



Administrative Office
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COVID-19

UNEMPLOYMENT UPDATE

For Immediate Release: February 25, 2021

New Hampshire's initial claims, as reported in the national claims release for the week ended February 20th, increased nominally (+70) to 2,408, after revisions that removed fraudulent claims from prior weeks. U.S. initial claims decreased by 16 percent during the week on a not seasonally adjusted basis. A total of 14 states experienced an increase in initial claims during the week. Among New England states, Connecticut and Maine, in addition to New Hampshire had increases in initial claims.

New Hampshire's continued claims in the regular unemployment insurance (UI) program were 25,424 during the week ended February 13th, down 1,326 (or 5.0%) from a revised 26,750 the prior week. U.S. regular UI continued claims decreased by 2.9 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. Seventeen (17) states experienced an increase in regular UI program continuing claims during the week ended February 13th. No New England state experienced an increase in regular continued UI claims during the week.

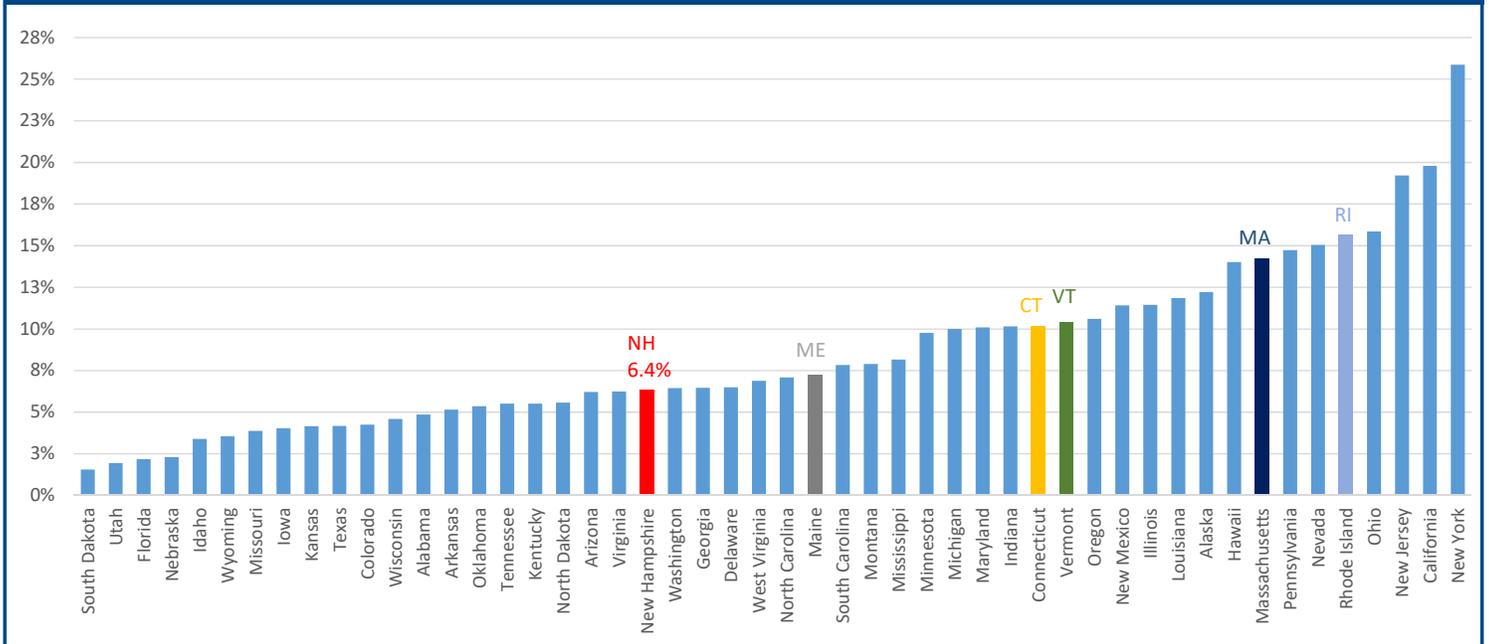
In addition to continued claims filed by individuals who qualify for a state's regular unemployment benefits program (UI), the federal CARES Act established the "Pandemic Unemployment Assistance" (PUA) program to allow workers affected by the pandemic but who would not normally qualify for regular state 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. Nineteen (19) states experienced an increase in PUA continued claims during the week ended February 6th. New Hampshire and Massachusetts were the only New England states to experience a decrease in regular UI continued claims during the week.

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

TOWN	NEW CLAIMS JANUARY 31 TO FEBRUARY 13	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	TOTAL NEW CLAIMS MARCH 16 TO FEBRUARY 13	CONTINUING CLAIMS AS OF JANUARY 23 [†]
Largest Increases (from Prior Week) in New Claims				
Stratham	11	6	897	178
Whitefield	7	5	455	88
Amherst	14	4	1,278	226
Conway	15	4	2,433	454
New Durham	6	4	410	87
Belmont	11	3	1,447	288
Boscawen	7	3	725	125
Bow	11	3	962	176
Lyndeborough	3	3	244	53
Madison	5	3	477	90
Largest Decreases (From Prior Week) in New Claims				
Nashua	91	-51	13,310	2,871
Manchester	140	-49	23,818	4,796
Concord	39	-29	7,169	1,358
Laconia	14	-26	3,313	686
Bedford	12	-23	2,522	374
Hampton	10	-23	2,666	579
Derry	32	-21	5,337	1,033
Merrimack	17	-20	3,775	718
Dover	27	-17	5,389	1,068
Keene	17	-16	3,382	565

[†] New data for Continued Claims is released monthly

All Continued Claims (Regular UI, PUA and PEUC) as a % of the State's Pre-Covid 19 Workforce (as of February 6th)



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 seven (27) states saw an increase in PEUC claims during the week ended February 6th. New Hampshire experienced a small increase of 308 in PEUC claims during the week. Massachusetts was the only New England State not to have an increase in PEUC claims during the week. Nationally there was a 25 percent increase in the number of PEUC continued claims. Some of this increase may be related to delays some states experienced in restarting the program after its temporary lapse in late December. Still, the number points to a trend nationally that indicates it is taking more individuals longer to be reemployed after losing their job during the pandemic.

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 and the state saw a decrease in the overall number of continued claims and continued claims as a percentage of New Hampshire’s pre-Covid-19 workforce declined to 6.4 percent as of February 6th (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.

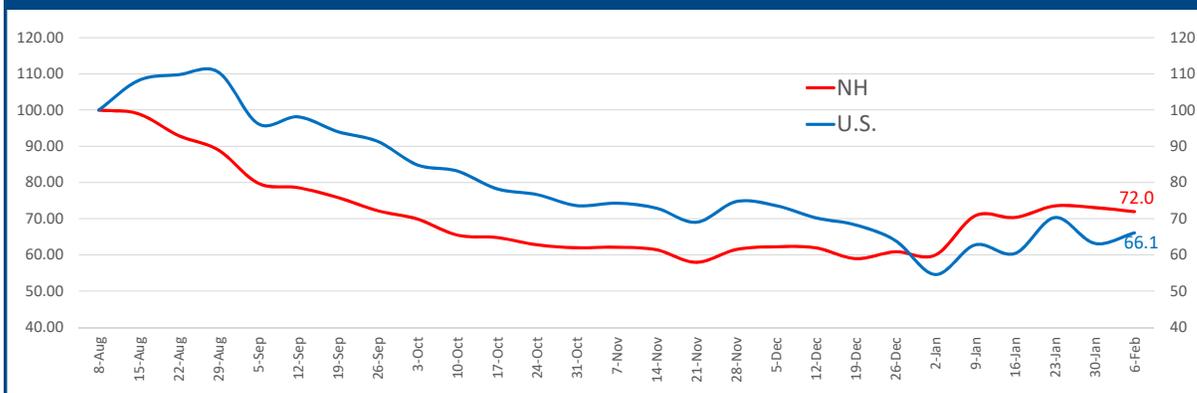
Figure 2 highlights continuing claims trends in New Hampshire and the U.S. since August 8th. On the graph, each region’s peak for continuing claims is set at an index value of 100, with index numbers reflecting the percentage change in continuing claims from 100 (thus New Hampshire’s index value of 72 indicates that as of February 6th, continuing claims have declined by 28 percent since August 8th (100 – 72 = 28). Continuing claims nationally have been somewhat volatile following the temporary lapse in the PUA and PEUC programs. Overall continued claims increased nationally and are now 34 percent below what they were during the week ended August 8th.

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 February 13th). Comparisons of week ended February 13th claims by town with claims from the week ended February 6th are affected by a large number of fraudulent claims reported during the two-week period. Fraudulent claims were screened out from this week’s (week ended February 13th) claims by town but a large number of fraudulent claims were not removed from the town data for the week ended February 6th claims until shortly after the release of last week’s Covid-19 Affected Unemployment report. This accounts for a substantial portion of the reported decline in town claims this week and the caution we urge in comparing claims for the two weeks.

With that caveat, the number of claims filed by New Hampshire residents working in New Hampshire decreased by 756 compared to the prior week’s inflated (by fraudulent claims) reported claims. Table 1 presents the 10 towns with the largest increase in the number of new claims over

FIGURE 2

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



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

the prior week, as well as the 10 towns with the largest decrease in new claims.

Table 1 shows that no town had a substantial increase in new claims, and that Stratham (+6) and Whitefield (+5) had the largest increases in new claims over the previous week. Nashua (-51), Manchester (-49), and Concord (-29) had the largest declines in initial claims compared to the prior week. Forty three (43) of New Hampshire's 238 towns had an increase in new claims during the week, totaling 83 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

least 25 new claims) since March 15th as well as the number of continued claims (as of January 23rd) as a percentage of the town's labor force¹, 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 January 23rd), 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 January will be released on March 2nd (the annual "benchmarking" process of employment that adjusts prior monthly survey-based employment data using a quarterly census of employers data occurs in February), and will reflect employment and unemployment in January 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 December was 4.0 percent, and the not seasonally adjusted figure 3.8 percent. For the week ending January 23rd, New Hampshire's "Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate" (which is not seasonally adjusted) was 5.0 percent. Dalton (14.5%), Ossipee (10.6%) and Lincoln (10.3%) and 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

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.

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. Finally, the Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate does include any seasonal adjustments.

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 February 13th, the change in initial claims from the prior week, and the number of continuing claims filed by residents of each county. Only Carroll County among New Hampshire's 10 counties experienced an increase in initial claims during the week, compared to the previous week. Again, as with town numbers, comparisons between this and the prior week's claims are distorted by fraudulent claims in prior weeks. Hillsborough (-213), Rockingham (-149) had the largest declines in initial unemployment claims during the week. Carroll (7.4%), Belknap (7.2%), and Coos Counties (6.8%) have the highest Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rates as of January 23rd, while the lowest rates were recorded in Grafton (4.2%), Rockingham County (4.3%), and Sullivan Counties (4.3%).

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 February 13th, 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 February 13th.

Fourteen (14) of the 94 industry classifications (at the three-digit NAICS level) experienced increases in continuing claims during the week, accounting for just an additional 47 continued claims. Among the 50 industries most affected by the pandemic through February 13th, just three (3) experienced an increase in continuing claims during the week, compared to the week ended February 6th (Table 3).

Continued claims in the construction industry decreased by 27 or 11 percent during the week ended February 13th. Manufacturing industries had a decline in continued claims of 2.9 percent (-97) during the week. Claims in educational services decreased by 96 or -7.2 percent. Continued claims in healthcare industries decreased substantially during the week, falling by 172, a decline of -5.8 percent, led by an 8.5 percent decline in claims in the hospital industry. The retail industry had a decrease of 214 continued claims during the week ended February 13th, or -3.9 percent, led by declines in claims at food and beverage stores and motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts stores. Claims in the hospitality and recreation industries (accommodations, food services, and recreation) fell sharply (-463 or 6.1%) during the week. The food services industry again had the largest decline in continued claims of any industry during the week (-344 or -6.3%).

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 industry during the week ending February 13th. Combined, the

FIGURE 3

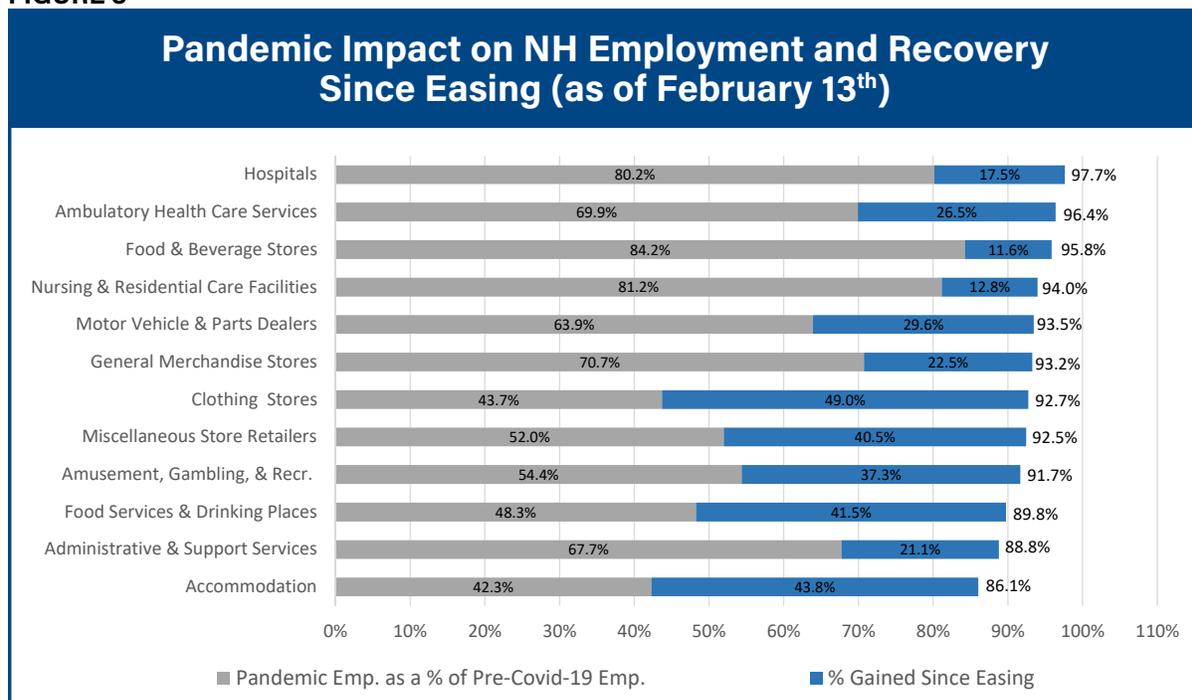
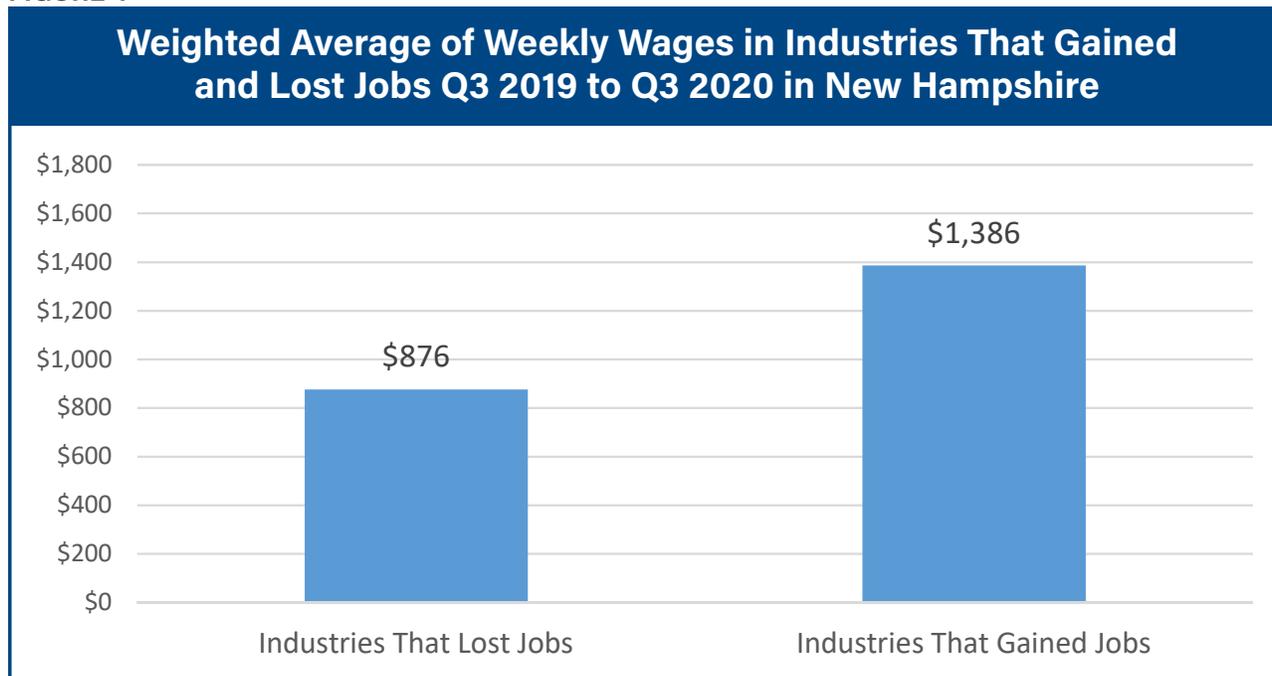


FIGURE 4

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.

Many Industries Continue to Add Jobs During the Pandemic

Well-documented job losses in New Hampshire industries like hospitality, retail, recreation, and others that have been most affected by the social distancing measures designed to control the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, should not obscure the gains made during the pandemic by industries that are increasingly the strength of the state's technology and innovation-based economy.

Sharp declines in the daily transmission of the coronavirus in New Hampshire, a concomitant rise in in the number of residents being vaccinated, and the prospects of increased production and distribution of vaccines to states, all argue (without being "Pollyannaish"), that it is time for increased economic optimism and a recognition of the positive trends and fundamental strengths in the New Hampshire economy, even as we address its pandemic-induced economic weaknesses.

It will take time to regain all of the employment lost during the pandemic, a task made more difficult, in part, because many workers who lost jobs during the pandemic are discovering that the industries in which they work no longer have the same level of demand for their occupations. Thus a key to full employment will be facilitating the transition of workers from occupations and industries with reduced demand in the post-pandemic economy, to industries and occupations that are increasingly in demand. Still, as

our (ELMI's) Q3 2020 data from the *Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages* (QCEW) show (this data is more accurate than the monthly *Current Employment Statistics* (CES) employment estimates that are based on a sample survey of New Hampshire businesses), there are many industries that have increased employment, even during the pandemic.

Seventy seven (77) industries at the four-digit industry code level had higher employment in the third quarter of 2020 than they did in the third quarter of 2019 in New Hampshire. Same quarter comparisons are used to avoid changes in employment that are affected by seasonal patterns. More industries had job losses than had job gains over the year but the weighted average (by industry hires and layoffs) of weekly wages in industries with job gains was \$1,386, compared to \$876 for industries that had job losses (Figure 4). Not all jobs lost were in lower wage industries and not all jobs gained were in higher-wage industries, several lower-wage industries gained employment and some higher-wage industries lost jobs, but the difference in the weekly wages in job gaining and job losing industries shows that industries that gained jobs, on average, paid much higher wages (by 58%). These data do not imply that the lower-wage jobs are less, or unimportant. Any job lost is troubling, and all industries that provide employment are important to the New Hampshire economy, more so if the individual losing a job cannot find reemployment at a higher wage. The wage data above is a reminder, however, of the underlying strength, even in difficult times, of New Hampshire's higher-skill, innovative, and technology intensive industries.

Figure 5 highlights a few of the higher-wage industries that gained employment over the year and the percentage increase in employment they experienced.

- Brian Gottlob, Director

FIGURE 5

Examples of Well Paying Industries that Added Employment in New Hampshire over the Year (% increase)

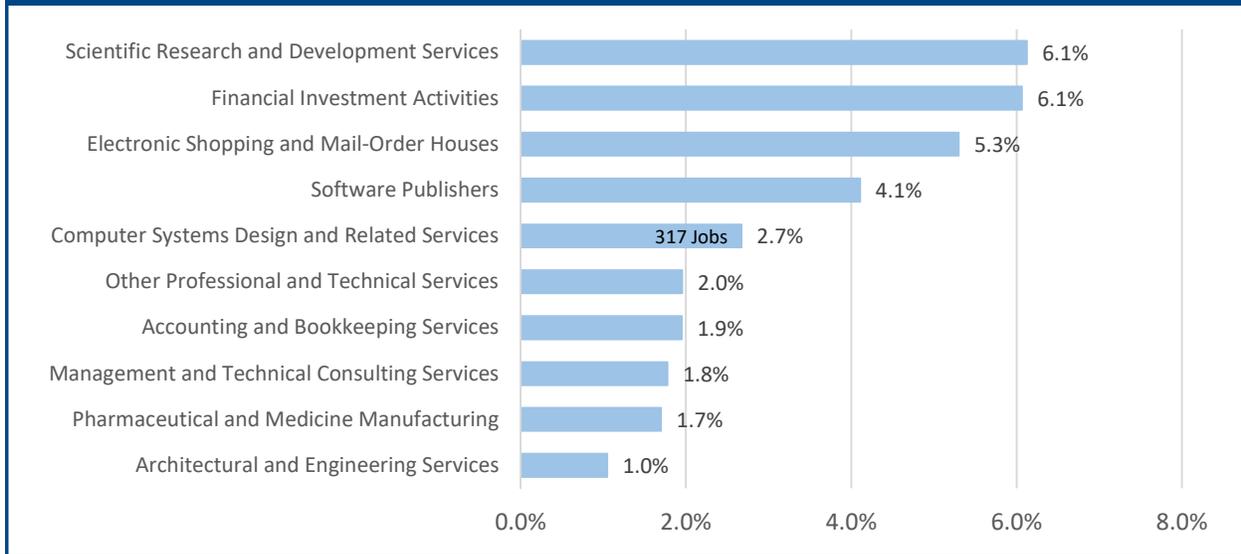


TABLE 2 - COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY COUNTY

COUNTY	TOTAL CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH: MARCH 16 TO FEBRUARY 13	CLAIMS FEBRUARY 7 TO FEBRUARY 13	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	CONTINUING CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH AS OF JANUARY 23 [†]	FEBRUARY 2020 LABOR FORCE	ESTIMATED CURRENT COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE
Belknap	11,506	58	-62	2,221	31,039	7.2%
Carroll	8,646	57	3	1,752	23,718	7.4%
Cheshire	9,978	52	-52	1,905	41,500	4.6%
Coos	5,090	38	-26	1,007	14,724	6.8%
Grafton	12,587	74	-75	2,136	51,045	4.2%
Hillsborough	65,389	392	-213	12,661	245,905	5.1%
Merrimack	23,568	142	-91	4,450	84,821	5.2%
Rockingham	42,548	249	-146	8,132	188,982	4.3%
Strafford	19,886	116	-63	3,857	75,410	5.1%
Sullivan	5,641	35	-31	981	23,061	4.3%
Totals	204,839	1,213	-756	39,102	780,205	5.0%

[†] New data for Continued Claims is released monthly

TABLE 3 - INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS - MARCH 16, 2020 TO FEBRUARY 13, 2021

INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE *	# CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16, 2020	CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF FEBRUARY 13	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT	FEBRUARY 6 CONT. CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT
Food Services and Drinking Places	722	29,358	5,113	-344	49,907	10.2%
Administrative and Support Services	561	15,008	3,783	-118	33,750	11.2%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	621	11,778	1,247	-85	34,431	3.6%
Educational Services	611	9,559	1,234	-96	20,834	5.9%
Social Assistance	624	7,221	1,239	-52	15,809	7.8%
Hospitals	622	6,677	717	-67	30,086	2.4%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	541	6,443	1,247	-65	39,171	3.2%
Specialty Trade Contractors	238	6,114	1,430	-4	18,817	7.6%
Personal and Laundry Services	812	5,528	858	-62	7,306	11.7%
Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation	713	5,453	826	-56	9,883	8.4%
Accommodation	721	5,343	1,172	-63	8,397	14.0%
General Merchandise Stores	452	5,287	998	-25	14,817	6.7%

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Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	441	5,255	822	-40	12,602	6.5%
Food and Beverage Stores	445	4,334	925	-46	22,356	4.1%
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	448	3,778	438	-21	6,029	7.3%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	623	3,657	860	-22	14,268	6.0%
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	453	3,012	412	-27	5,449	7.6%
Electronic Computer Manufacturing	334	2,971	438	-10	16,381	2.7%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	332	2,946	487	-7	11,558	4.2%
General Automotive Repair	811	2,859	457	3	5,313	8.6%
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	423	2,776	490	-11	12,463	3.9%
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	813	2,767	424	-34	6,517	6.5%
Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	485	2,730	538	-25	3,652	14.7%
Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	335	2,215	164	-12	4,225	3.9%
Construction of Buildings	236	1,975	506	-3	6,082	8.3%
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	444	1,950	434	-7	9,527	4.6%
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, and Book Stores	451	1,904	222	-15	4,154	5.3%
Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	442	1,717	180	-17	2,772	6.5%
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	424	1,705	320	-1	8,050	4.0%
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	339	1,597	192	-10	4,430	4.3%
Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers.	425	1,516	309	-11	7,771	4.0%
Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	326	1,501	218	0	5,422	4.0%
Nonstore Retailers	454	1,399	254	-14	6,181	4.1%
Real Estate	531	1,323	264	-7	4,949	5.3%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	551	1,246	276	-9	9,284	3.0%
Gas Stations	447	1,191	249	-2	4,511	5.5%
Health and Personal Care Stores	446	1,189	182	0	4,185	4.3%
Couriers and Messengers	492	1,179	324	-12	3,721	8.7%

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INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE *	# CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16, 2020	CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF FEBRUARY 13	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT	FEBRUARY 6 CONT. CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT
Machinery Manufacturing	333	1,158	222	-6	7,006	3.2%
Textile Mills	313	1,146	208	-3	1,822	11.4%
Printing and Related Support Activities	323	1,062	198	-19	2,297	8.6%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	237	1,103	522	-20	3,564	14.6%
Primary Metal Manufacturing	331	1,054	200	2	2,386	8.4%
Electronics and Appliance Stores	443	952	165	0	2,958	5.6%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	524	916	198	8	11,768	1.7%
Rental and Leasing Services	532	896	191	-8	1,993	9.6%
Industries in the Food Manufacturing	311	883	152	-2	2,771	5.5%
Industries in the Publishing Industries (except Internet)	511	842	153	-2	5,116	3.0%
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	522	748	169	-9	11,768	1.4%
Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related	711	725	182	-1	1,179	15.4%

*NAICS - North American Industrial Classification System

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 13	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Acworth	103	15	459	3.3%
Albany	142	19	362	5.2%
Alexandria	307	49	912	5.4%
Allenstown	746	164	2,493	6.6%
Alstead	271	49	1,083	4.5%
Alton	880	172	3,009	5.7%
Amherst	1,278	226	6,419	3.5%
Andover	342	72	1,439	5.0%
Antrim	415	64	1,427	4.5%
Ashland	408	59	1,279	4.6%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 13	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Atkinson	696	139	4,068	3.4%
Auburn	809	152	3,634	4.2%
Barnstead	795	137	2,656	5.2%
Barrington	1,352	230	5,523	4.2%
Bartlett	737	141	1,459	9.7%
Bath town	155	25	542	4.6%
Bedford	2,522	374	12,555	3.0%
Belmont	1,447	288	3,576	8.1%
Bennington	273	52	817	6.4%
Benton	33	7	150	4.7%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 13	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Berlin	1,464	294	3,888	7.6%
Bethlehem	550	112	1,444	7.8%
Boscawen	725	125	1,972	6.3%
Bow	962	176	4,561	3.9%
Bradford	280	67	986	6.8%
Brentwood	541	97	2,642	3.7%
Bridgewater	165	33	761	4.3%
Bristol	695	102	1,842	5.5%
Brookfield	146	26	293	8.9%
Brookline	564	96	3,480	2.8%
Campton	703	113	2,110	5.4%
Canaan	542	86	2,042	4.2%
Candia	596	98	2,598	3.8%
Canterbury	311	59	1,508	3.9%
Carroll	147	21	391	5.4%
Center Harbor	176	34	670	5.1%
Charlestown	752	114	2,843	4.0%
Chatham	50	10	160	6.3%
Chester	690	118	3,145	3.8%
Chesterfield	332	60	1,943	3.1%
Chichester	415	71	1,588	4.5%
Claremont	1,869	330	6,385	5.2%
Clarksville	20	5	114	4.4%
Colebrook	356	58	1,141	5.1%
Columbia	65	9	318	2.8%
Concord	7,169	1,358	23,063	5.9%
Conway	2,433	454	5,463	8.3%
Cornish	189	40	988	4.0%
Croydon	74	18	452	4.0%
Dalton	227	64	442	14.5%
Danbury	235	49	736	6.7%
Danville	596	114	2,771	4.1%
Deerfield	662	123	2,835	4.3%
Deering	241	38	1,133	3.4%
Derry	5,337	1,033	20,900	4.9%
Dorchester	39	10	200	5.0%
Dover	5,389	1,068	18,915	5.6%
Dublin	160	34	891	3.8%
Dummer	36	13	142	9.2%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 13	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Dunbarton	395	67	1,795	3.7%
Durham	852	127	9,395	1.4%
East Kingston	266	56	1,401	4.0%
Easton	37	7	143	4.9%
Eaton	72	15	235	6.4%
Effingham	248	51	701	7.3%
Enfield	559	80	3,166	2.5%
Epping	1,112	206	4,282	4.8%
Epsom	731	141	2,996	4.7%
Errol	61	11	164	6.7%
Exeter	2,101	408	8,834	4.6%
Farmington	1,236	256	3,725	6.9%
Fitzwilliam	267	56	1,361	4.1%
Francestown	196	47	1,002	4.7%
Franconia	174	34	655	5.2%
Franklin	1,709	350	4,055	8.6%
Freedom	190	44	766	5.7%
Fremont	659	138	2,870	4.8%
Gilford	1,319	233	3,645	6.4%
Gilmanton	678	128	1,746	7.3%
Gilsum	127	28	457	6.1%
Goffstown	2,655	445	11,023	4.0%
Gorham	504	101	1,234	8.2%
Goshen	101	18	451	4.0%
Grafton	206	36	683	5.3%
Grantham	273	53	1,664	3.2%
Greenfield	256	50	1,066	4.7%
Greenland	552	109	2,467	4.4%
Greenville	275	51	1,206	4.2%
Groton	152	26	382	6.8%
Hampstead	1,033	189	5,151	3.7%
Hampton Falls	265	52	1,501	3.5%
Hampton	2,666	579	9,147	6.3%
Hancock	225	53	944	5.6%
Hanover	383	47	5,093	0.9%
Harrisville	135	28	609	4.6%
Haverhill	517	87	2,359	3.7%
Hebron	63	10	413	2.4%
Henniker	655	123	2,910	4.2%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 13	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Hill	184	39	543	7.2%
Hillsborough	1,132	212	3,004	7.1%
Hinsdale	393	68	2,158	3.2%
Holderness	328	63	1,563	4.0%
Hollis	756	128	4,346	2.9%
Hooksett	2,336	412	9,376	4.4%
Hopkinton	667	113	3,481	3.2%
Hudson	3,367	619	15,467	4.0%
Jackson	197	31	366	8.5%
Jaffrey	713	162	3,103	5.2%
Jefferson	178	49	639	7.7%
Keene	3,382	565	11,949	4.7%
Kensington	206	41	1,313	3.1%
Kingston	851	165	3,777	4.4%
Laconia	3,313	686	7,775	8.8%
Lancaster	472	99	1,741	5.7%
Landaff	46	11	279	3.9%
Langdon	73	13	363	3.6%
Lebanon	1,528	273	7,793	3.5%
Lee	632	125	2,884	4.3%
Lempster	150	23	629	3.7%
Lincoln	416	79	770	10.3%
Lisbon	252	67	862	7.8%
Litchfield	1,160	196	4,887	4.0%
Littleton	1,257	231	3,256	7.1%
Londonderry	3,516	596	16,261	3.7%
Loudon	857	155	3,357	4.6%
Lyman	135	17	336	5.1%
Lyme	115	16	850	1.9%
Lyndeborough	244	53	1,056	5.0%
Madbury	239	41	1,097	3.7%
Madison	477	90	1,437	6.3%
Manchester	23,818	4,796	66,815	7.2%
Marlborough	351	87	1,221	7.1%
Marlow	108	30	369	8.1%
Mason	179	39	821	4.8%
Meredith	1,108	216	3,115	6.9%
Merrimack	3,775	718	16,570	4.3%
Middleton	266	51	1,051	4.9%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 13	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Milan	205	39	626	6.2%
Milford	2,500	429	9,738	4.4%
Milton	683	152	2,390	6.4%
Monroe	89	18	401	4.5%
Mont Vernon	314	49	1,582	3.1%
Moultonborough	618	141	2,219	6.4%
Nashua	13,310	2,871	51,919	5.5%
Nelson	80	17	440	3.9%
New Boston	896	147	3,976	3.7%
New Castle	86	15	560	2.7%
New Durham	410	87	1,563	5.6%
New Hampton	447	71	1,321	5.4%
New Ipswich	516	97	3,023	3.2%
New London	360	56	1,941	2.9%
Newbury	266	40	1,212	3.3%
Newfields	217	43	1,071	4.0%
Newington	103	12	518	2.3%
Newmarket	1,628	256	5,818	4.4%
Newport	973	180	3,553	5.1%
Newton	439	100	3,283	3.0%
North Hampton	583	146	2,684	5.4%
Northfield	962	188	2,554	7.4%
Northumberland	369	62	1,059	5.9%
Northwood	762	119	2,672	4.5%
Nottingham	715	113	3,286	3.4%
Orford	117	24	817	2.9%
Ossipee	734	186	1,757	10.6%
Pelham	1,337	234	8,237	2.8%
Pembroke	1,328	258	4,612	5.6%
Peterborough	913	186	3,858	4.8%
Piermont	62	8	430	1.9%
Pittsburg	139	28	384	7.3%
Pittsfield	647	131	2,122	6.2%
Plainfield	207	30	1,446	2.1%
Plastow	809	153	4,320	3.5%
Plymouth	912	137	3,989	3.4%
Portsmouth	3,558	702	14,074	5.0%
Randolph	59	13	141	9.2%
Raymond	1,753	348	6,360	5.5%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 13	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Richmond	116	28	596	4.7%
Rindge	528	100	2,943	3.4%
Rochester	5,622	1,062	18,190	5.8%
Rollinsford	413	97	1,456	6.7%
Roxbury	27	4	139	2.9%
Rumney	206	34	958	3.5%
Rye	684	133	3,459	3.8%
Salem	3,486	692	18,512	3.7%
Salisbury	211	33	827	4.0%
Sanbornton	511	103	1,689	6.1%
Sandown	838	132	4,279	3.1%
Sandwich	172	35	610	5.7%
Seabrook	1,315	301	5,180	5.8%
Sharon	40	9	224	4.0%
Shelburne	52	10	177	5.6%
Somersworth	2,208	465	6,891	6.7%
South Hampton	80	17	531	3.2%
Springfield	142	22	779	2.8%
Stark	61	9	194	4.6%
Stewartstown	104	17	370	4.6%
Stoddard	185	33	724	4.6%
Strafford	584	96	2,328	4.1%
Stratford	107	16	255	6.3%
Stratham	897	178	4,559	3.9%
Sugar Hill	86	15	351	4.3%
Sullivan	94	16	360	4.4%
Sunapee	406	63	1,671	3.8%
Surry	92	15	500	3.0%
Sutton	198	40	1,139	3.5%
Swanzey	1,056	214	4,101	5.2%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 13	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Tamworth	567	120	1,517	7.9%
Temple	191	38	786	4.8%
Thornton	551	89	1,790	5.0%
Tilton	832	153	1,837	8.3%
Troy	330	72	1,174	6.1%
Tuftonboro	321	72	1,157	6.2%
Unity	137	29	865	3.4%
Wakefield	699	146	2,310	6.3%
Walpole	410	81	2,380	3.4%
Warner	417	84	1,587	5.3%
Warren	108	19	537	3.5%
Washington	192	33	513	6.4%
Waterville Valley	95	11	141	7.8%
Weare	1,399	229	6,179	3.7%
Webster	288	45	1,180	3.8%
Wentworth	120	22	535	4.1%
Westmoreland	199	29	941	3.1%
Whitefield	455	88	1,280	6.9%
Wilmot	172	34	788	4.3%
Wilton	606	112	2,190	5.1%
Winchester	622	129	2,058	6.3%
Windham	1,441	259	8,219	3.2%
Windsor	36	3	155	1.9%
Wolfeboro	827	167	2,827	5.9%
Woodstock	436	72	972	7.4%
Totals	204,839	39,102	780,205	5.0%
<p><i>* Towns with fewer than 25 claims are excluded from the table, but are included in totals</i></p> <p><i>** Includes only claims active during the reference week</i></p> <p><i>† New data for Continued Claims is released monthly</i></p>				

The next release of the **COVID-19 Unemployment Update** will be on March 4th.

For further information contact:
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