



Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Report

Outlook Report February 2021

This Outlook Report provides the status of the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and updated projections for the 2021 through 2025 outlook period.

As required by MGL Chapter 151A, Section 14F, DUA publishes quarterly outlooks for the Trust Fund based on forecasts for total unemployment rate, annual wage and salary growth rate, and annual labor force. DUA also provides monthly reports updating the status of the Trust Fund.

New economic assumptions from Moody's Analytics Data Services, released in January 2021, used in these projections showed lower average annual unemployment rates as compared to the assumptions used in the October 2020 Outlook Report. The 2021 average annual unemployment rate improved from 7.2 percent to 6.5 percent followed by a 5.2 percent annual rate in 2022, which is two-tenths of a percentage point lower from the previous rate used. Total labor force decreased in 2021 to 2024 posting an average annual decrease of 76,146. The annual wage and salary growth rates are higher in 2021 but lower in 2022 to 2024.

The outlook presented is for the regular UI program based on 2020 claims activities and preliminary 2021 employer experience rates.

Recently enacted legislation, House 90, sets 2021 and 2022 employer contributions on tax rate schedule E. For 2021, with a \$15,000 taxable wage base, employer contributions are projected at \$2.037 billion, \$414 million less than the previous estimate of \$2.451 billion on tax rate schedule G released in the October 2020 Outlook Report. Estimated benefit payments of \$3.735 billion are \$1.086 billion lower than the previous estimate of \$4.821 billion. A seven-tenths of a percentage point improvement on the annual average unemployment rate generated fewer weeks claimed and compensated. The 2021 year-end balance, projected at -\$4.066 billion is \$672 million better than the previous projection of -\$4.738 billion.

Massachusetts will need to borrow from the federal UI account throughout the year. Advances will be interest-free through September 6, 2021. Massachusetts borrowed a total of \$2.201 billion in 2020 and \$10.8 million in January 2021. Interest on federal advances from September 7 through September 30, 2021, totaling \$6 million must be paid by September 30, 2021.

Employer payrolls, as set by legislature, will remain on tax rate schedule E in 2022. Employer contributions are

projected to be \$2.030 billion, \$500 million less than the previous estimate of \$2.530 billion on tax rate schedule G. Benefit payments are projected to be \$2.342 billion, \$443 million less than the previous estimate of \$2.785 billion. Revision was due to decreases in weeks compensated and insured unemployment caused by a lower average annual unemployment rate from the previous rate. The projected 2022 year-end balance at -\$4.378 billion is \$615 million higher than the previous estimate of -\$4.993 billion, primarily the result of the higher 2021 year-end balance. Interest bearing loans will be needed from the federal UI account throughout 2022. Interest due on advances is estimated at around \$122 million due in September 2022.

The new legislation, also, provides for an employer surcharge to pay the interest on federal advances that cannot be paid from the state's UI Trust Fund and authorizes the Commonwealth to issue bonds to restore trust fund solvency in 2022. The report estimates a bond of \$6 billion issued by November 9, 2022 would payoff the federal advances and restore trust fund solvency. The 2022 year-end balance with the bond fund is expected to be solvent at \$1.622 billion.

For 2023 rate schedule G is projected to trigger for employer contributions as the fund is still insolvent at the end of third quarter 2022 when rates are determined. With a \$15,000 taxable wage base, employer contributions projected at \$2.674 billion are \$152 million higher than the previous estimate of \$2.522 billion. The projected lower unemployment rate generates benefit payments estimated at \$1.273 billion that are \$294 million less than the projection released in October. The year-end 2023 private contributory account balance will continue to be solvent and is projected at \$3.044 billion. Federal interest earned on the balance is estimated to be \$21 million.

The solvent account balance and higher payrolls are now projected to trigger schedule C for 2024 employer payrolls. Employer contributions are estimated at \$1.666 billion and benefit payments projected to be \$1.229 billion. Year-end 2024 private contributory account balance is projected at \$3.513 billion.

For 2025, employer payrolls are projected to remain on tax rate schedule C and generate \$1.663 billion in employer contributions. Benefit payments are projected at \$1.311 billion and a year-end balance solvent at \$3.871 billion.

ECONOMIC ASSUMPTIONS

DUA utilizes independent economic forecasts as the basis for its estimates of income and expenditure for the Massachusetts Unemployment Insurance program. Moody's Analytics Data Services January 2021 forecasts were used in the simulations for this report. The current assumptions, along with assumptions used to produce the simulation estimates published in the August and October 2020 Outlook Reports are provided in Table 1.

The January 2021 Moody's Analytics Data Services Annual Wage and Salary Growth Rate forecasts for 2021 was revised up but revised down in 2022 to 2024 from the rates released in September. In 2021, up by three and three-tenths of a percentage point, from 1.9 percent to 5.2 percent, the 2022 rate decreased from 5.3 percent to 4.1, from 5.9 percent to 4.8 percent in 2023 and a small decrease in 2024.

The projected annual average total unemployment rates for 2021 to 2024 were all revised down by two-tenths to seven-tenths of a percentage point. The 2021 annual average

unemployment rate showed the highest improvement from 7.2 percent to 6.5 percent followed by a 5.2 percent unemployment rate in 2022, a decrease of two-tenths of a percentage point from the September projection. The annual average unemployment rates for 2023 and 2024 improved by five-tenths and four-tenths of a percentage point, respectively.

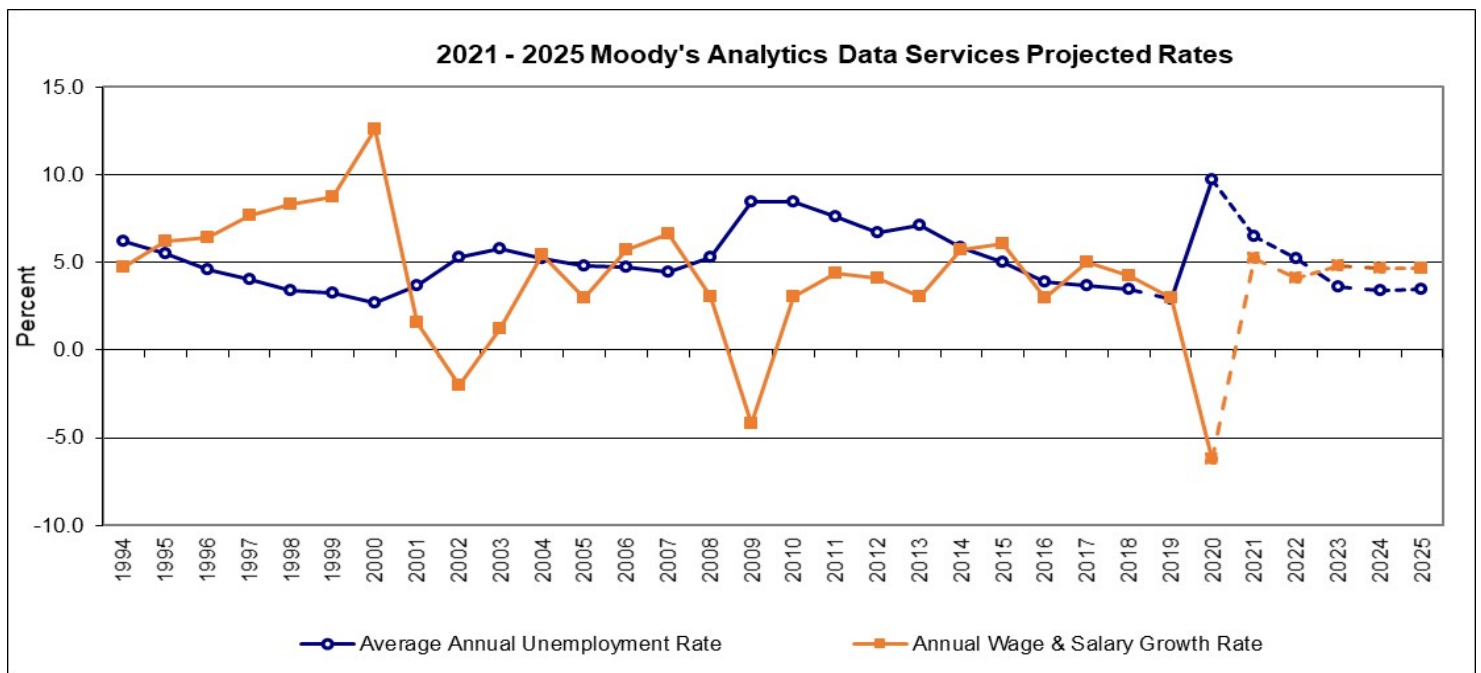
The annual labor force projections for 2021 to 2024 showed an average annual decrease of 76,146 from the Moody's Analytics Data Services projections released in September 2020. The 2021 labor force showed the largest decrease of 131,302 and the smallest in 2023 of 53,104. The labor force is projected to be 3,803,782 in 2025.

The expected recovery in the labor force, annual unemployment rates and annual wage increases are estimated to restore the private contributory account to a 0.66 average high cost multiple in 2025.

Table 1: Moody's Analytics Data Services Forecasts, Three Most Recent Reports

	Wage & Salary Growth (%)			Total Unemployment Rate (%)			Labor Force		
	20-Jul	20-Sep	21-Jan	20-Jul	20-Sep	21-Jan	20-Jul	20-Sep	21-Jan
2021	1.3	1.9	5.2	7.0	7.2	6.5	3,780,216	3,806,995	3,675,693
2022	5.3	5.3	4.1	5.6	5.4	5.2	3,782,917	3,807,749	3,742,078
2023	6.1	5.9	4.8	4.3	4.1	3.6	3,795,038	3,821,512	3,768,408
2024	4.8	4.9	4.7	4.1	3.8	3.4	3,817,861	3,844,555	3,790,048
2025	NA	NA	4.7	NA	NA	3.5	NA	NA	3,803,782

Source: Moody's Analytics Data Services



UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TRUST FUND BALANCE

As of January 31, 2021, the preliminary Massachusetts Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund ending balance was -\$2.516 billion. The private contributory account balance was at -\$2.645 billion and the governmental contributory account balance was \$129 million. The private contributory account balance was \$43 million less than the projection of -\$2.602 billion at the end of January.

The 2021 year-end private contributory account balance will continue to be insolvent and is projected to be -\$4.066 billion, an increase of \$672 million from the projection of -\$4.738 billion released in the January 2021 Outlook Report. The difference was primarily due to a reduction in benefit payments caused by a seven-tenths of a percentage point improvement in the annual average unemployment rate. In January, a total \$10.8 million was borrowed from the federal unemployment account and additional federal advances will be needed for the remainder of the year. The federal advances will be interest-free through September 6, 2021. Interest of \$5.9 million on federal advances from September 7 through September 30, 2021 must be paid by September 30, 2021.

For 2022, an estimated \$6 billion bond pays off the federal advances by November 9, 2022 and restores solvency resulting in a year-end positive balance of \$1.622 billion. Projected employer contributions at 0.87 percent of total payroll are \$312 million less than benefit payments estimated

at 1.01 percent of total payrolls. Interest on federal advances, totaling \$122 million will be required in the fall of 2022.

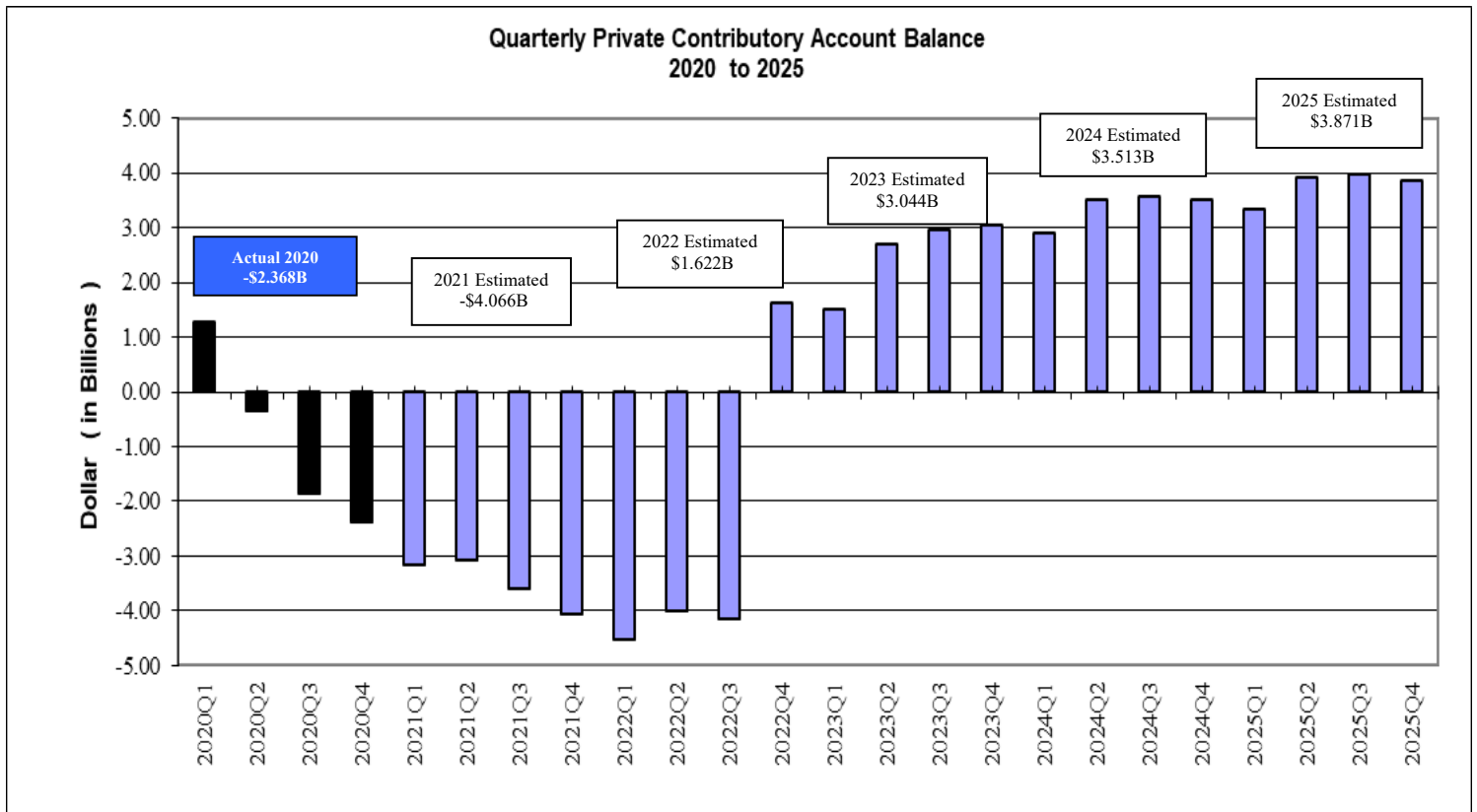
Current outlooks now indicate the trust fund will continue to be solvent in 2023 with a year-end private account balance estimated at \$3.044 billion.

Year-end 2024 private contributory account balance remains solvent and is estimated to be \$3.513 billion.

Continuing to recover from the prolonged effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2025 year-end private contributory account balance is estimated to be \$3.871 billion.

Debt service costs will be assessed annually on private contributory accounts through an additional tax. These costs will be estimated when bonds are issued.

The chart below shows actual 2020 and projected quarterly private UI Private Trust Fund balances through 2025.



BENEFIT OUTLAYS

The updated simulation for the outlook period shows decreases in benefit payments as compared to the projections released in the October 2020 Outlook Report.

Benefit payments for 2021 are now estimated to be \$3.375 billion, \$1.086 billion less than the previous estimate of \$4.821 billion. An improvement of seven-tenths of a percentage point in the annual average unemployment rate, from 7.2 to 6.5 percent, generated fewer weeks compensated and insured unemployment causing the reduced benefit payments. In addition, the average weekly benefit amount is projected to be less.

Preliminary benefit payments for the month of January 2021 of \$345.3 million was \$206.5 million more than in January 2020 and \$24.9 million higher than the projection. Initial claims and continued weeks claimed were 226 percent and 147 percent higher than last year, respectively.

The federal CARES Act of 2020 which ended in December 26, 2020 has been extended as the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) through September 6, 2021 for all programs, namely the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA); the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC); and the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) which adds \$300 to a claimants' average weekly benefit amount; among others. Covid-19 related claims are charged to solvency through the extension.

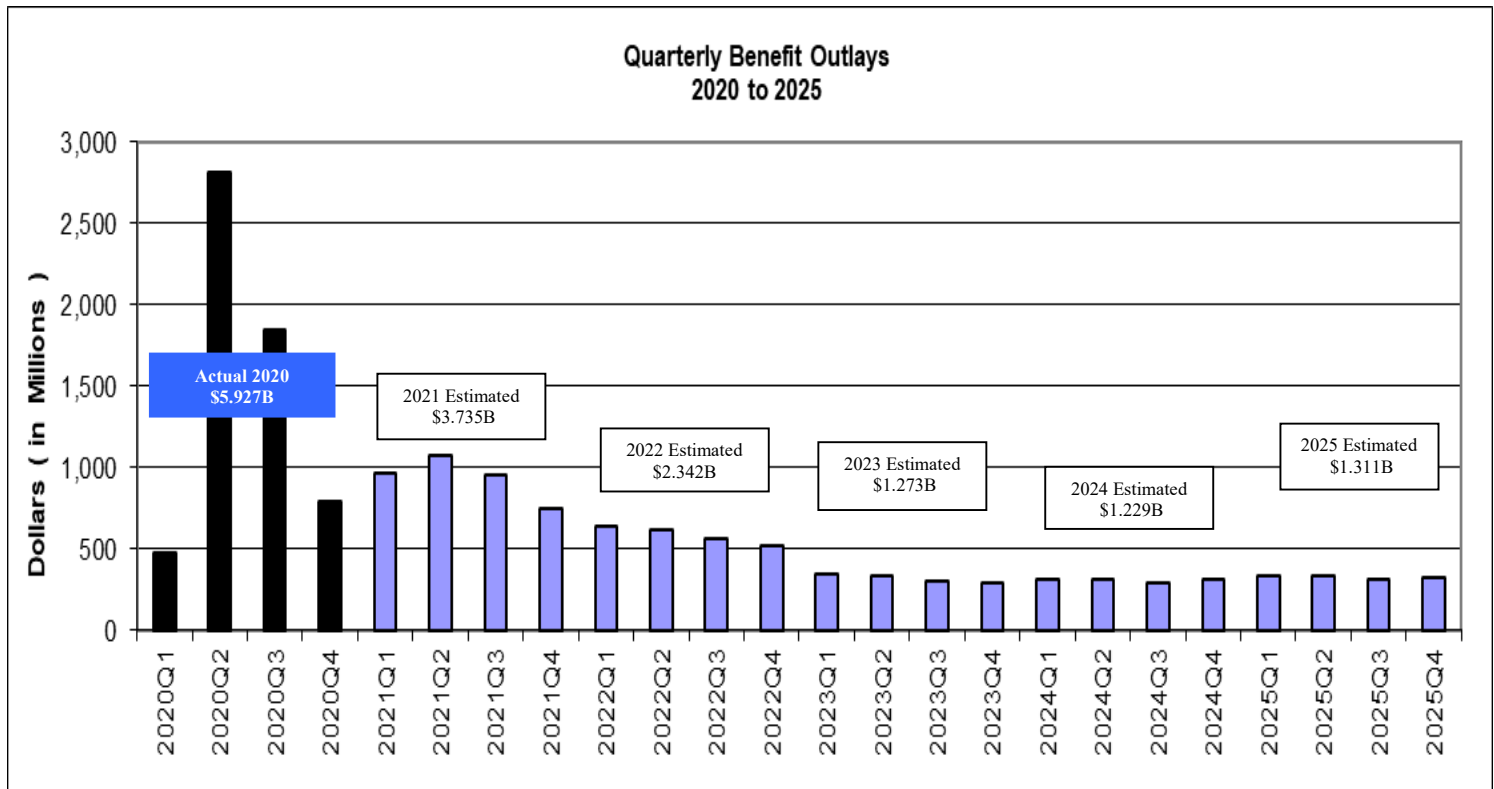
Massachusetts triggered on the federal/state Extended Benefit (EB) program in May 2020 due to the rapid increase in UI claims. EB costs will be federally funded 100 percent for private contributory employers and private non-profit reimbursable employers through September 6, 2021.

In 2022, benefit payments are projected to be \$2.342 billion, a decrease of \$443 million from the previously released estimate of \$2.785 billion. As in the previous year, weeks compensated and insured unemployment are projected to be less due a lower annual average unemployment rate.

For 2023, benefit payments are projected to be \$1.273 billion, \$294 million lower than the previous estimate of \$1.567 billion. A decrease in the unemployment rate from the rate used in the previous simulation resulted in fewer insured unemployment and weeks compensated generating less benefit payments.

Benefit payments are projected to be \$1.229 billion in 2024, \$165 million less than the previous estimate of \$1.394 billion. As in the previous year, a projected lower annual unemployment rate reduced week compensated and insured unemployment resulting in less benefit payments.

With the unemployment rate projected to be higher in 2025 than in 2024, benefit payments are expected to increase to \$1.311 billion.



EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Updated projections for employer contributions for 2021 to 2024, based on preliminary 2021 employer experience rates, are lower in 2021 and 2022 than the previous estimates on a higher tax schedule.

For 2021, tax rate schedule E was set by legislation for employer payrolls and with a \$15,000 taxable wage base is projected to generate \$2.037 billion in employer contributions. This is a decrease of \$414 million due to the lower tax rate. Massachusetts borrowed \$10.8 million from the federal unemployment insurance account in January. Additional advances will be needed for the remainder of the year. The loans will be interest-free through September 6, 2021.

Preliminary employer contributions in January 2021 totaled \$56.1 million, a decrease of \$82.6 million from the January 2020 contributions of \$138.7 million and \$30.4 million less than the projection of \$86.5 million. The difference may be due to the end of the month falling on a Sunday delaying crediting accounts until the following month.

Rate schedule E was set by legislation for 2022 employer payrolls and generate \$2.030 billion in employer contributions, \$500 million lower than the previous projection of \$2.530 billion on a higher tax rate. Interest-bearing loans from the federal UI account will be necessary throughout the year.

With an insolvent trust fund through third quarter 2022, tax rate schedule G will trigger for 2023 employer payrolls.

Employer contributions are expected to be \$2.674 billion, an increase of \$152 million from the previous estimate of \$2.522 billion as the average contribution are higher.

For 2024, tax rate schedule C is now projected to trigger for employer payrolls generating \$1.666 billion in contributions.

Tax rate schedule C remains projected to trigger for 2025 employer payrolls and generate \$1.633 billion in employer contributions.

Interest on federal advances will be due for 2022 in September 30. Interest will be funded through an assessment on private contributory employers.

Employers will be assessed debt service costs for the life of the bond issue.

Table 2, on page 6, contains the experience rate table that took effect in 2015.

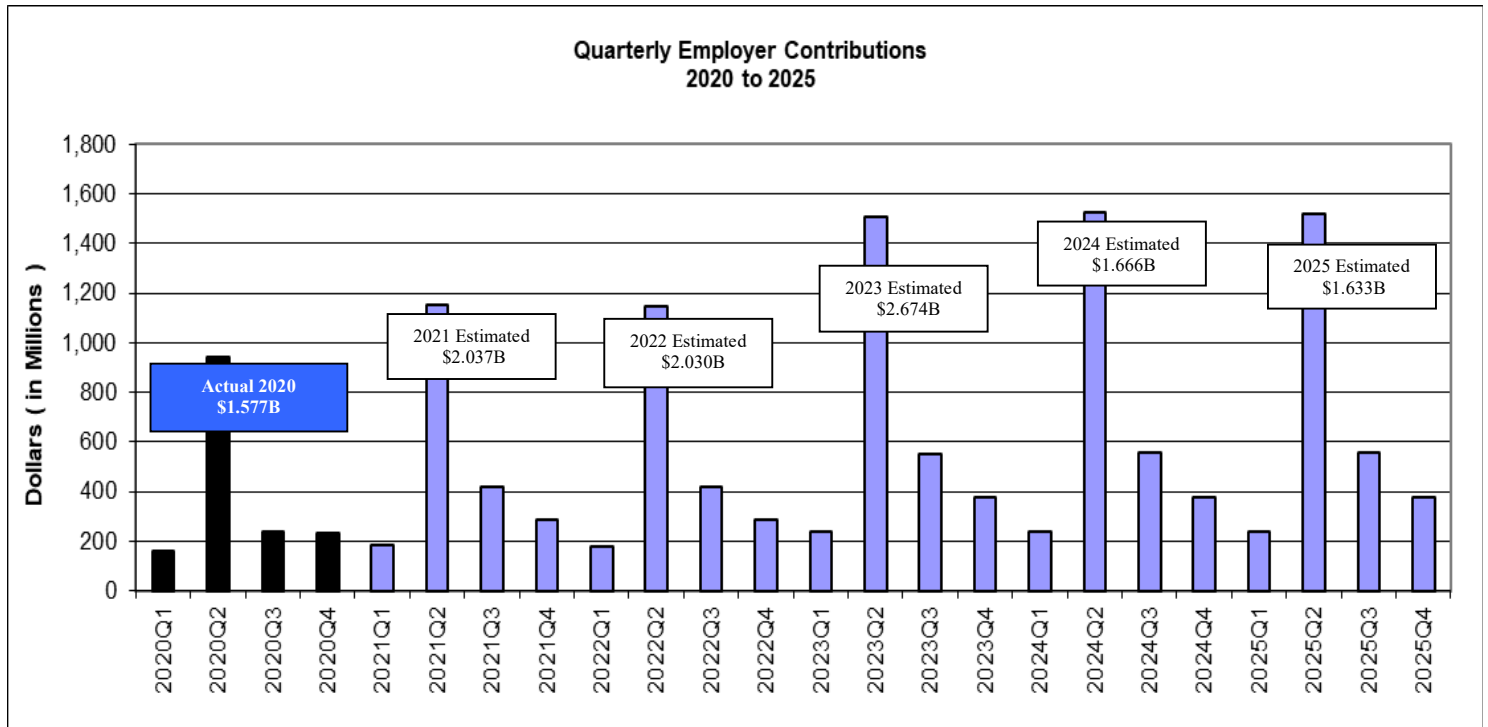


Table 2: Experience Rate Table

Employer Account Reserve Percentages	Unemployment Compensation Fund Reserve Percentage						
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
	1.65% and over	1.5% or more less than 1.65%	1.2% or more less than 1.5%	0.9% or more less than 1.2%	0.6% or more less than 0.9%	0.3% or more less than 0.6%	less than 0.3%
Negative Percentage	Employer Contribution Rate*						
23 or more	8.62	9.79	11.13	12.65	14.37	16.33	18.55
21.0 but less than 23.0	8.25	9.37	10.65	12.11	13.76	15.63	17.76
19.0 but less than 21.0	7.88	8.96	10.18	11.57	13.15	14.94	16.97
17.0 but less than 19.0	7.52	8.54	9.71	11.03	12.53	14.24	16.18
15.0 but less than 17.0	7.15	8.13	9.24	10.49	11.93	13.55	15.39
13.0 but less than 15.0	6.78	7.71	8.76	9.95	11.31	12.85	14.60
11.0 but less than 13.0	6.42	7.29	8.29	9.42	10.70	12.16	13.81
9.0 but less than 11.0	6.05	6.87	7.81	8.88	10.09	11.46	13.02
7.0 but less than 9.0	5.68	6.46	7.34	8.34	9.48	10.77	12.23
5.0 but less than 7.0	5.32	6.04	6.86	7.80	8.86	10.07	11.44
3.0 but less than 5.0	4.95	5.63	6.39	7.27	8.26	9.38	10.66
1.0 but less than 3.0	4.58	5.21	5.92	6.72	7.64	8.68	9.86
0.0 but less than 1.0	4.22	4.79	5.45	6.19	7.03	7.99	9.08
Positive Percentage							
0.0 but less than 0.5	3.14	3.57	4.06	4.61	5.24	5.96	6.77
0.5 but less than 1.0	3.06	3.48	3.96	4.50	5.11	5.81	6.60
1.0 but less than 1.5	2.98	3.39	3.85	4.38	4.98	5.65	6.43
1.5 but less than 2.0	2.90	3.30	3.75	4.26	4.84	5.50	6.25
2.0 but less than 2.5	2.82	3.21	3.65	4.14	4.71	5.35	6.08
2.5 but less than 3.0	2.75	3.12	3.54	4.02	4.57	5.20	5.90
3.0 but less than 3.5	2.67	3.03	3.44	3.91	4.44	5.05	5.74
3.5 but less than 4.0	2.58	2.93	3.33	3.79	4.30	4.89	5.56
4.0 but less than 4.5	2.50	2.84	3.23	3.67	4.17	4.74	5.38
4.5 but less than 5.0	2.42	2.75	3.13	3.55	4.04	4.59	5.21
5.0 but less than 5.5	2.34	2.66	3.02	3.43	3.90	4.43	5.04
5.5 but less than 6.0	2.25	2.56	2.91	3.31	3.76	4.28	4.86
6.0 but less than 6.5	2.17	2.47	2.81	3.20	3.63	4.13	4.69
6.5 but less than 7.0	2.09	2.38	2.71	3.08	3.50	3.97	4.51
7.0 but less than 7.5	2.02	2.30	2.61	2.96	3.37	3.82	4.35
7.5 but less than 8.0	1.94	2.20	2.50	2.84	3.23	3.67	4.17
8.0 but less than 8.5	1.85	2.10	2.39	2.72	3.09	3.51	3.99
8.5 but less than 9.0	1.78	2.02	2.29	2.61	2.96	3.37	3.82
9.0 but less than 9.5	1.70	1.93	2.19	2.49	2.82	3.21	3.65
9.5 but less than 10.0	1.61	1.83	2.08	2.36	2.69	3.05	3.47
10.0 but less than 10.5	1.53	1.74	1.98	2.25	2.56	2.91	3.30
10.5 but less than 11.0	1.45	1.65	1.87	2.13	2.42	2.75	3.12
11.0 but less than 11.5	1.37	1.56	1.77	2.01	2.29	2.60	2.96
11.5 but less than 12.0	1.29	1.47	1.67	1.89	2.15	2.45	2.78
12.0 but less than 12.5	1.21	1.37	1.56	1.77	2.01	2.29	2.60
12.5 but less than 13.0	1.13	1.28	1.46	1.66	1.89	2.14	2.43
13.0 but less than 13.5	1.05	1.19	1.35	1.54	1.75	1.99	2.26
13.5 but less than 14.0	0.97	1.10	1.25	1.42	1.61	1.83	2.08
14.0 but less than 15.0	0.81	0.92	1.04	1.18	1.34	1.53	1.73
15.0 but less than 16.0	0.73	0.83	0.94	1.07	1.21	1.38	1.57
16.0 but less than 17.0	0.64	0.73	0.83	0.95	1.08	1.22	1.39
17.0 or more	0.56	0.64	0.73	0.83	0.94	1.07	1.21

Employer Contribution Rate is applied to the first \$15,000 of wages per employee.

TRUST FUND SOLVENCY

Federal regulations require States to meet several standards for interest free federal advances taken during the first five months of a calendar year and repaid in the fall. The first measure requires that in at least one of the five years prior to the calendar year the advances are taken, the trust fund reserves must be equal to an average high cost multiple (AHCM) solvency measure. The measure was phased in over five years from a multiple of 0.50 for 2014, 0.70 in 2016 and now at 1.0 for advances starting in 2019. For 2021, the AHCM must be met based on 2020 performance.

The Average High Cost Multiple (AHCM) computations are based on the average benefit cost rate for the three highest years in the last twenty or the last three recessions whichever is higher.

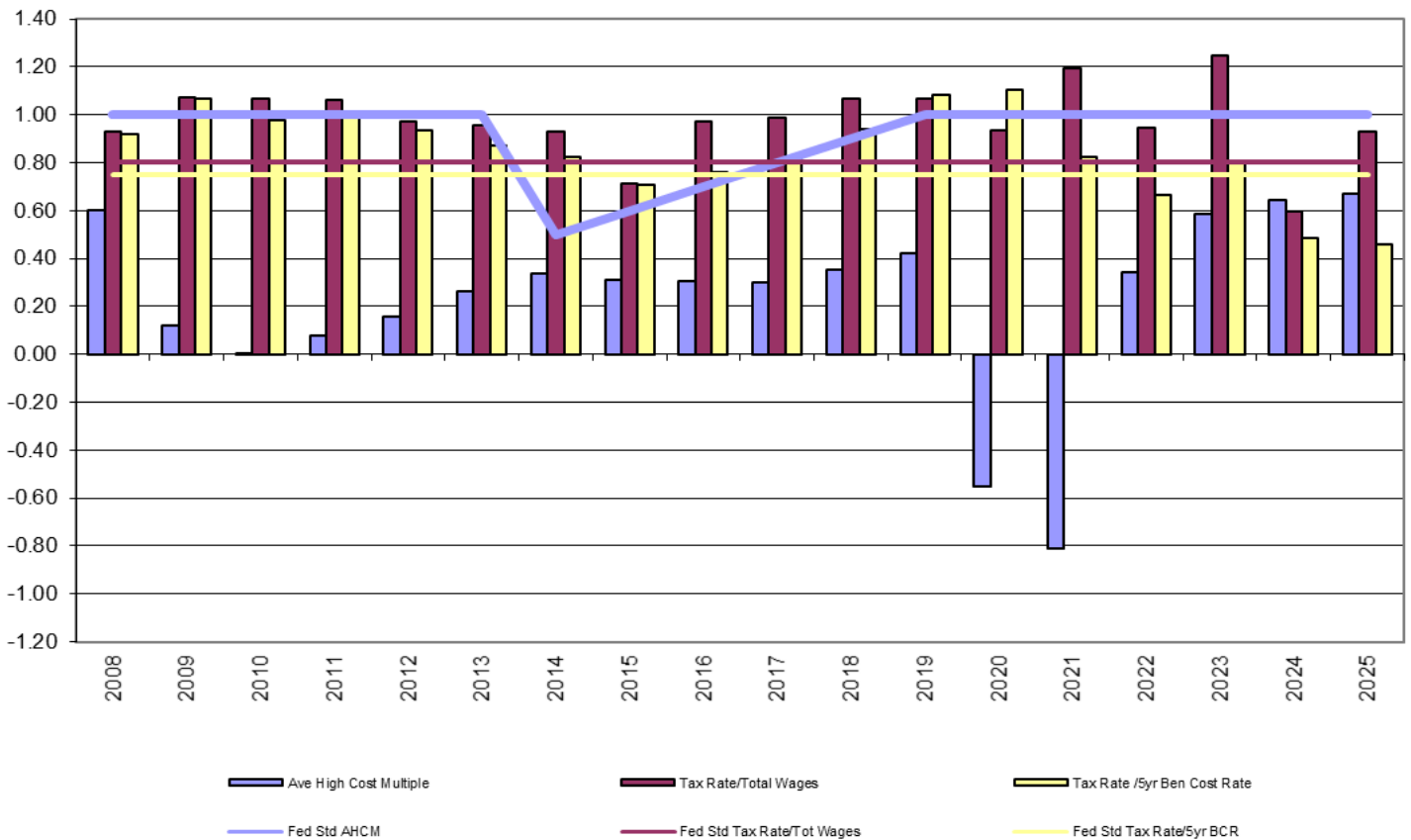
Benefit costs are measured as a percent of the total UI wages, the total liability of the UI system, is the second measure. This measure indexes the benefit costs to total wages. The

measure is designed to encourage States to build sufficient reserves to finance an economic downturn similar to ones in the past. The Massachusetts measures are for the overall trust fund that includes both the private and governmental contributory accounts. The ratio of the average tax rate and the benefit costs rate over the previous five years must be at least 75 percent.

The chart below arrays the federal requirements, the actual and projected year-end all contributory account AHCMs, the ratios of average tax rate and total wages (federal standard at 80 percent of previous year) and the average tax rate and the benefit cost rate over the preceding five years (federal standard at 75 percent).

As the chart below shows, Massachusetts will not meet the federal AHCM standard making all federal advances subject to federal interest.

**Solvency Measures
All Contributory Accounts (Estimated 2021 to 2025)**



The current law simulation estimates for 2021 through 2025 are displayed in Tables 3 and 4, below.

Table 3: Unemployment Trust Fund Projections for the Private Contributory Account, 2021 - 2025

(All \$ in Millions except Average Cost/Employee)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Balance, January 1	\$1,602	-\$2,368	-\$4,066	\$1,622	\$3,044	\$3,513
Income	\$1,577	\$2,037	\$2,030	\$2,674	\$1,666	\$1,633
Trust Fund Interest	\$13			\$21	\$32	\$36
Other Income**	\$367					
Bond Payment			\$6,000			
Benefit Outlays	\$5,927	\$3,735	\$2,342	\$1,273	\$1,229	\$1,311
Federal Loan Interests		\$6	\$122			
Balance, December 31	-\$2,368	-\$4,066	\$1,622	\$3,044	\$3,513	\$3,871
Schedule*	E	E	E	G	C	C
Average Cost/Employee	\$584	\$692	\$678	\$886	\$549	\$536

*2020 to 2022 rate schedule set by Legislation. 2023 to 2025 rate schedule projected based on current statutory triggers calculated with previous average total wages. Taxable Wages at \$15,000

Source: Massachusetts Department of Unemployment Assistance UNIS-X model

**Other Income: CARES Act Reimbursement.

Figures may not add up due to rounding

Table 4: UNIS-X Model Output

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Covered Payroll (\$Billions)	\$205.5	\$220.3	\$232.5	\$245.2	\$257.2	\$271.0
Contributory Payroll (\$Billions)	\$42.7	\$43.3	\$45.0	\$45.7	\$46.4	\$47.1
Contributory Wage Proportion	20.8%	19.7%	19.4%	18.6%	18.0%	17.4%
Nominal Contribution Rate	3.7%	4.7%	4.5%	5.9%	3.6%	3.5%
Contribution as a % of Total Payroll	0.77%	0.92%	0.87%	1.09%	0.65%	0.60%
Benefits as a % of Total Payroll	2.88%	1.70%	1.01%	0.52%	0.48%	0.48%
Trust Fund Balance as a % of Total Payroll	-1.15%	-1.85%	0.70%	1.24%	1.37%	1.43%
Solvency Assessment	0.58%	9.23%	2.56%	1.51%	0.85%	0.56%
AHCM	-0.60	-0.85	0.32	0.57	0.63	0.66
Covered Employment (Thousands)	3,659	3,676	3,742	3,768	3,790	3,804
Total Unemployment Rate	9.7%	6.5%	5.2%	3.6%	3.4%	3.5%
Insured Unemployment Rate	8.5%	5.5%	4.4%	3.0%	2.5%	2.0%

Source: Economic assumptions are based on Moody's Analytics Data Services forecasts and Massachusetts UNIS-X Model.

Figures may not add up due to rounding

APPENDIX UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DEFINITIONS

AVERAGE HIGH COST RATE:

The average of the three highest calendar benefit cost rates in the last 20 years (or a period including three recessions, if longer). The benefit cost rates private UI contributory employers benefits paid (including the state's share of extended benefits when applicable) as a percent of their total wages.

AVERAGE HIGH COST MULTIPLE (AHCM):

The ratio of the year-end trust fund balance as a percent of total wages divided by the Average High Cost Rate.

BENEFITS PAID:

The unemployment insurance benefits paid to individuals funded through the state program. This includes all weeks compensated including partial payments.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE:

The estimated average number of Massachusetts residents who are either employed or unemployed in the week of the 12th for the three months of the quarter.

COVERED EMPLOYMENT:

The number of employees covered by Unemployment Insurance reported to the state by employers. The numbers represent the count of all employees for the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month.

HIGH-COST MULTIPLE (HCM):

The ratio of the Trust Fund balance as a percent of total wages divided by the High Cost Rate. The High Cost Rate is the highest historical ratio of benefits paid to total wages for a 12-month period.

INITIAL CLAIMS:

Any notice of unemployment filed by an individual (1) to request a new determination of entitlement to and eligibility for unemployment compensation or (2) to begin a second or subsequent period of eligibility within a benefit year or period of eligibility following an additional separation from employment.

INSURED UNEMPLOYED:

The average number of weeks claimed for the three months of the quarter.

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (IUR):

The rate computed by dividing Insured Unemployed for the current quarter by the average Covered Employment for the first four of the last six completed quarters.

OUTSTANDING LOAN BALANCES:

Balance, as of the end of the quarter, of advances acquired by the state under Title XII of the Social Security Act which allows states to use repayable advances from the federal UI account.

SOLVENCY ASSESSMENT:

The annual factor assessed to employer taxable payrolls to cover the net balance of charges and credits not directly assigned to individual employers.

TAXABLE WAGES:

Wages paid to covered employees that are subject to State Unemployment Insurance taxes. For Massachusetts, the first \$15,000 in wages per employee is covered by UI,

TAXABLE WAGE BASE:

For each State, the maximum amount of wages paid to an employee by an employer during a year in which their employment is subject to UI taxes. Wages above this amount are not subject to UI tax.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYED:

The estimated average number of residents, 16 years of age or older, who do not have a job but are available for work

and actively seeking work in the week of the 12th for the three months of the quarter. This includes individuals on layoff and waiting to report to a new job within 30 days.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (TUR):

The rate computed by dividing Total Unemployed by the Civilian Labor Force.

TOTAL WAGES:

All wages or remuneration paid to workers on all payrolls covered by Unemployment Insurance.

TRUST FUND BALANCE (TF):

The balance in the individual state account in the Unemployment Trust Fund. Outlook estimates are for the private contributory account within the Trust Fund.

TRUST FUND AS % OF TAXABLE WAGES:

Year-end Trust Fund Balance as a percent of estimated taxable wages for the most recent 12 months; also referred to as the Reserve Ratio. Estimated wages are based on the latest growth rate in the 12 month moving average (MA).

UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND (UTF):

A fund established in the Treasury of United States which contains all monies deposited by state agencies to the credit of their unemployment fund accounts.

WEEKS CLAIMED:

The number of weeks claimed for UI benefits, including weeks for which a waiting period or fixed disqualification period is being served. Interstate claims are counted in the state of residence.

WEEKS COMPENSATED:

The number of weeks claimed for which UI benefits are paid. Weeks compensated for partial unemployment are included. Interstate claims are counted in the paying state.