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# COVID-19

# UNEMPLOYMENT UPDATE

**For Immediate Release:** November 19, 2020

New Hampshire's initial claims declined to 1,819 during the week ended November 14th, down 352 (or 16.2%) from a revised 2,171 the week ended November 7th. U.S. initial claims increased by 2.5% during the week on a not seasonally adjusted basis. A total of 29 states experienced an increase in initial claims during the week. In New England, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Vermont reported increases in initial claims during the week.

New Hampshire's continued claims in the regular unemployment insurance (UI) program were 22,227 during the week ended November 7th, down 1,220 or 5.2%. U.S. regular UI continued claims declined by 6.5% 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. Nine states experienced an increase in regular UI program continuing claims during the week ended November 7th. No New England states had an increase in UI continued claims during the week.

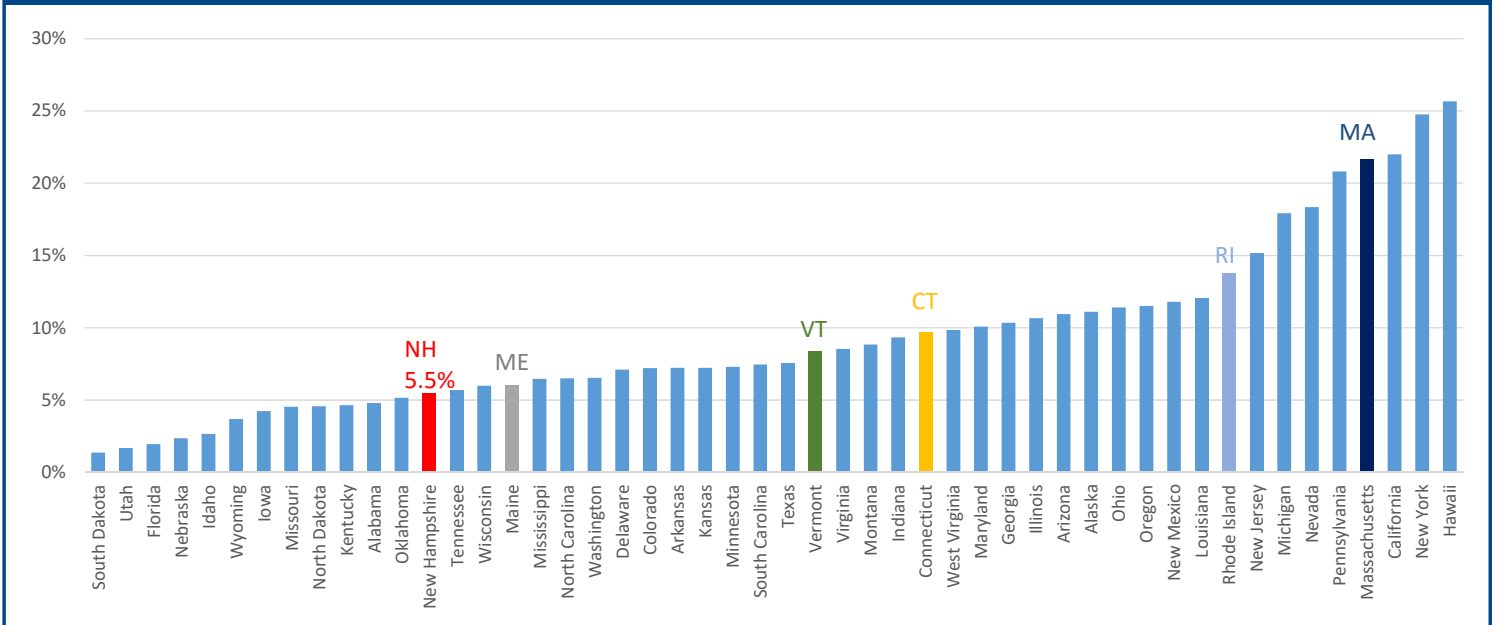
The decline nationally in continued claims in the regular unemployment program was partially offset by another rise in continued claims in federal unemployment assistance programs that extend the time individuals can collect unemployment benefits when they exhaust regular state program time limits. In 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. Fifteen states (including Vermont – the only New England state) experienced an increase in

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

| TOWN        | NEW CLAIMS<br>NOVEMBER 1 TO<br>NOVEMBER 7 | CHANGE FROM<br>PRIOR WEEK | TOTAL NEW CLAIMS<br>MARCH 16 TO<br>NOVEMBER 7 | CONTINUING<br>CLAIMS AS OF<br>OCTOBER 24† |
|-------------|---|---------------------------|---|---|
| Manchester  | 134                                       | 3                         | 21,339  | 4,162                                     |
| Nashua      | 66  | 4                         | 11,901  | 2,425                                     |
| Concord     | 44  | -11                       | 6,429   | 1,202                                     |
| Rochester   | 34  | 11                        | 5,047   | 909                                       |
| Berlin      | 20  | 8                         | 1,309   | 213                                       |
| Keene       | 20  | 9                         | 2,995   | 482                                       |
| Dover       | 19  | -8                        | 4,872   | 906                                       |
| Claremont   | 18  | 4                         | 1,658   | 310                                       |
| Laconia     | 18  | -8                        | 2,983   | 580                                       |
| Hudson      | 17  | 1                         | 3,050   | 518                                       |
| Somersworth | 16  | 10                        | 1,994   | 389                                       |
| Portsmouth  | 15  | 5                         | 3,254   | 599                                       |
| Bedford     | 14  | 5                         | 2,271   | 379                                       |
| Derry       | 13  | -7                        | 4,814   | 894                                       |
| Franklin    | 11  | 5                         | 1,501   | 295                                       |
| Hampton     | 11  | -1                        | 2,431   | 491                                       |
| Londonderry | 11  | -7                        | 3,186   | 520                                       |
| Salem       | 11  | -10                       | 3,185   | 633                                       |
| Durham      | 10  | 6                         | 756   | 102                                       |
| Exeter      | 10  | 2                         | 1,890   | 354                                       |

† 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 October 31st)



PUA continued claims during the week ended October 31st. The CARES Act also established the “Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation” (PEUC) program to allow individuals who exhausted their regular UI or their PUA benefits after 26 weeks to receive an additional 13 weeks of benefits. Thirty-four states, including New Hampshire, saw an increase in PEUC claims during the week. As the pandemic has continued to affect employment across the nation, more unemployed workers have transitioned to either the PUA or PEUC programs, making assessment of each state’s labor market just on the basis of regular UI continued claims problematic.

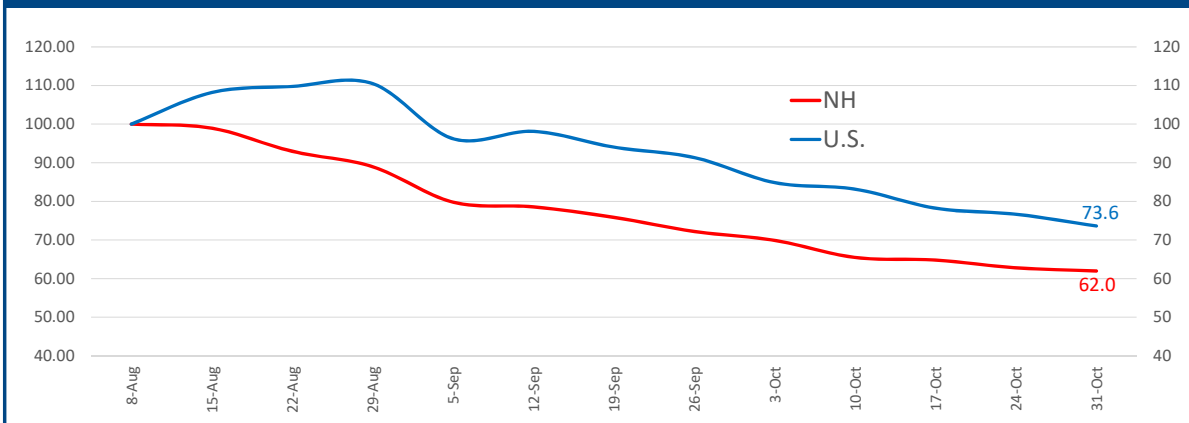
Adding PUA and PEUC continued claims to regular state UI continued claims provides a more complete measure of the impacts of the pandemic on the labor market than does

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. 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 labor force stands at 5.5 percent as of October 31st (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, each region’s peak for continuing claims is set at an index value of 100, with index numbers reflecting the percentage

FIGURE 2

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



change in continuing claims from 100 (thus New Hampshire’s index value of 62 indicates that as of October 31st, continuing claims have declined by 38 percent since August 8th (100 – 62 = 38). Continuing claims nationally have declined by 26 percent during the same time period.

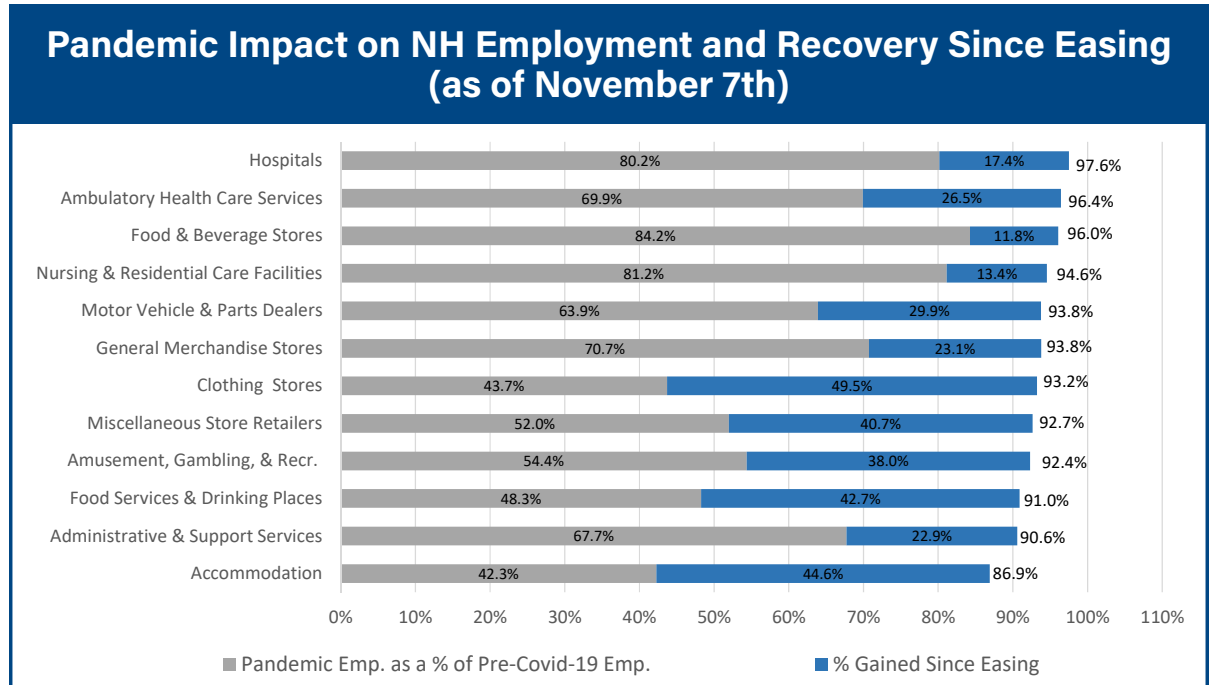
Town-by-town breakouts of the

number of new claims filed by New Hampshire residents who also work in the state are available with a one-week lag (through November 7th). The number of claims filed by New Hampshire residents working in New Hampshire increased by 8 during the week. Of the towns with the most initial claims during the week, Rochester (+11) and Somersworth (+10) were the only towns to have an increase in claims of 10 or more compared to the prior week.

Concord (-11) and Salem (-10) had the largest decreases in claims during the week. A total of 87 of New Hampshire's 238 towns had an increase in new claims during the week, totaling 234 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 October 24th) as a percentage of the town's labor force<sup>1</sup>, 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 October 24th), 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.<sup>2</sup> The State of New Hampshire's official unemployment rate for October was released this week on November 17th and reflects employment and unemployment during the week that contained October 12th. The official U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for New Hampshire in September is 4.2 percent, and the not seasonally adjusted figure is 3.8 percent. For the week ending October 24th, New Hampshire's "Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate" (which is not seasonally adjusted) was 4.3 percent. Waterville Valley (10.6%), Ossipee (8.6%) and Lincoln (8.6%) 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

<sup>1</sup> The February 2020 labor force count for each town is used for this analysis.

<sup>2</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.

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.

### 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 November 7th, the change in initial claims from the prior week, and the number of continuing claims filed by residents of each county. Five of the state's 10 counties saw a decrease in claims during the week, led by Merrimack County (-21) and Carroll County (-16). Strafford County had the largest increase in claims, with an increase of 28 during the week ended November 7th compared to the week ended October 31st.

As of the week ended October 24th, Carroll County has the highest Covid-19 Affected Unemployment Rate, at 6.3 percent, while the lowest rate was recorded in Grafton County at 3.6 percent.

### Claims by Industry

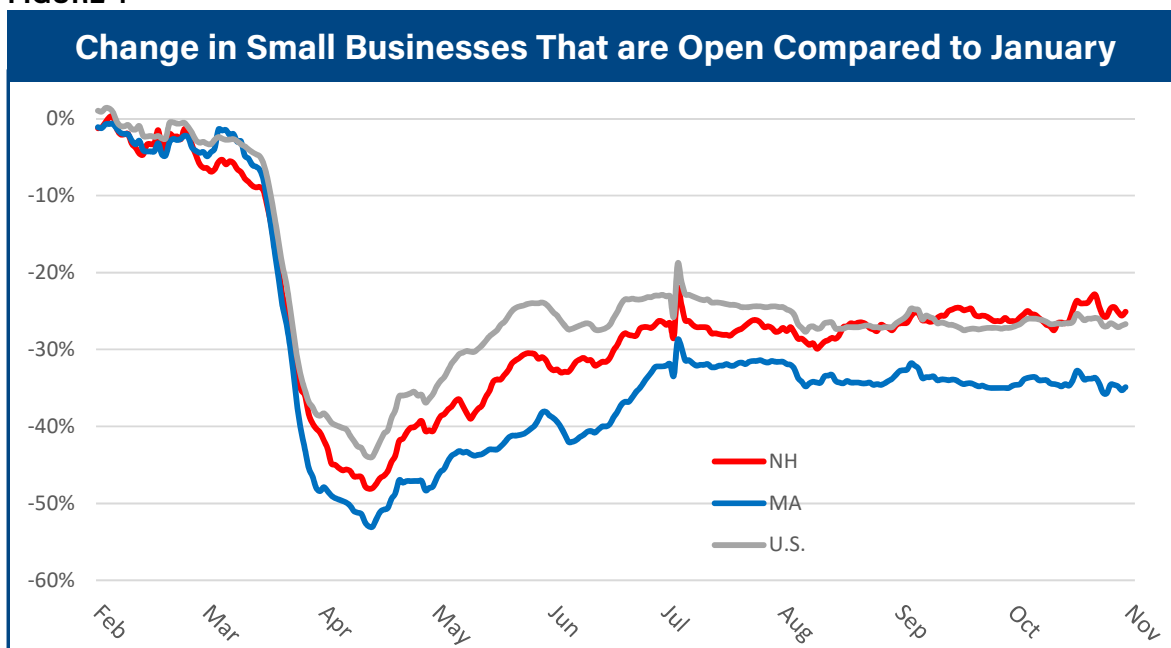
Industries with the most initial claims for unemployment since March 15th are presented in Table 3, along with the number of continuing claims in the industry for the week ended November 7th, New Hampshire employment in each industry

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 November 7th. Of 94 industry classifications (at the three-digit NAICS level), 26 experienced increases in continuing claims during the week, totaling 84 continued claims. Among the 50 industries most affected by the pandemic through November 7th, eight experienced an increase in continuing claims during the week, totaling 41 claims (Table 3).

Continuing claims in manufacturing industries declined by 80 or -2.4 percent during the week ended November 7th. Claims in educational services fell by 27, or -2.2 percent. Continued claims in healthcare industries declined by 55 or -2.0 percent during the week. Claims in the hospitality (accommodations and food services and recreation) industries declined by 28 or -0.4 percent, led by a decline of 47 (-1.0%) in the food services industry, while claims in the amusements and recreation industry increased by 20 (+2.6%). Construction industry continued claims increased by 6 or -0.5 percent during the week. The retail industry experienced a decrease of 131 continued claims (-2.5%) during the week ended November 7th.

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 October 31st. 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**



## The Pandemic's Continued Toll on Small Business

The labor market and the economy of the nation and New Hampshire have been recovering since the peak negative effects, in the spring of 2020, from the COVID-19 pandemic. The longer the pandemic persists, and with it households, individuals, and businesses ability or willingness to engage in their normal (pre-pandemic) economic activities, the greater is the potential for some businesses to be at risk for insolvency, and the more the economic damage from the pandemic becomes permanent. This is especially true for small businesses which have fewer resources and much smaller cash reserves to withstand temporary declines in revenue.

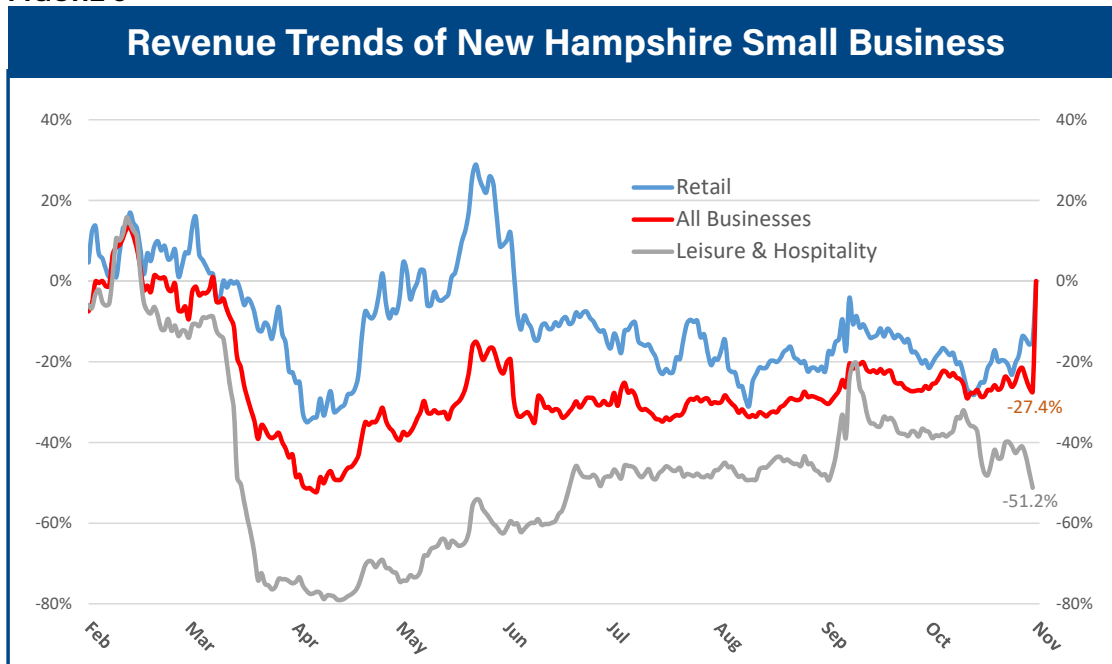
Data on the number of operating small businesses that can allow for an estimation of the pandemic's impact on business closures is only available from government sources with a long lag, precluding the kind of timely assessment of the pandemic's impacts that is important for public policy decisions. Analysts are increasingly turning to near real-time, private sector sources of data to glean critical economic trends affected by the pandemic. Womply serves over 500,000 small businesses nationally, including over 2,000 in New Hampshire. On a weekly basis it produces a measure of the change in small business that are open in the nation and in each state. A small business is defined as being open if it has had at least one transaction in the previous 3 days, and change in business openings is measured on a seasonally adjusted basis compared to a reference period of January 2020. Figure 4 compares openings in New Hampshire with Massachusetts

and the nation as a whole. The chart shows that both New Hampshire's and Massachusetts' early pandemic control efforts resulted in lower rates of businesses openings during the early stages of the pandemic, but more recently, New Hampshire has a higher rate of businesses that are open compared to the number open in January than does the nation as a whole. Still the rate of openings is lower than it was in January, however, a lower rate of openings does not mean all of the businesses that have had no transactions in the previous three days are no longer in business, but it is an indication of declining revenue that in some cases may lead to insolvency.

Examining small business revenue trends for all small businesses in New Hampshire from data aggregated from several credit card processors and also reported by Womply, shows a similar pattern to business opening data, with revenues down just over one-quarter on a seasonally adjusted basis compared to January of 2020. Similar to the pattern of layoffs and unemployment claims among different industries, the revenue patterns by industry have been different during the pandemic as well. Figure 5 shows that, in total, small business revenue appears to be off by just over one-quarter, however, small retail business revenue has recovered to pre-pandemic levels, while revenues for leisure and hospitality businesses remain about 50 percent below pre-pandemic levels.

It will be months before the effects of the pandemic on small businesses and the number of insolvencies is reflected in official government data, until then, there are an increasing number of private sector sources of data that have stepped up to fill the information void during the pandemic.

FIGURE 5



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

| COUNTY        | TOTAL CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH: MARCH 16 TO NOVEMBER 7 | CLAIMS NOVEMBER 1 TO NOVEMBER 7 | CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK | CONTINUING CLAIMS BY NH RESIDENTS WORKING IN NH AS OF OCTOBER 24 <sup>†</sup> | FEBRUARY 2020 LABOR FORCE | ESTIMATED CURRENT COVID-19 AFFECTED INSURED UNEMP. RATE |
|---------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| Belknap       | 10,369   | 63                              | 1                      | 1,862   | 31,039                    | 6.0%  |
| Carroll       | 8,011  | 24                              | -16                    | 1,480   | 23,718                    | 6.2%  |
| Cheshire      | 8,813  | 52                              | 11                     | 1,635   | 41,500                    | 3.9%  |
| Coos          | 4,542  | 39                              | -1                     | 713   | 14,724                    | 4.8%  |
| Grafton       | 11,407   | 51                              | -3                     | 1,826   | 51,045                    | 3.6%  |
| Hillsborough  | 58,832   | 314                             | 13                     | 10,919  | 245,905                   | 4.4%  |
| Merrimack     | 21,079   | 120                             | -21                    | 3,788   | 84,821                    | 4.5%  |
| Rockingham    | 38,632   | 177                             | -6                     | 7,052   | 188,982                   | 3.7%  |
| Strafford     | 17,942   | 103                             | 29                     | 3,275   | 75,410                    | 4.3%  |
| Sullivan      | 5,072  | 39                              | 1                      | 915   | 23,061                    | 4.0%  |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>184,699</b>   | <b>982</b>                      | <b>8</b>               | <b>33,465</b>   | <b>780,205</b>            | <b>4.3%</b>   |

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

**TABLE 3 - INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS - MARCH 15 TO NOVEMBER 7**

| INDUSTRY   | NAICS CODE * | # CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16 | CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF OCTOBER 24 | CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK | Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT | OCT 24 CONTINUED CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT |
|--|--------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Food Services and Drinking Places                | 722          | 27,190                        | 4,532                                     | -47                    | 49,907             | 9.1%  |
| Administrative and Support Services              | 561          | 12,316                        | 3,174                                     | -11                    | 33,750             | 9.4%  |
| Ambulatory Health Care Services                  | 621          | 10,824                        | 1,226                                     | -41                    | 34,431             | 3.6%  |
| Educational Services                             | 611          | 8,504                         | 1,215                                     | -27                    | 20,834             | 5.8%  |
| Social Assistance                                | 624          | 6,644                         | 1,206                                     | -20                    | 15,809             | 7.6%  |
| Hospitals  | 622          | 6,182                         | 746                                       | -4                     | 30,086             | 2.5%  |
| Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 541          | 5,320                         | 1,240                                     | -31                    | 39,171             | 3.2%  |
| Personal and Laundry Services                    | 812          | 5,250                         | 818                                       | -7                     | 7,306              | 11.2%   |
| Accommodation                                    | 721          | 5,103                         | 1,100                                     | -1                     | 8,397              | 13.1%   |
| Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation              | 713          | 4,907                         | 781                                       | 20                     | 9,883              | 7.9%  |
| Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers                  | 441          | 4,797                         | 784                                       | -20                    | 12,602             | 6.2%  |
| General Merchandise Stores                       | 452          | 4,756                         | 920                                       | -41                    | 14,817             | 6.2%  |



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|--|--------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Specialty Trade Contractors  | 238          | 4,756                         | 741                                       | 0                      | 18,817             | 3.9%  |
| Food and Beverage Stores   | 445          | 3,893                         | 880                                       | -18                    | 22,356             | 3.9%  |
| Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores                               | 448          | 3,548                         | 408                                       | -2                     | 6,029              | 6.8%  |
| Nursing and Residential Care Facilities                                | 623          | 3,050                         | 775                                       | -10                    | 14,268             | 5.4%  |
| Miscellaneous Store Retailers  | 453          | 2,763                         | 400                                       | -18                    | 5,449              | 7.3%  |
| Electronic Computer Manufacturing                                      | 334          | 2,699                         | 434                                       | -2                     | 16,381             | 2.6%  |
| Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing                                 | 332          | 2,501                         | 497                                       | -2                     | 11,558             | 4.3%  |
| Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation                            | 485          | 2,472                         | 550                                       | 8                      | 3,652              | 15.1%   |
| General Automotive Repair  | 811          | 2,468                         | 410                                       | -7                     | 7,091              | 5.8%  |
| Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations | 813          | 2,360                         | 400                                       | -13                    | 6,517              | 6.1%  |
| Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods                                    | 423          | 2,338                         | 435                                       | -21                    | 12,463             | 3.5%  |
| Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing           | 335          | 2,099                         | 152                                       | -5                     | 4,225              | 3.6%  |
| Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Instrument, and Book Stores             | 451          | 1,767                         | 220                                       | 1                      | 4,154              | 5.3%  |
| Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores                                  | 442          | 1,616                         | 192                                       | -8                     | 2,772              | 6.9%  |
| Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers            | 444          | 1,591                         | 353                                       | -5                     | 9,527              | 3.7%  |
| Construction of Buildings  | 236          | 1,585                         | 370                                       | -1                     | 4,430              | 8.4%  |
| Miscellaneous Manufacturing  | 339          | 1,504                         | 207                                       | -2                     | 4,430              | 4.7%  |
| Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods                                 | 424          | 1,495                         | 290                                       | -16                    | 8,050              | 3.6%  |
| Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing                             | 326          | 1,360                         | 271                                       | -11                    | 5,422              | 5.0%  |
| Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers.                   | 425          | 1,312                         | 316                                       | 2                      | 7,771              | 4.1%  |
| Nonstore Retailers   | 454          | 1,226                         | 272                                       | -8                     | 6,181              | 4.4%  |
| Health and Personal Care Stores  | 446          | 1,083                         | 208                                       | -1                     | 4,185              | 5.0%  |
| Management of Companies and Enterprises                                | 551          | 1,082                         | 283                                       | 4                      | 9,284              | 3.0%  |
| Textile Mills  | 313          | 1,081                         | 240                                       | -8                     | 1,822              | 13.2%   |
| Real Estate  | 531          | 1,072                         | 218                                       | 2                      | 4,949              | 4.4%  |
| Machinery Manufacturing  | 333          | 1,024                         | 227                                       | -43                    | 7,006              | 3.2%  |

**TABLE 3 - INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS - MARCH 15 TO NOVEMBER 7**

| INDUSTRY  | NAICS CODE * | # CLAIMS FILED SINCE MARCH 16 | CONTINUING CLAIMS (CCFS) AS OF OCTOBER 24 | CHANGE FROM PRIOR WEEK | Q4 2019 EMPLOYMENT | OCT 24 CONTINUED CLAIMS AS A % OF Q4 2019 INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT |
|---|--------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Primary Metal Manufacturing                               | 331          | 1,006                         | 174                                       | 3                      | 2,386              | 7.3%  |
| Gas Stations  | 447          | 993                           | 232                                       | 0                      | 2,297              | 10.1%   |
| Printing and Related Support Activities                   | 323          | 976                           | 189                                       | -5                     | 4,511              | 4.2%  |
| Electronics and Appliance Stores                          | 443          | 859                           | 150                                       | -11                    | 2,958              | 5.1%  |
| Rental and Leasing Services                               | 532          | 816                           | 169                                       | -8                     | 1,993              | 8.5%  |
| Couriers and Messengers                                   | 492          | 805                           | 191                                       | -1                     | 3,721              | 5.1%  |
| Industries in the Food Manufacturing                      | 311          | 796                           | 137                                       | -7                     | 2,771              | 4.9%  |
| Industries in the Publishing Industries (except Internet) | 511          | 716                           | 157                                       | 1                      | 5,116              | 3.1%  |
| Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related            | 711          | 666                           | 184                                       | -6                     | 2,634              | 7.0%  |
| Insurance Carriers and Related Activities                 | 524          | 660                           | 180                                       | -4                     | 11,768             | 1.5%  |
| Transportation Equipment Manufacturing                    | 336          | 654                           | 198                                       | 0                      | 1,179              | 16.8%   |
| Credit Intermediation and Related Activities              | 522          | 576                           | 172                                       | -5                     | 8,107              | 2.1%  |

\*NAICS - North American Industrial Classification System

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

| TOWN       | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - OCTOBER 31* | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF OCT. 24† | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Acworth    | 93                            | 18  | 459                   | 3.9%                             |
| Albany     | 132                           | 16  | 362                   | 4.4%                             |
| Alexandria | 291                           | 36  | 912                   | 3.9%                             |
| Allenstown | 672                           | 129                                       | 2,493                 | 5.2%                             |
| Alstead    | 242                           | 46  | 1,083                 | 4.2%                             |
| Alton      | 792                           | 135                                       | 3,009                 | 4.5%                             |
| Amherst    | 1,154                         | 177                                       | 6,419                 | 2.8%                             |
| Andover    | 305                           | 54  | 1,439                 | 3.8%                             |
| Antrim     | 368                           | 62  | 1,427                 | 4.3%                             |
| Ashland    | 369                           | 53  | 1,279                 | 4.1%                             |

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

| TOWN       | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - OCTOBER 31* | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF OCT. 24† | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Atkinson   | 652                           | 124                                       | 4,068                 | 3.0%                             |
| Auburn     | 743                           | 121                                       | 3,634                 | 3.3%                             |
| Barnstead  | 711                           | 118                                       | 2,656                 | 4.4%                             |
| Barrington | 1,241                         | 221                                       | 5,523                 | 4.0%                             |
| Bartlett   | 713                           | 106                                       | 1,459                 | 7.3%                             |
| Bath town  | 148                           | 22  | 542                   | 4.1%                             |
| Bedford    | 2,271                         | 379                                       | 12,555                | 3.0%                             |
| Belmont    | 1,297                         | 251                                       | 3,576                 | 7.0%                             |
| Bennington | 246                           | 43  | 817                   | 5.3%                             |
| Benton     | 28                            | 4   | 150                   | 2.7%                             |



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

| TOWN          | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - OCTOBER 31* | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF OCT. 24† | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|---------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Berlin        | 1,309                         | 213                                       | 3,888                 | 5.5%                             |
| Bethlehem     | 515                           | 104                                       | 1,444                 | 7.2%                             |
| Boscawen      | 636                           | 105                                       | 1,972                 | 5.3%                             |
| Bow           | 852                           | 153                                       | 4,561                 | 3.4%                             |
| Bradford      | 252                           | 58  | 986                   | 5.9%                             |
| Brentwood     | 490                           | 99  | 2,642                 | 3.7%                             |
| Bridgewater   | 151                           | 32  | 761                   | 4.2%                             |
| Bristol       | 628                           | 77  | 1,842                 | 4.2%                             |
| Brookfield    | 133                           | 20  | 293                   | 6.8%                             |
| Brookline     | 506                           | 71  | 3,480                 | 2.0%                             |
| Campton       | 661                           | 102                                       | 2,110                 | 4.8%                             |
| Canaan        | 491                           | 85  | 2,042                 | 4.2%                             |
| Candia        | 534                           | 90  | 2,598                 | 3.5%                             |
| Canterbury    | 282                           | 48  | 1,508                 | 3.2%                             |
| Carroll       | 131                           | 19  | 391                   | 4.9%                             |
| Center Harbor | 164                           | 24  | 670                   | 3.6%                             |
| Charlestown   | 677                           | 104                                       | 2,843                 | 3.7%                             |
| Chatham       | 48                            | 8   | 160                   | 5.0%                             |
| Chester       | 633                           | 94  | 3,145                 | 3.0%                             |
| Chesterfield  | 291                           | 57  | 1,943                 | 2.9%                             |
| Chichester    | 374                           | 61  | 1,588                 | 3.8%                             |
| Claremont     | 1,658                         | 310                                       | 6,385                 | 4.9%                             |
| Colebrook     | 319                           | 38  | 1,141                 | 3.3%                             |
| Columbia      | 58                            | 8   | 318                   | 2.5%                             |
| Concord       | 6,429                         | 1,202                                     | 23,063                | 5.2%                             |
| Conway        | 2,301                         | 380                                       | 5,463                 | 7.0%                             |
| Cornish       | 171                           | 32  | 988                   | 3.2%                             |
| Croydon       | 66                            | 18  | 452                   | 4.0%                             |
| Dalton        | 192                           | 36  | 442                   | 8.1%                             |
| Danbury       | 211                           | 37  | 736                   | 5.0%                             |
| Danville      | 547                           | 96  | 2,771                 | 3.5%                             |
| Deerfield     | 604                           | 103                                       | 2,835                 | 3.6%                             |
| Deering       | 221                           | 31  | 1,133                 | 2.7%                             |
| Derry         | 4,814                         | 894                                       | 20,900                | 4.3%                             |
| Dorchester    | 37                            | 10  | 200                   | 5.0%                             |
| Dover         | 4,872                         | 906                                       | 18,915                | 4.8%                             |
| Dublin        | 134                           | 27  | 891                   | 3.0%                             |
| Dummer        | 32                            | 5   | 142                   | 3.5%                             |
| Dunbarton     | 363                           | 65  | 1,795                 | 3.6%                             |

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

| TOWN          | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - OCTOBER 31* | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF OCT. 24† | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|---------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Durham        | 756                           | 102                                       | 9,395                 | 1.1%                             |
| East Kingston | 244                           | 45  | 1,401                 | 3.2%                             |
| Easton        | 35                            | 7   | 143                   | 4.9%                             |
| Eaton         | 66                            | 9   | 235                   | 3.8%                             |
| Effingham     | 221                           | 53  | 701                   | 7.6%                             |
| Enfield       | 501                           | 80  | 3,166                 | 2.5%                             |
| Epping        | 1,015                         | 170                                       | 4,282                 | 4.0%                             |
| Epsom         | 650                           | 106                                       | 2,996                 | 3.5%                             |
| Errol         | 56                            | 7   | 164                   | 4.3%                             |
| Exeter        | 1,890                         | 354                                       | 8,834                 | 4.0%                             |
| Farmington    | 1,097                         | 220                                       | 3,725                 | 5.9%                             |
| Fitzwilliam   | 236                           | 46  | 1,361                 | 3.4%                             |
| Francestown   | 186                           | 42  | 1,002                 | 4.2%                             |
| Franconia     | 166                           | 32  | 655                   | 4.9%                             |
| Franklin      | 1,501                         | 295                                       | 4,055                 | 7.3%                             |
| Freedom       | 176                           | 43  | 766                   | 5.6%                             |
| Fremont       | 593                           | 112                                       | 2,870                 | 3.9%                             |
| Gilford       | 1,215                         | 212                                       | 3,645                 | 5.8%                             |
| Gilmanton     | 608                           | 96  | 1,746                 | 5.5%                             |
| Gilsum        | 108                           | 25  | 457                   | 5.5%                             |
| Goffstown     | 2,409                         | 419                                       | 11,023                | 3.8%                             |
| Gorham        | 456                           | 72  | 1,234                 | 5.8%                             |
| Goshen        | 96                            | 20  | 451                   | 4.4%                             |
| Grafton       | 189                           | 31  | 683                   | 4.5%                             |
| Grantham      | 252                           | 55  | 1,664                 | 3.3%                             |
| Greenfield    | 225                           | 47  | 1,066                 | 4.4%                             |
| Greenland     | 500                           | 88  | 2,467                 | 3.6%                             |
| Greenville    | 235                           | 42  | 1,206                 | 3.5%                             |
| Groton        | 139                           | 26  | 382                   | 6.8%                             |
| Hampstead     | 940                           | 163                                       | 5,151                 | 3.2%                             |
| Hampton Falls | 238                           | 47  | 1,501                 | 3.1%                             |
| Hampton       | 2,431                         | 491                                       | 9,147                 | 5.4%                             |
| Hancock       | 205                           | 39  | 944                   | 4.1%                             |
| Hanover       | 298                           | 57  | 5,093                 | 1.1%                             |
| Harrisville   | 124                           | 25  | 609                   | 4.1%                             |
| Haverhill     | 451                           | 70  | 2,359                 | 3.0%                             |
| Hebron        | 59                            | 8   | 413                   | 1.9%                             |
| Henniker      | 587                           | 99  | 2,910                 | 3.4%                             |
| Hill          | 162                           | 29  | 543                   | 5.3%                             |

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

| TOWN         | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - OCTOBER 31* | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF OCT. 24† | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Hillsborough | 1,030                         | 181                                       | 3,004                 | 6.0%                             |
| Hinsdale     | 362                           | 68  | 2,158                 | 3.2%                             |
| Holderness   | 296                           | 42  | 1,563                 | 2.7%                             |
| Hollis       | 664                           | 99  | 4,346                 | 2.3%                             |
| Hooksett     | 2,121                         | 360                                       | 9,376                 | 3.8%                             |
| Hopkinton    | 595                           | 94  | 3,481                 | 2.7%                             |
| Hudson       | 3,050                         | 518                                       | 15,467                | 3.3%                             |
| Jackson      | 189                           | 31  | 366                   | 8.5%                             |
| Jaffrey      | 623                           | 118                                       | 3,103                 | 3.8%                             |
| Jefferson    | 158                           | 33  | 639                   | 5.2%                             |
| Keene        | 2,995                         | 482                                       | 11,949                | 4.0%                             |
| Kensington   | 188                           | 38  | 1,313                 | 2.9%                             |
| Kingston     | 773                           | 142                                       | 3,777                 | 3.8%                             |
| Laconia      | 2,983                         | 580                                       | 7,775                 | 7.5%                             |
| Lancaster    | 422                           | 71  | 1,741                 | 4.1%                             |
| Landaff      | 43                            | 5   | 279                   | 1.8%                             |
| Langdon      | 66                            | 15  | 363                   | 4.1%                             |
| Lebanon      | 1,372                         | 241                                       | 7,793                 | 3.1%                             |
| Lee          | 583                           | 92  | 2,884                 | 3.2%                             |
| Lempster     | 135                           | 22  | 629                   | 3.5%                             |
| Lincoln      | 382                           | 66  | 770                   | 8.6%                             |
| Lisbon       | 225                           | 53  | 862                   | 6.1%                             |
| Litchfield   | 1,070                         | 170                                       | 4,887                 | 3.5%                             |
| Littleton    | 1,128                         | 174                                       | 3,256                 | 5.3%                             |
| Londonderry  | 3,186                         | 520                                       | 16,261                | 3.2%                             |
| Loudon       | 770                           | 111                                       | 3,357                 | 3.3%                             |
| Lyman        | 119                           | 23  | 336                   | 6.8%                             |
| Lyme         | 100                           | 16  | 850                   | 1.9%                             |
| Lyndeborough | 231                           | 51  | 1,056                 | 4.8%                             |
| Madbury      | 221                           | 35  | 1,097                 | 3.2%                             |
| Madison      | 449                           | 72  | 1,437                 | 5.0%                             |
| Manchester   | 21,339                        | 4,162                                     | 66,815                | 6.2%                             |
| Marlborough  | 301                           | 55  | 1,221                 | 4.5%                             |
| Marlow       | 93                            | 25  | 369                   | 6.8%                             |
| Mason        | 155                           | 26  | 821                   | 3.2%                             |
| Meredith     | 993                           | 176                                       | 3,115                 | 5.7%                             |
| Merrimack    | 3,437                         | 609                                       | 16,570                | 3.7%                             |
| Middleton    | 236                           | 43  | 1,051                 | 4.1%                             |
| Milan        | 180                           | 29  | 626                   | 4.6%                             |

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

| TOWN           | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - OCTOBER 31* | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF OCT. 24† | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Milford        | 2,282                         | 338                                       | 9,738                 | 3.5%                             |
| Milton         | 613                           | 123                                       | 2,390                 | 5.1%                             |
| Monroe         | 79                            | 17  | 401                   | 4.2%                             |
| Mont Vernon    | 288                           | 41  | 1,582                 | 2.6%                             |
| Moultonborough | 558                           | 108                                       | 2,219                 | 4.9%                             |
| Nashua         | 11,901                        | 2,425                                     | 51,919                | 4.7%                             |
| Nelson         | 76                            | 18  | 440                   | 4.1%                             |
| New Boston     | 817                           | 145                                       | 3,976                 | 3.6%                             |
| New Castle     | 78                            | 13  | 560                   | 2.3%                             |
| New Durham     | 367                           | 72  | 1,563                 | 4.6%                             |
| New Hampton    | 406                           | 65  | 1,321                 | 4.9%                             |
| New Ipswich    | 464                           | 81  | 3,023                 | 2.7%                             |
| New London     | 317                           | 53  | 1,941                 | 2.7%                             |
| Newbury        | 242                           | 44  | 1,212                 | 3.6%                             |
| Newfields      | 199                           | 43  | 1,071                 | 4.0%                             |
| Newington      | 100                           | 14  | 518                   | 2.7%                             |
| Newmarket      | 1,488                         | 225                                       | 5,818                 | 3.9%                             |
| Newport        | 881                           | 161                                       | 3,553                 | 4.5%                             |
| Newton         | 394                           | 81  | 3,283                 | 2.5%                             |
| North Hampton  | 523                           | 111                                       | 2,684                 | 4.1%                             |
| Northfield     | 853                           | 140                                       | 2,554                 | 5.5%                             |
| Northumberland | 326                           | 40  | 1,059                 | 3.8%                             |
| Northwood      | 692                           | 107                                       | 2,672                 | 4.0%                             |
| Nottingham     | 668                           | 110                                       | 3,286                 | 3.3%                             |
| Orford         | 108                           | 22  | 817                   | 2.7%                             |
| Ossipee        | 648                           | 151                                       | 1,757                 | 8.6%                             |
| Pelham         | 1,223                         | 204                                       | 8,237                 | 2.5%                             |
| Pembroke       | 1,177                         | 213                                       | 4,612                 | 4.6%                             |
| Peterborough   | 797                           | 172                                       | 3,858                 | 4.5%                             |
| Piermont       | 55                            | 6   | 430                   | 1.4%                             |
| Pittsburg      | 127                           | 14  | 384                   | 3.6%                             |
| Pittsfield     | 585                           | 125                                       | 2,122                 | 5.9%                             |
| Plainfield     | 193                           | 28  | 1,446                 | 1.9%                             |
| Plastow        | 748                           | 144                                       | 4,320                 | 3.3%                             |
| Plymouth       | 821                           | 95  | 3,989                 | 2.4%                             |
| Portsmouth     | 3,254                         | 599                                       | 14,074                | 4.3%                             |
| Randolph       | 56                            | 8   | 141                   | 5.7%                             |
| Raymond        | 1,555                         | 316                                       | 6,360                 | 5.0%                             |
| Richmond       | 102                           | 19  | 596                   | 3.2%                             |

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

| TOWN          | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - OCTOBER 31* | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF OCT. 24† | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|---------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Rindge        | 459                           | 75  | 2,943                 | 2.5%                             |
| Rochester     | 5,047                         | 909                                       | 18,190                | 5.0%                             |
| Rollinsford   | 375                           | 77  | 1,456                 | 5.3%                             |
| Roxbury       | 25                            | 6   | 139                   | 4.3%                             |
| Rumney        | 190                           | 30  | 958                   | 3.1%                             |
| Rye           | 614                           | 113                                       | 3,459                 | 3.3%                             |
| Salem         | 3,185                         | 633                                       | 18,512                | 3.4%                             |
| Salisbury     | 188                           | 32  | 827                   | 3.9%                             |
| Sanbornton    | 460                           | 76  | 1,689                 | 4.5%                             |
| Sandown       | 763                           | 118                                       | 4,279                 | 2.8%                             |
| Sandwich      | 157                           | 26  | 610                   | 4.3%                             |
| Seabrook      | 1,179                         | 249                                       | 5,180                 | 4.8%                             |
| Sharon        | 34                            | 10  | 224                   | 4.5%                             |
| Shelburne     | 49                            | 7   | 177                   | 4.0%                             |
| Somersworth   | 1,994                         | 389                                       | 6,891                 | 5.6%                             |
| South Hampton | 72                            | 17  | 531                   | 3.2%                             |
| Springfield   | 129                           | 21  | 779                   | 2.7%                             |
| Stark         | 56                            | 10  | 194                   | 5.2%                             |
| Stewartstown  | 95                            | 11  | 370                   | 3.0%                             |
| Stoddard      | 163                           | 36  | 724                   | 5.0%                             |
| Strafford     | 540                           | 86  | 2,328                 | 3.7%                             |
| Stratford     | 97                            | 14  | 255                   | 5.5%                             |
| Stratham      | 816                           | 152                                       | 4,559                 | 3.3%                             |
| Sugar Hill    | 80                            | 15  | 351                   | 4.3%                             |
| Sullivan      | 82                            | 13  | 360                   | 3.6%                             |
| Sunapee       | 359                           | 56  | 1,671                 | 3.4%                             |
| Surry         | 78                            | 14  | 500                   | 2.8%                             |
| Sutton        | 178                           | 38  | 1,139                 | 3.3%                             |
| Swanzey       | 930                           | 203                                       | 4,101                 | 5.0%                             |
| Tamworth      | 520                           | 107                                       | 1,517                 | 7.1%                             |

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

| TOWN              | CLAIMS MARCH 16 - OCTOBER 31* | CONTINUING (ACTIVE) CLAIMS AS OF OCT. 24† | FEB. 2020 LABOR FORCE | COVID-19 AFFECTED UNEMP. RATE ** |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Temple            | 170                           | 33  | 786                   | 4.2%                             |
| Thornton          | 515                           | 77  | 1,790                 | 4.3%                             |
| Tilton            | 740                           | 129                                       | 1,837                 | 7.0%                             |
| Troy              | 307                           | 79  | 1,174                 | 6.7%                             |
| Tuftonboro        | 302                           | 71  | 1,157                 | 6.1%                             |
| Unity             | 126                           | 31  | 865                   | 3.6%                             |
| Wakefield         | 629                           | 124                                       | 2,310                 | 5.4%                             |
| Walpole           | 358                           | 71  | 2,380                 | 3.0%                             |
| Warner            | 367                           | 72  | 1,587                 | 4.5%                             |
| Warren            | 97                            | 15  | 537                   | 2.8%                             |
| Washington        | 170                           | 24  | 513                   | 4.7%                             |
| Waterville Valley | 88                            | 15  | 141                   | 10.6%                            |
| Weare             | 1,273                         | 202                                       | 6,179                 | 3.3%                             |
| Webster           | 256                           | 40  | 1,180                 | 3.4%                             |
| Wentworth         | 108                           | 15  | 535                   | 2.8%                             |
| Westmoreland      | 182                           | 28  | 941                   | 3.0%                             |
| Whitefield        | 400                           | 77  | 1,280                 | 6.0%                             |
| Wilmot            | 154                           | 25  | 788                   | 3.2%                             |
| Wilton            | 549                           | 98  | 2,190                 | 4.5%                             |
| Winchester        | 542                           | 99  | 2,058                 | 4.8%                             |
| Windham           | 1,289                         | 216                                       | 8,219                 | 2.6%                             |
| Windsor           | 32                            | 2   | 155                   | 1.3%                             |
| Wolfeboro         | 753                           | 151                                       | 2,827                 | 5.3%                             |
| Woodstock         | 406                           | 56  | 972                   | 5.8%                             |
| <b>Totals</b>     | <b>184,699</b>                | <b>33,465</b>                             | <b>780,205</b>        | <b>4.3%</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 November 25th.

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