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COVID-19 UNEMPLOYMENT UPDATE

For Immediate Release: January 28, 2021

New Hampshire's initial claims for unemployment decreased by 813 (-19.5%), to 3,356, during the week ended January 23rd, from a revised 4,169 the prior week. U.S. initial claims decreased by 10.4 percent during the week on a not seasonally adjusted basis. A total of 10 states experienced an increase in initial claims during the week. In New England, only Rhode Island had an increase in initial claims during the week.

New Hampshire's continued claims in the regular unemployment insurance (UI) program were 28,275 during the week ended January 16th, down 805 (or 2.8%) from a revised 29,080 the prior week. U.S. regular UI continued claims decreased by 5.0 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. Fifteen (15) states experienced an increase in regular UI program continuing claims during the week ended January 16th, including Vermont (+7), the only New England state to see an increase.

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. As expected, the temporary lapse in the federal PUA program delayed the re-start of claims that artificially depressed the number of reported PUA claims in the prior weeks as many states where not as quick as New Hampshire to have their unemployment systems program re-starts to PUA claims. As a result, there was a 28.5 percent increase in PUA claims nationally during

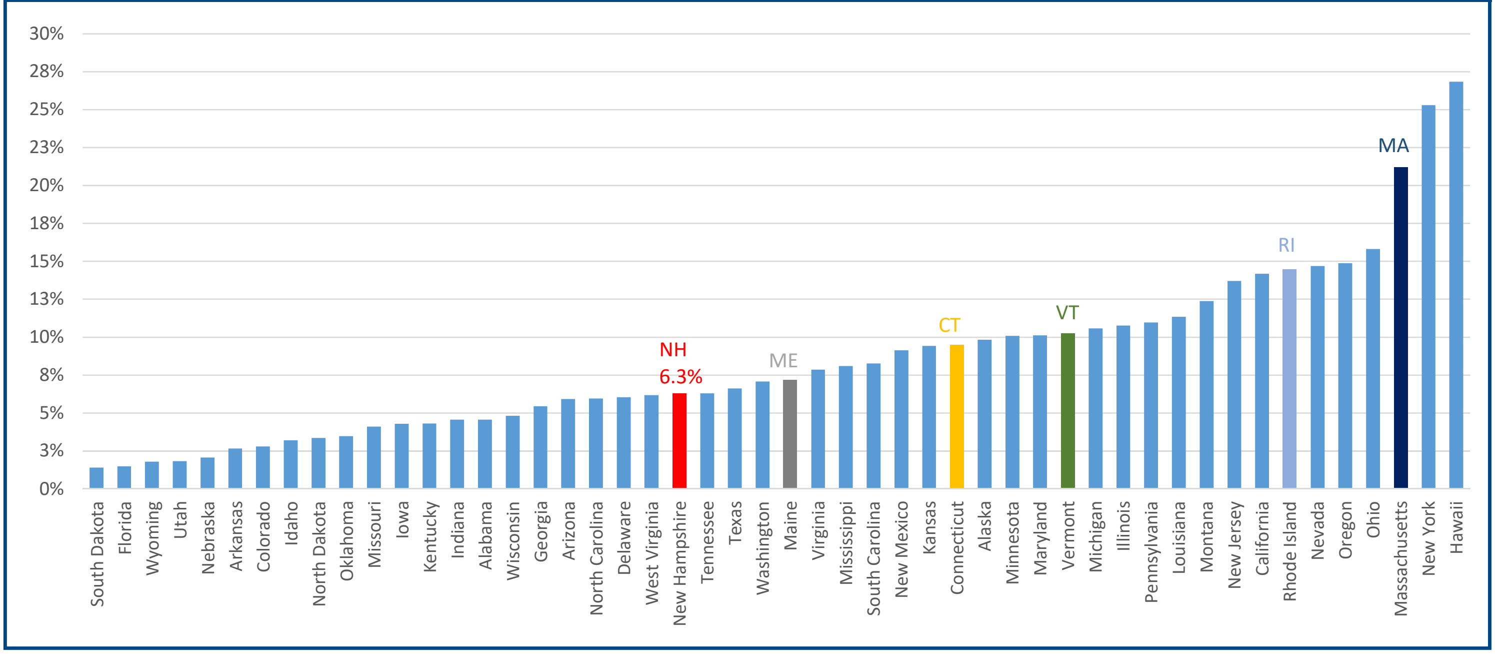
TABLE 1
TOWNS WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW CLAIMS DURING THE WEEK

TOWN	NEW CLAIMS JANUARY 10 TO JANUARY 16	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	TOTAL NEW CLAIMS MARCH 16 TO JANUARY 16	CONTINUING CLAIMS AS OF DECEMBER 26†
Manchester	247	6	23,114	3,979
Nashua	149	19	12,838	2,316
Concord	96	28	6,929	1,154
Derry	66	12	5,169	801
Dover	50	-9	5,230	863
Rochester	46	-21	5,446	876
Londonderry	43	18	3,409	491
Hudson	40	10	3,269	537
Keene	40	8	3,265	489
Portsmouth	40	16	3,456	523
Laconia	39	7	3,215	574
Salem	38	8	3,386	586
Merrimack	32	-3	3,656	563
Bedford	31	18	2,440	335
Hooksett	30	7	2,262	335
Claremont	27	12	1,806	283
Lebanon	25	16	1,474	225
Windham	25	18	1,391	220
Exeter	22	5	2,028	350
Goffstown	21	0	2,568	397

† *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 9th)



the week ended January 9th. Thirty (30) states experienced an increase in PUA continued claims during the week ended January 9th. In New England, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont had increases in PUA claims during the week.

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 nine (29) states saw an increase in PEUC claims during the week ended January 9th. Every New England state except Massachusetts had 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.

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 but experienced and increase in continued claims as a percentage of its pre-Covid-19 workforce, going from a 5.3 percent as of January 2nd to 6.3 percent as of January 9th (PUA and PEUC claims are reported with a two 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

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

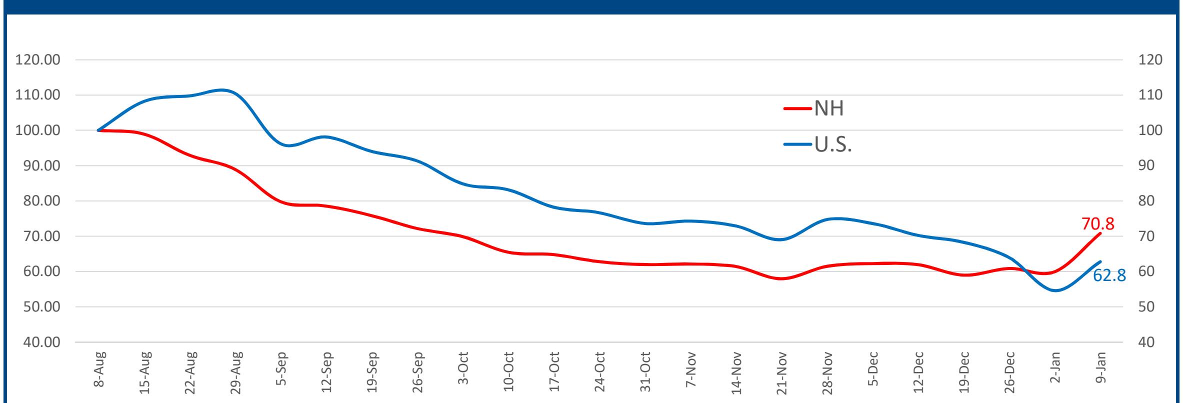
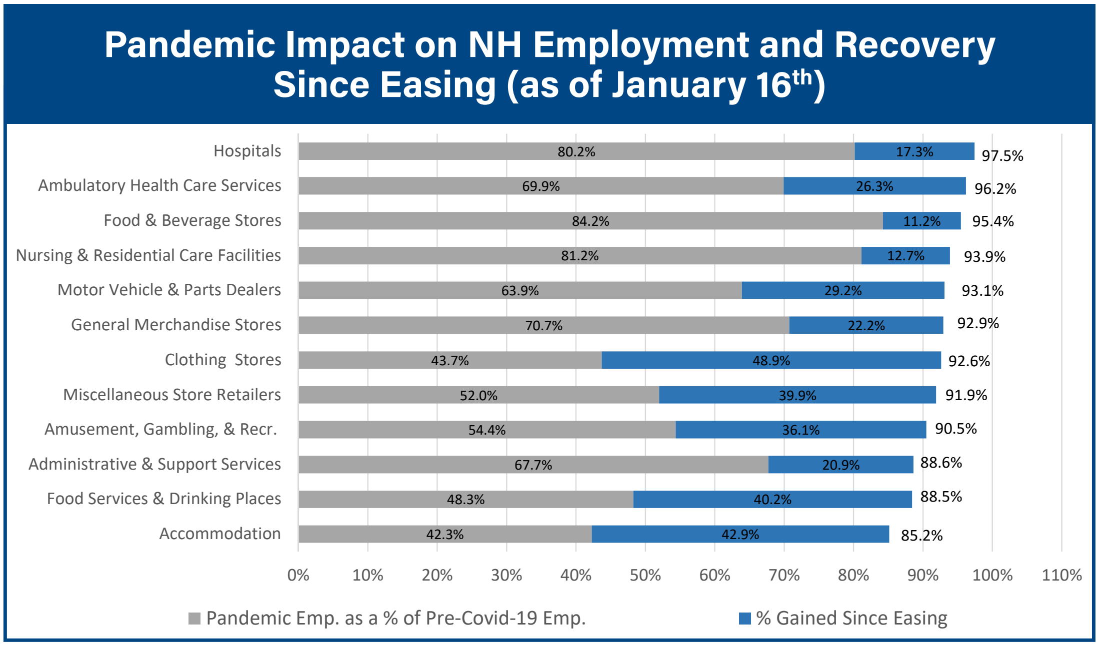


Figure 2 highlights continuing claims trends in New Hampshire and the U.S. since August 8th. On the graph, each region's peak for continuing claims is set at an index value of 100, with index numbers reflecting the percentage change in continuing claims from 100 (thus New Hampshire's index value of 71 indicates that as of January 9th, continuing claims have declined by 29 percent since August 8th (100 – 71 = 29). Continuing claims nationally have declined by 37 percent during the same time period.

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 16th). The number of claims filed by New Hampshire residents working in New Hampshire increased by 174 during the week. Concord (+28), Nashua (+19), Londonderry (+18), and Bedford (+18) had the largest increases in new claims over the previous week. Rochester (-21) and Dover, Farmington, and Hampton (each with -9) had the largest declines in initial claims during the week. One hundred and seven (107) of New Hampshire's 238 towns had an increase in new claims during the week, totaling 413 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 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

[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.

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 16th, the change in initial claims from the prior week, and the number of continuing claims filed by residents of each county. Seven of New Hampshire's 10 counties experienced increases in initial claims during the week compared to the previous week. Hillsborough (+73), Rockingham (+72) and Grafton (+25) Counties had the largest increases in initial unemployment claims during the week, while Strafford County (-39) had the largest decrease in initial claims. 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 16th, 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 16th.

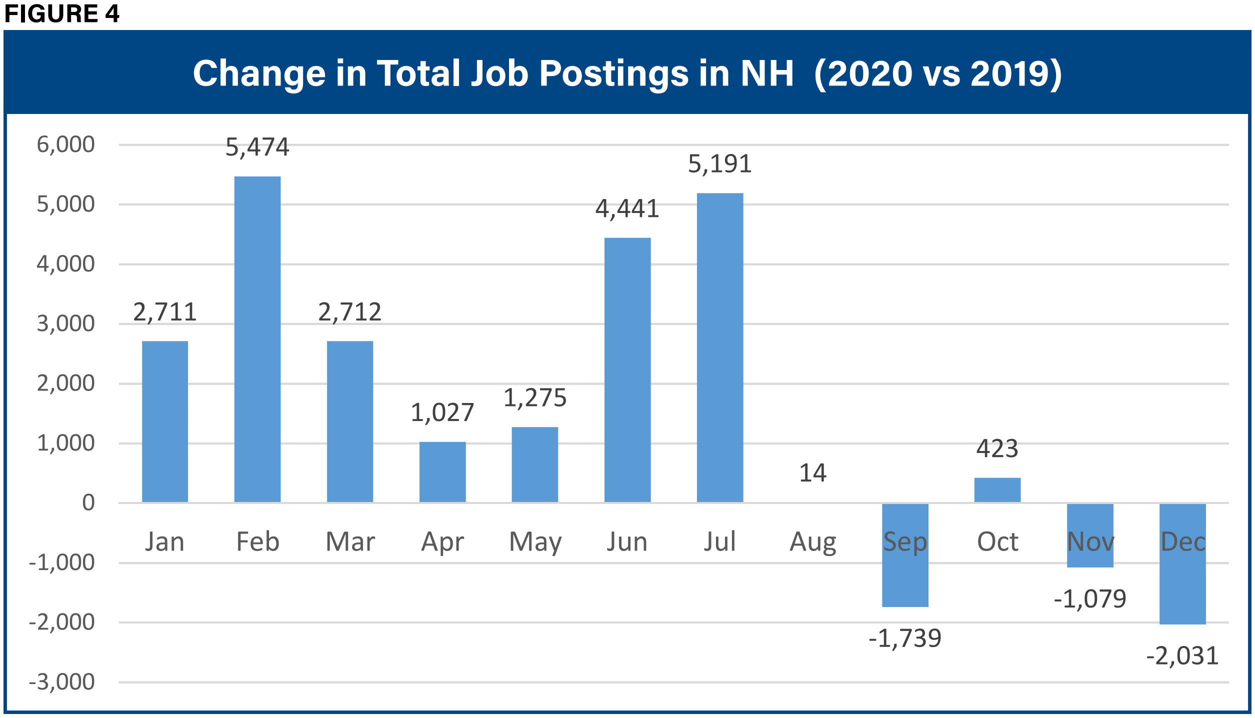
Seventy Three (73) of the 94 industry classifications (at the three-digit NAICS level) experienced increases in continuing claims during the week, accounting for an additional 1,271 continued claims. Among the 50 industries most affected by the pandemic through January 16th, forty four (44) experienced an increase in continuing claims during the week, compared to the week ended January 9th (Table 3).

Seasonal reductions in construction activity produced a 5.8 percent increase in continued claims (+124) in that industry during the week ended January 16th, led by an increase of 113 claims in the specialty trade contractors sub-industry. Administrative and support industries (including temp services) had an increase of 116 (3.1%) in continued claims. The transit and ground passenger transportation industry (primarily school bus drivers) had the largest decline in continued claims (-81 or -11%) during the week.

Manufacturing industries experienced an increase in continued claims of 2.6 percent (+81) during the week, with the furniture and related products industry (+37) accounting for nearly one-half of the increase in claims. Claims in educational services increased by 28 or +2.0 percent. Continued claims in healthcare industries increased by 107 or +3.7 percent during the week, spread relatively evenly across ambulatory care, hospitals, and nursing and residential care facilities. Claims in the hospitality (accommodations, food services, and recreation) industries increased by 168 or +2.2 percent, with food services industries accounting for one-half of the increase (+85). The retail industry experienced a 4.0 percent (+214) increase in continued claims during the week ended January 16th, the largest percentage increase in continued claims among major industry groupings.

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

FIGURE 4



the percentage of continuing claims filed by workers in the industry during the week ending January 16th. 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 Pandemic's Surprising Impact on Labor Demand

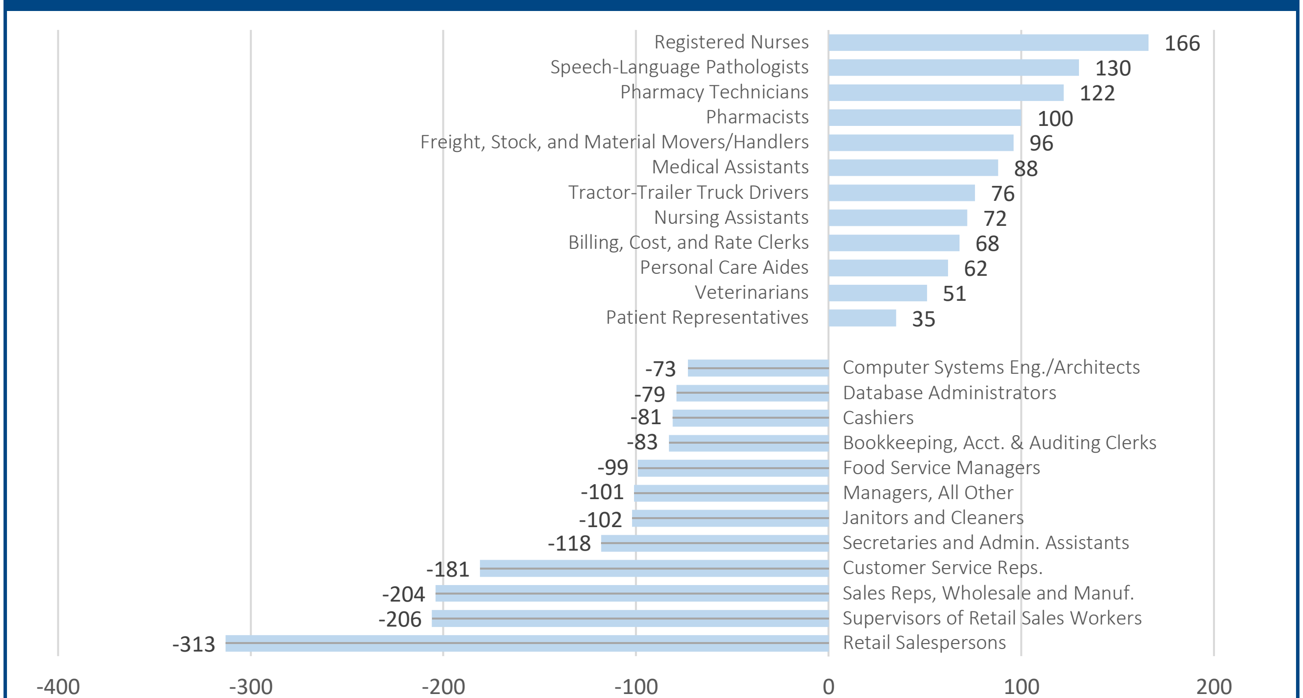
Demand for labor in New Hampshire, as measured by online job postings, remained relatively strong during the pandemic, even increasing above 2019 levels at times despite an elevated number of unemployment claims and unemployment rate. Most recently, however, the length of the pandemic's impact on economic activity has begun to affect the employment and staffing decisions of more industries and individual businesses, and job postings have fallen below comparable periods in 2019 (Figure 4).

A number of pandemic-related impacts and their contribution to ongoing (pre-pandemic) structural changes in the economy and labor market account for the counterintuitive finding of greater job openings during much of the pandemic. The number of job openings had been elevated relative to the number of net new jobs added in New Hampshire for some time, in large part because of an increase in the number of workers leaving the labor force as they reach retirement age. This impact has been more prominent in some industries because the demographics of each industry's workforce can differ substantially, with industries like manufacturing, utilities, real estate, legal, health care practitioners, and the public sector having relatively older workforces. Pandemic-related health concerns likely accelerated the labor force exit of some older workers in many industries. New Hampshire, with its relatively older workforce, was especially vulnerable to any pandemic-induced exits from the labor force. Similarly, in other industries, especially industries that employ a high percentage of female workers, child and family care issues during the pandemic have resulted in more exits from the labor force, and the need to replace some workers, at least temporarily. Women are overwhelmingly responsible for family care issues and New Hampshire has among the highest percentages of female labor force participation of any state in the nation. Again, the pandemic-induced impacts on child and family care issues made New Hampshire's more female dependent workforce vulnerable to the pandemic's labor force impacts. The age and gender composition of the New Hampshire labor force alone contribute to the number of job openings. The pandemic, however, likely exacerbated their impacts on job openings in the state.

Ongoing structural changes in the New Hampshire economy and many industries also contributed to an increase in job openings, even in the absence of net new job growth. New industries and innovations in existing industries create demand for occupations or skills that are new or in short supply in the New Hampshire labor force. New Hampshire

FIGURE 5

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



ranks high on a number of measures of growth in technology and innovation in its economy. A “skills gap” results when there is poor alignment of occupation and skills in demand by employers in the state and the occupations and skills of individuals in the labor force and among those looking for work. The pandemic has accelerated industry changes such as the rise of online retailing and concomitant decline in “brick and mortar” retail stores, and it has greatly reduced demand for workers in hospitality industries, as well as administrative support industries (including temporary help agencies). A skills gap existed and was becoming more pronounced in technology industries, health care, manufacturing and other industries prior to the pandemic, resulting in many job openings, even as in the case of manufacturing, in the absence of strong net new job growth. The pandemic has increased the number of unemployed workers, largely among individuals in occupations without the skills necessary to fill occupations more in demand. The combined result of the demographic, structural, and pandemic effects has been a volume of job openings that is surprisingly high given the relative (compared to recent years) weakness in the national and state economies. Figure 5 highlights some of the recent shifts in labor demand in New Hampshire and the uneven effects the pandemic has had on occupational demand. The chart compares the combined number of job postings in the state during the months of November and December for both 2019 and 2020 among occupations with the greatest increase and greatest decrease in openings between the two time periods.

Healthcare occupations dominate the increases, but there are also increases in occupations that move and handle materials (truck drivers, warehouse workers, etc.), consistent with the changing nature of retail shopping. At the other end, the list of occupations with declining demand is dominated by retail, sales, hospitality and many (with exceptions) lower skill occupations. Given the ongoing structural changes in the New Hampshire economy it is unlikely that demand for many occupations will completely rebound even as the pandemic subsides, placing even greater emphasis on the need to prepare individuals for employment in occupations in greater demand. The fundamental challenge New Hampshire and other states face in getting back to full employment will be to re-allocate the labor that has been displaced by economic trends that pre-date the pandemic and those that are accelerated by or the result of the pandemic.

– Brian Gottlob, Director

TABLE 2 - COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY COUNTY

COUNTY	TOTAL CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH: MARCH 16 TO JANUARY 16	CLAIMS JANUARY 10 TO JANUARY 16	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	11,143	109	-1	1,865	31,039	6.0%
Carroll	8,429	63	11	1,477	23,718	6.2%
Cheshire	9,623	120	-4	1,615	41,500	3.9%
Coos	4,914	64	15	844	14,724	5.7%
Grafton	12,151	117	25	1,808	51,045	3.5%
Hillsborough	63,304	688	73	10,503	245,905	4.3%
Merrimack	22,772	269	17	3,772	84,821	4.4%
Rockingham	41,246	439	72	6,747	188,982	3.6%
Strafford	19,258	178	-39	3,156	75,410	4.2%
Sullivan	5,465	61	5	855	23,061	3.7%
Totals	**198,305**	**2,108**	**174**	**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 16

INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE *	# CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16	CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF JANUARY 16	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT	JANUARY 2 CONT. CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT
Food Services and Drinking Places	722	28,915	5,770	85	49,907	11.6%
Administrative and Support Services	561	14,304	3,840	116	33,750	11.4%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	621	11,420	1,319	49	34,431	3.8%
Educational Services	611	9,211	1,439	28	20,834	6.9%
Social Assistance	624	7,058	1,325	42	15,809	8.4%
Hospitals	622	6,476	770	24	30,086	2.6%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	541	5,997	1,296	49	39,171	3.3%
Specialty Trade Contractors	238	5,619	1,313	113	18,817	7.0%
Personal and Laundry Services	812	5,425	961	46	7,306	13.2%
Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation	713	5,352	943	39	9,883	9.5%
Accommodation	721	5,273	1,249	44	8,397	14.9%
General Merchandise Stores	452	5,141	1,045	47	14,817	7.1%

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Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	441	5,104	870	41	12,602	6.9%
Food and Beverage Stores	445	4,236	1,015	33	22,356	4.5%
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	448	3,714	445	21	6,029	7.4%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	623	3,456	872	34	14,268	6.1%
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	453	2,944	442	21	5,449	8.1%
Electronic Computer Manufacturing	334	2,855	424	7	16,381	2.6%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	332	2,806	514	17	11,558	4.4%
Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	485	2,705	654	-81	3,652	17.9%
General Automotive Repair	811	2,687	438	12	5,313	8.2%
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	423	2,620	498	20	12,463	4.0%
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	813	2,608	444	21	6,517	6.8%
Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	335	2,174	163	-5	4,225	3.9%
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, and Book Stores	451	1,869	232	2	4,154	5.6%
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	444	1,831	416	16	9,527	4.4%
Construction of Buildings	236	1,815	443	7	6,082	7.3%
Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	442	1,685	194	-5	2,772	7.0%
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	424	1,632	311	8	8,050	3.9%
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	339	1,558	200	2	4,430	4.5%
Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	326	1,453	222	3	5,422	4.1%
Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers.	425	1,444	303	26	7,771	3.9%
Nonstore Retailers	454	1,318	253	3	6,181	4.1%
Real Estate	531	1,235	266	8	4,949	5.4%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	551	1,195	294	19	9,284	3.2%
Health and Personal Care Stores	446	1,163	207	14	4,185	4.9%
Textile Mills	313	1,134	212	1	1,822	11.6%
Gas Stations	447	1,125	253	6	4,511	5.6%
Machinery Manufacturing	333	1,100	233	6	7,006	3.3%

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INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE *	# CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16	CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF JANUARY 16	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT	JANUARY 2 CONT. CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT
Couriers and Messengers	492	1,068	287	30	3,721	7.7%
Primary Metal Manufacturing	331	1,035	177	3	2,386	7.4%
Printing and Related Support Activities	323	1,024	194	-19	2,297	8.4%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	237	988	523	4	3,564	14.7%
Electronics and Appliance Stores	443	920	163	15	2,958	5.5%
Rental and Leasing Services	532	872	206	14	1,993	10.3%
Industries in the Food Manufacturing	311	863	148	7	2,771	5.3%
Industries in the Publishing Industries (except Internet)	511	792	163	2	5,116	3.2%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	524	783	176	12	11,768	1.5%
Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related	711	708	186	-4	1,179	15.8%
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	522	690	178	0	8,107	2.2%

**NAICS - North American Industrial Classification System*

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 16	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Acworth	100	11	459	2.4%
Albany	140	16	362	4.4%
Alexandria	298	40	912	4.4%
Allenstown	723	140	2,493	5.6%
Alstead	262	51	1,083	4.7%
Alton	847	140	3,009	4.7%
Amherst	1,230	178	6,419	2.8%
Andover	329	57	1,439	4.0%
Antrim	404	55	1,427	3.9%
Ashland	390	60	1,279	4.7%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 16	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Atkinson	686	115	4,068	2.8%
Auburn	790	117	3,634	3.2%
Barnstead	769	119	2,656	4.5%
Barrington	1,318	188	5,523	3.4%
Bartlett	728	115	1,459	7.9%
Bath town	154	22	542	4.1%
Bedford	2,440	335	12,555	2.7%
Belmont	1,396	250	3,576	7.0%
Bennington	264	59	817	7.2%
Benton	31	8	150	5.3%

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TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 16	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Berlin	1,406	269	3,888	6.9%
Bethlehem	536	84	1,444	5.8%
Boscawen	699	90	1,972	4.6%
Bow	928	150	4,561	3.3%
Bradford	273	66	986	6.7%
Brentwood	521	82	2,642	3.1%
Bridgewater	160	32	761	4.2%
Bristol	667	87	1,842	4.7%
Brookfield	141	21	293	7.2%
Brookline	540	74	3,480	2.1%
Campton	691	100	2,110	4.7%
Canaan	530	76	2,042	3.7%
Candia	570	88	2,598	3.4%
Canterbury	303	44	1,508	2.9%
Carroll	141	15	391	3.8%
Center Harbor	173	23	670	3.4%
Charlestown	726	113	2,843	4.0%
Chatham	49	9	160	5.6%
Chester	666	92	3,145	2.9%
Chesterfield	315	43	1,943	2.2%
Chichester	396	63	1,588	4.0%
Claremont	1,806	283	6,385	4.4%
Colebrook	346	45	1,141	3.9%
Columbia	64	7	318	2.2%
Concord	6,929	1,154	23,063	5.0%
Conway	2,385	363	5,463	6.6%
Cornish	183	34	988	3.4%
Croydon	71	15	452	3.3%
Dalton	220	42	442	
Danbury	227	47	736	6.4%
Danville	583	105	2,771	3.8%
Deerfield	635	100	2,835	3.5%
Deering	237	39	1,133	3.4%
Derry	5,169	801	20,900	3.8%
Dorchester	38	12	200	6.0%
Dover	5,230	863	18,915	4.6%
Dublin	152	29	891	3.3%
Dummer	35	9	142	6.3%
Dunbarton	390	58	1,795	3.2%
Durham	822	97	9,395	1.0%
East Kingston	255	44	1,401	3.1%
Easton	36	6	143	4.2%
Eaton	70	13	235	5.5%
Effingham	237	45	701	6.4%
Enfield	542	67	3,166	2.1%
Epping	1,076	170	4,282	4.0%
Epsom	708	124	2,996	4.1%
Errol	60	8	164	4.9%
Exeter	2,028	350	8,834	4.0%
Farmington	1,186	198	3,725	5.3%
Fitzwilliam	259	50	1,361	3.7%
Francestown	191	33	1,002	3.3%
Franconia	172	21	655	3.2%
Franklin	1,646	307	4,055	7.6%
Freedom	181	33	766	4.3%
Fremont	635	106	2,870	3.7%
Gilford	1,277	190	3,645	5.2%
Gilmanton	658	102	1,746	5.8%
Gilsum	123	25	457	5.5%
Goffstown	2,568	397	11,023	3.6%
Gorham	485	86	1,234	7.0%
Goshen	100	16	451	3.5%
Grafton	201	26	683	3.8%
Grantham	267	42	1,664	2.5%
Greenfield	245	46	1,066	4.3%
Greenland	535	88	2,467	3.6%
Greenville	262	48	1,206	4.0%
Groton	150	26	382	6.8%
Hampstead	1,000	163	5,151	3.2%
Hampton Falls	258	44	1,501	2.9%
Hampton	2,582	507	9,147	5.5%
Hancock	217	41	944	4.3%
Hanover	334	45	5,093	0.9%
Harrisville	129	22	609	3.6%
Haverhill	487	74	2,359	3.1%
Hebron	63	6	413	1.5%
Henniker	630	97	2,910	3.3%
Hill	178	32	543	5.9%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 16	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Hillsborough	1,095	180	3,004	6.0%
Hinsdale	380	65	2,158	3.0%
Holderness	317	50	1,563	3.2%
Hollis	714	101	4,346	2.3%
Hooksett	2,262	335	9,376	3.6%
Hopkinton	645	98	3,481	2.8%
Hudson	3,269	537	15,467	3.5%
Jackson	196	26	366	7.1%
Jaffrey	682	132	3,103	4.3%
Jefferson	175	36	639	5.6%
Keene	3,265	489	11,949	4.1%
Kensington	200	33	1,313	2.5%
Kingston	827	150	3,777	4.0%
Laconia	3,215	574	7,775	7.4%
Lancaster	456	83	1,741	4.8%
Landaff	46	4	279	1.4%
Langdon	71	12	363	3.3%
Lebanon	1,474	225	7,793	2.9%
Lee	620	92	2,884	3.2%
Lempster	145	24	629	3.8%
Lincoln	407	69	770	9.0%
Lisbon	248	53	862	6.1%
Litchfield	1,140	163	4,887	3.3%
Littleton	1,198	183	3,256	5.6%
Londonderry	3,409	491	16,261	3.0%
Lyman	129	21	336	6.3%
Lyme	110	17	850	2.0%
Lyndeborough	238	49	1,056	4.6%
Madbury	231	34	1,097	3.1%
Madison	463	77	1,437	5.4%
Manchester	23,114	3,979	66,815	6.0%
Marlborough	340	57	1,221	4.7%
Marlow	103	20	369	5.4%
Mason	168	26	821	3.2%
Meredith	1,070	188	3,115	6.0%
Merrimack	3,656	563	16,570	3.4%
Middleton	257	41	1,051	3.9%
Milan	197	34	626	5.4%
Milford	2,432	350	9,738	3.6%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 16	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Milton	661	129	2,390	5.4%
Monroe	87	12	401	3.0%
Mont Vernon	307	44	1,582	2.8%
Moultonborough	610	122	2,219	5.5%
Nashua	12,838	2,316	51,919	4.5%
Nelson	77	16	440	3.6%
New Boston	874	134	3,976	3.4%
New Castle	81	13	560	2.3%
New Durham	396	68	1,563	4.4%
New Hampton	433	62	1,321	4.7%
New Ipswich	498	79	3,023	2.6%
New London	346	42	1,941	2.2%
Newbury	260	40	1,212	3.3%
Newfields	211	36	1,071	3.4%
Newington	103	12	518	2.3%
Newmarket	1,583	224	5,818	3.9%
Newport	944	159	3,553	4.5%
Newton	429	82	3,283	2.5%
North Hampton	558	112	2,684	4.2%
Northfield	930	157	2,554	6.1%
Northumberland	358	48	1,059	4.5%
Northwood	744	111	2,672	4.2%
Nottingham	701	92	3,286	2.8%
Orford	115	21	817	2.6%
Ossipee	694	159	1,757	9.0%
Pelham	1,292	202	8,237	2.5%
Pembroke	1,273	222	4,612	4.8%
Peterborough	869	157	3,858	4.1%
Piermont	58	7	430	1.6%
Pittsburg	135	21	384	5.5%
Pittsfield	626	118	2,122	5.6%
Plainfield	202	26	1,446	1.8%
Plaistow	790	150	4,320	3.5%
Plymouth	883	111	3,989	2.8%
Portsmouth	3,456	523	14,074	3.7%
Randolph	58	5	141	3.5%
Raymond	1,697	296	6,360	4.7%
Richmond	113	19	596	3.2%
Rindge	511	86	2,943	2.9%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 16	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Rochester	5,446	876	18,190	4.8%
Rollinsford	396	87	1,456	6.0%
Roxbury	27	5	139	3.6%
Rumney	202	32	958	3.3%
Rye	653	112	3,459	3.2%
Salem	3,386	586	18,512	3.2%
Salisbury	202	31	827	3.7%
Sanbornton	497	87	1,689	5.2%
Sandown	815	118	4,279	2.8%
Sandwich	169	32	610	5.2%
Seabrook	1,282	258	5,180	5.0%
Sharon	38	11	224	4.9%
Shelburne	50	8	177	4.5%
Somersworth	2,128	391	6,891	5.7%
South Hampton	76	15	531	2.8%
Springfield	140	19	779	2.4%
Stark	58	10	194	5.2%
Stewartstown	100	14	370	3.8%
Stoddard	178	25	724	3.5%
Strafford	567	92	2,328	4.0%
Stratford	104	19	255	7.5%
Stratham	865	141	4,559	3.1%
Sugar Hill	83	14	351	4.0%
Sullivan	91	14	360	3.9%
Sunapee	392	48	1,671	2.9%
Surry	87	12	500	2.4%
Sutton	191	34	1,139	3.0%
Swanzey	1,019	172	4,101	4.2%
Tamworth	554	100	1,517	6.6%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - JANUARY 16	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF DEC 26	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Temple	185	29	786	3.7%
Thornton	537	79	1,790	4.4%
Tilton	808	130	1,837	7.1%
Troy	321	72	1,174	6.1%
Tuftonboro	313	63	1,157	5.4%
Unity	131	28	865	3.2%
Wakefield	680	132	2,310	5.7%
Walpole	393	76	2,380	3.2%
Warner	402	67	1,587	4.2%
Warren	106	19	537	3.5%
Washington	187	25	513	4.9%
Waterville Valley	91	9	141	6.4%
Weare	1,357	187	6,179	3.0%
Webster	278	40	1,180	3.4%
Wentworth	116	18	535	3.4%
Westmoreland	193	26	941	2.8%
Whitefield	438	81	1,280	6.3%
Wilmot	163	30	788	3.8%
Wilton	587	88	2,190	4.0%
Winchester	603	109	2,058	5.3%
Windham	1,391	220	8,219	2.7%
Windsor	35	3	155	1.9%
Wolfeboro	803	149	2,827	5.3%
Woodstock	425	63	972	6.5%
Totals	**198,305**	**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 February 6th.

For further information contact:
Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau
(603) 228-4124

NEWS RELEASE

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