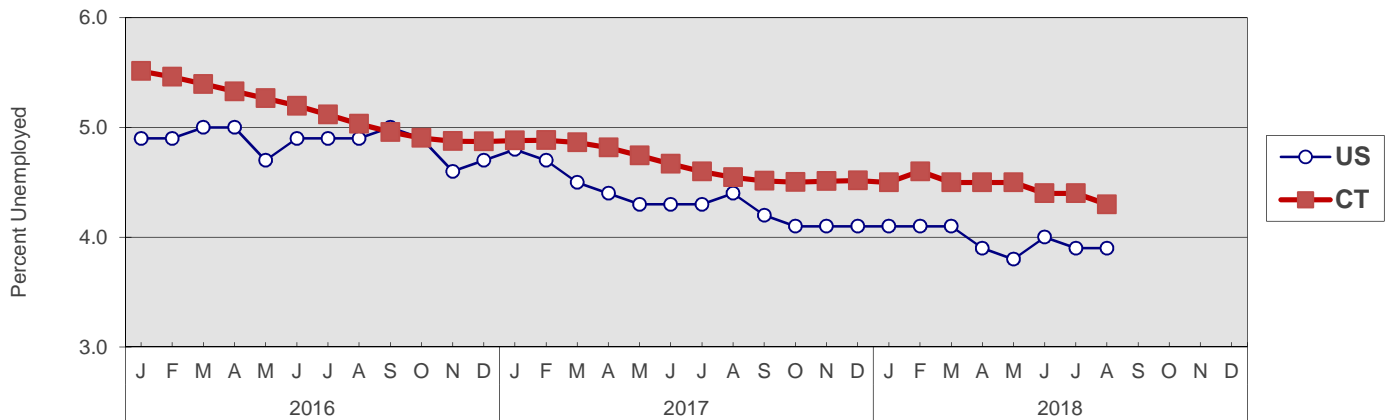
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	August 2018 P		August 2017 R		Change		July 2018 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	80,900	4.3	87,000	4.5	-6,100	-0.2	82,800	4.4
Labor Force	1,899,200		1,914,300		-15,100		1,898,500	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	6,234,000	3.9	7,127,000	4.4	-893,000	-0.5	6,280,000	3.9
Labor Force	161,776,000		160,598,000		1,178,000		162,245,000	

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



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	August 2018 P		August 2017 R		Change		July 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								
CONNECTICUT	77,100	4.0	89,600	4.7	-12,500	-0.7	86,500	4.4
UNITED STATES	6,370,000	3.9	7,287,000	4.5	-917,000	-0.6	6,730,000	4.1

Release of the August 2018 sub-state labor force data is restricted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics until Friday, September 21, 2018.

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			
	August 2018 P	August 2017	Change over Yr.	July 2018 R	August 2018 P	August 2017	Change over Yr.	July 2018 R	August 2018 P	August 2017	Change over Yr.	July 2018 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,075.17	\$1,041.72	\$33.45	\$1,092.80	34.1	33.8	0.3	34.3	\$31.53	\$30.82	\$0.71	\$31.86
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$1,074.85	\$1,069.24	\$5.61	\$1,060.90	41.5	41.8	-0.3	41.2	\$25.90	\$25.58	\$0.32	\$25.75

* 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

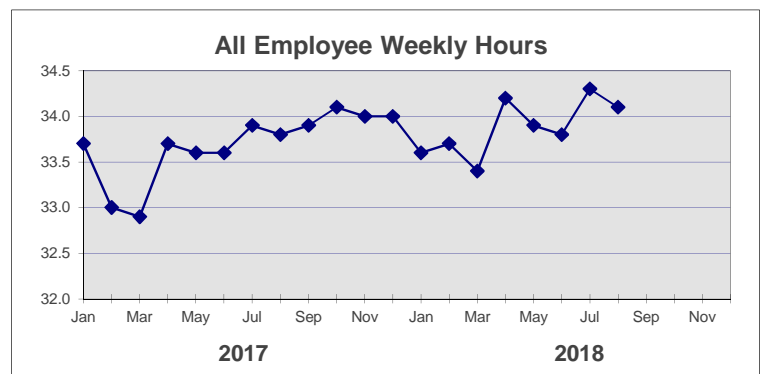
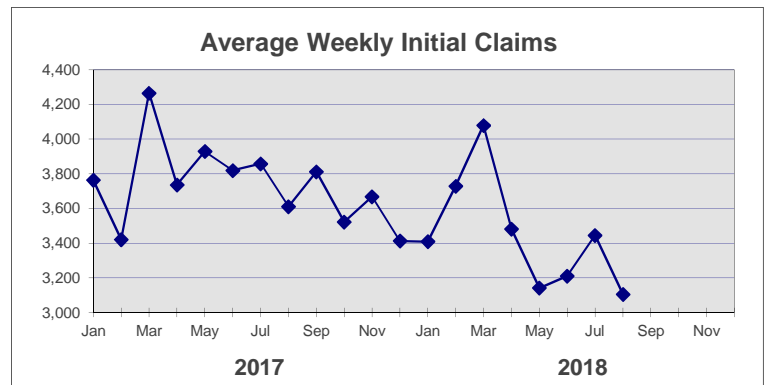
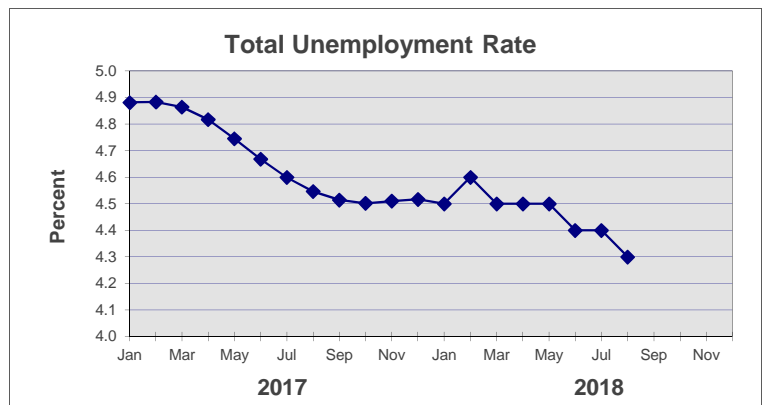
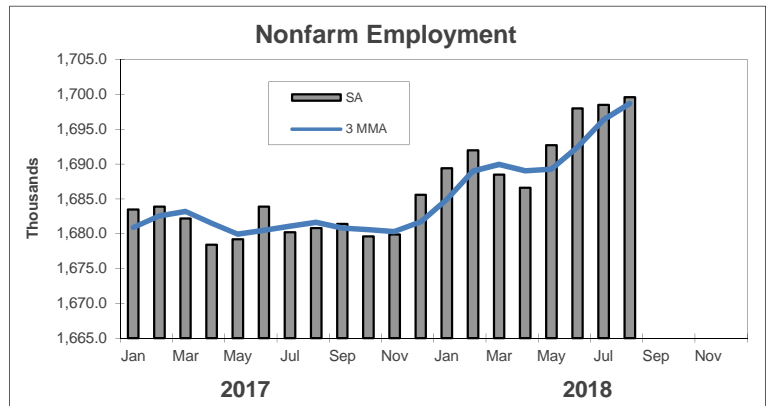
Seasonally Adjusted

	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	4.5
Apr	1,686.6	4.5
May	1,692.7	4.5
Jun	1,698.0	4.4
Jul	1,698.5 R	4.4 R
Aug	1,699.6 P	4.3 P
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
Apr	3,481	34.2
May	3,142	33.9
Jun	3,211	33.8
Jul	3,445	34.3 R
Aug	3,106	34.1 P
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



* Not seasonally adjusted

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** Labor-management dispute