New Hampshire Employment Security
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COVID-19 UNEMPLOYMENT UPDATE

For Immediate Release: March 5, 2021

New Hampshire's initial claims for the week ended February 27th decreased by 737, or 25 percent, to 2,196. U.S. initial claims decreased by 4.4 percent during the week on a not seasonally adjusted basis. A total of 17 states experienced an increase in initial claims during the week. In New England, only Vermont had an increases in initial claims during the week.

New Hampshire's continued claims in the regular unemployment insurance (UI) program were 24,977 during the week ended February 20th, down 621 (or 2.4%) from 25,598 the prior week. U.S. regular UI continued claims decreased by 4.6 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. Twenty one (21) states experienced an increase in regular UI program continuing claims during the week ended February 20th. Connecticut and Vermont were the only New England states to experience 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. Twelve (12) states experienced an increase in PUA continued claims during the week ended February 13th. Connecticut was the only New England state to experience an increase in PUA continued claims during the week.

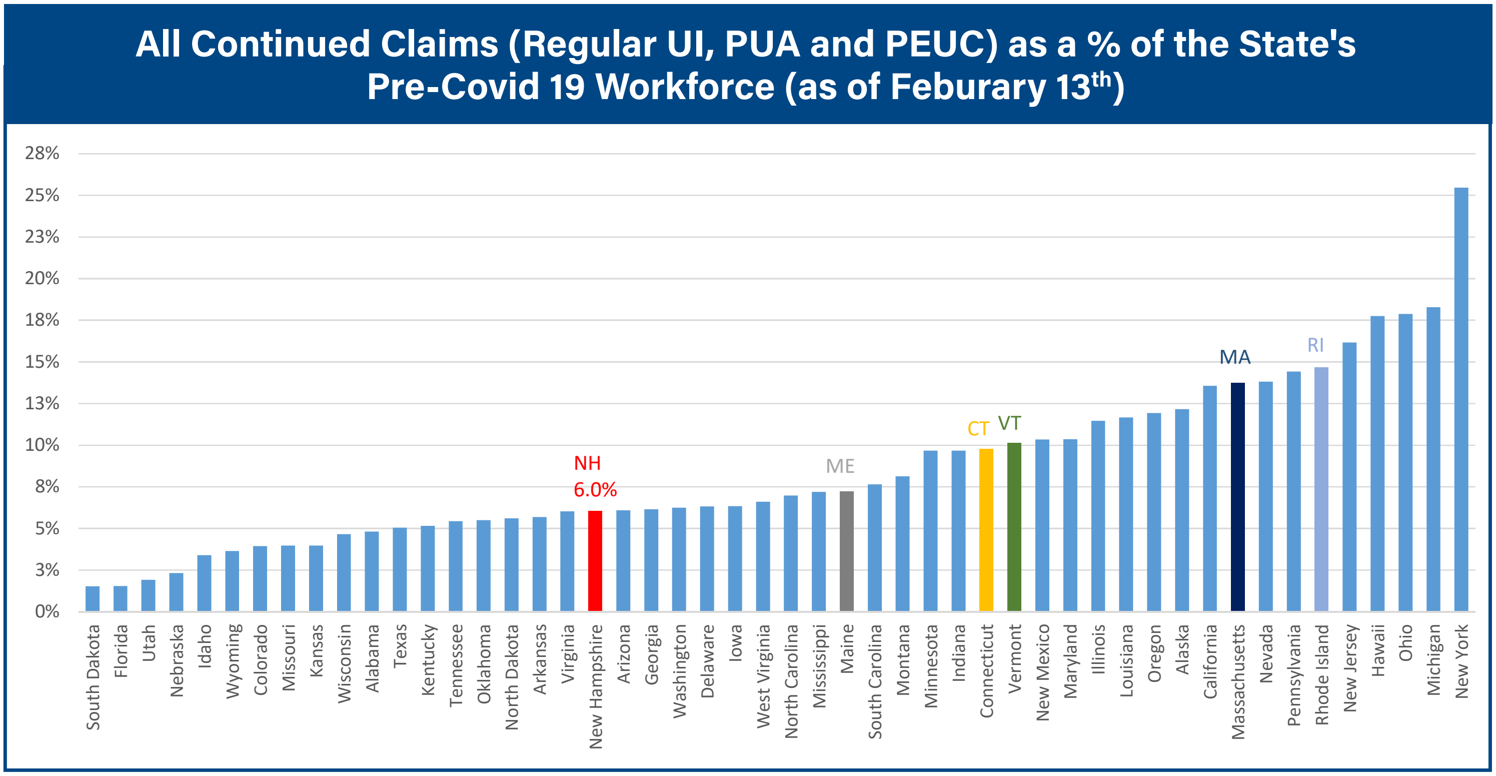
The CARES Act also established the "Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation" (PEUC) program to allow individuals who exhausted their regular UI benefits after 26 weeks to receive an

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

TOWN	NEW CLAIMS FEB. 14 TO FEB. 20	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	TOTAL NEW CLAIMS MARCH 16 TO FEBRUARY 20	CONTINUING CLAIMS AS OF JANUARY 23†
Largest Increases (from Prior Week) in New Claims				
Atkinson	10	8	706	139
Durham	8	5	860	127
Litchfield	9	5	1,169	196
New Hampton	6	5	453	71
Gilford	7	4	1,326	233
Newton	6	4	445	100
Antrim	4	3	419	64
Auburn	5	3	814	152
Barrington	9	3	1,361	230
Bedford	15	3	2,537	374
Largest Decreases (From Prior Week) in New Claims				
Nashua	65	-26	13,375	2,871
Manchester	120	-20	23,938	4,796
Londonderry	13	-13	3,529	596
Concord	28	-11	7,197	1,358
Derry	22	-10	5,359	1,033
Bow	2	-9	964	176
Dover	18	-9	5,407	1,068
Hanover	3	-9	386	47
Conway	7	-8	2,440	454
Hollis	3	-7	759	128

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

FIGURE 1



additional 24 weeks of benefits. Twenty three (23) states saw an increase in PEUC claims during the week ended February 13th. In New England, Maine, New Hampshire (+217) and Rhode Island each had an increase in PEUC claims during the week. Nationally there was a 13 percent decrease in the number of PEUC continued claims.

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 6.0 percent as of February 13th (PUA and PEUC claims are reported with a two week lag), down from 6.4 percent the previous week. 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 68 indicates that as of February 13th, continuing claims have declined by 32 percent since August 8th (100 – 68 = 32). 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 37 percent below what they were during the week ended August 8th.

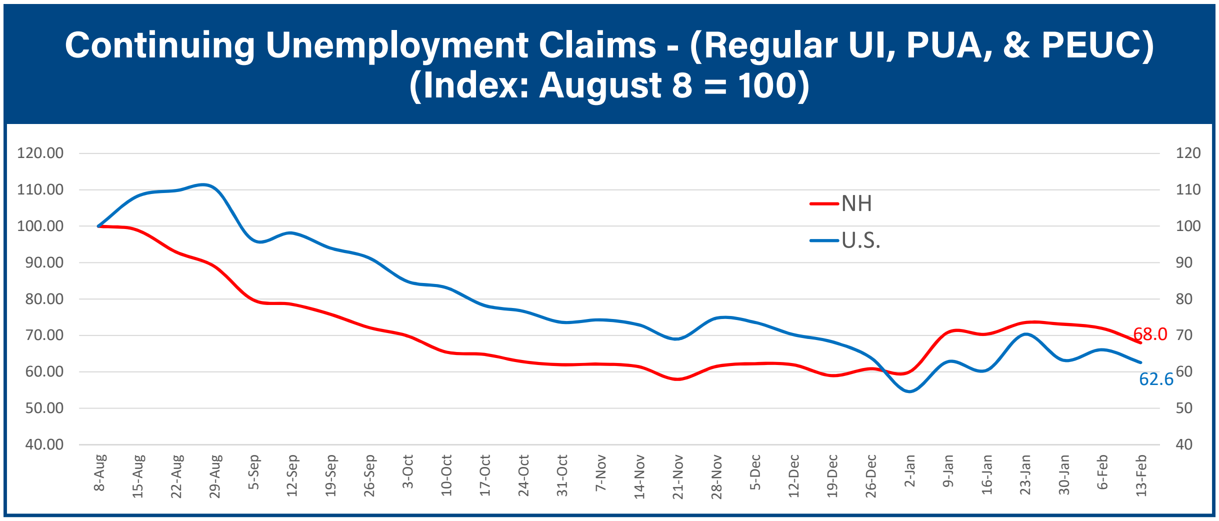
Town-by-town breakouts of the number of new claims filed by New Hampshire residents who also work in the state are available with a one-week lag (through February 20th). Comparisons of week-to-week claims continue to be affected by a large number of fraudulent claims which, as they are being investigated, can appear in the weekly data before they are determined to be fraudulent. Every effort is made to scrub fraudulent claims from the town data but the volume of these claims makes it difficult to eliminate them all prior to the publication of this weekly report.

With that caveat, the number of claims filed by New Hampshire residents working in New Hampshire decreased by 252 compared to week ended February 13th. Table 1 presents the 10 towns with the largest increase in the number of new claims over the prior week, as well as the 10 towns with the largest decrease in new claims.

Again this week, no town had a substantial increase in new claims. Atkinson (+8), and three towns with an increase of five claims had the largest increases in new claims over the previous week. Nashua (-26), Manchester (-20), and Londonderry (-13) had the largest declines in initial claims compared to the prior week. Fifty Seven (57) of New Hampshire's 238 towns had an increase in new claims during the week, totaling 111 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

FIGURE 2



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

A complete listing of the cumulative initial unemployment claims by town, as well as the number of continuing claims (alphabetically for towns with at least 25 new claims) since March 15th as well as the number of continued claims (as of January 23rd) 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 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 official U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for New Hampshire in January was 3.6 percent, and the not seasonally adjusted figure was 4.1 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 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 20th, the change in initial claims from the prior week, and the number of continuing claims filed by residents of each county. No county experienced an increase in initial claims during the week, compared to the previous week. Hillsborough (-59), Rockingham (-44), and Merrimack (-41) Counties 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

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.

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 20th, 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 20th.

Twenty one (21) of the 94 industry classifications (at the three-digit NAICS level) experienced increases in continuing claims during the week, accounting for an additional 133 continued claims. Among the 50 industries most affected by the pandemic through February 20th, just eight (8) experienced an increase in continuing claims during the week, compared to the week ended February 13th (Table 3).

Continued claims in the construction industry decreased by 15 or 0.6 percent during the week ended February 20th. Manufacturing industries had a 1.5 percent decline (-50) in continued claims during the week. Claims in educational services decreased by just one during the week. Continued claims in healthcare industries decreased by 57, or -2.0 percent. The retail industry had a decrease of 96 continued claims during the week ended February 20th, or -1.8 percent, led by declines in claims in motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts stores. Claims in the hospitality and recreation industries (accommodations, food services, and recreation) again fell significantly (-295 or -4.0% percent) during the week. The food services industry again had the largest decline in continued claims of any industry during the week (-236 or -4.5%).

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 20th. 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.

A Week of Good State and National Economic News

There was some good economic data released this week at both the state and national levels. Nationally, the February jobs report showed payrolls increased by 379,000, with the January number also being revised upward, much stronger than the consensus expectation of plus 200,000, as the severity of the pandemic has begun to diminish. Leisure and hospitality drove the employment gains, a solid indication that the economy is on a path to normal. Winter weather adversely affected the construction industry which shed 61,000 jobs, but the arrival of spring should accelerate gains in leisure and hospitality and retail industries, and reverse losses in construction. Overall, the prospects for stronger employment growth in the coming months have improved considerably. February leisure and hospitality employment numbers for New Hampshire have not yet been prepared, but a review of the continued claims for unemployment in those industries also suggest a recovery that is well

FIGURE 3

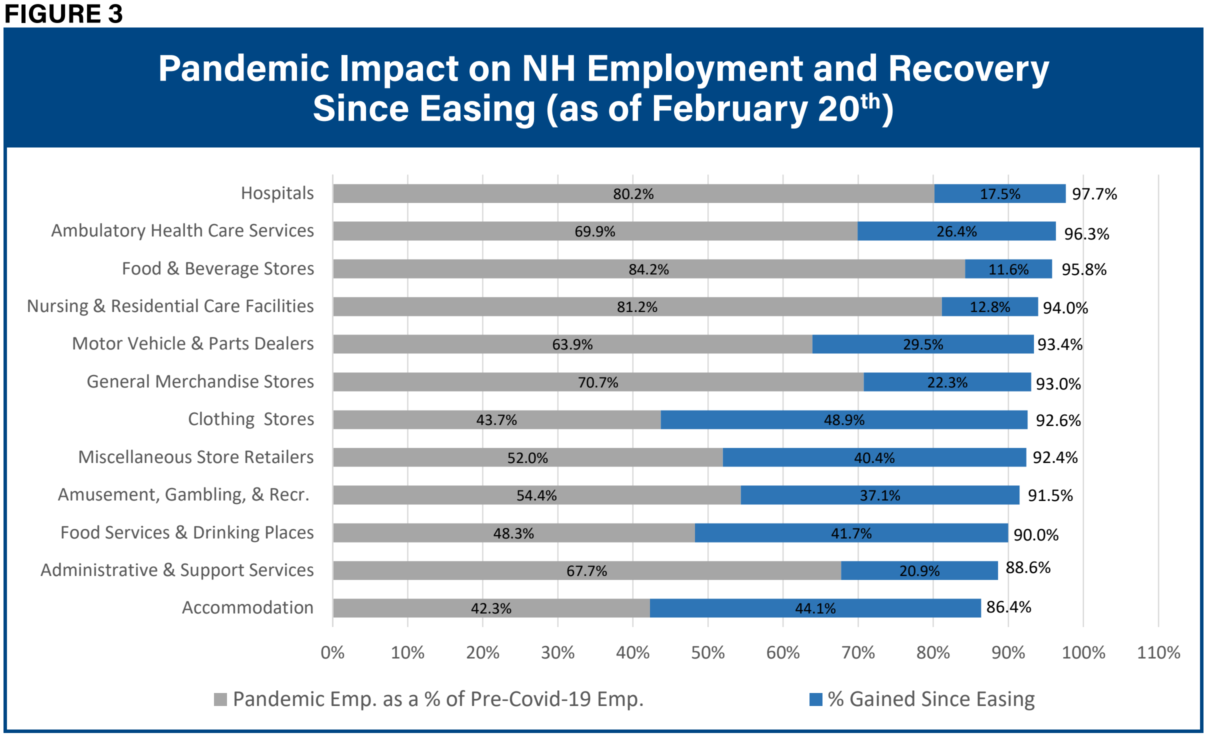
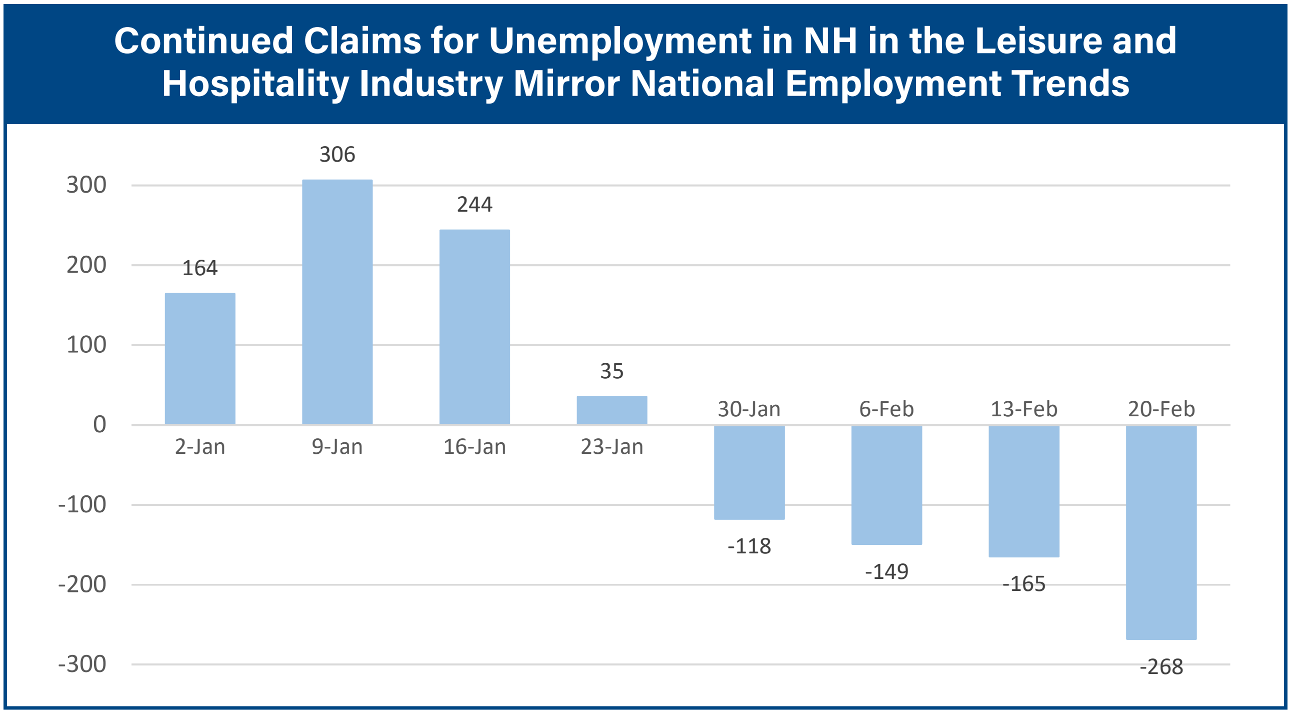


FIGURE 4



underway. Figure 4 shows that weekly continued unemployment claims on a two-week moving average basis have fallen sharply in the state in recent weeks.

In New Hampshire, the annual process of revising the monthly estimates of the state's labor force and employment shows that the labor force in the state did not decline as severely as previously reported (Figure 5). The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has noted since the beginning of the pandemic the difficulties and errors apparent in accurately assessing the size of the labor force, employment and unemployment during the pandemic, but the upward revisions in the New Hampshire labor force data were especially large. The fact that the state did not see as significant a decline in the labor force bodes well for the state's recovery to full employment, as assuring as many individuals as possible return to the labor force was seen as a major challenge to a return to full employment. In addition, the upward revisions to the labor force numbers bode well for the prospect of upward revisions to the 2020 monthly employment numbers which will be released soon.

- Brian Gottlob, Director

FIGURE 5

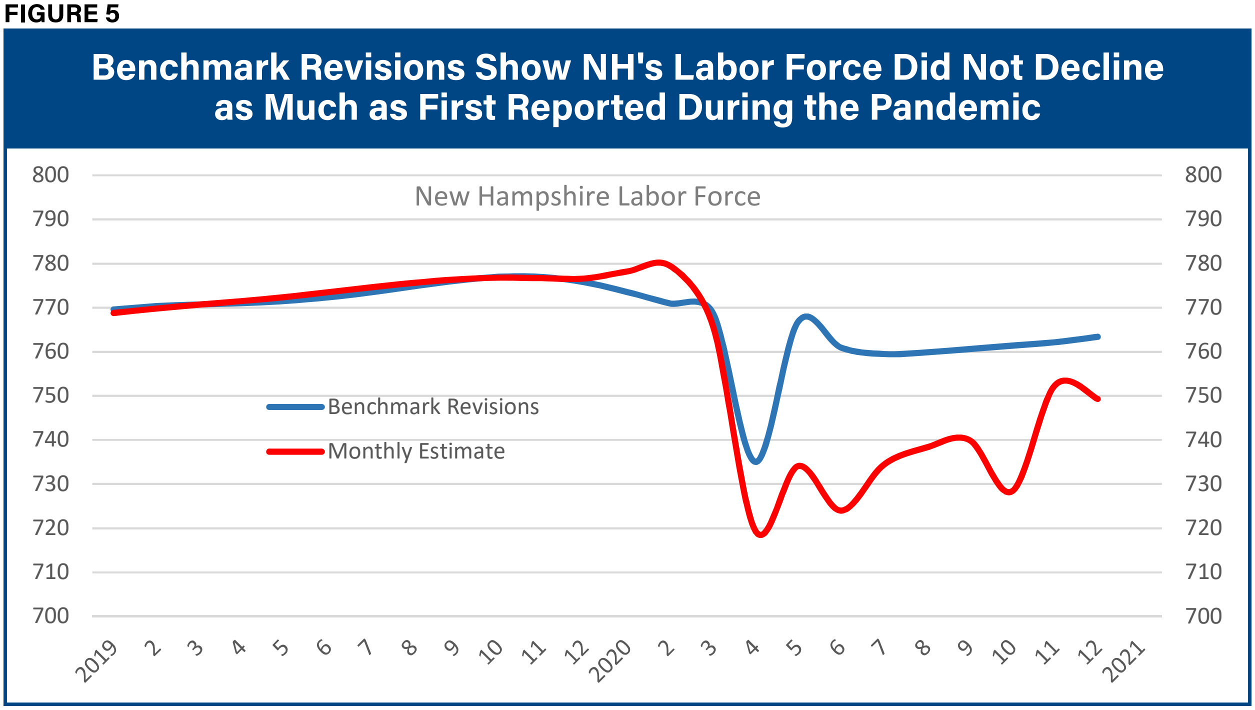


TABLE 2 - COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY COUNTY

COUNTY	TOTAL CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH: MARCH 16 TO FEBRUARY 20	CLAIMS FEBRUARY 14 TO FEBRUARY 20	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 INSURED UNEMP. RATE
Belknap	11,554	48	-10	2,221	31,039	7.2%
Carroll	8,673	27	-30	1,752	23,718	7.4%
Cheshire	10,018	40	-12	1,905	41,500	4.6%
Coos	5,110	20	-18	1,007	14,724	6.8%
Grafton	12,643	56	-18	2,136	51,045	4.2%
Hillsborough	65,722	333	-59	12,661	245,905	5.1%
Merrimack	23,669	101	-41	4,450	84,821	5.2%
Rockingham	42,753	205	-44	8,132	188,982	4.3%
Strafford	19,982	96	-20	3,857	75,410	5.1%
Sullivan	5,676	35	0	981	23,061	4.3%
Totals	**205,800**	**961**	**-252**	**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 20, 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	29,542	5,012	-236	49,907	10.0%
Administrative and Support Services	561	15,267	3,840	-41	33,750	11.4%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	621	11,896	1,257	-18	34,431	3.7%
Educational Services	611	9,652	1,263	-1	20,834	6.1%
Social Assistance	624	7,281	1,232	-33	15,809	7.8%
Hospitals	622	6,719	707	-26	30,086	2.3%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	541	6,648	1,289	-1	39,171	3.3%
Specialty Trade Contractors	238	6,298	1,464	-10	18,817	7.8%
Personal and Laundry Services	812	5,566	860	-18	7,306	11.8%
Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation	713	5,503	841	-11	9,883	8.5%
Accommodation	721	5,374	1,144	-48	8,397	13.6%
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	441	5,338	828	-21	12,602	6.6%

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General Merchandise Stores	452	5,332	1,029	1	14,817	6.9%
Food and Beverage Stores	445	4,385	934	-19	22,356	4.2%
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	448	3,810	447	-8	6,029	7.4%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	623	3,684	860	-13	14,268	6.0%
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	453	3,042	415	-18	5,449	7.6%
Electronic Computer Manufacturing	334	3,006	444	-5	16,381	2.7%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	332	2,995	486	-11	11,558	4.2%
General Automotive Repair	811	2,958	470	5	5,313	8.8%
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	423	2,856	487	-8	12,463	3.9%
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	813	2,829	437	-5	6,517	6.7%
Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	485	2,813	592	42	3,652	16.2%
Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	335	2,239	164	-6	4,225	3.9%
Construction of Buildings	236	2,043	513	-8	6,082	8.4%
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	444	2,009	437	-4	9,527	4.6%
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, and Book Stores	451	1,926	227	-3	4,154	5.5%
Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	442	1,755	185	-5	2,772	6.7%
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	424	1,732	315	-10	8,050	3.9%
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	339	1,607	197	4	4,430	4.4%
Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers.	425	1,551	309	-3	7,771	4.0%
Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	326	1,519	216	-8	5,422	4.0%
Nonstore Retailers	454	1,425	265	4	6,181	4.3%
Real Estate	531	1,367	266	-5	4,949	5.4%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	551	1,266	283	-4	9,284	3.0%
Gas Stations	447	1,222	245	-10	4,511	5.4%
Health and Personal Care Stores	446	1,201	173	-9	4,185	4.1%
Couriers and Messengers	492	1,198	315	-13	3,721	8.5%

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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	1,185	222	-3	7,006	3.2%
Textile Mills	313	1,156	204	-6	1,822	11.2%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	237	1,147	536	3	3,564	15.0%
Printing and Related Support Activities	323	1,074	228	26	2,297	9.9%
Primary Metal Manufacturing	331	1,058	201	-4	2,386	8.4%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	524	973	214	11	11,768	5.6%
Electronics and Appliance Stores	443	972	164	-4	2,958	1.7%
Rental and Leasing Services	532	908	191	-3	1,993	9.6%
Industries in the Food Manufacturing	311	895	145	-6	2,771	5.5%
Industries in the Publishing Industries (except Internet)	511	869	156	-3	5,116	3.0%
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	522	775	167	-5	11,768	1.4%
Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related	711	729	176	-8	1,179	15.4%

**NAICS - North American Industrial Classification System*

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 20	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN 23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Acworth	104	15	459	3.3%
Albany	142	19	362	5.2%
Alexandria	308	49	912	5.4%
Allenstown	750	164	2,493	6.6%
Alstead	273	49	1,083	4.5%
Alton	883	172	3,009	5.7%
Amherst	1,293	226	6,419	3.5%
Andover	343	72	1,439	5.0%
Antrim	419	64	1,427	4.5%
Ashland	410	59	1,279	4.6%

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TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 20	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN 23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Atkinson	706	139	4,068	3.4%
Auburn	814	152	3,634	4.2%
Barnstead	797	137	2,656	5.2%
Barrington	1,361	230	5,523	4.2%
Bartlett	738	141	1,459	9.7%
Bath town	156	25	542	4.6%
Bedford	2,537	374	12,555	3.0%
Belmont	1,454	288	3,576	8.1%
Bennington	273	52	817	6.4%
Benton	33	7	150	4.7%

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TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 20	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN 23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Berlin	1,470	294	3,888	7.6%
Bethlehem	552	112	1,444	7.8%
Boscawen	732	125	1,972	6.3%
Bow	964	176	4,561	3.9%
Bradford	281	67	986	6.8%
Brentwood	542	97	2,642	3.7%
Bridgewater	168	33	761	4.3%
Bristol	696	102	1,842	5.5%
Brookfield	147	26	293	8.9%
Brookline	566	96	3,480	2.8%
Campton	707	113	2,110	5.4%
Canaan	543	86	2,042	4.2%
Candia	600	98	2,598	3.8%
Canterbury	311	59	1,508	3.9%
Carroll	148	21	391	5.4%
Center Harbor	177	34	670	5.1%
Charlestown	753	114	2,843	4.0%
Chatham	50	10	160	6.3%
Chester	692	118	3,145	3.8%
Chesterfield	334	60	1,943	3.1%
Chichester	417	71	1,588	4.5%
Claremont	1,882	330	6,385	5.2%
Colebrook	358	58	1,141	5.1%
Columbia	65	9	318	2.8%
Concord	7,197	1,358	23,063	5.9%
Conway	2,440	454	5,463	8.3%
Cornish	190	40	988	4.0%
Croydon	74	18	452	4.0%
Dalton	227	64	442	14.5%
Danbury	237	49	736	6.7%
Danville	600	114	2,771	4.1%
Deerfield	665	123	2,835	4.3%
Deering	241	38	1,133	3.4%
Derry	5,359	1,033	20,900	4.9%
Dorchester	40	10	200	5.0%
Dover	5,407	1,068	18,915	5.6%
Dublin	162	34	891	3.8%
Dummer	36	13	142	9.2%
Dunbarton	399	67	1,795	3.7%
Durham	860	127	9,395	1.4%
East Kingston	267	56	1,401	4.0%
Easton	37	7	143	4.9%
Eaton	73	15	235	6.4%
Effingham	250	51	701	7.3%
Ellsworth	16	5	58	
Enfield	561	80	3,166	2.5%
Epping	1,117	206	4,282	4.8%
Epsom	735	141	2,996	4.7%
Errol	61	11	164	6.7%
Exeter	2,116	408	8,834	4.6%
Farmington	1,240	256	3,725	6.9%
Fitzwilliam	269	56	1,361	4.1%
Francestown	196	47	1,002	4.7%
Franconia	175	34	655	5.2%
Franklin	1,721	350	4,055	8.6%
Freedom	191	44	766	5.7%
Fremont	664	138	2,870	4.8%
Gilford	1,326	233	3,645	6.4%
Gilmanton	680	128	1,746	7.3%
Gilsum	128	28	457	6.1%
Goffstown	2,666	445	11,023	4.0%
Gorham	505	101	1,234	8.2%
Goshen	101	18	451	4.0%
Grafton	207	36	683	5.3%
Grantham	276	53	1,664	3.2%
Greenfield	257	50	1,066	4.7%
Greenland	552	109	2,467	4.4%
Greenville	278	51	1,206	4.2%
Groton	152	26	382	6.8%
Hampstead	1,038	189	5,151	3.7%
Hampton Falls	268	52	1,501	3.5%
Hampton	2,677	579	9,147	6.3%
Hancock	227	53	944	5.6%
Hanover	386	47	5,093	0.9%
Harrisville	135	28	609	4.6%
Haverhill	520	87	2,359	3.7%
Hebron	64	10	413	2.4%
Henniker	658	123	2,910	4.2%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 20	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN 23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Hill	184	39	543	7.2%
Hillsborough	1,137	212	3,004	7.1%
Hinsdale	394	68	2,158	3.2%
Holderness	328	63	1,563	4.0%
Hollis	759	128	4,346	2.9%
Hooksett	2,346	412	9,376	4.4%
Hopkinton	670	113	3,481	3.2%
Hudson	3,379	619	15,467	4.0%
Jackson	197	31	366	8.5%
Jaffrey	718	162	3,103	5.2%
Jefferson	178	49	639	7.7%
Keene	3,395	565	11,949	4.7%
Kensington	206	41	1,313	3.1%
Kingston	852	165	3,777	4.4%
Laconia	3,327	686	7,775	8.8%
Lancaster	475	99	1,741	5.7%
Landaff	47	11	279	3.9%
Langdon	74	13	363	3.6%
Lebanon	1,537	273	7,793	3.5%
Lee	633	125	2,884	4.3%
Lempster	151	23	629	3.7%
Lincoln	418	79	770	10.3%
Lisbon	254	67	862	7.8%
Litchfield	1,169	196	4,887	4.0%
Littleton	1,262	231	3,256	7.1%
Londonderry	3,529	596	16,261	3.7%
Loudon	861	155	3,357	4.6%
Lyman	135	17	336	5.1%
Lyme	116	16	850	1.9%
Lyndeborough	246	53	1,056	5.0%
Madbury	240	41	1,097	3.7%
Madison	479	90	1,437	6.3%
Manchester	23,938	4,796	66,815	7.2%
Marlborough	351	87	1,221	7.1%
Marlow	109	30	369	8.1%
Mason	181	39	821	4.8%
Meredith	1,112	216	3,115	6.9%
Merrimack	3,792	718	16,570	4.3%
Middleton	266	51	1,051	4.9%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 20	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN 23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Milan	205	39	626	6.2%
Milford	2,509	429	9,738	4.4%
Milton	684	152	2,390	6.4%
Monroe	90	18	401	4.5%
Mont Vernon	316	49	1,582	3.1%
Moultonborough	619	141	2,219	6.4%
Nashua	13,375	2,871	51,919	5.5%
Nelson	80	17	440	3.9%
New Boston	901	147	3,976	3.7%
New Castle	87	15	560	2.7%
New Durham	411	87	1,563	5.6%
New Hampton	453	71	1,321	5.4%
New Ipswich	519	97	3,023	3.2%
New London	360	56	1,941	2.9%
Newbury	267	40	1,212	3.3%
Newfields	217	43	1,071	4.0%
Newington	103	12	518	2.3%
Newmarket	1,635	256	5,818	4.4%
Newport	979	180	3,553	5.1%
Newton	445	100	3,283	3.0%
North Hampton	587	146	2,684	5.4%
Northfield	966	188	2,554	7.4%
Northumberland	370	62	1,059	5.9%
Northwood	764	119	2,672	4.5%
Nottingham	718	113	3,286	3.4%
Orford	119	24	817	2.9%
Ossipee	738	186	1,757	10.6%
Pelham	1,347	234	8,237	2.8%
Pembroke	1,333	258	4,612	5.6%
Peterborough	918	186	3,858	4.8%
Piermont	62	8	430	1.9%
Pittsburg	139	28	384	7.3%
Pittsfield	651	131	2,122	6.2%
Plainfield	208	30	1,446	2.1%
Plaistow	814	153	4,320	3.5%
Plymouth	915	137	3,989	3.4%
Portsmouth	3,577	702	14,074	5.0%
Randolph	59	13	141	9.2%
Raymond	1,761	348	6,360	5.5%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 20	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN 23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Richmond	116	28	596	4.7%
Rindge	529	100	2,943	3.4%
Rochester	5,655	1,062	18,190	5.8%
Rollinsford	415	97	1,456	6.7%
Roxbury	27	4	139	2.9%
Rumney	206	34	958	3.5%
Rye	687	133	3,459	3.8%
Salem	3,501	692	18,512	3.7%
Salisbury	211	33	827	4.0%
Sanbornton	512	103	1,689	6.1%
Sandown	842	132	4,279	3.1%
Sandwich	173	35	610	5.7%
Seabrook	1,324	301	5,180	5.8%
Sharon	40	9	224	4.0%
Shelburne	52	10	177	5.6%
Somersworth	2,224	465	6,891	6.7%
South Hampton	80	17	531	3.2%
Springfield	143	22	779	2.8%
Stark	61	9	194	4.6%
Stewartstown	104	17	370	4.6%
Stoddard	187	33	724	4.6%
Strafford	586	96	2,328	4.1%
Stratford	109	16	255	6.3%
Stratham	902	178	4,559	3.9%
Sugar Hill	86	15	351	4.3%
Sullivan	94	16	360	4.4%
Sunapee	409	63	1,671	3.8%
Surry	92	15	500	3.0%
Sutton	198	40	1,139	3.5%
Swanzey	1,062	214	4,101	5.2%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16 - FEBRUARY 20	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF JAN 23	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Tamworth	569	120	1,517	7.9%
Temple	192	38	786	4.8%
Thornton	552	89	1,790	5.0%
Tilton	833	153	1,837	8.3%
Troy	331	72	1,174	6.1%
Tuftonboro	321	72	1,157	6.2%
Unity	138	29	865	3.4%
Wakefield	702	146	2,310	6.3%
Walpole	411	81	2,380	3.4%
Warner	417	84	1,587	5.3%
Warren	108	19	537	3.5%
Washington	194	33	513	6.4%
Waterville Valley	95	11	141	7.8%
Weare	1,405	229	6,179	3.7%
Webster	288	45	1,180	3.8%
Wentworth	121	22	535	4.1%
Westmoreland	199	29	941	3.1%
Whitefield	459	88	1,280	6.9%
Wilmot	172	34	788	4.3%
Wilton	610	112	2,190	5.1%
Winchester	622	129	2,058	6.3%
Windham	1,445	259	8,219	3.2%
Windsor	36	3	155	1.9%
Wolfeboro	828	167	2,827	5.9%
Woodstock	437	72	972	7.4%
Totals	**205,731**	**39,090**	**780,205**	**5.0%**

** 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 March 11th.

For further information contact:
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NEWS RELEASE