

ECONOMIC DIGEST

Vol.13 No.10

A joint publication of the Connecticut Department of Labor & the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

OCTOBER 2008

IN THIS ISSUE...

(Almost) Everything You Wanted to Know About Connecticut's Employment Numbers...But Were Afraid to Ask 1-3

Fatal Work Injuries in 2007 5

Economic Indicators

- of Employment 4
- on the Overall Economy 5
- Individual Data Items 6-8
- Comparative Regional Data 9**
- Economic Indicator Trends 10-11**
- Business & Economic News 14-15**
- Business and Employment Changes Announced in the News Media 19**
- Labor Market Areas:**

 - Nonfarm Employment 12-17
 - Labor Force 18
 - Hours and Earnings 19

- Cities and Towns:**

 - Labor Force 20-21
 - Housing Permits 22

- Technical Notes 23**
- At a Glance 24**

In August...

Nonfarm Employment

Connecticut 1,704,900
 Change over month 0.01%
 Change over year 0.2%

United States 137,473,000
 Change over month -0.06%
 Change over year -0.2%

Unemployment Rate

Connecticut 6.5%
 United States 6.1%

Consumer Price Index

United States 219.1
 Change over year 5.4%

(Almost) Everything You Wanted to Know About Connecticut's Employment Numbers... But Were Afraid to Ask

By Salvatore A. DiPillo, Associate Research Analyst, DOL

Our data users often ask what defines the term “employment” as we use it, and what distinguishes the series of employment numbers we develop and publish. This article will discuss the concepts behind the various data series we call employment, the statistical programs by which these data are developed, and some new developments in those programs.

Employment can be a measurement of the number of jobs held by workers, or it may refer to a person’s work status – whether he or she is employed or unemployed. Of the three federal-state cooperative statistical programs in which states participate with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), two programs—the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) and Current Employment Statistics (CES)—define employment as jobs held, and count those jobs where they are located. The Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program distinguishes those state residents who are working from those who are not, and counts these employed and unemployed people where they reside. The three programs measure different conditions and together provide a fuller picture of the economy than any one set

of data might (see the comparison summary table on page 3).

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

We’ll look at the “employment as jobs” programs first. The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) is nearly a census of employment, covering approximately 97 percent of wage and salary civilian employment. The QCEW program derives its data from quarterly tax reports submitted to the Connecticut Department of Labor by nearly 99,000 employers in the state subject to Connecticut unemployment insurance (UI) laws, and from federal agencies subject to the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program. These reports provide information on the number of filled jobs and the wages paid each quarter to the employees holding these jobs. The program obtains information on the location and industrial activity of each reported establishment, and assigns location and industry codes accordingly. An establishment is an economic unit, such as a farm, office, factory or store that produces goods or provides services. This establishment level information is aggregated by industry to the city and town,

The Connecticut Economic Digest is published monthly by the Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research and the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development. Its purpose is to regularly provide users with a comprehensive source for the most current, up-to-date data available on the workforce and economy of the state, within perspectives of the region and nation.

The annual subscription is \$50. Send subscription requests to: *The Connecticut Economic Digest*, Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research, 200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114. Make checks payable to the Connecticut Department of Labor. Back issues are \$4 per copy. The Digest can be accessed free of charge from the DOL Web site. Articles from *The Connecticut Economic Digest* may be reprinted if the source is credited. Please send copies of the reprinted material to the Managing Editor. The views expressed by the authors are theirs alone and may not reflect those of the DOL or DECD.

Managing Editor: Jungmin Charles Joo

Associate Editor: Cynthia L. DeLisa

We would like to acknowledge the contributions of many DOL Research and DECD staff to the publication of the Digest.

Connecticut Department of Labor

Patricia H. Mayfield, Commissioner
Linda L. Agnew, Deputy Commissioner

Roger F. Therrien, Director
Office of Research
200 Folly Brook Boulevard
Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114
Phone: (860) 263-6275
Fax: (860) 263-6263
E-Mail: dol.econdigest@ct.gov
Website: <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi>



Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

Joan McDonald, Commissioner
Ronald Angelo, Deputy Commissioner

Stan McMillen, Ph.D., Managing Economist
505 Hudson Street
Hartford, CT 06106-2502
Phone: (860) 270-8000
Fax: (860) 270-8200
E-Mail: decd@ct.gov
Website: <http://www.decd.org>



county, labor market area, workforce investment area and statewide levels to yield average monthly employment and quarterly wage data.

Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey

As the QCEW collects data from nearly every employer in the state, considerable effort is made in collecting, editing and summarizing data from employers. This time-taking effort means that data are not published until nearly six months after the end of the quarter they represent. In order to get a more immediate view of employment conditions, we rely on the results of the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey, a monthly survey of business establishments that provides estimates of employment, hours and earnings by industry for the nation, state, and labor market areas. In the CES program, states develop estimates of these data using concepts, definitions and technical procedures prescribed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. CES statistics are calculated from data received from the payroll records of a probability-based sample of employers--over 4,500 in Connecticut. That sample of employers is drawn from the roster of employers included in the QCEW. Because CES estimates are sample and model based, considerably less industry and geographic detail can be developed. Industry level data are broader than for the QCEW, and area data is available for the state and labor market areas only. CES employment data are benchmarked, or revised, each year using data from the near-universe count of employment from the QCEW program. The CES program uses outside sources to benchmark employment for industries that are not subject to UI laws, and thus not included in the QCEW.

In addition to employment data, the CES program produces statewide average hours and earnings estimates for nonsupervisory workers in the construction and manufacturing industries. Starting in 2009, the program will begin publishing hours and earnings data covering all workers in private industry sectors.

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Employment data developed from the LAUS program are the most inclusive of the three employment series the states develop. They are also the only data series based on a worker's place of residence. Included in LAUS figures are independent contractors, railroad workers, elected officials, unpaid family workers, and the self-employed, including farmers. In addition, states develop estimates on the number of unemployed workers. The estimates include those people either separated from a job, coming into the labor force for the first time, or returning to the labor force after a time away. In order to be counted as unemployed, someone needs to be available for work and actively seeking employment. Nationally, estimates of the employed and unemployed are based on results of the Current Population Survey (CPS) of households. State CPS samples (1,200 households in Connecticut) cannot support state-level estimates, so an econometric model using CPS sample results, UI claims data and CES employment numbers is used by the states to make their estimates. Below the statewide level, estimates are prepared using disaggregation techniques based on inputs from the decennial Census, annual population estimates and current UI claims data. Each month the State Labor Department's Office of Research makes estimates of

employed and unemployed residents, the resulting labor force, and the unemployment rate for the state, its counties, workforce investment areas, labor market areas, and cities and towns.

Beyond the data developed in these programs, statewide data from two of the programs, CES and LAUS, are also seasonally adjusted. This is a process that eliminates the effect of month-to-month variations in the data that tend to occur during the same time period each year with the same predictability. Examples of such variations include: school terms, holidays, and yearly weather patterns. Seasonally adjusted numbers are those most widely published, discussed in the media, and most often used by the agency's data clients.

Currently, QCEW data is not seasonally adjusted but there are plans to incorporate seasonal adjustment into the program with a major re-design of the QCEW program scheduled to take effect over the next several years.

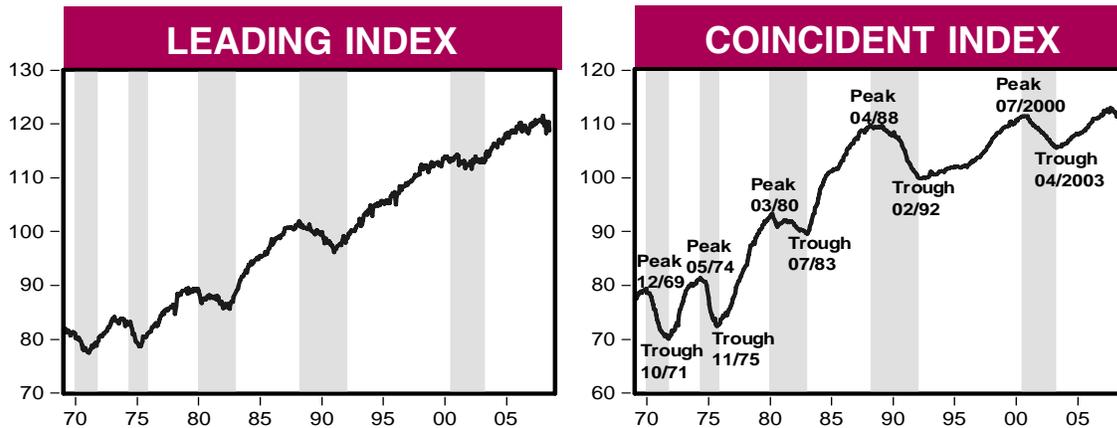
For a practical example of how employment from these programs differs, we can compare the Connecticut statewide numbers produced by each for March 2008. For this purpose, we can look at the not-seasonally adjusted figures, to put them on equal footing. Employment from the CES program was 1,683,800. These were the number of filled nonfarm jobs in the state, including full and part-time positions. The QCEW employment for March 2008 was 1,684,209, and differs from the CES number

by the inclusion of household workers, some farm employment, but excludes jobs at employers not covered by unemployment insurance laws, which are represented in the CES figure. As both CES and QCEW numbers represent jobs, all of those held by persons working more than one job are represented in the numbers, and Connecticut jobs held by residents of other states are included. LAUS employment was 1,770,965 in March 2008, consisting of workers with jobs who reside in Connecticut, regardless of whether they commute to jobs in other states. Unlike the CES and QCEW, the LAUS number includes self-employed and unpaid family workers. As it represents people rather than jobs, it counts those holding more than one job only once. ■

Comparison of Employment Measures

Statistical Program	Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)	Current Employment Statistics (CES)	Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)
What's counted	Individuals – residents of Connecticut regardless of where they work	Jobs - filled positions at establishments in Connecticut	Jobs - filled positions at establishments in Connecticut
Coverage	Wage and salary workers (includes agricultural, domestic and other private household workers), self-employed workers, and unpaid workers	Jobs held by wage and salary employees on the payrolls of nonfarm establishments – excludes those held by private household workers	Jobs held by wage and salary employees on the payrolls of establishments – excludes those held by student laborers, railroad employees, elected officials, self-employed and unpaid family workers, and some religious organizations
Data sources	Current Population Survey (CPS) of state residents, Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims, Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey of establishments	Monthly survey of a sample of Connecticut establishments, annually reconciled to the QCEW	Quarterly reports from Connecticut employers participating in the UI program.
Reference period	12 th of the month	12 th of the month	12 th of the month
Geographic Definition	Place of residence	Place of work	Place of work
Published geographic detail	State, labor market areas (LMAs), counties, Workforce Investment Areas (WIAs), cities and towns	State and LMAs	State, LMAs, counties, WIAs, cities and towns
Published	Monthly - one month after reference period in the <i>Labor Situation and Connecticut Economic Digest</i> : www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/laborsit.htm www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/misc/ctdigest.htm	Monthly - one month after reference period in the <i>Connecticut Labor Situation and Connecticut Economic Digest</i> : www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/laborsit.htm www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/misc/ctdigest.htm	Quarterly - six months after end of quarter: www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/202/covered.htm
Data series produced by the program	Number of people in the labor force, number of employed and unemployed people, and percentage of the labor force that is unemployed (unemployment rate)	Employment (number of jobs), non-supervisory average hours and earnings for selected industries, and in 2009, average hours and earnings for all employees in private industry sectors	Number of business establishments, employment (jobs), and wages
March 2008 employment – not seasonally adjusted	1,770,965	1,683,800	1,684,200

EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS



The distance from peak to trough, indicated by the shaded areas, measures the duration of an employment cycle recession. The vertical scale in both charts is an index with 1992=100.

Indicators Warn of Connecticut Economy at Risk

The National Outlook

As if to underscore the seriousness of the slumping housing market, rapidly worsening credit crisis, a record rate of home mortgage foreclosures, and a five-year high 6.5% unemployment rate amid ongoing inflationary pressures, the Bush Administration last month seized Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. This dramatic takeover comes on the heels of a federal government-brokered sale last March of Bear Stearns – one of the largest global investment banks, securities trading, and brokerage firms — to JPMorgan Chase. In 2008, the U.S. economy lost 605,000 jobs in payroll employment. Inflation rose at 6.2% in the first seven months of 2008 compared with 4.1% for the year ending December 2007. At its most recent meeting, the Fed held the federal funds rate at its previous level as if to signal the tradeoff of higher inflation and lower unemployment. There may not be much more the Fed can do with interest rates to stabilize and grow the economy.

Connecticut Employment Indexes

The DECD-ECRI Connecticut coincident employment index is a measure of contemporaneous activity and decreased on a year-over-year basis from 112.0 in July 2007 to 110.7 in July 2008. Year-over-year total employment (from the household survey) decreased for the first time in five years by 0.07% or 1,286 persons, while nonfarm employment (from the employer survey) increased by 0.33% from July 2007 (the only positive influence on the annual change in this index). Connecticut's insured unemploy-

ment rate (2.70% vs. 2.38% a year ago) and total unemployment rate (5.8% vs. 4.5% a year ago) contribute negatively to the year-over-year change in this index.

On a month-over-month basis, the July 2008 index at 110.7 decreased from 111.3 a month ago. This index's 12-month moving average growth rate (-2.0%) continued its negative trend and is the largest monthly decline in the growth rate of this index since April 2003. Total employment that decreased by 4,000 persons to 1.78 million from a downward revision of the previous month and the total insured unemployment rate that increased from 2.64% last month to 2.70% in July contribute negatively to the monthly change in this index. Negative contributors include the total unemployment rate of 5.8% in July 2008 that increased from the previous month's 5.40% and nonfarm employment that decreased by 1,000 jobs from the previous month's level.

The DECD-ECRI Connecticut leading employment index that estimates future activity decreased from 120.4 in July 2007 to 118.7 in July 2008. Manufacturing employment decreased by 2,500 jobs from 191,400 jobs a year ago to 188,900 jobs in July 2008, contributing negatively to the year-over-year change in this index. Construction employment rose from 68,600 in July 2007 to 71,900 in July 2008 perhaps reflecting growth in commercial construction. Average weekly hours were unchanged in manufacturing and decreased in construction from a year ago acting as neutral and negative contributors,

respectively. Moody's Baa bond yield increased from 6.65% in July 2007 to 7.16% in July 2008; short duration unemployment increased from 1.68% to 1.80% over the year; and initial claims increased 19.0% from 18,443 a year ago. The Hartford help-wanted index declined from eight in July 2007 to six in July 2008. Housing permits decreased by 47% from 737 units in July 2007 to 389 units in July 2008. Each of these latter five factors contributes negatively to the annual change in this index.

On a month-over-month basis, Connecticut's leading employment index declined from 120.4 to 118.7 in July 2008. Construction employment increased by 600 jobs from 71,300 the prior month and construction average weekly hours edged up from 38.3 to 39.0 as both contributed positively to the month-over-month change in this index. Manufacturing employment decreased by 300 jobs; housing permits decreased by 240 units (38.2% seasonally adjusted or SA), manufacturing average weekly hours declined by 0.3 from 42.6; the Hartford help-wanted index declined by one point; initial claims increased by 1,712 (SA); the short duration unemployment rate increased from 1.68 to 1.80 (SA); and Moody's corporate bond yield increased from 7.07% to 7.16%; each was a negative contributor to this index on a month-over-month basis.

Each indicator's decline suggests Connecticut may be on the slippery slope toward recession.

By Stan McMillen, Ph.D., Managing Economist, DECD, (860) 270-8166. Mark Prisloe, Associate Economist, DECD, provides research assistance. Professors Pami Dua and Stephen M. Miller, in cooperation with Anirvan Banerji at the Economic Cycle Research Institute developed the leading and coincident employment indexes. The views expressed herein are the author's own and do not necessarily represent those of the Connecticut Department of Labor or the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development. Components of the indexes are described in the Technical Notes on page 23.

Fatal Work Injuries in 2007

By Jungmin Charles Joo, Associate Research Analyst, DOL

A total of 5,488 fatal work injuries were recorded in the United States in 2007, a decrease of six percent from the revised total of 5,840 fatal work injuries reported for 2006, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The 2007 preliminary annual total is the smallest total for any year since the fatality census was first conducted in 1992.

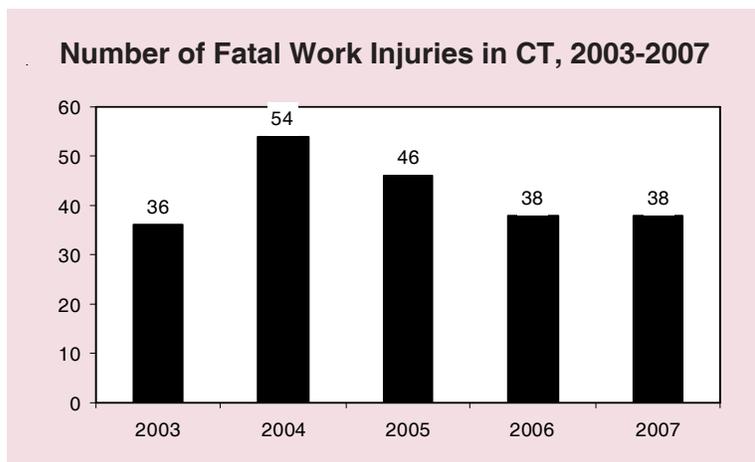
In Connecticut, there were 38 fatal work injuries reported last year, the same as in 2006. This was the smallest total since 2003 (see chart). Of the 38 fatal work injuries in 2007, ten were from falls; nine were from assaults and violent acts; eight from transportation incidents; and six from exposure to harmful substances or environments.

Overall, 90 percent of the fatal work injuries involved workers in private industry in the nation.

Service-providing industries in the private sector recorded 48 percent of all fatal work injuries in 2007, while goods-producing

fatality rate ever reported by the fatality census.

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, part of the BLS Injuries, Illnesses, and Fatalities program, provides the most complete count of fatal work injuries available. For more information on fatal work injuries, see "National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2007," www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/cfoi_08202008.pdf. Data for 2007 are preliminary. The total



industries recorded 42 percent. Another 10 percent of the fatal work injury cases in 2007 involved government workers.

Based on these preliminary counts, the rate of fatal injury for U.S. workers in 2007 was 3.7 fatal work injuries per 100,000 workers, down from the final rate of 4.0 per 100,000 workers in 2006, and the lowest annual

for 2001 excludes work-related fatalities that resulted from the September 11 terrorist attacks, which were tabulated separately.

For more detailed Connecticut results, visit Connecticut Department of Labor's Worker Safety (Occupational Safety and Health - CONN-OSHA) website at www.ctdol.state.ct.us/osh/osh.htm. ■

GENERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	2Q	2Q	CHANGE		1Q
	2008	2007	NO.	%	2008
Employment Indexes (1992=100)*					
Leading	119.5	120.3	-0.7	-0.6	120.8
Coincident	111.5	111.8	-0.2	-0.2	111.9
General Drift Indicator (1986=100)*					
Leading	111.1	112.5	-1.4	-1.2	111.8
Coincident	114.8	115.0	-0.2	-0.2	114.5
Banknorth Business Barometer (1992=100)**	124.2	123.7	0.5	0.4	124.9

Sources: *The Connecticut Economy, University of Connecticut

**Banknorth Bank

The Connecticut Economy's **General Drift Indicators** are composite measures of the four-quarter change in three coincident (Connecticut Manufacturing Production Index, nonfarm employment, and real personal income) and four leading (housing permits, manufacturing average weekly hours, Hartford help-wanted advertising, and initial unemployment claims) economic variables, and are indexed so 1986 = 100.

The **Banknorth Business Barometer** is a measure of overall economic growth in the state of Connecticut that is derived from non-manufacturing employment, real disposable personal income, and manufacturing production.

Total nonfarm
employment increased
over the year.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

	AUG		CHANGE		JUL
	2008	2007	NO.	%	2008
<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>					
TOTAL NONFARM	1,704.9	1,700.7	4.2	0.2	1,704.7
Natural Res & Mining (Not Sea. Adj.)	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.8
Construction	68.0	68.7	-0.7	-1.0	67.8
Manufacturing	189.1	191.5	-2.4	-1.3	189.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	311.0	312.2	-1.2	-0.4	310.8
Information	38.8	38.4	0.4	1.0	38.5
Financial Activities	143.1	144.5	-1.4	-1.0	143.6
Professional and Business Services	205.4	206.1	-0.7	-0.3	205.5
Educational and Health Services	294.9	289.0	5.9	2.0	294.6
Leisure and Hospitality Services	138.0	136.1	1.9	1.4	137.4
Other Services	64.1	64.2	-0.1	-0.2	64.3
Government*	251.7	249.2	2.5	1.0	252.2

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor * Includes Native American tribal government employment

Initial claims for unem-
ployment insurance rose
from a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

	AUG		CHANGE		JUL
	2008	2007	NO.	%	2008
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>					
Unemployment Rate, resident (%)	6.5	4.6	1.9	---	5.8
Labor Force, resident (000s)	1,890.1	1,869.8	20.3	1.1	1,889.9
Employed (000s)	1,768.1	1,783.3	-15.2	-0.9	1,780.1
Unemployed (000s)	122.1	86.6	35.5	41.0	109.8
Average Weekly Initial Claims	5,926	3,980	1,946	48.9	4,685
Avg. Insured Unemp. Rate (%)	3.09	2.52	0.58	---	2.88

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor

The production worker
weekly earnings rose
over the year.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY

	AUG		CHANGE		JUL	JUN
	2008	2007	NO.	%	2008	2008
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>						
Average Weekly Hours	42.4	42.1	0.3	0.7	42.4	--
Average Hourly Earnings	21.59	20.75	0.84	4.0	21.53	--
Average Weekly Earnings	915.42	873.58	41.84	4.8	912.87	--
CT Mfg. Production Index (2000=100)	128.9	139.0	-10.1	-7.3	123.3	127.8
Production Worker Hours (000s)	4,774	4,815	-41	-0.8	4,767	--
Industrial Electricity Sales (mil kWh)*	483	550	-66.7	-12.1	457	478

Sources: Connecticut Department of Labor; U.S. Department of Energy

*Latest two months are forecasted.

Personal income for
fourth quarter 2008 is
forecasted to increase 3.7
percent from a year
earlier.

INCOME

	4Q*		CHANGE		3Q*
	2008	2007	NO.	%	2008
<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>					
<i>(Annualized; \$ Millions)</i>					
Personal Income	\$198,888	\$191,876	7,012	3.7	\$197,711
UI Covered Wages	\$102,374	\$99,758	2,616	2.6	\$101,791

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis: June 2008 release

*Forecasted by Connecticut Department of Labor

BUSINESS ACTIVITY

New auto registrations decreased over the year.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %	YEAR TO DATE		%
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
New Housing Permits*	AUG 2008	333	-51.2	3,683	5,278	-30.2
Electricity Sales (mil kWh)	MAY 2008	2,303	-13.5	13,490	13,571	-0.6
Construction Contracts Index (1980=100)	AUG 2008	397.0	-7.7	---	---	---
New Auto Registrations	AUG 2008	13,525	-35.7	135,132	141,102	-4.2
Air Cargo Tons	AUG 2008	12,319	-13.4	98,940	106,178	-6.8
Exports (Bil. \$)	2Q 2008	3.90	12.2	7.50	6.70	11.9

Sources: Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development; U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration; Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; F.W. Dodge; Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles; Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation and Ports

* Estimated by the Bureau of the Census

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

Net business formation, as measured by starts minus stops registered with the Secretary of the State, was up over the year.

	MO/QTR	LEVEL	Y/Y %	YEAR TO DATE		%
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
STARTS						
Secretary of the State	AUG 2008	2,152	-15.8	19,556	21,700	-9.9
Department of Labor*	4Q2007	1,491	-6.3	7,445	8,241	-9.7
TERMINATIONS						
Secretary of the State	AUG 2008	762	-8.7	7,471	6,731	11.0
Department of Labor*	4Q2007	2,201	-23.9	6,652	8,062	-17.5

Sources: Connecticut Secretary of the State; Connecticut Department of Labor

* Revised methodology applied back to 1996; 3-months total

STATE REVENUES

Total revenues were down from a year ago.

	YEAR TO DATE					
	AUG 2008	AUG 2007	% CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	% CHG
<i>(Millions of dollars)</i>						
TOTAL ALL REVENUES*	534.2	705.9	-24.3	9,723.8	9,478.0	2.6
Corporate Tax	15.2	3.0	405.7	488.4	541.5	-9.8
Personal Income Tax	240.6	302.5	-20.4	5,379.6	4,968.1	8.3
Real Estate Conv. Tax	9.6	24.1	-60.3	89.7	158.3	-43.3
Sales & Use Tax	173.5	267.8	-35.2	2,310.7	2,454.3	-5.8
Indian Gaming Payments**	37.6	38.9	-3.3	276.0	288.9	-4.5

Sources: Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; Division of Special Revenue

*Includes all sources of revenue; Only selected sources are displayed; Most July receipts are credited to the prior fiscal year and are not shown. **See page 23 for explanation.

TOURISM AND TRAVEL

Gaming slots rose over the year.

	MONTH	LEVEL	Y/Y %	YEAR TO DATE		%
			CHG	CURRENT	PRIOR	CHG
Info Center Visitors	AUG 2008	63,071	2.1	279,177	277,723	0.5
Major Attraction Visitors	AUG 2008	297,476	3.4	1,278,096	1,275,261	0.2
Air Passenger Count	AUG 2008	558,909	-9.0	4,256,856	4,419,634	-3.7
Indian Gaming Slots (Mil.\$)*	AUG 2008	1,814	1.8	12,901	13,298	-3.0
Travel and Tourism Index**	2Q 2008	---	-0.5	---	---	---

Sources: Connecticut Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation and Ports; Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development; Connecticut Lodging & Attractions Association; Division of Special Revenue

*See page 23 for explanation

**The Connecticut Economy, University of Connecticut

Compensation cost for the nation rose 3.0 percent over the year.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	JUN 2008	MAR 2008	3-Mo % Chg	JUN 2008	JUN 2007	12-Mo % Chg
Private Industry Workers <i>(Dec. 2005 = 100)</i>						
UNITED STATES TOTAL	107.9	107.3	0.6	108.0	104.9	3.0
Wages and Salaries	108.4	107.6	0.7	108.4	105.1	3.1
Benefit Costs	106.9	106.4	0.5	107.0	104.3	2.6
NORTHEAST TOTAL	---	---	---	108.1	105.1	2.9
Wages and Salaries	---	---	---	108.2	105.0	3.0

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

U.S. inflation rate increased 5.4 percent over the year.

CONSUMER NEWS

	MO/QTR	LEVEL	% CHANGE	
			Y/Y	P/P*
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>				
CONSUMER PRICES				
CPI-U (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	AUG 2008	219.1	5.4	-0.4
Purchasing Power of \$ (1982-84=\$1.00)	AUG 2008	\$0.456	-5.1	0.4
Northeast Region	AUG 2008	233.8	5.6	-0.3
NY-Northern NJ-Long Island	AUG 2008	240.6	5.2	0.1
Boston-Brockton-Nashua**	JUL 2008	241.3	6.3	2.5
CPI-W (1982-84=100)				
U.S. City Average	AUG 2008	215.2	5.9	-0.5

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; The Conference Board

*Change over prior monthly or quarterly period

**The Boston CPI can be used as a proxy for New England and is measured every other month.

Conventional mortgage rose to 6.48 percent over the month.

INTEREST RATES

	AUG 2008	JUL 2008	AUG 2007
<i>(Percent)</i>			
Prime	5.00	5.00	8.25
Federal Funds	2.00	2.01	5.02
3 Month Treasury Bill	1.75	1.66	4.32
6 Month Treasury Bill	1.97	1.98	4.55
1 Year Treasury Note	2.18	2.28	4.47
3 Year Treasury Note	2.70	2.87	4.34
5 Year Treasury Note	3.14	3.30	4.43
7 Year Treasury Note	3.46	3.60	4.53
10 Year Treasury Note	3.89	4.01	4.67
20 Year Treasury Note	4.53	4.62	5.00
Conventional Mortgage	6.48	6.43	6.57

Sources: Federal Reserve; Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Four of nine states in the region added jobs over the year.

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	AUG	AUG	CHANGE		JUL
	2008	2007	NO.	%	2008
Connecticut	1,704.9	1,700.7	4.2	0.2	1,704.7
Maine	616.2	618.2	-2.0	-0.3	616.9
Massachusetts	3,294.2	3,282.9	11.3	0.3	3,292.5
New Hampshire	655.2	649.7	5.5	0.8	655.0
New Jersey	4,066.6	4,073.4	-6.8	-0.2	4,068.8
New York	8,781.3	8,749.6	31.7	0.4	8,778.1
Pennsylvania	5,801.3	5,804.3	-3.0	-0.1	5,807.2
Rhode Island	479.6	492.4	-12.8	-2.6	480.8
Vermont	306.5	307.5	-1.0	-0.3	307.3
United States	137,473.0	137,756.0	-283.0	-0.2	137,557.0

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

LABOR FORCE

Seven of nine states posted increases in the labor force from last year.

<i>(Seasonally adjusted; 000s)</i>	AUG	AUG	CHANGE		JUL
	2008	2007	NO.	%	2008
Connecticut	1,890.1	1,869.8	20.3	1.1	1,889.9
Maine	711.1	704.2	6.9	1.0	712.0
Massachusetts	3,413.7	3,406.9	6.8	0.2	3,417.8
New Hampshire	743.4	738.3	5.1	0.7	743.2
New Jersey	4,524.5	4,462.0	62.5	1.4	4,505.6
New York	9,590.0	9,532.2	57.8	0.6	9,566.6
Pennsylvania	6,402.1	6,283.1	119.0	1.9	6,364.4
Rhode Island	571.0	575.0	-4.0	-0.7	573.5
Vermont	351.2	352.8	-1.6	-0.5	352.7
United States	154,853.0	152,886.0	1,967.0	1.3	154,603.0

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

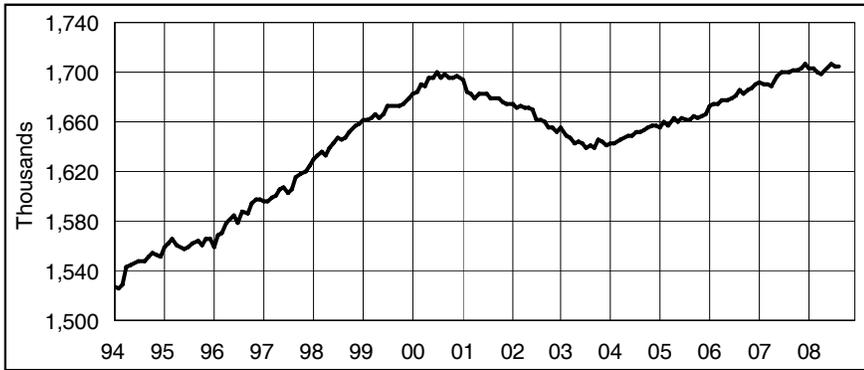
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

All nine states showed an increase in its unemployment rate over the year.

<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	AUG	AUG	CHANGE	JUL
	2008	2007		2008
Connecticut	6.5	4.6	1.9	5.8
Maine	5.5	4.8	0.7	5.5
Massachusetts	5.3	4.4	0.9	5.0
New Hampshire	4.2	3.4	0.8	3.9
New Jersey	5.9	4.2	1.7	5.4
New York	5.8	4.6	1.2	5.2
Pennsylvania	5.8	4.4	1.4	5.4
Rhode Island	8.5	5.1	3.4	7.8
Vermont	4.9	3.8	1.1	4.8
United States	6.1	4.7	1.4	5.7

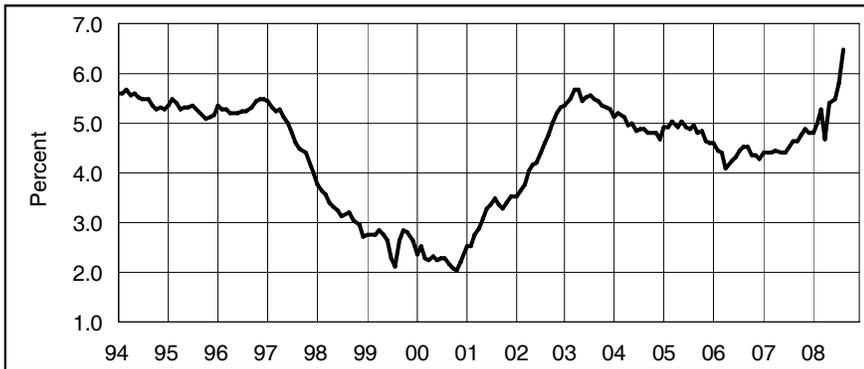
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT *(Seasonally adjusted)*



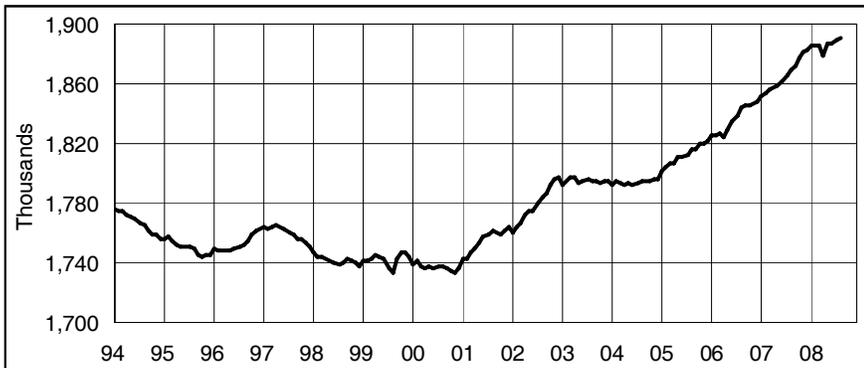
Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	1,673.0	1,691.2	1,704.0
Feb	1,674.0	1,691.0	1,702.7
Mar	1,674.0	1,689.9	1,699.7
Apr	1,677.9	1,689.1	1,698.9
May	1,678.2	1,696.7	1,702.2
Jun	1,679.1	1,699.9	1,705.9
Jul	1,680.5	1,699.3	1,704.7
Aug	1,684.9	1,700.7	1,704.9
Sep	1,682.8	1,701.7	
Oct	1,685.1	1,702.2	
Nov	1,687.1	1,703.9	
Dec	1,690.4	1,706.5	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



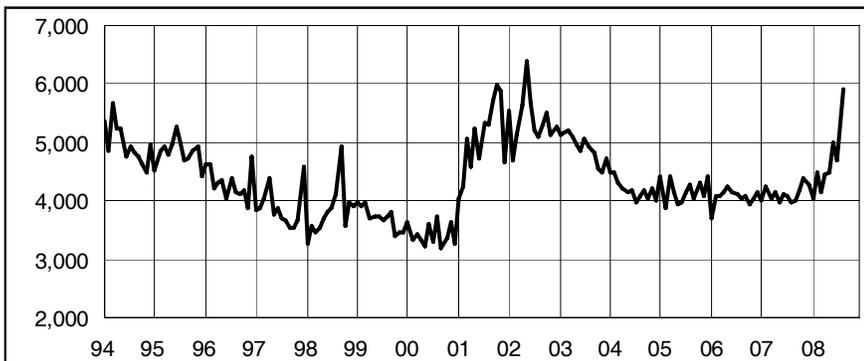
Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	4.6	4.4	4.8
Feb	4.4	4.4	5.0
Mar	4.4	4.4	5.3
Apr	4.1	4.4	4.7
May	4.2	4.4	5.4
Jun	4.3	4.4	5.5
Jul	4.4	4.5	5.8
Aug	4.5	4.6	6.5
Sep	4.5	4.6	
Oct	4.4	4.8	
Nov	4.3	4.9	
Dec	4.3	4.8	

LABOR FORCE *(Seasonally adjusted)*



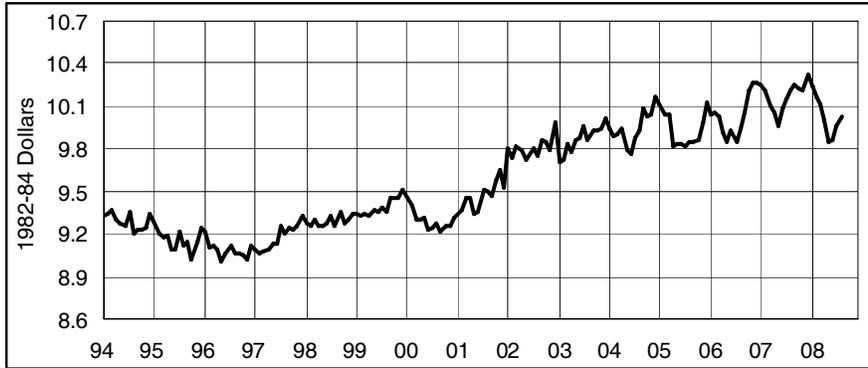
Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	1,824.9	1,851.5	1,885.7
Feb	1,824.7	1,853.6	1,885.3
Mar	1,827.0	1,855.6	1,885.2
Apr	1,824.3	1,857.7	1,878.2
May	1,829.8	1,859.2	1,886.5
Jun	1,834.2	1,861.1	1,886.8
Jul	1,839.2	1,865.2	1,889.9
Aug	1,843.6	1,869.8	1,890.1
Sep	1,845.5	1,872.1	
Oct	1,845.1	1,876.7	
Nov	1,846.6	1,881.1	
Dec	1,847.5	1,882.2	

AVERAGE WEEKLY INITIAL CLAIMS *(Seasonally adjusted)*



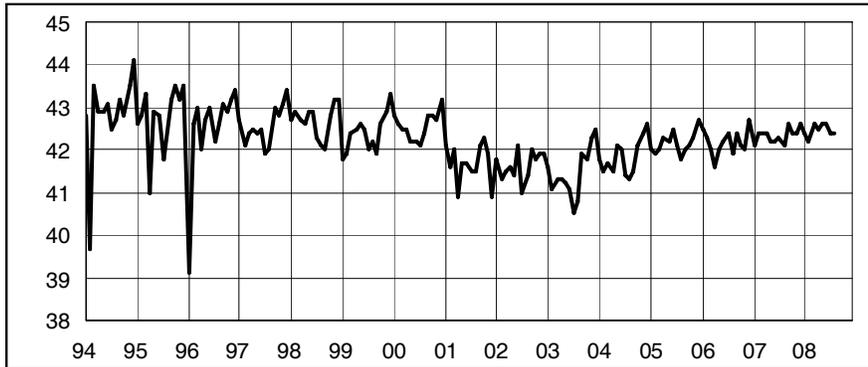
Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	3,702	3,991	4,032
Feb	4,062	4,243	4,497
Mar	4,079	4,030	4,135
Apr	4,133	4,129	4,443
May	4,260	3,987	4,491
Jun	4,144	4,103	4,994
Jul	4,111	4,078	4,685
Aug	4,027	3,980	5,926
Sep	4,084	4,009	
Oct	3,930	4,160	
Nov	4,031	4,375	
Dec	4,147	4,275	

REAL AVG MANUFACTURING HOURLY EARNINGS *(Not seasonally adjusted)**



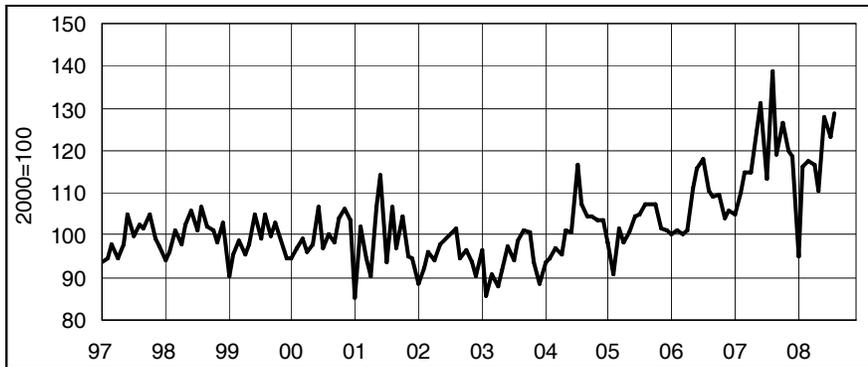
Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	\$10.04	\$10.25	\$10.24
Feb	\$10.05	\$10.22	\$10.17
Mar	\$10.03	\$10.10	\$10.11
Apr	\$9.92	\$10.05	\$10.00
May	\$9.84	\$9.96	\$9.84
Jun	\$9.93	\$10.09	\$9.86
Jul	\$9.84	\$10.15	\$9.95
Aug	\$9.95	\$10.21	\$10.03
Sep	\$10.06	\$10.26	
Oct	\$10.20	\$10.23	
Nov	\$10.27	\$10.20	
Dec	\$10.27	\$10.32	

AVG MANUFACTURING WEEKLY HOURS *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



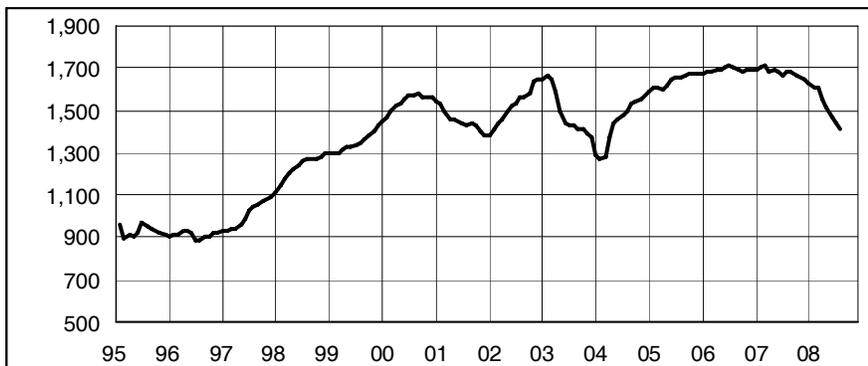
Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	42.5	42.1	42.4
Feb	42.3	42.4	42.2
Mar	42.0	42.4	42.6
Apr	41.6	42.4	42.5
May	42.0	42.2	42.6
Jun	42.2	42.2	42.6
Jul	42.4	42.3	42.4
Aug	41.9	42.1	42.4
Sep	42.4	42.6	
Oct	42.1	42.4	
Nov	42.0	42.4	
Dec	42.7	42.6	

CT MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION INDEX *(Not seasonally adjusted)*



Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	100.2	104.9	94.9
Feb	100.9	109.9	116.4
Mar	100.1	114.6	117.7
Apr	101.3	114.8	116.8
May	111.0	124.7	110.4
Jun	115.7	131.3	127.8
Jul	118.2	113.5	123.3
Aug	110.7	139.0	128.9
Sep	109.4	118.8	
Oct	109.5	126.6	
Nov	104.0	119.7	
Dec	106.0	118.3	

SECRETARY OF STATE'S NET BUSINESS STARTS *(12-mo. moving avg)*



Month	2006	2007	2008
Jan	1,674	1,698	1,625
Feb	1,681	1,706	1,607
Mar	1,688	1,712	1,605
Apr	1,695	1,688	1,556
May	1,690	1,694	1,512
Jun	1,705	1,681	1,472
Jul	1,708	1,667	1,444
Aug	1,701	1,687	1,412
Sep	1,693	1,682	
Oct	1,686	1,661	
Nov	1,694	1,654	
Dec	1,693	1,649	

CONNECTICUT

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	AUG 2008	AUG 2007	CHANGE		JUL 2008
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	1,693,100	1,689,800	3,300	0.2	1,695,700
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	261,600	265,100	-3,500	-1.3	261,500
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	72,900	73,600	-700	-1.0	72,600
MANUFACTURING	188,700	191,500	-2,800	-1.5	188,900
Durable Goods	143,800	144,700	-900	-0.6	143,700
Fabricated Metal.....	32,800	33,200	-400	-1.2	32,600
Machinery.....	18,000	18,200	-200	-1.1	18,100
Computer and Electronic Product.....	14,000	14,100	-100	-0.7	14,000
Transportation Equipment.....	44,300	43,900	400	0.9	44,300
Aerospace Product and Parts.....	32,400	31,900	500	1.6	32,500
Non-Durable Goods	44,900	46,800	-1,900	-4.1	45,200
Chemical.....	14,700	15,800	-1,100	-7.0	15,000
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	1,431,500	1,424,700	6,800	0.5	1,434,200
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	305,200	306,600	-1,400	-0.5	306,700
Wholesale Trade.....	69,400	68,200	1,200	1.8	69,500
Retail Trade.....	187,500	190,300	-2,800	-1.5	187,800
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers.....	22,100	22,100	0	0.0	22,300
Building Material.....	16,100	16,700	-600	-3.6	16,600
Food and Beverage Stores.....	41,800	42,300	-500	-1.2	41,700
General Merchandise Stores.....	25,200	25,300	-100	-0.4	25,000
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	48,300	48,100	200	0.4	49,400
Utilities.....	8,300	8,200	100	1.2	8,400
Transportation and Warehousing.....	40,000	39,900	100	0.3	41,000
INFORMATION	38,900	38,600	300	0.8	38,700
Telecommunications.....	13,400	13,100	300	2.3	13,200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	144,200	145,900	-1,700	-1.2	144,500
Finance and Insurance.....	123,400	124,300	-900	-0.7	123,500
Credit Intermediation.....	29,800	31,300	-1,500	-4.8	29,800
Securities and Commodity Contracts.....	22,900	22,700	200	0.9	22,900
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities....	65,700	65,500	200	0.3	65,900
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing.....	20,800	21,600	-800	-3.7	21,000
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	207,300	208,000	-700	-0.3	206,800
Professional, Scientific.....	93,400	92,000	1,400	1.5	93,600
Legal Services.....	14,500	14,500	0	0.0	14,600
Computer Systems Design.....	22,600	21,800	800	3.7	22,600
Management of Companies.....	25,000	25,300	-300	-1.2	25,300
Administrative and Support.....	88,900	90,700	-1,800	-2.0	87,900
Employment Services.....	29,500	31,800	-2,300	-7.2	28,600
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	287,100	281,300	5,800	2.1	290,100
Educational Services.....	48,800	48,300	500	1.0	51,100
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	238,300	233,000	5,300	2.3	239,000
Hospitals.....	59,400	58,500	900	1.5	59,400
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities.....	59,700	58,900	800	1.4	59,900
Social Assistance.....	42,500	40,400	2,100	5.2	42,900
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	147,000	145,500	1,500	1.0	147,900
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation.....	30,000	30,200	-200	-0.7	30,800
Accommodation and Food Services.....	117,000	115,300	1,700	1.5	117,100
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places.	103,300	101,900	1,400	1.4	103,300
OTHER SERVICES	65,200	65,000	200	0.3	65,700
GOVERNMENT	236,600	233,800	2,800	1.2	233,800
Federal Government.....	19,200	19,700	-500	-2.5	19,300
State Government.....	65,500	64,300	1,200	1.9	65,800
Local Government**.....	151,900	149,800	2,100	1.4	148,700

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2007.

*Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.

BRIDGEPORT - STAMFORD LMA



	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				
	AUG 2008	AUG 2007	CHANGE		JUL 2008
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	423,000	421,500	1,500	0.4	427,300
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	57,600	57,200	400	0.7	57,700
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	16,800	16,600	200	1.2	16,800
MANUFACTURING	40,800	40,600	200	0.5	40,900
Durable Goods.....	30,300	30,000	300	1.0	30,400
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	365,400	364,300	1,100	0.3	369,600
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	75,100	75,200	-100	-0.1	75,600
Wholesale Trade.....	14,400	14,500	-100	-0.7	14,500
Retail Trade.....	49,900	50,100	-200	-0.4	50,100
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	10,800	10,600	200	1.9	11,000
INFORMATION	12,300	11,800	500	4.2	12,400
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	46,600	46,100	500	1.1	46,800
Finance and Insurance.....	39,800	39,300	500	1.3	40,000
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	71,300	71,600	-300	-0.4	71,300
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	61,100	60,400	700	1.2	62,000
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	53,300	52,200	1,100	2.1	53,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	37,500	36,800	700	1.9	38,200
Accommodation and Food Services.....	26,500	25,700	800	3.1	26,700
OTHER SERVICES	17,900	17,700	200	1.1	18,300
GOVERNMENT	43,600	44,700	-1,100	-2.5	45,000
Federal.....	3,100	3,200	-100	-3.1	3,100
State & Local.....	40,500	41,500	-1,000	-2.4	41,900

For further information on the Bridgeport-Stamford Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

DANBURY LMA



	<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>				
	AUG 2008	AUG 2007	CHANGE		JUL 2008
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	70,200	69,500	700	1.0	70,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	13,200	13,100	100	0.8	13,200
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	57,000	56,400	600	1.1	57,200
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	15,800	15,900	-100	-0.6	15,800
Retail Trade.....	11,800	11,900	-100	-0.8	11,800
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	8,100	8,400	-300	-3.6	8,000
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	6,300	6,100	200	3.3	6,300
GOVERNMENT	7,100	7,200	-100	-1.4	7,200
Federal.....	600	600	0	0.0	600
State & Local.....	6,500	6,600	-100	-1.5	6,600

For further information on the Danbury Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2007.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

HARTFORD LMA*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

	AUG 2008	AUG 2007	CHANGE		JUL 2008
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	559,300	551,200	8,100	1.5	561,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	89,800	89,100	700	0.8	89,600
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	24,400	24,200	200	0.8	24,200
MANUFACTURING	65,400	64,900	500	0.8	65,400
Durable Goods	54,300	54,100	200	0.4	54,300
Transportation Equipment	18,500	18,600	-100	-0.5	18,600
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	469,500	462,100	7,400	1.6	471,800
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	88,200	88,500	-300	-0.3	88,900
Wholesale Trade.....	20,200	19,900	300	1.5	20,300
Retail Trade.....	54,400	55,300	-900	-1.6	54,500
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	13,600	13,300	300	2.3	14,100
Transportation and Warehousing.....	10,500	10,200	300	2.9	11,000
INFORMATION	12,500	12,200	300	2.5	12,500
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	66,500	67,100	-600	-0.9	66,600
Depository Credit Institutions.....	7,700	7,700	0	0.0	7,600
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities....	44,700	45,300	-600	-1.3	44,900
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	62,600	61,800	800	1.3	62,500
Professional, Scientific.....	30,400	29,700	700	2.4	30,600
Administrative and Support.....	25,400	25,400	0	0.0	25,100
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	92,900	88,200	4,700	5.3	93,300
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	81,200	78,300	2,900	3.7	81,100
Ambulatory Health Care.....	24,100	23,600	500	2.1	24,200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	45,100	43,400	1,700	3.9	45,200
Accommodation and Food Services.....	36,200	35,000	1,200	3.4	36,000
OTHER SERVICES	21,200	21,000	200	1.0	21,300
GOVERNMENT	80,500	79,900	600	0.8	81,500
Federal.....	5,900	6,000	-100	-1.7	6,000
State & Local.....	74,600	73,900	700	0.9	75,500

For further information on the Hartford Labor Market Area contact Arthur Famiglietti at (860) 263-6297.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2007.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC NEWS

■ **Working poor and education in 2006**

Achieving higher levels of education dramatically reduces the likelihood of being among the working poor. Individuals who complete more years of education have greater access to higher paying jobs, such as managerial, professional, and related occupations, than those with lower education. In 2006, the working-poor rate for college graduates was 1.4 percent (in U.S.), the lowest by education level. By comparison, individuals with less than a high school diploma and those with a high school diploma or the equivalent, but no college, had working-poor rates of 13.8 percent and 6.3 percent, respectively. These data were collected in the 2007 Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey. For more information, see "A Profile of the Working Poor, 2006," Report 1006 (PDF 69K). As defined in this report, the working poor are individuals who spent at least 27 weeks in the labor force (working or looking for work), but whose incomes fell below the official poverty level. The working-poor rate is defined as the ratio of the working poor to all individuals in the labor force at least 27 weeks. (The Editor's Desk, Bureau of Labor Statistics, September 4, 2008)

--Continued on the following page--

NEW HAVEN LMA



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	AUG 2008	AUG 2007	CHANGE		JUL 2008
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	272,900	272,600	300	0.1	274,100
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	43,700	44,200	-500	-1.1	43,700
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	12,600	12,400	200	1.6	12,500
MANUFACTURING	31,100	31,800	-700	-2.2	31,200
Durable Goods.....	21,900	22,200	-300	-1.4	22,000
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	229,200	228,400	800	0.4	230,400
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	50,700	50,900	-200	-0.4	51,000
Wholesale Trade.....	11,600	11,600	0	0.0	11,600
Retail Trade.....	31,100	31,100	0	0.0	31,200
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	8,000	8,200	-200	-2.4	8,200
INFORMATION	7,900	8,000	-100	-1.3	7,800
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	13,500	13,800	-300	-2.2	13,500
Finance and Insurance.....	9,500	9,800	-300	-3.1	9,500
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	26,500	26,500	0	0.0	26,200
Administrative and Support.....	13,600	13,200	400	3.0	13,300
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	65,800	65,000	800	1.2	66,200
Educational Services.....	21,700	21,700	0	0.0	21,900
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	44,100	43,300	800	1.8	44,300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	23,600	22,800	800	3.5	23,900
Accommodation and Food Services.....	18,700	19,000	-300	-1.6	18,800
OTHER SERVICES	11,400	11,100	300	2.7	11,400
GOVERNMENT	29,800	30,300	-500	-1.7	30,400
Federal.....	5,000	5,100	-100	-2.0	5,100
State & Local.....	24,800	25,200	-400	-1.6	25,300

For further information on the New Haven Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepki at (860) 263-6278.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2007.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Value less than 50*

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC NEWS (Cont.)

■ **Summer 2008 labor force participation of youth**

The labor force participation rate for 16- to 24-year-olds—the proportion of that population working or looking for work—was 65.1 percent in July 2008 (in U.S.), essentially the same as in July 2007 and about 12 percentage points below its peak for that month in 1989 (77.5 percent). Over the 1989-2008 period, the proportion of youth enrolled in school in July trended up; youth enrolled in school are much less likely than those not in school to be in the labor force. For several decades prior to 1989, young men's July labor force participation rate showed no clear trend, ranging from 81 to 86 percent. Since July 1989, however, their participation rate has trended down by about 15 percentage points. Young women's July labor force participation rate peaked in 1989 after a long-term upward trend; their rate has trended down by about 10 percentage points since then. These data are a product of the Current Population Survey. The data are not seasonally adjusted. Find out more in "Employment and Unemployment Among Youth—Summer 2008," (PDF) (HTML) news release USDL 08-1212. (The Editor's Desk, Bureau of Labor Statistics, September 3, 2008)

**NORWICH - NEW
LONDON LMA***Not Seasonally Adjusted*

	AUG 2008	AUG 2007	CHANGE		JUL 2008
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	138,700	138,700	0	0.0	138,300
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	20,500	21,000	-500	-2.4	20,500
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	4,600	4,800	-200	-4.2	4,600
MANUFACTURING	15,900	16,200	-300	-1.9	15,900
Durable Goods.....	10,600	10,700	-100	-0.9	10,600
Non-Durable Goods.....	5,300	5,500	-200	-3.6	5,300
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	118,200	117,700	500	0.4	117,800
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	23,100	23,200	-100	-0.4	23,300
Wholesale Trade.....	2,500	2,300	200	8.7	2,500
Retail Trade.....	16,100	16,500	-400	-2.4	16,200
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	4,500	4,400	100	2.3	4,600
INFORMATION	2,000	2,100	-100	-4.8	2,000
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	3,200	3,400	-200	-5.9	3,300
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	10,000	10,300	-300	-2.9	10,000
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	19,800	19,500	300	1.5	19,800
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	17,500	17,200	300	1.7	17,400
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	16,400	16,200	200	1.2	16,300
Accommodation and Food Services.....	13,500	13,200	300	2.3	13,300
Food Serv., Restaurants, Drinking Places.	11,200	10,900	300	2.8	11,000
OTHER SERVICES	3,900	4,000	-100	-2.5	3,900
GOVERNMENT	39,800	39,000	800	2.1	39,200
Federal.....	2,800	2,700	100	3.7	2,700
State & Local**.....	37,000	36,300	700	1.9	36,500

For further information on the Norwich-New London Labor Market Area contact Lincoln Dyer at (860) 263-6292.

WATERBURY LMA*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

	AUG 2008	AUG 2007	CHANGE		JUL 2008
			NO.	%	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	67,000	66,300	700	1.1	68,400
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	12,700	13,100	-400	-3.1	12,600
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING	3,100	3,100	0	0.0	3,000
MANUFACTURING	9,600	10,000	-400	-4.0	9,600
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES	54,300	53,200	1,100	2.1	55,800
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES	13,400	13,000	400	3.1	13,400
Wholesale Trade.....	2,200	2,200	0	0.0	2,200
Retail Trade.....	9,200	9,000	200	2.2	9,100
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities....	2,000	1,800	200	11.1	2,100
INFORMATION	900	800	100	12.5	900
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,400	2,400	0	0.0	2,400
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	6,200	5,800	400	6.9	6,500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	14,800	14,600	200	1.4	14,900
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	13,600	13,500	100	0.7	13,700
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	5,400	5,300	100	1.9	5,500
OTHER SERVICES	2,700	2,600	100	3.8	2,700
GOVERNMENT	8,500	8,700	-200	-2.3	9,500
Federal.....	600	600	0	0.0	600
State & Local.....	7,900	8,100	-200	-2.5	8,900

For further information on the Waterbury Labor Market Area contact Joseph Slepiski at (860) 263-6278.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2007.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes. **Includes Indian tribal government employment.*

SMALLER LMAS



Not Seasonally Adjusted

	AUG	AUG	CHANGE		JUL
	2008	2007	NO.	%	2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT					
ENFIELD LMA.....	46,700	48,100	-1,400	-2.9	47,500
TORRINGTON LMA.....	36,600	36,900	-300	-0.8	36,600
WILLIMANTIC - DANIELSON LMA.....	36,900	36,700	200	0.5	36,800

NOTE: More industry detail data is available for the State and its nine labor market areas at: <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/202/covered.htm>. The data published there differ from the data in the preceding tables in that they are developed from a near-universe count of Connecticut employment covered by the unemployment insurance (UI) program, while the data here is sample-based. The data drawn from the UI program does not contain estimates of employment not covered by unemployment insurance, and is lagged several months behind the current employment estimates presented here.

SPRINGFIELD, MA-CT NECTA*

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	AUG	AUG	CHANGE		JUL
	2008	2007	NO.	%	2008
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT.....	293,100	293,400	-300	-0.1	294,500
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES.....	47,500	48,600	-1,100	-2.3	47,200
CONSTRUCTION, NAT. RES. & MINING.....	10,900	11,600	-700	-6.0	10,800
MANUFACTURING.....	36,600	37,000	-400	-1.1	36,400
Durable Goods.....	23,400	23,600	-200	-0.8	23,300
Non-Durable Goods.....	13,200	13,400	-200	-1.5	13,100
SERVICE PROVIDING INDUSTRIES.....	245,600	244,800	800	0.3	247,300
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES.....	59,200	59,500	-300	-0.5	59,300
Wholesale Trade.....	11,500	11,600	-100	-0.9	11,500
Retail Trade.....	34,800	35,200	-400	-1.1	34,800
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities.....	12,900	12,700	200	1.6	13,000
INFORMATION.....	4,300	4,400	-100	-2.3	4,400
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES.....	17,200	17,400	-200	-1.1	17,200
Finance and Insurance.....	13,500	13,500	0	0.0	13,500
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities.....	8,700	8,600	100	1.2	8,700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	23,400	24,000	-600	-2.5	23,500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	56,800	55,000	1,800	3.3	56,900
Educational Services.....	11,300	11,000	300	2.7	11,500
Health Care and Social Assistance.....	45,500	44,000	1,500	3.4	45,400
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY.....	28,600	28,600	0	0.0	28,700
OTHER SERVICES.....	11,600	11,900	-300	-2.5	11,800
GOVERNMENT.....	44,500	44,000	500	1.1	45,500
Federal.....	7,300	6,700	600	9.0	7,300
State & Local.....	37,200	37,300	-100	-0.3	38,200

* New England City and Town Area

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2007.

**Total excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.*

LMA LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

		EMPLOYMENT		CHANGE		JUL	
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>		AUG	AUG	NO.	%	2008	
		2008	2007				
STATUS							
CONNECTICUT	Civilian Labor Force	1,911,700	1,883,500	28,200	1.5	1,929,300	
	Employed	1,788,800	1,797,500	-8,700	-0.5	1,811,400	
	Unemployed	122,900	85,900	37,000	43.1	117,900	
	Unemployment Rate	6.4	4.6	1.8	---	6.1	
BRIDGEPORT - STAMFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	489,200	483,200	6,000	1.2	495,500	
	Employed	459,900	463,000	-3,100	-0.7	467,500	
	Unemployed	29,300	20,200	9,100	45.0	28,000	
	Unemployment Rate	6.0	4.2	1.8	---	5.6	
DANBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	94,700	93,500	1,200	1.3	95,700	
	Employed	89,800	90,100	-300	-0.3	90,900	
	Unemployed	4,900	3,400	1,500	44.1	4,800	
	Unemployment Rate	5.2	3.6	1.6	---	5.0	
ENFIELD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	49,300	49,100	200	0.4	49,800	
	Employed	46,500	47,000	-500	-1.1	47,100	
	Unemployed	2,800	2,000	800	40.0	2,700	
	Unemployment Rate	5.7	4.2	1.5	---	5.5	
HARTFORD LMA	Civilian Labor Force	602,100	589,300	12,800	2.2	606,100	
	Employed	562,600	561,500	1,100	0.2	568,500	
	Unemployed	39,500	27,800	11,700	42.1	37,600	
	Unemployment Rate	6.6	4.7	1.9	---	6.2	
NEW HAVEN LMA	Civilian Labor Force	315,800	312,100	3,700	1.2	318,500	
	Employed	294,400	296,800	-2,400	-0.8	297,900	
	Unemployed	21,400	15,300	6,100	39.9	20,600	
	Unemployment Rate	6.8	4.9	1.9	---	6.5	
NORWICH - NEW LONDON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	157,200	155,900	1,300	0.8	157,500	
	Employed	147,300	149,400	-2,100	-1.4	148,100	
	Unemployed	9,900	6,500	3,400	52.3	9,400	
	Unemployment Rate	6.3	4.2	2.1	---	6.0	
TORRINGTON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	55,300	55,200	100	0.2	56,100	
	Employed	52,000	52,900	-900	-1.7	52,900	
	Unemployed	3,300	2,300	1,000	43.5	3,200	
	Unemployment Rate	5.9	4.2	1.7	---	5.7	
WATERBURY LMA	Civilian Labor Force	103,100	100,900	2,200	2.2	105,000	
	Employed	94,400	94,900	-500	-0.5	96,500	
	Unemployed	8,700	6,000	2,700	45.0	8,500	
	Unemployment Rate	8.4	5.9	2.5	---	8.1	
WILLIMANTIC-DANIELSON LMA	Civilian Labor Force	58,800	57,900	900	1.6	59,100	
	Employed	54,600	54,900	-300	-0.5	55,000	
	Unemployed	4,200	2,900	1,300	44.8	4,100	
	Unemployment Rate	7.2	5.1	2.1	---	6.9	
UNITED STATES	Civilian Labor Force	155,387,000	153,493,000	1,894,000	1.2	156,300,000	
	Employed	145,909,000	146,406,000	-497,000	-0.3	146,867,000	
	Unemployed	9,479,000	7,088,000	2,391,000	33.7	9,433,000	
	Unemployment Rate	6.1	4.6	1.5	---	6.0	

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2007.

CONNECTICUT

	AVG WEEKLY EARNINGS				AVG WEEKLY HOURS				AVG HOURLY EARNINGS			
	AUG		CHG	JUL	AUG		CHG	JUL	AUG		CHG	JUL
	2008	2007	Y/Y	2008	2008	2007	Y/Y	2008	2008	2007	Y/Y	2008
<i>(Not seasonally adjusted)</i>												
MANUFACTURING	\$915.42	\$873.58	\$41.84	\$912.87	42.4	42.1	0.3	42.4	\$21.59	\$20.75	\$0.84	\$21.53
DURABLE GOODS	949.03	905.10	43.93	942.02	42.5	42.0	0.5	42.3	22.33	21.55	0.78	22.27
Fabricated Metal	830.34	808.74	21.60	827.40	42.0	42.1	-0.1	42.0	19.77	19.21	0.56	19.70
Transport. Equipment	1,187.23	1,134.75	52.48	1,174.33	43.0	42.5	0.5	43.0	27.61	26.70	0.91	27.31
NON-DUR. GOODS	824.00	784.08	39.93	827.48	42.3	42.2	0.1	42.5	19.48	18.58	0.90	19.47
CONSTRUCTION	1,001.94	943.20	58.74	998.40	39.4	39.3	0.1	39.0	25.43	24.00	1.43	25.60

Due to constraints of the sample upon which estimates are made, statewide manufacturing hours and earnings for machinery and computer and electronic sectors are no longer published.

Due to cuts in the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics fiscal year 2008 budget allocations to state agencies that cooperatively develop labor statistics with the BLS, the Office of Research is suspending development and publication of production worker hours and earnings data for its labor market areas.

Current month's data are preliminary. Prior months' data have been revised. All data are benchmarked to March 2007.

BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN THE NEWS MEDIA

- In August 2008, STR Holdings Inc., a maker of solar panels, disclosed plans to open a factory in Somers, employing 180 workers. Hudson Valley Bank will open branches in Fairfield, Greenwich and Westport, creating 12 jobs.
- In August 2008, 35 school employees in New Britain were laid off. South Windsor-based Gerber Scientific is laying off 59. Syntex Rubber Corp. of Bridgeport has been sold to a Wisconsin firm, leading to the loss of 35 jobs. Atlantic Wire Company of Branford will shut down, laying off 71. With the sale of its sales division, Scholastic Inc. of Danbury will lay off 96. Sunrise Resort in Moodus will permanently close in September, affecting 80-100 workers.

Business & Employment Changes Announced in the News Media lists start-ups, expansions, staff reductions, and layoffs reported by the media, both current and future. The report provides company name, the number of workers involved, date of the action, the principal product or service of the company, a brief synopsis of the action, and the source and date of the media article. This publication is available in both HTML and PDF formats at the Connecticut Department of Labor Web site, <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/busemp.htm>.

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

AUGUST 2008

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%	LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
BRIDGEPORT-STAMFORD					HARTFORD cont....				
	489,155	459,902	29,253	6.0	Canton	5,898	5,638	260	4.4
Ansonia	10,352	9,549	803	7.8	Colchester	9,043	8,510	533	5.9
Bridgeport	65,412	58,994	6,418	9.8	Columbia	3,164	2,994	170	5.4
Darien	9,500	9,098	402	4.2	Coventry	7,227	6,821	406	5.6
Derby	7,149	6,617	532	7.4	Cromwell	8,009	7,582	427	5.3
Easton	3,897	3,701	196	5.0	East Granby	2,995	2,864	131	4.4
Fairfield	29,468	27,891	1,577	5.4	East Haddam	5,301	5,039	262	4.9
Greenwich	31,354	29,918	1,436	4.6	East Hampton	7,233	6,746	487	6.7
Milford	32,891	31,061	1,830	5.6	East Hartford	26,254	24,045	2,209	8.4
Monroe	11,049	10,447	602	5.4	Ellington	8,953	8,499	454	5.1
New Canaan	9,262	8,836	426	4.6	Farmington	13,264	12,621	643	4.8
Newtown	14,842	14,132	710	4.8	Glastonbury	18,612	17,815	797	4.3
Norwalk	50,159	47,607	2,552	5.1	Granby	6,455	6,173	282	4.4
Oxford	7,553	7,144	409	5.4	Haddam	4,969	4,743	226	4.5
Redding	4,861	4,654	207	4.3	Hartford	51,376	44,893	6,483	12.6
Ridgefield	12,100	11,567	533	4.4	Hartland	1,229	1,180	49	4.0
Seymour	9,631	8,974	657	6.8	Harwinton	3,241	3,089	152	4.7
Shelton	23,931	22,507	1,424	6.0	Hebron	5,622	5,372	250	4.4
Southbury	9,414	8,919	495	5.3	Lebanon	4,428	4,181	247	5.6
Stamford	68,776	65,102	3,674	5.3	Manchester	33,044	30,910	2,134	6.5
Stratford	27,098	25,165	1,933	7.1	Mansfield	13,515	12,726	789	5.8
Trumbull	18,484	17,518	966	5.2	Marlborough	3,708	3,540	168	4.5
Weston	5,098	4,878	220	4.3	Middlefield	2,452	2,317	135	5.5
Westport	13,179	12,557	622	4.7	Middletown	27,414	25,652	1,762	6.4
Wilton	8,636	8,231	405	4.7	New Britain	35,886	32,459	3,427	9.5
Woodbridge	5,059	4,834	225	4.4	New Hartford	3,916	3,722	194	5.0
					Newington	16,995	16,100	895	5.3
DANBURY	94,708	89,792	4,916	5.2	Plainville	10,321	9,711	610	5.9
Bethel	11,182	10,614	568	5.1	Plymouth	7,070	6,574	496	7.0
Bridgewater	1,062	1,027	35	3.3	Portland	5,538	5,227	311	5.6
Brookfield	9,389	8,901	488	5.2	Rocky Hill	11,058	10,459	599	5.4
Danbury	46,015	43,569	2,446	5.3	Simsbury	12,403	11,836	567	4.6
New Fairfield	7,872	7,468	404	5.1	Southington	24,850	23,507	1,343	5.4
New Milford	16,966	16,083	883	5.2	South Windsor	15,157	14,451	706	4.7
Sherman	2,226	2,132	94	4.2	Stafford	7,079	6,588	491	6.9
					Thomaston	4,767	4,472	295	6.2
ENFIELD	49,316	46,506	2,810	5.7	Tolland	8,593	8,208	385	4.5
East Windsor	6,179	5,818	361	5.8	Union	486	464	22	4.5
Enfield	23,935	22,497	1,438	6.0	Vernon	17,761	16,776	985	5.5
Somers	4,679	4,436	243	5.2	West Hartford	30,172	28,374	1,798	6.0
Suffield	7,434	7,110	324	4.4	Wethersfield	13,729	12,904	825	6.0
Windsor Locks	7,088	6,645	443	6.3	Willington	4,031	3,824	207	5.1
					Windsor	16,613	15,564	1,049	6.3
HARTFORD	602,086	562,591	39,495	6.6					
Andover	2,031	1,938	93	4.6					
Ashford	2,690	2,555	135	5.0					
Avon	9,426	9,046	380	4.0					
Barkhamsted	2,263	2,166	97	4.3					
Berlin	11,614	11,009	605	5.2					
Bloomfield	10,433	9,634	799	7.7					
Bolton	3,132	2,974	158	5.0					
Bristol	35,170	32,865	2,305	6.6					
Burlington	5,496	5,234	262	4.8					

All Labor Market Areas (LMAs) in Connecticut except three are federally-designated areas for developing labor statistics. For the sake of simplicity, the federal Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk NECTA is referred to in Connecticut DOL publications as the 'Bridgeport-Stamford LMA', and the Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford NECTA is referred to as the 'Hartford LMA'. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has identified 17 towns in the northwest part of the State as a separate area for reporting labor force data. For the convenience of our data users, these towns are included in the Torrington LMA. For the same purpose, five towns which are part of the Springfield, MA area are published as the 'Enfield LMA'. Similarly the towns of Putnam, Thompson and Woodstock (part of the Worcester, MA area), plus four towns estimated separately are included in the Willimantic-Danielson LMA.

LABOR FORCE CONCEPTS

The **civilian labor force** comprises all state residents age 16 years and older classified as employed or unemployed in accordance with criteria described below. Excluded are members of the military and persons in institutions (correctional and mental health, for example).

The **employed** are all persons who did any work as paid employees or in their own business during the survey week, or who have worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a family member. Persons temporarily absent from a job because of illness, bad weather, strike or for personal reasons are also counted as employed whether they were paid by their employer or were seeking other jobs.

The **unemployed** are all persons who did not work, but were available for work during the survey week (except for temporary illness) and made specific efforts to find a job in the prior four weeks. Persons waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES BY TOWN

Town

(By Place of Residence - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

AUGUST 2008

LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%	LMA/TOWNS	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	%
NEW HAVEN	315,836	294,432	21,404	6.8	TORRINGTON	55,291	52,040	3,251	5.9
Bethany	3,168	3,002	166	5.2	Bethlehem	2,043	1,946	97	4.7
Branford	17,641	16,646	995	5.6	Canaan	617	585	32	5.2
Cheshire	14,792	14,028	764	5.2	Colebrook	843	815	28	3.3
Chester	2,304	2,206	98	4.3	Cornwall	843	807	36	4.3
Clinton	8,101	7,665	436	5.4	Goshen	1,641	1,561	80	4.9
Deep River	2,625	2,486	139	5.3	Kent	1,621	1,547	74	4.6
Durham	4,316	4,131	185	4.3	Litchfield	4,497	4,252	245	5.4
East Haven	16,447	15,299	1,148	7.0	Morris	1,331	1,251	80	6.0
Essex	3,833	3,660	173	4.5	Norfolk	961	920	41	4.3
Guilford	13,189	12,562	627	4.8	North Canaan	1,760	1,667	93	5.3
Hamden	31,459	29,391	2,068	6.6	Roxbury	1,399	1,342	57	4.1
Killingworth	3,641	3,483	158	4.3	Salisbury	2,008	1,919	89	4.4
Madison	10,210	9,752	458	4.5	Sharon	1,597	1,527	70	4.4
Meriden	32,334	29,819	2,515	7.8	Torrington	19,647	18,268	1,379	7.0
New Haven	56,966	51,474	5,492	9.6	Warren	753	720	33	4.4
North Branford	8,539	8,064	475	5.6	Washington	2,006	1,884	122	6.1
North Haven	13,488	12,652	836	6.2	Winchester	6,117	5,702	415	6.8
Old Saybrook	5,612	5,308	304	5.4	Woodbury	5,607	5,327	280	5.0
Orange	7,404	7,029	375	5.1					
Wallingford	25,780	24,256	1,524	5.9	WATERBURY	103,135	94,435	8,700	8.4
Westbrook	3,739	3,542	197	5.3	Beacon Falls	3,377	3,137	240	7.1
West Haven	30,249	27,977	2,272	7.5	Middlebury	3,913	3,715	198	5.1
					Naugatuck	17,542	16,199	1,343	7.7
*NORWICH-NEW LONDON	143,307	134,468	8,839	6.2	Prospect	5,351	5,052	299	5.6
Bozrah	1,546	1,451	95	6.1	Waterbury	51,151	45,940	5,211	10.2
Canterbury	3,376	3,165	211	6.3	Watertown	12,622	11,807	815	6.5
East Lyme	10,072	9,496	576	5.7	Wolcott	9,179	8,586	593	6.5
Franklin	1,245	1,172	73	5.9					
Griswold	7,510	7,008	502	6.7	WILLIMANTIC-DANIELSON	58,825	54,592	4,233	7.2
Groton	20,065	18,790	1,275	6.4	Brooklyn	3,968	3,661	307	7.7
Ledyard	8,979	8,496	483	5.4	Chaplin	1,502	1,411	91	6.1
Lisbon	2,700	2,532	168	6.2	Eastford	1,029	981	48	4.7
Lyme	1,196	1,145	51	4.3	Hampton	1,259	1,171	88	7.0
Montville	11,460	10,793	667	5.8	Killingly	9,691	8,922	769	7.9
New London	14,330	13,210	1,120	7.8	Plainfield	8,584	7,891	693	8.1
No. Stonington	3,440	3,256	184	5.3	Pomfret	2,318	2,186	132	5.7
Norwich	21,650	20,162	1,488	6.9	Putnam	5,213	4,879	334	6.4
Old Lyme	4,405	4,207	198	4.5	Scotland	1,028	992	36	3.5
Preston	3,004	2,840	164	5.5	Sterling	2,102	1,951	151	7.2
Salem	2,745	2,601	144	5.2	Thompson	5,335	5,031	304	5.7
Sprague	1,893	1,756	137	7.2	Windham	12,157	11,077	1,080	8.9
Stonington	10,993	10,473	520	4.7	Woodstock	4,639	4,439	200	4.3
Voluntown	1,707	1,584	123	7.2					
Waterford	10,992	10,331	661	6.0					

*Connecticut portion only. For whole NECTA, including Rhode Island town, see below.

NORWICH-NEW LONDON				
	157,210	147,293	9,917	6.3

Westerly, RI 13,903 12,825 1,078 7.8

Labor Force estimates are prepared following statistical procedures developed by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Not Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	1,911,700	1,788,800	122,900	6.4
UNITED STATES	155,387,000	145,909,000	9,479,000	6.1
Seasonally Adjusted:				
CONNECTICUT	1,890,100	1,768,100	122,100	6.5
UNITED STATES	154,853,000	145,477,000	9,376,000	6.1

LABOR FORCE CONCEPTS (Continued)

The **unemployment rate** represents the number unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

With the exception of those persons temporarily absent from a job or waiting to be recalled to one, persons with no job and who are not actively looking for one are counted as "not in the labor force".

Over the course of a year, the size of the labor force and the levels of employment undergo fluctuations due to such seasonal events as changes in weather, reduced or expanded production, harvests, major holidays and the opening and closing of schools. Because these seasonal events follow a regular pattern each year, their influence on statistical trends can be eliminated by adjusting the monthly statistics. **Seasonal Adjustment** makes it easier to observe cyclical and other nonseasonal developments.

TOWN	AUG 2008	YR TO DATE 2008	2007	TOWN	AUG 2008	YR TO DATE 2008	2007	TOWN	AUG 2008	YR TO DATE 2008	2007
Andover	0	2	5	Griswold	na	na	na	Preston	1	5	11
Ansonia	0	5	7	Groton	5	49	39	Prospect	na	na	na
Ashford	0	6	8	Guilford	5	32	23	Putnam	2	12	18
Avon	1	12	29	Haddam	0	23	33	Redding	na	na	na
Barkhamsted	na	na	na	Hamden	6	15	15	Ridgefield	14	102	81
Beacon Falls	na	na	na	Hampton	1	7	11	Rocky Hill	1	14	21
Berlin	4	31	78	Hartford	2	38	106	Roxbury	na	na	na
Bethany	na	na	na	Hartland	na	na	na	Salem	0	6	7
Bethel	4	18	6	Harwinton	0	8	11	Salisbury	na	na	na
Bethlehem	na	na	na	Hebron	na	na	na	Scotland	1	3	6
Bloomfield	na	na	na	Kent	1	4	6	Seymour	2	20	21
Bolton	0	4	11	Killingly	5	23	53	Sharon	1	5	6
Bozrah	0	2	6	Killingworth	na	na	na	Shelton	2	103	62
Branford	na	na	na	Lebanon	0	6	13	Sherman	na	na	na
Bridgeport	10	62	81	Ledyard	1	4	10	Simsbury	1	4	11
Bridgewater	na	na	na	Lisbon	1	5	8	Somers	1	18	27
Bristol	2	26	67	Litchfield	na	na	na	South Windsor	2	19	26
Brookfield	na	na	na	Lyme	1	5	6	Southbury	0	6	26
Brooklyn	1	19	27	Madison	2	13	15	Southington	5	73	86
Burlington	1	10	20	Manchester	3	220	318	Sprague	0	9	3
Canaan	0	1	4	Mansfield	3	14	36	Stafford	na	na	na
Canterbury	1	6	7	Marlborough	0	4	17	Stamford	2	254	479
Canton	1	11	17	Meriden	3	24	42	Sterling	na	na	na
Chaplin	1	8	11	Middlebury	na	na	na	Stonington	0	25	32
Cheshire	3	30	32	Middlefield	0	1	3	Stratford	0	8	37
Chester	na	na	na	Middletown	4	144	145	Suffield	1	18	21
Clinton	1	4	5	Milford	7	225	187	Thomaston	na	na	na
Colchester	7	17	32	Monroe	2	12	15	Thompson	na	na	na
Colebrook	0	1	0	Montville	0	15	23	Tolland	0	10	30
Columbia	1	5	6	Morris	0	2	4	Torrington	1	12	50
Cornwall	1	2	5	Naugatuck	2	27	30	Trumbull	0	18	20
Coventry	2	11	26	New Britain	na	na	na	Union	0	2	1
Cromwell	2	17	27	New Canaan	3	17	32	Vernon	10	147	127
Danbury	11	72	195	New Fairfield	na	na	na	Voluntown	0	4	7
Darien	na	na	na	New Hartford	2	7	12	Wallingford	0	24	60
Deep River	0	2	4	New Haven	1	26	30	Warren	0	2	8
Derby	na	na	na	New London	3	24	36	Washington	na	na	na
Durham	2	16	23	New Milford	7	24	23	Waterbury	9	42	117
East Granby	3	12	14	Newington	10	46	48	Waterford	1	20	37
East Haddam	6	13	27	Newtown	3	16	30	Watertown	4	27	33
East Hampton	4	31	53	Norfolk	0	2	4	West Hartford	6	96	61
East Hartford	na	na	na	North Branford	na	na	na	West Haven	na	na	na
East Haven	0	11	21	North Canaan	1	5	4	Westbrook	1	9	15
East Lyme	2	21	81	North Haven	2	4	5	Weston	na	na	na
East Windsor	11	68	64	North Stonington	0	4	12	Westport	5	44	54
Eastford	0	1	4	Norwalk	1	56	64	Wethersfield	na	na	na
Easton	1	5	4	Norwich	1	18	62	Willington	0	4	3
Ellington	4	76	61	Old Lyme	na	na	na	Wilton	na	na	na
Enfield	na	na	na	Old Saybrook	2	9	8	Winchester	1	12	19
Essex	0	7	10	Orange	na	na	na	Windham	1	9	9
Fairfield	3	43	67	Oxford	1	55	50	Windsor	na	na	na
Farmington	3	21	27	Plainfield	0	17	8	Windsor Locks	na	na	na
Franklin	0	2	4	Plainville	3	20	35	Wolcott	1	20	29
Glastonbury	5	27	65	Plymouth	2	7	11	Woodbridge	na	na	na
Goshen	3	16	24	Pomfret	0	6	6	Woodbury	2	12	20
Granby	0	9	22	Portland	1	9	5	Woodstock	2	13	19
Greenwich	10	98	133								

For further information on the housing permit data, contact Kolie Sun of DECD at (860) 270-8167.

BUSINESS STARTS AND TERMINATIONS

Registrations and terminations of business entities as recorded with the Secretary of the State and the Connecticut Department of Labor (DOL) are an indication of new business formation and activity. DOL business starts include new employers which have become liable for unemployment insurance taxes during the quarter, as well as new establishments opened by existing employers. DOL business terminations are those accounts discontinued due to inactivity (no employees) or business closure, and accounts for individual business establishments that are closed by still active employers. The Secretary of the State registrations include limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, and foreign-owned (out-of-state) and domestic-owned (in-state) corporations.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index (CPI), computed and published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. It is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs and other goods and services that people buy for their day-to-day living. The Northeast region is comprised of the New England states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX

The Employment Cost Index (ECI) covers both wages and salaries and employer costs for employee benefits for all occupations and establishments in both the private nonfarm sector and state and local government. The ECI measures employers' labor costs free from the influences of employment shifts among industries and occupations. The base period for all data is June 1989 when the ECI is 100.

HOURS AND EARNINGS ESTIMATES

Production worker earnings and hours estimates include full- and part-time employees working within manufacturing industries. Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month. Average hourly earnings are affected by such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings. These data are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

INDIAN GAMING DATA

Indian Gaming Payments are amounts received by the State as a result of the slot compact with the two Federally recognized tribes in Connecticut, which calls for 25 percent of net slot receipts to be remitted to the State. Indian Gaming Slots are the total net revenues from slot machines only received by the two Federally recognized Indian tribes.

INITIAL CLAIMS

Average weekly initial claims are calculated by dividing the total number of new claims for unemployment insurance received in the month by the number of weeks in the month. A minor change in methodology took effect with data published in the March 1997 issue of the DIGEST. Data have been revised back to January 1980.

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Primarily a measure of unemployment insurance program activity, the insured unemployment rate is the 13-week average of the number of people claiming unemployment benefits divided by the number of workers covered by the unemployment insurance system.

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

Labor force estimates are a measure of the work status of people who live in Connecticut. Prepared under the direction of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the statewide estimates are the product of a signal-plus noise model, which uses results from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey of Connecticut households, counts of claimants for unemployment benefits, and establishment employment estimates. Beginning with the publication of January 2005 data, an improved methodology is being used to develop labor force estimates, by which monthly state model-based employment and unemployment estimates are controlled to add to the national CPS levels. This will ensure that national economic events are reflected in the state estimates, and it will significantly reduce end-of-year revisions. (For more information, please see the Connecticut Economic Digest, December 2004 issue.) Labor force data, reflecting persons employed by place of residence, are not directly comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series. In the labor force estimates, workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. The labor force data also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics and the self-employed. Because of these conceptual differences, total labor force employment is almost always different from nonfarm wage and salary employment.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

All Labor Market Areas (LMAs) in Connecticut except three are federally-designated areas for developing labor statistics. For the sake of simplicity, the federal Bridgeport-Norwalk-Stamford Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is referred to in Connecticut Department of Labor publications as the Bridgeport-Stamford LMA, and the Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford MSA is called the Hartford LMA. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has identified the 17 towns in the in the northwestern part of the state as a separate area for reporting labor force data. For the convenience of our data users, data for these towns are included in the Torrington LMA. For the same purpose, data for the towns of East Windsor, Enfield, Somers, Suffield and Windsor Locks, which are officially part of the Springfield MSA, are published as the Enfield LMA. Similarly, the towns of Putnam, Thompson and Woodstock - part of the Worcester MSA - are included in the Willimantic-Danielson LMA. Also, data for Westerly, Rhode Island are included in the Norwich-New London LMA. Industry employment and labor force data estimates contained in Connecticut Department of Labor publications are prepared following the same statistical procedures developed by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, whether for federally designated or state-determined areas.

LEADING AND COINCIDENT EMPLOYMENT INDICES

The leading employment index is a composite of six individual largely employment-related series -- the average workweek of manufacturing production and construction workers, Hartford help-wanted advertising index, short-duration (less than 15 weeks) unemployment rate, initial claims for unemployment insurance, total housing permits, and Moody's BAA corporate bond yield. While not employment-sector variables, housing permits are closely related to construction employment and the corporate bond yield adds important information about the movement in interest rates. The coincident employment index is a composite indicator of four individual employment-related series -- the total unemployment rate, nonfarm employment (employer survey), total employment (state residents employed measured by a household survey), and the insured unemployment rate. All data are seasonally adjusted and come from the Connecticut Labor Department, the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES

Nonfarm employment estimates are derived from a survey of businesses to measure *jobs* by industry. The estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary employees who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Excluded from these estimates are proprietors, self-employed workers, private household employees and unpaid family workers. In some cases, due to space constraints, all industry estimates are not shown. Call (860) 263-6275 for a more comprehensive breakout of nonfarm employment estimates. These data are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

UI COVERED WAGES

UI covered wages is the total amount paid to those employees who are covered under the Connecticut's Unemployment Insurance (UI) law for services performed during the quarter. The fluctuations in the 1992-93 period reflect the effect of the changes in the tax law and the massive restructuring in the state's economy.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS AT A GLANCE

(Percent change from prior year; see pages 5-8 for reference months or quarters)

Leading Employment Index	-1.4	Business Activity		Tourism and Travel	
Coincident Employment Index	-1.2	New Housing Permits	-51.2	Info Center Visitors	+2.1
Leading General Drift Indicator	-1.2	Electricity Sales	-13.5	Attraction Visitors	+3.4
Coincident General Drift Indicator	-0.2	Construction Contracts Index	-7.7	Air Passenger Count	-9.0
Banknorth Business Barometer ...	+0.4	New Auto Registrations	-35.7	Indian Gaming Slots	+1.8
		Air Cargo Tons	-13.4	Travel and Tourism Index	-0.5
Total Nonfarm Employment	+0.2	Exports	+12.2		
				Employment Cost Index (U.S.)	
Unemployment Rate	+1.9*	Business Starts		Total	+3.0
Labor Force	+1.1	Secretary of the State	-15.8	Wages & Salaries	+3.1
Employed	-0.9	Dept. of Labor	-6.3	Benefit Costs	+2.6
Unemployed	+41.0				
		Business Terminations		Consumer Prices	
Average Weekly Initial Claims	+48.9	Secretary of the State	-8.7	U.S. City Average	+5.4
Avg Insured Unempl. Rate	+0.58*	Dept. of Labor	-23.9	Northeast Region	+5.6
				NY-NJ-Long Island	+5.2
Average Weekly Hours, Mfg	+0.7	State Revenues	-24.3	Boston-Brockton-Nashua	+6.3
Average Hourly Earnings, Mfg	+4.0	Corporate Tax	+405.7		
Average Weekly Earnings, Mfg	+4.8	Personal Income Tax	-20.4	Interest Rates	
CT Mfg. Production Index	-7.3	Real Estate Conveyance Tax	-60.3	Prime	-3.25*
Production Worker Hours	-0.8	Sales & Use Tax	-35.2	Conventional Mortgage	-0.09*
Industrial Electricity Sales	-12.1	Indian Gaming Payments	-3.3		
Personal Income	+3.7				
UI Covered Wages	+2.6				

*Percentage point change; **Less than 0.05 percent;
NA = Not Available

THE CONNECTICUT ECONOMIC DIGEST

October 2008

THE CONNECTICUT

ECONOMIC DIGEST

A joint publication of
The Connecticut Departments of Labor and
Economic and Community Development

Opportunity • Guidance • Support



Mailing address:

Connecticut Economic Digest
Connecticut Department of Labor
Office of Research
200 Folly Brook Boulevard
Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114

The Connecticut Economic Digest
is available on the internet at:
<http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi>

NEED A COPY OF THE CONNECTICUT ECONOMIC DIGEST?

To receive a staple-bound, color copy of the Digest each month,
please download the subscription order form at
<http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/misc/ctdigest.htm>

For further information, please call the Office of Research at (860)
263-6290, or send an e-mail to dol.econdigest@ct.gov.

- If you wish to have your name removed from our mailing list, please check here and return this page (or a photocopy) to the address at left.
- If your address has changed, please check here, make the necessary changes to your address label and return this page to the address at left.
- If you receive more than one copy of this publication, please check here and return this page from the duplicate copy to the address at left.