

COVID-19: UNEMPLOYMENT UPDATE



Data and Information current as of April 9, 2020

UNEMPLOYMENT AND COVID-19

Thousands of Maryland workers have lost jobs due to the current global coronavirus epidemic. This document provides information about current federal, State, and local unemployment data.

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NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

For the week of April 4, 2020, Maryland UI claims jumped by 25,000 from the prior week, to 108,508 claims (up 30% from the prior week). Montgomery County UI claims rose by more than 6,300 claims, to 15,751 claims (up 68% from the prior week). The counties with the highest number of claims were Baltimore, Montgomery, and Prince George's Counties. The US data in the table for past weeks reflect revised numbers from the Labor Department.

Week of 2020	US (SA)	MD (NSA)	MoCo*
April 4	6,606,000	108,508	15,751
March 28	6,867,000	83,536	9,384
March 21	3,307,000	42,334	3,941
March 14	282,000	3,852	256
March 7	211,000	2,090	195

* Initial state data

SA=seasonally adjusted NSA=not seasonally adjusted

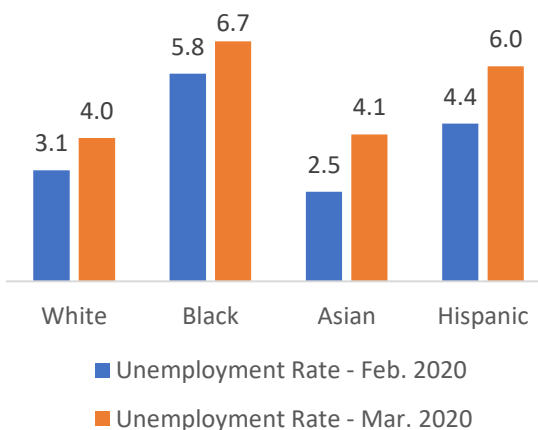
Sources: U.S. and Maryland Departments of Labor

Data Release. The U.S. Department of Labor release initial jobless claims data on Thursdays at 8:30 am. OLO will routinely update this report when new data are released.

U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS (BLS) MARCH EMPLOYMENT REPORT

BLS data reported April 3rd reflects the early effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the labor market prior to many business and school closures that occurred in late March. Comparing U.S. unemployment rates between February 2020 and March 2020, the U.S. experienced the largest over-the-month increase in the unemployment rate since January 1975 – 0.9 percentage point – increasing from 3.5% to 4.4%. State and County data will be available in mid to late April.

Unemployment rates rose among all major worker groups. Asian and Hispanic workers experienced the largest over-the-month increase of 1.6 percentage points.



Source: BLS March 2020 Employment Situation Report
<https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empisit.pdf>

701K

Decrease in nonfarm employment, reflecting the effects of the coronavirus and efforts to contain it.

459K

Decline in Leisure and Hospitality Employment. Most of which occurred in food services and drinking places (-417K).