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

For the week ending July 4, workers filed 92,976 initial UI claims (NSA) in our three-state region — more than the prior week’s 80,749 (revised), but far below the historic peak of 630,067 (revised) for the week ending March 28.

However, workers also filed 217,486 initial Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claims for the week ending July 4 in our three states (Pennsylvania accounted for 205,645 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 310,462 for the week ending July 4, 2020.

Compared with the prior week, initial UI claims across our three states:
- fell to 2,663 from 2,771 (revised) in Delaware;
- rose to 46,711 from 27,992 (revised) in New Jersey; and
- fell to 43,602 from 49,986 (revised) in Pennsylvania.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Haver Analytics; not seasonally adjusted (NSA)

For the week ending June 27, continued UI claims in our three-state region fell to 1,192,221 (NSA) — from the prior week’s 1,372,810 (revised).

Compared with the prior week, continued UI claims across our three states:
- rose to 47,723 from 44,034 (revised) in Delaware;
- fell to 490,572 from 519,167 (revised) in New Jersey; and
- fell to 653,926 from 809,609 (revised) in Pennsylvania.

For the week ending June 20, workers in the three-state region also filed continued claims in these special programs:
- 3,053,652 PUA claims (Pennsylvania accounted for 2,650,885 of these PUA claims; see note), and
- 114,954 Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) claims. The PEUC program provides additional weeks of benefits for workers whose regular benefits have expired.
Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims for the U.S.

For the week ending July 4, workers filed 1,399,699 initial UI claims (NSA) — fewer than the prior week’s 1,431,343 (revised). This was the 13th 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 1,038,905 initial PUA claims for the week ending July 4.

Continued UI claims for the week ending June 27 fell to 16,797,353 (NSA) from the prior week’s 17,427,940 (revised). Continued UI claims are 6.0 million fewer than the peak seven weeks ago.

However, for the week ending June 20, a total of 32.9 million continued claims were filed from all programs, including:

- 14.4 million PUA claims, and
- 0.9 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 69.4 for the week ending June 28 — a ninth consecutive increase. Moreover, this is the first time since the week ending March 29, that it did not represent a record low for the particular week of the year.

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 -26.6 as of the week ending June 28.

**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](http://americanstaffing.net/staffing-index)

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