

[Home](#) / NJ Continues FEMA Distributions, Awaits Word on Additional Federal Pandemic Relief

# NJ Continues FEMA Distributions, Awaits Word on Additional Federal Pandemic Relief

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 23, 2020

**TRENTON** – The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development continued disbursing its federal allotment of \$300 FEMA payments by distributing another \$19 million to 18,000 newly eligible claimants, who are receiving the money this week. In all, New Jersey workers have received \$1.35 billion in FEMA benefits.

The Department, meanwhile, awaits more information on a \$900 billion economic relief bill approved by Congress on Monday that would extend federal unemployment benefits through March 14, if the President signs it. Those benefits are set to expire on Dec. 26, affecting roughly 500,000 New Jerseyans.

“Unemployed and underemployed workers are in dire need of additional economic assistance to make it through this pandemic. These federal benefits are sorely needed now – to help our fellow residents keep food on the table, keep the lights and heat on, and, in some cases, keep them from becoming homeless,” said Labor Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo. “We can’t even begin our work to distribute these benefits until the President acts, then allows the USDOL to write the rules to implement the legislation.”

For the week ending Dec. 19, the Department saw 17,611\* new unemployment claims, an increase of 1,243 (7.6 percent) from the prior week, driven largely by a bump in construction claims because of the snow. The Department has received 1.87 million unemployment applications since COVID-19 took hold in mid-March; that figure includes closed claims that were later reopened.

The Department distributed more than \$256 million in benefits last week, for a total of \$20.2 billion in pandemic benefits to New Jersey workers. The average claimant has received \$14,144 in benefits.

*Click the images below to view them full-size.*

**Here are the week-by-week totals of new unemployment claims:**



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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



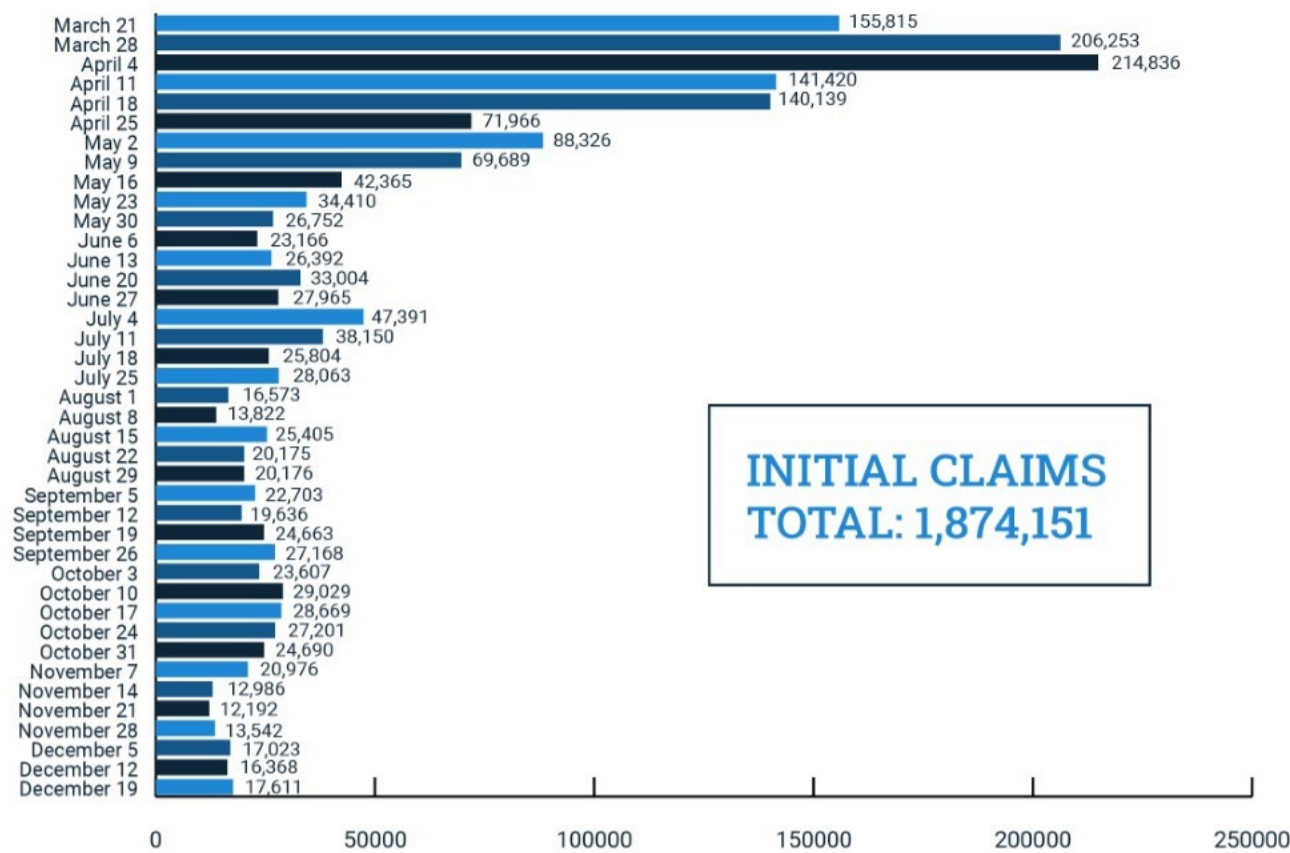
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As of the latest reporting, more than \$33 billion in unemployment benefits have been sent to Garden State workers. With federal benefits set to expire on September 4, we encourage everyone to check your email and visit [MyUnemployment.nj.gov](https://myunemployment.nj.gov)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



# Weekly totals of new unemployment claims

WEEK ENDING:



**INITIAL CLAIMS  
TOTAL: 1,874,151**

Here is the breakdown of weekly benefits payments to eligible New Jersey workers:

## 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
November 21	\$65.6	\$12.4	\$85.6	\$62.4	\$14.7	\$33.3
November 28	\$63.1	\$9	\$83.9	\$62.1	\$13.5	\$1.3
December 5	\$61.1	\$16.2	\$80.5	\$59.1	\$12.8	NA
December 12	\$66.1	\$12.2	\$91.6	\$66.9	\$16.7	NA
December 19	\$61.3	\$11.3	\$86.3	\$62.3	\$16	\$19.4
<b>TOTAL BENEFITS PAID</b>	<b>\$6,022.9</b>	<b>\$8,852.7</b>	<b>\$2,634.9</b>	<b>\$1,164.4</b>	<b>\$239.9</b>	<b>\$1,345.6</b>

NA: Benefit not applicable during the indicated weeks.

PUA, PEUC and FPUC were authorized by Congress under the CARES Act through the end of the year. The maximum eligibility for PUA is 46 weeks. PEUC provides up to 13 additional weeks of federal benefits to those who exhaust 26 weeks of state unemployment. Extended

Benefits (EB) adds a final 20 weeks of state benefits. Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) provided \$600/week unemployment supplement before expiring in July. LWA provided up to six weeks of supplemental benefits to people unemployed the weeks of Aug. 1 through Sept. 5 due to COVID.

For more information on state or federal unemployment programs, visit [myunemployment.nj.gov](https://myunemployment.nj.gov).

Visit New Jersey's jobs portal here: [jobs.covid19.nj.gov](https://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>.

[← Go back to all press releases](#)

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### Home

#### File or Access Your Claim

- 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

#### Research & Information

- Labor Market Information
- Grant Opportunities
- Legal Notices
- Press Releases

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