



N E W S R E L E A S E

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**More than \$3 billion paid in unemployment benefits to workers
impacted by COVID-19**

Payments include the \$600 Federal Stimulus

Sacramento – Critical financial support of more than \$3 billion in Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits is flowing to workers who've lost their jobs or wages as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, not including any estimated amounts for so far this week. The amount disbursed over the last six weeks ending April 18 includes \$2 billion paid just last week alone, according to the latest official data from the California Employment Development Department (EDD). Last week's total includes the extra \$600 in federal stimulus payments the EDD is now automatically adding to every week of regular UI payments between March 29 and the end of July.

The EDD has also processed 3.2 million claims over that same period since the pandemic impacts began. The 533,568 claims filed in the week ending April 18 is more than a 1,000% increase over the 44,729 claims filed in the same week last year.

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