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Department of Labor
Office of the Commissioner
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To: Vermont General Assembly

From: Commissioner's Office, Department of Labor

Date: April 6, 2021

Subject: Unemployment Insurance Weekly Update

Executive Summary:

During the benefit week ending March 27, there were 31,555 weekly claims filed. This is a decrease of 2,233 over the previous week, the benefit week ending March 13, when 33,788 weekly claims were filed. While this the decrease in claims filed is greater than what the data shows for previous weeks, the number of claimants filing for benefits is still significantly higher than pre-pandemic conditions. During the week ending March 27, \$12,551,405 in benefits were paid out to claimants.

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The decrease in weekly claims filed is directly correlated to the number of claimants who have approached the one-year anniversary of submitting their initial unemployment application. When an initial application is submitted, that claim remains active for 12-months. When the 12-months expires, the benefit year expires as well, and claimants must open a new benefit year to continue to file weekly claims. When a claimant opens a new benefit year, that number is counted in the "initial claims" total for the week, before returning to the "continued claims" section of the data in the program they are filing in.

When a claimant opens a new benefit year, a separation notice is automatically generated by the system and is sent to the separating employer to confirm the reason for the claimant filing to ensure they are eligible for benefits. Employers will likely see an uptick in these notices as claimants file new benefit years. The Department will be issuing guidance to employers soon..

Links and Resources:

- UI "How-To" video library (applying for benefits, reopening a claim, submitting weekly claims)
- Workforce Development services (online job board, workshops, events, and local staff)
- Vermont Job Link
- CARES Act UI Extension FAQ
- UI Updates Page [Newsfeed]
- Appealing UI Claim Determinations
- UI Adjudications Process
- 1099-G Incident Page
- 1099-G Incident FAQs

IDENTITY PROTECTION

Vermont Department of Labor Status Report



| Mailing Data | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------|--|--|--|--|
| Final Mailing Count: | 98,719 | | | | |
| Returned as Undeliverable: | 1,419 | | | | |
| Remailed: | | | | | |

| | Call Activity | | | Enrollments | | |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------|-------------------|
| | Calls In | Calls Out | Total Calls | Call Center | Website | Total Enrollments |
| Week 1 | | | | | | |
| 2/18/2021 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2/19/2021-2/21/2021 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Week 2 | | • | • | | | |
| 2/22/2021 | 23 | 0 | 23 | 10 | 74 | 84 |
| 2/23/2021 | 28 | 0 | 28 | 18 | 77 | 95 |
| 2/24/2021 | 25 | 0 | 25 | 12 | 74 | 86 |
| 2/25/2021 | 73 | 0 | 73 | 38 | 212 | 250 |
| 2/26/2021-2/28/2021 | 118 | 0 | 118 | 81 | 1607 | 1688 |
| Week 3 | | | | | | |
| 3/1/2021 | 343 | 0 | 343 | 203 | 1208 | 1411 |
| 3/2/2021 | 249 | 1 | 250 | 148 | 1316 | 1464 |
| 3/3/2021 | 190 | 2 | 192 | 110 | 765 | 875 |
| 3/4/2021 | 250 | 0 | 250 | 116 | 1011 | 1127 |
| 3/5/2021-3/7/2021 | 198 | 8 | 206 | 113 | 1532 | 1645 |
| Week 4 | | | | | | |
| 3/8/2021 | 143 | 2 | 145 | 71 | 383 | 454 |
| 3/9/2021 | 105 | 2 | 107 | 55 | 296 | 351 |
| 3/10/2021 | 88 | 6 | 94 | 53 | 223 | 276 |
| 3/11/2021 | 48 | 8 | 56 | 23 | 209 | 232 |
| 3/12/2021-3/14/2021 | 56 | 5 | 61 | 29 | 496 | 525 |
| Week 5 | • | | • | | | |
| 3/15/2021 | 70 | 1 | 71 | 38 | 217 | 255 |
| 3/16/2021 | 48 | 0 | 48 | 24 | 150 | 174 |
| 3/17/2021 | 39 | 1 | 40 | 22 | 99 | 121 |
| 3/18/2021 | 29 | 2 | 31 | 13 | 100 | 113 |
| 3/19/2021-3/21/2021 | 28 | 2 | 30 | 13 | 234 | 247 |
| Week 6 | | ' | • | | | |
| 3/22/2021 | 24 | 2 | 26 | 15 | 84 | 99 |
| 3/23/2021 | 35 | 2 | 37 | 11 | 71 | 82 |
| 3/24/2021 | 34 | 2 | 36 | 12 | 65 | 77 |
| 3/25/2021 | 24 | 0 | 24 | 6 | 68 | 74 |
| 3/26/2021-3/28/2021 | 40 | 2 | 42 | 14 | 212 | 226 |
| Week 7 | | | | | | |
| 3/29/2021 | 33 | 1 | 34 | 11 | 73 | 84 |
| 3/30/2021 | 15 | 1 | 16 | 4 | 61 | 65 |
| 3/31/2021 | 24 | 4 | 28 | 6 | 49 | 55 |
| 4/1/2021 | 16 | 4 | 20 | 3 | 51 | 54 |
| 4/2/2021-4/4/2021 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Grand Totals | 2400 | 58 | 2458 | 1273 | 11017 | 12290 |

UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

| Continued Claims Filed | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Week Ending | 2/6 | 2/13 | 2/20 | 2/27 | 3/6 | 3/13 | 3/20 | 3/27 |
| Regular UI | 13,150 | 12,834 | 12,295 | 12,087 | 12,195 | 11,691 | 11,074 | 10,548 |
| PEUC | 13,232 | 13,547 | 13,358 | 13,860 | 13,735 | 14,208 | 13,981 | 12,307 |
| EB | 52 | 44 | 40 | 29 | 19 | 33 | 19 | 6 |
| PUA | 8,739 | 8,801 | 8,650 | 8,761 | 8,745 | 8,809 | 8,714 | 8,700 |
| Total | 35,173 | 35,226 | 34,343 | 34,737 | 34,694 | 34,741 | 33,788 | 31,561 |

Figure 1

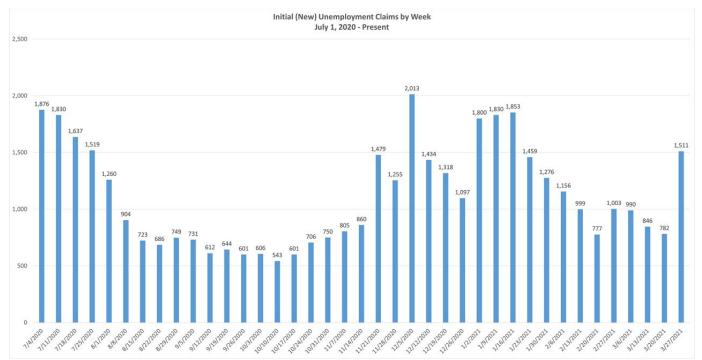


Figure 2

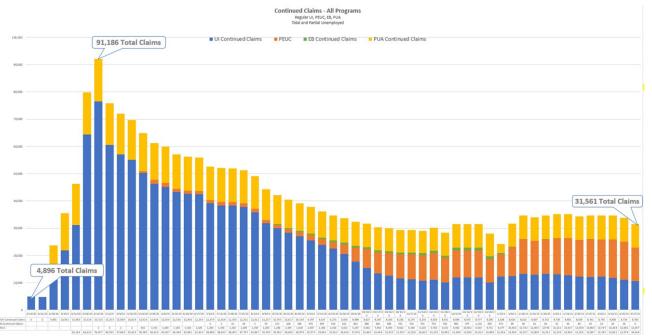


Figure 3

The data presented in this publication represents unofficial information collected from a variety of sources, and is being provided in order to ensure transparency, the freedom of information, and a well-informed public. While it is accurate to the extent ascertainable by the Department at the time of publication, it has not been subject to inspection or validation, and does not constitute verified employment data for the purposes of required reporting and formal release. This data is for the sole purpose of informing the public and shall not be recreated or reposted in any way, without this disclaimer. The information provided herein is not related in any way to the certified data provided to the U.S. Department of Labor.

BENEFIT PAYMENTS

| Claims Payment Processing | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Week Ending | All UI Claims Paid | All UI Payments | PUA Claims Paid* | PUA Payments | Total Payments Issued | Trust Fund Balance |
| January 30 | 23,499 | \$7,911,766 | 8,595 | \$5,296,654 | \$13,208,420 | \$231,866,628 |
| February 6 | 24,476 | \$8,389,274 | 8,564 | \$5,273,597 | \$13,662,871 | \$230,211,298 |
| February 13 | 24,231 | \$8,201,345 | 9,382 | \$5,656,278 | \$13,857,623 | \$228,073,511 |
| February 20 | 24,051 | \$8,124,670 | 7,851 | \$4,764,568 | \$12,889,238 | \$224,265,194 |
| February 27 | 24,353 | \$8,308,811 | 8,460 | \$5,187,084 | \$13,495,895 | \$220,634,570 |
| March 6 | 24,532 | \$8,257,067 | 8,800 | \$5,265,854 | \$13,522,921 | \$216,886,619 |
| March 13 | 25,932 | \$8,125,362 | 8,809 | \$5,039,666 | \$13,165,028 | \$213,374,056 |
| March 20 | 24,024 | \$7,955,310 | 8,501 | \$5,280,981 | \$13,236,291 | \$210,031,857 |
| March 27 | 21,747 | \$7,237,175 | 8,761 | \$5,314,230 | \$12,551,405 | \$206,917,566 |

 $[\]hbox{*Only identifies payments is sued and may include multiple benefit weeks being paid to one claimant.}$



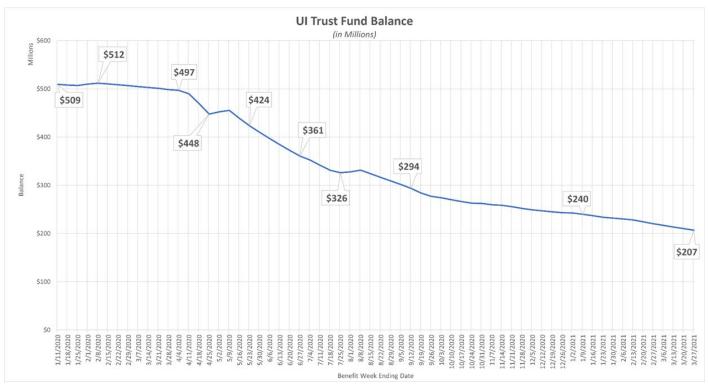


Figure 5

| Call Volume Summary | | | | | | |
|---|-------|------|------|--|--|--|
| Average Agents Average Calls Per Day Average Length of Call Average Hold Time | | | | | | |
| 136 | 4,372 | 9:41 | 4:26 | | | |

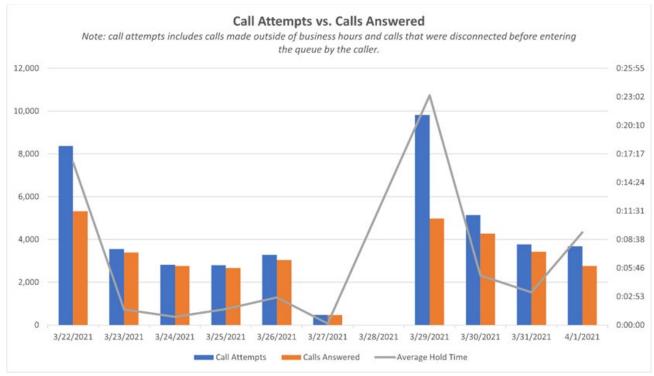


Figure 6



Figure 7

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FRAUD DETECTION

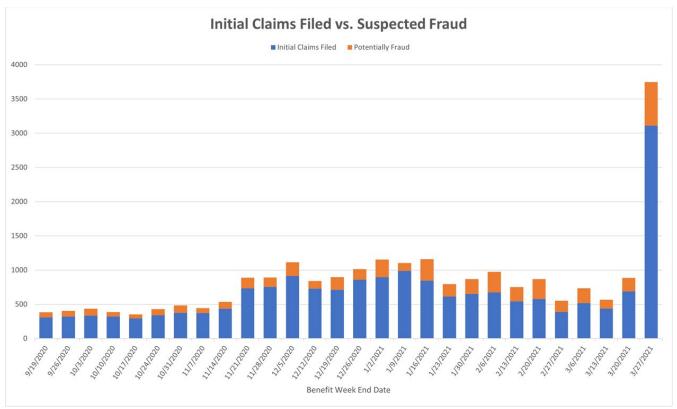


Figure 8