

# **COLORADO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CHARTS**

THROUGH WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 13, 2021

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

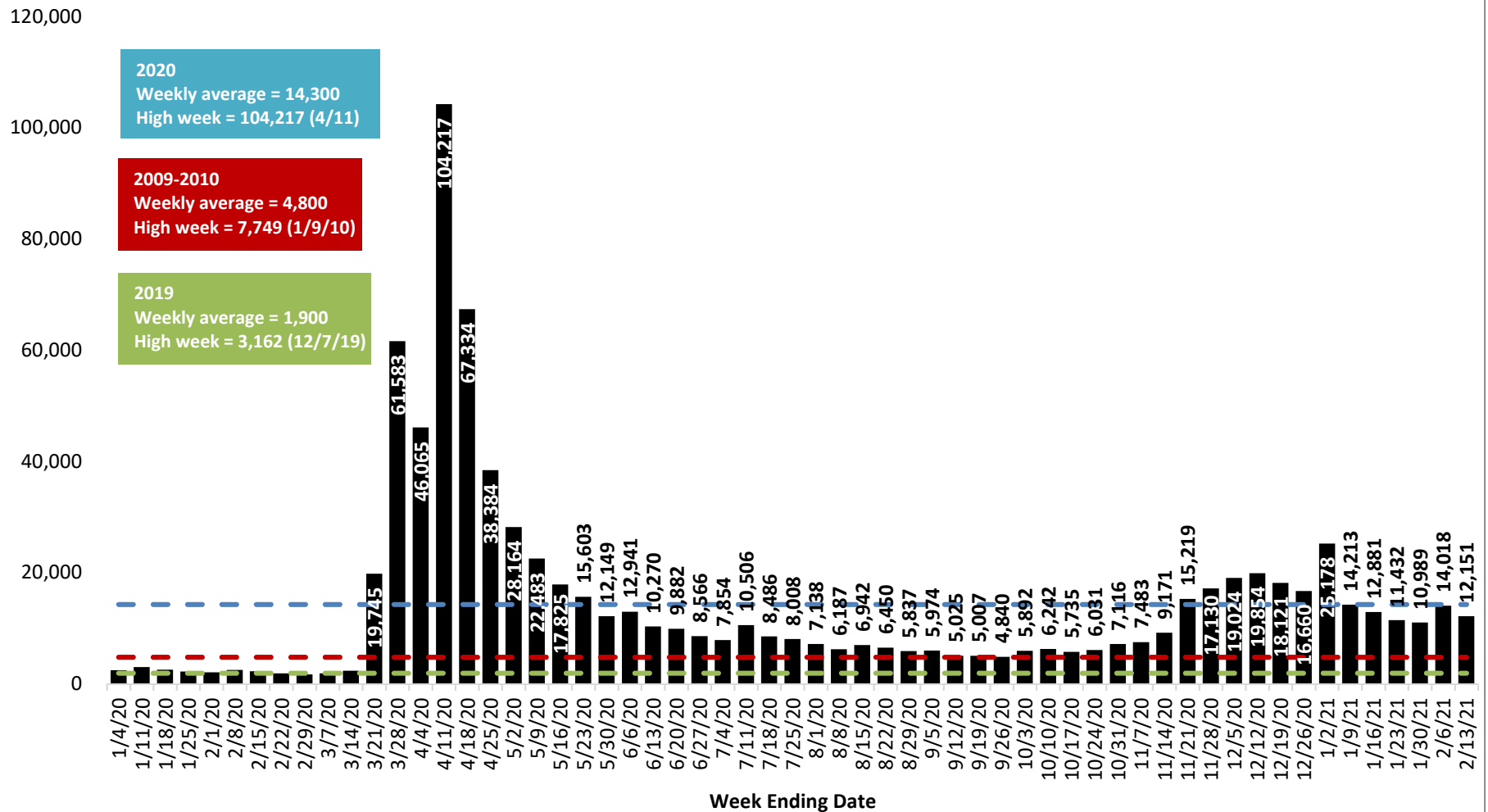
# TECHNICAL NOTES

- Starting with the week ending December 19, 2020, regular UI initial claims will be subject to adjustments and revisions in an attempt to account for fraudulent activity. However, CDLE recommends caution when analyzing and interpreting recent trends in regular UI initial claims, as fraudulent activity can distort economic significance and meaning.
- The Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) and Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) programs were both established through the CARES Act in early 2020. The programs, originally set to expire on December 26, 2020, were extended through mid-March 2021 via the Continued Assistance Act. With the start of the [Phase 1 rollout](#) on February 1<sup>st</sup>, PEUC and PUA claimants who had a monetary balance on their claim on December 26<sup>th</sup> were able to reopen their respective claim. Continued claim data will look distorted for a period of time, as these individuals are able to backdate their claims to December 27<sup>th</sup>, which will show in the data as multiple weeks claimed for a single week. However, the chart on page 12 attempts to estimate the number of individuals requesting payment within a given week (starting the week ending February 6<sup>th</sup>). For information on additional program rollouts, go [here](#).
- Similar to PUA and PEUC, the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) program – which provided eligible claimants an extra \$600 per week in benefits – was established through the CARES Act and expired at the end of July 2020. Via the Continued Assistance Act, FPUC was extended from December 27, 2020 to mid-March 2021, and will provide eligible claimants an extra \$300 per week in benefits. FPUC payments were available to eligible claimants starting the week ending February 6<sup>th</sup>.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- **INITIAL CLAIMS:** Pages 4 & 5
- **CONTINUED CLAIMS:** Pages 6 – 13
- **WORKSHARE:** Pages 14 & 15
- **INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (IUR):** Page 16
- **WEEKS AND BENEFITS PAID:** Pages 17 – 26
- **# OF PERSONS RECEIVING UI PAYMENT BY MONTH & YTD:** Pages 27 & 28

## Colorado Regular Unemployment Insurance Initial Claims



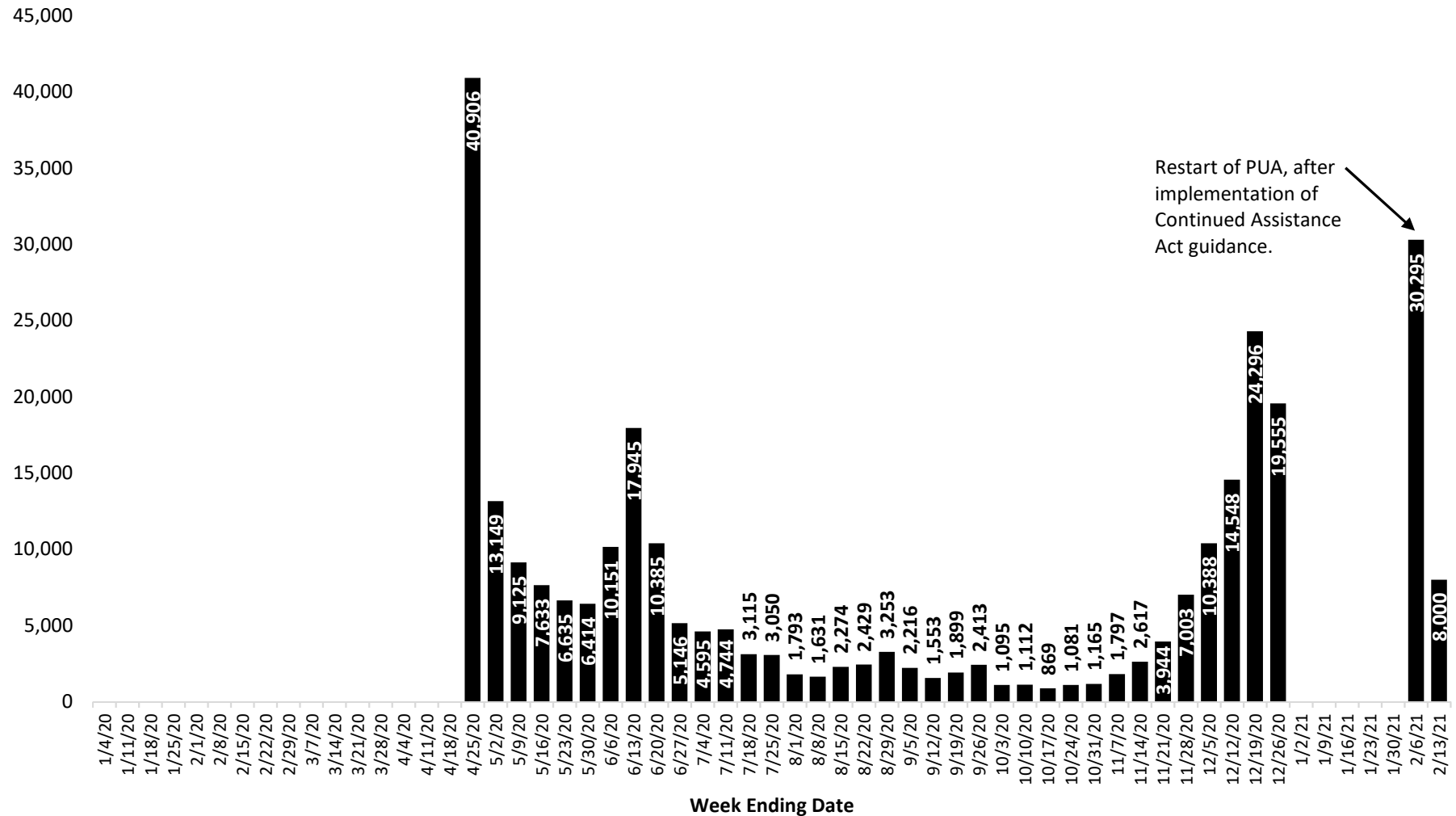
Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Employment and Training Administration

\***Initial claim:** a claim filed to establish or reestablish benefit eligibility. Initial claims are typically considered a reliable leading indicator of economic activity.

\*\*Regular UI claims only reflected in this chart, does not include initial claims which stemmed from extended benefit programs during the Great Recession. Also excludes UCFE (federal) and UCX (ex-servicemember) claims.

Claims totals for weeks ending 12/19/20 to 1/2/21 have been revised from previously reported in an attempt to adjust for fraudulent activity within regular UI during those weeks. Initial claim totals reported for weeks after 1/2/21 will also be adjusted for fraudulent activity and may be subject to additional revisions in the future.

## Colorado Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) Initial Claims

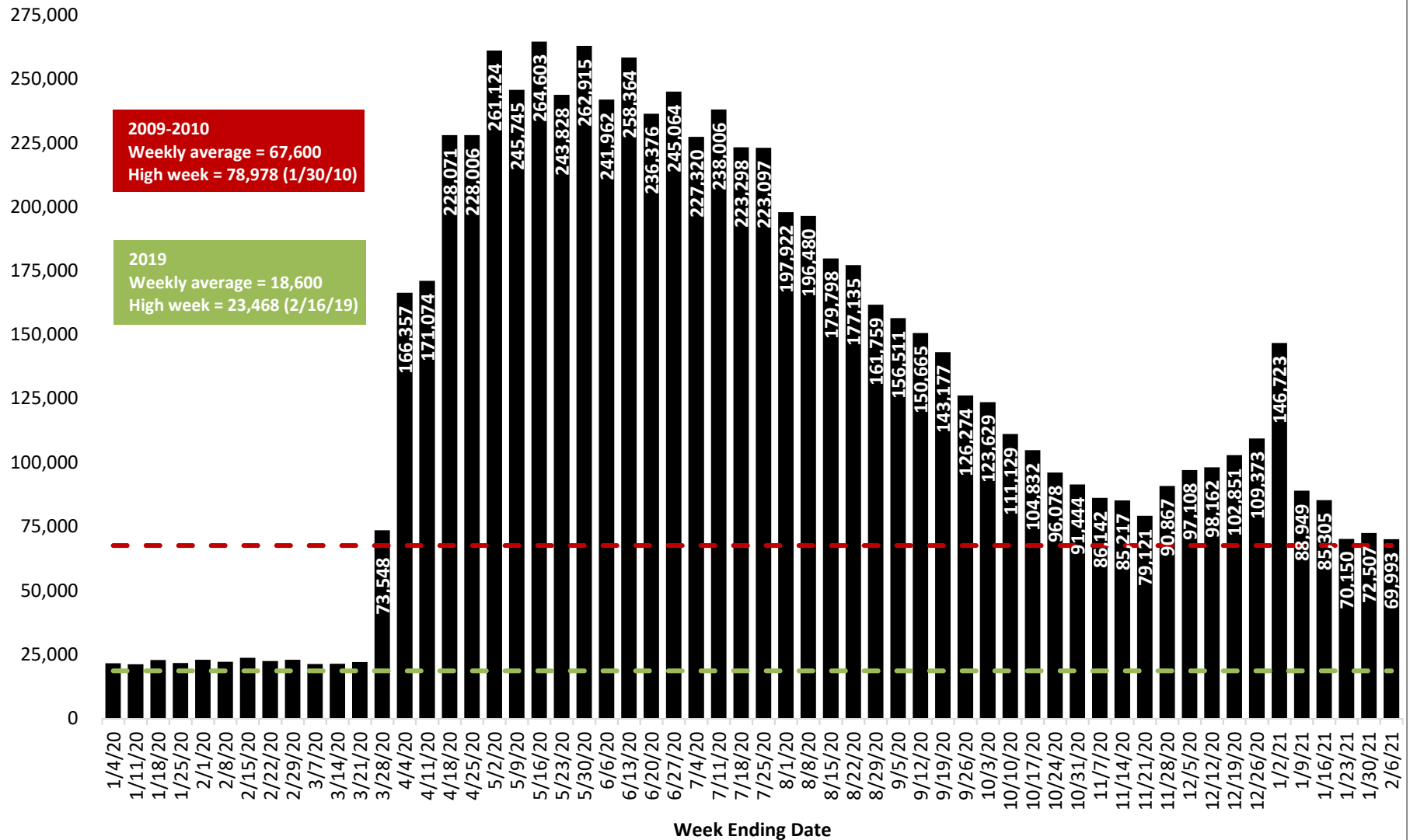


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Employment and Training Administration

\***Initial claim:** a claim filed to establish or reestablish benefit eligibility. Initial claims are considered a reliable leading indicator of economic activity.

\*\*Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claims only reflected in this chart; program started in Colorado week ending April 25, 2020. PUA, which was established through the CARES Act, ended on 12/26/20, but extended through mid-March 2021 via the Continued Assistance Act. Initial claims for PUA may show up as zero for several weeks following 12/26/20, as the Department undergoes UI modernization efforts as well as the implementation of various Continued Assistance Act programs.

## Colorado Regular Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed



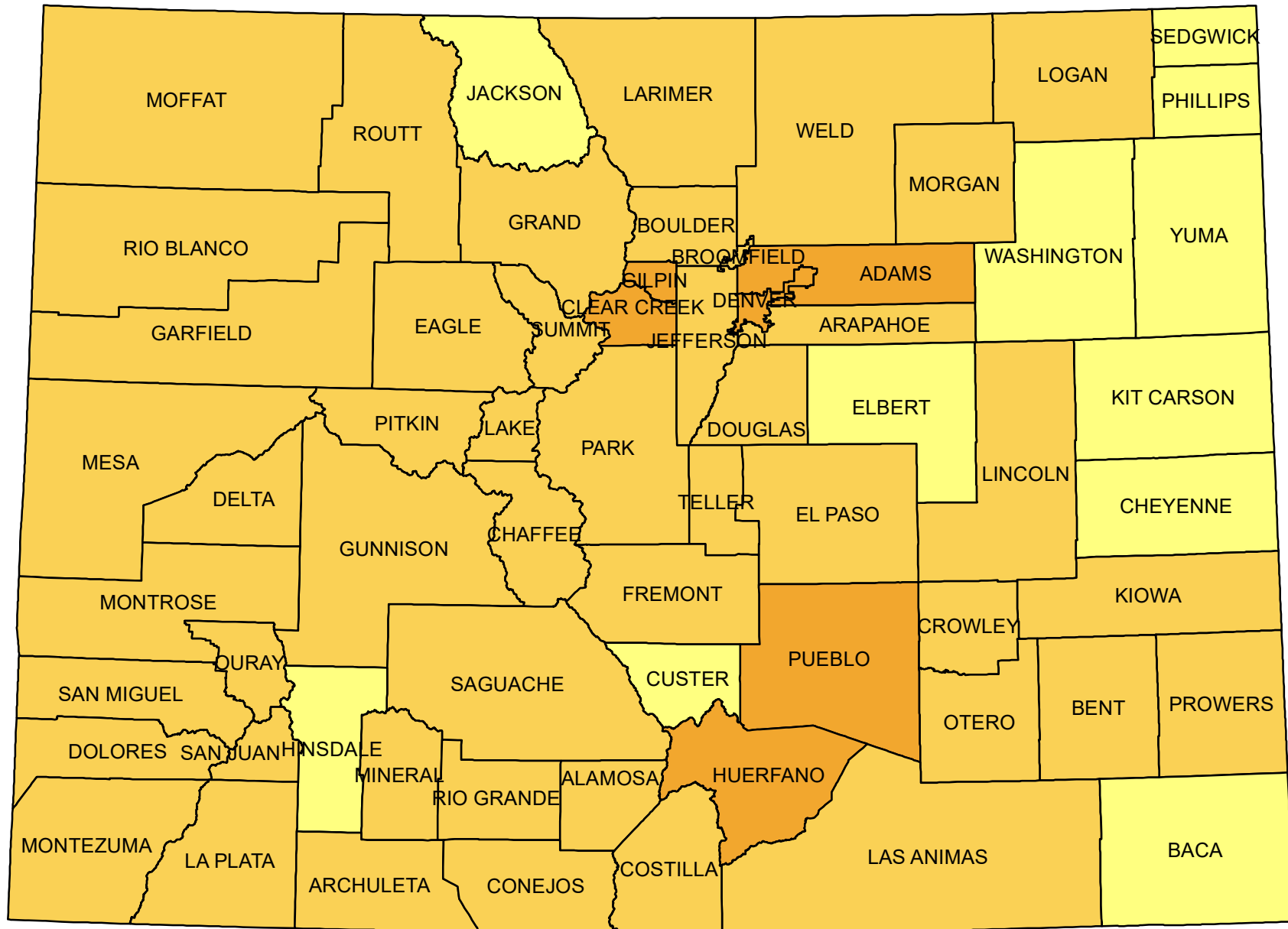
Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Employment and Training Administration

\***Continued weeks claimed:** a claim filed to request payment for a given week after eligibility has been established. Weeks claimed provide information as to current labor market conditions.

\*\*Regular UI claims only reflected in this chart, does not include continued claims which stemmed from extended benefit programs during the Great Recession. Also excludes UCFE (federal) and UCX (ex-servicemember) claims.

# Continued Weeks Claimed as Share of 2019 Annual Average Employment

\*\*\* For Week Ending December 19, 2020 \*\*\*

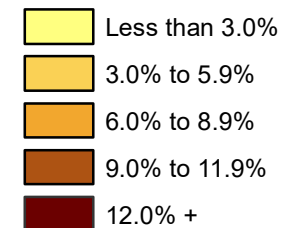


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Bureau of Labor Statistics

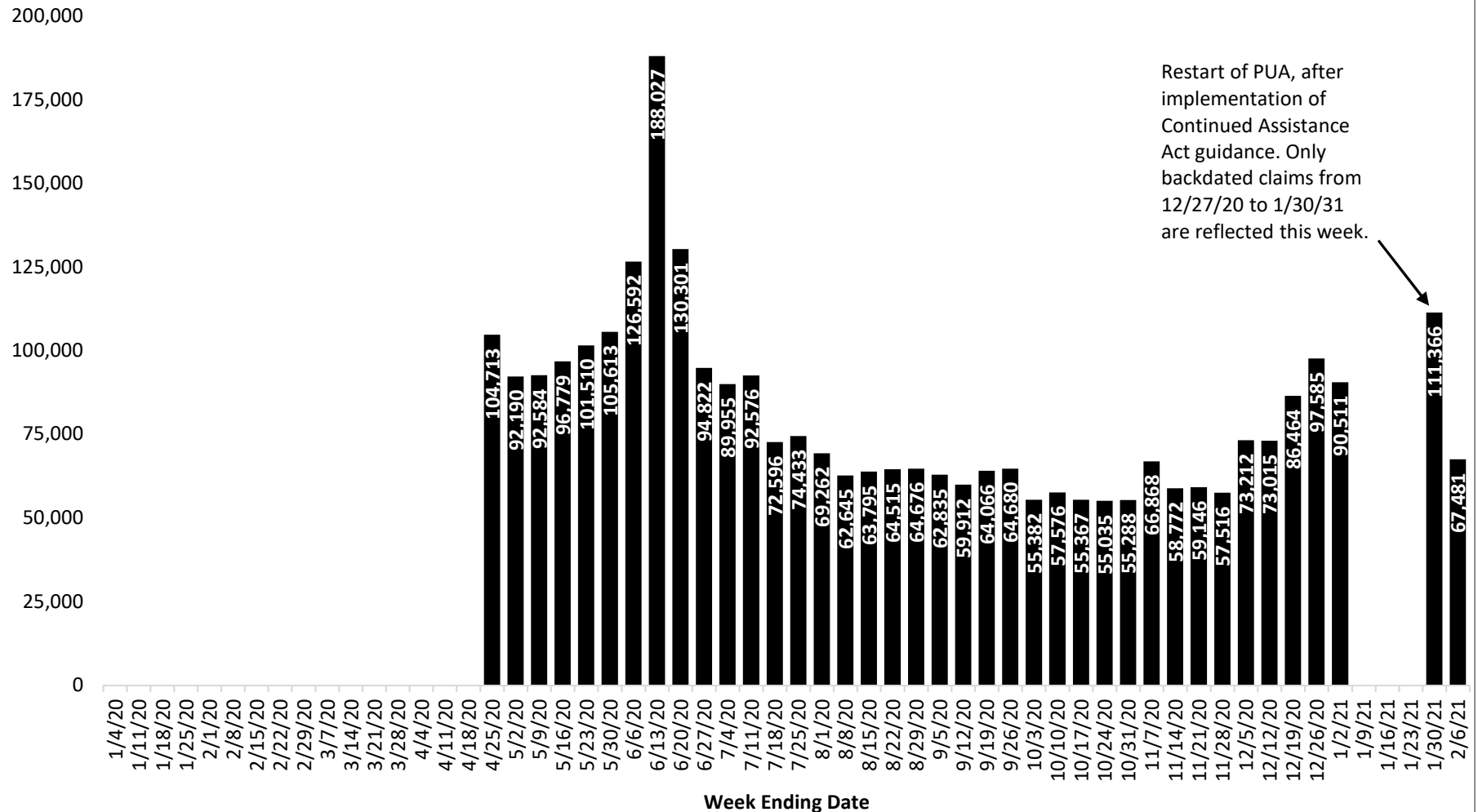
Note: County-level data most recent available.

Includes continued weeks claimed for regular UI, PEUC, and SEB.

## % of Employment



## Colorado Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) Continued Weeks Claimed

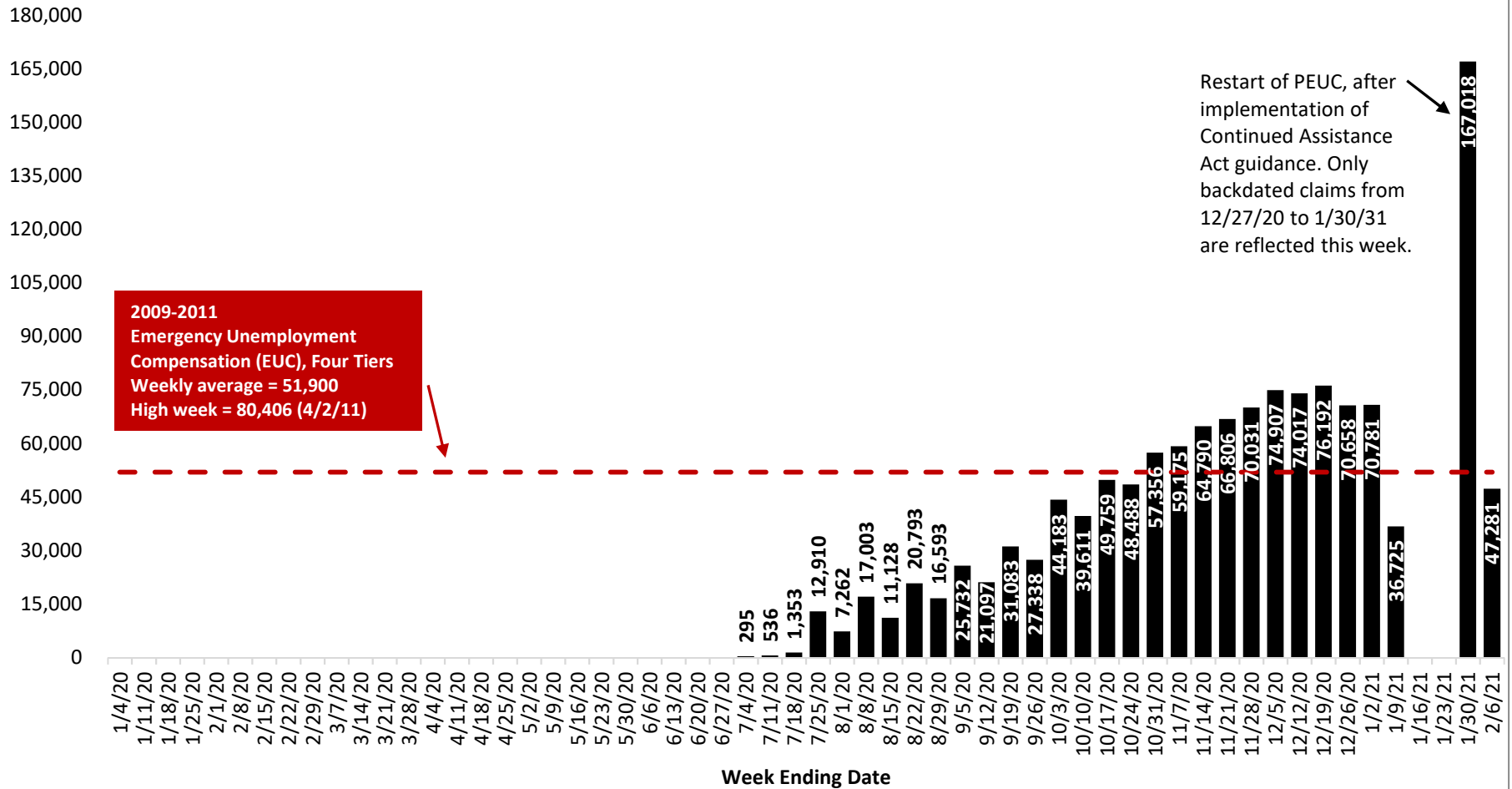


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Employment and Training Administration

\***Continued weeks claimed:** a claim filed to request payment for a given week after eligibility has been established. Weeks claimed provide information as to current labor market conditions.

\*\*Pandemic Unemployment Assistance claims only reflected in this chart; program started in Colorado week ending April 25, 2020. PUA, which was established through the CARES Act, ended on 12/26/20, but extended through mid-March 2021 via the Continued Assistance Act. Continued claims for PUA may show up as zero for several weeks following 1/2/21, as the Department undergoes UI modernization efforts as well as the implementation of various Continued Assistance Act programs. A claimant's payment request schedule may allow for continued claims the week following 12/26/20.

## Colorado Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) Continued Weeks Claimed



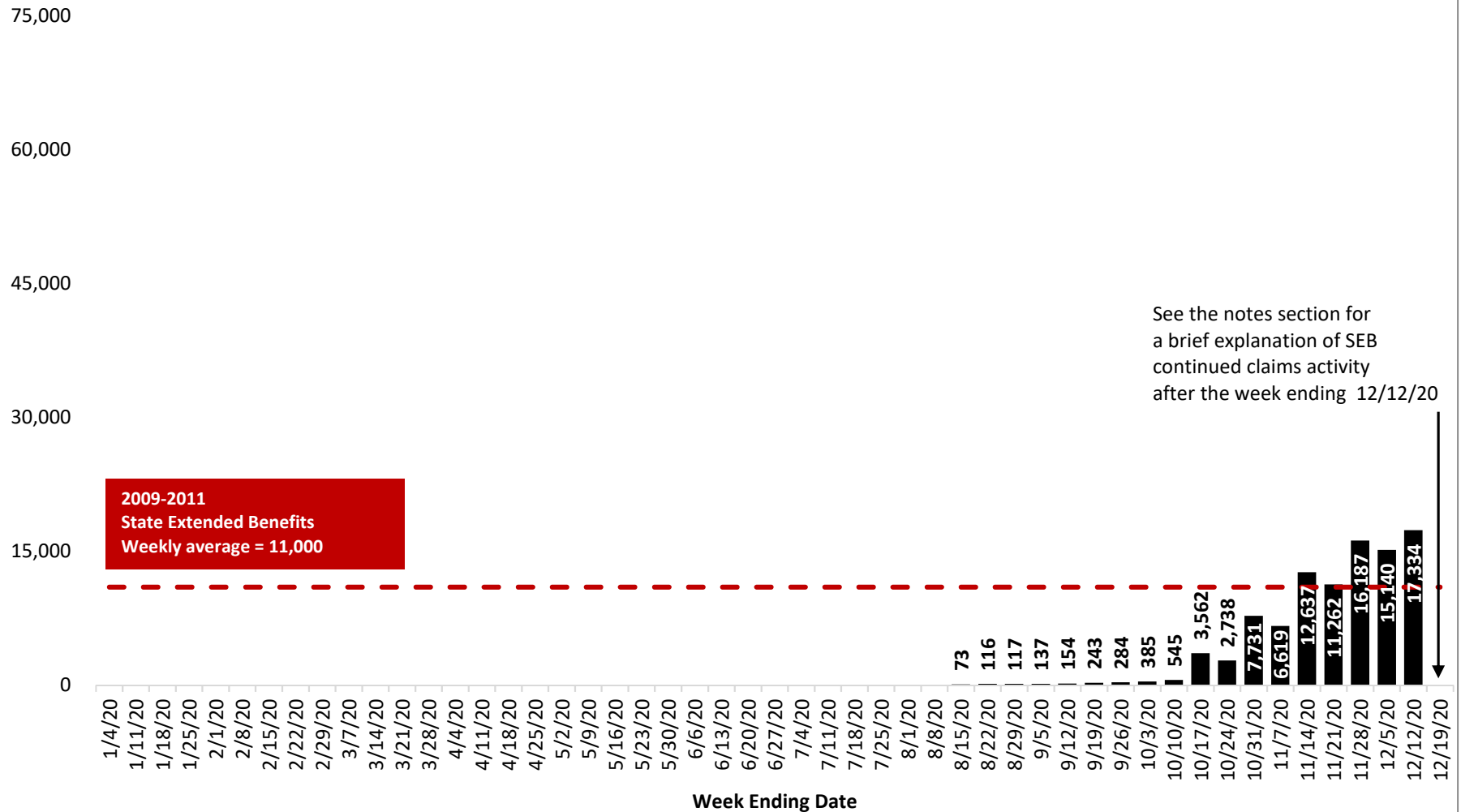
Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Employment and Training Administration

\***Continued weeks claimed:** a claim filed to request payment for a given week after eligibility has been established. Weeks claimed provide information as to current labor market conditions.

\*\*This chart shows current Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) claims activity and compares to the 2009-11 weekly average number of continued weeks claimed from the Emergency Unemployment Compensation 2008 (EUC08) program established during the Great Recession. PEUC, as part of the CARES Act, extended unemployment benefits by an additional 13 weeks. PEUC ended on 12/26/20, but was extended through mid-March 2021 via the Continued Assistance Act, and provides another 11 weeks of extended benefits to eligible claimants. Continued claims for PEUC may show up as zero for several weeks following 1/9/21, as the Department undergoes UI modernization efforts as well as the implementation of various Continued Assistance Act programs. A claimant's payment request schedule may allow for continued claims the week following 12/26/20. The PEUC program became active in Colorado in early July.

For more information on the EUC08 program, go to: <https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/euc.asp>.

## Colorado State Extended Benefits (SEB) Continued Weeks Claimed

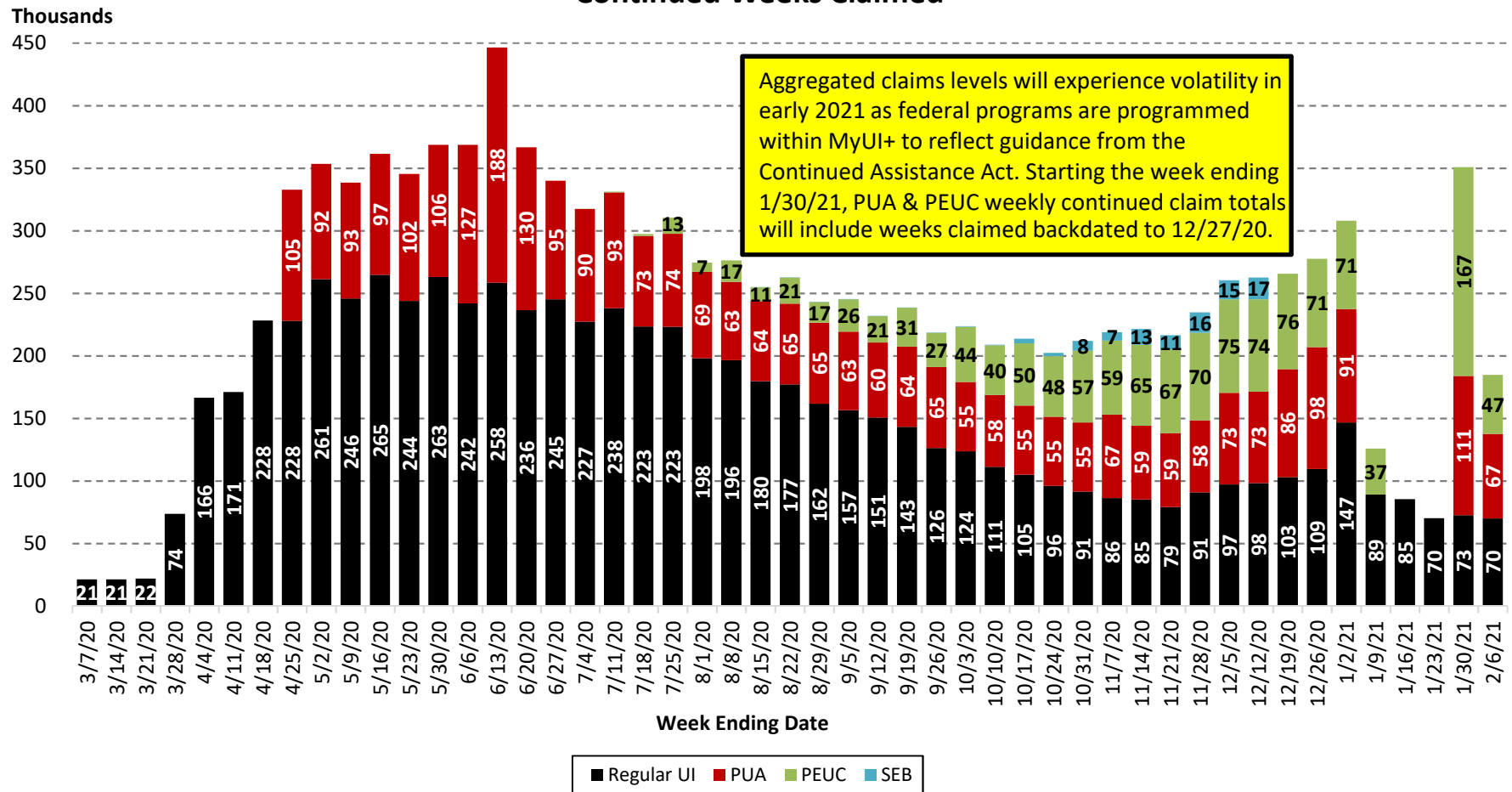


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Employment and Training Administration

\***Continued weeks claimed:** a claim filed to request payment for a given week after eligibility has been established. Weeks claimed provide information as to current labor market conditions.

\*\*This chart shows current State Extended Benefits (SEB) claims activity and compares to the 2009-11 weekly average number of continued weeks claimed from the same program during the Great Recession. SEB extends unemployment benefits by an additional 13 weeks. The SEB program became active in Colorado in mid-August. SEB triggered off at the end of November due to the IUR falling below 5%. However, continued claims data for SEB program will still show up after November due to backdating and other reasons (adjustment made for 12/19 to 12/26 to more accurately reflect probable SEB activity). For more information on the SEB program, go to: <https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/extenben.asp> and <https://cdle.colorado.gov/unemployment/extended-benefits>.

## Colorado Regular UI, Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), and State Extended Benefits (SEB) Continued Weeks Claimed



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Employment and Training Administration

\***Continued weeks claimed:** a claim filed to request payment for a given week after eligibility has been established. Weeks claimed provide information as to current labor market conditions.

\*\*Regular UI, Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), and State Extended Benefits (SEB) claims reflected in this chart.

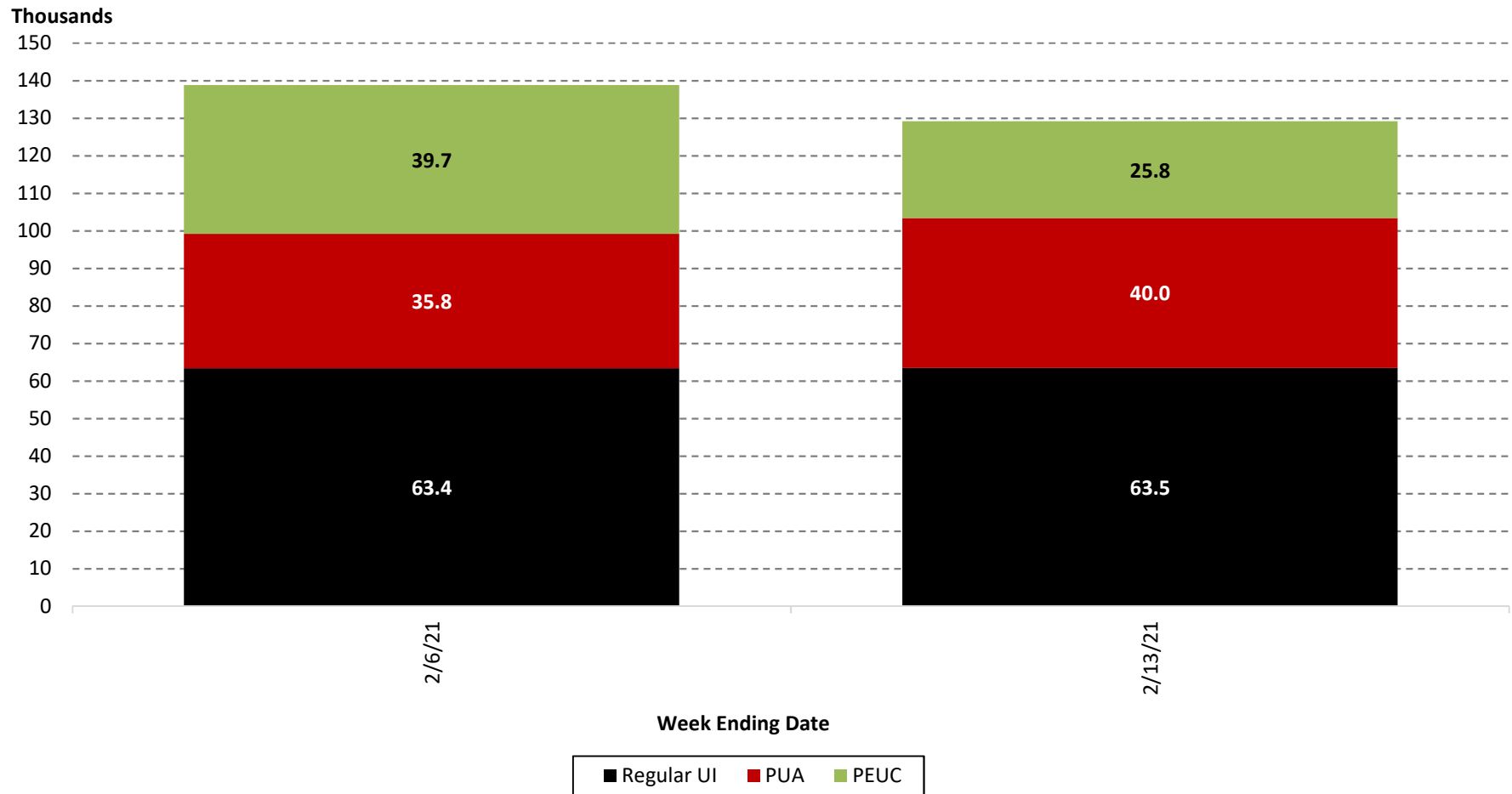
PUA program started in Colorado week ending April 25, 2020. PEUC program became active in Colorado in early July and extends unemployment benefits by an additional 13 weeks through the CARES Act, and another 11 weeks through the Continued Assistance Act. SEB program became active in Colorado in mid-August and extends unemployment benefits by an additional 13 weeks. SEB triggered off at the end of November due to the IUR falling below 5%. However, continued claims data for the SEB program will still show up after November due to backdating and other reasons.

\*\*\*Weekly average of regular UI continued weeks claimed in 2019 was 18,600; during the Great Recession (2009-10) the weekly average was 67,600.

\*\*\*\*Weekly average of last federal extension program (Emergency Unemployment Compensation 2008) from 2009-11 was 51,900.

## Estimated Number of Individuals Filing a Continued Claim Within a Given Week

For the following programs, when applicable: Regular UI, Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), Pandemic  
Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), and State Extended Benefits (SEB)



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

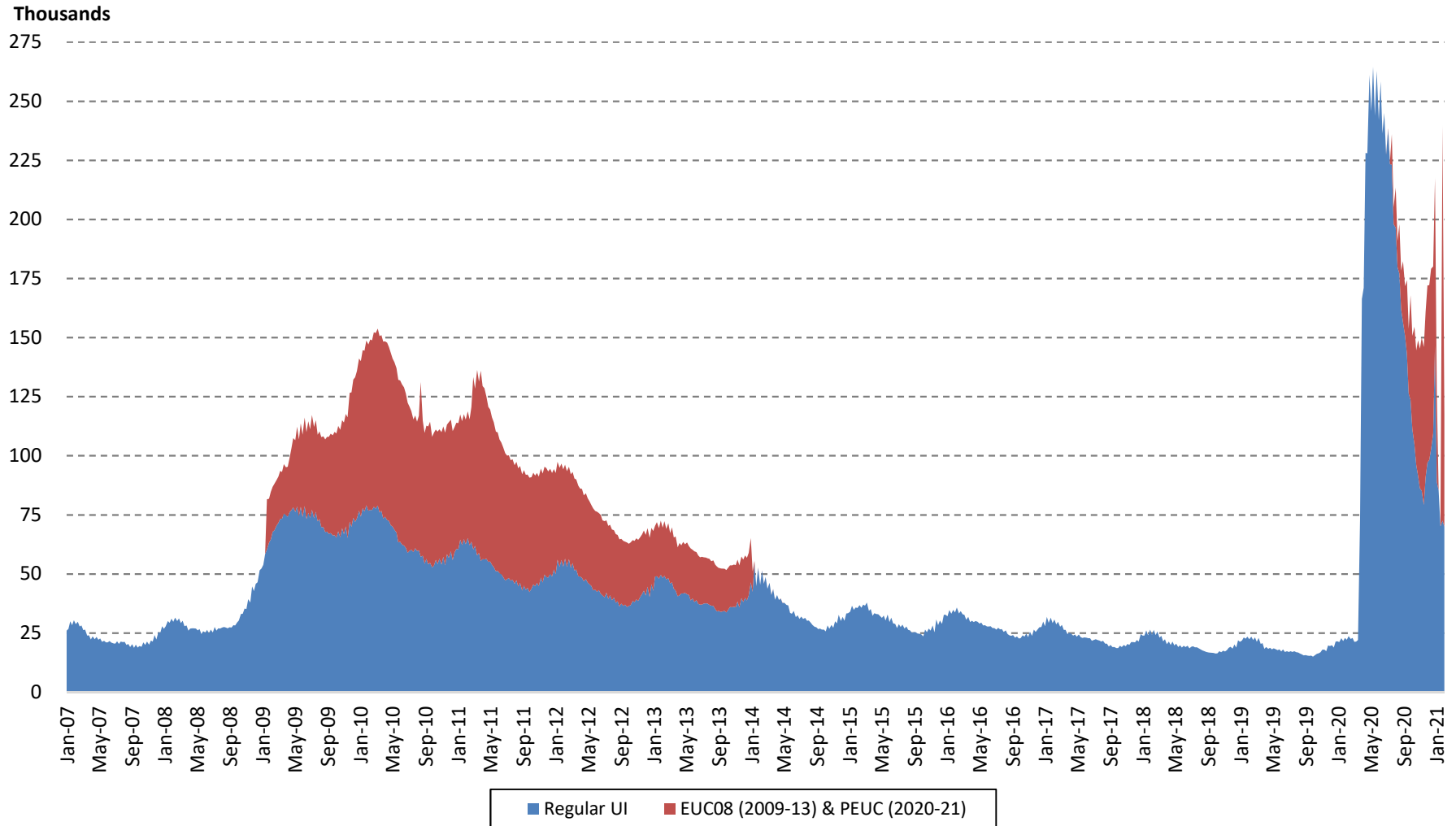
**\*Note:** this is a new data series added after the February 1st, 2021 Phase 1 Continued Assistance Act rollout. Activity and trends prior to that week are not available. This chart estimates the number of individuals filing a continued claim within a given week, by program type. This dataset can be used as a rough proxy for the number of Coloradans requesting payment on a weekly basis.

**\*\*Continued weeks claimed:** a claim filed to request payment for a given week(s) after eligibility has been established. Weeks claimed provide information as to current labor market conditions.

**\*\*\*Regular UI, Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), and State Extended Benefits (SEB) claims reflected in this chart.**

PUA program started in Colorado week ending April 25, 2020. PEUC program became active in Colorado in early July and extends unemployment benefits by an additional 13 weeks through the CARES Act, and another 11 weeks through the Continued Assistance Act. SEB program became active in Colorado in mid-August and extends unemployment benefits by an additional 13 weeks. SEB triggered off at the end of November due to the IUR falling below 5%, but could return during some period in 2021.

## Combined Number of Colorado Continued Weeks Claimed for Regular UI and Federally Extended Benefit Programs (EUC08: 2009-13; PEUC: 2020-21)

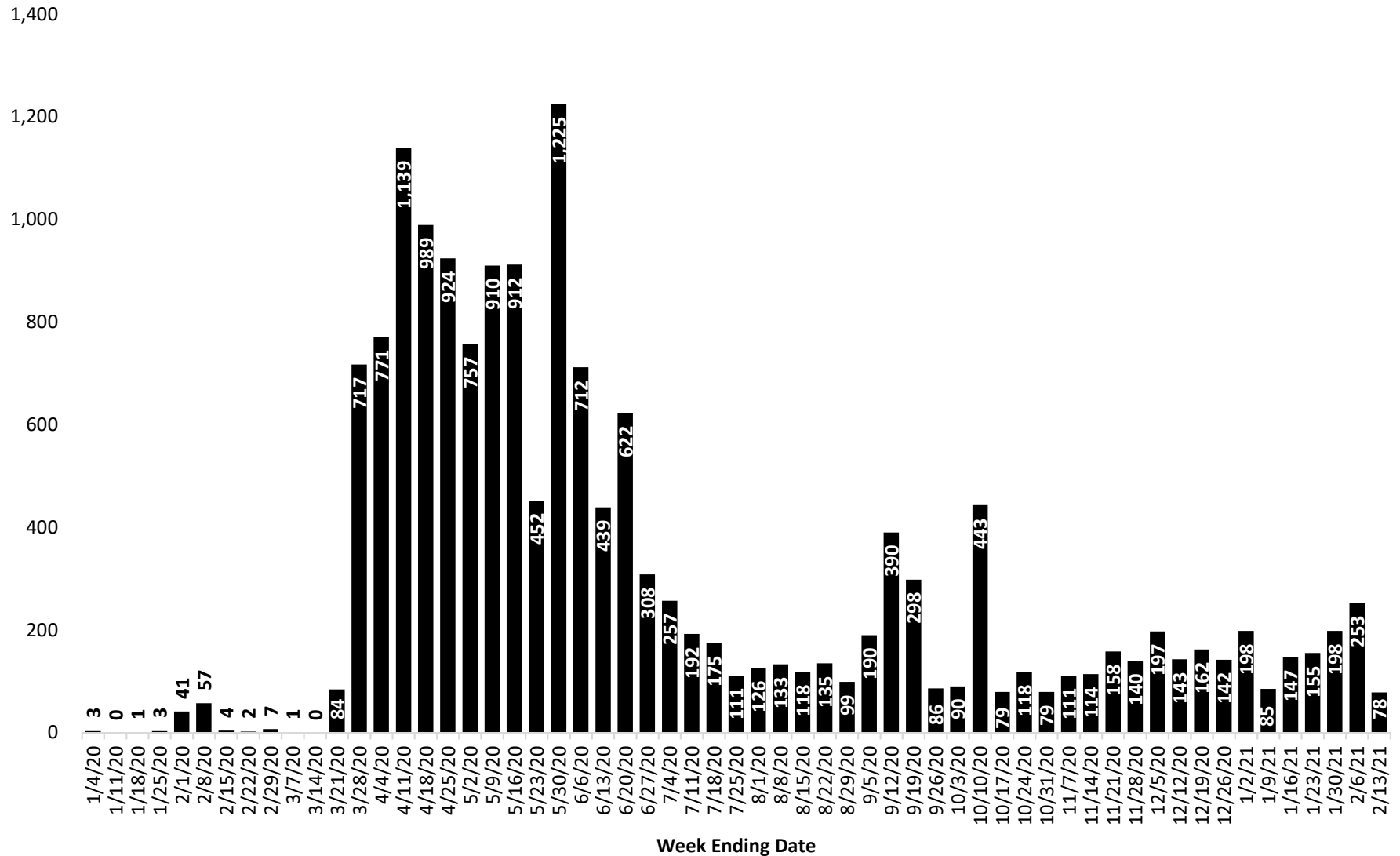


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Employment and Training Administration

\***Continued weeks claimed:** a claim filed to request payment for a given week after eligibility has been established. Weeks claimed provide information as to current labor market conditions.

\*\*This chart shows the total number of continued weeks claimed when combining regular UI with Emergency Unemployment Compensation 2008 (EUC08) and Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), when applicable. The EUC08 program was established during the Great Recession, for more information go to: <https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/euc.asp>. PEUC, as part of the CARES Act, extends unemployment benefits by an additional 13 weeks. The PEUC program became active in Colorado in early July.

## Colorado Short-Time Compensation (Work-Share) Initial Claims



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Employment and Training Administration

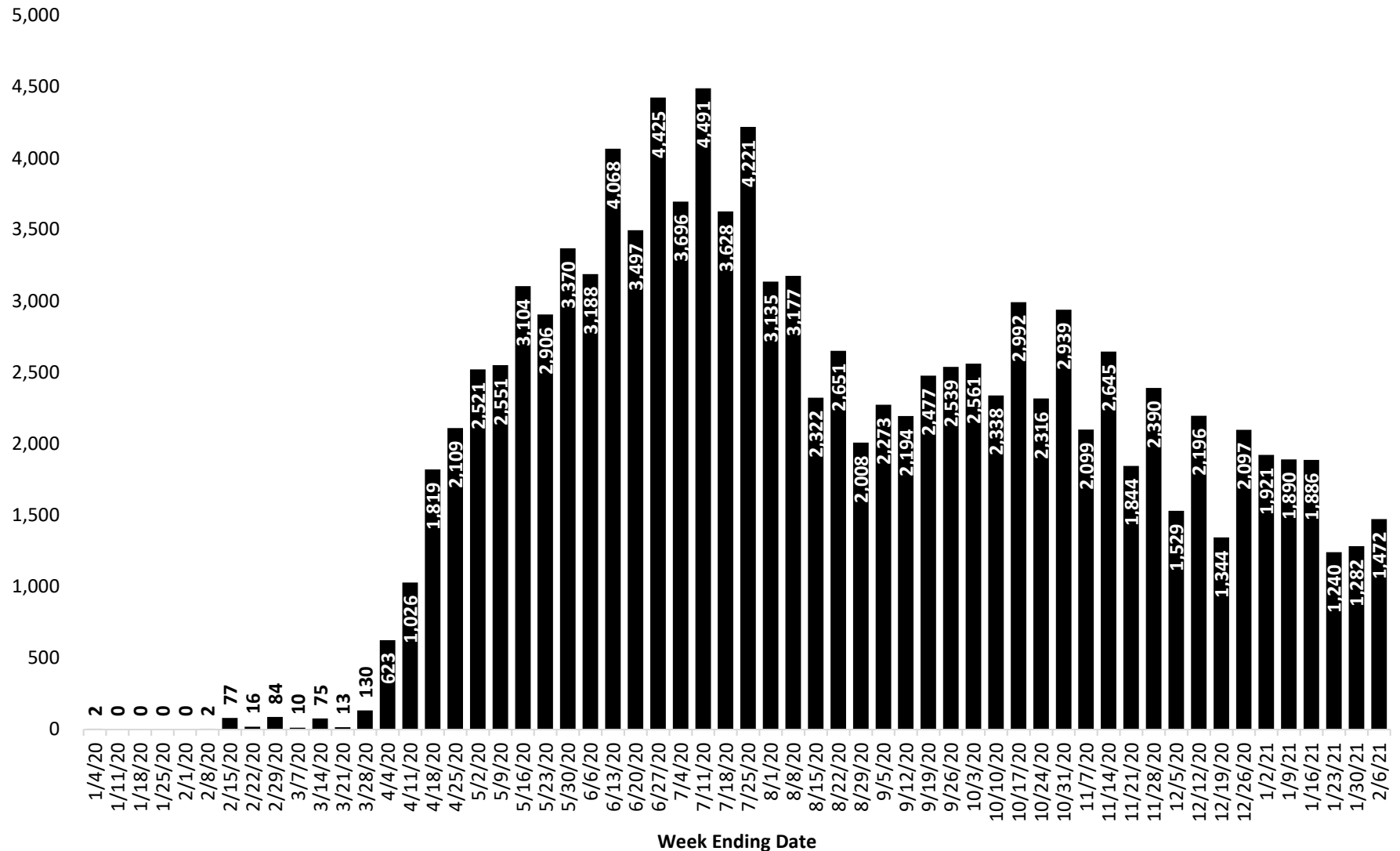
**\*Short-Time Compensation (STC) Equivalent Initial Claim:** this is the equivalent of the full time layoff initial claims that would have taken place if not for the STC program.

**\*\*As of December 31, 2020 there were 1,173 active work-share plans, with 877 participating employers. Prior to outbreak of COVID-19 there were 6 employers with active work-share plans.**

**\*\*\*Combined number of Federal-State UI Extended and State UI Additional Compensation Program claims reflected in this chart.**

**\*\*\*\*For more information on the STC program, go to: [https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/docs/stc\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/docs/stc_fact_sheet.pdf) and <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdle/layoffassistance>.**

## Colorado Short-Time Compensation (Work-Share) Continued Claims



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Employment and Training Administration

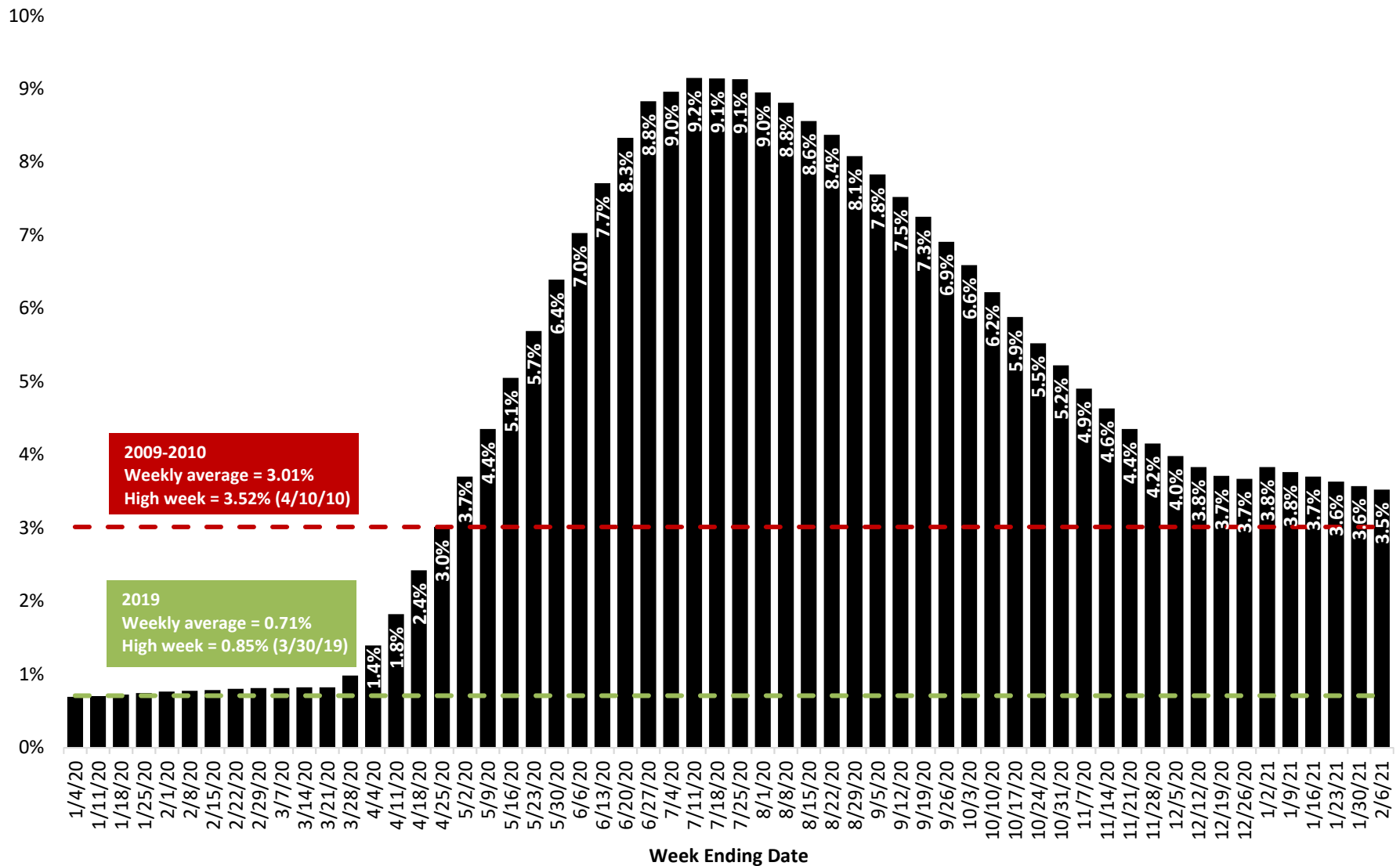
**\*Short-Time Compensation (STC) Equivalent Continued Weeks Claimed:** this is based on the proportion of the week being claimed.

**\*\*As of December 31, 2020 there were 1,173 active work-share plans, with 877 participating employers. Prior to outbreak of COVID-19 there were 6 employers with active work-share plans.**

**\*\*\*Combined number of Federal-State UI Extended and State UI Additional Compensation Program claims reflected in this chart.**

**\*\*\*\*For more information on the STC program, go to: [https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/docs/stc\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/docs/stc_fact_sheet.pdf) and <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdle/layoffassistance>.**

## Colorado Insured Unemployment Rate

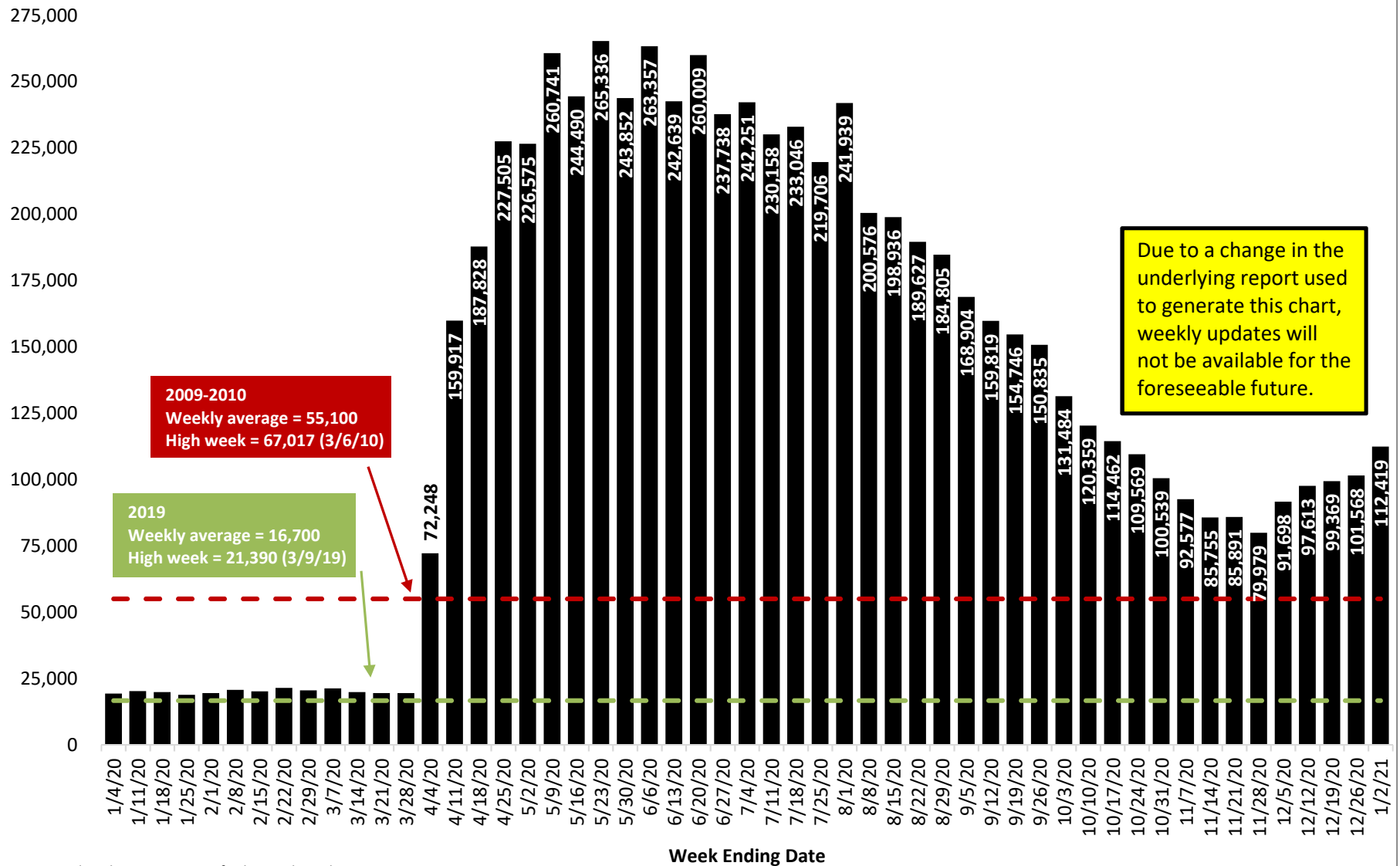


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Employment and Training Administration

**\*Insured unemployment rate (IUR):** estimates the share of the State's UI-covered workforce claiming regular UI benefits.

**\*\*Regular UI only** reflected in the the calculation of the official IUR, does not include claims from extended or federal benefits programs that stemmed from either the Great Recession or the COVID-19 pandemic. Also excludes UCFE (federal) and UCX (ex-servicemember) claims.

## Colorado Unemployment Insurance Weeks Paid

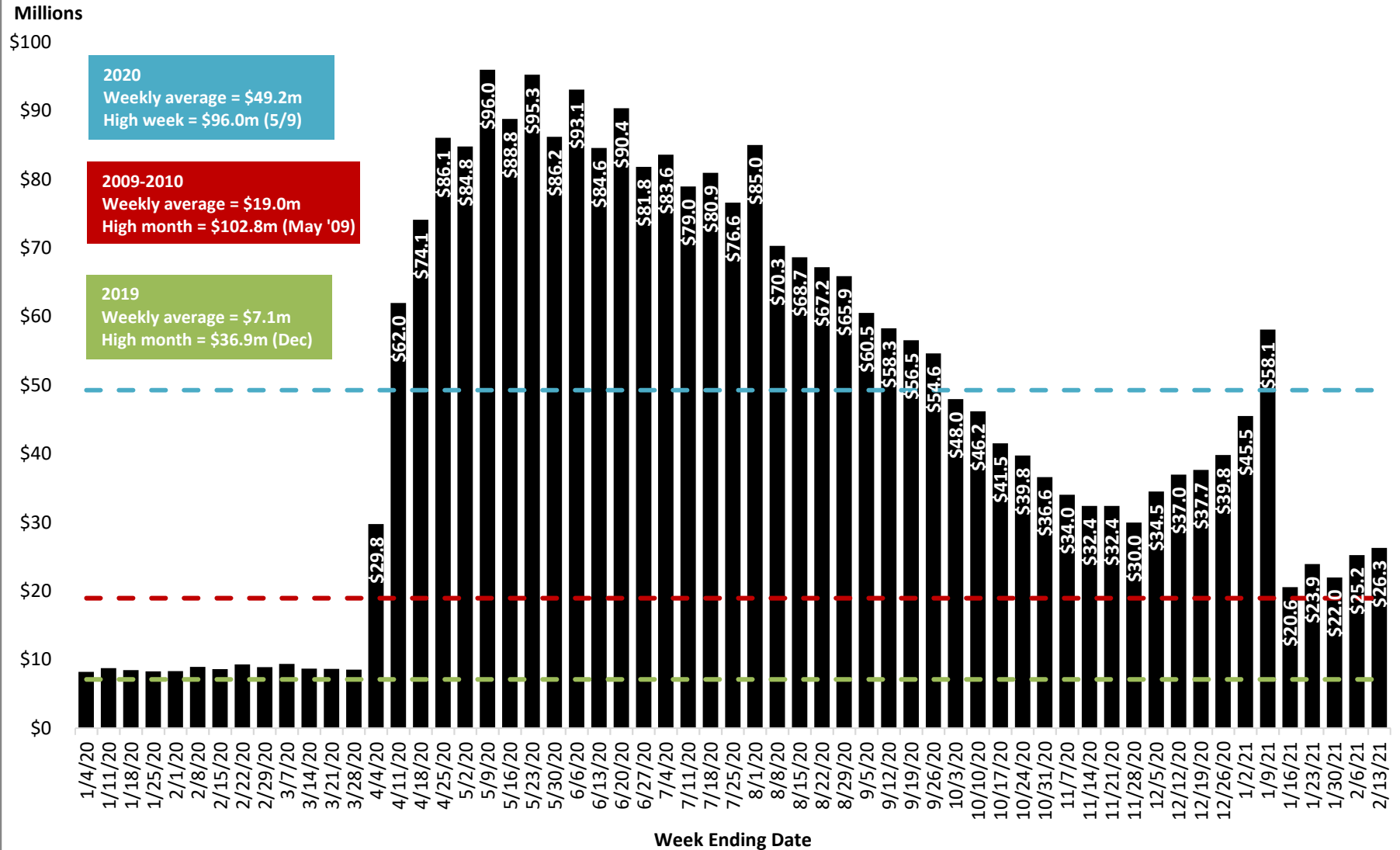


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

\***Weeks paid:** payment made for a week after eligibility has been established. Not all weeks claimed result in a week paid because claimant may not be available to work, may have earnings that exceed the allowed amount, or other reasons.

\*\*Regular UI, UCFE (federal), and UCX (ex-servicemember) weeks paid reflected in this chart. Does not include weeks paid which stemmed from extended benefit programs during the Great Recession.

## Colorado Regular Unemployment Insurance Benefit Amounts Paid

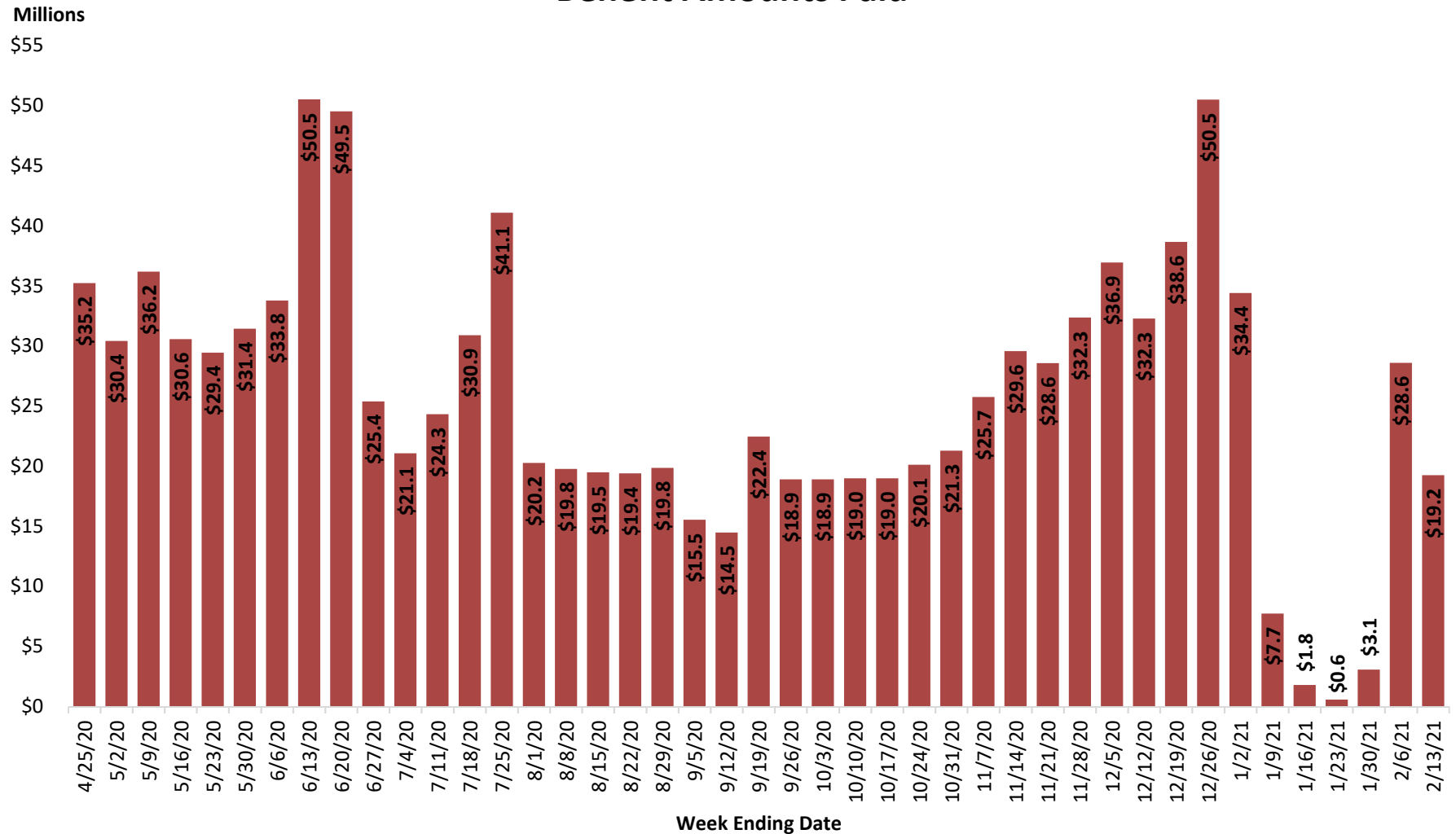


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

\*\*Regular UI benefit payment amounts only reflected in this chart, does not include benefit payments which stemmed from extended benefit programs during the Great Recession.

Also excludes UCFE (federal) and UCX (ex-servicemember) claims.

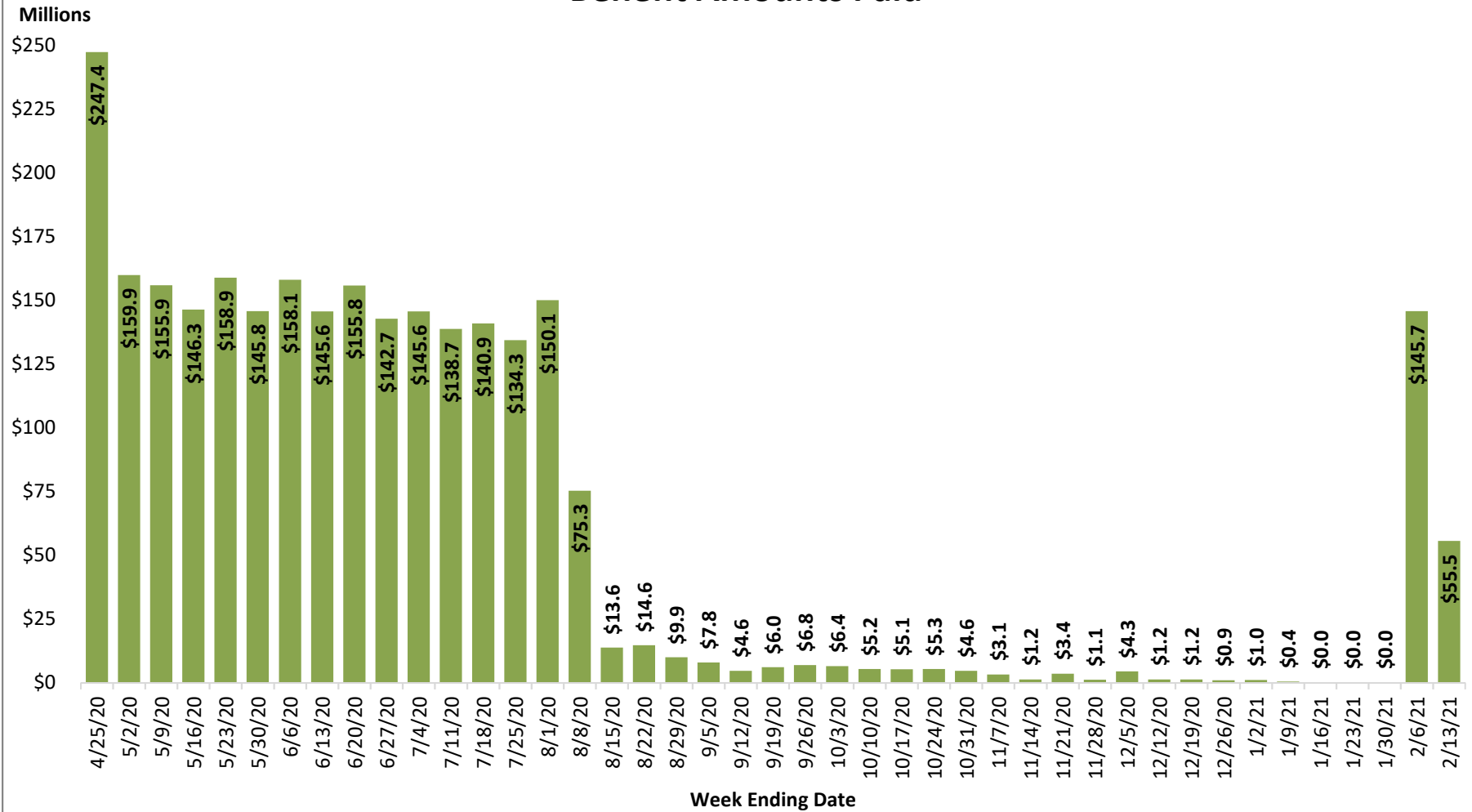
## Colorado Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) Benefit Amounts Paid



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

\*\*This chart reflects benefits payment amounts for the **Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)** program, which started in Colorado April 20, 2020. PUA, which was established through the CARES Act, ended on 12/26/20, but was extended through mid-March 2021 via the Continued Assistance Act (CAA). Starting with the week ending February 6, 2021, payments to PUA claimants stem from the extension of the program through the CAA. PUA amounts for week ending 4/25/20 include backdated benefits prior to the week of April 25th; PUA amounts in February 2021 include backdated benefits prior to the week ending 2/6/21 to 12/27/20.

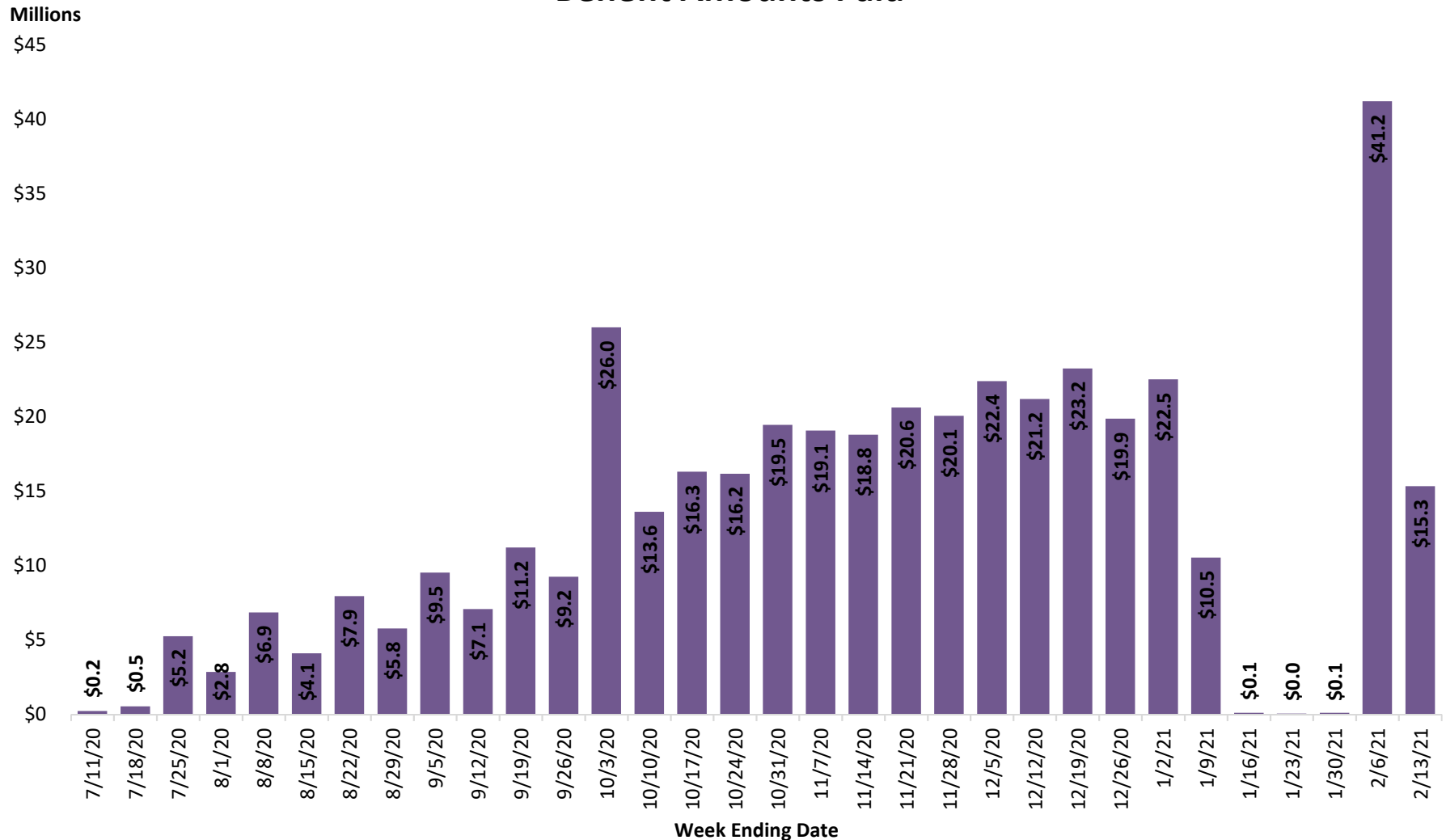
## Colorado Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) Benefit Amounts Paid



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

\*\*This chart reflects benefits payment amounts for the **Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)** program, which, as part of the CARES Act, provided eligible claimants an extra \$600 in federal benefits each week through July 25, 2020. FPUC was reestablished via the Continued Assistance Act (CAA) and will provide eligible claimants an extra \$300 in federal benefits each week through mid-March 2021. Starting with the week ending February 6, 2021, FPUC payments stem from the extension of the program through the CAA. FPUC amounts for week ending 4/25/20 include backdated benefits prior to the week of April 25th. Some FPUC payments were received after July 25th due to a claimant's payment request schedule and/or backdated payments throughout the second half of 2020. FPUC amounts in February 2021 include backdated benefit prior to the week ending 2/6/21 to 12/27/20.

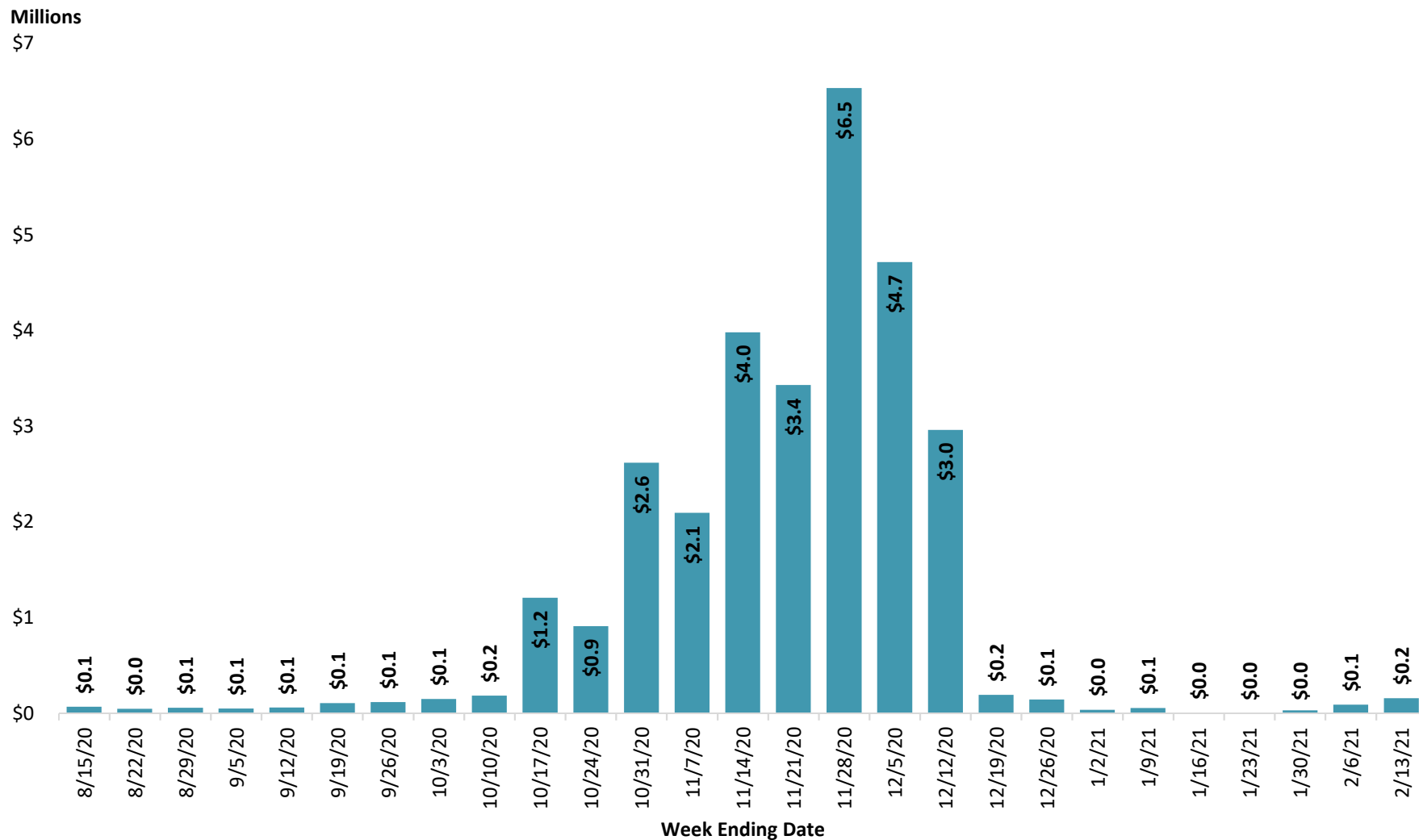
## Colorado Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) Benefit Amounts Paid



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

\*\*This chart reflects benefits payment amounts for the **Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)** program, which, as part of the CARES Act, extended unemployment benefits by up to 13 weeks through December 26, 2020. The PEUC program became active in Colorado in early July 2020. PEUC was reestablished via the Continued Assistance Act (CAA) and extends unemployment benefits an additional 11 weeks, through mid-March 2021. Starting with the week ending February 6, 2021, payments to PEUC claimants stem from the extension of the program through the CAA. PEUC amounts in February 2021 include backdated benefits prior to the week ending 2/6/21 to 12/27/20.

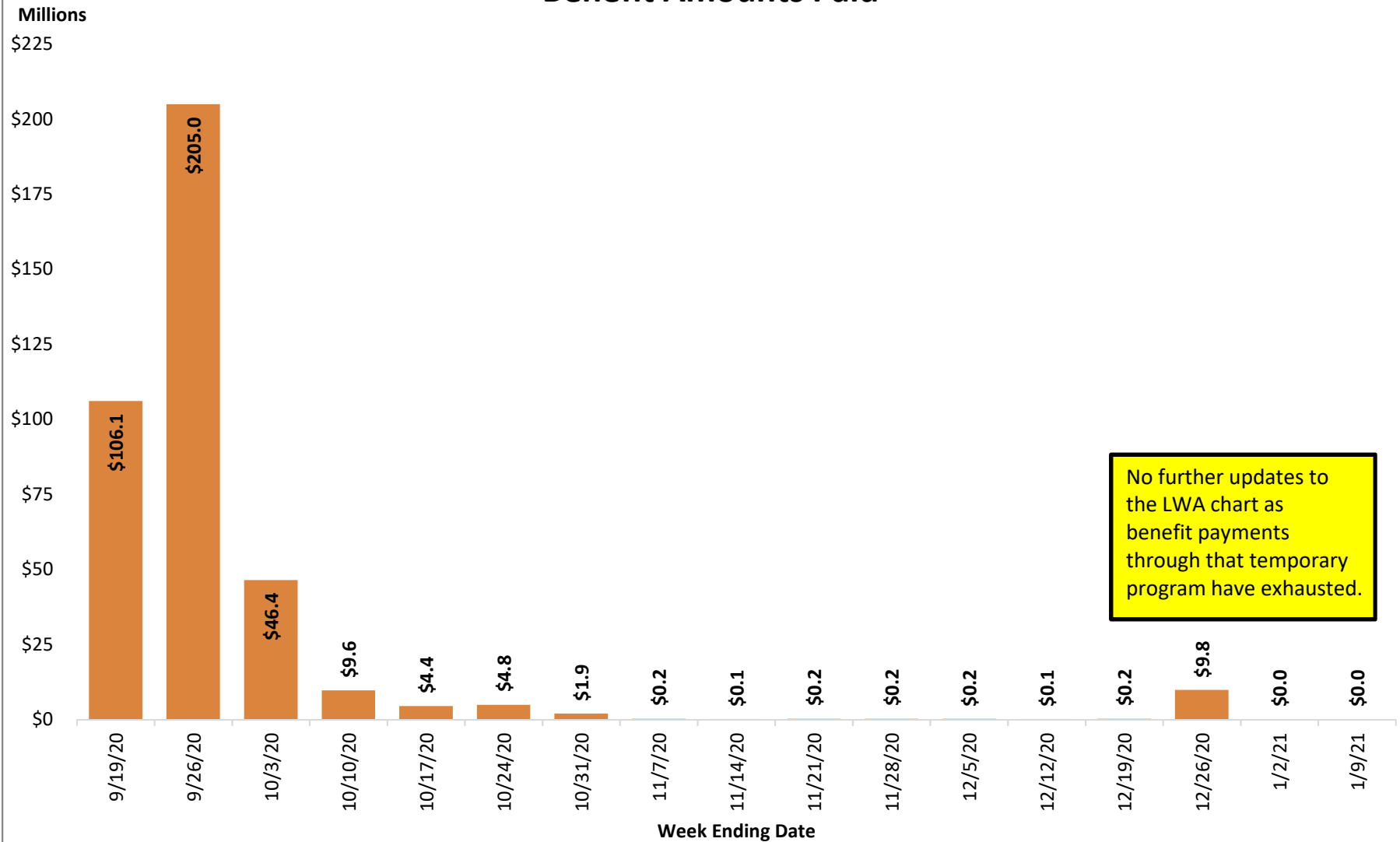
## Colorado State Extended Benefits (SEB) Benefit Amounts Paid



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

\*\*This chart reflects benefits payment amounts for the **State Extended Benefits (SEB)** program, which extends unemployment benefits by an additional 13 weeks. The SEB became active in Colorado in mid-August 2020, triggered on by the insured unemployment rate (IUR) exceeding 5% earlier in the year. SEB triggered off at the end of November 2020 due to the IUR falling below 5%. SEB payments made after November are due to claimant payment request schedules and/or backdating.

## Colorado Lost Wages Assistance (LWA) Benefit Amounts Paid

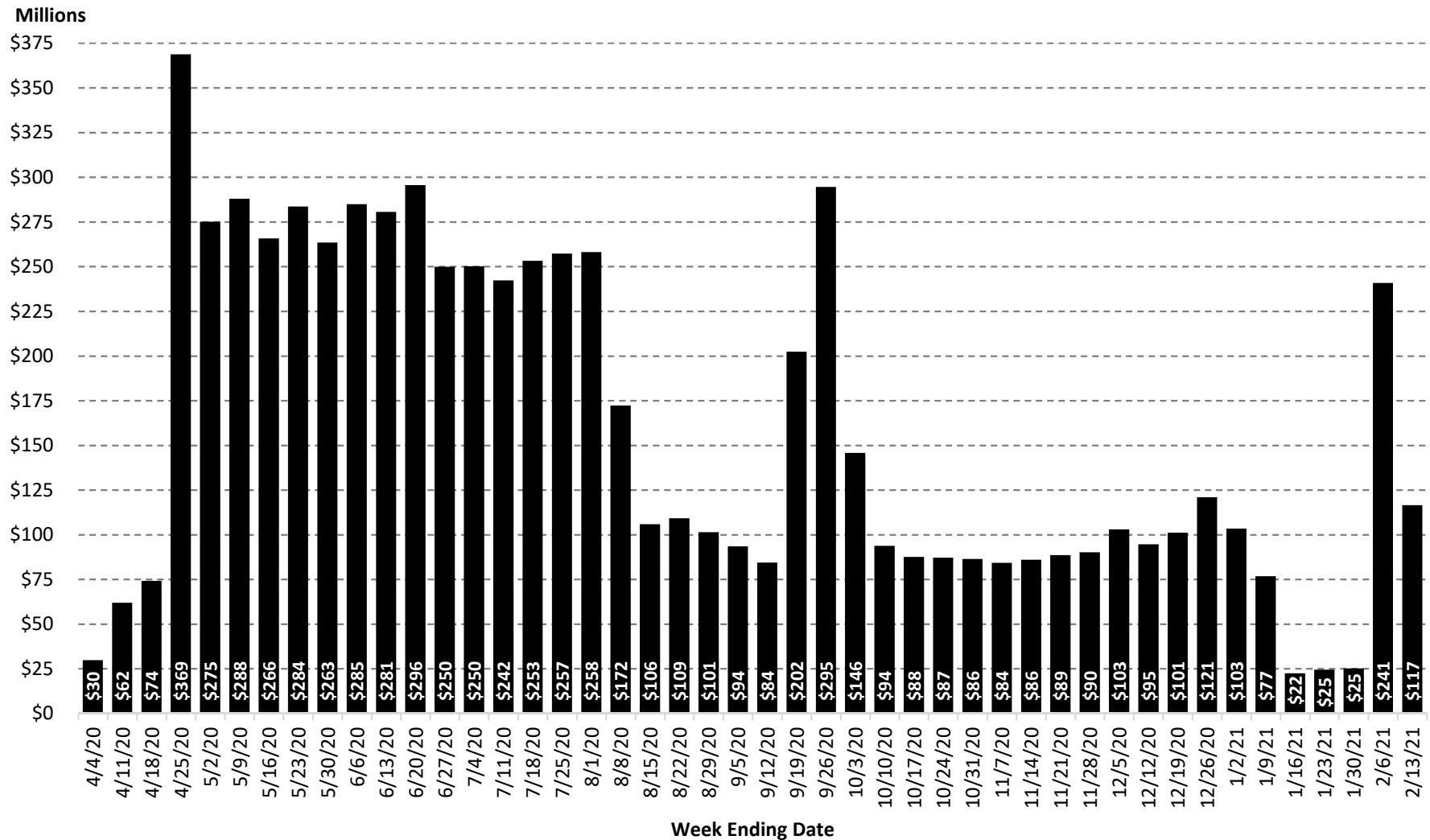


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

\*\*This chart reflects benefits payment amounts for the **Lost Wages Assistance** (LWA) program, which, as part of a Presidential Executive Order, provided eligible claimants an extra \$300 in weekly federal benefits (available through a FEMA program), retroactive to week ending 8/1/20 to week 9/5/20 (six weeks total).

# Colorado Unemployment Insurance Weekly Benefit Amounts Paid

(Includes the following programs, when applicable: Regular UI, PUA, FPUC, PEUC, SEB, and LWA)

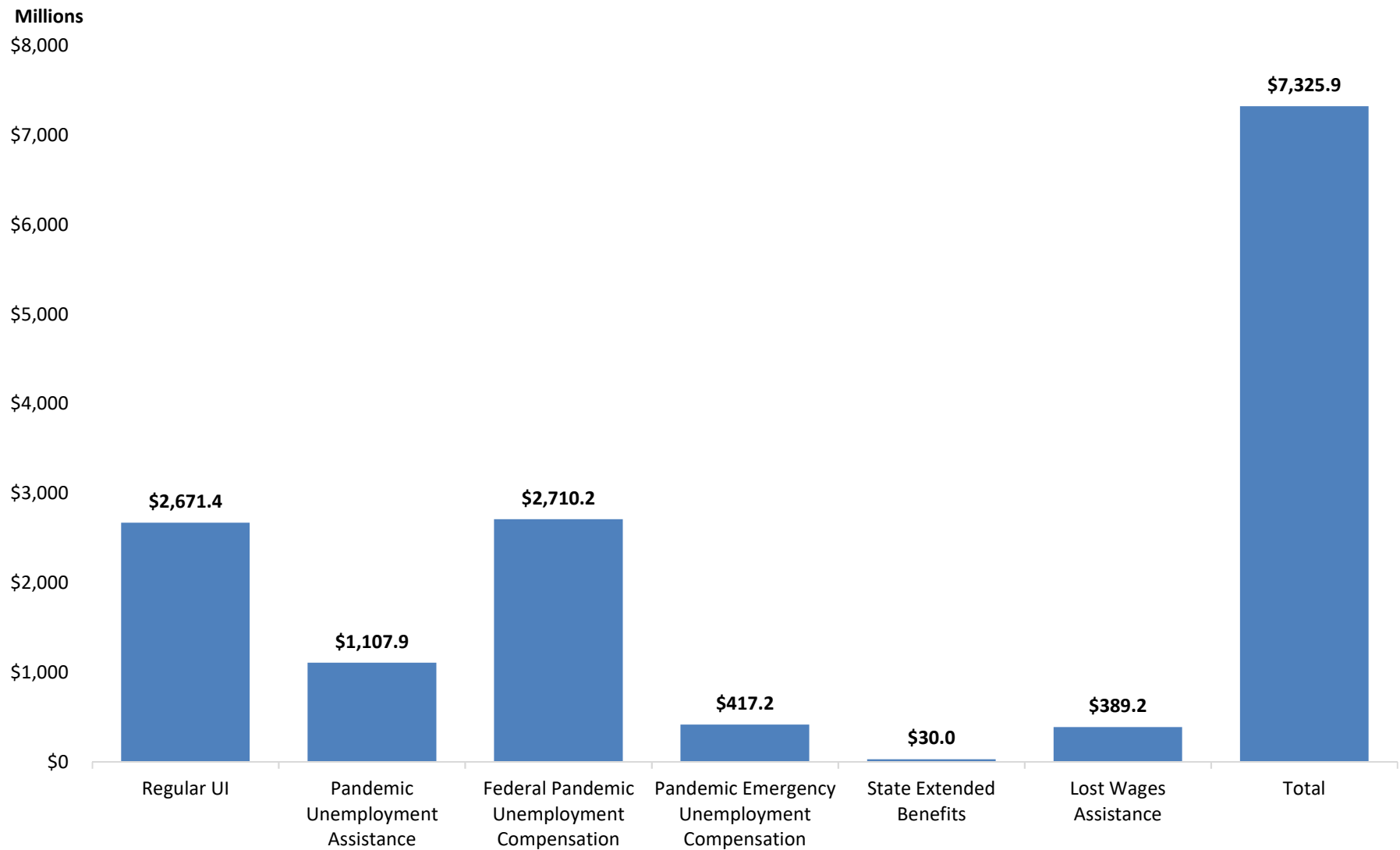


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

\*\*This chart reflects aggregated weekly benefits payment amounts for the following programs: **Regular UI**; **Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)**; **Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)**; **Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)**; **State Extended Benefits (SEB)**; and **Lost Wages Assistance (LWA)**.

Weekly breakouts by specific program can be viewed in the previous charts.

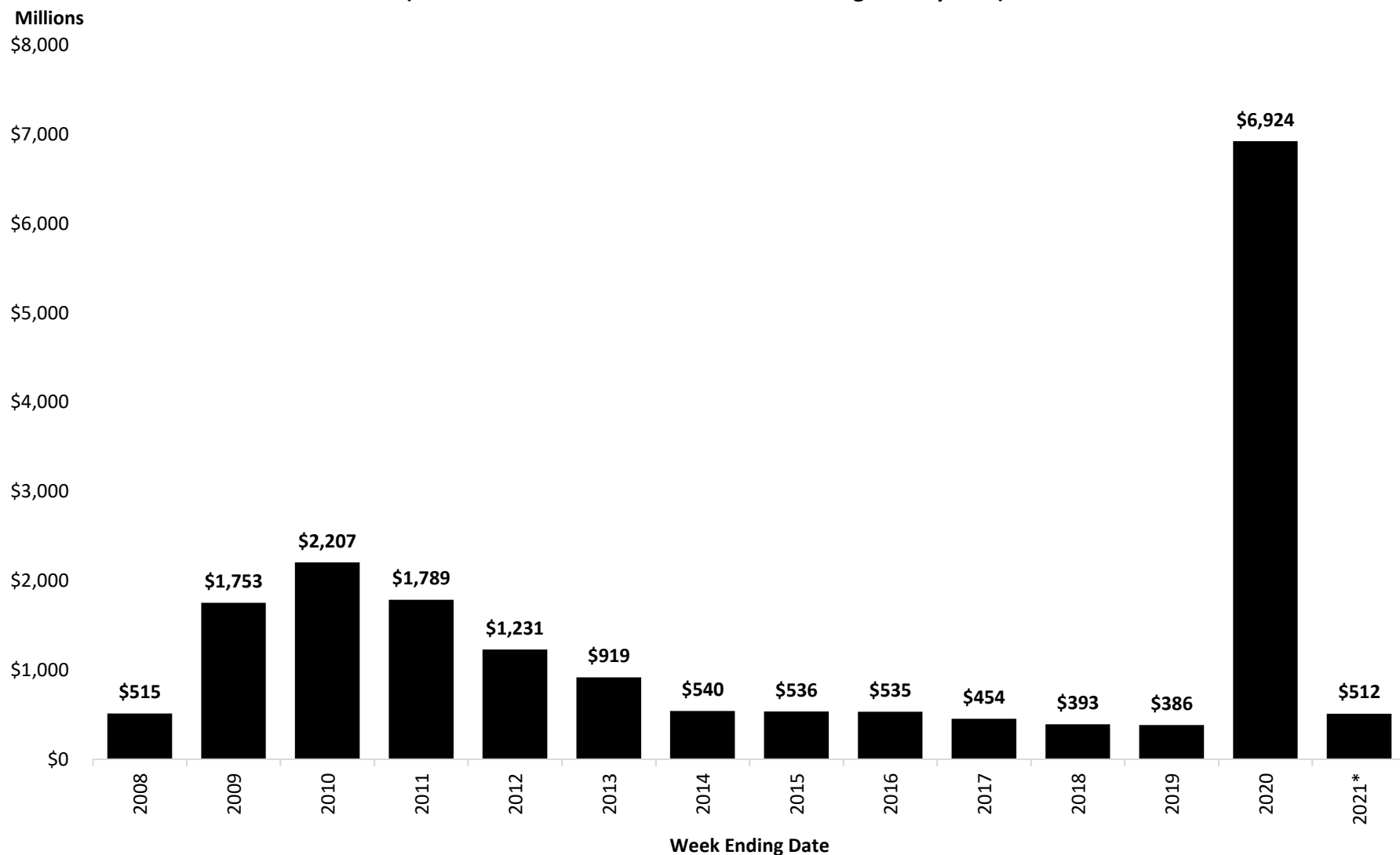
## Total Colorado Unemployment Insurance Amounts Paid Since March 29, 2020, by Select Benefit Programs



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment  
\*Rolling totals from March 29, 2020 through February 13, 2021.

## Annual Colorado Unemployment Insurance Benefit Amounts Paid

(Combined Amounts for All Active\*\* UI Programs by Year)

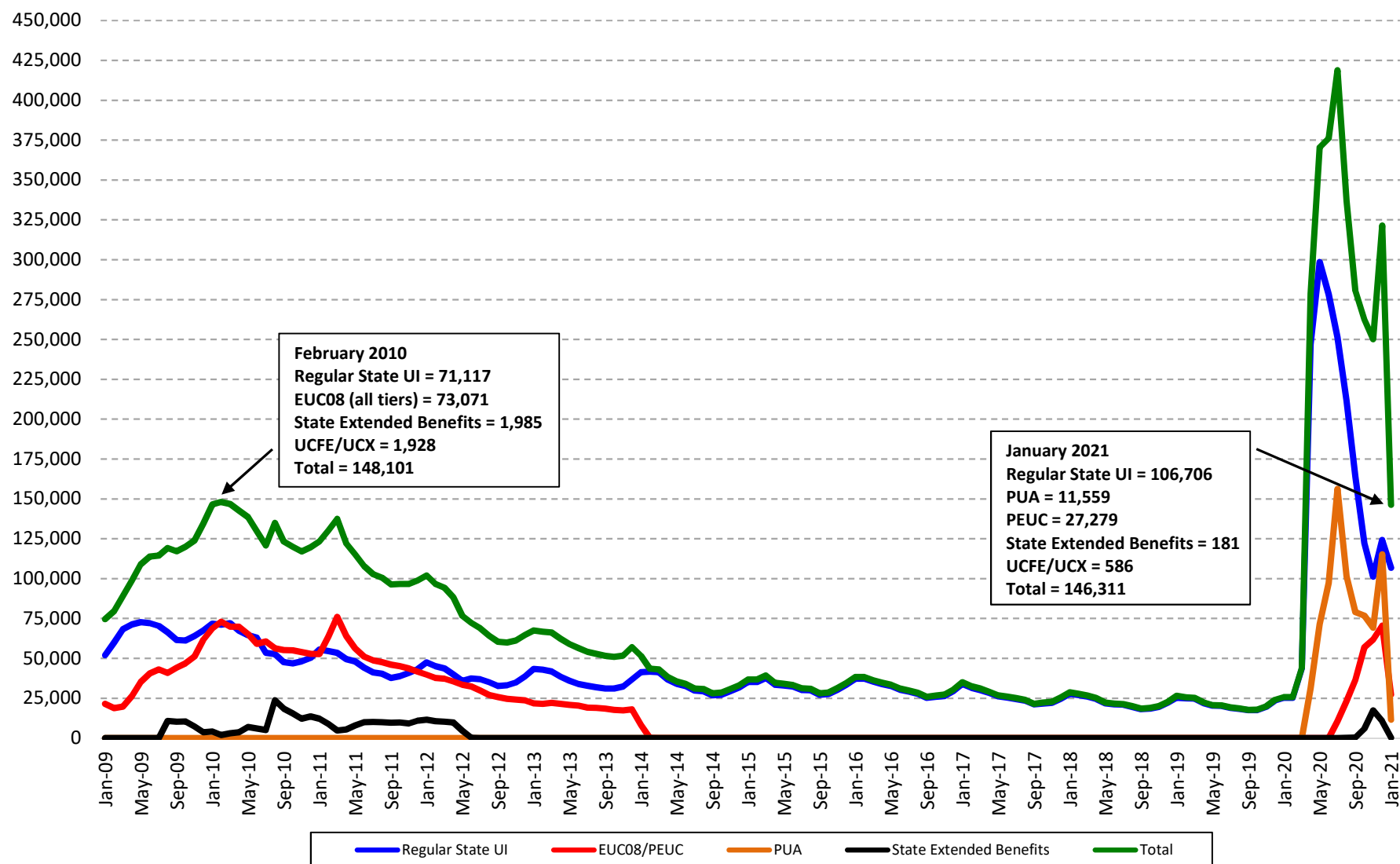


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

\*2021 totals through February 13, 2021.

\*\*Every year includes regular UI, UCFE (federal) and UCX (ex-servicemember) benefit amounts. Additionally, totals from 2008 - 2019 include Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) and State Extended Benefits (SEB), when applicable; while totals from 2020-21 reflect programs highlighted in the prior chart.

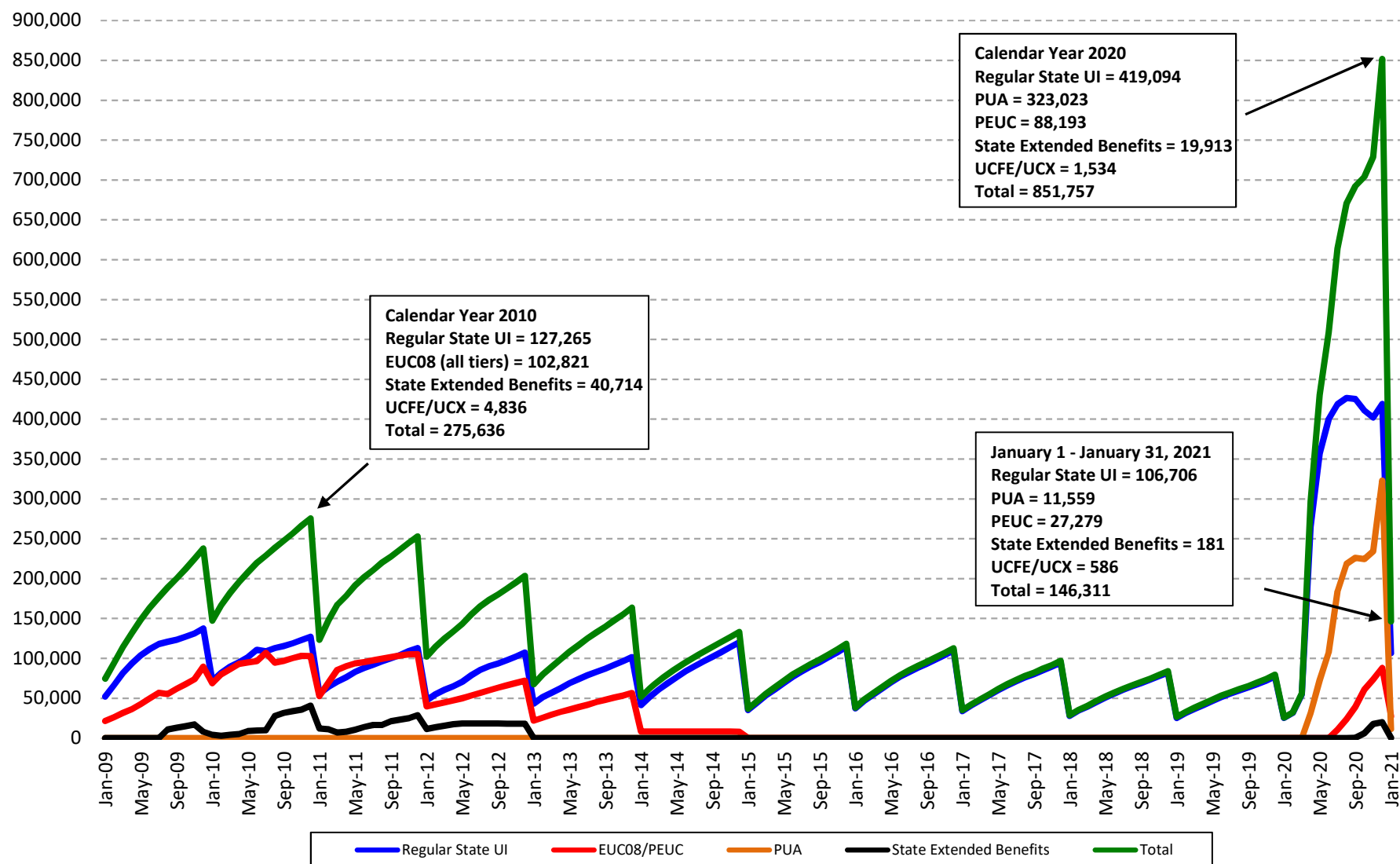
## Number of Persons Receiving a UI Payment by Month



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

**\*Number of persons receiving UI payment by month and program:** updated once per month, at the beginning of month. Count of UI payment by program type based upon relationship between last payment received and associated program. Data related to new unemployment compensation programs will be incorporated into this report as they become available (PUA added April 2020; PEUC added July 2020; SEB reactivated August 2020).

## Number of Persons Receiving a UI Payment (Year-to-Date)



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

**\*Number of persons receiving UI payment by YTD and program:** updated once per month, at the beginning of month. Count of UI payment by program type based upon relationship between last payment received and associated program. Data related to new unemployment compensation programs will be incorporated into this report as they become available (PUA added April 2020; PEUC added July 2020; SEB reactivated August 2020).