

[Home](#) / NJ Labor Dept. Sends \$1.3B in FEMA Benefits to 817K Workers, Offers New Round of Payments

NJ Labor Dept. Sends \$1.3B in FEMA Benefits to 817K Workers, Offers New Round of Payments

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 19, 2020

TRENTON –The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development has distributed nearly \$1.3 billion in FEMA benefits to 817,000 workers, and is preparing to issue a new round of these one-time payments to eligible claimants next week.

The \$300 payments are a supplemental benefit for claimants who were collecting unemployment during the weeks of Aug. 1 through Sept. 5 due to COVID-19. The maximum benefit is \$1,800 and is reserved for those who lost their jobs or saw their hours reduced during the specified period for a COVID-19 reason.

The new round of FEMA payments will be processed Friday and should hit direct deposit accounts and debit cards next Tuesday or Wednesday, depending on the bank. New Jersey will continue to offer these payments until the state has exhausted its budget for the program.

“We will distribute this federal benefit to every eligible claimant in our state who is struggling financially and unable to find new work during the pandemic,” said Labor Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo. “Our top priority remains getting as much financial relief to these residents as possible.”

Claimants must attest that their unemployment or partial unemployment is for a COVID-related reason in order to qualify for the FEMA benefit. To do so, follow these instructions:

Log in to myunemployment.nj.gov through the “check claim status here” [link](#) - <https://lwdwebpt.dol.state.nj.us/ClaimStatus/claimStatus.htm> -- scroll down to “self service options” and select the box next to the phrase that starts “To be eligible for the \$300 LWA payment...” A pop-up box will appear, allowing you to confirm your selection. After confirmation, the box will be greyed out. This process needs to be done only once; the next time you log in the box will appear unchecked and not greyed out. **If you have done this once, we have saved your response; you do not need to complete the process again.**

For the week ending Nov. 14, New Jersey saw new unemployment claims decline for the fifth straight week, to 12,986*. This represents a 38 percent drop from the prior week, or nearly 8,000 fewer new claims.

The Labor Department has distributed a total of \$19 billion in benefits to New Jersey workers, including just under \$300 million last week.

Approximately 1.8 million people have applied for unemployment since mid-March, and 1.47 million have met the monetary requirements for benefits. Of those, 96 percent have received payment. Here is a look at the number of new unemployment claims received by the department each week:

Click the images below to view them full-size.

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NJ adds jobs in July; 7th consecutive months of gains. [nj.gov/labor/lwdhome/...](https://nj.gov/labor/lwdhome/)

Aug 19, 2021



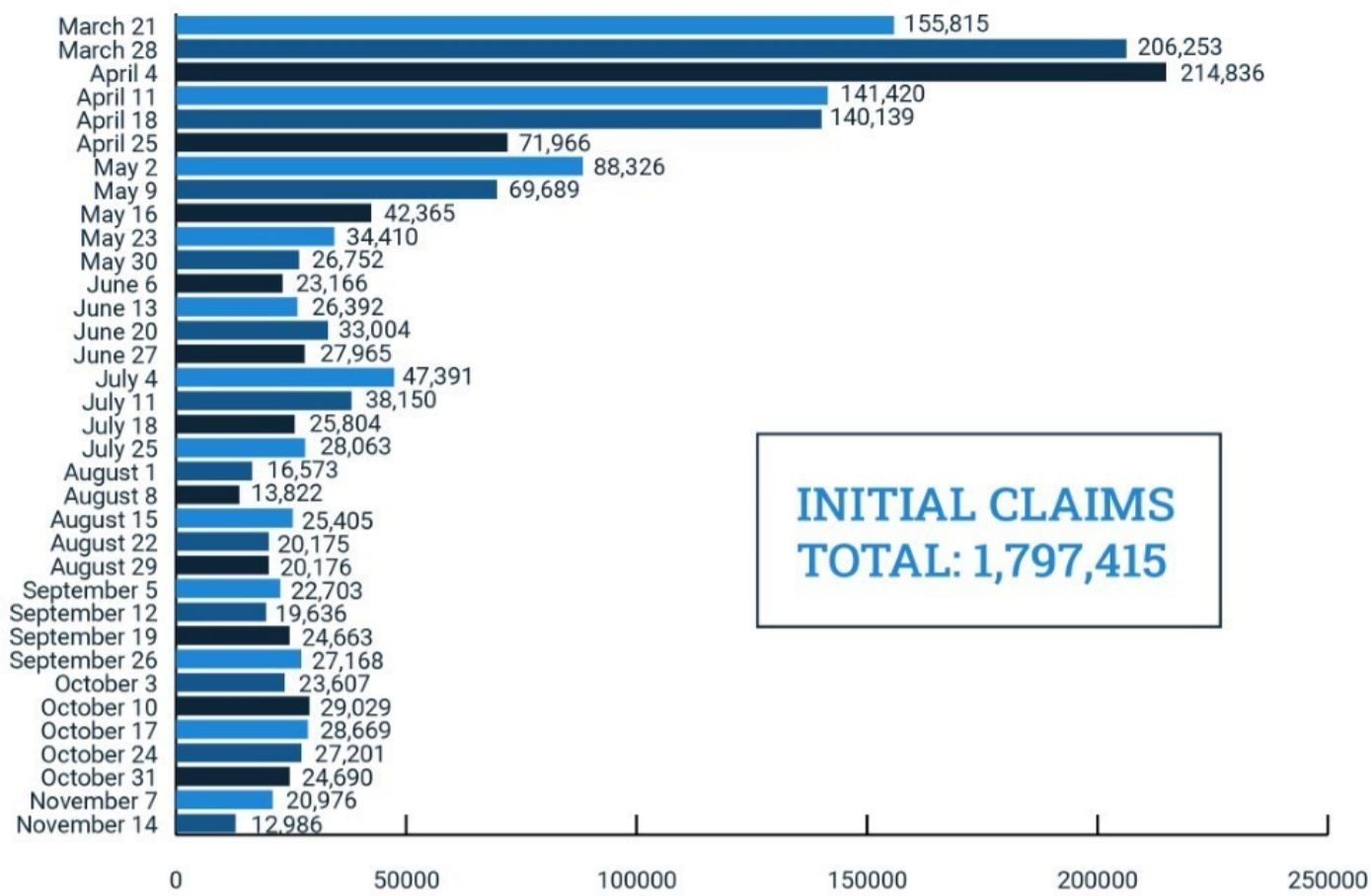
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As of the latest reporting, more than \$33 billion in unemployment benefits have been sent to Garden State workers. With federal benefits set to expire on September 4, we encourage everyone to check your email and visit [MyUnemployment.nj.gov](https://myunemployment.nj.gov) for updates and available resources.



Weekly totals of new unemployment claims

WEEK ENDING:



Here is a look at the weekly payments made by the Labor Department to eligible claimants:

Weekly breakdown of payments (in millions)

Week Ending	New Jersey Unemployment Insurance (UI)	Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)	Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)	Pandemic Extended Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)	Extended Unemployment Benefits (EB)	Lost Wages Assistance (LWA)
March 21	\$47.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
March 28	\$57.9	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
April 4	\$89.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
April 11	\$140.7	\$154.8	NA	NA	NA	NA
April 18	\$179.7	\$238.8	NA	NA	NA	NA
April 25	\$211.1	\$296.3	NA	NA	NA	NA
May 2	\$171.7	\$291.1	\$27.1	NA	NA	NA
May 9	\$244.7	\$502.4	\$51.6	NA	NA	NA
May 16	\$239.7	\$414	\$55.6	NA	NA	NA
May 23	\$236.2	\$596.9	\$112.3	NA	NA	NA
May 30	\$242.7	\$553.5	\$87.7	NA	NA	NA
June 6	\$255.5	\$635.2	\$56.6	\$56.6	NA	NA
June 13	\$244.5	\$573.8	\$60.7	\$46.5	NA	NA
June 20	\$248.9	\$626.1	\$86.6	\$37.4	NA	NA
June 27	\$240.4	\$559.7	\$73.5	\$31.7	NA	NA
July 4	\$202.9	\$536.1	\$71.7	\$31.8	NA	NA
July 11	\$208.5	\$521.3	\$69.1	\$24.4	\$2.2	NA
July 18	\$209.3	\$524.5	\$65.2	\$22.7	\$3.9	NA
July 25	\$197.7	\$526.2	\$77	\$25.7	\$4.8	NA
August 1	\$192.1	\$513.5	\$74.7	\$33.7	\$6.5	NA
August 8	\$202.6	\$200.8	\$86.1	\$20	\$6.2	NA
August 15	\$175	\$95.3	\$77.8	\$23.7	\$7.1	NA
August 22	\$167.3	\$70.3	\$52.1	\$20.4	\$6.7	NA
August 29	\$171.1	\$64.4	\$79.7	\$20.9	\$7.2	NA
September 5	\$129.3	\$56.4	\$84.4	\$20.7	\$8	NA
September 12	\$152.9	\$39.7	\$87.6	\$21.2	\$8.7	NA
September 19	\$137	\$31.4	\$85.3	\$22.6	\$9.6	NA
September 26	\$127.2	\$35.5	\$89.5	\$25.5	\$10.1	NA
October 3	\$111.9	\$23.2	\$82.7	\$33.8	\$10.4	NA
October 10	\$102.8	\$29	\$89	\$45.4	\$11.3	NA
October 17	\$88.5	\$20.5	\$84.5	\$50.8	\$11.8	NA
October 24	\$81.7	\$18.2	\$85.3	\$56.2	\$12.5	\$1,146.5
October 31	\$76.3	\$16.8	\$85.3	\$58.3	\$12.8	\$88.9
November 7	\$72.5	\$13.2	\$83.2	\$59.7	\$12.8	NA
November 14	\$68.2	\$12.9	\$85.1	\$61.9	\$13.6	\$56.2
TOTAL BENEFITS PAID	\$5,705.7	\$8,791.6	\$2,207	\$851.6	\$166.2	\$1,291.6

NA: Benefit not applicable during the indicated weeks.

PUA, PEUC and FPUC are federal programs authorized by Congress under the CARES Act. Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) provides benefits through the end of the year; maximum eligibility is 46 weeks. Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation

(PEUC) provides 13 weeks of federal benefits for those who exhaust 26 weeks of state unemployment. Most of them are able to transition to 20 weeks of state Extended Benefits (EB). Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) provided \$600/week to everyone eligible for unemployment for the weeks of April 4 through July 25. LWA provided up to six weeks of supplemental benefits through FEMA to people unemployed the weeks of Aug. 1 through Sept. 5 due to COVID, and who were eligible for at least \$100 in weekly unemployment.

For more information on state or federal unemployment programs, visit myunemployment.nj.gov.

Anyone looking for work is encouraged to visit New Jersey's jobs portal -- jobs.covid19.nj.gov.

For national unemployment data, visit <https://www.dol.gov/ui/data.pdf>. For archived NJ claims data, visit <https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/DataDashboard.asp>.

**This represents the final number for the week ending Nov. 14. The number listed for New Jersey by the US Department of Labor – 12,287 – is based on advanced reporting.*

[← Go back to all press releases](#)

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- Temporary Disability Insurance
- Family Leave Insurance
- Maternity Leave
- Unemployment Insurance
- Social Security Disability

Worker Protections

- Your Rights at Work
- Workers' Compensation
- Safety and Health
- Wage & Hour Compliance
- Paid Sick Leave

Career Support

- Career Services

Employer Services

- Employer Accounts
- Layoffs and Closings
- Wage & Hour Compliance
- Business Support
- Apprenticeship
- Industry Partnerships
- Employer Handbook
- Employer Poster Packet
- Equal Pay Act Reporting

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Department of Labor

1 John Fitch Plz,

Trenton, NJ 08611