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COVID-19

UNEMPLOYMENT UPDATE

For Immediate Release: December 18, 2020

New Hampshire's initial claims for unemployment decreased to 2,949 during the week ended December 12th, down 464 (or 14%) from a revised 3,413 during the week ended December 5th. U.S. initial claims decreased by 2.2% during the week on a not seasonally adjusted basis. A total of 17 states experienced an increase in initial claims during the week, including Connecticut, Maine, and Rhode Island in New England.

New Hampshire's continued claims in the regular unemployment insurance (UI) program were 20,743 during the week ended December 5th, down 499 or 2%. U.S. regular UI continued claims decreased by 5% on a not seasonally adjusted basis. Continuing claims (by individuals who remain unemployed and file a "continuing claim" for unemployment insurance) is an important metric in assessing New Hampshire's progress of economic recovery from pandemic-required restrictions and related economic effects. Fourteen states experienced an increase in regular UI program continuing claims during the week ended December 5th, including Maine, Rhode Island and Vermont in New England.

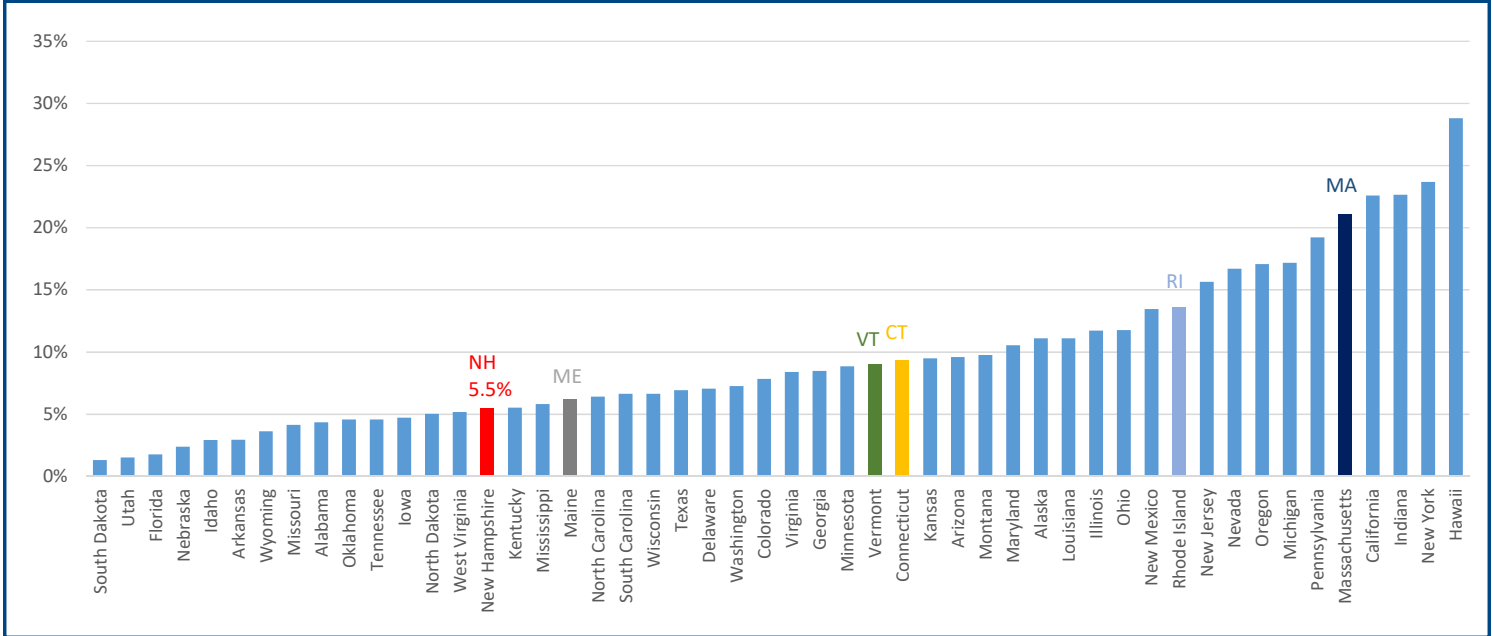
In addition to continued claims filed by individuals who qualify for a state's regular unemployment benefits program (UI), the federal CARES Act established the "Pandemic Unemployment Assistance" (PUA) program to allow workers affected by the pandemic but who would not normally qualify for regular state 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. Thirty seven (37) states experienced an increase in PUA continued claims during the week ended November 28th, including every state in New England. The CARES Act also established the "Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation" (PEUC) program to allow individuals who exhausted their regular UI or

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

| TOWN | NEW CLAIMS NOVEMBER 15 TO DECEMBER 5 | CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK | TOTAL NEW CLAIMS MARCH 16 TO DECEMBER 5 | CONTINUING CLAIMS AS OF NOVEMBER 21 [†] |
|-------------|--|---------------------------|---|--|
| Manchester | 168 | 39 | 21,950 | 3,970 |
| Nashua | 89 | 39 | 12,177 | 2,278 |
| Concord | 40 | 4 | 6,580 | 1,113 |
| Derry | 30 | -2 | 4,913 | 812 |
| Keene | 27 | 5 | 3,077 | 427 |
| Rochester | 23 | -2 | 5,173 | 888 |
| Bedford | 22 | 15 | 2,335 | 357 |
| Hudson | 20 | 9 | 3,106 | 500 |
| Merrimack | 20 | 2 | 3,507 | 576 |
| Dover | 19 | -12 | 4,968 | 826 |
| Franklin | 19 | 9 | 1,546 | 278 |
| Raymond | 19 | 10 | 1,602 | 290 |
| Goffstown | 18 | 7 | 2,467 | 398 |
| Hampton | 18 | 9 | 2,487 | 512 |
| Exeter | 17 | 10 | 1,938 | 334 |
| Laconia | 17 | -7 | 3,067 | 581 |
| Salem | 17 | 4 | 3,244 | 597 |
| Berlin | 16 | 9 | 1,342 | 242 |
| Londonderry | 16 | -5 | 3,254 | 482 |
| Claremont | 15 | -4 | 1,724 | 270 |

[†] 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 November 28th)



their PUA benefits after 26 weeks to receive an additional 13 weeks of benefits. Thirty five (35) states saw an increase in PEUC claims during the week, including every New England state. Both the PUA and PEUC programs are scheduled to expire at the end of December, and while negotiation among federal lawmakers over possible legislation that could provide some form of replacement, currently about 12 million individuals nationally (including over 20,000 in New Hampshire) will see the benefits they receive under these programs expire later this month.

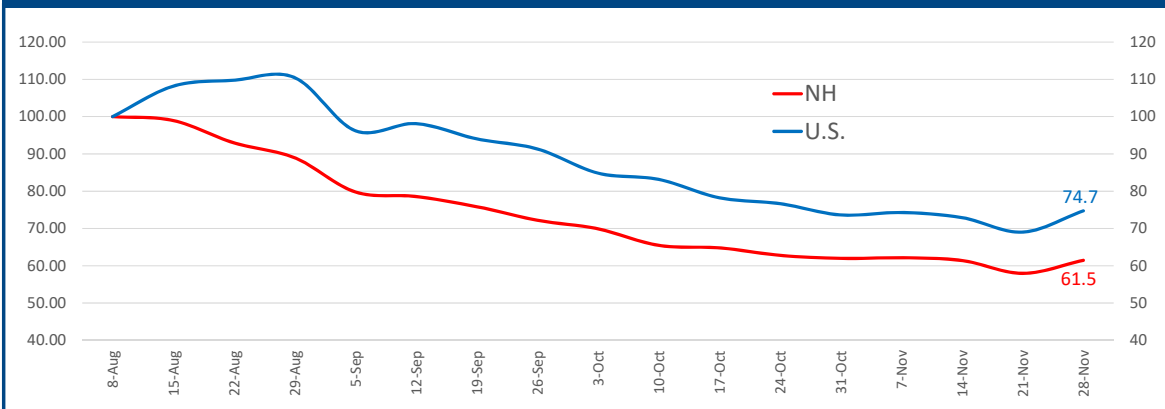
Adding PUA and PEUC continued claims to regular state UI continued claims provides a more complete measure of the impacts of the pandemic on the labor market than does UI claims alone. Combined UI, PUA, and PEUC continued claims as a percentage of each state's pre-pandemic labor force is presented in Figure 1. The total of

all continued claims in New Hampshire under these three programs increased by 6.1% during the week, compared to an increase nationally of 8.2%. New Hampshire continues to have the lowest percentage among all Northeastern states and has the 15th lowest overall among states. Using this broader measure of Covid-19's impact on the labor market, New Hampshire's continued claims as a percentage of its pre-Covid-19 labor force stands at 5.5 percent as of November 28th (PUA and PEUC claims are reported with an additional one-week lag). Note that weekly claims data reported in the town-by-town sections and the claims by industry section of these weekly reports have consistently included regular UI as well as PUA and PEUC claims.

Figure 2 highlights continuing claims trends in New Hampshire and the U.S. since August 8th. On the graph,

FIGURE 2

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



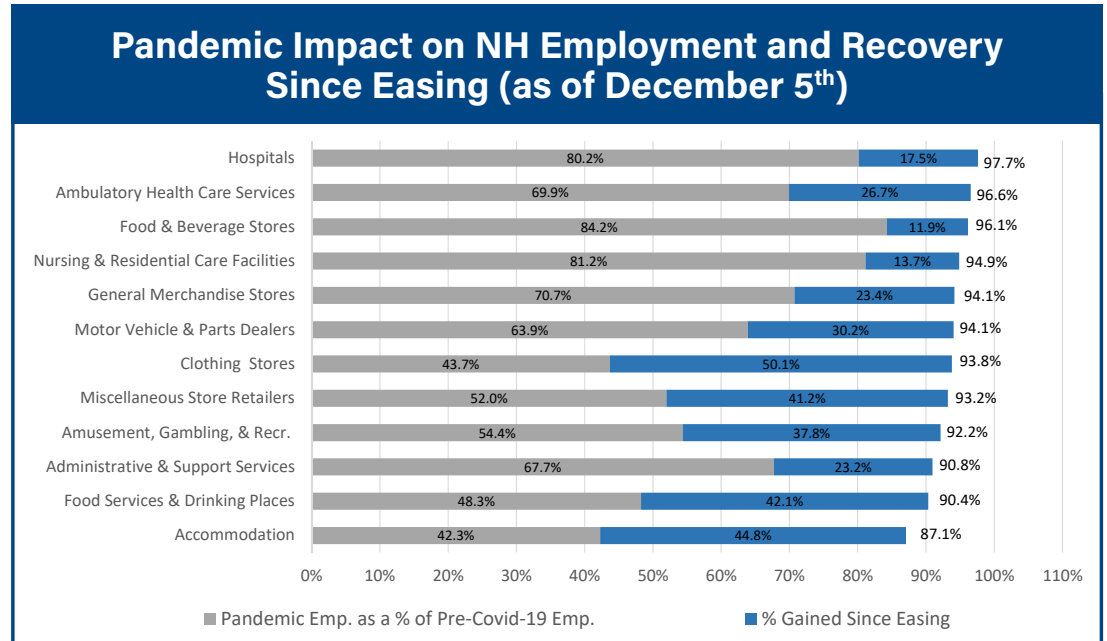
each region's peak for continuing claims is set at an index value of 100, with index numbers reflecting the percentage change in continuing claims from 100 (thus New Hampshire's index value of 61 indicates that as of November 28th, continuing claims have declined by 39 percent since August 8th (100 - 61 = 39).

Continuing claims nationally have declined by 25 percent during the same time period.

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 December 5th). The number of claims filed by New Hampshire residents working in New Hampshire increased by 298 during the week. Manchester and Nashua (+39 each) had the largest increase in new claims over the previous week, followed by Bedford (+16). Dover (-12) had the largest decrease in initial claims during the week. A total of 115 of New Hampshire's 238 towns had an increase in new claims during the week, totaling 417 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.

FIGURE 3



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 November 21st) 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 November 21st), 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 November was released on December 15th and reflects employment and unemployment in November 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 3.8 percent, and the not seasonally adjusted figure 3.5 percent. For the week ending November 21st, New Hampshire's "Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate" (which is not seasonally adjusted) was 4.1 percent. Dalton (9.7%), Lincoln (9.1%) and Ossipee (8.1%) 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

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.

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

Claims by County

Table 2 presents the total number of initial claims in each county since March 15th, the number of claims during the week ended December 5th, the change in initial claims from the prior week, and the number of continuing claims filed by residents of each county. Eight of the state's 10 counties experienced an increase in initial claims during the week compared to the previous week, led by Hillsborough (+125) and Rockingham (+49) Counties.

As of the week ended November 28th, Carroll County has the highest Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate, at 6.2 percent, while the lowest rate was recorded in Grafton and Rockingham Counties at 3.5 percent.

Claims by Industry

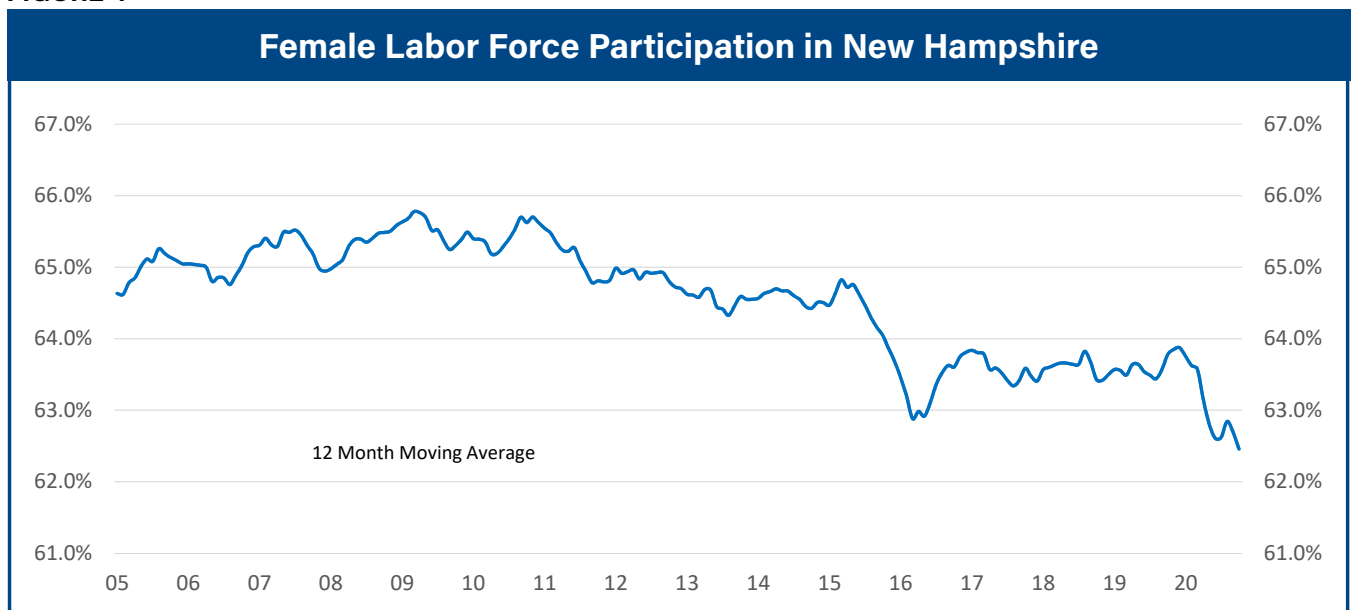
Industries with the most initial claims for unemployment since March 15th are presented in Table 3, along with the number of continuing claims in the industry for the week ended December 5th, New Hampshire employment in each industry as of the fourth quarter of 2019, as well as the percentage of each industry's employees that filed a continuing unemployment claim during the week of December 5th.

A total of 21 of the 94 industry classifications (at the three-digit NAICS level), experienced increases in continuing claims during the week, with food services and drinking places (+165), heavy and civil engineering construction (+23), and machinery manufacturing (+13) having the largest increases. Among the 50 industries most affected by the pandemic through December 5th, seven experienced an increase in continuing claims during the week, compared to the week ended November 28th (Table 3).

Continued claims in manufacturing industries declined by 142, the largest percentage decline among industry sectors, or -4.6 percent during the week ended December 5th. Claims in educational services increased by 10, or +0.8 percent. Continued claims in healthcare industries declined by just 85 or -3.1 percent during the week. Claims in the hospitality (accommodations and food services and recreation) industries increased by 145 or +2.2 percent, led by the increase in the food services and drinking places industry. Continued claims in the accommodations industry declined by just one and the amusements and recreation industry by 19. The retail industry experienced a decrease of 172 continued claims (-3.5%) during the week ended December 5th.

Figure 4 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 December 5th. 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.

FIGURE 4



More Evidence of the Pandemic’s Impact on New Hampshire Businesses

The Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated a number of ongoing economic and industry trends. The movement away from brick and mortar retailing and toward online shopping is the starkest example, as is the increase in remote work arrangements. Each of those trends offers opportunities for some industries while challenging others, and each will have some lasting impacts on the structure of the New Hampshire economy and how various economic activities are conducted. Whether these trends and their pandemic-induced acceleration are beneficial is an open question. One trend the pandemic has accelerated that is clearly not beneficial is its impact on labor force participation, most specifically on female participation in the labor force.

New Hampshire has among the highest labor force participation rates for females of any state in the nation and the increase in female participation in the state during the 1970s, 80s and 90s was a key to increasing the skill level of the state’s workforce. A majority of the increase in individuals with postsecondary education and training in the state was from females. More recently female labor force participation has appeared to peak and begun to decline (Figure 4).

Labor force participation has fallen among both genders during the pandemic and some of that decline is related to demographics as more of the state’s population enters ages where labor force participation begins to decline (55+), some decline can be expected. But the impact

of the pandemic on female labor force participation is especially apparent. Some is related to the fact that industries most affected by the pandemic have a high percentage of female workers, but there are other factors at work as well.

The cost and availability of child care has increasingly been cited in researchers and anecdotally by individuals and businesses as an impediment to female participation in the labor force. As of the end of November 2020, the Census Bureau’s “Household Pulse Survey” indicated that nearly 16,000 individuals (primarily women) cited the need to care for a child not in school as a reason for not working. At times during the summer that number had reached over 30,000. Early in the pandemic both men’s and women’s labor force participation in New Hampshire dropped almost equally. As jobs began to come back in the state, male labor force recovered more than did female participation. Figure 5 shows that while male labor force participation had nearly recovered to pre-pandemic levels in New Hampshire by November, female participation was still well below February levels.

The pandemic has highlighted the importance of access to childcare to New Hampshire’s economic recovery and it may, in fact, be one of the most effective stimuli available. Given the challenges New Hampshire and the nation face with slow labor force growth in the coming decade, it may also be one of the most effective long-term economic development strategies available.

- Brian Gottlob, Director

FIGURE 5

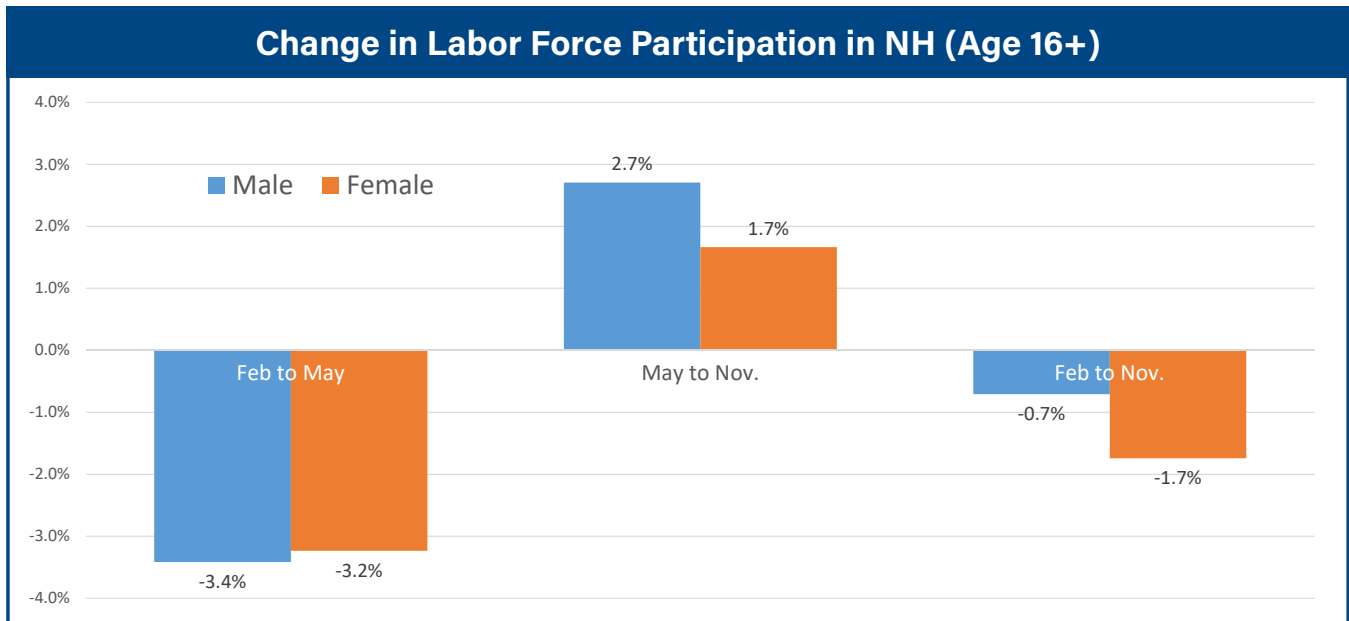


TABLE 2 - COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY COUNTY

| COUNTY | TOTAL CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH: MARCH 16 TO DECEMBER 5 | CLAIMS NOVEMBER 29 TO DECEMBER 5 | CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK | CONTINUING CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH AS OF NOVEMBER 21 [†] | FEBRUARY 2020 LABOR FORCE | ESTIMATED CURRENT COVID-19 AFFECTED INSURED UNEMP. RATE |
|---------------|--|----------------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------------|---|
| Belknap | 10,619 | 66 | 6 | 1,851 | 31,039 | 6.0% |
| Carroll | 8,142 | 49 | 25 | 1,460 | 23,718 | 6.2% |
| Cheshire | 9,046 | 78 | 24 | 1,491 | 41,500 | 3.9% |
| Coos | 4,673 | 37 | 12 | 836 | 14,724 | 4.8% |
| Grafton | 11,679 | 80 | 17 | 1,773 | 51,045 | 3.6% |
| Hillsborough | 60,260 | 422 | 125 | 10,362 | 245,905 | 4.4% |
| Merrimack | 21,587 | 161 | 44 | 3,569 | 84,821 | 4.5% |
| Rockingham | 39,450 | 246 | 49 | 6,641 | 188,982 | 3.7% |
| Strafford | 18,332 | 89 | -2 | 3,105 | 75,410 | 4.3% |
| Sullivan | 5,218 | 36 | -2 | 836 | 23,061 | 4.0% |
| Totals | 189,006 | 1,264 | 298 | 31,924 | 780,205 | 4.3% |

[†] New data for Continued Claims is released monthly

TABLE 3 - INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS - MARCH 15 TO DECEMBER 5

| INDUSTRY | NAICS CODE * | # CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16 | CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF NOVEMBER 28 | CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK | Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT | NOV 28 CONTINUED CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT |
|--|--------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Food Services and Drinking Places | 722 | 27,723 | 4,819 | 165 | 49,907 | 9.7% |
| Administrative and Support Services | 561 | 12,885 | 3,048 | -41 | 33,750 | 9.0% |
| Ambulatory Health Care Services | 621 | 11,013 | 1,181 | -55 | 34,431 | 3.4% |
| Educational Services | 611 | 8,686 | 1,253 | 10 | 20,834 | 6.0% |
| Social Assistance | 624 | 6,756 | 1,170 | 0 | 15,809 | 7.4% |
| Hospitals | 622 | 6,284 | 714 | -19 | 30,086 | 2.4% |
| Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 541 | 5,486 | 1,143 | -64 | 39,171 | 2.9% |
| Personal and Laundry Services | 812 | 5,298 | 813 | -11 | 7,306 | 11.1% |
| Accommodation | 721 | 5,156 | 1,085 | -1 | 8,397 | 12.9% |
| Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation | 713 | 5,034 | 775 | -19 | 9,883 | 7.8% |
| Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers | 441 | 4,867 | 750 | -4 | 12,602 | 6.0% |
| Specialty Trade Contractors | 238 | 4,865 | 762 | 12 | 18,817 | 4.0% |

TABLE 3 - INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS - MARCH 15 TO DECEMBER 5

| INDUSTRY | NAICS CODE * | # CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16 | CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF NOVEMBER 28 | CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK | Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT | NOV 28 CONTINUED CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| General Merchandise Stores | 452 | 4,832 | 863 | -27 | 14,817 | 5.8% |
| Food and Beverage Stores | 445 | 3,979 | 866 | -9 | 22,356 | 3.9% |
| Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores | 448 | 3,580 | 373 | -22 | 6,029 | 6.2% |
| Nursing and Residential Care Facilities | 623 | 3,160 | 735 | -11 | 14,268 | 5.2% |
| Miscellaneous Store Retailers | 453 | 2,801 | 370 | -3 | 5,449 | 6.8% |
| Electronic Computer Manufacturing | 334 | 2,749 | 396 | -12 | 16,381 | 2.4% |
| Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing | 332 | 2,624 | 490 | -20 | 11,558 | 4.2% |
| General Automotive Repair | 811 | 2,520 | 380 | -10 | 7,091 | 5.4% |
| Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation | 485 | 2,493 | 578 | -35 | 3,652 | 15.8% |
| Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods | 423 | 2,431 | 429 | 7 | 12,463 | 3.4% |
| Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations | 813 | 2,422 | 385 | -9 | 6,517 | 5.9% |
| Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing | 335 | 2,124 | 145 | -9 | 4,225 | 3.4% |
| Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, and Book Stores | 451 | 1,790 | 205 | -15 | 4,154 | 4.9% |
| Construction of Buildings | 236 | 1,645 | 367 | -3 | 2,772 | 13.2% |
| Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers | 444 | 1,645 | 330 | -16 | 4,430 | 7.4% |
| Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores | 442 | 1,632 | 165 | -12 | 9,527 | 1.7% |
| Miscellaneous Manufacturing | 339 | 1,522 | 187 | -5 | 4,430 | 4.2% |
| Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods | 424 | 1,521 | 262 | -7 | 8,050 | 3.3% |
| Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing | 326 | 1,396 | 229 | 0 | 5,422 | 4.2% |
| Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers. | 425 | 1,360 | 276 | -11 | 7,771 | 3.6% |
| Nonstore Retailers | 454 | 1,251 | 228 | -20 | 6,181 | 3.7% |
| Health and Personal Care Stores | 446 | 1,103 | 187 | -8 | 9,284 | 2.0% |
| Management of Companies and Enterprises | 551 | 1,102 | 241 | -10 | 4,185 | 5.8% |
| Real Estate | 531 | 1,101 | 214 | -9 | 4,949 | 4.3% |
| Textile Mills | 313 | 1,087 | 208 | -31 | 1,822 | 11.4% |
| Machinery Manufacturing | 333 | 1,040 | 216 | 13 | 7,006 | 3.1% |
| Gas Stations | 447 | 1,036 | 219 | -21 | 2,386 | 9.2% |
| Primary Metal Manufacturing | 331 | 1,012 | 169 | 1 | 2,297 | 7.4% |

TABLE 3 - INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS - MARCH 15 TO DECEMBER 5

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|---|--------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Printing and Related Support Activities | 323 | 983 | 167 | -18 | 4,511 | 3.7% |
| Electronics and Appliance Stores | 443 | 868 | 126 | -15 | 2,958 | 4.3% |
| Couriers and Messengers | 492 | 832 | 168 | -4 | 1,993 | 8.4% |
| Rental and Leasing Services | 532 | 831 | 165 | -2 | 3,721 | 4.4% |
| Industries in the Food Manufacturing | 311 | 811 | 130 | -3 | 2,771 | 4.7% |
| Industries in the Publishing Industries (except Internet) | 511 | 731 | 147 | -1 | 5,116 | 2.9% |
| Insurance Carriers and Related Activities | 524 | 693 | 172 | 1 | 11,768 | 1.5% |
| Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related | 711 | 672 | 178 | -8 | 2,634 | 6.8% |
| Transportation Equipment Manufacturing | 336 | 654 | 134 | -49 | 1,179 | 11.4% |
| Credit Intermediation and Related Activities | 522 | 612 | 162 | -11 | 8,107 | 2.0% |

*NAICS - North American Industrial Classification System

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

| TOWN | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - DECEMBER 5 | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF NOV. 21 | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Acworth | 95 | 15 | 459 | 3.3% |
| Albany | 134 | 15 | 362 | 4.1% |
| Alexandria | 293 | 39 | 912 | 4.3% |
| Allenstown | 687 | 121 | 2,493 | 4.9% |
| Alstead | 248 | 48 | 1,083 | 4.4% |
| Alton | 812 | 139 | 3,009 | 4.6% |
| Amherst | 1,183 | 174 | 6,419 | 2.7% |
| Andover | 309 | 49 | 1,439 | 3.4% |
| Antrim | 378 | 54 | 1,427 | 3.8% |
| Ashland | 376 | 50 | 1,279 | 3.9% |

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

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|------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Atkinson | 663 | 123 | 4,068 | 3.0% |
| Auburn | 751 | 117 | 3,634 | 3.2% |
| Barnstead | 725 | 117 | 2,656 | 4.4% |
| Barrington | 1,262 | 198 | 5,523 | 3.6% |
| Bartlett | 718 | 109 | 1,459 | 7.5% |
| Bath town | 150 | 25 | 542 | 4.6% |
| Bedford | 2,335 | 357 | 12,555 | 2.8% |
| Belmont | 1,330 | 239 | 3,576 | 6.7% |
| Bennington | 248 | 41 | 817 | 5.0% |
| Benton | 29 | 6 | 150 | 4.0% |

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

| TOWN | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - DECEMBER 5 | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF NOV. 21 | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|---------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Berlin | 1,342 | 242 | 3,888 | 6.2% |
| Bethlehem | 523 | 103 | 1,444 | 7.1% |
| Boscawen | 652 | 98 | 1,972 | 5.0% |
| Bow | 880 | 145 | 4,561 | 3.2% |
| Bradford | 264 | 59 | 986 | 6.0% |
| Brentwood | 503 | 82 | 2,642 | 3.1% |
| Bridgewater | 156 | 28 | 761 | 3.7% |
| Bristol | 645 | 80 | 1,842 | 4.3% |
| Brookfield | 136 | 19 | 293 | 6.5% |
| Brookline | 513 | 68 | 3,480 | 2.0% |
| Campton | 674 | 104 | 2,110 | 4.9% |
| Canaan | 504 | 70 | 2,042 | 3.4% |
| Candia | 545 | 86 | 2,598 | 3.3% |
| Canterbury | 291 | 52 | 1,508 | 3.4% |
| Carroll | 134 | 23 | 391 | 5.9% |
| Center Harbor | 164 | 21 | 670 | 3.1% |
| Charlestown | 690 | 101 | 2,843 | 3.6% |
| Chatham | 49 | 10 | 160 | 6.3% |
| Chester | 644 | 90 | 3,145 | 2.9% |
| Chesterfield | 299 | 43 | 1,943 | 2.2% |
| Chichester | 381 | 56 | 1,588 | 3.5% |
| Claremont | 1,724 | 270 | 6,385 | 4.2% |
| Colebrook | 327 | 56 | 1,141 | 4.9% |
| Columbia | 60 | 9 | 318 | 2.8% |
| Concord | 6,580 | 1,113 | 23,063 | 4.8% |
| Conway | 2,322 | 375 | 5,463 | 6.9% |
| Cornish | 175 | 27 | 988 | 2.7% |
| Croydon | 68 | 17 | 452 | 3.8% |
| Dalton | 203 | 43 | 442 | 9.7% |
| Danbury | 216 | 37 | 736 | 5.0% |
| Danville | 554 | 94 | 2,771 | 3.4% |
| Deerfield | 612 | 95 | 2,835 | 3.4% |
| Deering | 222 | 27 | 1,133 | 2.4% |
| Derry | 4,913 | 812 | 20,900 | 3.9% |
| Dorchester | 37 | 11 | 200 | 5.5% |
| Dover | 4,968 | 826 | 18,915 | 4.4% |
| Dublin | 141 | 26 | 891 | 2.9% |
| Dummer | 32 | 6 | 142 | 4.2% |
| Dunbarton | 375 | 60 | 1,795 | 3.3% |

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

| TOWN | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - DECEMBER 5 | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF NOV. 21 | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|---------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Durham | 781 | 103 | 9,395 | 1.1% |
| East Kingston | 247 | 44 | 1,401 | 3.1% |
| Easton | 35 | 8 | 143 | 5.6% |
| Eaton | 67 | 10 | 235 | 4.3% |
| Effingham | 227 | 46 | 701 | 6.6% |
| Enfield | 520 | 66 | 3,166 | 2.1% |
| Epping | 1,036 | 161 | 4,282 | 3.8% |
| Epsom | 667 | 106 | 2,996 | 3.5% |
| Errol | 57 | 11 | 164 | 6.7% |
| Exeter | 1,938 | 334 | 8,834 | 3.8% |
| Farmington | 1,128 | 205 | 3,725 | 5.5% |
| Fitzwilliam | 241 | 46 | 1,361 | 3.4% |
| Francestown | 186 | 40 | 1,002 | 4.0% |
| Franconia | 169 | 25 | 655 | 3.8% |
| Franklin | 1,546 | 278 | 4,055 | 6.9% |
| Freedom | 179 | 38 | 766 | 5.0% |
| Fremont | 609 | 109 | 2,870 | 3.8% |
| Gilford | 1,232 | 205 | 3,645 | 5.6% |
| Gilmanton | 624 | 97 | 1,746 | 5.6% |
| Gilsum | 112 | 21 | 457 | 4.6% |
| Goffstown | 2,467 | 398 | 11,023 | 3.6% |
| Gorham | 460 | 80 | 1,234 | 6.5% |
| Goshen | 97 | 18 | 451 | 4.0% |
| Grafton | 189 | 26 | 683 | 3.8% |
| Grantham | 254 | 43 | 1,664 | 2.6% |
| Greenfield | 230 | 40 | 1,066 | 3.8% |
| Greenland | 512 | 77 | 2,467 | 3.1% |
| Greenville | 239 | 43 | 1,206 | 3.6% |
| Groton | 146 | 24 | 382 | 6.3% |
| Hampstead | 959 | 142 | 5,151 | 2.8% |
| Hampton Falls | 245 | 45 | 1,501 | 3.0% |
| Hampton | 2,487 | 512 | 9,147 | 5.6% |
| Hancock | 206 | 40 | 944 | 4.2% |
| Hanover | 308 | 47 | 5,093 | 0.9% |
| Harrisville | 125 | 23 | 609 | 3.8% |
| Haverhill | 464 | 69 | 2,359 | 2.9% |
| Hebron | 61 | 8 | 413 | 1.9% |
| Henniker | 598 | 97 | 2,910 | 3.3% |
| Hill | 167 | 29 | 543 | 5.3% |

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

| TOWN | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - DECEMBER 5 | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF NOV. 21 | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|--------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Hillsborough | 1,049 | 165 | 3,004 | 5.5% |
| Hinsdale | 369 | 75 | 2,158 | 3.5% |
| Holderness | 300 | 48 | 1,563 | 3.1% |
| Hollis | 679 | 100 | 4,346 | 2.3% |
| Hooksett | 2,152 | 320 | 9,376 | 3.4% |
| Hopkinton | 614 | 94 | 3,481 | 2.7% |
| Hudson | 3,106 | 500 | 15,467 | 3.2% |
| Jackson | 190 | 28 | 366 | 7.7% |
| Jaffrey | 638 | 110 | 3,103 | 3.5% |
| Jefferson | 169 | 42 | 639 | 6.6% |
| Keene | 3,077 | 427 | 11,949 | 3.6% |
| Kensington | 189 | 34 | 1,313 | 2.6% |
| Kingston | 795 | 146 | 3,777 | 3.9% |
| Laconia | 3,067 | 581 | 7,775 | 7.5% |
| Lancaster | 437 | 83 | 1,741 | 4.8% |
| Landaff | 43 | 5 | 279 | 1.8% |
| Langdon | 67 | 11 | 363 | 3.0% |
| Lebanon | 1,412 | 217 | 7,793 | 2.8% |
| Lee | 592 | 84 | 2,884 | 2.9% |
| Lempster | 140 | 24 | 629 | 3.8% |
| Lincoln | 387 | 70 | 770 | 9.1% |
| Lisbon | 239 | 53 | 862 | 6.1% |
| Litchfield | 1,084 | 158 | 4,887 | 3.2% |
| Littleton | 1,153 | 193 | 3,256 | 5.9% |
| Londonderry | 3,254 | 482 | 16,261 | 3.0% |
| Loudon | 789 | 115 | 3,357 | 3.4% |
| Lyman | 125 | 27 | 336 | 8.0% |
| Lyme | 102 | 15 | 850 | 1.8% |
| Lyndeborough | 233 | 47 | 1,056 | 4.5% |
| Madbury | 224 | 40 | 1,097 | 3.6% |
| Madison | 457 | 85 | 1,437 | 5.9% |
| Manchester | 21,950 | 3,970 | 66,815 | 5.9% |
| Marlborough | 317 | 50 | 1,221 | 4.1% |
| Marlow | 95 | 21 | 369 | 5.7% |
| Mason | 159 | 24 | 821 | 2.9% |
| Meredith | 1,015 | 180 | 3,115 | 5.8% |
| Merrimack | 3,507 | 576 | 16,570 | 3.5% |
| Middleton | 238 | 37 | 1,051 | 3.5% |
| Milan | 184 | 29 | 626 | 4.6% |

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

| TOWN | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - DECEMBER 5 | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF NOV. 21 | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|----------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Milford | 2,323 | 326 | 9,738 | 3.3% |
| Milton | 630 | 124 | 2,390 | 5.2% |
| Monroe | 81 | 13 | 401 | 3.2% |
| Mont Vernon | 298 | 36 | 1,582 | 2.3% |
| Moultonborough | 573 | 106 | 2,219 | 4.8% |
| Nashua | 12,177 | 2,278 | 51,919 | 4.4% |
| Nelson | 77 | 14 | 440 | 3.2% |
| New Boston | 847 | 132 | 3,976 | 3.3% |
| New Castle | 78 | 15 | 560 | 2.7% |
| New Durham | 374 | 72 | 1,563 | 4.6% |
| New Hampton | 420 | 64 | 1,321 | 4.8% |
| New Ipswich | 476 | 79 | 3,023 | 2.6% |
| New London | 323 | 50 | 1,941 | 2.6% |
| Newbury | 249 | 41 | 1,212 | 3.4% |
| Newfields | 202 | 30 | 1,071 | 2.8% |
| Newington | 101 | 11 | 518 | 2.1% |
| Newmarket | 1,520 | 208 | 5,818 | 3.6% |
| Newport | 905 | 154 | 3,553 | 4.3% |
| Newton | 402 | 75 | 3,283 | 2.3% |
| North Hampton | 538 | 117 | 2,684 | 4.4% |
| Northfield | 872 | 135 | 2,554 | 5.3% |
| Northumberland | 339 | 43 | 1,059 | 4.1% |
| Northwood | 705 | 105 | 2,672 | 3.9% |
| Nottingham | 673 | 90 | 3,286 | 2.7% |
| Orford | 111 | 17 | 817 | 2.1% |
| Ossipee | 660 | 142 | 1,757 | 8.1% |
| Pelham | 1,246 | 197 | 8,237 | 2.4% |
| Pembroke | 1,207 | 208 | 4,612 | 4.5% |
| Peterborough | 818 | 160 | 3,858 | 4.1% |
| Piermont | 58 | 7 | 430 | 1.6% |
| Pittsburg | 131 | 23 | 384 | 6.0% |
| Pittsfield | 598 | 111 | 2,122 | 5.2% |
| Plainfield | 196 | 27 | 1,446 | 1.9% |
| Plaistow | 762 | 137 | 4,320 | 3.2% |
| Plymouth | 839 | 87 | 3,989 | 2.2% |
| Portsmouth | 3,318 | 553 | 14,074 | 3.9% |
| Randolph | 56 | 7 | 141 | 5.0% |
| Raymond | 1,602 | 290 | 6,360 | 4.6% |
| Richmond | 102 | 16 | 596 | 2.7% |

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

| TOWN | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - DECEMBER 5 | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF NOV. 21 | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|---------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Rindge | 478 | 81 | 2,943 | 2.8% |
| Rochester | 5,173 | 888 | 18,190 | 4.9% |
| Rollinsford | 382 | 75 | 1,456 | 5.2% |
| Roxbury | 26 | 6 | 139 | 4.3% |
| Rumney | 194 | 29 | 958 | 3.0% |
| Rye | 624 | 109 | 3,459 | 3.2% |
| Salem | 3,244 | 597 | 18,512 | 3.2% |
| Salisbury | 193 | 32 | 827 | 3.9% |
| Sanbornton | 474 | 85 | 1,689 | 5.0% |
| Sandown | 788 | 106 | 4,279 | 2.5% |
| Sandwich | 161 | 29 | 610 | 4.8% |
| Seabrook | 1,215 | 237 | 5,180 | 4.6% |
| Sharon | 35 | 10 | 224 | 4.5% |
| Shelburne | 49 | 7 | 177 | 4.0% |
| Somersworth | 2,035 | 367 | 6,891 | 5.3% |
| South Hampton | 73 | 13 | 531 | 2.4% |
| Springfield | 131 | 16 | 779 | 2.1% |
| Stark | 58 | 12 | 194 | 6.2% |
| Stewartstown | 97 | 16 | 370 | 4.3% |
| Stoddard | 166 | 31 | 724 | 4.3% |
| Strafford | 545 | 86 | 2,328 | 3.7% |
| Stratford | 98 | 16 | 255 | 6.3% |
| Stratham | 831 | 142 | 4,559 | 3.1% |
| Sugar Hill | 82 | 15 | 351 | 4.3% |
| Sullivan | 86 | 8 | 360 | 2.2% |
| Sunapee | 371 | 60 | 1,671 | 3.6% |
| Surry | 81 | 13 | 500 | 2.6% |
| Sutton | 180 | 36 | 1,139 | 3.2% |
| Swanzey | 948 | 172 | 4,101 | 4.2% |
| Tamworth | 529 | 105 | 1,517 | 6.9% |

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

| TOWN | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - DECEMBER 5 | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF NOV. 21 | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|-------------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Temple | 173 | 31 | 786 | 3.9% |
| Thornton | 522 | 80 | 1,790 | 4.5% |
| Tilton | 756 | 123 | 1,837 | 6.7% |
| Troy | 310 | 72 | 1,174 | 6.1% |
| Tuftonboro | 308 | 66 | 1,157 | 5.7% |
| Unity | 129 | 28 | 865 | 3.2% |
| Wakefield | 645 | 133 | 2,310 | 5.8% |
| Walpole | 365 | 66 | 2,380 | 2.8% |
| Warner | 380 | 68 | 1,587 | 4.3% |
| Warren | 101 | 15 | 537 | 2.8% |
| Washington | 176 | 25 | 513 | 4.9% |
| Waterville Valley | 88 | 11 | 141 | 7.8% |
| Weare | 1,300 | 192 | 6,179 | 3.1% |
| Webster | 259 | 34 | 1,180 | 2.9% |
| Wentworth | 114 | 19 | 535 | 3.6% |
| Westmoreland | 185 | 24 | 941 | 2.6% |
| Whitefield | 416 | 85 | 1,280 | 6.6% |
| Wilmot | 158 | 25 | 788 | 3.2% |
| Wilton | 560 | 98 | 2,190 | 4.5% |
| Winchester | 560 | 98 | 2,058 | 4.8% |
| Windham | 1,318 | 221 | 8,219 | 2.7% |
| Windsor | 33 | 1 | 155 | 0.6% |
| Wolfeboro | 771 | 140 | 2,827 | 5.0% |
| Woodstock | 410 | 57 | 972 | 5.9% |
| Totals | 189,006 | 31,924 | 780,205 | 4.1% |

** 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 December 24th.

For further information contact:
Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau
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NEWS RELEASE

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