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NJ Weekly Unemployment Claims Drop to One-Year Low

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 4, 2021

TRENTON – New unemployment claims declined slightly last week, to 10,384* – their lowest level in 52 weeks – as the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development continued its historic pace of providing unemployment benefits to residents in need, with \$23.8 billion distributed in the year since COVID-19 took hold.

For the week ending Feb. 27, New Jersey recorded 392 fewer new unemployment filings compared with the prior week, a 3.5 percent decrease, the third straight week of declines.

However, the Department has seen 2,034,337** new jobless claims in the past year, a number that far eclipses any other period. With hundreds of thousands of claimants reaching the end of their benefit year between now and the end of April, the Labor Department announced good news this week for these claimants: They will not have to file a new claim for their benefits to continue.

The Department has developed programming to review these claims on a large scale as required by federal law, without the claimant having to take action. In fact, existing claimants are urged not to file a new claim, as doing so will delay their benefits. Once the review is complete, they will receive confirmation their certification was successful when they claim their weekly benefits.

“Our goal is to make this a seamless transition for the majority of claimants,” said Labor Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo. “We have been preparing for this eventuality for months, knowing that the tsunami of claims we witnessed last Spring would expire en masse beginning in mid-March.”

The Department also plans to process a new batch of FEMA Lost Wages Assistance payments for claimants who have become eligible for this federal benefit retroactively since the last time the payments were processed. Eligible claimants can expect to receive separate payments in their direct deposit accounts or debit cards early next week.

Finally, the Department continues to urge Congress to pass expanded unemployment benefits before March 13, when the current pandemic unemployment benefits run out, so there is no lapse in benefits for claimants who are depending on this temporary income replacement.

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



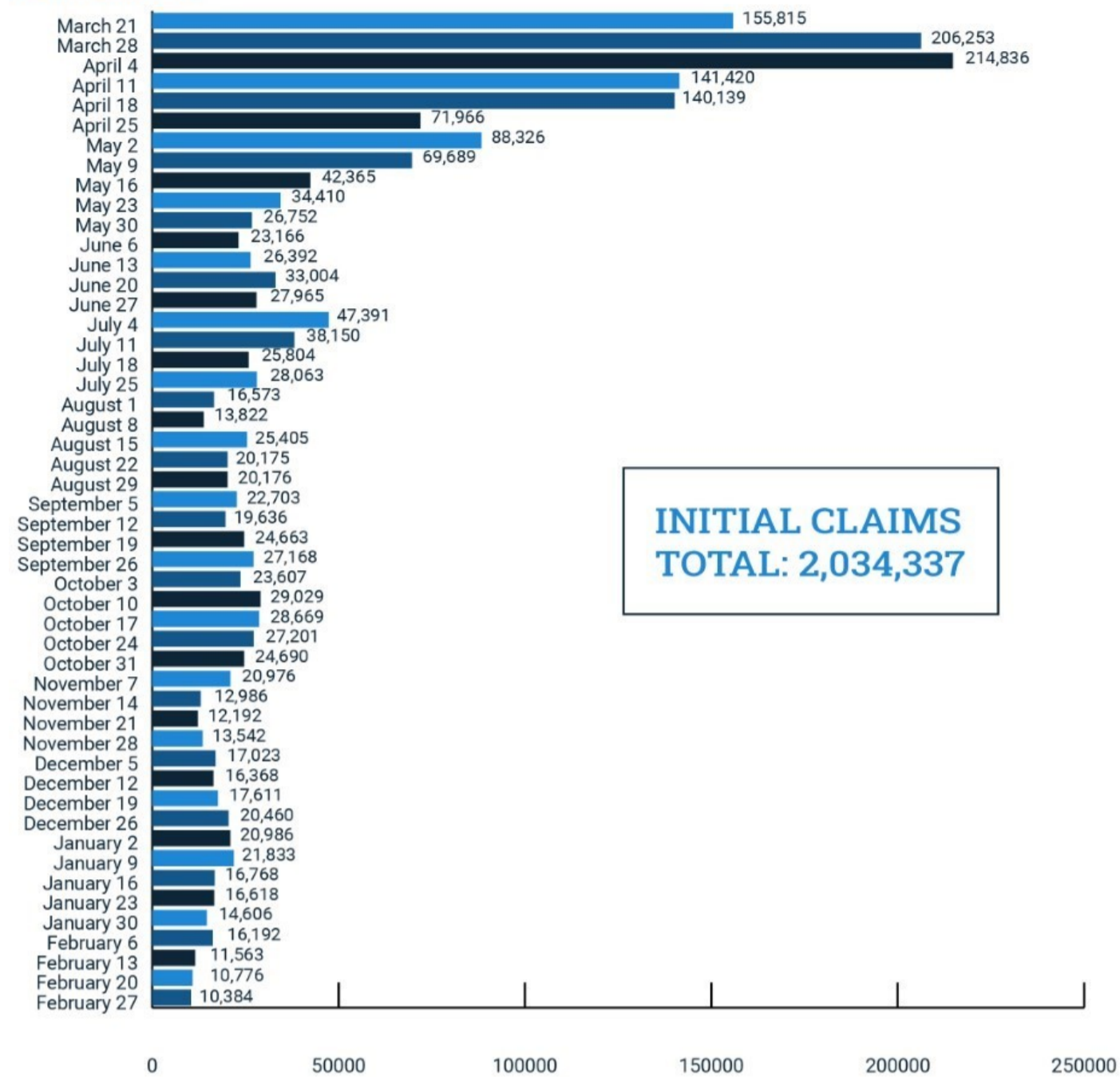
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As of the latest reporting, more than \$33 billion in unemployment benefits have been sent to Garden State workers. With federal benefits set to expire on September 4, we encourage everyone to check your email and visit [MyUnemployment.nj.gov](https://myunemployment.nj.gov)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



Weekly totals of new unemployment claims

WEEK ENDING:



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)	Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)/CARES Act	Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)/Continued Assistance Act	Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)	Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)	Extended Unemployment Benefits (EB)	Lost Wages Assistance (LWA)
March 21	\$47.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
March 28	\$57.9	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
April 4	\$89.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
April 11	\$140.7	\$154.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
April 18	\$179.7	\$238.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
April 25	\$211.1	\$296.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
May 2	\$171.7	\$291.1	NA	\$27.1	NA	NA	NA
May 9	\$244.7	\$502.4	NA	\$51.6	NA	NA	NA
May 16	\$239.7	\$414	NA	\$55.6	NA	NA	NA
May 23	\$236.2	\$596.9	NA	\$112.3	NA	NA	NA
May 30	\$242.7	\$553.5	NA	\$87.7	NA	NA	NA
June 6	\$255.5	\$635.2	NA	\$56.6	\$56.6	NA	NA
June 13	\$244.5	\$573.8	NA	\$60.7	\$46.5	NA	NA
June 20	\$248.9	\$626.1	NA	\$86.6	\$37.4	NA	NA
June 27	\$240.4	\$559.7	NA	\$73.5	\$31.7	NA	NA
July 4	\$202.9	\$536.1	NA	\$71.7	\$31.8	NA	NA
July 11	\$208.5	\$521.3	NA	\$69.1	\$24.4	\$2.2	NA
July 18	\$209.3	\$524.5	NA	\$65.2	\$22.7	\$3.9	NA
July 25	\$197.7	\$526.2	NA	\$77	\$25.7	\$4.8	NA
August 1	\$192.1	\$513.5	NA	\$74.7	\$33.7	\$6.5	NA
August 8	\$202.6	\$200.8	NA	\$86.1	\$20	\$6.2	NA
August 15	\$175	\$95.3	NA	\$77.8	\$23.7	\$7.1	NA
August 22	\$167.3	\$70.3	NA	\$52.1	\$20.4	\$6.7	NA
August 29	\$171.1	\$64.4	NA	\$79.7	\$20.9	\$7.2	NA
September 5	\$129.3	\$56.4	NA	\$84.4	\$20.7	\$8	NA
September 12	\$152.9	\$39.7	NA	\$87.6	\$21.2	\$8.7	NA
September 19	\$137	\$31.4	NA	\$85.3	\$22.6	\$9.6	NA
September 26	\$127.2	\$35.5	NA	\$89.5	\$25.5	\$10.1	NA
October 3	\$111.9	\$23.2	NA	\$82.7	\$33.8	\$10.4	NA
October 10	\$102.8	\$29	NA	\$89	\$45.4	\$11.3	NA
October 17	\$88.5	\$20.5	NA	\$84.5	\$50.8	\$11.8	NA
October 24	\$81.7	\$18.2	NA	\$85.3	\$56.2	\$12.5	\$1,146.5
October 31	\$76.3	\$16.8	NA	\$85.3	\$58.3	\$12.8	\$88.9
November 7	\$72.5	\$13.2	NA	\$83.2	\$59.7	\$12.8	NA
November 14	\$68.2	\$12.9	NA	\$85.1	\$61.9	\$13.6	\$56.2
November 21	\$65.6	\$12.4	NA	\$85.6	\$62.4	\$14.7	\$33.3
November 28	\$63.1	\$9	NA	\$83.9	\$62.1	\$13.5	\$1.3
December 5	\$61.1	\$16.2	NA	\$80.5	\$59.1	\$12.8	NA
December 12	\$66.1	\$12.2	NA	\$91.6	\$66.9	\$16.7	NA
December 19	\$61.3	\$11.3	NA	\$86.3	\$62.3	\$16	\$19.4
December 26	\$52.4	\$8.2	NA	\$78.5	\$50.3	\$15.7	NA
January 2	\$52.9	\$5.8	NA	\$85.9	\$47.4	\$21	NA
January 9	\$80	\$7.8	NA	\$95.6	\$57.1	\$35.3	NA
January 16	\$61.9	\$6.8	NA	\$87.9	\$40	\$28.5	NA
January 23	\$54.4	\$5.5	\$288.3	\$86.7	\$34	\$27.2	NA
January 30	\$58.1	\$6.6	\$162	\$86.5	\$31.5	\$27.2	NA
February 6	\$55.2	\$7.2	\$159.5	\$83.3	\$27.7	\$25.2	NA
February 13	\$66.3	\$7.3	\$157	\$90.5	\$108	\$26.1	NA
February 20	\$62.3	\$5.6	\$239.8	\$83.9	\$98.7	\$24.1	NA
February 27	\$63.6	\$10.5	\$211.4	\$83.7	\$78.2	\$25.5	NA
TOTAL BENEFITS PAID	\$6,630.2	\$8,924	\$1,218	\$3,497.4	\$1,737.3	\$495.7	\$1,345.6

NA: Benefit not applicable during the indicated weeks.

PUA and PEUC were authorized by Congress under the CARES Act through Dec. 26, 2020, then extended under the Continued Assistance to Unemployed Workers Act through March 13. The maximum eligibility for PUA is now 57 weeks. PEUC now provides up to 24 weeks of additional benefits to those who exhaust 26 weeks of state unemployment. Extended benefits (EB) adds a final 20 weeks of benefits. The renewed FPUC benefit is a \$300/week unemployment supplement for anyone collecting unemployment in any amount; the original program, which provided \$600/week in supplemental benefits, expired in July. Lost Wages Assistance (LWA) was funded by FEMA and provided six weeks of supplemental benefits to people unemployed Aug. 1 through Sept. 5, 2020 due to COVID.

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

Visit New Jersey's jobs portal here: 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 Feb. 27. The number listed for New Jersey by the US Department of Labor – 9,212 – is based on advanced reporting.*

***This number includes 235,348 claims that have been reopened by residents who returned to unemployment after a period of employment within a calendar year, as well as claims that later turned out to be fraudulent.*

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