

[Home](#) / Total Pandemic Relief to Garden State Workers Nears \$35 Billion as Federal Benefits Expire

Total Pandemic Relief to Garden State Workers Nears \$35 Billion as Federal Benefits Expire

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 21, 2021


TRENTON – The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJDOL) paid nearly \$35 billion in Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits to 1.6 million claimants from March 2020 through week ending September 4, 2021.


This includes funds to hundreds of thousands of New Jerseyans otherwise ineligible for regular unemployment without the recently expired, emergency unemployment programs established under the federal CARES Act in March 2020, and renewed by the Continued Assistance Act in Dec. 2020 and again by the American Rescue Plan in March.

“Enhanced federal unemployment programs were critical to helping our state and the nation mitigate an economic crisis while controlling a public health crisis,” said Labor Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo. “While we are thankful, the fact that these programs were enacted as temporary emergency measures proves our outdated federal unemployment system is unable to meet the modern needs of our workforce.”

Regular state UI and extended benefits provided nearly \$9 billion to New Jersey workers and families, while the temporary programs contributed almost \$25 billion. In addition, more than \$1 billion was paid to claimants under the Lost Wages Assistance program, which provided a \$300 weekly supplemental benefit on top of regular UI for a maximum of six weeks through FEMA funds in fall of 2020.

Here are the week-by-week totals of new unemployment claims (click the images below to view a full-size version):

 **twitter**




NJ Labor Department
@NJLaborDept

"We will miss you, Tim. Thank you for showing us your big heart, letting us hear your great laugh, and for the help you provided to most -- if not all -- of those in the Division of Workers' Compensation along the way."

<https://twitter.com/GovMurphy/status/1443263008424275968>

Sep 29, 2021



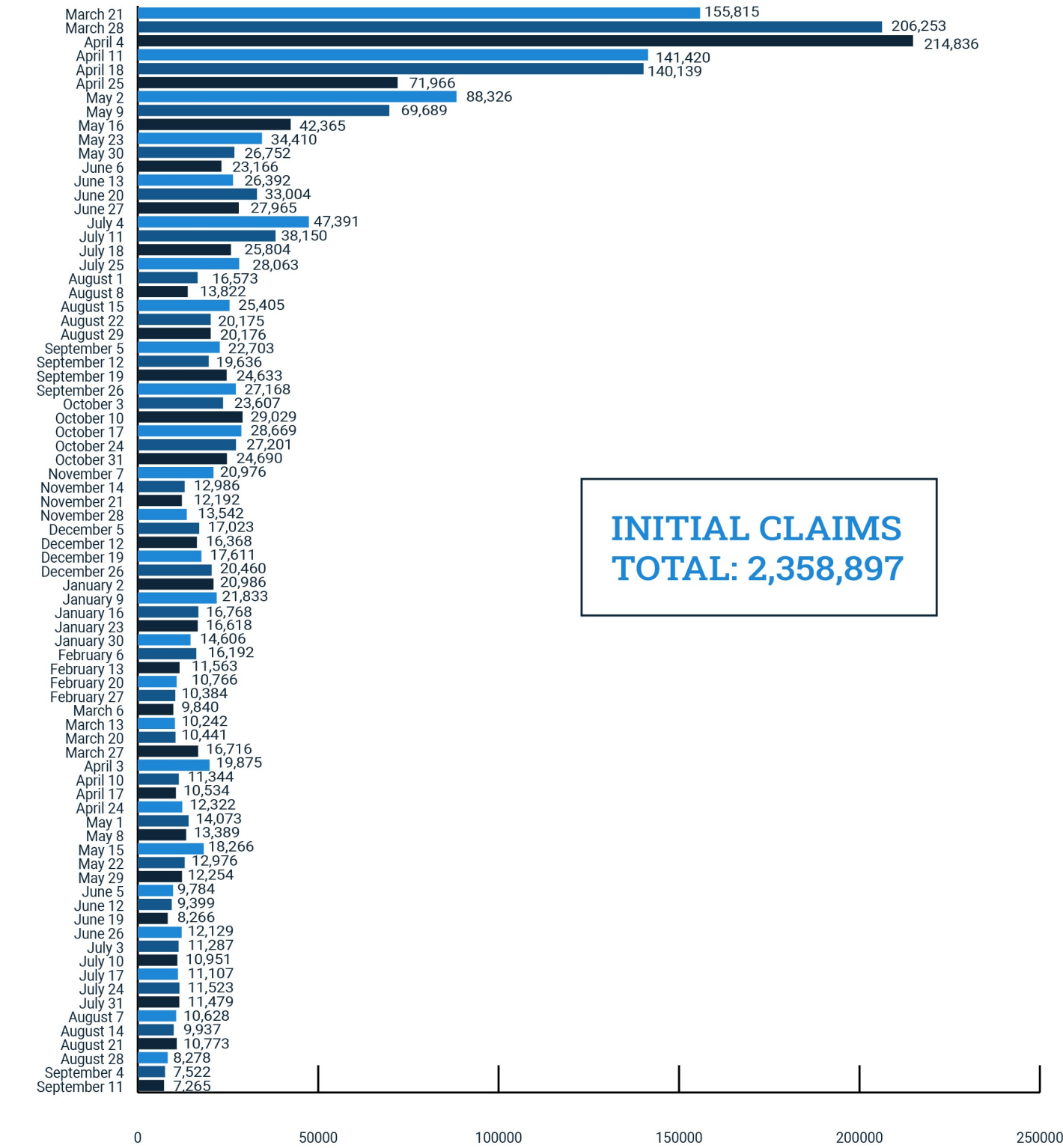
NJ Labor Department
@NJLaborDept

The Return and Earn program will assist New Jerseyans in returning to the workforce, and provide employers with the resources they need to fill the vital positions that will allow them to grow and thrive.

<https://twitter.com/GovMurphy/status/1442535848197697538>

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
March 6	\$62.2	\$4.4	\$197.5	\$79.7	\$72	\$28.1	NA
March 13	\$59.8	\$3.7	\$194.1	\$85.2	\$74.3	\$27.6	\$23.6
March 20	\$56.7	\$5.4	\$199.7	\$83.7	\$71.9	\$24.9	\$0.9
March 27	\$56.5	\$3.6	\$197.4	\$82.6	\$68.2	\$22.3	NA
April 3	\$51.4	\$2.8	\$191	\$76.8	\$64	\$19.5	NA
April 10	\$55.5	\$2.7	\$185.7	\$84.6	\$67.6	\$19.8	NA
April 17	\$59.1	\$3.2	\$187.6	\$83.1	\$65.3	\$17.9	NA
April 24	\$56.1	\$3.1	\$188.6	\$82	\$66.2	\$16.8	NA
May 1	\$52.8	\$3.1	\$185.7	\$76.2	\$68.9	\$5.2	NA
May 8	\$55.4	\$2.8	\$174.5	\$74	\$84.4	\$1.3	NA
May 15	\$54	\$2.8	\$176.4	\$72.7	\$77.4	\$1.4	NA
May 22	\$53.7	\$2.4	\$176.5	\$75.3	\$80.1	\$1.4	NA
May 29	\$56.7	\$2.4	\$177	\$79	\$78.6	\$1.2	NA
June 5	\$53.3	\$2.4	\$180.8	\$69.7	\$72.4	\$1	NA
June 12	\$47.7	\$2.2	\$169.4	\$65	\$67.7	\$0.9	NA
June 19	\$50	\$2	\$161.4	\$71	\$72.5	\$0.9	NA
June 26	\$56.6	\$1.3	\$176.1	\$82.3	\$82	\$0.8	NA
July 3	\$44.9	\$2.2	\$180.2	\$73.9	\$73.8	\$0.9	NA
July 10	\$54.5	\$2	\$171.5	\$70.6	\$69.9	\$0.8	NA
July 17	\$63.1	\$1.7	\$176.7	\$86.2	\$86.9	\$0.9	NA
July 24	\$59.1	\$2	\$183.4	\$78	\$75.8	\$0.9	NA
July 31	\$56.5	\$2	\$178.4	\$75.7	\$73.7	\$0.8	NA
August 7	\$50.3	\$2	\$176.4	\$66.9	\$65.7	\$0.7	NA
August 14	\$56.9	\$1.5	\$138.4	\$65.5	\$77.2	\$0.7	NA
August 21	\$51.9	\$1.9	\$176	\$65.7	\$72.9	\$0.6	NA
August 28	\$51.4	\$2	\$167.7	\$65.7	\$72.9	\$0.6	NA
September 4	\$50.8	\$1.8	\$171.6	\$67.8	\$75.5	\$1	NA
September 11	\$48	\$1.2	\$164.6	\$61.5	\$63.3	\$0.5	NA
TOTAL BENEFITS PAID	\$8,155.3	\$8,994.6	\$6,222.3	\$5,597.8	\$3,775.4	\$695.1	\$1,370.1

NA: Benefit not applicable during the indicated weeks.

The enhanced UI programs that expired Sept. 4 are: Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), which provided unemployment benefits to self-employed workers, independent contractors and others who are not typically eligible for benefits; Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), which extended unemployment payments to those who already exhausted regular unemployment benefits; and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC), which added a weekly supplemental payment to regular unemployment.

Benefits under these programs cannot be claimed for weeks after Sept. 4, regardless of whether a balance appears in a claimant’s account. Claimants certifying for weeks prior to Sept. 4 will receive the enhanced benefits for a claim filed before Sept. 4, if eligible.

Claimants who exhaust their 26 weeks of regular state unemployment benefits after Sept. 4 and have not collected state extended benefits will transition to 13 weeks of state extended benefits, if eligible. These extended benefits were triggered in July 2020 due to the state’s high unemployment rate. Claimants moved to state extended benefits will see “Extended Unemployment Benefits” as their claim status in their accounts.

For the most up-to-date information on New Jersey unemployment insurance benefits, please visit myunemployment.nj.gov.

For job search help and career training services, please visit careerservices.nj.gov.

For state and community programs and resources available to those who need additional support, please visit myunemployment.nj.gov/morehelp.

[!\[\]\(99f58673407353e96a019fbca558fd72_img.jpg\) Go back to all press releases](#)

Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Home

COVID-19 Resources

- FAQs for Workers
- COVID-19 Scenarios and Benefits
- Federal and State Extended Unemployment Benefits
- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance
- Health and Safety During COVID-19
- FAQs for Businesses
- Information for Working Parents and Caregivers
- Additional Resources and Support

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

Statewide

- Governor Phil Murphy
- Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver
- NJ Home
- Services A to Z
- Departments/Agencies
- FAQs
- Contact Us
- Privacy Notice
- Legal Statement & Disclaimers
- Accessibility Statement

