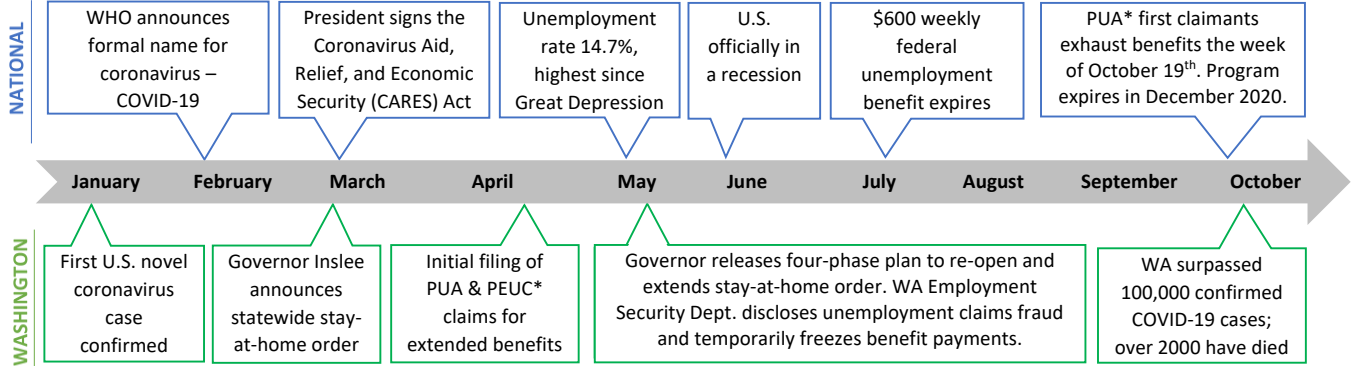


Washington State Unemployment Claims: Health Related Occupations: January-October, 2020

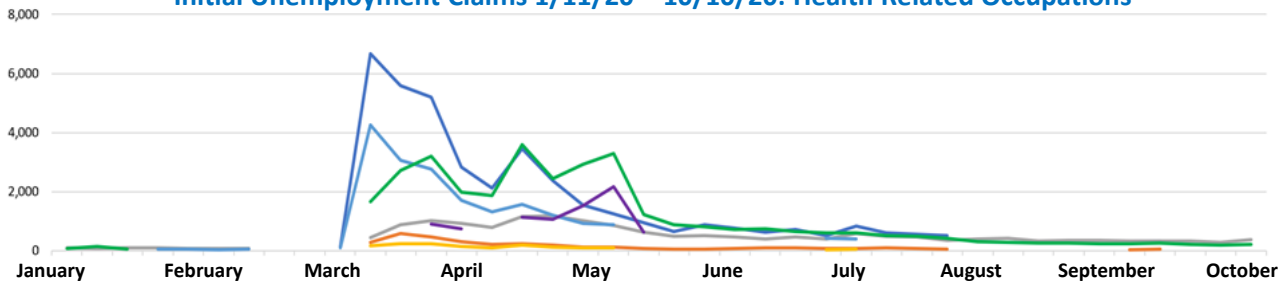
This brief shows regular unemployment insurance claims in Washington State for seven categories of health care occupations from the week ending January 11 through October 10, 2020. Following an abbreviated timeline describing key national and state events related to the COVID-19 pandemic, two figures show 1) initial unemployment claims by week, and 2) continued unemployment claims beginning the week ending April 18 for health care related occupation groups.

COVID-10 Pandemic Timeline 2020

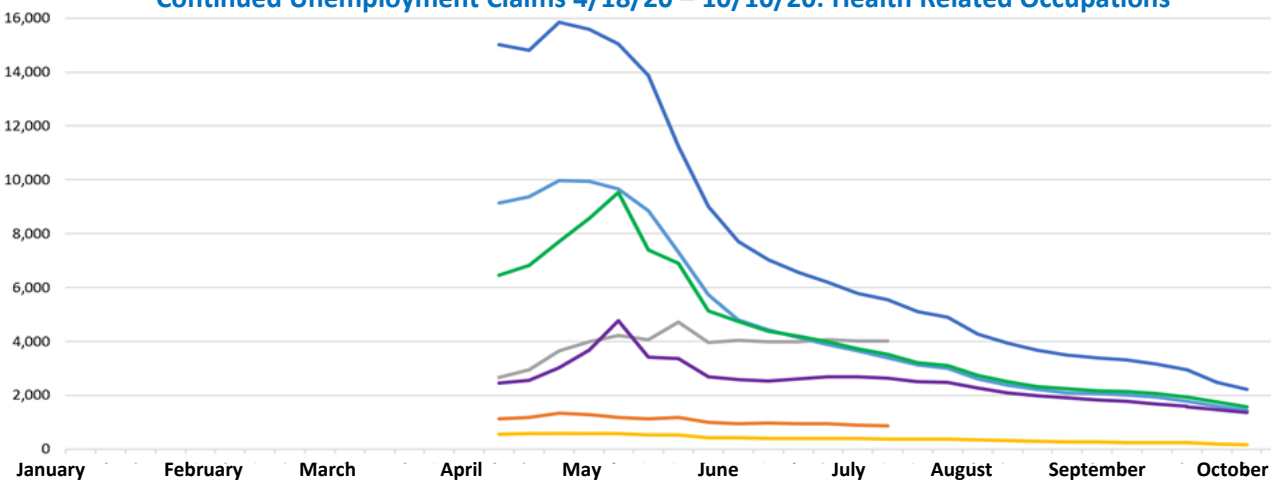


*PUA=Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, PEUC=Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation. See next page for descriptions.

Initial Unemployment Claims 1/11/20 – 10/10/20: Health Related Occupations



Continued Unemployment Claims 4/18/20 – 10/10/20: Health Related Occupations



LEGEND FOR FIGURES: HEALTH RELATED OCCUPATION GROUPS (US BLS Standard Occupational Classification)

- 31-9000 Other Healthcare Support Occupations
- 31-2000 Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapist Assistants and Aides
- 31-1000 Nursing, Psychiatric, and Home Health Aides
- 29-9000 Other Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations
- 29-2000 Health Technologists and Technicians
- 29-1000 Health Diagnosing and Treating Practitioners
- 21-1000 Counselors, Social Workers, and Other Community and Social Service Specialists

Data source: Washington State Employment Security Department/LMEA, 10/19/2020. **Notes:** These data reflect claims from unemployed individuals with UI benefits, and not the entire state unemployed population. Gaps in the lines above are due to suppressed data reporting in counties with few claims. Initial claims are not unduplicated. Continued claims are for the week the claim was processed and may be undercounted because only unduplicated counts are displayed. Data do not include Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) and Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) claims.

Occupations included in Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) codes*

Other Healthcare Support Occupations (SOC 31-9000)

- Massage Therapists
- Miscellaneous Healthcare Support Occupations
- Dental Assistants
- Medical Assistants
- Medical Equipment Preparers
- Medical Transcriptionists
- Pharmacy Aides
- Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers
- Phlebotomists
- Healthcare Support Workers, All Other

Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapist Assistants and Aides (SOC 31-2000) Nursing, Psychiatric, and Home Health Aides (SOC 31-1000)

- Home Health Aides
- Psychiatric Aides
- Nursing Assistants
- Orderlies

Other Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (SOC 29-9000)

- Occupational Health & Safety Specialists & Technicians
- Miscellaneous Health Practitioners & Technical Workers

Health Technologists and Technicians (SOC 29-2000)

- Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians
- Dental Hygienists
- Diagnostic Related Technologists and Technicians
 - Cardiovascular Technologists & Technicians, Diagnostic Medical Sonographers, Nuclear Medicine Technologists, Radiologic Technologists, Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists
- Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics
- Health Practitioner Support Technologists and Technicians
 - Dietetic Technicians, Pharmacy Technicians, Psychiatric Technicians, Respiratory Therapy Technicians, Surgical Technologists, Veterinary Technologists & Technicians, Ophthalmic Medical Technicians

- Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
- Medical Records and Health Information Technicians
- Opticians, Dispensing
- Miscellaneous Health Technologists and Technicians
 - Orthotists & Prosthetists, Hearing Aid Specialists, Health Technologists & Technicians, All Other

Health Diagnosing and Treating Practitioners (SOC 29-1000)

- Chiropractors
- Dentists
- Dietitians and Nutritionists
- Optometrists
- Pharmacists
- Physicians and Surgeons
- Physician Assistants
- Podiatrists
- Therapists
- Veterinarians
- Registered Nurses
- Nurse Anesthetists
- Nurse Midwives
- Nurse Practitioners
- Audiologists
- Miscellaneous Health Diagnosing & Treating Practitioners

Counselors, Social Workers, and Other Community and Social Service Specialists (SOC 21-1000)

- Counselors
 - Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, Rehabilitation Counselors, Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors, Counselors, All Other
- Social Workers
- Miscellaneous Community and Social Service Specialists

*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Standard Occupational Classification. <https://www.bls.gov/soc/>

ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS AND TYPES OF CLAIMS

Unemployment insurance (UI) benefits provide individuals who have lost a job and meet qualifying criteria with temporary income. Unemployed individuals can submit an initial claim for regular state UI benefits and then continuing claims for regular state UI benefits throughout their eligibility period. Additional benefits that may be available to an individual during the COVID-19 pandemic include the federally funded Lost Wages Assistance (LWA), Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) programs. LWA provided additional payments to eligible UI beneficiaries during six specified weeks in August and September, 2020. PEUC provides up to 13 weeks of additional benefits to workers who have exhausted their regular UI claim. PUA is a separate program providing benefits to people who do not qualify for regular unemployment, including self-employed people, independent contractors, and part-time workers.

SUGGESTED REFERENCE: Skillman SM, Johnson HM, Frogner BK. *Washington State Unemployment Claims for Health-Care Related Occupations*. Center for Health Workforce Studies, University of Washington, Nov. 8, 2020 Update.

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ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON CENTER FOR HEALTH WORKFORCE STUDIES (UW CHWS): UW CHWS, established in 1998, is based in the Research Section of the [Department of Family Medicine](#), part of the [University of Washington School of Medicine](#). The Center's mission is to elevate the importance of workers in the delivery of health care in policy discussions. To accomplish this, the UW CHWS conducts health workforce research; provides consultation to local, state, regional and national policy makers on health workforce issues; and develops and refines analytical methods to support health workforce planning. More details can be found at <https://depts.washington.edu/fammed/chws/>