Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims for the Three-State Region

For the week ending June 27, workers filed 80,972 initial UI claims (NSA) in our three-state region — fewer than the prior week’s 89,907 (revised), and far below the historic peak of 630,067 (revised) for the week ending March 28.

However, workers also filed 189,510 initial Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claims for the week ending June 27 in our three states (Pennsylvania accounted for 164,806 of these PUA claims; see note on the next page). The PUA program provides benefits for workers who are not eligible for regular UI benefits. Initial UI claims plus initial PUA claims were 270,482 for the week ending June 27, 2020.

Compared with the prior week, initial UI claims across our three states:
- fell to 2,701 from 2,516 (revised) in Delaware;
- fell to 32,396 from 26,438 (revised) in New Jersey; and
- fell to 56,089 from 49,197 (revised) in Pennsylvania.

For the week ending June 20, continued UI claims in our three-state region rose to 1,381,855 (NSA) — from the prior week’s 1,322,159 (revised).

Compared with the prior week, continued UI claims across our three states:
- rose to 49,184 from 45,112 (revised) in Delaware;
- fell to 518,371 from 528,173 (revised) in New Jersey; and
- rose to 814,300 from 748,874 (revised) in Pennsylvania.

For the week ending June 13, workers in the three-state region also filed continued claims in these special programs:
- 2,347,943 PUA claims (Pennsylvania accounted for 1,954,660 of these PUA claims; see note), and
- 142,218 Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) claims. The PEUC program provides additional weeks of benefits for workers whose regular benefits have expired.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics; not seasonally adjusted (NSA)
Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims for the U.S.

For the week ending June 27, workers filed 1,445,481 initial UI claims (NSA) — fewer than the prior week’s 1,460,056 (revised). This was the 12th consecutive weekly decline after initial UI claims set a historic peak of 6,212,523 (revised) for the week ending April 4.

Workers also filed 839,563 initial PUA claims for the week ending June 27.

Continued UI claims for the week ending June 20 rose to 17,920,654 (NSA) from the prior week’s 17,654,303 (revised). Continued UI claims are 4.9 million fewer than the peak six weeks ago.

However, for the week ending June 13, a total of 31.5 million continued claims were filed from all programs, including:

- 12.9 million PUA claims, and
- 0.7 million PEUC claims.

Continued UI claims peaked at 6.5 million during the Great Recession.

Note:

PUA claims data for any given week may include backdated claims from prior weeks.

Source:

Initial and continued (UI) claims are gathered by individual states and are typically released on Thursday mornings at 8:30 a.m. by the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

https://www.dol.gov/ui/data.pdf

Useful Resource:

Rinz, Kevin. “Understanding Unemployment Insurance Claims and Other Labor Market Data During the COVID-19 Pandemic”

https://kevinrinz.github.io/covid19_labordata.pdf
ASA Weekly Staffing Index

The ASA Weekly Staffing Index rose to 68.4 for the week ending June 21 — an eighth consecutive increase. This matched the record low for this particular week of the year set at the trough of the Great Recession in June 2009.

The year-over-year change in this index was -8.0 points for the week ending March 15. This declined to near -36.5 points for the three weeks ending April 26 through May 10 and has rebounded to -28.5 as of the week ending June 21.

Sources:
The ASA Staffing Index tracks weekly changes in temporary and contract employment and is typically released on Tuesday mornings. The index is generated from a survey of U.S. staffing firms by the American Staffing Association.

americanstaffing.net/staffing-index
americanstaffing.net/index