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CT ECONOMIC DIGEST

The *Connecticut Economic Digest* is a joint publication of the Connecticut Department of Labor and the 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. *A brief monthly summary will constitute the major monthly topic of this newsletter.*

Examining the Composition of Connecticut's Employment by Demographics and Firm Size

Connecticut employment has been growing since the end of the great recession nearly a decade ago. In recent years, industries such as manufacturing, health care, and warehousing have driven overall growth. In addition, there have been other important trends in Connecticut's labor market. For example, in the ten year period from 2007 to 2017, employment at private firms in Connecticut has gotten older, less male and less white. At the same time, the share with a Bachelor's degree or more has fallen. Employment in firms with 500 or more employees has increased while employment at smaller firms has fallen. The U.S. exhibited a similar pattern to Connecticut

Over the ten-year period from 2007-2017, Connecticut concentrated in firms with 500 or more employees. The workforce is aging. Employment projections shifts highlighted in this article will continue in coming years. Employment growth in Connecticut will require workers to fill new jobs and replace workers who are leaving the workforce due to retirement. This is perhaps the largest challenge facing firms of all sizes.