



June 16, 2021

Dear Chief Elected Officials of SCRCOG,

In the past month, REX's attention has shifted to an open for business message. As the state continues to encourage vaccinations, REX is moving forward with key goals and objectives. The greatest cause for celebration was the ground-breaking ceremony for Phase 3 of Downtown Crossing and 101 College Street. These projects are the next steps in Greater New Haven's growing presence in the bioscience sector. With the commitments from Arvinas and Yale University to occupy the new tower, Arvinas' vacated space at Science Park will provide much need graduation space for our startup bioscience companies.

In support of the hospitality and leisure industry, we are currently in discussions with Hearst Media to publish a 2022 Greater New Haven Visitors and Relocation Guide. We are also exploring a possible co-op opportunity to promote our towns for both business development and leisure visitation with NBC Connecticut. REX also participated in an introductory marketing meeting with Avelo Airlines.

As the future of COVID-19 is unpredictable, we are leveraging the decline in infections to move forward on our most essential efforts. In addition, we continue to work with SCRCOG and DEMHS Region 2 to address unmet needs and prepare for any future crises.

At our monthly REDFO meeting, we hosted Jennifer Widness of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges. She shared the impact the pandemic had on college enrollment, the council's continuing advocacy for PILOT funding and an expected decrease in enrollment in future years due to declining birth rates. The birth rate in Connecticut declined from 56.5 in 2009 to 51.1 in 2019.

On June 6, CEDS Strategic Planning committee approved the 2021 South Central Connecticut Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Attached is the 2021 CEDS for your approval. We are required to submit the document to the US EDA by June 30th. We have also provided a summary of the public comments we have received beginning on page 71.

Graphs of regional unemployment claims are attached. If you would like the spreadsheet by town, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Ginny Kozlowski
Executive Director

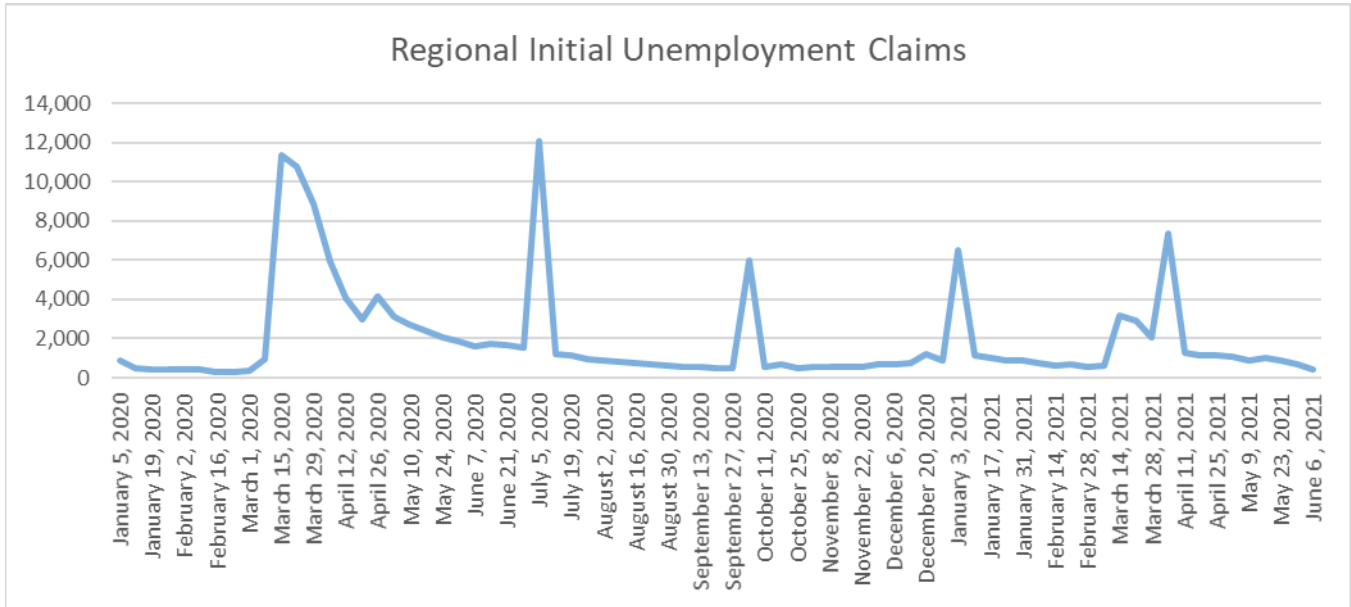
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Regional Initial Claims – Updated June 14, 2021
 Dept. of Labor Office of Research



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Regional Continuing Claims – Updated June 14, 2021
 Dept. of Labor Office of Research
 Claims after May 22, 2021 incomplete

