

EMPLOYMENT ROSE 1.8% IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY AREA IN 2014

- Payrolls rose at a 1.8% pace in the Bridgeport-Stamford Labor Market Area last year, as 7,500 jobs were added.
- Leading the gains were trade, transportation and utilities (+3,500), professional and business services (+2,000) and state & local government (+1,400).
- Financial activities lost the most jobs last year (-1,400), with the majority of these jobs in the securities sector.

BRIDGEPORT-STAMFORD LMA* EMPLOYMENT

Source: CT Dept of Labor

INDUSTRY	DEC-14	DEC-13	NET CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	79,400	75,900	3,500	4.6%
Professional and Business Services	69,900	67,900	2,000	2.9%
State & Local Government	45,300	43,900	1,400	3.2%
Manufacturing	34,600	33,700	900	2.7%
Education and Health Services	72,100	71,200	900	1.3%
Construction	12,300	12,000	300	2.5%
Information	12,100	12,000	100	0.8%
Federal Government	2,600	2,500	100	4.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	39,300	39,400	-100	-0.3%
Other Services	17,200	17,400	-200	-1.1%
Financial Activities	40,800	42,200	-1,400	-3.3%
Total	425,600	418,100	7,500	1.8%

LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT FALLS TO 5.3%

- The Bridgeport-Stamford LMA unemployment rate declined to 5.3% in December, its lowest level since June 2008.
- The December rate was 0.5% lower than in November and 1% lower than one year ago.
- At 5.4%, the nation's unemployment rate was down slightly from the prior month, but slightly higher than the local rate.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (not seasonally adjusted)

Source: CT Dept of Labor

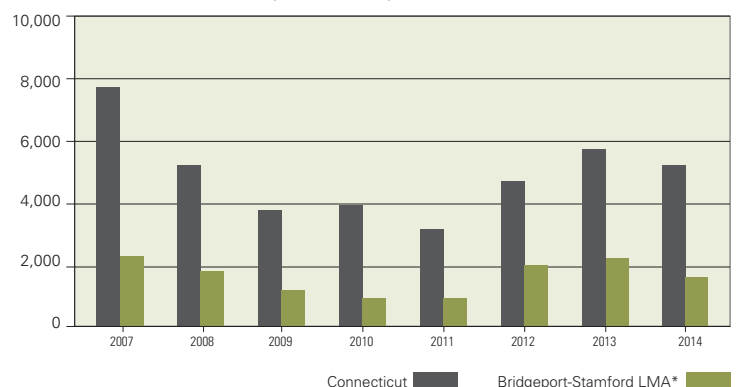


BUILDING PERMITS FALL

- There were permits approved for 1,747 new residential units in the Fairfield County area during 2014, a decline of 23% from 2013.
- This was the lowest number of building permits since 2011.
- Statewide, the number of permits fell 8%, to 5,297 last year.

BUILDING PERMITS (number of units)

Source: Census Bureau



* Includes the following towns: Ansonia, Bridgeport, Darien, Derby, Easton, Fairfield, Greenwich, Milford, Monroe, New Canaan, Newtown, Norwalk, Oxford, Redding, Ridgefield, Seymour, Shelton, Southbury, Stamford, Stratford, Trumbull, Weston, Westport, Wilton, Woodbridge.

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