Initial claims backlog is defined as claims filed that take more than 21 days to issue first payment or disqualification, regardless if the claimant or EDD need to take some type of action.

Status	12/17/20	12/18/20	12/19/20	12/20/20	12/21/20	12/22/20	12/23/20	1 Day ∆	
(1) Pending Application Processing	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	
(2) Verifying Wages on a Claim	768	653	643	644	577	624	649	+25	+4.0%
(3) Resolving Other Eligibility Issues	22,279	20,814	20,245	31,733	32,982	35,781	23,719	-12,062	-33.7%
(4) Waiting for Claimant Certification	403,100	374,006	383,649	377,369	388,332	403,071	410,766	+7,695	+1.9%
(5) Subtotal of 1-4	426,147	395,473	404,537	409,747	421,892	439,476	435,134	-4,342	-1.0%
(6) Total Unique Claimants	425,936	395,309	404,369	409,595	421,623	439,083	434,745	-4,338	-1.0%



- (1) Applications received that are pending EDD staff review to file the claim.
- (2) Applications processed but awaiting EDD work to add or remove verified wages that fund the claim. (Manual process of verifying wages reported by employer(s) are connected with the verified worker, and meets at least the minimum required earnings for payment. For example, adustments are made once a claimant's identity is verified or a wage investigation is complete.)
- (3) Application and/or first certification processed but pending resolution of other eligibility issues based upon information provided by the claimant. (Issues that can delay processing include verifying the legal right to work in the U.S., and resolving a mistake made on the application. The process of verifying an identity can take longer to collect identity documents from claimants, verify them, and then forward to status category #2 for adding verified wages to the claim for payment.)
- (4) Pending claimant submission of their first bi-weekly certification before eligibility for payment can be determined. (Certifying is the process of answering a set of questions every two weeks that confirms ongoing eligibility for payment. However, a portion of claimants have historically never completed their certification by choice and become ineligible for payment. Examples include they've gone back to work, or they've removed themselves from the labor market, among others.)
- (5) Total of four categories above. (Because workload can bounce from one category to another, a claim can appear in more than one category. For example, a claimant could request for more wages to be added to their claim in status category #2 and EDD is also resolving a mistake made on their application in status category #3.)
- (6) Total unique claimants. (Represents total number of individuals with eligibility issues taking longer than 21 days to determine eligibility for benefits.)