



# News Release

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

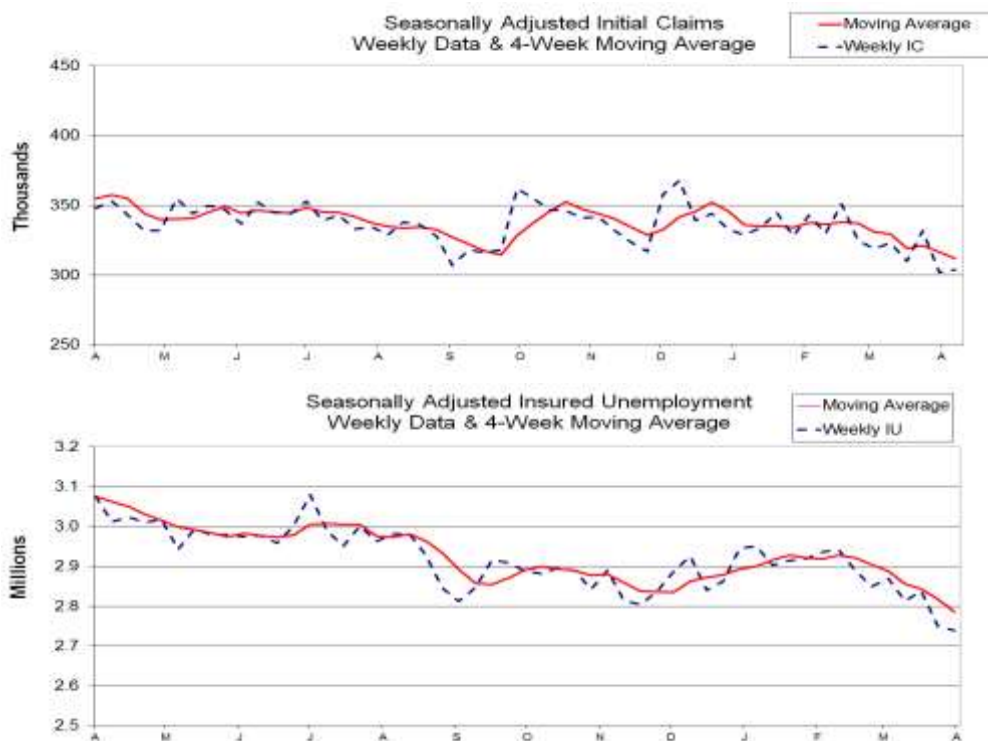
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### 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.

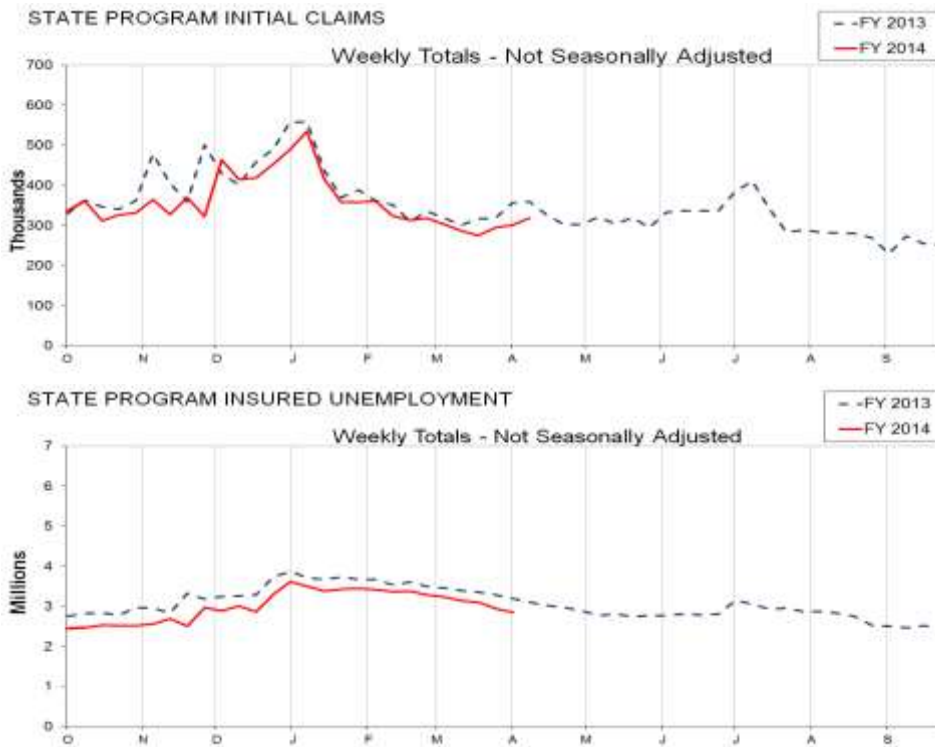
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 2.1 percent for the week ending April 5, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate of 2.1 percent. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending April 5 was 2,739,000, a decrease of 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).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>Advance April 12</b>	<b>April 5</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>March 29</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
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
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>Advance April 5</b>	<b>March 29</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>March 22</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
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> <sup>2</sup>	2.1%	2.1%	0.0	2.2%	2.4%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> <sup>2</sup>	2.2%	2.2%	0.0	2.4%	2.5%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>March 29</b>	<b>March 22</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
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> <sup>3</sup>	105	47	+58	465
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> <sup>4</sup>	9,866	10,520	-654	5,677
<u>STC / Workshare</u> <sup>5</sup>	17,174	22,114	-4,940	20,558
<u>TOTAL</u> <sup>6</sup>	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.

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED APRIL 5, 2014**

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**STATES WITH AN DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
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**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
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.

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## 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					
CHANGE FROM								CHANGE FROM					
STATE	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	STATE	(%) <sup>2</sup>	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
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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