



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, April 17, 2014

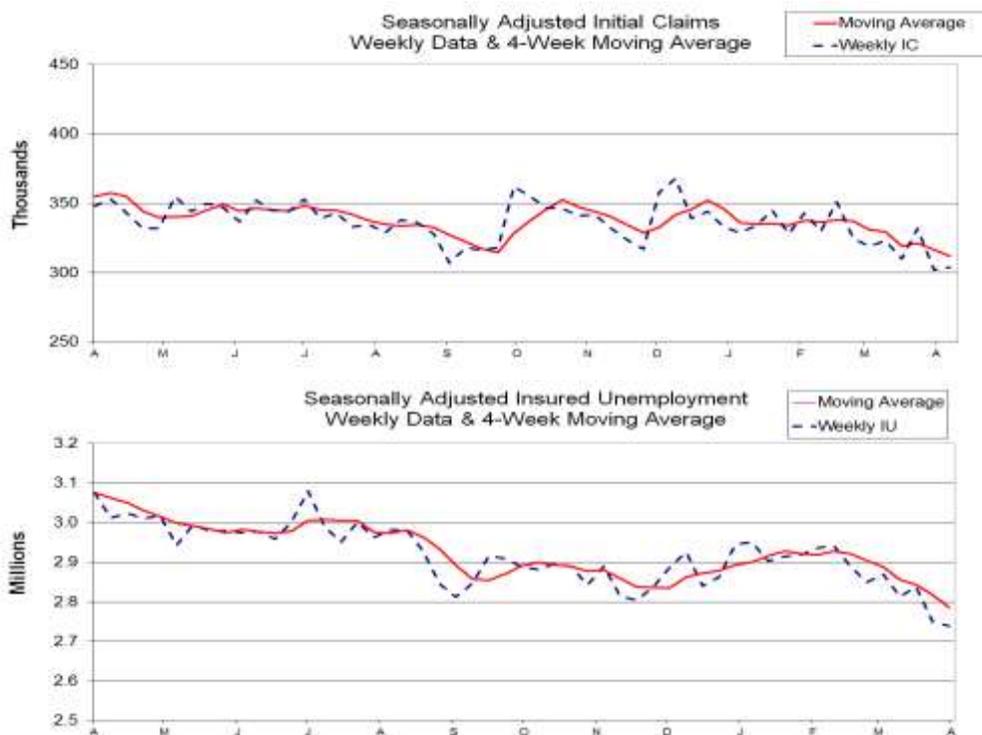
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending April 12, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 304,000, an increase of 2,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 2,000 from 300,000 to 302,000. The 4-week moving average was 312,000, a decrease of 4,750 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since October 6, 2007 when it was 302,000. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 316,250 to 316,750.

There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims.

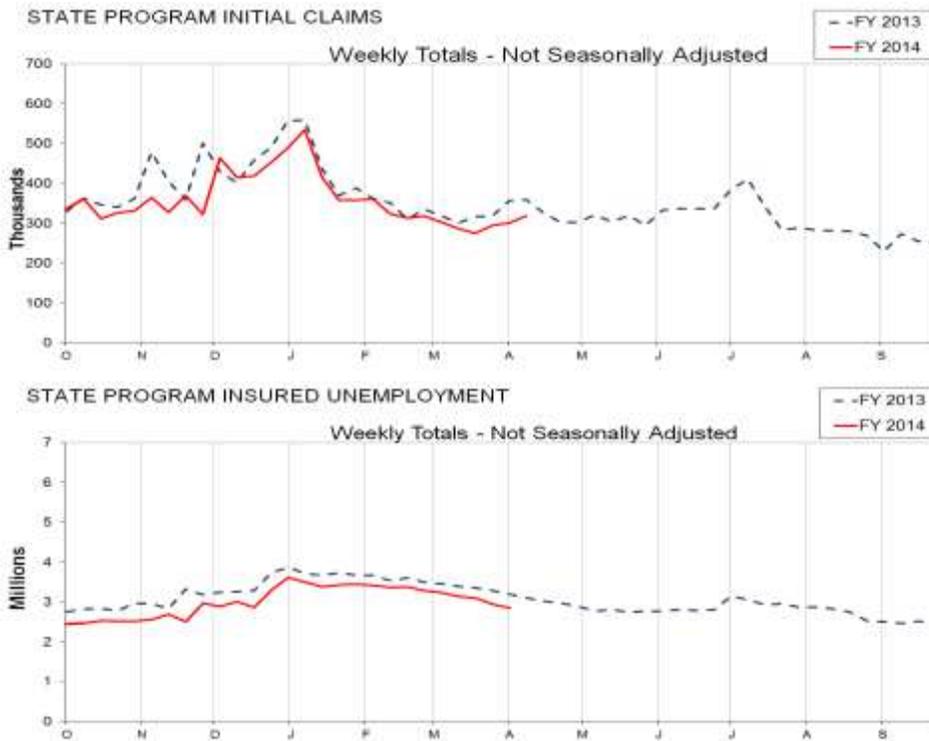
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 2.1 percent for the week ending April 5, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate of 2.1 percent. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending April 5 was 2,739,000, a decrease of 11,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since December 15, 2007 when it was 2,737,000. The previous week's level was revised down by 26,000 from 2,776,000 to 2,750,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,785,250, a decrease of 32,500 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since January 19, 2008 when it was 2,777,500. The previous week's average was revised down by 6,500 from 2,824,250 to 2,817,750.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 317,701 in the week ending April 12, an increase of 17,512 (or 5.8 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 16,022 (or 5.3 percent) from the previous week. There were 359,415 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 2.2 percent during the week ending April 5, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,851,790, a decrease of 90,390 (or -3.1 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 79,741 (or -2.7 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.5 percent and the volume was 3,195,675.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending March 29 was 3,007,392, a decrease of 155,971 from the previous week. There were 5,146,499 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2013.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending March 29.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 999 in the week ending April 5, a decrease of 31 from the prior week. There were 1,817 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 68 from the preceding week.

There were 16,583 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending March 29, a decrease of 1,588 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 26,344, a decrease of 1,633 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending March 29 were in Alaska (4.9), Connecticut (3.5), Pennsylvania (3.5), New Jersey (3.4), Rhode Island (3.4), California (3.2), Puerto Rico (3.2), Illinois (3.1), Massachusetts (3.1), and Wisconsin (3.1).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending April 5 were in Michigan (+4,285), Pennsylvania (+2,335), New Jersey (+1,630), Florida (+1,624), and Georgia (+1,453), while the largest decreases were in California (-13,892), Iowa (-1,266), Kentucky (-699), Tennessee (-582), and Idaho (-383).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

| WEEK ENDING | Advance April 12 | April 5 | Change | March 29 | <u>Prior Year</u>¹ |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|--|
| Initial Claims (SA) | 304,000 | 302,000 | +2,000 | 332,000 | 353,000 |
| Initial Claims (NSA) | 317,701 | 300,189 | +17,512 | 294,862 | 359,415 |
| 4-Wk Moving Average (SA) | 312,000 | 316,750 | -4,750 | 321,000 | 357,500 |
| WEEK ENDING | Advance April 5 | March 29 | Change | March 22 | <u>Prior Year</u>¹ |
| Insured Unemployment (SA) | 2,739,000 | 2,750,000 | -11,000 | 2,838,000 | 3,076,000 |
| Insured Unemployment (NSA) | 2,851,790 | 2,942,180 | -90,390 | 3,090,665 | 3,195,675 |
| 4-Wk Moving Average (SA) | 2,785,250 | 2,817,750 | -32,500 | 2,842,750 | 3,075,500 |
| <u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ² | 2.1% | 2.1% | 0.0 | 2.2% | 2.4% |
| <u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ² | 2.2% | 2.2% | 0.0 | 2.4% | 2.5% |

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

| WEEK ENDING | April 5 | March 29 | Change | <u>Prior Year</u>¹ |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| Federal Employees (UCFE) | 999 | 1,030 | -31 | 1,415 |
| Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX) | 1,817 | 1,749 | +68 | 2,216 |

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

| WEEK ENDING | March 29 | March 22 | Change | <u>Prior Year</u>¹ |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| Regular State | 2,937,320 | 3,084,534 | -147,214 | 3,281,077 |
| Federal Employees | 16,583 | 18,171 | -1,588 | 18,711 |
| Newly Discharged Veterans | 26,344 | 27,977 | -1,633 | 37,456 |
| <u>Extended Benefits</u> ³ | 105 | 47 | +58 | 465 |
| <u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴ | 9,866 | 10,520 | -654 | 5,677 |
| <u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵ | 17,174 | 22,114 | -4,940 | 20,558 |
| <u>TOTAL</u> ⁶ | 3,007,392 | 3,163,363 | -155,971 | 5,146,499 |

FOOTNOTES

SA - Seasonally Adjusted Data, NSA - Not Seasonally Adjusted Data

1. Prior year is comparable to most recent data.
2. Most recent week used covered employment of 131,532,656 as denominator.
3. Information on the EB program can be found here: [EB Program information](#)
4. Some states maintain additional benefit programs for those claimants who exhaust regular, extended and emergency benefits. Information on states that participate, and the extent of benefits paid, can be found starting on page 4-5 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-9 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
6. Prior Year Total includes Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08) claimants.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED APRIL 5, 2014

STATES WITH AN DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

| State | Change | State Supplied Comment |
|--------------|---------------|--|
| CA | -13,892 | Fewer layoffs in the service industry. |
| IA | -1,266 | Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry. |

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

| State | Change | State Supplied Comment |
|--------------|---------------|---|
| MI | +4,285 | Layoffs in the wholesale trade industry. |
| PA | +2,335 | Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support services, and manufacturing industries. |
| NJ | +1,630 | Layoffs in the administrative and support service, retail trade, and construction industries. |
| FL | +1,624 | Layoffs in the agriculture, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and service industries. |
| GA | +1,453 | Layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative and support service, and trade industries. |
| TX | +1,365 | Layoffs in the manufacturing, support services, transportation, and retail trade industries. |
| AZ | +1,240 | No comment. |
| IL | +1,220 | Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support services, and trade industries. |
| WA | +1,080 | Layoffs in the agriculture, mining, manufacturing, and health care industries. |

Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly Claims (in thousands)

| Week Ending | Change from | | | Insured Unemployment | Change from | | IUR |
|--------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|-----|
| | Initial Claims | Prior Week | 4-Week Average | | Prior Week | 4-Week Average | |
| April 6, 2013 | 348 | -27 | 355.00 | 3076 | -13 | 3075.50 | 2.4 |
| April 13, 2013 | 353 | 5 | 357.50 | 3012 | -64 | 3062.75 | 2.3 |
| April 20, 2013 | 343 | -10 | 354.75 | 3024 | 12 | 3050.25 | 2.3 |
| April 27, 2013 | 332 | -11 | 344.00 | 3011 | -13 | 3030.75 | 2.3 |
| May 4, 2013 | 332 | 0 | 340.00 | 3017 | 6 | 3016.00 | 2.3 |
| May 11, 2013 | 355 | 23 | 340.50 | 2943 | -74 | 2998.75 | 2.3 |
| May 18, 2013 | 344 | -11 | 340.75 | 2994 | 51 | 2991.25 | 2.3 |
| May 25, 2013 | 350 | 6 | 345.25 | 2979 | -15 | 2983.25 | 2.3 |
| June 1, 2013 | 347 | -3 | 349.00 | 2980 | 1 | 2974.00 | 2.3 |
| June 8, 2013 | 337 | -10 | 344.50 | 2975 | -5 | 2982.00 | 2.3 |
| June 15, 2013 | 352 | 15 | 346.50 | 2977 | 2 | 2977.75 | 2.3 |
| June 22, 2013 | 345 | -7 | 345.25 | 2959 | -18 | 2972.75 | 2.3 |
| June 29, 2013 | 344 | -1 | 344.50 | 3003 | 44 | 2978.50 | 2.3 |
| July 6, 2013 | 353 | 9 | 348.50 | 3079 | 76 | 3004.50 | 2.4 |
| July 13, 2013 | 339 | -14 | 345.25 | 2991 | -88 | 3008.00 | 2.3 |
| July 20, 2013 | 343 | 4 | 344.75 | 2950 | -41 | 3005.75 | 2.3 |
| July 27, 2013 | 333 | -10 | 342.00 | 3001 | 51 | 3005.25 | 2.3 |
| August 3, 2013 | 335 | 2 | 337.50 | 2963 | -38 | 2976.25 | 2.3 |
| August 10, 2013 | 329 | -6 | 335.00 | 2981 | 18 | 2973.75 | 2.3 |
| August 17, 2013 | 338 | 9 | 333.75 | 2981 | 0 | 2981.50 | 2.3 |
| August 24, 2013 | 336 | -2 | 334.50 | 2928 | -53 | 2963.25 | 2.3 |
| August 31, 2013 | 328 | -8 | 332.75 | 2845 | -83 | 2933.75 | 2.2 |
| September 7, 2013 | 307 | -21 | 327.25 | 2812 | -33 | 2891.50 | 2.2 |
| September 14, 2013 | 318 | 11 | 322.25 | 2847 | 35 | 2858.00 | 2.2 |
| September 21, 2013 | 316 | -2 | 317.25 | 2916 | 69 | 2855.00 | 2.2 |
| September 28, 2013 | 318 | 2 | 314.75 | 2910 | -6 | 2871.25 | 2.2 |
| October 5, 2013 | 362 | 44 | 328.50 | 2888 | -22 | 2890.25 | 2.2 |
| October 12, 2013 | 355 | -7 | 337.75 | 2881 | -7 | 2898.75 | 2.2 |
| October 19, 2013 | 347 | -8 | 345.50 | 2896 | 15 | 2893.75 | 2.2 |
| October 26, 2013 | 346 | -1 | 352.50 | 2890 | -6 | 2888.75 | 2.2 |
| November 2, 2013 | 341 | -5 | 347.25 | 2843 | -47 | 2877.50 | 2.2 |
| November 9, 2013 | 342 | 1 | 344.00 | 2889 | 46 | 2879.50 | 2.2 |
| November 16, 2013 | 332 | -10 | 340.25 | 2813 | -76 | 2858.75 | 2.2 |
| November 23, 2013 | 324 | -8 | 334.75 | 2804 | -9 | 2837.25 | 2.2 |
| November 30, 2013 | 317 | -7 | 328.75 | 2837 | 33 | 2835.75 | 2.2 |
| December 7, 2013 | 358 | 41 | 332.75 | 2887 | 50 | 2835.25 | 2.2 |
| December 14, 2013 | 368 | 10 | 341.75 | 2925 | 38 | 2863.25 | 2.2 |
| December 21, 2013 | 339 | -29 | 345.50 | 2840 | -85 | 2872.25 | 2.2 |
| December 28, 2013 | 344 | 5 | 352.25 | 2863 | 23 | 2878.75 | 2.2 |
| January 4, 2014 | 333 | -11 | 346.00 | 2945 | 82 | 2893.25 | 2.2 |
| January 11, 2014 | 329 | -4 | 336.25 | 2951 | 6 | 2899.75 | 2.3 |
| January 18, 2014 | 334 | 5 | 335.00 | 2903 | -48 | 2915.50 | 2.2 |
| January 25, 2014 | 345 | 11 | 335.25 | 2915 | 12 | 2928.50 | 2.2 |
| February 1, 2014 | 328 | -17 | 334.00 | 2918 | 3 | 2921.75 | 2.2 |
| February 8, 2014 | 343 | 15 | 337.50 | 2936 | 18 | 2918.00 | 2.2 |
| February 15, 2014 | 330 | -13 | 336.50 | 2941 | 5 | 2927.50 | 2.2 |
| February 22, 2014 | 351 | 21 | 338.00 | 2890 | -51 | 2921.25 | 2.2 |
| March 1, 2014 | 325 | -26 | 337.25 | 2850 | -40 | 2904.25 | 2.2 |
| March 8, 2014 | 319 | -6 | 331.25 | 2869 | 19 | 2887.50 | 2.2 |
| March 15, 2014 | 323 | 4 | 329.50 | 2814 | -55 | 2855.75 | 2.1 |
| March 22, 2014 | 310 | -13 | 319.25 | 2838 | 24 | 2842.75 | 2.2 |
| March 29, 2014 | 332 | 22 | 321.00 | 2750 | -88 | 2817.75 | 2.1 |
| April 5, 2014 | 302 | -30 | 316.75 | 2739 | -11 | 2785.25 | 2.1 |
| April 12, 2014 | 304 | 2 | 312.00 | | | | |

| Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended April 5 | | | | | | | | Insured Unemployment For Week Ended March 29 | | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|----------|---------|----------|--|-------------|-----------|-----------------------|---|
| INITIAL CLAIMS | | | | | | | | INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT | | | | |
| STATE | CHANGE FROM | | | | | | | CHANGE FROM | | | | ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT |
| | STATE | LAST WEEK | YEAR AGO | UCFE ↓ | UCX ↓ | STATE | (%) ↓ | LAST WEEK | YEAR AGO | UCFE ↓ | UCX ¹ ↓ | |
| Alabama | 3941 | 274 | -500 | 15 | 27 | 28846 | 1.6 | 555 | -3152 | 138 | 284 | 29268 |
| Alaska | 1281 | -54 | -669 | 7 | 4 | 15392 | 4.9 | -970 | -948 | 194 | 87 | 15673 |
| Arizona | 6321 | 1240 | 395 | 9 | 10 | 35218 | 1.5 | -2702 | -394 | 284 | 270 | 35772 |
| Arkansas | 3178 | -224 | -714 | 16 | 8 | 24627 | 2.2 | 626 | -3327 | 150 | 236 | 25013 |
| California | 56079 | -13892 | 12862 | 242 | 290 | 482835 | 3.2 | -51599 | -12120 | 3504 | 4614 | 490956 |
| Colorado | 3224 | 759 | -280 | 17 | 61 | 43524 | 1.9 | 2434 | 568 | 499 | 1127 | 45150 |
| Connecticut | 3709 | 500 | -860 | 7 | 7 | 56118 | 3.5 | -3193 | -2632 | 80 | 272 | 56470 |
| Delaware | 679 | 19 | -919 | 1 | 4 | 10326 | 2.6 | 1040 | 994 | 51 | 68 | 10445 |
| District of Columbia | 377 | 45 | -476 | 6 | 2 | 10687 | 2.1 | -306 | -432 | 381 | 38 | 11107 |
| Florida | 15318 | 1624 | 2683 | 29 | 126 | 96549 | 1.3 | 30 | -11289 | 336 | 865 | 97750 |
| Georgia | 9007 | 1453 | -1092 | 37 | 64 | 47450 | 1.3 | -560 | -11219 | 332 | 897 | 48679 |
| Hawaii | 1840 | 140 | -286 | 5 | 36 | 10200 | 1.8 | -190 | -1556 | 153 | 247 | 10600 |
| Idaho | 1583 | -383 | -532 | 17 | 9 | 13451 | 2.2 | -211 | -3674 | 227 | 94 | 13772 |
| Illinois | 12648 | 1220 | -3113 | 25 | 25 | 175649 | 3.1 | -17092 | -7962 | 554 | 753 | 176956 |
| Indiana | 4022 | 362 | -939 | 14 | 17 | 45020 | 1.6 | -512 | -8945 | 296 | 378 | 45702 |
| Iowa | 2375 | -1266 | -309 | 4 | 7 | 30550 | 2.1 | -1711 | -3859 | 85 | 168 | 30803 |
| Kansas | 2291 | 242 | -312 | 9 | 7 | 20438 | 1.6 | -1086 | -6017 | 218 | 264 | 20920 |
| Kentucky | 3495 | -699 | -989 | 13 | 9 | 28089 | 1.6 | -4557 | -9253 | 151 | 521 | 28761 |
| Louisiana | 2101 | 116 | -343 | 9 | 18 | 19330 | 1.0 | -269 | -3888 | 116 | 101 | 19547 |
| Maine | 1495 | 261 | -239 | 2 | 0 | 16574 | 2.9 | -423 | -1381 | 54 | 74 | 16702 |
| Maryland | 4136 | 93 | -1541 | 29 | 22 | 56516 | 2.4 | -1833 | -2200 | 603 | 480 | 57600 |
| Massachusetts | 6281 | 777 | -76 | 5 | 22 | 100999 | 3.1 | -2171 | -5073 | 273 | 513 | 101785 |
| Michigan | 12511 | 4285 | -60 | 15 | 46 | 112739 | 2.9 | -3151 | -3852 | 262 | 477 | 113478 |
| Minnesota | 4527 | 224 | -198 | 7 | 11 | 67678 | 2.6 | -2229 | -7055 | 181 | 311 | 68170 |
| Mississippi | 1907 | 88 | -1434 | 25 | 14 | 17295 | 1.6 | -458 | -5031 | 191 | 145 | 17631 |
| Missouri | 5200 | 79 | -1666 | 21 | 25 | 42543 | 1.7 | -3723 | -12619 | 221 | 223 | 42987 |
| Montana | 1007 | 8 | -45 | 17 | 10 | 12624 | 3.0 | -400 | -1634 | 520 | 96 | 13240 |
| Nebraska | 1085 | -61 | -279 | 0 | 4 | 9671 | 1.1 | -890 | -2512 | 32 | 39 | 9742 |
| Nevada | 3133 | 245 | -100 | 6 | 14 | 31157 | 2.8 | -877 | -2504 | 209 | 239 | 31605 |
| New Hampshire | 979 | 187 | -199 | 0 | 2 | 9535 | 1.6 | -361 | -1268 | 13 | 21 | 9569 |
| New Jersey | 9263 | 1630 | -4803 | 12 | 30 | 126326 | 3.4 | -19923 | -16995 | 279 | 435 | 127121 |
| New Mexico | 1251 | -46 | -92 | 4 | 18 | 16911 | 2.2 | 533 | 756 | 218 | 185 | 17314 |
| New York | 18008 | -348 | -22471 | 61 | 58 | 225530 | 2.7 | -8710 | -47668 | 896 | 1416 | 227842 |
| North Carolina | 5162 | 291 | -7629 | 8 | 45 | 60187 | 1.6 | -1642 | -35408 | 275 | 900 | 61362 |
| North Dakota | 300 | 65 | -145 | 6 | 3 | 4746 | 1.2 | -438 | -1074 | 19 | 9 | 4774 |
| Ohio | 9016 | -32 | -4254 | 12 | 57 | 93405 | 1.9 | -4207 | -12431 | 210 | 738 | 94353 |
| Oklahoma | 1615 | 10 | -507 | 7 | 32 | 16760 | 1.1 | -732 | -3744 | 89 | 214 | 17063 |
| Oregon | 7482 | 530 | -241 | 27 | 27 | 46044 | 2.8 | 2520 | -7932 | 699 | 383 | 47126 |
| Pennsylvania | 19176 | 2335 | -3745 | 95 | 104 | 190925 | 3.5 | 971 | -13574 | 649 | 1232 | 192811 |
| Puerto Rico | 1952 | 106 | -1292 | 4 | 6 | 29568 | 3.2 | -2207 | -11755 | 117 | 310 | 29995 |
| Rhode Island | 987 | 59 | -152 | 5 | 5 | 14969 | 3.4 | -944 | -1050 | 63 | 77 | 15109 |
| South Carolina | 3001 | 45 | -1165 | 12 | 24 | 22606 | 1.3 | -496 | -7537 | 65 | 253 | 22924 |
| South Dakota | 248 | 9 | -24 | 1 | 1 | 3186 | 0.8 | -266 | -470 | 49 | 8 | 3243 |
| Tennessee | 3848 | -582 | -1525 | 10 | 20 | 32820 | 1.3 | -1938 | -10622 | 154 | 306 | 33280 |
| Texas | 16139 | 1365 | -1122 | 44 | 285 | 152293 | 1.4 | -5579 | -2487 | 824 | 3166 | 156289 |
| Utah | 1475 | 151 | -160 | 13 | 11 | 14754 | 1.2 | -748 | -2435 | 238 | 107 | 15099 |
| Vermont | 831 | 265 | -67 | 3 | 1 | 7228 | 2.5 | -209 | -759 | 16 | 20 | 7264 |
| Virgin Islands | 32 | -1 | -21 | 0 | 1 | 872 | 2.3 | -24 | -242 | 22 | 12 | 906 |
| Virginia | 4296 | 332 | -650 | 19 | 31 | 40254 | 1.2 | -1603 | -5407 | 357 | 908 | 41519 |
| Washington | 8689 | 1080 | -914 | 30 | 126 | 66466 | 2.3 | -2154 | -11044 | 638 | 1390 | 68494 |
| West Virginia | 1105 | 51 | -175 | 5 | 6 | 17230 | 2.5 | -2065 | -1877 | 88 | 110 | 17428 |
| Wisconsin | 10029 | 201 | -3378 | 8 | 22 | 82285 | 3.1 | -2027 | -14488 | 166 | 215 | 82666 |
| Wyoming | 554 | 149 | 16 | 4 | 3 | 5185 | 1.9 | 192 | -1554 | 144 | 48 | 5377 |
| Totals | 300189 | 5327 | -56746 | 999 | 1817 | 2942180 | 2.2 | -148485 | -344031 | 16583 | 26344 | 2985212 |

Figures Appearing In columns showing Over-The-Week Changes reflect all revisions in data for prior week submitted by State agencies.

1. The Unemployment Compensation program for Federal Employees (UCFE) and the Unemployment Compensation for Ex-servicemembers (UCX) exclude claims filed jointly under other programs to avoid duplication.
2. Rate is not seasonally adjusted. The source of US total covered employment is BLS.

TECHNICAL NOTES

This news release presents the weekly unemployment insurance (UI) claims reported by each state's unemployment insurance program offices. These claims may be used for monitoring workload volume, assessing state program operations and for assessing labor market conditions. States initially report claims directly taken by the state liable for the benefit payments, regardless of where the claimant who filed the claim resided. These are the basis for the advance initial claims and continued claims reported each week. These data come from ETA 538, Advance Weekly Initial and Continued Claims Report. The following week initial claims and continued claims are revised based on a second reporting by states that reflect the claimants by state of residence. These data come from the ETA 539, Weekly Claims and Extended Benefits Trigger Data Report.

A. Initial Claims

An initial claim is a claim filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer. The claimant requests a determination of basic eligibility for the UI program. When an initial claim is filed with a state, certain programmatic activities take place and these result in activity counts including the count of initial claims.

The count of U.S. initial claims for unemployment insurance is a leading economic indicator because it is an indication of emerging labor market conditions in the country. However, these are weekly administrative data which are difficult to seasonally adjust, making the series subject to some volatility.

B. Continued Weeks Claimed

A person who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment then files a continued claim to claim benefits for that week of unemployment. Continued claims are also referred to as insured unemployment.

The count of U.S. continued weeks claimed is also a good indicator of labor market conditions. Continued claims reflect the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits in the nation. While continued claims are not a leading indicator (they roughly coincide with economic cycles at their peaks and lag at cycle troughs), they provide confirming evidence of the direction of the U.S. economy.

C. Seasonal Adjustments and Annual Revisions

Over the course of a year, the weekly changes in the levels of initial claims and continued claims undergo regularly occurring fluctuations. These fluctuations may result from seasonal changes in weather, major holidays, the opening and closing of schools, or other similar events. Because these seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on the level of a series can be tempered by adjusting for regular seasonal variation. These adjustments make trend and cycle developments easier to spot.

At the beginning of each calendar year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics provides the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) with a set of seasonal factors to apply to the unadjusted data during that year.

Concurrent with the implementation and release of the new seasonal factors, ETA incorporates revisions to the UI claims historical series caused by updates to the unadjusted data.

[Weekly Claims Archives](#)
[Weekly Claims Data](#)

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