New Hampshire Employment Security
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Administrative Office
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COVID-19 UNEMPLOYMENT UPDATE

For Immediate Release: October 8, 2020

Initial claims for unemployment in New Hampshire decreased by 675 to 1,518 (or -31%) during the week ending October 3rd, compared to a revised 2,193 during the week ended September 26th. Nationally, initial claims increased by 0.7 percent on a not seasonally adjusted basis. Compared to the week ended September 26th, 26 states experienced an increase in initial claims during the week. In New England, Maine and Massachusetts each recorded an increase in initial claims during the week.

Continuing claims for unemployment again declined in New Hampshire during the week ended September 26th. 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. As of the week ending September 26th (continuing claims are reported with a one-week lag), New Hampshire had 32,243 continued claims, down 2,855 or 8.2 percent from a revised 35,128 during the week ending September 19th.

Continued claims nationally again decreased significantly (by 8.7%) during the week on a not seasonally adjusted basis. Only three states (Kansas, North Dakota, and Washington) experienced an increase in continuing claims during the week ended September 26th.

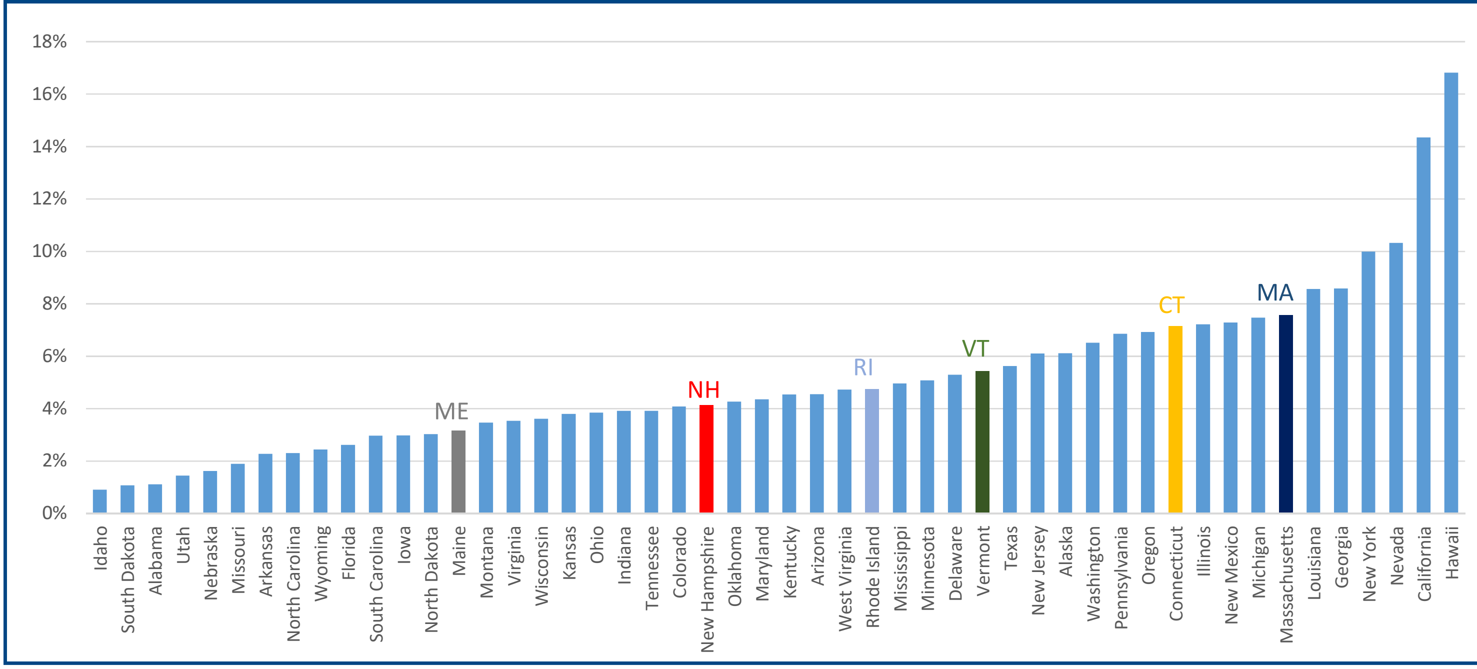
For the week ending September 26th. The U.S. Census Bureau's weekly "Small Business Pulse Survey" reported that 5.9 percent of New Hampshire small businesses indicated they had increased employment during the week, slightly below the percentage nationally of 6.2 percent, while 14.3 percent said they decreased employment. New Hampshire businesses are more optimistic however, with 33 percent saying they expect to have to identify and hire new employees within the next six months, compared to just 23.5 percent nationally and behind only Michigan and Arkansas.

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

TOWN	NEW CLAIMS SEPTEMBER 6 TO SEPTEMBER 26	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	TOTAL NEW CLAIMS MARCH 15 TO SEPTEMBER 26	CONTINUING CLAIMS AS OF SEPTEMBER 19†
Manchester	142	-7	20,551	5,005
Nashua	88	-1	11,482	2,922
Concord	50	3	6,157	1,374
Portsmouth	31	12	3,141	709
Dover	29	-2	4,710	1,054
Rochester	26	-17	4,881	1,083
Keene	25	3	2,890	614
Salem	22	3	3,074	762
Laconia	21	1	2,861	668
Londonderry	20	0	3,097	642
Derry	18	-12	4,685	1,086
Merrimack	18	1	3,316	712
Bedford	15	-11	2,199	465
Hampton	15	5	2,354	570
Hudson	15	5	2,948	614
Hooksett	14	-1	2,061	426
Berlin	13	4	1,243	237
Raymond	12	3	1,504	364
Somersworth	12	-2	1,922	470
Exeter	11	-1	1,823	436

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

Continuing Claims as a % of the State's Pre-COVID-19 Workforce *(as of September 26th)*



The figure below highlights continuing claims trends in New Hampshire and the U.S. Since peaking during the week of May 2nd in New Hampshire, continuing claims have fallen by 72 percent, compared to the U.S. overall which has seen a decline of 53 percent since continuing claims peaked nationally during the week of May 9th. 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 28 indicates that as of September 26th, continuing claims in the state were 72 percent below their peak (100 – 28 = 72).

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 September 26th).

The number of claims filed by New Hampshire residents working in New Hampshire decreased by 39 during the week. Of the towns with the most initial claims during the week, only Portsmouth (+12) had a double digit increase. The next largest increase in new claims over the prior was in Hillsborough with six. A total of 86 of New Hampshire's 238 towns had an increase in new claims during the week, compared to the week ended September 19th, totaling just 189 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

Continuing Unemployment Claims
(Index: Each Region's Peak = 100)

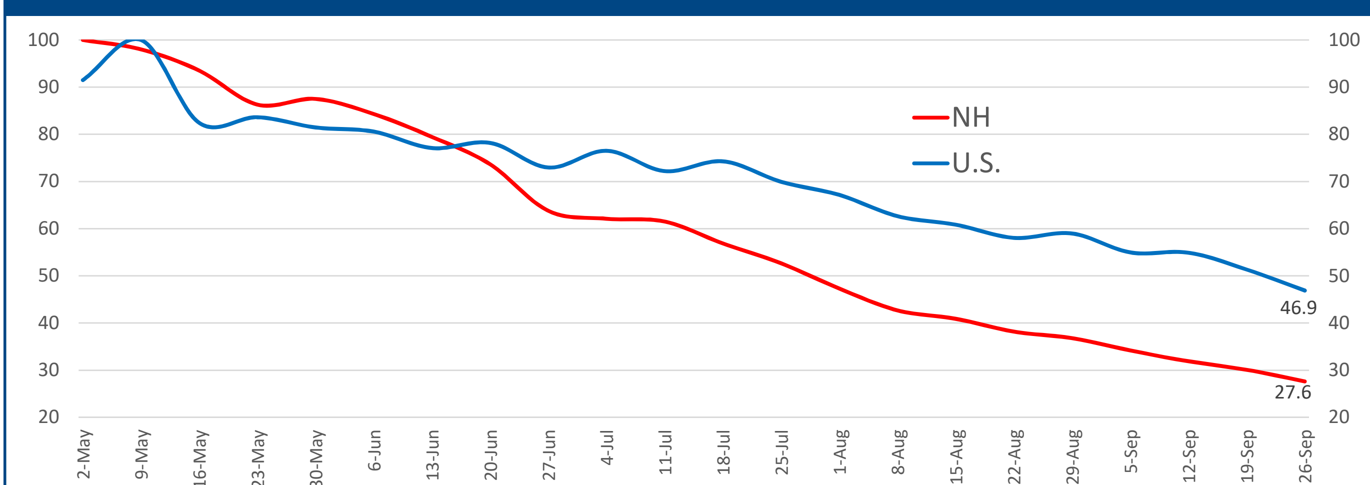
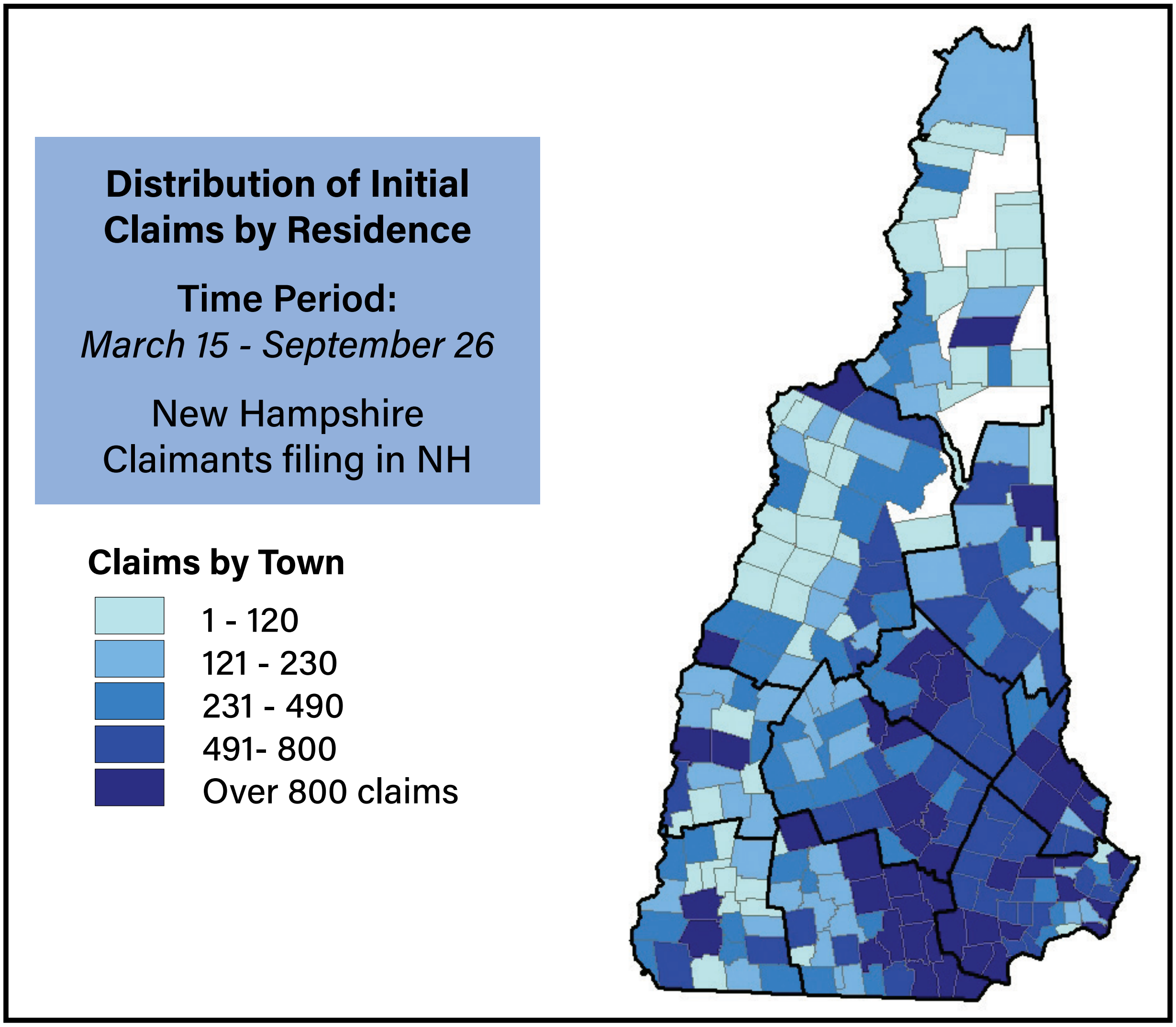


FIGURE 1



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 September 19th 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 September 19th), 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 August was released on September 15th and reflects employment and unemployment during the week that contained August 12th. The official U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics unemployment rate for New Hampshire in August is 6.5 percent. For the week ending September 19th, New Hampshire's "Covid-19 Affected

[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.*

Unemployment Rate" was 5.1 percent. Waterville Valley (14.2%) and Dalton (10.0%) are the only two New Hampshire communities that continue to have Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rates in the double digits.

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.

A visual representation of initial claims activity by town and region is presented in Figure 1 which shows a map of New Hampshire towns color coded, into quintiles, according to the number of initial claims filed between March 15th and September 26th.

Claims by County

Figure 2 presents the total number of initial claims by county in New Hampshire, and Table 2 presents the total number of initial claims in each county since March 15th, the change in initial claims from the prior week, along with the number of continuing claims filed by residents of each county. The statewide decrease of 39 initial claims for unemployment insurance by New Hampshire residents working in New Hampshire was largely the result of declines in Strafford (-32) and Grafton (-29) Counties.

Five of the state's 10 counties saw an increase in claims during the week, led by Rockingham County (+18) and Coos County (+15).

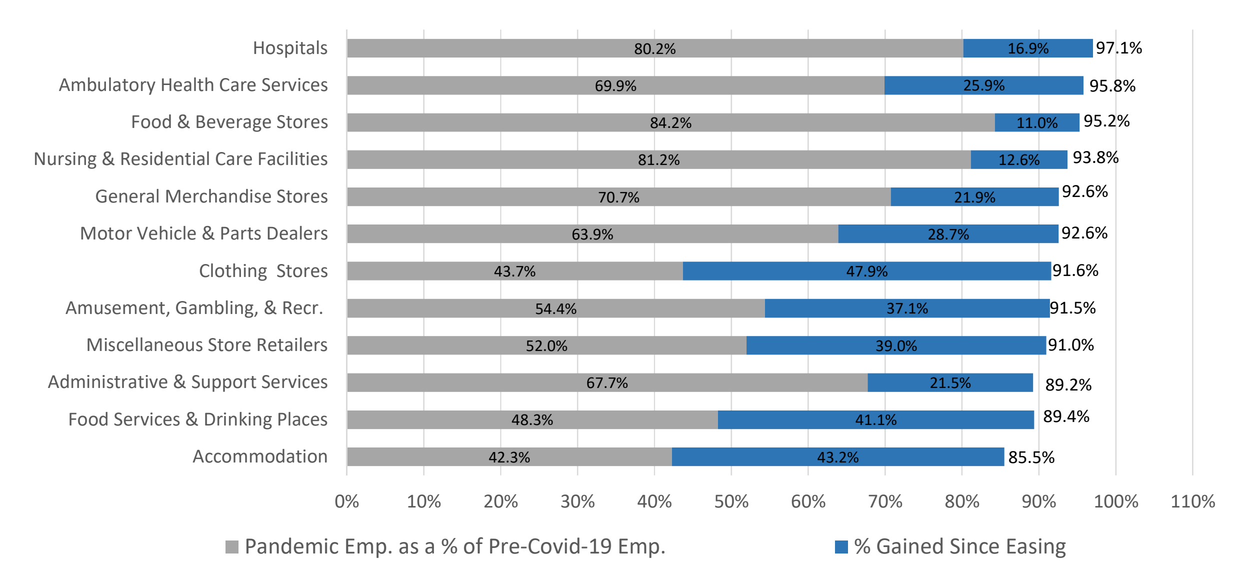
As of the week ended September 30th, Carroll County has the highest Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate, at 7.3 percent, while the lowest rate was recorded in Grafton County at 4.2 percent.

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 September 26th, 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 September 26th. Of 94 industry classifications (at the three-digit NAICS level), 17 experienced increases in continuing claims during the week of September 26th. The electronic computer manufacturing industry, with an increase of 26, accounted for the largest share of the 63 continued claims increase among the 19 industries. Among the 50 industries most affected by the pandemic, four experienced an increase in continuing claims during the week for a total of just 36 continued claims (Table 3).

Continuing claims in manufacturing industries declined by 135 or 3.8 percent during the week ended September 26th. Claims in educational services fell by 70, or 4.5 percent during the week. Healthcare industries experienced another decline in continued claims, falling 117, or 3.5 percent during the week. Continued claims in hospitality and recreation industries declined by 4.7 percent (-365 claims), led by a 5.3 percent reduction in in the amusements, gambling, and recreation industry.

Pandemic Impact on NH Employment and Recovery Since Easing *(through September 26th)*



Employment in retail industries (continued claims down 188 or 2.2%) saw modest improvement during the week, while construction industries (continued claims down by 7.6%) made significant progress in recovering employment from its pandemic lows.

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 September 19th. 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.

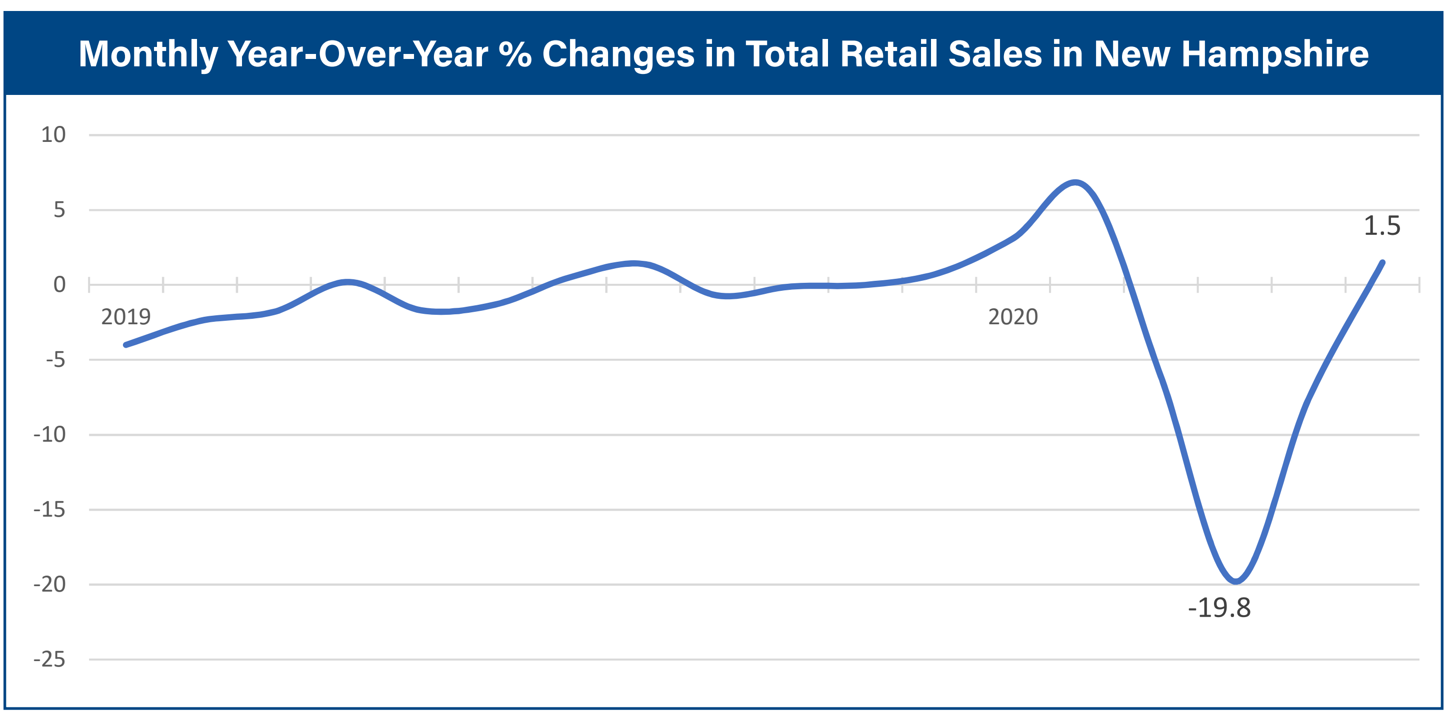
The Pandemic's Impact on Retail Sales

New Hampshire's absence of a general sales tax has allowed the state to capture retail sales from neighboring states and a wide geographic area, resulting in among the highest per capita volume of retail sales of any state in the nation, and producing a high concentration of retail employment along the way.

Among the benefits of a high number of retail jobs in New Hampshire is the opportunity it provides for young people looking for their first work experience, as well as individuals who may need or want to limit the number of hours they work on a weekly basis. Along with jobs in the hospitality and recreation industries, retailers provide the bulk of job opportunities for school and college age workers. These three industries are largely responsible for New Hampshire having among the highest percentage of individuals ages 18 and under, participating in the labor force. Providing ample opportunities for young people to learn important work habits early benefits the quality and reputation of the state's workforce.

Although employment in industries that employ a large percentage of young people has been recovering, the long-term impacts on them from the Covid-19 pandemic are unclear. The pre-pandemic trend of greater movement to online shopping had already slowed retail employment nationally (less so in New Hampshire), and the pandemic has accelerated that trend by creating health and safety concerns as well as reducing in-store shopping opportunities. With more consumers accustomed to online shopping, and for more items, it is likely that the trend to more online and less in-store sales will increase over pre-pandemic levels.

The lack of a general sales tax has prevented timely data on retail sales in New Hampshire. The U.S. Census Bureau has begun releasing experimental retail sales for each state that provides some indication of the trends in sales on a monthly basis in New Hampshire. Previously, state-level retail sales information was only available every five years as part of the Economic Census. The data are created using a composite model that incorporates Monthly Retail Trade Survey (MRTS) data, administrative data, and third-party data and do not contain "non-store" (catalogue and online) retailers. Currently, the data provide only a year-over-year comparison of sales, not the dollar volume, nor are the data adjusted for changes in yearly prices, holidays, trading day differences etc. The Census Bureau plans on adding dollar volume of sales to the data at some point but the data still are useful in providing an indication of the changes in retail spending occurring in the Granite



State. As the chart below shows, total retail sales in New Hampshire declined by an estimated 20 percent in April of 2020, compared to April of 2019. By June of 2020 (the most recent data available), total retail sales in the state had increased by 1.5 percent over June of 2019 volume, suggesting that, at least for now, there has not been a large shift from in-store to online buying in the state as pandemic-required restrictions have eased.

Looking at sub-categories of retail sales shows how the pandemic has affected in-store sales in different retail categories, as well as how each has been rebounding since the depths of the pandemic. The chart below shows that clothing stores and electronics and appliance stores appeared to be most negatively affected by the pandemic, while the extra time at home the pandemic afforded many individuals resulted in an increase in sales at building material and garden equipment and supplies stores. Data post-pandemic will provide a better indication of where in-store retail sale and retail employment in New Hampshire is likely to head longer-term.

- Brian Gottlob, Director, ELMI

Year-Over-Year % Change in Retail Sales by Category in New Hampshire

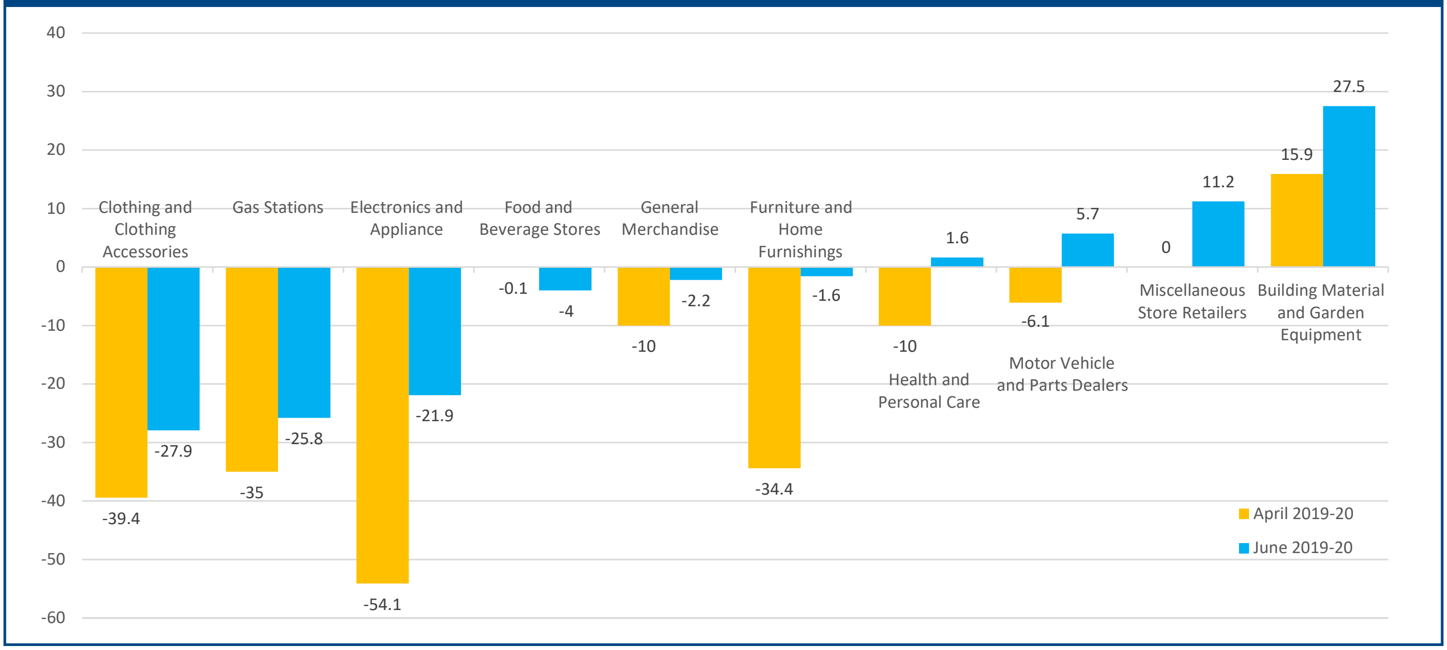


TABLE 2 - COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY COUNTY

COUNTY	TOTAL CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH: MARCH 15 TO SEPT. 26	CLAIMS SEPT. 20 TO SEPT. 26	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	CONTINUING CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH AS OF SEPTEMBER 19†	FEBRUARY 2020 LABOR FORCE	ESTIMATED CURRENT COVID-19 AFFECTED INSURED UNEMP. RATE
Belknap	10,003	60	-9	2,180	31,039	7.0%
Carroll	7,823	30	1	1,727	23,718	7.3%
Cheshire	8,521	54	2	1,957	41,500	4.7%
Coos	4,367	37	15	821	14,724	5.6%
Grafton	11,062	48	-29	2,159	51,045	4.2%
Hillsborough	56,850	359	-9	13,155	245,905	5.3%
Merrimack	20,288	138	9	4,436	84,821	5.2%
Rockingham	37,412	218	18	8,609	188,982	4.6%
Strafford	17,367	102	-32	3,876	75,410	5.1%
Sullivan	4,861	24	-5	1,061	23,061	4.6%
Totals	**178,554**	**1,070**	**-39**	**39,981**	**780,205**	**5.1%**

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

FIGURE 2

Distribution of Claims by Residence within County

Time Period:
March 15 - September 26

New Hampshire
Claimants filing in NH

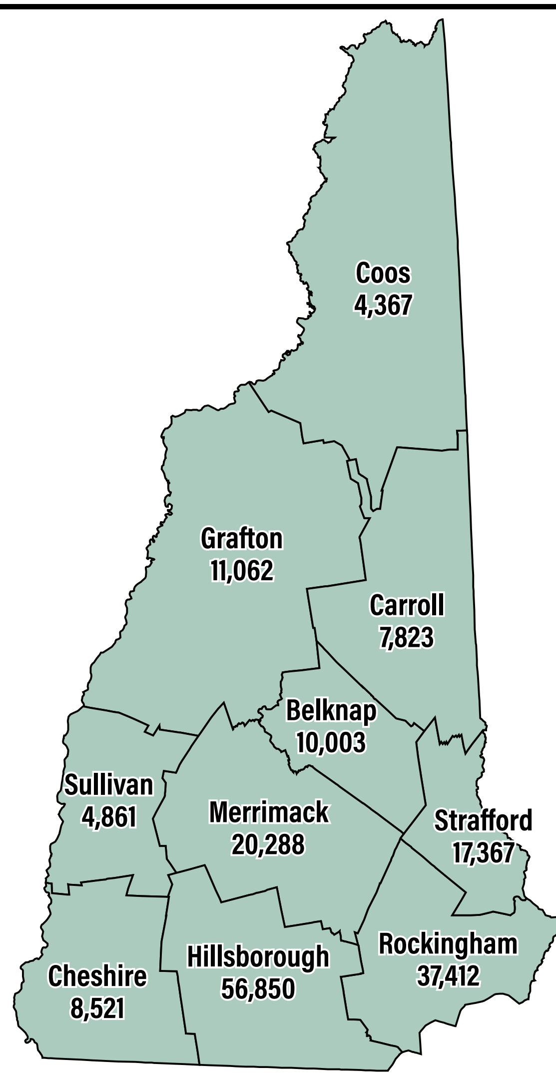


TABLE 3 - INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS - MARCH 15 TO SEPTEMBER 26

INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE *	# CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 15	CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF SEPTEMBER 26	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT	SEPT. 12 CONTINUED CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT
Food Services and Drinking Places	722	26,563	5,292	-262	49,907	10.6%
Administrative and Support Services	561	11,697	3,627	-128	33,750	10.7%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	621	10,630	1,448	-41	34,431	4.2%
Educational Services	611	8,250	1,486	-70	20,834	7.1%
Social Assistance	624	6,446	1,459	-57	15,809	9.2%
Hospitals	622	6,094	887	-40	30,086	2.9%
Personal and Laundry Services	812	5,131	955	-51	7,306	13.1%
Accommodation	721	4,993	1,219	-56	8,397	14.5%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	541	4,933	1,421	-60	39,171	3.6%
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	441	4,695	937	-21	12,602	7.4%
Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation	713	4,690	846	-47	9,883	8.6%
General Merchandise Stores	452	4,599	1,098	-32	14,817	7.4%
Specialty Trade Contractors	238	4,335	838	-60	18,817	4.5%
Food and Beverage Stores	445	3,741	1,057	-17	22,356	4.7%
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	448	3,497	507	-18	6,029	8.4%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	623	2,904	897	-36	14,268	6.3%
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	453	2,698	492	-28	5,449	9.0%
Electronic Computer Manufacturing	334	2,598	514	26	16,381	3.1%
Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	485	2,440	666	-86	3,652	18.2%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	332	2,385	656	-70	11,558	5.7%
General Automotive Repair	811	2,363	477	-2	7,091	6.7%
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	813	2,249	450	-28	6,517	6.9%
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	423	2,165	533	-12	12,463	4.3%
Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	335	2,073	150	-3	4,225	3.6%
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, and Book Stores	451	1,716	279	-14	4,154	6.7%
Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	442	1,580	251	-12	2,772	9.1%
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	444	1,483	417	-7	9,527	4.4%
Construction of Buildings	236	1,481	366	-43	6,082	6.0%

TABLE 3 - INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS - MARCH 15 TO SEPTEMBER 26						
INDUSTRY	**NAICS CODE ***	**# CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 15**	**CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF SEPTEMBER 26**	**CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK**	**Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT**	**SEPT. 12 CONTINUED CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT**
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	339	1,470	256	3	4,430	5.8%
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	424	1,408	348	5	8,050	4.3%
Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers.	425	1,365	364	-12	7,771	4.7%
Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	326	1,307	303	-10	5,422	5.6%
Nonstore Retailers	454	1,163	325	-7	6,181	5.3%
Textile Mills	313	1,057	265	-3	1,822	14.5%
Health and Personal Care Stores	446	1,052	239	-11	4,185	5.7%
Real Estate	531	1,009	244	-11	4,949	4.9%
Primary Metal Manufacturing	331	982	192	-2	2,386	8.0%
Machinery Manufacturing	333	981	321	-6	7,006	4.6%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	551	971	269	-20	9,284	2.9%
Printing and Related Support Activities	323	957	265	-15	2,297	11.5%
Gas Stations	447	950	279	-9	4,511	6.2%
Electronics and Appliance Stores	443	838	188	-12	2,958	6.4%
Industries in the Food Manufacturing	311	778	177	-1	2,771	6.4%
Rental and Leasing Services	532	775	209	2	1,993	10.5%
Couriers and Messengers	492	759	230	0	3,721	6.2%
Industries in the Publishing Industries (except Internet)	511	673	184	-9	5,116	3.6%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	336	645	225	-4	2,634	8.5%
Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related	711	640	219	-11	1,179	18.6%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	524	608	197	-2	11,768	1.7%
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	312	546	74	-3	1,308	5.7%
**NAICS - North American Industrial Classification System*						

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN				
TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - SEPTEMBER 26*	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF AUG. 22†	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Acworth	92	21	459	4.6%
Albany	131	24	362	6.6%
Alexandria	288	49	912	5.4%
Allenstown	654	150	2,493	6.0%
Alstead	238	56	1,083	5.2%
Alton	764	158	3,009	5.3%
Amherst	1,114	215	6,419	3.3%
Andover	299	55	1,439	3.8%
Antrim	354	65	1,427	4.6%
Ashland	358	54	1,279	4.2%
Atkinson	634	158	4,068	3.9%
Auburn	736	162	3,634	4.5%
Barnstead	695	143	2,656	5.4%
Barrington	1,204	266	5,523	4.8%
Bartlett	702	129	1,459	8.8%
Bath town	142	28	542	5.2%
Bedford	2,199	465	12,555	3.7%
Belmont	1,258	289	3,576	8.1%
Bennington	240	52	817	6.4%
Benton	28	6	150	4.0%
Berlin	1,243	237	3,888	6.1%
Bethlehem	509	126	1,444	8.7%
Boscawen	611	122	1,972	6.2%
Bow	826	175	4,561	3.8%
Bradford	246	64	986	6.5%
Brentwood	476	113	2,642	4.3%
Bridgewater	149	36	761	4.7%
Bristol	611	100	1,842	5.4%
Brookfield	122	26	293	8.9%
Brookline	488	93	3,480	2.7%
Campton	637	116	2,110	5.5%
Canaan	474	100	2,042	4.9%
Candia	517	108	2,598	4.2%
Canterbury	275	56	1,508	3.7%
Carroll	131	25	391	6.4%
Center Harbor	164	28	670	4.2%
Charlestown	655	113	2,843	4.0%
Chatham	48	14	160	8.8%
Chester	617	125	3,145	4.0%
Chesterfield	281	67	1,943	3.4%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN				
TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - SEPTEMBER 26*	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF AUG. 22†	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Chichester	362	76	1,588	4.8%
Claremont	1,587	352	6,385	5.5%
Colebrook	301	52	1,141	4.6%
Columbia	50	5	318	1.6%
Concord	6,157	1,374	23,063	6.0%
Conway	2,266	465	5,463	8.5%
Cornish	165	35	988	3.5%
Croydon	66	24	452	5.3%
Dalton	187	44	442	10.0%
Danbury	203	49	736	6.7%
Danville	532	121	2,771	4.4%
Deerfield	587	138	2,835	4.9%
Deering	215	38	1,133	3.4%
Derry	4,685	1,086	20,900	5.2%
Dorchester	33	9	200	4.5%
Dover	4,710	1,054	18,915	5.6%
Dublin	132	28	891	3.1%
Dummer	31	7	142	4.9%
Dunbarton	346	76	1,795	4.2%
Durham	729	130	9,395	1.4%
East Kingston	236	50	1,401	3.6%
Easton	35	6	143	4.2%
Eaton	64	8	235	3.4%
Effingham	215	52	701	7.4%
Ellsworth	16	4	58	6.9%
Enfield	487	111	3,166	3.5%
Epping	979	212	4,282	5.0%
Epsom	629	127	2,996	4.2%
Errol	55	11	164	6.7%
Exeter	1,823	436	8,834	4.9%
Farmington	1,052	251	3,725	6.7%
Fitzwilliam	229	45	1,361	3.3%
Francestown	182	50	1,002	5.0%
Franconia	163	35	655	5.3%
Franklin	1,427	343	4,055	8.5%
Freedom	171	49	766	6.4%
Fremont	578	136	2,870	4.7%
Gilford	1,186	254	3,645	7.0%
Gilmanton	590	125	1,746	7.2%
Gilsum	103	29	457	6.3%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - SEPTEMBER 26*	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF AUG. 22†	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Goffstown	2,337	518	11,023	4.7%
Gorham	444	77	1,234	6.2%
Goshen	95	21	451	4.7%
Grafton	180	39	683	5.7%
Grantham	245	57	1,664	3.4%
Greenfield	219	50	1,066	4.7%
Greenland	489	111	2,467	4.5%
Greenville	229	53	1,206	4.4%
Groton	133	31	382	8.1%
Hampstead	897	203	5,151	3.9%
Hampton Falls	230	60	1,501	4.0%
Hampton	2,354	570	9,147	6.2%
Hancock	198	45	944	4.8%
Hanover	273	50	5,093	1.0%
Harrisville	120	23	609	3.8%
Haverhill	434	82	2,359	3.5%
Hebron	56	9	413	2.2%
Henniker	558	112	2,910	3.8%
Hill	159	33	543	6.1%
Hillsborough	1,003	214	3,004	7.1%
Hinsdale	350	84	2,158	3.9%
Holderness	279	48	1,563	3.1%
Hollis	647	131	4,346	3.0%
Hooksett	2,061	426	9,376	4.5%
Hopkinton	574	114	3,481	3.3%
Hudson	2,948	614	15,467	4.0%
Jackson	184	33	366	9.0%
Jaffrey	598	140	3,103	4.5%
Jefferson	152	42	639	6.6%
Keene	2,890	614	11,949	5.1%
Kensington	180	43	1,313	3.3%
Kingston	753	190	3,777	5.0%
Laconia	2,861	668	7,775	8.6%
Lancaster	405	84	1,741	4.8%
Landaff	43	7	279	2.5%
Langdon	66	11	363	3.0%
Lebanon	1,317	288	7,793	3.7%
Lee	568	119	2,884	4.1%
Lempster	134	26	629	4.1%
Lincoln	376	73	770	9.5%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - SEPTEMBER 26*	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF AUG. 22†	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Lisbon	217	53	862	6.1%
Litchfield	1,039	203	4,887	4.2%
Littleton	1,095	209	3,256	6.4%
Londonderry	3,097	642	16,261	3.9%
Loudon	737	136	3,357	4.1%
Lyman	117	30	336	8.9%
Lyme	97	18	850	2.1%
Lyndeborough	222	59	1,056	5.6%
Madbury	215	43	1,097	3.9%
Madison	434	99	1,437	6.9%
Manchester	20,551	5,005	66,815	7.5%
Marlborough	289	73	1,221	6.0%
Marlow	91	31	369	8.4%
Mason	150	34	821	4.1%
Meredith	969	205	3,115	6.6%
Merrimack	3,316	712	16,570	4.3%
Middleton	231	44	1,051	4.2%
Milan	171	30	626	4.8%
Milford	2,238	427	9,738	4.4%
Milton	596	139	2,390	5.8%
Monroe	78	24	401	6.0%
Mont Vernon	280	56	1,582	3.5%
Moultonborough	545	120	2,219	5.4%
Nashua	11,482	2,922	51,919	5.6%
Nelson	72	18	440	4.1%
New Boston	801	175	3,976	4.4%
New Castle	72	18	560	3.2%
New Durham	356	80	1,563	5.1%
New Hampton	368	75	1,321	5.7%
New Ipswich	446	90	3,023	3.0%
New London	297	74	1,941	3.8%
Newbury	237	49	1,212	4.0%
Newfields	193	43	1,071	4.0%
Newington	96	17	518	3.3%
Newmarket	1,425	289	5,818	5.0%
Newport	844	202	3,553	5.7%
Newton	384	106	3,283	3.2%
North Hampton	510	135	2,684	5.0%
Northfield	835	181	2,554	7.1%
Northumberland	320	47	1,059	4.4%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - SEPTEMBER 26*	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF AUG. 22†	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Northwood	670	146	2,672	5.5%
Nottingham	651	126	3,286	3.8%
Orford	106	25	817	3.1%
Ossipee	628	172	1,757	9.8%
Pelham	1,188	257	8,237	3.1%
Pembroke	1,136	255	4,612	5.5%
Peterborough	762	195	3,858	5.1%
Piermont	53	10	430	2.3%
Pittsburg	124	13	384	3.4%
Pittsfield	560	153	2,122	7.2%
Plainfield	187	36	1,446	2.5%
Plaistow	715	159	4,320	3.7%
Plymouth	797	123	3,989	3.1%
Portsmouth	3,141	709	14,074	5.0%
Randolph	53	11	141	7.8%
Raymond	1,504	364	6,360	5.7%
Richmond	101	22	596	3.7%
Rindge	444	96	2,943	3.3%
Rochester	4,881	1,083	18,190	6.0%
Rollinsford	370	87	1,456	6.0%
Roxbury	25	6	139	4.3%
Rumney	188	36	958	3.8%
Rye	588	143	3,459	4.1%
Salem	3,074	762	18,512	4.1%
Salisbury	179	36	827	4.4%
Sanbornton	436	98	1,689	5.8%
Sandown	743	149	4,279	3.5%
Sandwich	153	33	610	5.4%
Seabrook	1,129	293	5,180	5.7%
Sharon	34	13	224	5.8%
Shelburne	48	6	177	3.4%
Somersworth	1,922	470	6,891	6.8%
South Hampton	69	16	531	3.0%
Springfield	124	22	779	2.8%
Stark	54	13	194	6.7%
Stewartstown	91	10	370	2.7%
Stoddard	156	34	724	4.7%
Strafford	533	110	2,328	4.7%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - SEPTEMBER 26*	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF AUG. 22†	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Stratford	94	15	255	5.9%
Stratham	795	173	4,559	3.8%
Sugar Hill	78	17	351	4.8%
Sullivan	79	18	360	5.0%
Sunapee	319	75	1,671	4.5%
Surry	77	17	500	3.4%
Sutton	174	42	1,139	3.7%
Swanzey	898	232	4,101	5.7%
Tamworth	503	111	1,517	7.3%
Temple	163	35	786	4.5%
Thornton	507	85	1,790	4.7%
Tilton	712	137	1,837	7.5%
Troy	298	84	1,174	7.2%
Tuftonboro	292	75	1,157	6.5%
Unity	121	34	865	3.9%
Wakefield	618	147	2,310	6.4%
Walpole	343	81	2,380	3.4%
Warner	354	81	1,587	5.1%
Warren	93	15	537	2.8%
Washington	161	32	513	6.2%
Waterville Valley	87	20	141	14.2%
Weare	1,236	240	6,179	3.9%
Webster	243	43	1,180	3.6%
Wentworth	106	21	535	3.9%
Westmoreland	181	33	941	3.5%
Whitefield	390	92	1,280	7.2%
Wilmot	149	34	788	4.3%
Wilton	538	125	2,190	5.7%
Winchester	526	126	2,058	6.1%
Windham	1,253	297	8,219	3.6%
Windsor	31	4	155	2.6%
Wolfeboro	731	166	2,827	5.9%
Woodstock	401	64	972	6.6%
Totals	**178,554**	**39,981**	**780,205**	**5.1%**

** 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 October 15th.

For further information contact:
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NEWS RELEASE

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