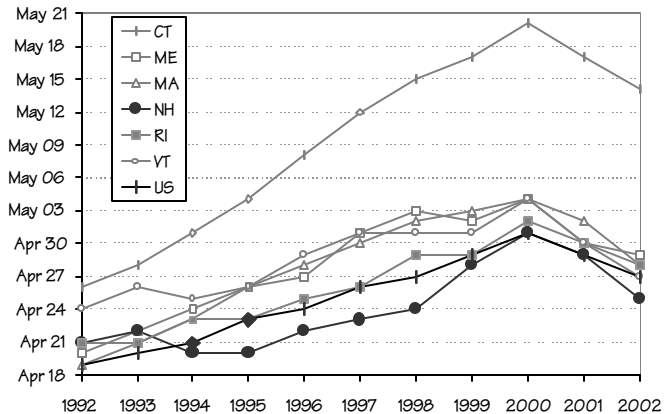


The Tax Foundation describes Tax Freedom as the day when Americans will finally have earned enough money to pay off their total tax bill for the year. Tax Freedom Days vary from state to state depending on local and state taxes. Tax Freedom Day in New Hampshire was April 25, 2002, four days earlier than 2001 and two days earlier than the nation. Granite Staters will have worked 115 days before Tax Freedom, ranking it 21<sup>st</sup> nationally.

New Hampshire had the earliest Tax Freedom Day in New England. Ver-

mont followed with a Tax Freedom date of April 27<sup>th</sup>, same as the nation. Connecticut has the largest total tax burden in the nation, translating into a Tax Freedom date of May 14<sup>th</sup>. Residents in Connecticut will have to work 134 days to earn enough money to pay their total tax bill.

Gail Houston



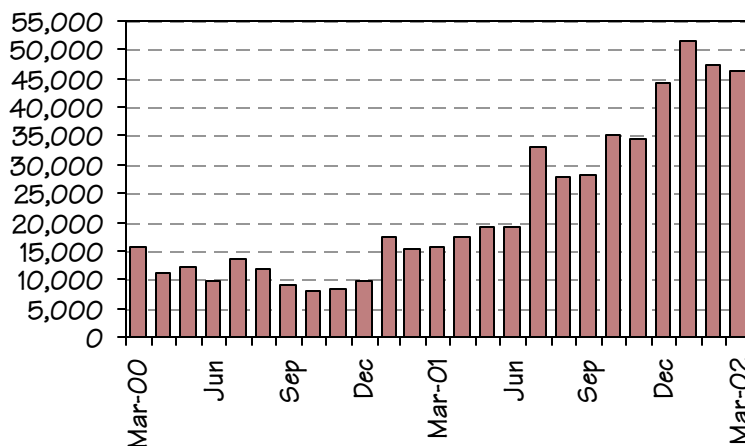
Source: Tax Foundation <www.taxfoundation.org>

### Unemployment Compensation Claims Activity

Total Regular Unemployment Compensation Programs:				Change from Previous			
				Month		Year	
	Mar-02	Feb-02	Mar-01	Net Percent	Net Percent		
Initial Claims	3,988	4,550	2,869	-562	-12.4%	1,119	39.0%
Continued Weeks	46,459	47,486	15,663	-1,027	-2.2%	30,796	196.6%

### Unemployment Compensation Fund

Unemployment compensation fund balance at the end of March:	\$331,638,271.63
Average payment for a week of total unemployment:	\$251.80
Net benefits paid:	\$10,339,271.09
Net contributions received during the month:	\$144,739.97
Interest Received:	\$4,963,242.13



## Tax Freedom in New Hampshire

## Claims Activity

## Trust Fund

## Continued Weeks Claimed

Mar. 2000 - Mar. 2002

Continued weeks claimed have been at the highest over-the-year percentage increase in decades. This recession was preceded by historically low unemployment rates, thus providing a low number of continued weeks claimed used as a base for the latest over-the-year comparison.

Mar-02	Feb-02	Feb-01	Month	Year
178.8	177.8	176.2	0.6%	1.5%

United States All Urban Areas (CPI-U) (1982-1984=100)

## Consumer Price Index