

Job creation slowed in Connecticut last month, but some industries still saw gains. These are the sectors that did the most hiring.

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FULL TEXT

The private sector in Connecticut put the brakes on hiring in June as government employment and a continuing comeback in recreation, hotels and restaurants powered gains of 3,500 jobs, the state Department of Labor reported Thursday.

Overall, jobs created last month were fewer than half what was added in May.

Patrick Flaherty, the Department of Labor's research director, characterized Connecticut's job gains as an "uneven monthly pattern."

"You have to be careful about making too much out of one month," he said. "A big jump in May, a little bit of a setback in June. The average is probably correct."

The government sector added 4,100 jobs, with the local government component particularly strong, adding 4,200 in June. Government includes all federal, state and local employment, including public education and employment at the Native American-owned casinos.

Flaherty said job cuts in June at the end of the school year were fewer this year than in 2020, making it appear as a big increase when economists adjust for seasonal factors. Increases in local employment also were the result of recreation departments hiring in June compared with last year when municipalities canceled recreational activities, he said.

Private sector employment declined by 600 after rising by 8,700 in May. Hiring fell in transportation, manufacturing and financial activities.

Federal economists revised upward job gains in May, to 8,100 from a previously reported 7,800.

The state has recovered 189,000 jobs, or 64.6% of those lost when businesses were ordered shut at the outset of the pandemic in March and April 2020.

The unemployment rate fell to 7.9%, from 8.1% in May. Flaherty said the jobless rate remains "higher than we would like," but more than 40,000 people have entered the labor force since March, looking for work.

The U.S. jobless rate in June was 5.9%.

Government: 4,100.

Other services, which include equipment and machinery repairing, promoting or administering religious activities, grantmaking, dry cleaning and laundry services, personal care and day care and dating services: 2,400.

Leisure and hospitality, which include the arts, entertainment, recreation, hotels and restaurants: 1,600

Professional and business services, which include professional, scientific and technical services, business management and waste management: 200

Trade, transportation and utilities: 1,400.

Construction and mining: 1,000

Financial activities: 700

Manufacturing: 700

Educational and health services: 600

Information, which includes software and traditional publishing, the motion picture and sound recording industries, broadcasting and internet service providers and web search portals: 400

Employment gains were posted in two of Connecticut's six labor markets. The Waterbury and Norwich-New London-Westerly, R.I., markets each gained 600 jobs.

The greatest declines in jobs were in New Haven, where employment fell by 1,400.

The Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford labor market fell by 1,300 jobs and the Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk labor market area dropped 300 jobs.

The Danbury labor market area was unchanged.

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