



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2010 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 9.0%

National Unemployment Rate = 9.4%

State Sheds 4,300 Jobs in December; Unemployment Rate Remains at 9.0%

WETHERSFIELD, Jan. 24, 2011 – Connecticut lost 4,300 jobs in December, bringing the state's nonfarm employment to 1,613,400. On a seasonally adjusted basis, this represents an increase of 5,300 jobs from a year earlier, when nonfarm employment totaled 1,608,100. The state's unemployment rate remained the same at 9.0 percent, which is four tenths of a percentage point below the national rate of 9.4 percent.

"After two months of job gains that added 6,600 jobs, December proved to be disappointing in terms of the state's recovery efforts," said Labor Statistics Supervisor Salvatore DiPillo. "While Connecticut added 5,300 jobs over the year, this represents an overall increase of 0.3 percent, which is below the 2010 national job growth rate of 0.9 percent. However, in March we will have a clearer picture of how Connecticut is emerging from this past recession when the agency issues its revised 2010 data. The data issued then is based on a near-complete count of jobs in the state that is not available to us when we make our monthly estimates."

Nonfarm Employment

Most industry sectors shed jobs in December with the largest loss found in **leisure and hospitality**, down by 2,000. There were 1,100 fewer jobs in the **trade, transportation and utilities** sector, with all of these in **retail trade**, while the **professional and business services** sector also lost 1,100. Employment in **manufacturing** was down 600 jobs, followed by **educational and health services**, down 400 jobs. Gains did occur in **other services**, which added 500 jobs, and **financial activities**, up 300 jobs, while three sectors – **construction, information, and government** – were mostly unchanged between November and December. Overall, as the national and state economies recover, volatility in monthly numbers can be expected. Jobs estimates are best understood in the context of their movement over several months rather than observed changes in a single month's estimate. While many industry sectors still show employment losses over the year, since the end of 2009 some sectors have added jobs.

Leading those sectors that have added jobs over the year is **professional and business services**, which, after losing nearly 14 percent of its jobs between the beginning of 2008 and the end of 2009, has posted gains in seven months since January 2010. During this same time, the sector has added 9,800 jobs to now total 188,400. Many of these additional jobs are in the **employment services** industry, including **temporary help agencies**.

Employment in the **educational and health services** sector overall has shown consistent resilience to the effects of the recession. The sector has added 6,400 jobs since December 2009, and now totals 310,300. This increase represents job gains in seven out of 12 months during 2010 with all of this growth in **healthcare and social assistance** industries. Employment in **education services** remained steady over the year.

The **leisure and hospitality** sector added 2,700 jobs over the past year, with employment now at 137,700. There have been job gains in both of this sector's component industries – **arts, entertainment and recreation** and **accommodations and food services**. This sector has weathered the recession fairly well in Connecticut and is one of three sectors to have added jobs during 2010.

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The **trade, transportation and utilities** sector lost 26,100 positions, or 8.3 percent of its employment, before starting to add jobs at the beginning of 2010. Over the course of the year there were initial jobs gains that were followed by losses in the fall months. Employment in this sector now totals 287,000 with all of the sector's growth during the year occurring in **retail** industries, with losses taking place in **wholesale trade** and **transportation and utilities**.

Throughout 2010, the **manufacturing** sector has also seen several months with job gains, as well as months that brought employment losses. With 166,900 jobs, this sector is up by 900 from January 2010. All of the gains were seen in the **durable goods** industries while employment in the **nondurable goods** subsector is down from the beginning of 2010.

The **government** sector saw a spike in employment in 2010 with the hiring of temporary federal Census workers, but their work was mostly completed by fall. The number of **federal** employees, at 18,200, is down 400 from December of the previous year – the result of post office staff reductions. Employment in **state government**, at 68,300, is up 700 from December 2009 while **local government** (which includes **tribal governments** and their **gaming establishments**) has shed 3,300 jobs over the year, and with 156,700 jobs, is down 5,300 from 2008.

The **construction** sector, which began losing jobs in June of 2007, lost 19,800, or 28.6 percent of its jobs between that time and December 2010. Although **construction** job losses moderated somewhat in the past year, the sector has still lost 3,500 jobs over the past 12 months. Employment in Connecticut's construction industry stood at 49,400 at the end of 2010.

Employment in **financial activities** peaked in January 2007, but since that time the sector has shed 11,300 jobs. Despite slight gains in recent months, at 134,400 jobs, **financial activities** is down 1,700, or 1.2 percent since last December.

The **information** sector, which includes **publishing industries** including **newspapers**, has been losing jobs since 2000 – well before the current recession began. However, in 2010 job losses have moderated and at 33,800 jobs in December, this sector is down just 600 jobs from a year earlier.

Employment in the **other services** sector, which includes **repair and maintenance services, personal and laundry services** and **religious, grantmaking, civic, and professional organizations**, peaked in December 2006 and has lost jobs in many of the months since. Employment in this sector, at 61,600, is down 200 from December 2009.

Labor Market Areas: Since December of 2009 when the state overall began adding jobs, there were gains in the Danbury LMA (+ 2,100); the Waterbury LMA (+ 700); the Bridgeport-Stamford and Hartford LMAs (+ 600 each); and the New Haven LMA (+ 200). Job losses were reported in the Norwich-New London LMA.

Hours and Earnings: The workweek for employees in the private sector, not seasonally adjusted, averaged 33.7 hours, up one hour from the December 2009 figure of 32.7 hours. Average hourly earnings at \$28.22, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$0.26 from a year ago at this time when the number was \$27.96. This resulted in an average weekly wage for private sector employees of \$951.01, up \$36.72 over the year, representing an increase of 4.0 percent. 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.

Labor Force Data

Connecticut's seasonally adjusted labor force in December 2010, at 1,897,600, was up 7,300 from a year ago, with 3,300 more employed people and 4,000 more unemployed people than there were in December 2009.

Unemployment: Based on the household survey, the estimate of people unemployed, seasonally adjusted, was unchanged from November at 169,900 and the unemployment rate remained the same over the month at 9.0 percent. This is 0.4 percentage points lower than the national rate of 9.4 percent. Compared to the state's unemployment rate of 8.8 percent in December 2009, this month's rate represents an increase of 0.2 percentage points over the year. Average weekly initial unemployment claims in December 2010 for first-time filers decreased over the month by 345 to 4,504, and were down 10.0 percent, or 502 claims from this time last year.

Unemployment rates, not seasonally adjusted, were up over the year in five labor market areas and down in four. The Danbury LMA had the lowest unemployment rate at 7.0 percent, followed by the Bridgeport-Stamford LMA at 8.1 percent; the Enfield LMA at 8.3 percent; and the Norwich-New London LMA at 8.4 percent. The Waterbury LMA represents the highest unemployment rate at 11.6 percent.

The nonfarm employment estimate, derived from a survey of businesses, is a measure of jobs in the state; the unemployment rate, based on a household survey, is a measure of the work status of people who live in Connecticut.

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1-24-11

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

	Dec 2010	Nov 2010	Oct 2010	Sep 2010	Dec 2009	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,613,400	1,617,700	1,616,200	1,611,100	1,608,100	-4,300	-0.3%	5,300	0.3%
Goods Producing Industries									
Construction	49,400	49,400	49,600	50,100	52,900	0	0.0%	-3,500	-6.6%
Manufacturing	166,900	167,500	166,100	166,300	168,000	-600	-0.4%	-1,100	-0.7%
Durable Goods	128,200	128,900	127,600	127,700	129,200	-700	-0.5%	-1,000	-0.8%
Nondurable Goods	38,700	38,600	38,500	38,600	38,800	100	0.3%	-100	-0.3%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	287,000	288,100	290,300	288,300	288,400	-1,100	-0.4%	-1,400	-0.5%
Wholesale	62,300	62,300	62,800	62,500	63,700	0	0.0%	-1,400	-2.2%
Retail	177,200	178,600	180,800	179,200	175,600	-1,400	-0.8%	1,600	0.9%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	47,500	47,200	46,700	46,600	49,100	300	0.6%	-1,600	-3.3%
Information	33,800	33,700	33,900	34,300	34,400	100	0.3%	-600	-1.7%
Financial Activities	134,400	134,100	133,700	132,700	136,100	300	0.2%	-1,700	-1.2%
Finance & Insurance	115,500	115,500	115,100	114,200	117,300	0	0.0%	-1,800	-1.5%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	18,900	18,600	18,600	18,500	18,800	300	1.6%	100	0.5%
Professional & Business Services	188,400	189,500	188,300	186,100	180,800	-1,100	-0.6%	7,600	4.2%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	84,400	83,900	83,900	83,700	80,600	500	0.6%	3,800	4.7%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	79,000	80,700	79,700	77,500	74,800	-1,700	-2.1%	4,200	5.6%
Educational & Health Services	310,300	310,700	308,200	308,800	303,900	-400	-0.1%	6,400	2.1%
Educational Services	58,600	58,600	59,100	59,500	58,600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	251,700	252,100	249,100	249,300	245,300	-400	-0.2%	6,400	2.6%
Leisure and Hospitality	137,700	139,700	140,000	138,800	135,000	-2,000	-1.4%	2,700	2.0%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	24,300	25,200	25,700	24,800	23,600	-900	-3.6%	700	3.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	113,400	114,500	114,300	114,000	111,400	-1,100	-1.0%	2,000	1.8%
Other Services	61,600	61,100	61,000	61,500	61,800	500	0.8%	-200	-0.3%
Government**	243,200	243,200	244,400	243,500	246,200	0	0.0%	-3,000	-1.2%
UNITED STATES	130,712,000	130,609,000	130,538,000	130,328,000	129,588,000	103,000	0.1%	1,124,000	0.9%

LABOR MARKET AREAS

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	Dec 2010	Nov 2010	Oct. 2010	Sep 2010	Dec 2009	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	397,200	397,000	397,500	397,700	396,600	200	0.1%	600	0.2%
Danbury	66,400	66,400	66,200	65,600	64,300	0	0.0%	2,100	3.3%
Hartford	537,000	537,700	535,500	536,700	536,400	-700	-0.1%	600	0.1%
New Haven	264,400	264,000	265,100	264,100	264,200	400	0.2%	200	0.1%
Norwich-New London	129,600	129,600	129,200	128,700	130,700	0	0.0%	-1,100	-0.8%
Waterbury	61,500	61,400	61,300	61,200	60,800	100	0.2%	700	1.2%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data</i>									
Enfield	48,300	47,800	48,000	47,500	45,800	500	1.0%	2,500	5.5%
Torrington	34,400	34,400	34,400	34,200	35,000	0	0.0%	-600	-1.7%
Willimantic-Danielson	36,000	36,200	35,700	35,600	35,900	-200	-0.6%	100	0.3%

* Less than 0.05% ** Includes Native American tribal government employment

Data in this publication are benchmarked to March 2009. Current month's nonfarm employment data are preliminary, previous months' data are revised. Nonfarm employment, hours and earnings, and labor force data included in this publication are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

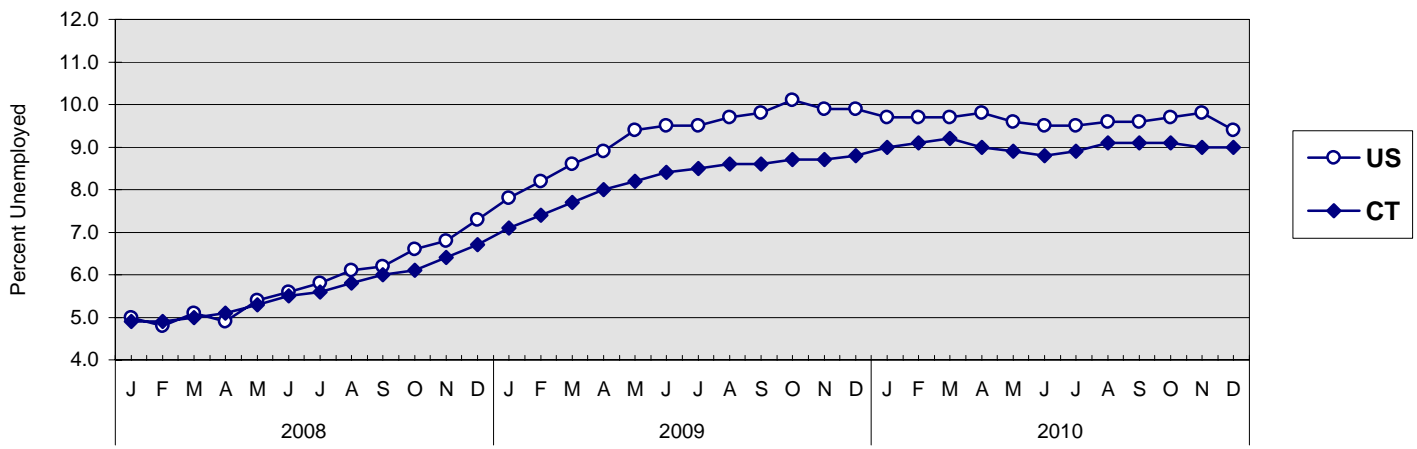
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	December 2010		December 2009		Change		November 2010	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	169,900	9.0	165,900	8.8	4,000	0.2	169,900	9.0
Labor Force	1,897,600		1,890,300		7,300		1,895,500	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	14,485,000	9.4	15,212,000	9.9	-727,000	-0.5	15,041,000	9.8
Labor Force	153,690,000		153,172,000		518,000		153,950,000	

U.S. AND CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - Seasonally Adjusted 2008 - 2010



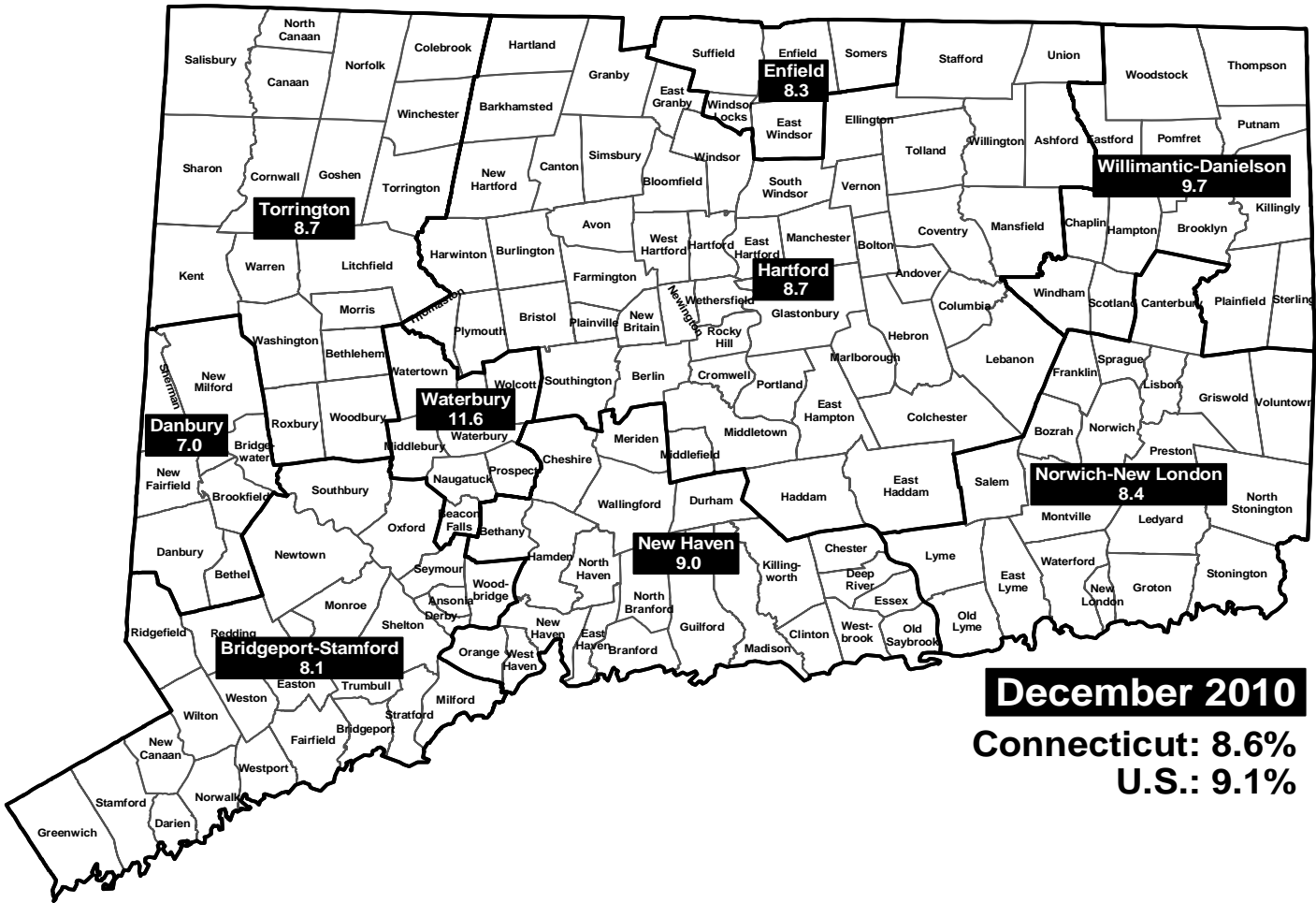
LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	December 2010		December 2009		Change		November 2010	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford	38,500	8.1	37,300	7.8	1,200	0.3	38,300	8.0
Danbury	6,400	7.0	6,500	7.2	-100	-0.2	6,300	6.9
Enfield	4,100	8.3	4,400	8.8	-300	-0.5	4,300	8.8
Hartford	51,800	8.7	50,900	8.6	900	0.1	51,000	8.5
New Haven	28,300	9.0	26,100	8.3	2,200	0.7	28,100	8.9
Norwich-New London	12,800	8.4	12,100	8.0	700	0.4	12,800	8.4
Torrington	4,700	8.7	4,600	8.6	100	0.1	4,500	8.3
Waterbury	11,700	11.6	11,800	11.7	-100	-0.1	11,500	11.4
Willimantic-Danielson	5,700	9.7	5,700	9.8	0	-0.1	5,800	9.8
CONNECTICUT	162,600	8.6	158,200	8.4	4,400	0.2	161,500	8.5
UNITED STATES	13,997,000	9.1	14,740,000	9.7	-743,000	-0.6	14,282,000	9.3

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Not Seasonally Adjusted

LABOR MARKET AREAS



HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

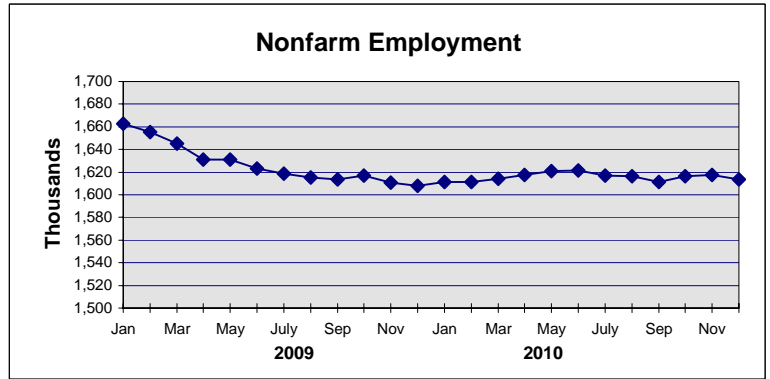
	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	Dec 2010	Dec 2009	Change over Yr.	Nov. 2010	Dec 2010	Dec 2009	Change over Yr.	Nov. 2010	Dec 2010	Dec 2009	Change over Yr.	Nov. 2010
Private Industry All Employees	\$951.01	\$914.29	\$36.72	\$945.71	33.7	32.7	1.0	33.5	\$28.22	\$27.96	\$0.26	\$28.23
Manufacturing Production Workers	\$1,020.90	\$969.72	\$51.18	\$999.58	41.5	41.3	0.2	41.0	\$24.60	\$23.48	\$1.12	\$24.38

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.

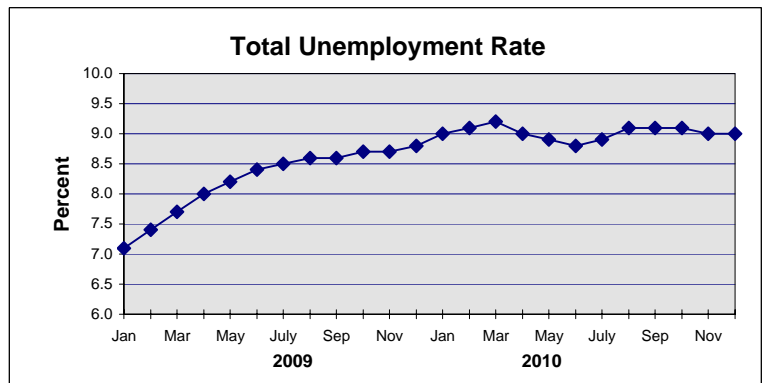
TRENDS

Seasonally Adjusted

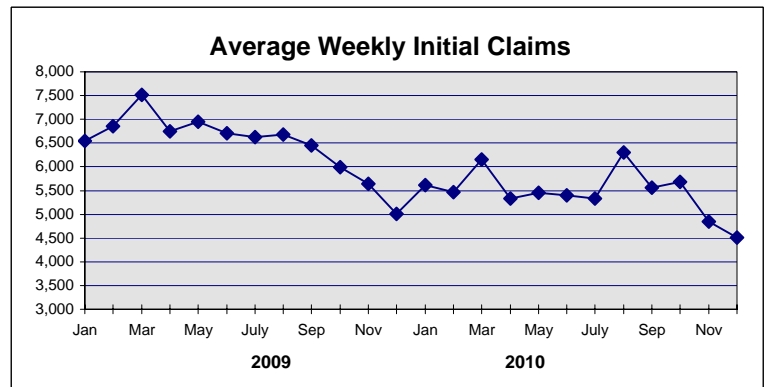
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2009		
Jan	1,662.9	7.1
Feb	1,655.6	7.4
Mar	1,645.1	7.7
Apr	1,631.1	8.0
May	1,630.8	8.2
Jun	1,623.2	8.4
July	1,618.6	8.5
Aug	1,615.0	8.6
Sep	1,613.6	8.6
Oct	1,617.2	8.7
Nov	1,610.7	8.7
Dec	1,608.1	8.8



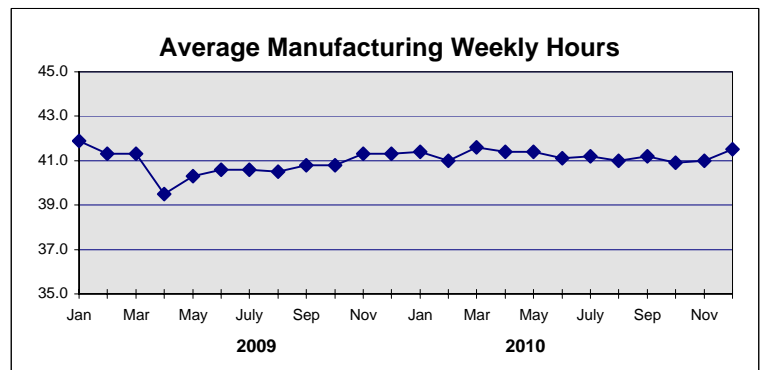
2010		
Jan	1,611.3	9.0
Feb	1,611.5	9.1
Mar	1,614.0	9.2
Apr	1,617.6	9.0
May	1,621.1	8.9
Jun	1,621.4	8.8
July	1,617.0	8.9
Aug	1,616.5	9.1
Sep	1,611.1	9.1
Oct	1,616.2	9.1
Nov	1,617.7	9.0
Dec	1,613.4	9.0



	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	Avg Manufacturing Weekly Hours*
2009		
Jan	6,538	41.9
Feb	6,858	41.3
Mar	7,510	41.3
Apr	6,750	39.5
May	6,949	40.3
Jun	6,706	40.6
July	6,626	40.6
Aug	6,679	40.5
Sep	6,444	40.8
Oct	5,988	40.8
Nov	5,635	41.3
Dec	5,006	41.3



2010		
Jan	5,611	41.4
Feb	5,460	41.0
Mar	6,154	41.6
Apr	5,333	41.4
May	5,448	41.4
Jun	5,396	41.1
July	5,325	41.2
Aug	6,304	41.0
Sep	5,565	41.2
Oct	5,678	40.9
Nov	4,849	41.0
Dec	4,504	41.5



* Not Seasonally Adjusted

** Labor-management dispute