



LABOR SITUATION

Office of Research
Scott D. Jackson, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 2017 Data

CT Unemployment Rate = 4.9%
US Unemployment Rate = 4.4%

Nonfarm jobs down 1,500 in April; unemployment rate at 4.9%

WETHERSFIELD, May 18, 2017 – Preliminary Connecticut nonfarm job estimates from the business payroll survey administered by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show the state lost 1,500 net jobs (-0.1%) in April 2017, to a level of 1,683,200, seasonally adjusted. Over the year, nonagricultural employment in the state grew by 5,500 jobs (0.3%). March's originally-released job gain of 1,300 was revised down by 700 to a 600 job gain. Connecticut's unemployment rate for April increased by one tenth of a point to 4.9% - five tenths of a point lower than it was a year ago. The number of the state's unemployed residents increased by 1,917, seasonally adjusted, in April while the number of residents employed grew by 8,981. Resident employment estimates include the self-employed and residents working out of state and are determined separately from the nonfarm job estimates above.

"Though April nonfarm job estimates fell by 1,500 we are still well ahead of last year's pace," said Andy Condon, Director of the Office of Research. "For the fourth month in a row we have seen small increases in the unemployment rate accompanied by larger increases in the labor force. This continues to indicate that workers are entering or rejoining the labor force and many are finding work."

Nonfarm Jobs Detail (business establishment survey)

Private sector employment declined by 1,000 (-0.1%, 1,450,000 jobs) in April, but remains up over the year by 9,900 jobs (0.7%). The **government supersector** declined again (-500, -0.2%, 233,200) last month and remains down over the year (-4,400, -1.8%). The **government supersector**, which includes all federal, state and local employment, including public higher education and Native American casinos located on tribal land, remains the largest contributor to job losses in 2017.

Just three of the ten major industry *supersectors* grew jobs in April 2017 while six declined, and **financial activities** (0,0, 131,200) was unchanged, on a seasonally adjusted basis. The **construction and mining** (2,800, 4.7%, 62,500 jobs) industry *supersector* led gainers last month. The **construction and mining supersector** now leads in *percentage growth* over the year (2,500, 4.2%) - tied with **other services** (2,700, 4.2%, 67,400 jobs). This was followed by the **leisure and hospitality** (2,000, 1.3%, 158,000 jobs) which continues to lead in numerical job growth over the year (+5,400, +3.5%). The **other services** (200, 0.3%, 67,400 positions) *supersector* was the only other to add jobs in April 2017.

The **professional and business services supersector** (-3,000, -1.4%, 215,700 jobs) was the largest declining industry *supersector* of the six that lost jobs last month. The entire decline in this sector was attributed to the administrative and support services (-3,000, -3.4%, 85,200) subcomponent. The next largest decline came from the **trade, transportation & utilities** (-1,400, -0.5%, 297,900 jobs) *supersector*. The private **education and health services** (-700, -0.2%, 330,100 jobs) *supersector* was also lower in April. All of the loss here was from the educational services segment (-1,300, -2.0%, 63,000). Good Friday and possibly some spring vacations at schools during the April survey week may have had an effect here and in local government education. The **manufacturing** (-600, -0.4%, 156,000 positions) industry *supersector* was also lower in job tallies last month. Smaller job losses of 500 in the **government supersector** (-500, -0.2%, 233,200) and 300 in the **information** (-300, -1.0%, 31,200 jobs) *supersector* rounded out the month. **Government** remains the largest job declining major industry *supersector* in the state (-4,400, -1.9%, OTY) numerically since April 2016, while the **information** (-1,000, -3.1%, OTY) *supersector* leads in the worst *percentage* job losing industry *supersector* over the year.

Connecticut has now **recovered 74.7% (89,000, about 1,035 jobs per month) of the 119,100 seasonally adjusted jobs lost** in the Great Recession (3/08-2/10). The job recovery is into its 86th month and the state needs an additional 30,100 jobs to reach an employment expansion. The state's private sector has recovered at a better pace, recouping 92.7% (103,500, or about 1,203 per month) of the 111,700 private sector jobs lost in that same

employment recession. Only 8,200 jobs are needed to be added to have a fully recovered private sector. The **government supersector** has lost a total of 21,900 positions since the recession started in March 2008. This includes an additional 14,500 jobs lost since the state's overall nonfarm employment recovery began in February 2010.

Connecticut Labor Market Areas (LMAs): Please note: The Bureau of Labor Statistics has added Waterbury and Danbury back to the list of labor market areas with seasonally adjusted data. For April 2017, three regional Labor Market Areas (LMAs) were up, and three were down in seasonally adjusted employment. The **New Haven LMA** (900, 0.3%, 281,900 positions) led all regional LMAs in job growth last month, while the **Danbury LMA** (600, 0.8%, 79,900) was also higher and the **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk LMA** (200, 0.1%, 408,500 jobs) was slightly up as well. The **Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford LMA** (-1,000, -0.2%, 572,900) and the **Norwich-New London-Westerly LMA** (-800, -0.6%, 129,300) were lower in April as was the **Waterbury LMA** (-200, -0.3%, 66,800). The **Danbury LMA** (1,300, 1.7%, OTY) is now the fastest growing LMA in percentage terms while the **Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford LMA** (5,200, 0.9% OTY) leads in magnitude since April 2016.

Note: Six major Connecticut LMAs are estimated independently from the statewide data by the BLS and cover more than 90% of the nonfarm employment in the state. Thus, estimates will not fully sum to the statewide total.

Hours and Earnings: The **private sector** workweek, not seasonally adjusted, averaged 33.7 hours in April 2017, up three-tenths of an hour from the same month a year ago (33.4). Average hourly earnings at \$31.84, not seasonally adjusted, were up \$1.32, or 4.3%, from the April 2016 estimate (\$30.52). The resultant average **private sector** weekly pay amounted to \$1,073.01, up \$53.64, or 5.3% higher than a year ago. The 12-month percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, U.S. City Average, not seasonally adjusted) in April 2017 was 2.2%. Information for the manufacturing production workweek and earnings can be found in the table section of this release under the "Hours and Earnings" data category. *Current all-employee private sector hours and earnings estimates can be volatile due to fluctuating sample responses.*

Labor Force Data (residential household survey)

The April 2017 unemployment rate for Connecticut was estimated at **4.9%** (seasonally adjusted), up one-tenth of a percentage point from March 2017 (4.8%) and down five-tenths of a percentage point from a year ago when it was 5.4%. The U.S. jobless rate in April 2017 was 4.4%.

Unemployment: Based on the Local Area Unemployment Statistics model (LAUS - a statistical model applying the CPS – the Current Population Survey residential data), the number of Connecticut unemployed residents, seasonally adjusted, increased by 2,000 (2.1%) over the month to 93,700 in April. Over the year, the number of the state's jobless residents has decreased by 8,300 (-8.1%). The state's labor force increased a strong 10,900 (0.6%) over the month, and continues to expand over the year (30,400, 1.6%). All the increases in the state's unemployment rate since January of this year have occurred on an increasing labor force. Both residential employment and unemployment have increased. This indicates that we are seeing new and returning workers to the labor force and most are finding work.

April 2017 seasonally adjusted average weekly initial unemployment claims for first-time filers in Connecticut decreased by 1,208 claimants (-25.8%) to 3,483 from March 2017, and were lower by 355 claims (-9.2%) from the April 2016 level of 3,838.

*The nonfarm employment estimate, derived from a survey of businesses, is a measure of jobs in the state; the unemployment rate and labor force estimates are based on a household survey, and measure the work status of people who live in Connecticut. Overall, as the national and state economies recover, volatility in monthly numbers can be expected. **Job and employment estimates are best understood in the context of their movement over several months rather than observed changes in a single month's value.***

Next Connecticut Labor Situation release: Thursday, June 15, 2017 (May 2017 data)

Contact: Communications Office

(860) 263-6535

05-18-17

Labor market information is available on the Internet at www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi
200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114 - www.ct.gov/dol

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

Jobs - by Place of Work

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	April 2017 P	March 2017 R	February 2017	January 2017	April 2016	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
CONNECTICUT	1,683,200	1,684,700	1,684,100	1,684,000	1,677,700	-1,500	-0.1%	5,500	0.3%
Total Private	1,450,000	1,451,000	1,450,500	1,450,300	1,440,100	-1,000	-0.1%	9,900	0.7%
Goods Producing Industries									
Mining	600	600	600	600	600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Construction	61,900	59,100	59,300	58,000	59,400	2,800	4.7%	2,500	4.2%
Manufacturing	156,000	156,600	155,700	156,100	156,200	-600	-0.4%	-200	-0.1%
Durable Goods	121,200	122,600	122,000	122,400	122,700	-1,400	-1.1%	-1,500	-1.2%
Nondurable Goods	34,800	34,000	33,700	33,700	33,500	800	2.4%	1,300	3.9%
Service Providing Industries									
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	297,900	299,300	300,600	302,400	298,700	-1,400	-0.5%	-800	-0.3%
Wholesale	63,800	63,500	63,800	63,800	62,600	300	0.5%	1,200	1.9%
Retail	182,000	182,900	183,000	184,200	185,400	-900	-0.5%	-3,400	-1.8%
Transp, Warehousing & Utilities	52,100	52,900	53,800	54,400	50,700	-800	-1.5%	1,400	2.8%
Information	31,200	31,500	31,200	31,500	32,200	-300	-1.0%	-1,000	-3.1%
Financial Activities	131,200	131,200	131,100	131,600	130,200	0	0.0%	1,000	0.8%
Finance & Insurance	110,800	110,700	110,800	111,200	110,200	100	0.1%	600	0.5%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	20,400	20,500	20,300	20,400	20,000	-100	-0.5%	400	2.0%
Professional & Business Services	215,700	218,700	218,600	217,400	217,900	-3,000	-1.4%	-2,200	-1.0%
Prof, Scientific & Tech Services	98,300	98,500	97,600	96,600	96,900	-200	-0.2%	1,400	1.4%
Management of Companies	32,200	32,000	31,900	32,000	33,300	200	0.6%	-1,100	-3.3%
Admn & Support & Waste Mgt Serv	85,200	88,200	89,100	88,800	87,700	-3,000	-3.4%	-2,500	-2.9%
Educational & Health Services	330,100	330,800	331,800	327,900	327,600	-700	-0.2%	2,500	0.8%
Educational Services	63,000	64,300	64,100	61,200	63,500	-1,300	-2.0%	-500	-0.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	267,100	266,500	267,700	266,700	264,100	600	0.2%	3,000	1.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	158,000	156,000	155,600	158,400	152,600	2,000	1.3%	5,400	3.5%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	28,400	26,200	26,600	28,200	26,800	2,200	8.4%	1,600	6.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	129,600	129,800	129,000	130,200	125,800	-200	-0.2%	3,800	3.0%
Other Services	67,400	67,200	66,000	66,400	64,700	200	0.3%	2,700	4.2%
Government**	233,200	233,700	233,600	233,700	237,600	-500	-0.2%	-4,400	-1.9%
UNITED STATES	146,063,000	145,852,000	145,773,000	145,541,000	143,826,000	211,000	0.1%	2,237,000	1.6%

LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMA)

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

Seasonally Adjusted data	April 2017 P	March 2017 R	February 2017	January 2017	April 2016	Over Month Change	Over Month Rate	Over Year Change	Over Year Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk	408,500	408,300	409,600	409,800	410,600	200	0.0%	-2,100	-0.5%
Danbury	79,900	79,300	79,100	79,200	78,600	600	0.8%	1,300	1.7%
Hartford	572,900	573,900	571,900	571,800	567,700	-1,000	-0.2%	5,200	0.9%
New Haven	281,900	281,000	281,200	279,100	281,500	900	0.3%	400	0.1%
Norwich-New London-Westerly, RI	129,300	130,100	129,800	129,600	128,300	-800	-0.6%	1,000	0.8%
Waterbury	66,800	67,000	66,900	66,800	67,400	-200	-0.3%	-600	-0.9%
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted data (Non-Classified Areas, State estimated not BLS)</i>									
Enfield	45,300	44,500	44,700	44,700	45,300	800	1.8%	0	0.0%
Torrington-Northwest	32,300	31,700	31,500	32,000	32,600	600	1.9%	-300	-0.9%
Danielson-Northeast	27,100	27,000	26,800	26,800	27,000	100	0.4%	100	0.4%

* Less than 0.05%

** Includes Native American tribal government employment

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

Starting with March, 2011, our monthly statewide and major LMA nonfarm job estimates have been taken over by the US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is the final phase of transition in this program, which began in 2008. As a result of changes in the estimation procedures, you are likely to see more variability in month-to-month estimates of job counts. Caution should be used in interpreting any single month's estimate. The data are best interpreted to identify trends and cycles over several months and quarters. If you have any questions about these changes, please email us at: dol.lmi@ct.gov. Danbury and Waterbury LMA's are now back to being seasonally adjusted.

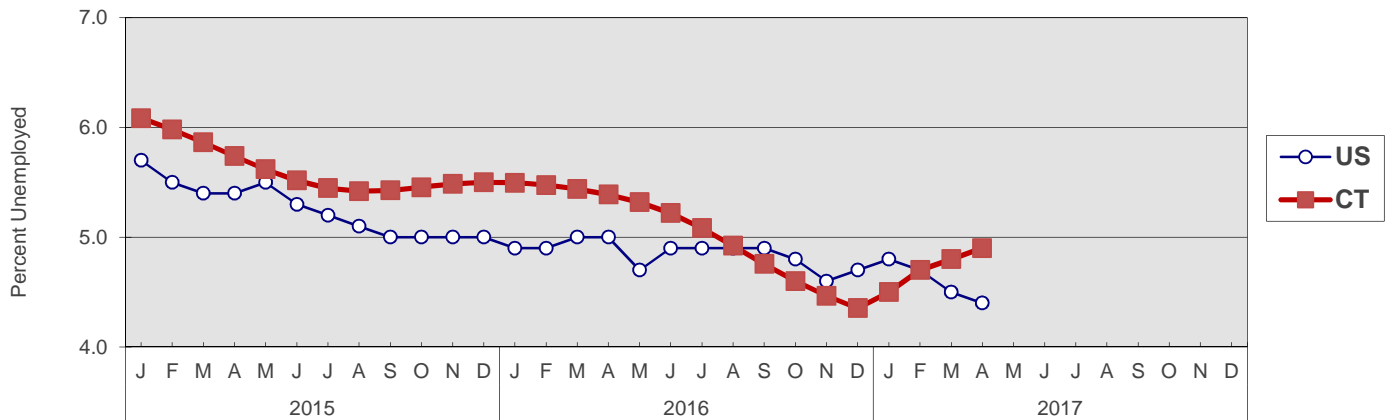
UNEMPLOYMENT

Persons Unemployed - by Place of Residence

CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES - Seasonally Adjusted

	April 2017 P		April 2016 R		Change		March 2017 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
CONNECTICUT								
Unemployed	93,700	4.9	102,000	5.4	-8,300	-0.5	91,700	4.8
Labor Force	1,922,600		1,892,200		30,400		1,911,700	
UNITED STATES								
Unemployed	7,056,000	4.4	7,910,000	5.0	-854,000	-0.6	7,202,000	4.5
Labor Force	160,213,000		158,938,000		1,275,000		160,201,000	

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



LABOR MARKET AREAS - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	April 2017 P		April 2016 R		Change		March 2017 R	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Points	Number	Rate
Bridgeport-Stamford								
Danbury								
Danielson-Northeast*								
Worcester NECTA								
Hampton								
Enfield								
Hartford								
New Haven								
Norwich-New London								
Torrington-Northwest**								
Torrington NECTA								
Litchfield								
Waterbury								
<p>Release of the April 2017 sub-state labor force data is restricted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics until Friday, May 19, 2017. An updated <i>Connecticut Labor Situation</i> with these data will be available on our website at that time at: http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/laborsit.pdf.</p>								
CONNECTICUT	89,200	4.7	100,000	5.3	-10,800	-0.6	97,900	5.1
UNITED STATES	6,555,000	4.1	7,413,000	4.7	-858,000	-0.6	7,284,000	4.6

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

Labor force data included in this publication are developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

* Worcester NECTA, CT part and Hampton LMA are combined ** Torrington Metropolitan NECTA and Litchfield LMA are combined

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Release of the April 2017 sub-state labor force data is restricted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics until Friday, May 19, 2017. An updated *Connecticut Labor Situation* with these data will be available on our website at that time at:
<http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/laborsit.pdf>.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

CONNECTICUT Statewide - Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	Apr. 2017 P	Apr. 2016	Change over Yr.	Mar. 2017 R	Apr. 2017 P	Apr. 2016	Change over Yr.	Mar. 2017 R	Apr. 2017 P	Apr. 2016	Change over Yr.	Mar. 2017 R
Private Industry All Employees	\$1,073.01	\$1,019.37	\$53.64	\$1,032.73	33.7	33.4	0.3	32.9	\$31.84	\$30.52	\$1.32	\$31.39
Manufacturing*												
Production Workers	\$986.10	\$1,156.44	-\$170.34	\$991.03	40.9	41.9	-1.0	40.8	\$24.11	\$27.60	-\$3.49	\$24.29

* Production worker data have been impacted by the loss of a large, high-paying manufacturer from the monthly sample.

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

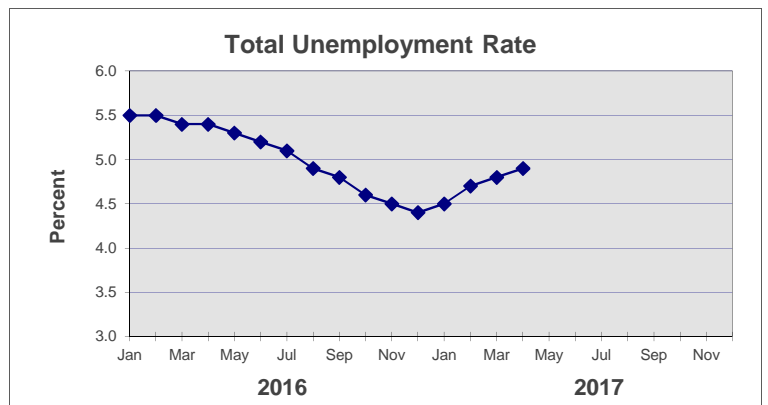
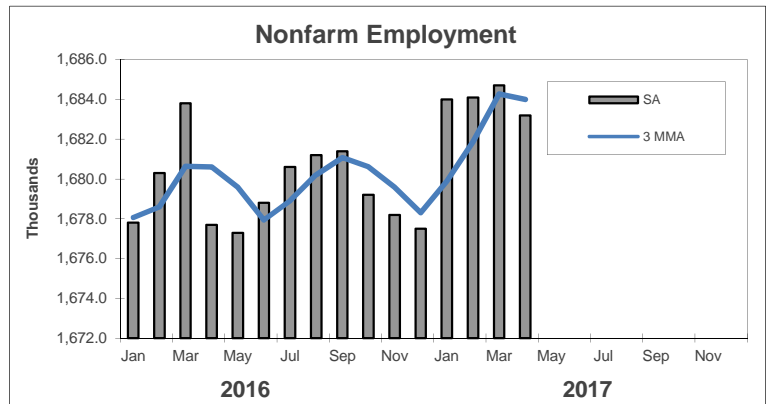
Hours and earnings are also developed for the state's major industry sectors and Labor Market Areas. They can be found on our website at: www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi.

TRENDS

Seasonally Adjusted

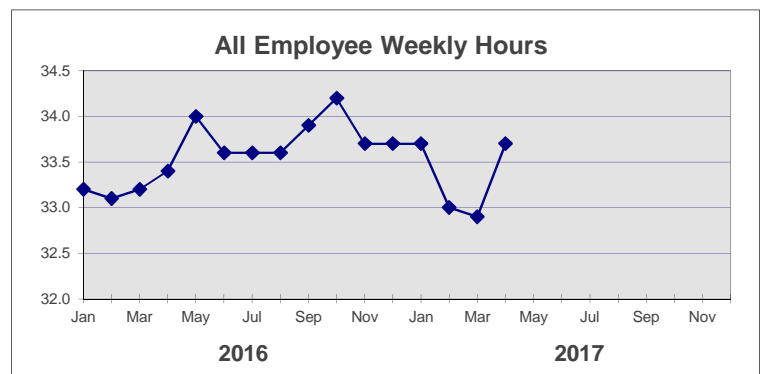
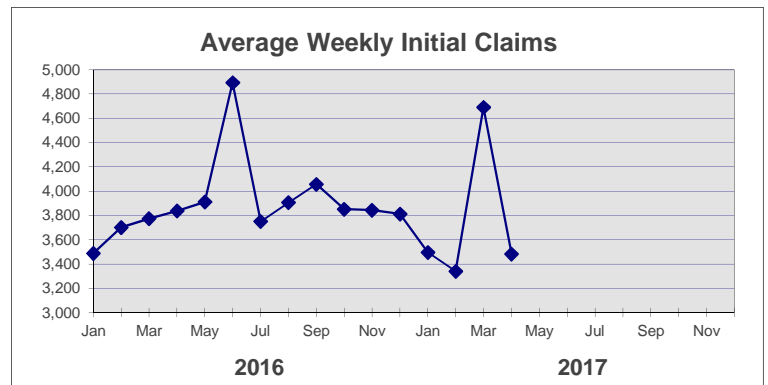
	Nonfarm Employment (000s)	Total Unemployment Rate
2016		
Jan	1,677.8	5.5
Feb	1,680.3	5.5
Mar	1,683.8	5.4
Apr	1,677.7	5.4
May	1,677.3	5.3
Jun	1,678.8	5.2
Jul	1,680.6	5.1
Aug	1,681.2	4.9
Sep	1,681.4	4.8
Oct	1,679.2	4.6
Nov	1,678.2	4.5
Dec	1,677.5	4.4

2017		
Jan	1,684.0	4.5
Feb	1,684.1	4.7
Mar	1,684.7 R	4.8 R
Apr	1,683.2 P	4.9 P
May		
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		



	Avg Weekly Initial Claims	All Employee Weekly Hours*
2016		
Jan	3,488	33.2
Feb	3,702	33.1
Mar	3,774	33.2
Apr	3,838	33.4
May	3,911	34.0
Jun	4,894	33.6
Jul	3,750	33.6
Aug	3,906	33.6
Sep	4,057	33.9
Oct	3,852	34.2
Nov	3,844	33.7
Dec	3,812	33.7

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



* Not seasonally adjusted

P = Preliminary

R = Revised

** Labor-management dispute