New Hampshire Employment Security
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COVID-19 UNEMPLOYMENT UPDATE

For Immediate Release: January 21, 2021

New Hampshire's initial claims for unemployment increased by just 32, to 3,891, during the week ended January 16th. U.S. initial claims decreased by 13.6 percent during the week on a not seasonally adjusted basis. A total of 11 states experienced an increase in initial claims during the week. In New England, in addition to New Hampshire's nominal increase, Connecticut and Rhode Island had increases in initial claims during the week.

New Hampshire's continued claims in the regular unemployment insurance (UI) program were 28,871 during the week ended January 9th, up 1,705 (or 6%) from the prior week. U.S. regular UI continued claims decreased by 3.5 percent on a not seasonally adjusted basis. Continuing claims (by individuals who remain unemployed and file a "continuing claim" for unemployment insurance) is an important metric in assessing New Hampshire's progress of economic recovery from pandemic-required restrictions and related economic effects. Fourteen (14) states experienced an increase in regular UI program continuing claims during the week ended January 9th, including the New England states of Rhode Island and Vermont in addition to New Hampshire.

In addition to continued claims filed by individuals who qualify for a state's regular unemployment benefits program (UI), the federal CARES Act established the "Pandemic Unemployment Assistance" (PUA) program to allow workers affected by the pandemic but who would not normally qualify for regular state benefits (e.g. the self-employed, workers who leave work to care for a family member, so-called "gig workers," and other affected workers) to receive benefits. States have implemented or transitioned regular UI claimants to the PUA program at different times during the pandemic. Twenty (20) states experienced an increase in PUA continued claims during the week ended January 2nd. In New England, Rhode Island and Vermont had increases in PUA claims during the week.

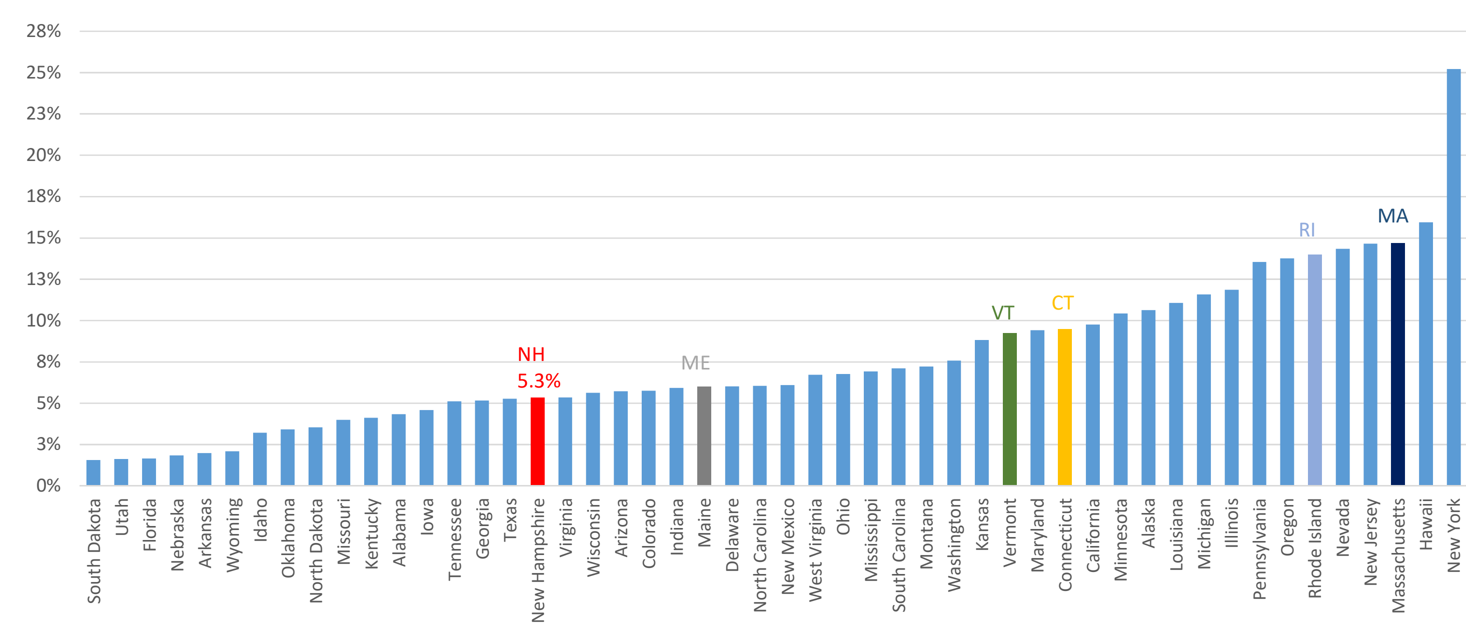
TABLE 1
TOWNS WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW CLAIMS DURING THE WEEK

TOWN	NEW CLAIMS JANUARY 3 TO JANUARY 9	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	TOTAL NEW CLAIMS MARCH 16 TO JANUARY 19	CONTINUING CLAIMS AS OF DECEMBER 26†
Manchester	241	71	22,867	3,979
Nashua	130	29	12,689	2,316
Concord	68	20	6,833	1,154
Rochester	67	22	5,400	876
Dover	59	15	5,180	863
Derry	54	8	5,103	801
Merrimack	35	7	3,624	563
Keene	32	-7	3,225	489
Laconia	32	15	3,176	574
Hudson	30	2	3,229	537
Salem	30	8	3,348	586
Londonderry	25	-1	3,366	491
Franklin	24	9	1,631	307
Portsmouth	24	7	3,416	523
Hampton	23	5	2,568	507
Hooksett	23	6	2,232	335
Milford	22	7	2,411	350
Goffstown	21	4	2,547	397
Seabrook	20	9	1,271	258
Somersworth	20	2	2,112	391

† *New data for **Continued Claims** is released monthly*

FIGURE 1

All Continued Claims (Regular UI, PUA and PEUC) as a % of the State's Pre-Covid 19 Workforce (as of January 2nd)



The CARES Act also established the "Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation" (PEUC) program to allow individuals who exhausted their regular UI benefits after 26 weeks to receive an additional 13 weeks of benefits. Twenty (20) states saw an increase in PEUC claims during the week. Connecticut and Vermont were the only New England states to experience an increase in PEUC claims. Both the PUA and PEUC programs have been extended for an additional 11 weeks (into March) as part of recently passed federal Covid-19 relief measures. Nationally, in the aggregate, there was a large decline in PUA and PEUC claims and this may be related to the temporary lapse in the federal PUA and PEUC programs which resulted in individuals in some states not continuing to file claims in those programs during the week. Interpreting claims numbers in these programs should be done with caution.

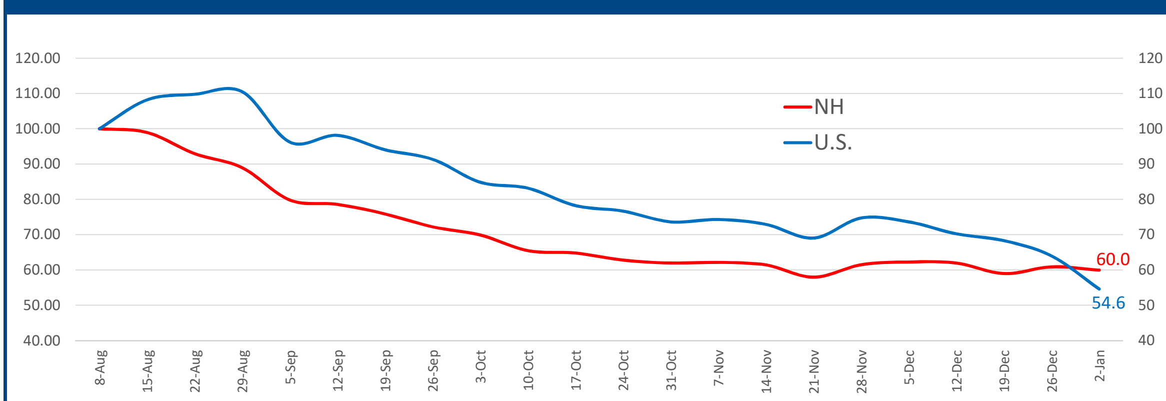
Continued claims filings for the federal programs in subsequent weeks will provide additional insight into the impact that the temporary lapse had on claims numbers in these programs.

Adding PUA and PEUC continued claims to regular state UI continued claims provides a more complete measure of the impacts of the pandemic on the labor market than does UI claims alone. Combined UI, PUA, and PEUC continued claims as a percentage of each state's pre-pandemic labor force is presented in Figure 1. New Hampshire continues to have the lowest percentage among all Northeastern states. Using this broader measure of Covid-19's impact on the labor market, New Hampshire's continued claims as a percentage of its pre-Covid-19 decreased to 5.3 percent as of January 2nd (PUA and PEUC claims are reported with an additional one-week lag). Note that weekly claims data reported in the town-by-town sections and the claims by industry section of these weekly reports have consistently included regular UI as well as PUA and PEUC claims.

Figure 2 highlights continuing claims trends in New Hampshire and the

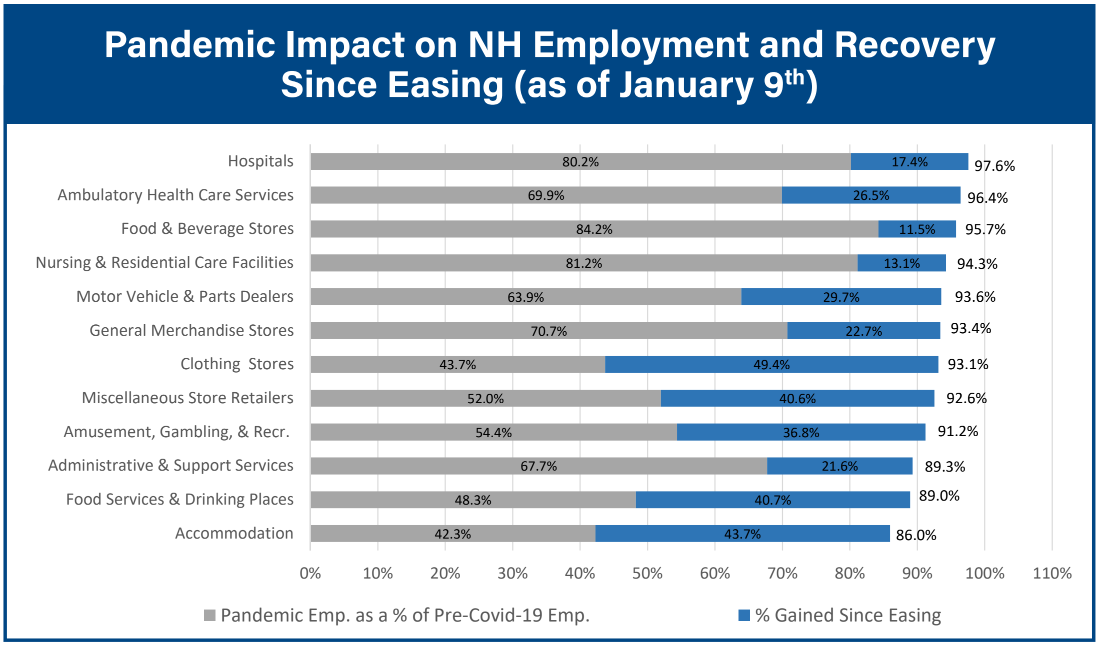
FIGURE 2

Continuing Unemployment Claims - (Regular UI, PUA, & PEUC) (Index: August 8 = 100)



U.S. since August 8th. On the graph, each region’s peak for continuing claims is set at an index value of 100, with index numbers reflecting the percentage change in continuing claims from 100 (thus New Hampshire’s index value of 60 indicates that as of January 9th, continuing claims have declined by 40 percent since August 8th (100 – 60 = 40). Continuing claims nationally have declined by 45 percent during the same time period, however, the temporary lapse in federal programs may account for the substantial decline in continued claims nationally during the week.

FIGURE 3



Town-by-town breakouts of the number of new claims filed by New Hampshire residents who also work in the state are available with a one-week lag (through January 9th). The number of claims filed by New Hampshire residents working in New Hampshire increased by 498 during the week. Manchester (+71), Nashua (+29), Rochester (+22), and Concord (+20) had the largest increases in new claims over the previous week. Bedford, Keene and Litchfield (all -7) had the largest declines in initial claims during the week. One hundred and thirty five (135) of New Hampshire’s 238 towns had an increase in new claims during the week, totaling 618 new claims.

The claims numbers presented in Tables 1, Table 2, and Table 4 are based on where an individual lives, not where they work, and do not include initial claims of New Hampshire residents who work out-of-state (who file claims in the state where the business they work is located). For towns with a higher percentage of New Hampshire workers commuting out to another state, claim numbers may not reflect the actual number of individuals living in the town who have filed a new unemployment claim. A town in Rockingham, Hillsborough, or Strafford Counties, with a large number of residents commuting to work in Massachusetts, may have a larger number of new claims than is presented in these tables because those New Hampshire residents will have filed their claims in Massachusetts. Thirty percent of workers who live in Rockingham County work outside of New Hampshire, while 22 percent of Hillsborough and Strafford County workers are employed in another state. Our “Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate” measures the number of continuing claims as a percentage of pre-Covid-19 labor force as a metric to indicate the impact of pandemic-related impacts on employment in the state, its counties, and communities. At this time continuing claims by town are only reported on a monthly basis, however, we continue to report initial claims on a weekly and cumulative basis to provide the most current available updates to claims data.

A complete listing of the cumulative initial unemployment claims by town, as well as the number of continuing claims (alphabetically for towns with at least 25 new claims) since March 15th as well as the number of continued claims (as of December 26th) as a percentage of the town’s labor force[1], is presented in Table 4 at the end of this release. The “Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate” reported in this release is not equivalent to a town’s traditional unemployment rate as it only counts continuing unemployment claims filed during the reference week (in this case December 26th), and does not include New Hampshire residents who have filed an unemployment claim if they work in another state. It is presented here, along with the total number of initial claims filed in each community since March 15th, to provide a metric of the relative employment impacts of Covid-19 on the population of each community.[2] The State of New Hampshire’s official unemployment rate for December was released on January 20th and reflects employment and unemployment in December during the reference week (the week containing the 12th day of the month). The official U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for New Hampshire in November was 4.0 percent, and the not seasonally adjusted figure 3.8 percent. For the

[1] *The February 2020 labor force count for each town is used for this analysis.*

[2] *The number of NH residents filing claims in New Hampshire will not equal the total number of initial claims filed in New Hampshire because New Hampshire residents working in another state who are laid off will file a claim in the state where their employer is located. Similarly, residents of other states who work in New Hampshire and who file a claim will file in New Hampshire. Neither of these groups will be counted in the town-by-town or county counts in this release. Out-of-state residents laid-off or furloughed from a New Hampshire organization will, however, be counted in New Hampshire’s total count of new claims.*

week ending December 26th, New Hampshire's "Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate" (which is not seasonally adjusted) was 4.2 percent. Dalton (9.5%), Lincoln (9.0%) and Ossipee (9.0%) had the highest Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rates in the state.

Differences between the Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate and the official New Hampshire unemployment rate include the fact that the Covid-19 Affected Rate is based entirely on continuing claims for unemployment for residents who live and work in New Hampshire, while the official rate includes data from a survey of households in the state and is not concerned in which state a New Hampshire residents works. Another difference is the use of February 2020 labor force numbers in calculating the Covid-19 Affected Rate. This is done to remove possible distortions in the labor force data, as the current situation has led to some difficulty in accurately classifying workers who are temporarily away from work as either unemployed or out of the labor force.

Claims by County

Table 2 presents the total number of initial claims in each county since March 15th, the number of claims during the week ended January 2nd, the change in initial claims from the prior week, and the number of continuing claims filed by residents of each county. All 10 of New Hampshire's counties experienced increases in initial claims during the week compared to the previous week. Hillsborough (+147), Rockingham (+82) and Merrimack (+81) Counties had the largest increases in initial unemployment claims during the week. Carroll County (6.2%), Belknap County (6.0%), and Coos County (5.7%) have the highest Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rates as of December 26th, while the lowest rates were recorded in Grafton County (3.5%) and Rockingham County (3.6%).

Claims by Industry

Industries with the most initial claims for unemployment since March 15th are presented in Table 3, along with the number of continuing claims in the industry for the week ended January 9th, New Hampshire employment in each industry as of the fourth quarter of 2019, as well as the percentage of each industry's employees that filed a continuing unemployment claim during the week of January 9th.

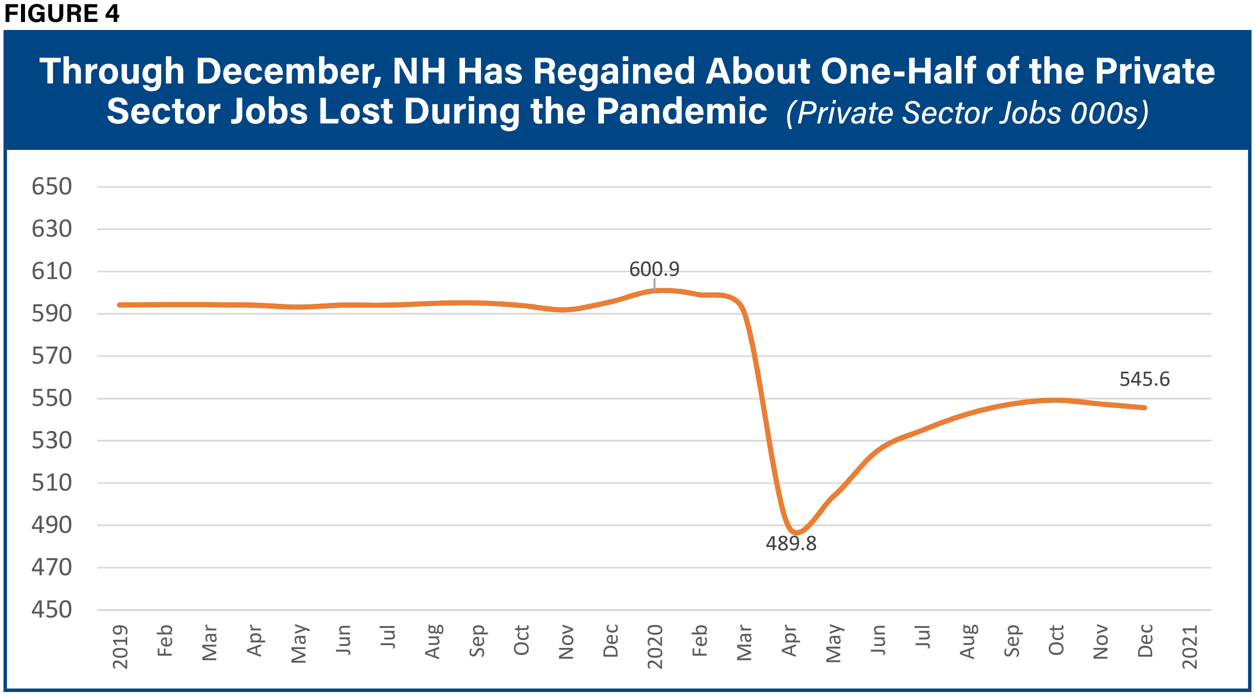
Fifty Three (53) of the 94 industry classifications (at the three-digit NAICS level) experienced increases in continuing claims during the week, accounting for an additional 810 continued claims. Among the 50 industries most affected by the pandemic through January 9th, forty six (46) experienced an increase in continuing claims during the week, compared to the week ended December 26th (Table 3).

The passenger ground transportation industry saw a large drop in claims (-588) as school vacations ended and school bus drivers went back to work. Seasonal reductions in construction activity produced a 4.1 percent increase in continued claims (+84) in that industry during the week ended January 9th.

Manufacturing industries experienced a decline in continued claims of 1.1 percent (-34) during the week. In the aggregate, manufacturing industries have been relatively less affected by the economic impacts of the pandemic. Claims in educational services increased by just 10, or +0.7 percent. Continued claims in healthcare industries increased by 55 or +2.0 percent during the week. Claims in the hospitality (accommodations, food services, and recreation) industries increased by 253 or +3.5 percent. The retail industry experienced an increase of 149 continued claims (+2.9%) during the week ended January 9th.

Figure 3 shows the percentage of an industry's pre-Covid-19 level of employment that filed a claim during the peak of the pandemic's employment impacts, as well as the percentage of continuing claims filed by workers in the

FIGURE 4



industry during the week ending January 9th. Combined, the graph provides an indication of the current capacity at which each industry is operating, as well as the degree to which each industry is recovering from the depths of the pandemic's impacts. The chart presents just 12 industries that were among the most affected (in terms of claims for unemployment) by the pandemic.

The Winding Path to Recovery

Progress in New Hampshire's jobs recovery has slowed since fall. Through summer, the Granite State was recovering jobs at a rapid pace and the shape of the jobs recovery resembled a "V" (Figure 4). By fall, however, as a resurgence in pandemic cases occurred throughout the nation, the path of the jobs recovery began to flatten. As with much of the data reported during the pandemic, some caution should be used in analyzing the monthly jobs number, as the pandemic has affected the response rate to the survey upon which the monthly job estimates are based. In addition, unique circumstance have affected the statistical models (including seasonal adjustments) used to turn survey data into the monthly estimates.

Early in each year the monthly job estimates are "benchmarked," using data from a full census of employers in each state. The benchmarking process always alters the previously reported monthly employment figures, sometime up and sometimes down, and occasionally by substantial amounts. The benchmarking process in New Hampshire is in the early stages but it appears that the last quarterly census of employer data (from the third quarter of 2020) will increase New Hampshire's revised (or benchmarked) employment numbers. The revisions will not dramatically increase the state's employment numbers but they likely will show more jobs than have recently been reported.

Still, it is clear that progress in the recovery has slowed recently. Rather than relying on monthly, survey-based, jobs numbers to track progress, continued and initial claims for unemployment provide a more timely and accurate (because they are based on administrative data) indicator of employment trends in the state. Claims data show the uneven pace of jobs recovery among industries in New Hampshire and an examination of that data provides an indication of why the pace of the job recovery has slowed. The jobs recovery has slowed some in many industries but seasonal employment impacts in the construction industry and the pandemic induced effects in the hospitality and recreation industries have had an outsized impact on trends in claims for unemployment insurance and employment in the state. The largest number of continued claims for unemployment insurance come from the hospitality and tourism industries, so any percentage increase in claims from those industries represents a substantial increase in actual claims. The construction industry represents a much smaller overall number of claims, but as Figure 5 shows, the substantial percentage increase in continued claims in that industry since the fall still represents a large increase in the absolute number of unemployment claims. Combined, the construction, hospitality and recreation industries accounted for almost one-half of the recent increase in continued claims among industries in New Hampshire.

– Brian Gottlob, Director

FIGURE 5

Seasonal Employment Patterns (Construction) and a Surge in Pandemic Cases (Hospitatlity & Recreation) Largely Account for the Slowdown in the Jobs Recovery

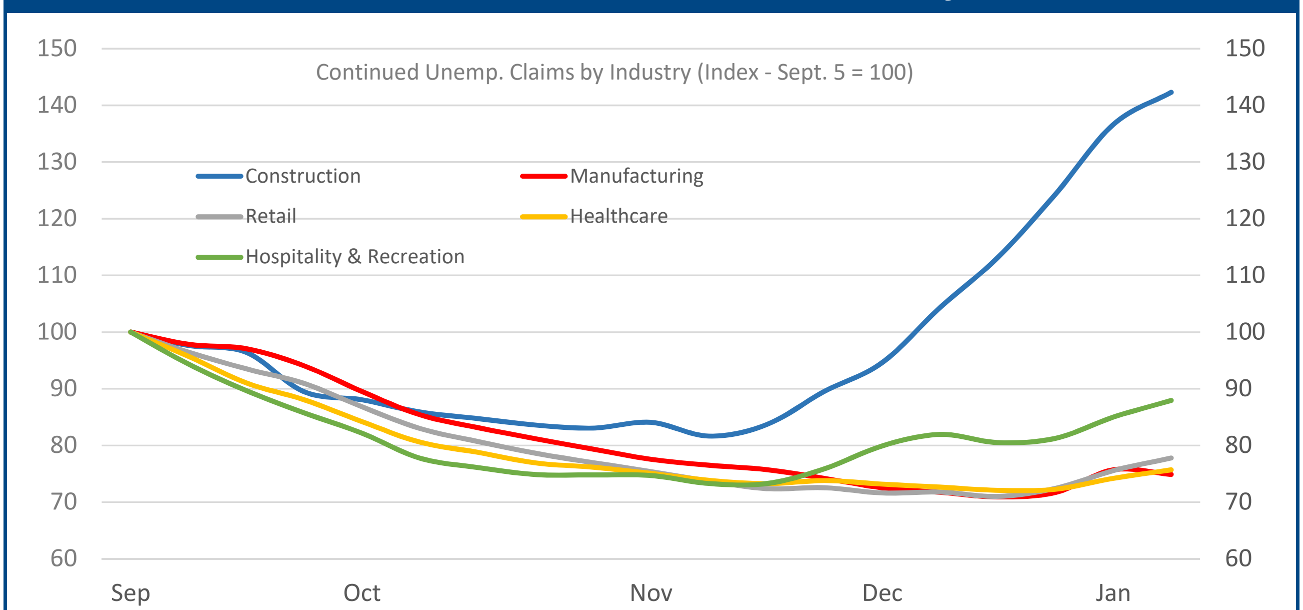


TABLE 2 - COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY COUNTY

COUNTY	TOTAL CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH: MARCH 16 TO JANUARY 9	CLAIMS JANUARY 3 TO JANUARY 9	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	CONTINUING CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH AS OF DECEMBER 26†	FEBRUARY 2020 LABOR FORCE	ESTIMATED CURRENT COVID-19 AFFECTED INSURED UNEMP. RATE
Belknap	11,034	110	33	1,865	31,039	6.0%
Carroll	8,366	52	15	1,477	23,718	6.2%
Cheshire	9,503	124	25	1,615	41,500	3.9%
Coos	4,850	49	14	844	14,724	5.7%
Grafton	12,034	92	18	1,808	51,045	3.5%
Hillsborough	62,616	615	147	10,503	245,905	4.3%
Merrimack	22,503	252	81	3,772	84,821	4.4%
Rockingham	40,807	367	82	6,747	188,982	3.6%
Strafford	19,080	217	65	3,156	75,410	4.2%
Sullivan	5,404	56	18	855	23,061	3.7%
Totals	**196,197**	**1,934**	**498**	**32,642**	**780,205**	**4.2%**

*† New data for **Continued Claims** is released monthly*

TABLE 3 - INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS - MARCH 16 TO JANUARY 9

INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE *	# CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16	CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF JANUARY 9	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT	JANUARY 2 CONT. CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT
Food Services and Drinking Places	722	28,777	5,522	197	49,907	11.1%
Administrative and Support Services	561	14,055	3,604	7	33,750	10.7%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	621	11,302	1,236	33	34,431	3.6%
Educational Services	611	9,112	1,373	10	20,834	6.6%
Social Assistance	624	7,028	1,256	13	15,809	7.9%
Hospitals	622	6,424	731	-3	30,086	2.4%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	541	5,897	1,184	-18	39,171	3.0%
Specialty Trade Contractors	238	5,473	1,171	51	18,817	6.2%
Personal and Laundry Services	812	5,384	889	32	7,306	12.2%
Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation	713	5,324	870	19	9,883	8.8%
Accommodation	721	5,265	1,180	37	8,397	14.1%
General Merchandise Stores	452	5,091	976	44	14,817	6.6%

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INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE *	# CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16	CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF JANUARY 9	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT	JANUARY 2 CONT. CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	441	5,050	812	16	12,602	6.4%
Food and Beverage Stores	445	4,219	958	25	22,356	4.3%
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	448	3,692	414	6	6,029	6.9%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	623	3,394	818	25	14,268	5.7%
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	453	2,922	406	14	5,449	7.5%
Electronic Computer Manufacturing	334	2,830	409	-11	16,381	2.5%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	332	2,784	487	8	11,558	4.2%
Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	485	2,702	718	-588	3,652	19.7%
General Automotive Repair	811	2,662	419	23	5,313	7.9%
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	813	2,577	411	-17	6,517	6.3%
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	423	2,576	469	24	12,463	3.8%
Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	335	2,170	162	-24	4,225	3.8%
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, and Book Stores	451	1,851	221	6	4,154	5.3%
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	444	1,789	398	24	9,527	4.2%
Construction of Buildings	236	1,783	433	23	6,082	7.1%
Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	442	1,673	195	5	2,772	7.0%
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	424	1,605	297	-3	8,050	3.7%
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	339	1,550	195	9	4,430	4.4%
Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	326	1,445	216	-5	5,422	4.0%
Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers.	425	1,422	274	-7	7,771	3.5%
Nonstore Retailers	454	1,301	242	0	6,181	3.9%
Real Estate	531	1,203	240	6	4,949	4.8%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	551	1,181	261	-8	9,284	2.8%
Health and Personal Care Stores	446	1,157	190	-1	4,185	4.5%
Textile Mills	313	1,129	209	-48	1,822	11.5%
Gas Stations	447	1,108	245	3	4,511	5.4%
Machinery Manufacturing	333	1,080	222	-2	7,006	3.2%

TABLE 3 - INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS - MARCH 16 TO JANUARY 9

INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE *	# CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16	CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF JANUARY 9	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT	JANUARY 2 CONT. CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT
Primary Metal Manufacturing	331	1,028	173	-1	2,386	7.3%
Printing and Related Support Activities	323	1,016	210	28	2,297	9.1%
Couriers and Messengers	492	1,005	247	18	3,721	6.6%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	237	946	505	10	3,564	14.2%
Electronics and Appliance Stores	443	914	147	7	2,958	5.0%
Rental and Leasing Services	532	865	186	7	1,993	9.3%
Industries in the Food Manufacturing	311	850	138	8	2,771	5.0%
Industries in the Publishing Industries (except Internet)	511	785	155	-2	5,116	3.0%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	524	748	162	-6	11,768	1.4%
Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related	711	704	182	-12	1,179	15.4%
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	522	680	175	13	8,107	2.2%

**NAICS - North American Industrial Classification System*

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 9	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Acworth	99	11	459	2.4%
Albany	137	16	362	4.4%
Alexandria	297	40	912	4.4%
Allenstown	720	140	2,493	5.6%
Alstead	262	51	1,083	4.7%
Alton	837	140	3,009	4.7%
Amherst	1,216	178	6,419	2.8%
Andover	325	57	1,439	4.0%
Antrim	399	55	1,427	3.9%
Ashland	389	60	1,279	4.7%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 9	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Atkinson	683	115	4,068	2.8%
Auburn	773	117	3,634	3.2%
Barnstead	762	119	2,656	4.5%
Barrington	1,305	188	5,523	3.4%
Bartlett	726	115	1,459	7.9%
Bath town	153	22	542	4.1%
Bedford	2,409	335	12,555	2.7%
Belmont	1,387	250	3,576	7.0%
Bennington	259	59	817	7.2%
Benton	31	8	150	5.3%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 9	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Berlin	1,393	269	3,888	6.9%
Bethlehem	535	84	1,444	5.8%
Boscawen	688	90	1,972	4.6%
Bow	917	150	4,561	3.3%
Bradford	270	66	986	6.7%
Brentwood	517	82	2,642	3.1%
Bridgewater	158	32	761	4.2%
Bristol	665	87	1,842	4.7%
Brookfield	141	21	293	7.2%
Brookline	529	74	3,480	2.1%
Campton	685	100	2,110	4.7%
Canaan	521	76	2,042	3.7%
Candia	563	88	2,598	3.4%
Canterbury	300	44	1,508	2.9%
Carroll	138	15	391	3.8%
Center Harbor	169	23	670	3.4%
Charlestown	719	113	2,843	4.0%
Chatham	49	9	160	5.6%
Chester	660	92	3,145	2.9%
Chesterfield	311	43	1,943	2.2%
Chichester	395	63	1,588	4.0%
Claremont	1,779	283	6,385	4.4%
Colebrook	340	45	1,141	3.9%
Columbia	63	7	318	2.2%
Concord	6,833	1,154	23,063	5.0%
Conway	2,368	363	5,463	6.6%
Cornish	183	34	988	3.4%
Croydon	69	15	452	3.3%
Dalton	217	42	442	
Danbury	223	47	736	6.4%
Danville	575	105	2,771	3.8%
Deerfield	630	100	2,835	3.5%
Deering	231	39	1,133	3.4%
Derry	5,103	801	20,900	3.8%
Dorchester	38	12	200	6.0%
Dover	5,180	863	18,915	4.6%
Dublin	151	29	891	3.3%
Dummer	33	9	142	6.3%
Dunbarton	385	58	1,795	3.2%
Durham	810	97	9,395	1.0%
East Kingston	253	44	1,401	3.1%
Easton	36	6	143	4.2%
Eaton	69	13	235	5.5%
Effingham	234	45	701	6.4%
Enfield	538	67	3,166	2.1%
Epping	1,070	170	4,282	4.0%
Epsom	700	124	2,996	4.1%
Errol	59	8	164	4.9%
Exeter	2,006	350	8,834	4.0%
Farmington	1,178	198	3,725	5.3%
Fitzwilliam	254	50	1,361	3.7%
Francestown	189	33	1,002	3.3%
Franconia	170	21	655	3.2%
Franklin	1,631	307	4,055	7.6%
Freedom	179	33	766	4.3%
Fremont	628	106	2,870	3.7%
Gilford	1,268	190	3,645	5.2%
Gilmanton	652	102	1,746	5.8%
Gilsum	121	25	457	5.5%
Goffstown	2,547	397	11,023	3.6%
Gorham	482	86	1,234	7.0%
Goshen	100	16	451	3.5%
Grafton	198	26	683	3.8%
Grantham	264	42	1,664	2.5%
Greenfield	243	46	1,066	4.3%
Greenland	530	88	2,467	3.6%
Greenville	256	48	1,206	4.0%
Groton	150	26	382	6.8%
Hampstead	990	163	5,151	3.2%
Hampton Falls	255	44	1,501	2.9%
Hampton	2,568	507	9,147	5.5%
Hancock	213	41	944	4.3%
Hanover	328	45	5,093	0.9%
Harrisville	128	22	609	3.6%
Haverhill	481	74	2,359	3.1%
Hebron	62	6	413	1.5%
Henniker	619	97	2,910	3.3%
Hill	175	32	543	5.9%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 9	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Hillsborough	1,084	180	3,004	6.0%
Hinsdale	376	65	2,158	3.0%
Holderness	310	50	1,563	3.2%
Hollis	705	101	4,346	2.3%
Hooksett	2,232	335	9,376	3.6%
Hopkinton	638	98	3,481	2.8%
Hudson	3,229	537	15,467	3.5%
Jackson	195	26	366	7.1%
Jaffrey	671	132	3,103	4.3%
Jefferson	174	36	639	5.6%
Keene	3,225	489	11,949	4.1%
Kensington	199	33	1,313	2.5%
Kingston	820	150	3,777	4.0%
Laconia	3,176	574	7,775	7.4%
Lancaster	448	83	1,741	4.8%
Landaff	46	4	279	1.4%
Langdon	71	12	363	3.3%
Lebanon	1,449	225	7,793	2.9%
Lee	612	92	2,884	3.2%
Lempster	144	24	629	3.8%
Lincoln	403	69	770	9.0%
Lisbon	247	53	862	6.1%
Litchfield	1,126	163	4,887	3.3%
Littleton	1,186	183	3,256	5.6%
Londonderry	3,366	491	16,261	3.0%
Loudon	828	129	3,357	3.8%
Lyman	129	21	336	6.3%
Lyme	108	17	850	2.0%
Lyndeborough	236	49	1,056	4.6%
Madbury	230	34	1,097	3.1%
Madison	462	77	1,437	5.4%
Manchester	22,867	3,979	66,815	6.0%
Marlborough	332	57	1,221	4.7%
Marlow	100	20	369	5.4%
Mason	167	26	821	3.2%
Meredith	1,057	188	3,115	6.0%
Merrimack	3,624	563	16,570	3.4%
Middleton	256	41	1,051	3.9%
Milan	193	34	626	5.4%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 9	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Milford	2,411	350	9,738	3.6%
Milton	654	129	2,390	5.4%
Monroe	86	12	401	3.0%
Mont Vernon	303	44	1,582	2.8%
Moultonborough	599	122	2,219	5.5%
Nashua	12,689	2,316	51,919	4.5%
Nelson	77	16	440	3.6%
New Boston	864	134	3,976	3.4%
New Castle	78	13	560	2.3%
New Durham	392	68	1,563	4.4%
New Hampton	429	62	1,321	4.7%
New Ipswich	496	79	3,023	2.6%
New London	345	42	1,941	2.2%
Newbury	258	40	1,212	3.3%
Newfields	209	36	1,071	3.4%
Newington	103	12	518	2.3%
Newmarket	1,572	224	5,818	3.9%
Newport	934	159	3,553	4.5%
Newton	421	82	3,283	2.5%
North Hampton	550	112	2,684	4.2%
Northfield	916	157	2,554	6.1%
Northumberland	352	48	1,059	4.5%
Northwood	734	111	2,672	4.2%
Nottingham	694	92	3,286	2.8%
Orford	115	21	817	2.6%
Ossipee	691	159	1,757	9.0%
Pelham	1,280	202	8,237	2.5%
Pembroke	1,260	222	4,612	4.8%
Peterborough	861	157	3,858	4.1%
Piermont	58	7	430	1.6%
Pittsburg	133	21	384	5.5%
Pittsfield	621	118	2,122	5.6%
Plainfield	200	26	1,446	1.8%
Plaistow	787	150	4,320	3.5%
Plymouth	874	111	3,989	2.8%
Portsmouth	3,416	523	14,074	3.7%
Randolph	58	5	141	3.5%
Raymond	1,677	296	6,360	4.7%
Richmond	111	19	596	3.2%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 9	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Rindge	505	86	2,943	2.9%
Rochester	5,400	876	18,190	4.8%
Rollinsford	390	87	1,456	6.0%
Roxbury	26	5	139	3.6%
Rumney	202	32	958	3.3%
Rye	646	112	3,459	3.2%
Salem	3,348	586	18,512	3.2%
Salisbury	200	31	827	3.7%
Sanbornton	496	87	1,689	5.2%
Sandown	814	118	4,279	2.8%
Sandwich	167	32	610	5.2%
Seabrook	1,271	258	5,180	5.0%
Sharon	38	11	224	4.9%
Shelburne	49	8	177	4.5%
Somersworth	2,112	391	6,891	5.7%
South Hampton	76	15	531	2.8%
Springfield	139	19	779	2.4%
Stark	58	10	194	5.2%
Stewartstown	100	14	370	3.8%
Stoddard	177	25	724	3.5%
Strafford	561	92	2,328	4.0%
Stratford	103	19	255	7.5%
Stratham	856	141	4,559	3.1%
Sugar Hill	83	14	351	4.0%
Sullivan	90	14	360	3.9%
Sunapee	387	48	1,671	2.9%
Surry	87	12	500	2.4%
Sutton	188	34	1,139	3.0%
Swanzey	1,008	172	4,101	4.2%
Tamworth	548	100	1,517	6.6%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 9	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Temple	182	29	786	3.7%
Thornton	531	79	1,790	4.4%
Tilton	801	130	1,837	7.1%
Troy	319	72	1,174	6.1%
Tuftonboro	312	63	1,157	5.4%
Unity	131	28	865	3.2%
Wakefield	675	132	2,310	5.7%
Walpole	389	76	2,380	3.2%
Warner	396	67	1,587	4.2%
Warren	105	19	537	3.5%
Washington	185	25	513	4.9%
Waterville Valley	89	9	141	6.4%
Weare	1,347	187	6,179	3.0%
Webster	277	40	1,180	3.4%
Wentworth	115	18	535	3.4%
Westmoreland	189	26	941	2.8%
Whitefield	429	81	1,280	6.3%
Wilmot	163	30	788	3.8%
Wilton	582	88	2,190	4.0%
Winchester	594	109	2,058	5.3%
Windham	1,366	220	8,219	2.7%
Windsor	34	3	155	1.9%
Wolfeboro	798	149	2,827	5.3%
Woodstock	424	63	972	6.5%
Totals	**196,197**	**32,642**	**780,205**	**4.2%**

** Towns with fewer than 25 claims are excluded from the table, but are included in totals*

*** Includes only claims active during the reference week*

† New data for Continued Claims is released monthly

The next release of the **COVID-19 Unemployment Update** will be on January 28th.

For further information contact:
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NEWS RELEASE

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