



Administrative Office
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Concord, NH 03301-4857

COVID-19

UNEMPLOYMENT UPDATE

For Immediate Release: May 7, 2020

For the week ending May 2nd, 11,834 individuals filed claims for unemployment insurance with the State of New Hampshire's Department of Employment Security, down 21 percent from a revised 15,001 during the week ending April 25th, 2020. Nationally, the number of initial claims was down 18 percent compared to the week ending April 25th. Just seven states, including Connecticut and Maine experienced an increase in new claims during the week. Combined, between March 15th and April 25th, 160,647 new unemployment claims were filed with the New Hampshire's Department of Employment Security. Adding the preliminary number from the week ending May 2nd brings the total to 172,481.

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 April 25th). The state's largest city, Manchester, again had the most residents filing for new unemployment claims during the week ending April 25th with 1,078, down 283 (-21%) from the week ending April 18th. Nashua had the next highest number of new claims during the week with 658, but 125 fewer (-16%) than during the previous week. Table 1 presents the 20 towns with the largest number of new claims filed during the week, along with the change in the number and percentage change in new claims from the prior week. Eighty percent of towns in New Hampshire had fewer new claims during the week ending April 25th than they had during the week ending April 18th. Small towns were the only communities to see increases. Collectively, towns seeing an increase had just 168 more claims during the week, or a median increase of three new claims per town.

The claims numbers presented in the claims by town tables 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 County,

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

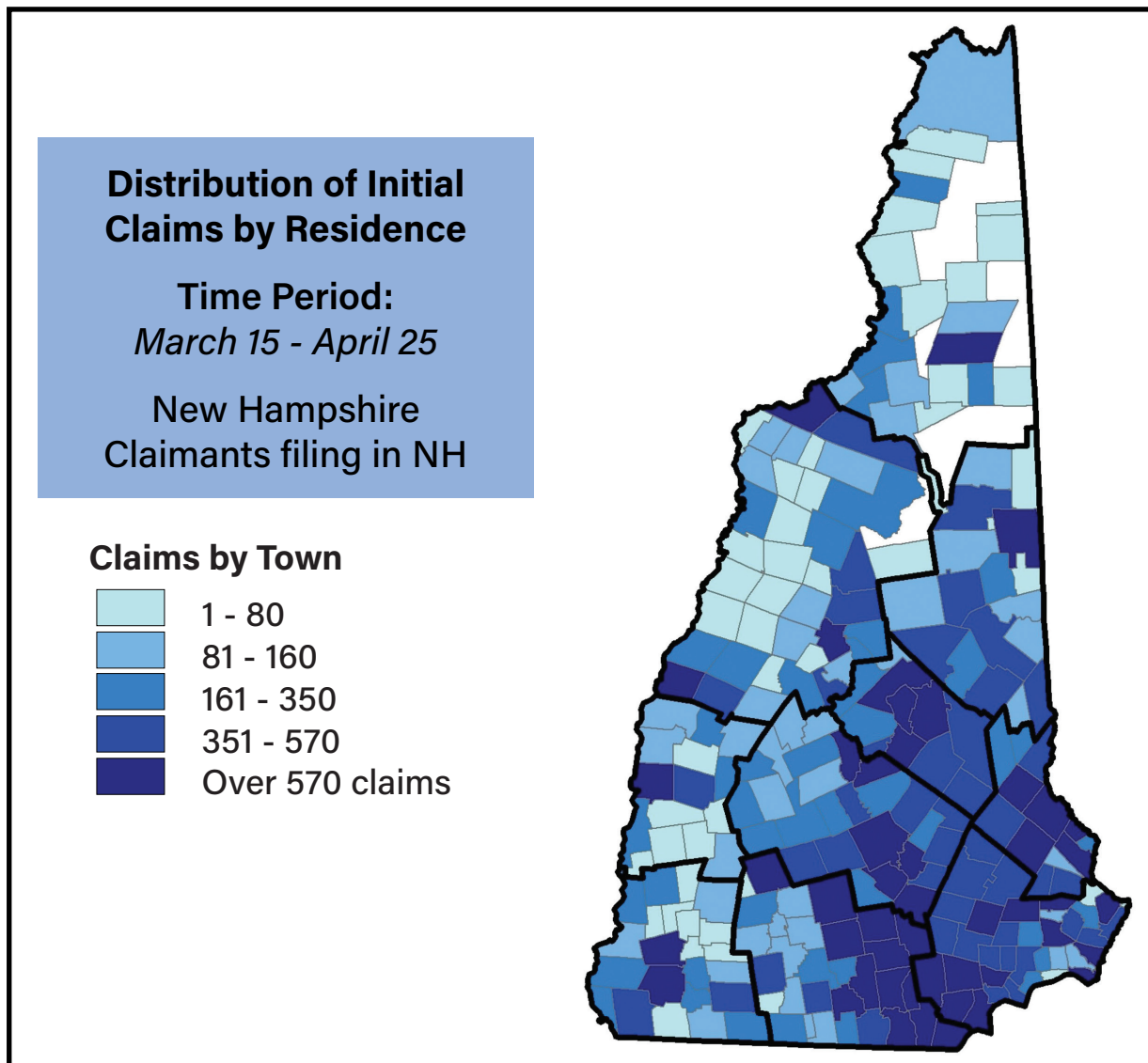
TOWN	NEW CLAIMS APRIL 19 TO APRIL 25	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	% CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	TOTAL NEW CLAIMS MARCH 15 TO APRIL 25
Manchester	1,078	-283	-20.8%	14,049
Nashua	658	-125	-16.0%	7,687
Concord	289	-96	-24.9%	4,350
Dover	251	-37	-12.8%	3,341
Derry	244	-73	-23.0%	3,400
Rochester	244	-83	-25.4%	3,457
Merrimack	189	-60	-24.1%	2,347
Londonderry	182	-40	-18.0%	2,210
Salem	170	-39	-18.7%	2,138
Hampton	156	21	15.6%	1,692
Hudson	143	-90	-38.6%	2,051
Goffstown	135	-37	-21.5%	1,705
Portsmouth	135	-48	-26.2%	2,261
Keene	134	-51	-27.6%	1,981
Laconia	126	-43	-25.4%	2,036
Bedford	122	-28	-18.7%	1,490
Hooksett	122	-19	-13.5%	1,473
Conway	112	-9	-7.4%	1,842
Milford	104	-26	-20.0%	1,555
Somersworth	99	-20	-16.8%	1,359

for example, 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. A complete listing of the cumulative initial unemployment claims by town (alphabetically for towns with at least 25 new claims) from March 15th through April 25th, as well as the number of new claims as a percentage of the town's labor force¹, is presented in Table 4 at the end of this release. We call this a measure of a town's "Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate." It is not equivalent to a town's traditional unemployment rate as it only counts unemployment claims filed since March 15th and does not include New Hampshire residents

who have filed an unemployment claim if they work in another state. It is presented here to provide a metric of the relative employment impacts of Covid-19 on the population of each community.² For the week ending April 25th, New Hampshire's Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate was 16.1 percent. Adding New Hampshire residents who filed a claim in another state as well as individuals who were unemployed prior to the Covid-19 pandemic raises the overall unemployment rate.

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 April 25th.

FIGURE 1



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.

TABLE 2 - COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY COUNTY

COUNTY	TOTAL CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH: MARCH 15 TO APRIL 25	FEBRUARY 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE
Belknap	7,218	31,039	23.3%
Carroll	5,986	23,718	25.2%
Cheshire	5,812	41,500	14.0%
Coos	3,198	14,724	21.7%
Grafton	8,260	51,045	16.2%
Hillsborough	38,915	245,905	15.8%
Merrimack	14,502	84,821	17.1%
Rockingham	26,711	188,982	14.1%
Strafford	12,276	75,410	16.3%
Sullivan	3,040	23,061	13.2%
Totals	125,918	780,205	16.1%

FIGURE 2

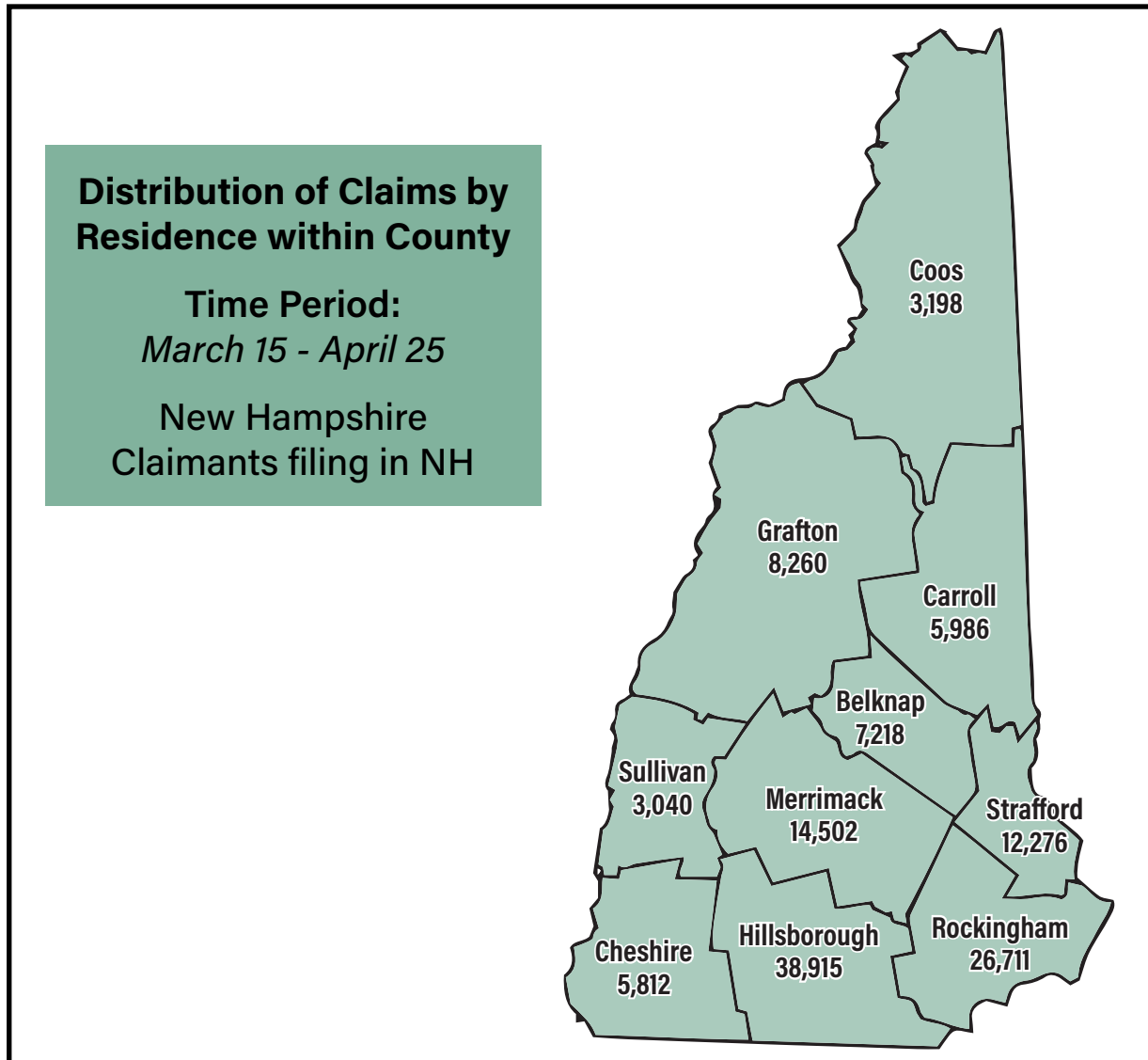


Figure 2 presents the total number of claims by county in New Hampshire and Table 2 presents each county's Covid-19 affected unemployment rate through April 25th. Note that the rates for Hillsborough, Strafford, and especially Rockingham County are affected by a higher percentage of residents who work in another state (and thus are not counted in county and town numbers here which do not include New Hampshire residents who file a claim in another state). For these counties, Covid-19 affected unemployment rates are likely to be two to as much as four percent higher than reported here.

Claims by Industry

Beginning with this edition, initial claims by industry will be reported at the six digit North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) level. This provides greater detail for industries with a large number of claims such as “ambulatory health services” and “social assistance,” where a variety of types of organizations are included at the four digit level. In addition, beginning this week claims

by industry will be on the same basis as initial claims filed by town. That is, reported claims by industry will include New Hampshire residents filing claims in New Hampshire.

Individuals employed at full-service restaurants filed the most new claims for unemployment insurance between March 15th and April 25th (15,060). Another 3,612 New Hampshire residents working at limited service restaurants in the state have filed claims. Collectively, 18,416 New Hampshire residents working in retail industries located in the state have filed unemployment claims between March 15th and April 25th. New car dealers (2,488), department stores (1,711), and supermarkets and grocery stores (1,455) have seen the largest volume of unemployment claims between March 15th and April 25th. In the health care industry, general medical and surgical hospitals have had 4,578 claims filed during the March-April time period. In addition, hospitals had the most new claims (852) filed during the week ending April 25th, followed by full service restaurants (758) and limited service restaurants (306).

TABLE 3 - INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS - MARCH 15 TO APRIL 25

INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE*	# CLAIMS FILED
Full-service restaurants	722511	15,060
General medical and surgical hospitals	622110	4,578
Hotels and motels, except casino hotels	721110	3,620
Limited-service restaurants	722513	3,612
Offices of dentists	621210	3,559
Child day care services	624410	2,742
New car dealers	441110	2,488
Offices of physicians, except mental health	621111	2,379
Elementary and secondary schools	611110	2,375
Beauty salons	812112	1,936
Temporary help services	561320	1,820
Department Stores	452210	1,711
Professional employer organizations	561330	1,610
Supermarkets and other grocery stores	445110	1,455
Snack and nonalcoholic beverage bars	722515	1,188
School and employee bus transportation	485410	1,122
Skiing facilities	713920	913
Food service contractors	722310	888
Fitness and recreational sports centers	713940	881
Family clothing stores	448140	864
Civic and social organizations	813410	852
Services for the elderly and disabled	624120	810

TABLE 3 - INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS - MARCH 15 TO APRIL 25

INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE*	# CLAIMS FILED
Other individual and family services	624190	778
Colleges and universities	611310	767
Janitorial services	561720	762
Wholesale trade agents and brokers	425120	753
General automotive repair	811111	707
Gasket, packing, and sealing device mfg.	339991	702
Nursing care facilities, skilled nursing	623110	699
Electricity and signal testing instruments	334515	680
Office administrative services	561110	659
Used merchandise stores	453310	644
Furniture stores	442110	632
Offices of optometrists	621320	630
Sporting goods stores	451110	605
Warehouse Clubs and Supercenters	452311	588
Offices of specialty therapists	621340	582
Landscaping services	561730	557
Managing offices	551114	542
Residential plumbing and HVAC contractors	238221	536
Golf courses and country clubs	713910	530
Pet care, except veterinary, services	812910	530
Executive and legislative offices, combined	921140	529
Automotive parts and accessories stores	441310	526
Home health care services	621610	525
Gasoline stations with convenience stores	447110	518
Gift, novelty, and souvenir stores	453220	483
Electronic Shopping and Mail-Order Houses	454110	474
All other home furnishings stores	442299	453
Electronics stores	443142	415

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - APRIL 25	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE *	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Acworth	48	459	10.5%
Albany	107	362	29.6%
Alexandria	210	912	23.0%
Allenstown	457	2,493	18.3%
Alstead	162	1,083	15.0%
Alton	539	3,009	17.9%
Amherst	746	6,419	11.6%
Andover	193	1,439	13.4%
Antrim	225	1,427	15.8%
Ashland	272	1,279	21.3%
Atkinson	438	4,068	10.8%
Auburn	530	3,634	14.6%
Barnstead	509	2,656	19.2%
Barrington	844	5,523	15.3%
Bartlett	565	1,459	38.7%
Bath	89	542	16.4%
Bedford	1,490	12,555	11.9%
Belmont	885	3,576	24.7%
Bennington	146	817	17.9%
Berlin	848	3,888	21.8%
Bethlehem	399	1,444	27.6%
Boscawen	443	1,972	22.5%
Bow	592	4,561	13.0%
Bradford	170	986	17.2%
Brentwood	337	2,642	12.8%
Bridgewater	112	761	14.7%
Bristol	444	1,842	24.1%
Brookfield	87	293	29.7%
Brookline	336	3,480	9.7%
Campton	482	2,110	22.8%
Canaan	342	2,042	16.7%
Candia	386	2,598	14.9%
Canterbury	204	1,508	13.5%
Carroll	106	391	27.1%
Center Harbor	122	670	18.2%

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TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - APRIL 25	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE *	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Charlestown	332	2,843	11.7%
Chatham	37	160	23.1%
Chester	445	3,145	14.1%
Chesterfield	191	1,943	9.8%
Chichester	265	1,588	16.7%
Claremont	989	6,385	15.5%
Colebrook	244	1,141	21.4%
Columbia	39	318	12.3%
Concord	4,350	23,063	18.9%
Conway	1,842	5,463	33.7%
Cornish	113	988	11.4%
Croydon	47	452	10.4%
Dalton	138	442	31.2%
Danbury	149	736	20.2%
Danville	368	2,771	13.3%
Deerfield	439	2,835	15.5%
Deering	136	1,133	12.0%
Derry	3,400	20,900	16.3%
Dorchester	26	200	13.0%
Dover	3,341	18,915	17.7%
Dublin	84	891	9.4%
Dunbarton	257	1,795	14.3%
Durham	491	9,395	5.2%
East Kingston	174	1,401	12.4%
Easton	29	143	20.3%
Eaton	52	235	22.1%
Effingham	149	701	21.3%
Enfield	353	3,166	11.1%
Epping	736	4,282	17.2%
Epsom	449	2,996	15.0%
Errol	48	164	29.3%
Exeter	1,245	8,834	14.1%
Farmington	754	3,725	20.2%
Fitzwilliam	157	1,361	11.5%
Francestown	114	1,002	11.4%

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TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - APRIL 25	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE *	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Franconia	129	655	19.7%
Franklin	1,048	4,055	25.8%
Freedom	126	766	16.4%
Fremont	435	2,870	15.2%
Gilford	870	3,645	23.9%
Gilmanton	454	1,746	26.0%
Gilsum	69	457	15.1%
Goffstown	1,705	11,023	15.5%
Gorham	346	1,234	28.0%
Goshen	60	451	13.3%
Grafton	129	683	18.9%
Grantham	185	1,664	11.1%
Greenfield	150	1,066	14.1%
Greenland	350	2,467	14.2%
Greenville	149	1,206	12.4%
Groton	96	382	25.1%
Hampstead	649	5,151	12.6%
Hampton	1,692	9,147	18.5%
Hampton Falls	160	1,501	10.7%
Hancock	118	944	12.5%
Hanover	164	5,093	3.2%
Harrisville	79	609	13.0%
Haverhill	308	2,359	13.1%
Hebron	43	413	10.4%
Henniker	377	2,910	13.0%
Hill town	117	543	21.5%
Hillsborough	609	3,004	20.3%
Hinsdale	263	2,158	12.2%
Holderness	202	1,563	12.9%
Hollis	454	4,346	10.4%
Hooksett	1,473	9,376	15.7%
Hopkinton	421	3,481	12.1%
Hudson	2,051	15,467	13.3%
Jackson	143	366	39.1%
Jaffrey	381	3,103	12.3%

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TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - APRIL 25	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE *	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Jefferson	116	639	18.2%
Keene	1,981	11,949	16.6%
Kensington	113	1,313	8.6%
Kingston	543	3,777	14.4%
Laconia	2,036	7,775	26.2%
Lancaster	290	1,741	16.7%
Landaff	33	279	11.8%
Langdon	43	363	11.8%
Lebanon	965	7,793	12.4%
Lee	377	2,884	13.1%
Lempster	70	629	11.1%
Lincoln	314	770	40.8%
Lisbon	158	862	18.3%
Litchfield	752	4,887	15.4%
Littleton	862	3,256	26.5%
Londonderry	2,210	16,261	13.6%
Loudon	547	3,357	16.3%
Lyman	86	336	25.6%
Lyme	71	850	8.4%
Lyndeborough	161	1,056	15.2%
Madbury	149	1,097	13.6%
Madison	339	1,437	23.6%
Manchester	14,049	66,815	21.0%
Marlborough	198	1,221	16.2%
Marlow town	65	369	17.6%
Mason town	104	821	12.7%
Meredith	732	3,115	23.5%
Merrimack	2,347	16,570	14.2%
Middleton	166	1,051	15.8%
Milan	121	626	19.3%
Milford	1,555	9,738	16.0%
Milton	424	2,390	17.7%
Monroe	58	401	14.5%
Mont Vernon	188	1,582	11.9%
Moultonborough	416	2,219	18.7%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - APRIL 25	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE *	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Nashua	7,687	51,919	14.8%
Nelson	44	440	10.0%
New Boston	571	3,976	14.4%
New Castle	43	560	7.7%
New Durham	255	1,563	16.3%
New Hampton	247	1,321	18.7%
New Ipswich	288	3,023	9.5%
New London	208	1,941	10.7%
Newbury	172	1,212	14.2%
Newfields	142	1,071	13.3%
Newington	65	518	12.5%
Newmarket	1,026	5,818	17.6%
Newport	542	3,553	15.3%
Newton	282	3,283	8.6%
North Hampton	382	2,684	14.2%
Northfield	630	2,554	24.7%
Northumberland	222	1,059	21.0%
Northwood	511	2,672	19.1%
Nottingham	465	3,286	14.2%
Orford	80	817	9.8%
Ossipee	455	1,757	25.9%
Pelham	812	8,237	9.9%
Pembroke	814	4,612	17.6%
Peterborough	533	3,858	13.8%
Piermont	36	430	8.4%
Pittsburg	97	384	25.3%
Pittsfield	391	2,122	18.4%
Plainfield	136	1,446	9.4%
Plaistow	495	4,320	11.5%
Plymouth	579	3,989	14.5%
Portsmouth	2,261	14,074	16.1%
Randolph	40	141	28.4%
Raymond	1,093	6,360	17.2%
Richmond	67	596	11.2%
Rindge	291	2,943	9.9%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - APRIL 25	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE *	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Rochester	3,457	18,190	19.0%
Rollinsford	279	1,456	19.2%
Rumney	146	958	15.2%
Rye	400	3,459	11.6%
Salem	2,138	18,512	11.5%
Salisbury	113	827	13.7%
Sanbornton	317	1,689	18.8%
Sandown	541	4,279	12.6%
Sandwich	111	610	18.2%
Seabrook	777	5,180	15.0%
Sharon	26	224	11.6%
Shelburne	40	177	22.6%
Somersworth	1,359	6,891	19.7%
South Hampton	47	531	8.9%
Springfield	84	779	10.8%
Stark	35	194	18.0%
Stewartstown	63	370	17.0%
Stoddard	94	724	13.0%
Strafford	380	2,328	16.3%
Stratford	64	255	25.1%
Stratham	551	4,559	12.1%
Sugar Hill	57	351	16.2%
Sullivan	56	360	15.6%
Sunapee	221	1,671	13.2%
Surry	59	500	11.8%
Sutton	127	1,139	11.2%
Swanzey	646	4,101	15.8%
Tamworth	369	1,517	24.3%
Temple	104	786	13.2%
Thornton	395	1,790	22.1%
Tilton	507	1,837	27.6%
Troy	202	1,174	17.2%
Tuftonboro	212	1,157	18.3%
Unity	78	865	9.0%
Wakefield	453	2,310	19.6%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN			
TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - APRIL 25	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE *	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Walpole	214	2,380	9.0%
Warner	253	1,587	15.9%
Warren	66	537	12.3%
Washington	92	513	17.9%
Waterville Valley	57	141	40.4%
Weare	899	6,179	14.5%
Webster	172	1,180	14.6%
Wentworth Location	79	535	14.8%
Westmoreland	125	941	13.3%
Whitefield	301	1,280	23.5%

TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN			
TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 15 - APRIL 25	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE *	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Wilmot	110	788	14.0%
Wilton	389	2,190	17.8%
Winchester	367	2,058	17.8%
Windham	842	8,219	10.2%
Wolfeboro	511	2,827	18.1%
Woodstock	340	972	35.0%
STATEWIDE	125,918	780,205	16.1%
<i>NOTE: Claims counts are for NH residents working in NH and do not equal the total number of claims filed in NH</i>			

The next release of the **COVID-19 Unemployment Update** will be on May 14th.

For further information contact:
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