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# COVID-19 UNEMPLOYMENT UPDATE

**For Immediate Release: March 25, 2021**

New Hampshire's initial claims for the week ended March 20th decreased by 1,629, or -63 percent, to 939, from a revised 2,568. Weekly reports of initial claims for unemployment have been subject to substantial revision recently, as fraudulent claims have risen sharply and as the process for verifying claims and removing fraudulent ones to avoid paying fraudulent benefits, can take more than a week. New fraud detection and removal procedures have been developed and their implementation may account for some of the very large drop in this week's initial claims numbers. Nevertheless, 939 new claims is the lowest the state has seen during the pandemic and is a clear sign of a strengthening labor market and economy. U.S. initial claims decreased by 13.3 percent during the week on a not seasonally adjusted basis. A total of 18 states experienced an increase in initial claims during the week. In New England, Connecticut, Maine and Massachusetts had increases in initial claims during the week.

New Hampshire's continued claims in the regular unemployment insurance (UI) program also dropped substantially, to 21,396 during the week ended March 13th, down 3,156 or -12.8 percent from the prior week. U.S. regular UI continued claims decreased by 6.2 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. Just eight (8) states experienced an increase in regular UI program continuing claims during the week ended March 13th. No New England state experienced an increase in regular continued UI claims during the week.

In addition to continued claims filed by individuals who qualify for a state's regular unemployment benefits program (UI), the federal CARES Act established the "Pandemic Unemployment Assistance" (PUA) program to allow workers affected by the pandemic but who would not normally qualify for regular state benefits (e.g. the self-employed, workers who leave work to care for a family member, so-called "gig workers," and other affected workers) to receive benefits. Seventeen (17) states experienced an

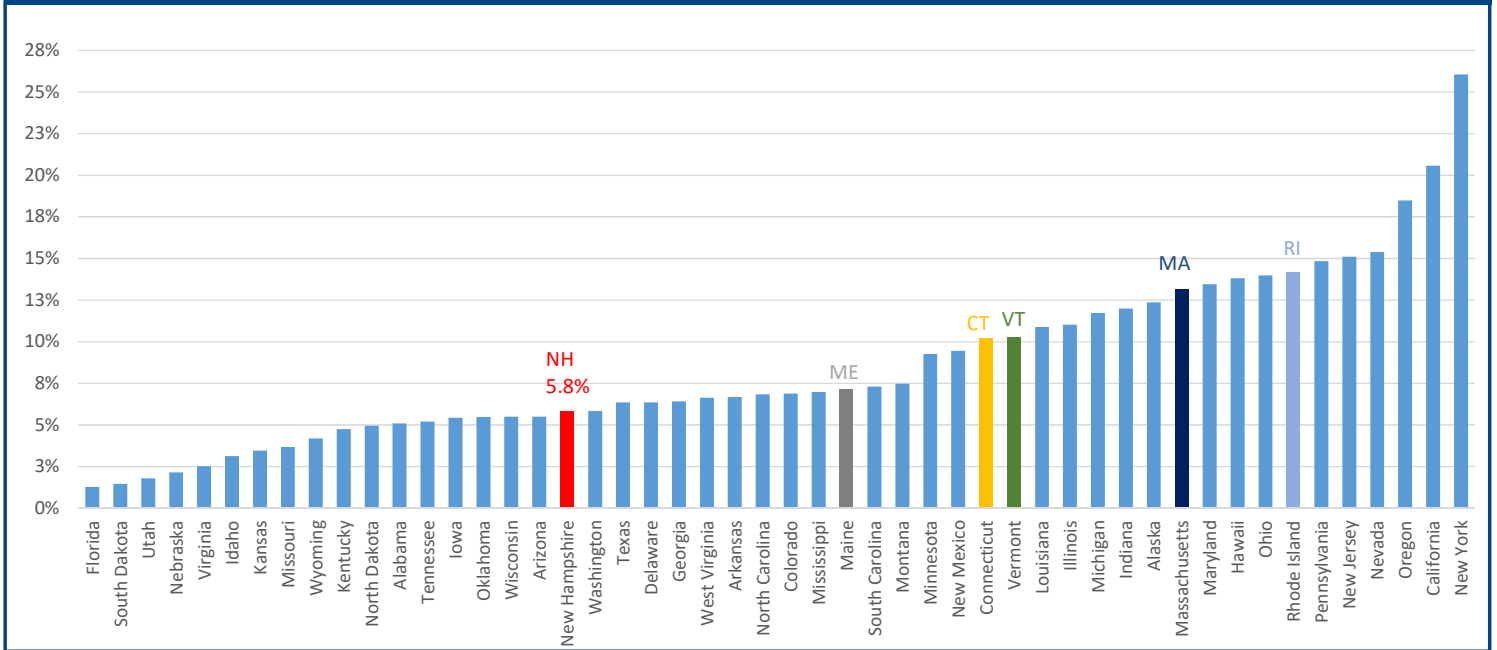
increase in PUA continued claims during the week ended March 6th. New Hampshire's PUA continued claims dropped sharply, by 13.2 percent, during the week. In New England, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, and Vermont had increases in PUA continued claims during the week. Nationally, PUA continued claims declined 1.6 percent during the week ended March 6th.

The CARES Act also established the "Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation" (PEUC) program to allow individuals who exhausted their regular UI benefits after 26 weeks to receive an additional 24 weeks of benefits. Twenty nine (29) states saw an increase in PEUC claims during the week ended March 6th. New Hampshire had a small decrease (-39) in PEUC claims during the week. In New England, Maine, Rhode Island, and Vermont had increases in PEUC claims during the week. Nationally, PEUC claims continued their volatility, increasing by 15.2 percent after falling by 11.7 percent the previous week. The continued volatility in PUA and PEUC data suggest that, unlike New Hampshire which updates claims numbers weekly, some states may not be doing so, causing week-to-week changes to be more extreme.

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 decreased to 5.8 percent as of March 6th (PUA and PEUC claims are reported with a two week lag).

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 65 indicates that as of March

## All Continued Claims (Regular UI, PUA and PEUC) as a % of the State's Pre-Covid 19 Workforce (as of March 6<sup>th</sup>)



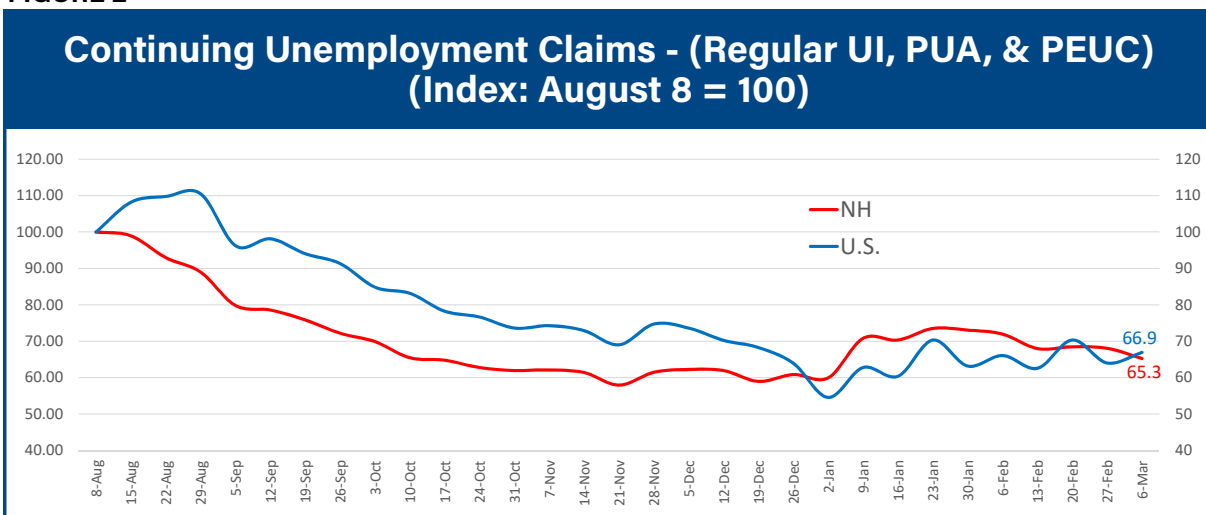
6th, continuing claims have declined by 35 percent since August 8th (100 – 65 = 35). Continuing claims nationally continue their volatility and their increased this week shows they are now 33 percent below what they were during the week ended August 8th.

Weekly initial claims by town, and changes in them, will not be reported this week. New fraud detection and removal procedures have been developed and as they are implemented we may return to reporting town-by-town initial claims on a weekly basis. At this point, continued claims are a better indicator of trends and the progress of the jobs recovery at the state and local level. As noted, continued claims are reported with a lag, have been verified, and at the statewide level will continue to be reported on a weekly basis. Table 1 containing town with the largest changes in

weekly initial claims will not be included in this report until issues regarding the timely removal of fraudulent initial claims are resolved.

Table 4 at the end of this release reports total initial claims by town through March 13th. Table 4 also include the most recent once a month update of continued claims, currently for the month of February, allowing for the calculation of an updated “Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate” for each town. 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 February 20th), and does not include New Hampshire residents who have filed an unemployment claim if they work in another state. It is presented here,

FIGURE 2



along with the total number of initial claims filed in each community between March 15th and March 13th to provide a metric of the relative employment impacts of Covid-19 on the population of each community.<sup>1</sup> The official U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for New Hampshire in February was 3.3 percent, and the not seasonally adjusted figure was also 3.3 percent. For the week ending February 20th, New Hampshire’s “Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate” (which is not seasonally adjusted) was 4.7 percent. Dalton (11.3%), Ossipee (10.9%), Dummer (10.6%) and Laconia (8.5%) 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. Another difference is that the official BLS unemployment rate does not count individuals in the temporary PUA program as unemployed for purposes of calculating the unemployment rate. Finally, the Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate does include any seasonal adjustments.

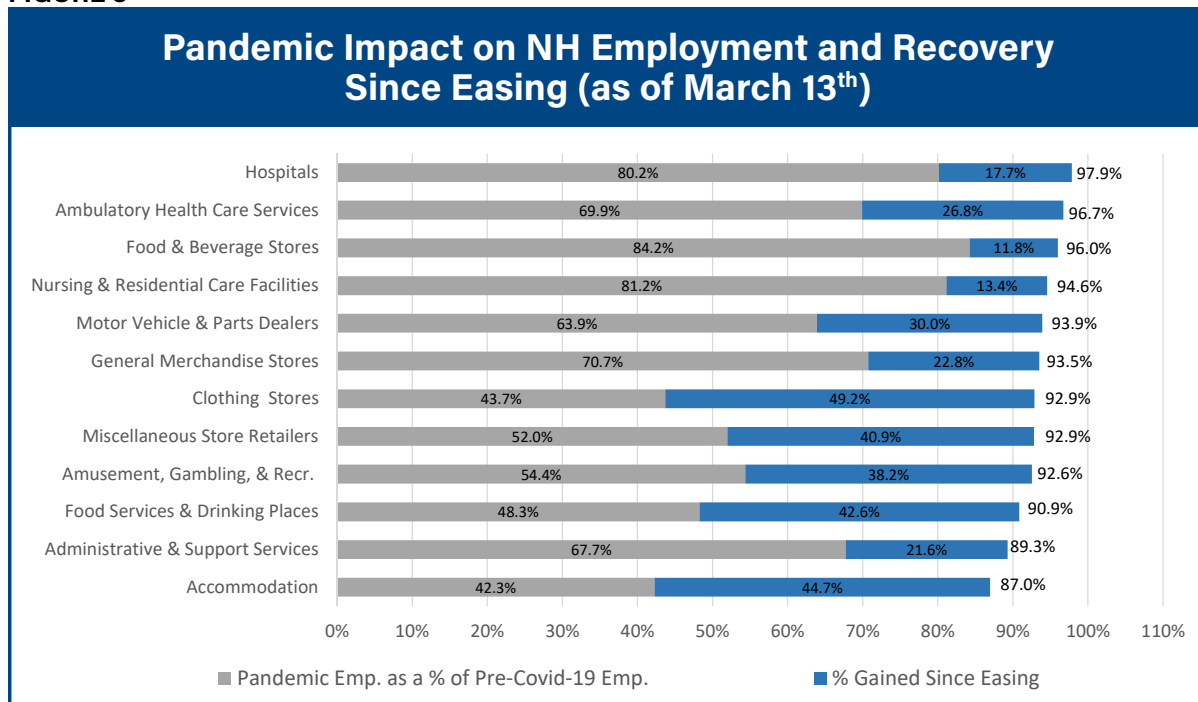
### Claims by County

Table 2 presents the total number of initial claims in each county between March 15th and March 13th. Weekly changes in initial claims by county will not be reported until fraudulent initial claims can be removed from the data in a more timely manner. County continuing claims data have been updated to February 20th, allowing for updated Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rates to be calculated for each county and for the state overall. Updated rates are reported in Table 2. New Hampshire’s Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate declined to 4.7 percent in February, down from 5.0 percent in January. Carroll (7.0%), Belknap (6.8%), and Coos Counties (6.2%) have the highest Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rates as of February 20th, while the lowest rates were recorded in Grafton (3.9%), Rockingham County (4.1%), and Sullivan Counties (4.1%).

### Claims by Industry

Continued claims by industry dropped substantially during the week ended March 13th. None of the 94 industry classifications (at the three-digit NAICS level) experienced an increase in continuing claims during the week. Industries with the largest absolute (as opposed to percentage) decreases point to a New Hampshire economy that is moving closer to operating at its pre-pandemic levels. Continued claims in the food services and drinking places industry declined by 310, as warmer weather and a rising vaccination rates encourage more individuals to resume dining out. Administrative and support industries, including temporary help services are often a leading indicator of economic trends, and continued claims in that industry declined by 205. Professional and

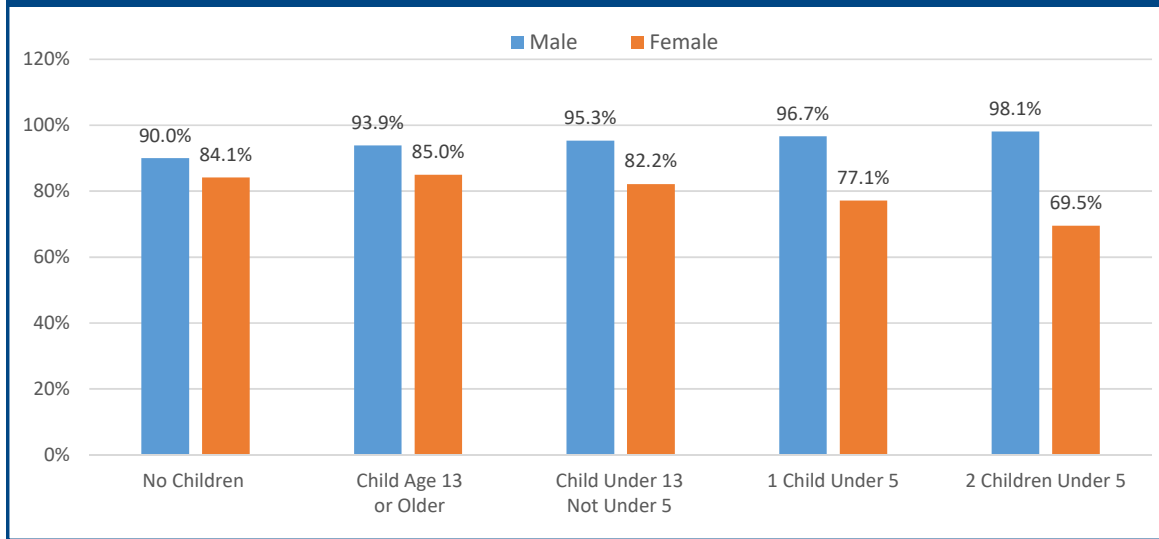
**FIGURE 3**



<sup>1</sup> 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.

**FIGURE 4**

**Women's Labor Force Participation is Most Affected When They Have Young Children, While Male Labor Force Participation Increases**  
*[NH Labor Force Participation (Individuals Aged 25-54)]*



declines in automobile and parts dealers (-66 or -7.9%), and building materials and garden equipment and supplies dealers (-53 or -12.1%). Claims in the hospitality and recreation industries (accommodations, food services, and recreation) decreased by 411 or -6.0 percent during the week.

Industries with the most initial claims for unemployment since March 16th are presented in Table 3, along with the number of continuing claims in

scientific services, a strength of and increasingly important sector the New Hampshire economy experienced a decline of 172 continued claims during the week.

Above average temperatures and an absence of snow and storms for early March aided activity in the construction industry, and continued claims in the industry declined by a combined 350 (-13.9%) across specialty trade contractors, construction of buildings, and the heavy and civil construction industries. Manufacturing industries had an 8.4 percent decline (-269) in continued claims during the week. Claims in educational services decreased by 82, or 6.8 percent during the week. Continued claims in healthcare industries decreased by 143, or 5.3 percent

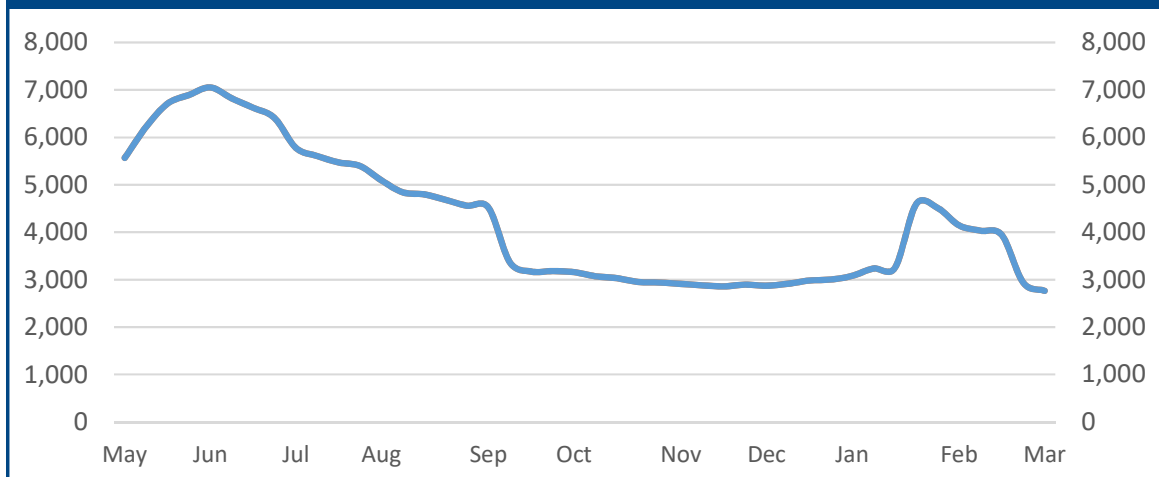
The retail industry had a decrease of 341 continued claims during the week ended March 13th, or -6.7 percent, led by

the industry for the week ended March 13th, New Hampshire employment in each industry as of the fourth quarter of 2019, as well as the percentage of each industry's employees that filed a continuing unemployment claim during the week of March 13th.

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 March 13th. 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 5**

**Continued Unemployment Claims Citing Childcare as the Reason for Not Working**



## Child Care Impacts the Labor Force Before, During, and After the Pandemic

Individuals ages 25-54 have the highest labor force participation rates among all population age groups, but participation rates differ substantially between men and women, and among those with and without children, as well as the ages of their children. Figure 4 contains a five-year average of pre-COVID data (2015-2019) and shows that labor force participation is higher for men than women in their prime working years (ages 25-54), but differences are magnified when individuals have young children. In addition, the chart highlights the divergent impacts that children have on labor force participation by gender, as male participation increases while female participation decreases with the presence of children in a family – especially young children. Child care and supervision responsibilities fall disproportionately on women, with largely negative impact on wages, salaries, lifetime earnings, and occupational advancement for women.

Figure 4 also highlights the fact that the need to care and supervise children reduced the size of the New Hampshire labor force long before the pandemic, and suggests it will continue to do so after the pandemic. That many individuals choose not to participate in the labor force when they have young children is not a public policy problem. When individuals cannot participate in the labor force because of their inability to access or afford childcare, the issue is one of lost economic opportunity for individuals and the state’s economy, and that should concern policymakers.

The pandemic has raised awareness of the importance of child care and supervision to the economy. By placing increasing demands on parents for child care

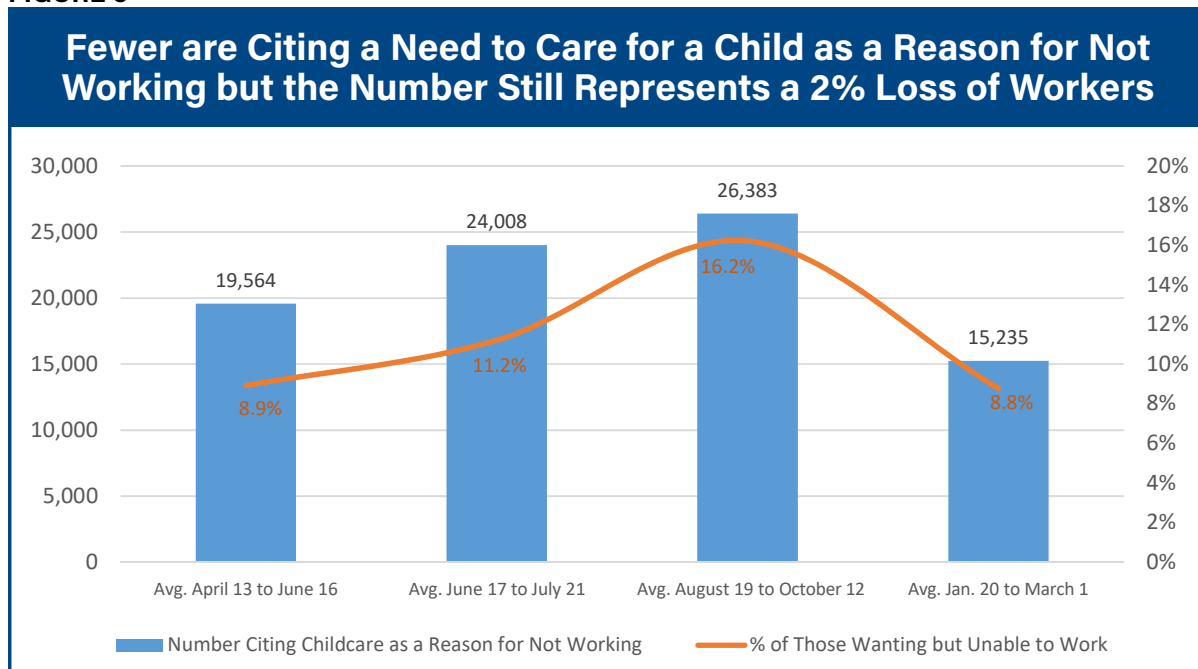
and supervision in response to remote learning, and as organizations that provide child care and supervision shrank or closed, the pandemic showed how limiting child care and supervision options for parents can reduce the capacity of the state’s economy to produce during the pandemic, as well as impede its recovery from the pandemic’s impacts. Figure 5 shows the number of individuals who have stopped working, or reduced their work hours, and are collecting unemployment benefits through the federal “Pandemic Unemployment Assistance” (PUA) program because of the need to care for a child. Although the number has dropped from its peak as schools increasingly offer in-person learning, and more child care services operate closer to regular capacity, the number remains elevated.

Still, there is a much larger number of individuals who are not collecting PUA unemployment benefits (because they did not have to quit working or reduce hours during the pandemic) but who nevertheless indicate that the need to care for a child not in school or daycare is the reason they are not working. Figure 6 shows data from the U.S. Census Bureau’s “Household Pulse Survey” designed to track the impacts of the pandemic on households. The chart shows that the number has declined but again, at 15,000+, represents a substantial loss to the New Hampshire labor force.

Enabling those who would like to work but who are unable to do so because of child care issues would facilitate New Hampshire’s economic recovery from the pandemic. By helping increase the state’s labor force, it would also increase the state’s long-term economic growth potential.

— Brian Gottlob, Director

**FIGURE 6**



**TABLE 2 - COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY COUNTY**

COUNTY	TOTAL CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH: MARCH 16 TO MARCH 13	CLAIMS MARCH 7 TO MARCH 13	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	CONTINUING CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH AS OF FEBRUARY 20 <sup>†</sup>	FEBRUARY 2020 LABOR FORCE	ESTIMATED CURRENT COVID-19 AFFECTED INSURED UNEMP. RATE
Belknap	11,698	32	NA	2,099	31,039	6.8%
Carroll	8,753	21	NA	1,663	23,718	7.0%
Cheshire	10,192	41	NA	1,759	41,500	4.2%
Coos	5,178	20	NA	910	14,724	6.2%
Grafton	12,817	43	NA	1,982	51,045	3.9%
Hillsborough	67,119	252	NA	11,839	245,905	4.8%
Merrimack	24,028	100	NA	4,221	84,821	5.0%
Rockingham	43,507	126	NA	7,751	188,982	4.1%
Strafford	20,251	62	NA	3,586	75,410	4.8%
Sullivan	5,757	20	NA	934	23,061	4.1%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>209,300</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>36,744</b>	<b>780,205</b>	<b>4.7%</b>

<sup>†</sup> New data for Continued Claims is released monthly

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

INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE *	# CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16, 2020	CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF MARCH 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	31,809	4,570	-310	49,907	9.2%
Administrative and Support Services	561	16,196	3,605	-205	33,750	10.7%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	621	12,387	1,121	-79	34,431	3.3%
Educational Services	611	9,968	1,120	-82	20,834	5.4%
Social Assistance	624	7,719	1,163	-52	15,809	7.4%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	541	7,181	1,108	-172	39,171	2.8%
Hospitals	622	6,849	643	-20	30,086	2.1%
Specialty Trade Contractors	238	6,799	1,298	-189	18,817	6.9%
Personal and Laundry Services	812	5,957	803	-63	7,306	11.0%
Accommodation	721	5,875	1,094	-51	8,397	13.0%
Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation	713	5,778	740	-50	9,883	7.5%
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	441	5,611	765	-66	12,602	6.1%

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INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE *	# CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16, 2020	CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF MARCH 13	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT	FEBRUARY 6 CONT. CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT
General Merchandise Stores	452	5,546	958	-33	14,817	6.5%
Food and Beverage Stores	445	4,614	897	-44	22,356	4.0%
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	448	3,977	430	-20	6,029	7.1%
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	444	3,969	386	-53	9,527	4.1%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	623	3,846	773	-44	14,268	5.4%
General Automotive Repair	811	3,228	425	-62	5,313	8.0%
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	453	3,199	391	-26	5,449	7.2%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	332	3,124	416	-66	11,558	3.6%
Electronic Computer Manufacturing	334	3,107	390	-31	16,381	2.4%
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	423	3,071	454	-74	12,463	3.6%
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	813	3,054	400	-48	6,517	6.1%
Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation	485	3,040	512	-37	3,652	14.0%
Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing	335	2,273	171	-9	4,225	4.0%
Construction of Buildings	236	2,213	401	-114	6,082	6.6%
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, and Book Stores	451	2,006	216	-23	4,154	5.2%
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	424	1,834	296	-38	8,050	3.7%
Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	442	1,816	178	-12	2,772	6.4%
Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers.	425	1,671	285	-26	7,771	3.7%
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	339	1,662	190	-4	4,430	4.3%
Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing	326	1,576	200	-18	5,422	3.7%
Real Estate	531	1,503	249	-40	4,949	5.0%
Nonstore Retailers	454	1,493	245	-11	6,181	4.0%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	551	1,332	258	-28	9,284	2.8%
Gas Stations	447	1,316	221	-28	4,511	4.9%
Couriers and Messengers	492	1,284	310	-8	4,185	7.4%
Health and Personal Care Stores	446	1,272	174	-9	3,721	4.7%

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

INDUSTRY	NAICS CODE *	# CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16, 2020	CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF MARCH 13	CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK	Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT	FEBRUARY 6 CONT. CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT
Machinery Manufacturing	333	1,234	201	-17	7,006	2.9%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	237	1,221	467	-47	3,564	13.1%
Textile Mills	313	1,179	202	-10	1,822	11.1%
Printing and Related Support Activities	323	1,155	208	-22	2,297	9.1%
Primary Metal Manufacturing	331	1,083	161	-13	2,386	6.7%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	524	1,081	178	-48	11,768	5.6%
Electronics and Appliance Stores	443	1,012	151	-16	2,958	1.7%
Rental and Leasing Services	532	977	171	-12	1,993	9.6%
Industries in the Food Manufacturing	311	929	126	-18	2,771	5.5%
Industries in the Publishing Industries (except Internet)	511	909	149	-9	5,116	3.0%
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	522	820	156	-15	11,768	1.4%
Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related	711	770	164	-10	1,179	15.4%

\*NAICS - North American Industrial Classification System

**TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN**

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16, 2020 - MARCH 13, 2021	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF FEB 20	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Acworth	106	18	459	3.9%
Albany	143	20	362	5.5%
Alexandria	312	43	912	4.7%
Allenstown	765	151	2,493	6.1%
Alstead	279	50	1,083	4.6%
Alton	891	167	3,009	5.6%
Amherst	1,331	212	6,419	3.3%
Andover	350	67	1,439	4.7%
Antrim	423	61	1,427	4.3%
Ashland	415	60	1,279	4.7%

**TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN**

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16, 2020 - MARCH 13, 2021	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF FEB 20	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Atkinson	720	128	4,068	3.1%
Auburn	824	139	3,634	3.8%
Barnstead	804	129	2,656	4.9%
Barrington	1,383	221	5,523	4.0%
Bartlett	744	118	1,459	8.1%
Bath town	158	17	542	3.1%
Bedford	2,581	357	12,555	2.8%
Belmont	1,480	283	3,576	7.9%
Bennington	274	51	817	6.2%
Benton	35	8	150	5.3%



**TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN**

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16, 2020 - MARCH 13, 2021	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF FEB 20	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Berlin	1,493	259	3,888	6.7%
Bethlehem	554	97	1,444	6.7%
Boscawen	745	109	1,972	5.5%
Bow	975	166	4,561	3.6%
Bradford	283	64	986	6.5%
Brentwood	549	91	2,642	3.4%
Bridgewater	168	35	761	4.6%
Bristol	703	99	1,842	5.4%
Brookfield	149	24	293	8.2%
Brookline	582	82	3,480	2.4%
Campton	711	108	2,110	5.1%
Canaan	551	85	2,042	4.2%
Candia	607	94	2,598	3.6%
Canterbury	312	54	1,508	3.6%
Carroll	150	16	391	4.1%
Center Harbor	178	28	670	4.2%
Charlestown	762	113	2,843	4.0%
Chatham	50	10	160	6.3%
Chester	699	105	3,145	3.3%
Chesterfield	341	61	1,943	3.1%
Chichester	419	68	1,588	4.3%
Claremont	1,912	307	6,385	4.8%
Colebrook	361	56	1,141	4.9%
Columbia	67	8	318	2.5%
Concord	7,328	1,282	23,063	5.6%
Conway	2,466	417	5,463	7.6%
Cornish	192	36	988	3.6%
Croydon	76	17	452	3.8%
Dalton	230	50	442	
Danbury	238	50	736	6.8%
Danville	615	110	2,771	4.0%
Deerfield	676	115	2,835	4.1%
Deering	244	36	1,133	3.2%
Derry	5,454	971	20,900	4.6%
Dorchester	40	11	200	5.5%
Dover	5,477	944	18,915	5.0%
Dublin	166	26	891	2.9%
Dummer	36	15	142	
Dunbarton	402	58	1,795	3.2%

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TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16, 2020 - MARCH 13, 2021	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF FEB 20	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Durham	875	115	9,395	1.2%
East Kingston	267	51	1,401	3.6%
Easton	38	7	143	4.9%
Eaton	73	14	235	6.0%
Effingham	254	54	701	7.7%
Enfield	570	82	3,166	2.6%
Epping	1,144	188	4,282	4.4%
Epsom	749	138	2,996	4.6%
Errol	61	12	164	7.3%
Exeter	2,136	403	8,834	4.6%
Farmington	1,252	242	3,725	6.5%
Fitzwilliam	271	47	1,361	3.5%
Francestown	200	40	1,002	4.0%
Franconia	177	30	655	4.6%
Franklin	1,757	335	4,055	8.3%
Freedom	192	43	766	5.6%
Fremont	670	129	2,870	4.5%
Gilford	1,341	220	3,645	6.0%
Gilmanton	689	117	1,746	6.7%
Gilsum	128	28	457	6.1%
Goffstown	2,698	407	11,023	3.7%
Gorham	512	98	1,234	7.9%
Goshen	102	15	451	3.3%
Grafton	213	42	683	6.1%
Grantham	280	49	1,664	2.9%
Greenfield	260	51	1,066	4.8%
Greenland	555	101	2,467	4.1%
Greenville	284	55	1,206	4.6%
Groton	153	27	382	7.1%
Hampstead	1,056	188	5,151	3.6%
Hampton Falls	276	52	1,501	3.5%
Hampton	2,711	553	9,147	6.0%
Hancock	229	48	944	5.1%
Hanover	400	43	5,093	0.8%
Harrisville	136	26	609	4.3%
Haverhill	528	95	2,359	4.0%
Hebron	65	7	413	1.7%
Henniker	665	113	2,910	3.9%
Hill	186	36	543	6.6%

**TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN**

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16, 2020 - MARCH 13, 2021	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF FEB 20	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Hillsborough	1,157	177	3,004	5.9%
Hinsdale	403	75	2,158	3.5%
Holderness	331	54	1,563	3.5%
Hollis	778	128	4,346	2.9%
Hooksett	2,374	392	9,376	4.2%
Hopkinton	677	111	3,481	3.2%
Hudson	3,497	577	15,467	3.7%
Jackson	198	25	366	6.8%
Jaffrey	732	151	3,103	4.9%
Jefferson	182	39	639	6.1%
Keene	3,449	533	11,949	4.5%
Kensington	209	41	1,313	3.1%
Kingston	868	160	3,777	4.2%
Laconia	3,374	657	7,775	8.5%
Lancaster	481	86	1,741	4.9%
Landaff	47	10	279	3.6%
Langdon	76	11	363	3.0%
Lebanon	1,576	230	7,793	3.0%
Lee	638	99	2,884	3.4%
Lempster	154	25	629	4.0%
Lincoln	418	63	770	8.2%
Lisbon	258	60	862	7.0%
Litchfield	1,191	183	4,887	3.7%
Littleton	1,280	229	3,256	7.0%
Londonderry	3,586	586	16,261	3.6%
Loudon	874	153	3,357	4.6%
Lyman	138	15	336	4.5%
Lyme	118	18	850	2.1%
Lyndeborough	255	54	1,056	5.1%
Madbury	240	40	1,097	3.6%
Madison	483	91	1,437	6.3%
Manchester	24,341	4,495	66,815	6.7%
Marlborough	356	70	1,221	5.7%
Marlow	112	27	369	7.3%
Mason	183	42	821	5.1%
Meredith	1,116	198	3,115	6.4%
Merrimack	3,880	651	16,570	3.9%
Middleton	269	52	1,051	4.9%
Milan	207	38	626	6.1%

**TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN**

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16, 2020 - MARCH 13, 2021	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF FEB 20	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Milford	2,573	403	9,738	4.1%
Milton	687	143	2,390	6.0%
Monroe	91	18	401	4.5%
Mont Vernon	326	54	1,582	3.4%
Moultonborough	623	120	2,219	5.4%
Nashua	13,770	2,693	51,919	5.2%
Nelson	80	12	440	2.7%
New Boston	910	135	3,976	3.4%
New Castle	87	18	560	3.2%
New Durham	416	86	1,563	5.5%
New Hampton	460	64	1,321	4.8%
New Ipswich	530	92	3,023	3.0%
New London	362	52	1,941	2.7%
Newbury	270	35	1,212	2.9%
Newfields	220	36	1,071	3.4%
Newington	104	14	518	2.7%
Newmarket	1,664	238	5,818	4.1%
Newport	992	173	3,553	4.9%
Newton	457	97	3,283	3.0%
North Hampton	593	146	2,684	5.4%
Northfield	979	180	2,554	7.0%
Northumberland	376	56	1,059	5.3%
Northwood	777	121	2,672	4.5%
Nottingham	726	111	3,286	3.4%
Orford	119	22	817	2.7%
Ossipee	750	191	1,757	
Pelham	1,382	229	8,237	2.8%
Pembroke	1,355	249	4,612	5.4%
Peterborough	928	176	3,858	4.6%
Piermont	64	11	430	2.6%
Pittsburg	139	17	384	4.4%
Pittsfield	662	133	2,122	6.3%
Plainfield	211	28	1,446	1.9%
Plastow	846	155	4,320	3.6%
Plymouth	928	103	3,989	2.6%
Portsmouth	3,641	654	14,074	4.6%
Randolph	59	10	141	7.1%
Raymond	1,792	307	6,360	4.8%
Richmond	117	27	596	4.5%

**TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN**

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16, 2020 - MARCH 13, 2021	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF FEB 20	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Rindge	540	90	2,943	3.1%
Rochester	5,736	1,024	18,190	5.6%
Rollinsford	419	86	1,456	5.9%
Roxbury	28	3	139	2.2%
Rumney	207	32	958	3.3%
Rye	689	129	3,459	3.7%
Salem	3,626	672	18,512	3.6%
Salisbury	213	35	827	4.2%
Sanbornton	516	98	1,689	5.8%
Sandown	858	137	4,279	3.2%
Sandwich	175	35	610	5.7%
Seabrook	1,342	282	5,180	5.4%
Sharon	40	11	224	4.9%
Shelburne	52	9	177	5.1%
Somersworth	2,266	437	6,891	6.3%
South Hampton	82	18	531	3.4%
Springfield	143	19	779	2.4%
Stark	61	9	194	4.6%
Stewartstown	106	17	370	4.6%
Stoddard	189	34	724	4.7%
Strafford	593	97	2,328	4.2%
Stratford	112	21	255	8.2%
Stratham	909	170	4,559	3.7%
Sugar Hill	87	15	351	4.3%
Sullivan	95	12	360	3.3%
Sunapee	414	60	1,671	3.6%
Surry	93	11	500	2.2%
Sutton	201	36	1,139	3.2%
Swanzey	1,079	191	4,101	4.7%
Tamworth	572	115	1,517	7.6%

**TABLE 4 - INITIAL UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY TOWN**

TOWN	CLAIMS MARCH 16, 2020 - MARCH 13, 2021	CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF FEB 20	FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE	COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE **
Temple	193	33	786	4.2%
Thornton	553	93	1,790	5.2%
Tilton	849	138	1,837	7.5%
Troy	338	66	1,174	5.6%
Tuftonboro	324	73	1,157	6.3%
Unity	142	31	865	3.6%
Wakefield	710	146	2,310	6.3%
Walpole	415	76	2,380	3.2%
Warner	421	78	1,587	4.9%
Warren	112	16	537	3.0%
Washington	195	32	513	6.2%
Waterville Valley	96	10	141	7.1%
Weare	1,418	201	6,179	3.3%
Webster	292	42	1,180	3.6%
Wentworth	123	17	535	3.2%
Westmoreland	202	31	941	3.3%
Whitefield	464	89	1,280	7.0%
Wilmot	174	34	788	4.3%
Wilton	625	102	2,190	4.7%
Winchester	643	112	2,058	5.4%
Windham	1,472	241	8,219	2.9%
Windsor	36	3	155	1.9%
Wolfeboro	831	162	2,827	5.7%
Woodstock	440	63	972	6.5%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>209,300</b>	<b>36,744</b>	<b>780,205</b>	<b>4.7%</b>

*\* 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 April 1st.

For further information contact:  
**Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau**  
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