



News Release

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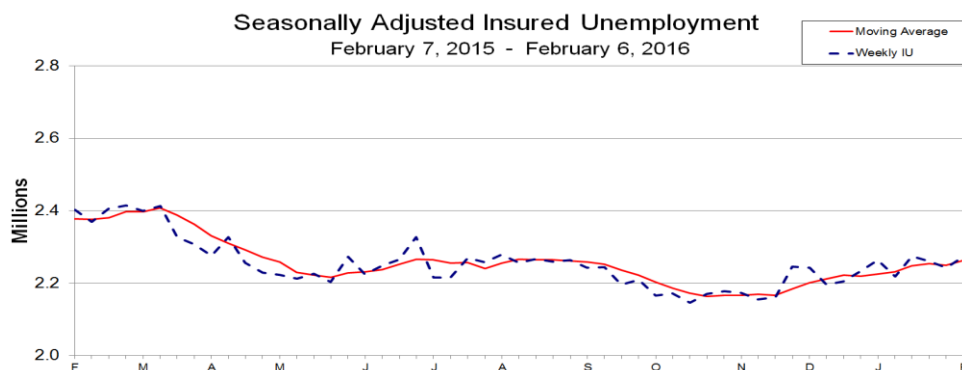
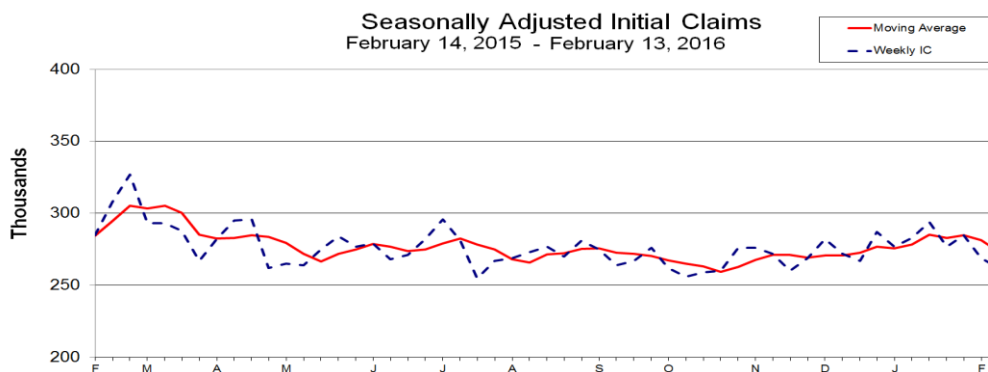
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending February 13, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 262,000, a decrease of 7,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 269,000. The 4-week moving average was 273,250, a decrease of 8,000 from the previous week's unrevised average of 281,250.

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

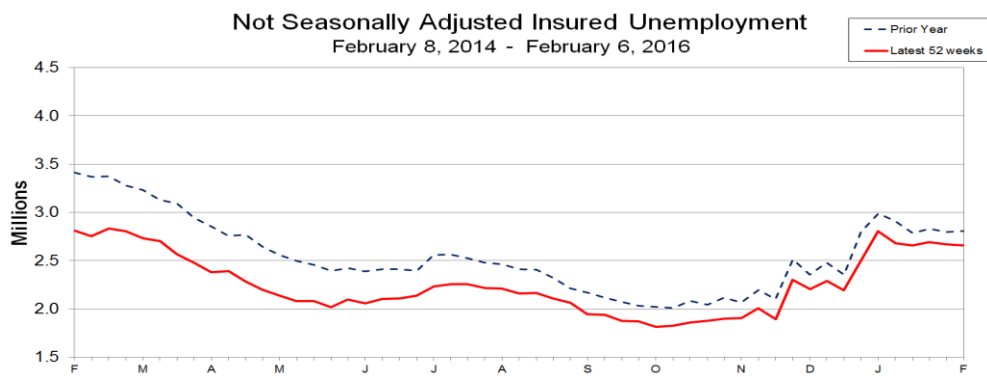
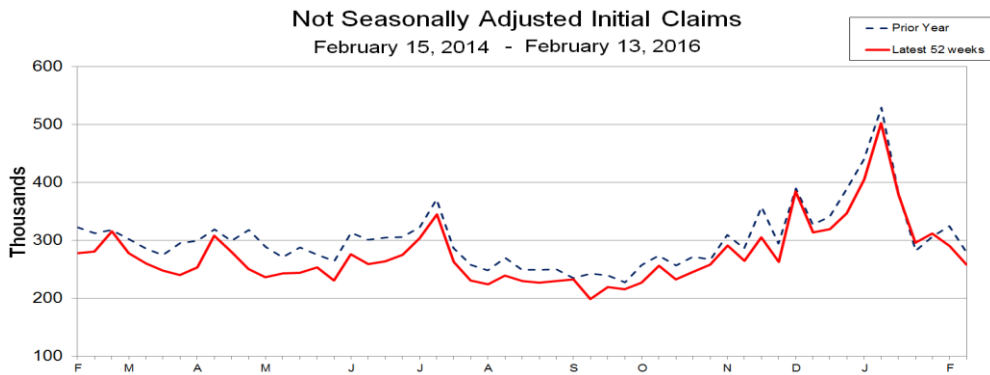
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.7 percent for the week ending February 6, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending February 6 was 2,273,000, an increase of 30,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 4,000 from 2,239,000 to 2,243,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,262,500, an increase of 13,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,000 from 2,248,000 to 2,249,000.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 258,264 in the week ending February 13, a decrease of 32,227 (or -11.1 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 25,260 (or -8.7 percent) from the previous week. There were 277,904 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 2.0 percent during the week ending February 6, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,659,926, a decrease of 11,139 (or -0.4 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 47,097 (or -1.8 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.1 percent and the volume was 2,809,933.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending January 30 was 2,720,405, a decrease of 19,128 from the previous week. There were 2,854,278 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2015.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending January 30.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 838 in the week ending February 6, a decrease of 184 from the prior week. There were 1,267 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 87 from the preceding week.

There were 13,966 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending January 30, a decrease of 1,267 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 15,733, a decrease of 571 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending January 30 were in Alaska (4.7), West Virginia (3.7), New Jersey (3.4), Montana (3.3), Pennsylvania (3.3), Connecticut (3.0), Wyoming (3.0), Illinois (2.9), Puerto Rico (2.9), and Rhode Island (2.9).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending February 6 were in Texas (+1,674), Rhode Island (+783), Florida (+419), Michigan (+385), and Virginia (+370), while the largest decreases were in Illinois (-5,503), Tennessee (-3,067), Pennsylvania (-2,284), Maryland (-1,911), and Ohio (-1,695).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	February 13	February 6	Change	January 30	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	262,000	269,000	-7,000	285,000	285,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	258,264	290,491	-32,227	311,940	277,904
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	273,250	281,250	-8,000	284,750	284,500
WEEK ENDING	February 6	January 30	Change	January 23	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,273,000	2,243,000	+30,000	2,260,000	2,402,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,659,926	2,671,065	-11,139	2,688,858	2,809,933
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,262,500	2,249,000	+13,500	2,254,250	2,377,500
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.7%	1.6%	+0.1	1.7%	1.8%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	2.0%	2.0%	0.0	2.0%	2.1%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	February 6	January 30	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	838	1,022	-184	999
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,267	1,180	+87	1,770

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	January 30	January 23	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	2,665,439	2,683,949	-18,510	2,792,099
Federal Employees	13,966	15,233	-1,267	17,110
Newly Discharged Veterans	15,733	16,304	-571	23,627
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	23
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	7,409	7,285	+124	7,395
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	17,858	16,762	+1,096	14,024
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,720,405	2,739,533	-19,128	2,854,278

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 136,270,223 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](#)

Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended February 13			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended February 6		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,343	2,909	-566	21,369	23,336	-1,967
Alaska	1,380	1,306	74	14,694	15,023	-329
Arizona	3,394	4,268	-874	24,356	27,270	-2,914
Arkansas	2,059	2,367	-308	19,973	22,012	-2,039
California	47,796	49,006	-1,210	422,090	414,632	7,458
Colorado	2,841	3,347	-506	34,383	34,796	-413
Connecticut	3,316	4,083	-767	50,253	49,508	745
Delaware	702	929	-227	8,702	8,655	47
District of Columbia	519	354	165	8,078	8,643	-565
Florida	6,783	8,488	-1,705	42,251	52,128	-9,877
Georgia	6,747	7,389	-642	35,579	38,100	-2,521
Hawaii	1,048	1,148	-100	6,581	6,318	263
Idaho	1,256	1,637	-381	12,968	14,473	-1,505
Illinois	10,189	12,490	-2,301	174,843	164,692	10,151
Indiana	3,500	3,982	-482	35,764	36,809	-1,045
Iowa	3,282	2,876	406	38,122	36,109	2,013
Kansas	2,059	2,411	-352	19,890	18,974	916
Kentucky	3,209	3,250	-41	28,568	30,531	-1,963
Louisiana	1,959	3,084	-1,125	22,890	23,156	-266
Maine	928	1,062	-134	12,680	12,726	-46
Maryland	3,880	5,364	-1,484	44,650	50,802	-6,152
Massachusetts	6,365	6,695	-330	93,183	93,706	-523
Michigan	7,974	9,630	-1,656	93,464	99,570	-6,106
Minnesota	4,637	4,422	215	75,914	72,028	3,886
Mississippi	1,141	1,691	-550	11,937	13,827	-1,890
Missouri	3,818	4,703	-885	37,830	41,607	-3,777
Montana	1,008	1,189	-181	14,107	14,307	-200
Nebraska	924	998	-74	9,155	9,034	121
Nevada	2,929	3,289	-360	25,930	27,887	-1,957
New Hampshire	688	826	-138	6,447	6,874	-427
New Jersey	9,365	10,674	-1,309	131,468	129,377	2,091
New Mexico	1,362	1,345	17	13,930	14,475	-545
New York	18,110	20,006	-1,896	200,690	198,982	1,708
North Carolina	4,088	4,449	-361	30,807	32,572	-1,765
North Dakota	1,173	997	176	14,573	9,837	4,736
Ohio	8,553	9,324	-771	92,919	93,912	-993
Oklahoma	1,955	2,149	-194	21,971	13,282	8,689
Oregon	4,617	5,551	-934	36,540	37,157	-617
* Pennsylvania	18,768	22,667	-3,899	185,400	185,338	62
* Puerto Rico	2,069	2,060	9	23,663	25,663	-1,980
Rhode Island	1,398	2,205	-807	13,831	13,247	584
South Carolina	2,125	2,805	-680	17,818	19,016	-1,198
South Dakota	221	314	-93	3,483	3,674	-191
Tennessee	3,084	4,934	-1,850	28,048	30,984	-2,936
Texas	17,095	19,309	-2,214	176,198	174,000	2,198
Utah	1,497	1,569	-72	15,514	15,624	-110
Vermont	517	666	-149	7,175	6,764	411
Virgin Islands	34	42	-8	582	492	90
* Virginia	4,850	4,898	-48	35,729	34,719	1,010
Washington	7,405	7,809	-404	65,762	67,053	-1,291
West Virginia	1,671	2,312	-641	25,135	24,905	230
Wisconsin	8,718	8,313	405	64,461	64,139	322
Wyoming	915	900	15	7,578	8,340	-762
US Total	258,264	290,491	-32,227	2,659,926	2,671,065	-11,139

Note: Advance Claims are not directly comparable to claims reported in prior weeks. Advance claims are reported by the state liable for paying the unemployment compensation, whereas previous weeks reported reflect claimants by state of residence. In addition, claims reported as "workshare equivalent" in the previous week are added to the advance claims as a proxy for the current week's "workshare equivalent" activity.

* Denotes state staff estimate.

Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly UI Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Change from			Insured Unemployment	Change from			IUR
	Initial Claims	Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average		
February 7, 2015	302	18	288.50	2,402	56	2,377.50	1.8	
February 14, 2015	285	-17	284.50	2,369	-33	2,375.75	1.8	
February 21, 2015	308	23	294.75	2,405	36	2,380.50	1.8	
February 28, 2015	327	19	305.50	2,414	9	2,397.50	1.8	
March 7, 2015	293	-34	303.25	2,399	-15	2,396.75	1.8	
March 14, 2015	293	0	305.25	2,413	14	2,407.75	1.8	
March 21, 2015	288	-5	300.25	2,327	-86	2,388.25	1.7	
March 28, 2015	267	-21	285.25	2,308	-19	2,361.75	1.7	
April 4, 2015	282	15	282.50	2,275	-33	2,330.75	1.7	
April 11, 2015	295	13	283.00	2,327	52	2,309.25	1.7	
April 18, 2015	296	1	285.00	2,256	-71	2,291.50	1.7	
April 25, 2015	262	-34	283.75	2,229	-27	2,271.75	1.7	
May 2, 2015	265	3	279.50	2,223	-6	2,258.75	1.7	
May 9, 2015	264	-1	271.75	2,212	-11	2,230.00	1.6	
May 16, 2015	275	11	266.50	2,226	14	2,222.50	1.7	
May 23, 2015	284	9	272.00	2,204	-22	2,216.25	1.6	
May 30, 2015	277	-7	275.00	2,272	68	2,228.50	1.7	
June 6, 2015	279	2	278.75	2,225	-47	2,231.75	1.7	
June 13, 2015	268	-11	277.00	2,249	24	2,237.50	1.7	
June 20, 2015	271	3	273.75	2,265	16	2,252.75	1.7	
June 27, 2015	282	11	275.00	2,327	62	2,266.50	1.7	
July 4, 2015	296	14	279.25	2,216	-111	2,264.25	1.6	
July 11, 2015	281	-15	282.50	2,216	0	2,256.00	1.6	
July 18, 2015	255	-26	278.50	2,270	54	2,257.25	1.7	
July 25, 2015	267	12	274.75	2,258	-12	2,240.00	1.7	
August 1, 2015	269	2	268.00	2,278	20	2,255.50	1.7	
August 8, 2015	273	4	266.00	2,256	-22	2,265.50	1.7	
August 15, 2015	277	4	271.50	2,266	10	2,264.50	1.7	
August 22, 2015	270	-7	272.25	2,259	-7	2,264.75	1.7	
August 29, 2015	281	11	275.25	2,263	4	2,261.00	1.7	
September 5, 2015	275	-6	275.75	2,243	-20	2,257.75	1.7	
September 12, 2015	264	-11	272.50	2,244	1	2,252.25	1.7	
September 19, 2015	267	3	271.75	2,195	-49	2,236.25	1.6	
September 26, 2015	276	9	270.50	2,209	14	2,222.75	1.6	
October 3, 2015	262	-14	267.25	2,165	-44	2,203.25	1.6	
October 10, 2015	256	-6	265.25	2,172	7	2,185.25	1.6	
October 17, 2015	259	3	263.25	2,146	-26	2,173.00	1.6	
October 24, 2015	260	1	259.25	2,170	24	2,163.25	1.6	
October 31, 2015	276	16	262.75	2,177	7	2,166.25	1.6	
November 7, 2015	276	0	267.75	2,173	-4	2,166.50	1.6	
November 14, 2015	272	-4	271.00	2,155	-18	2,168.75	1.6	
November 21, 2015	260	-12	271.00	2,161	6	2,166.50	1.6	
November 28, 2015	269	9	269.25	2,246	85	2,183.75	1.7	
December 5, 2015	282	13	270.75	2,242	-4	2,201.00	1.7	
December 12, 2015	272	-10	270.75	2,195	-47	2,211.00	1.6	
December 19, 2015	267	-5	272.50	2,205	10	2,222.00	1.6	
December 26, 2015	287	20	277.00	2,234	29	2,219.00	1.6	
January 2, 2016	277	-10	275.75	2,264	30	2,224.50	1.7	
January 9, 2016	283	6	278.50	2,219	-45	2,230.50	1.6	
January 16, 2016	294	11	285.25	2,274	55	2,247.75	1.7	
January 23, 2016	277	-17	282.75	2,260	-14	2,254.25	1.7	
January 30, 2016	285	8	284.75	2,243	-17	2,249.00	1.6	
February 6, 2016	269	-16	281.25	2,273	30	2,262.50	1.7	
February 13, 2016	262	-7	273.25					

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended February 6 INITIAL CLAIMS								Insured Unemployment For Week Ended January 30 INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
STATE	STATE	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1	STATE	(%) 2	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE 1	UCX 1		
Alabama	2909	-483	-151	10	17	23336	1.3	-923	-1631	57	170	23563	
Alaska	1306	-172	-113	4	1	15023	4.7	-243	750	243	65	15331	
Arizona	4268	-80	342	12	12	27270	1.1	-638	-2290	292	161	27723	
Arkansas	2367	-628	-113	9	6	22012	1.9	-1127	-2352	124	166	22302	
California	49006	-1557	-12000	200	216	414632	2.6	-12252	-17108	3061	2953	420646	
Colorado	3347	278	56	19	42	34796	1.4	1638	-980	353	653	35802	
Connecticut	4083	-896	-915	8	13	49508	3.0	-863	-7489	61	135	49704	
Delaware	929	-126	-22	2	4	8655	2.0	-875	-452	21	36	8712	
District of Columbia	354	37	33	5	1	8643	1.6	73	-594	291	15	8949	
Florida	8488	419	-2081	14	65	52128	0.7	-173	-18698	206	342	52676	
Georgia	7389	-1468	48	22	56	38100	1.0	-1634	-5730	170	484	38754	
Hawaii	1148	31	-357	4	17	6318	1.1	71	-2547	96	152	6566	
Idaho	1637	-181	-757	27	2	14473	2.3	-249	-1008	346	46	14865	
Illinois	12490	-5503	-428	9	20	164692	2.9	-2076	2677	365	437	165494	
Indiana	3982	-844	-568	12	25	36809	1.3	301	-3345	116	136	37061	
Iowa	2876	-245	61	4	6	36109	2.4	-601	1380	59	91	36259	
Kansas	2411	-98	-1011	0	9	18974	1.4	-1278	-2528	63	122	19159	
Kentucky	3250	-460	-970	7	13	30531	1.7	1302	-68	179	305	31015	
Louisiana	3084	1	145	9	8	23156	1.2	-131	1831	62	70	23288	
Maine	1062	-98	-147	1	3	12726	2.2	116	-2743	64	42	12832	
Maryland	5364	-1911	670	27	19	50802	2.1	3608	-6276	357	255	51414	
Massachusetts	6695	-389	-727	7	17	93706	2.8	-1749	-13354	237	314	94257	
Michigan	9630	385	-931	25	19	99570	2.4	2979	-4176	297	269	100136	
Minnesota	4422	155	-76	3	10	72028	2.6	1536	2706	185	175	72388	
Mississippi	1691	105	-18	7	3	13827	1.3	-398	-283	107	56	13990	
Missouri	4703	-1428	-2179	18	9	41607	1.6	-3538	-7447	275	111	41993	
Montana	1189	-85	-112	33	5	14307	3.3	-341	532	647	57	15011	
Nebraska	998	0	-424	2	2	9034	1.0	-42	-1443	31	22	9087	
Nevada	3289	221	-337	9	6	27887	2.3	311	-2061	228	148	28263	
New Hampshire	826	-75	-169	2	4	6874	1.1	6	-1497	5	11	6890	
New Jersey	10674	-1391	-502	13	23	129377	3.4	3559	-11666	248	419	130044	
New Mexico	1345	74	-137	4	6	14475	1.9	-167	112	321	77	14873	
New York	20006	12	-3792	39	53	198982	2.3	-505	-22470	428	747	200157	
North Carolina	4449	-136	-1049	5	29	32572	0.8	-549	-10084	172	298	33042	
North Dakota	997	90	309	0	0	9837	2.2	-84	2654	33	8	9878	
Ohio	9324	-1695	-1033	6	54	93912	1.8	-896	1822	130	476	94518	
Oklahoma	2149	-129	-98	5	11	13282	0.9	-9158	-3666	35	77	13394	
Oregon	5551	-214	-693	50	23	37157	2.2	43	-3378	804	272	38233	
Pennsylvania	22667	-2284	-1368	67	67	185338	3.3	12421	3029	534	646	186518	
Puerto Rico	2060	110	-71	3	12	25643	2.9	-1232	-2327	65	195	25903	
Rhode Island	2205	783	-88	3	6	13247	2.9	420	-1430	22	27	13296	
South Carolina	2805	-345	-403	8	23	19016	1.0	-507	-901	66	141	19223	
South Dakota	314	14	3	2	1	3674	0.9	-26	-7	44	13	3731	
Tennessee	4934	-3067	869	14	15	30984	1.1	779	-2256	169	152	31305	
Texas	19309	1674	-1109	36	182	174000	1.5	-5310	33938	518	2446	176964	
Utah	1569	10	-102	10	7	15624	1.2	98	-417	327	41	15992	
Vermont	666	31	29	2	0	6764	2.3	25	-664	22	3	6789	
Virgin Islands	42	7	-16	0	0	492	1.3	-136	-418	6	8	506	
Virginia	4898	370	315	10	21	34719	1.0	1346	-3517	336	575	35630	
Washington	7809	240	-637	36	86	67053	2.2	1379	-1794	672	936	68661	
West Virginia	2312	-8	572	2	5	24905	3.7	375	5573	84	73	25062	
Wisconsin	8313	-612	-1595	8	11	64139	2.3	-2661	-13369	162	90	64391	
Wyoming	900	112	180	4	2	8340	3.0	183	2550	170	14	8524	
Totals	290491	-21449	-33667	838	1267	2671065	2	-17793	-124910	13966	15733	2700764	

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.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 6, 2016

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
TX	+1,674	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
IL	-5,503	No comment.
TN	-3,067	No comment.
PA	-2,284	Fewer layoffs in the construction and transportation and warehousing industries.
MD	-1,911	No comment.
OH	-1,695	No comment.
CA	-1,557	No comment.
GA	-1,468	Fewer layoffs in the construction, trade, manufacturing, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
MO	-1,428	Fewer layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, and accommodation and food service industries.
NJ	-1,391	Fewer layoffs in the construction, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, accommodation and food service, health care and social assistance, manufacturing, and transportation and warehousing industries.

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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