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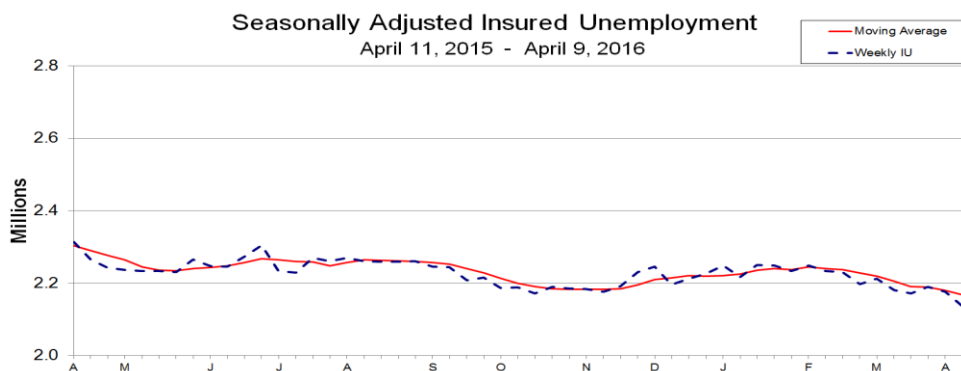
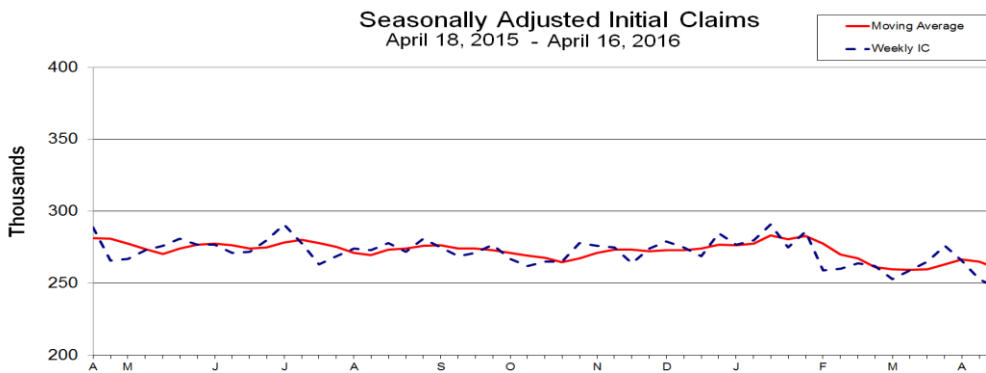
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending April 16, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 247,000, a decrease of 6,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 253,000. This is the lowest level for initial claims since November 24, 1973 when it was 233,000. The 4-week moving average was 260,500, a decrease of 4,500 from the previous week's unrevised average of 265,000.

There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 59 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1973.

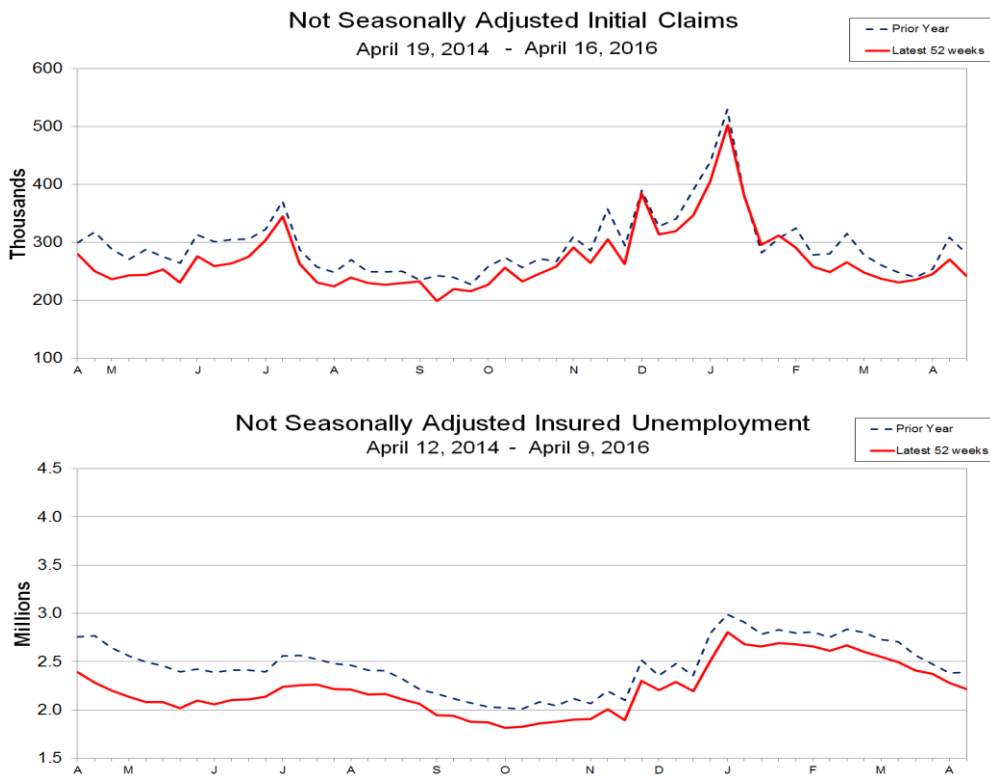
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.6 percent for the week ending April 9, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending April 9 was 2,137,000, a decrease of 39,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since November 4, 2000 when it was 2,110,000. The previous week's level was revised up 5,000 from 2,171,000 to 2,176,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,168,500, a decrease of 10,750 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since November 11, 2000 when it was 2,119,750. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,250 from 2,178,000 to 2,179,250.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 241,862 in the week ending April 16, a decrease of 28,557 (or -10.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 22,767 (or -8.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 279,797 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.6 percent during the week ending April 9, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,214,391, a decrease of 66,039 (or -2.9 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 26,112 (or -1.1 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.8 percent and the volume was 2,389,911.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending April 2 was 2,325,628, a decrease of 94,408 from the previous week. There were 2,434,208 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 April 2.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 744 in the week ending April 9, an increase of 126 from the prior week. There were 1,203 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 161 from the preceding week.

There were 10,631 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending April 2, a decrease of 192 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 13,664, a decrease of 626 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending April 2 were in Alaska (4.1), New Jersey (2.9), Wyoming (2.9), West Virginia (2.7), Pennsylvania (2.6), Connecticut (2.5), Puerto Rico (2.5), California (2.4), Illinois (2.4), and Massachusetts (2.4).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending April 9 were in California (+12,563), Pennsylvania (+3,049), Texas (+2,676), Arizona (+2,496), and Florida (+1,494), while the largest decreases were in New Jersey (-2,609), New York (-2,217), Wisconsin (-1,469), Oregon (-1,022), and Ohio (-769).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	April 16	April 9	Change	April 2	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	247,000	253,000	-6,000	266,000	289,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	241,862	270,419	-28,557	245,035	279,797
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	260,500	265,000	-4,500	266,500	281,500
WEEK ENDING	April 9	April 2	Change	March 26	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,137,000	2,176,000	-39,000	2,189,000	2,314,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,214,391	2,280,430	-66,039	2,375,518	2,389,911
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,168,500	2,179,250	-10,750	2,188,250	2,303,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.6%	1.6%	0.0	1.6%	1.7%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.6%	1.7%	-0.1	1.7%	1.8%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 9	April 2	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	744	618	+126	954
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,203	1,042	+161	1,398

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 2	March 26	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	2,275,028	2,370,526	-95,498	2,378,014
Federal Employees	10,631	10,823	-192	12,974
Newly Discharged Veterans	13,664	14,290	-626	20,750
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	4
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	7,575	8,133	-558	8,000
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	18,730	16,264	+2,466	14,466
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,325,628	2,420,036	-94,408	2,434,208

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 136,969,042 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 April 16			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended April 9		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,440	3,166	-726	19,153	20,481	-1,328
Alaska	1,493	1,344	149	12,359	12,877	-518
Arizona	5,370	7,003	-1,633	26,086	26,670	-584
Arkansas	1,870	2,559	-689	14,647	16,248	-1,601
California	50,898	49,058	1,840	391,525	385,140	6,385
Colorado	3,217	3,204	13	30,708	29,620	1,088
Connecticut	4,705	3,647	1,058	42,103	41,032	1,071
Delaware	568	859	-291	6,506	7,036	-530
*District of Columbia	301	341	-40	7,497	7,610	-113
Florida	7,139	8,729	-1,590	40,941	45,623	-4,682
Georgia	6,178	7,669	-1,491	29,933	32,521	-2,588
Hawaii	1,321	1,366	-45	6,838	6,340	498
Idaho	931	1,171	-240	7,598	9,292	-1,694
Illinois	9,225	10,800	-1,575	136,238	139,413	-3,175
Indiana	3,118	3,546	-428	25,664	27,092	-1,428
Iowa	2,317	2,251	66	22,247	23,725	-1,478
Kansas	2,176	2,084	92	13,444	13,588	-144
Kentucky	2,555	3,454	-899	23,632	24,268	-636
Louisiana	2,485	2,997	-512	22,818	22,941	-123
Maine	895	1,057	-162	10,138	10,750	-612
Maryland	3,083	4,082	-999	34,844	39,699	-4,855
Massachusetts	7,004	5,487	1,517	75,175	79,873	-4,698
Michigan	5,548	7,294	-1,746	74,489	81,234	-6,745
Minnesota	3,370	3,758	-388	55,870	59,704	-3,834
Mississippi	1,293	1,773	-480	10,174	11,197	-1,023
Missouri	3,480	4,360	-880	23,699	27,666	-3,967
Montana	1,015	1,121	-106	8,793	10,350	-1,557
Nebraska	665	680	-15	4,857	5,204	-347
Nevada	2,658	2,871	-213	21,942	24,666	-2,724
New Hampshire	656	842	-186	5,041	5,556	-515
New Jersey	9,639	10,619	-980	104,230	112,654	-8,424
New Mexico	1,149	1,310	-161	13,418	14,027	-609
New York	15,780	18,178	-2,398	169,009	173,836	-4,827
North Carolina	3,719	3,843	-124	24,653	25,598	-945
North Dakota	722	619	103	10,569	8,159	2,410
Ohio	6,194	7,382	-1,188	69,499	73,733	-4,234
Oklahoma	1,874	2,184	-310	22,864	23,477	-613
Oregon	3,442	3,593	-151	29,443	29,841	-398
Pennsylvania	16,063	20,346	-4,283	143,161	145,199	-2,038
Puerto Rico	1,673	1,650	23	22,090	21,910	180
Rhode Island	1,128	1,093	35	10,361	10,678	-317
South Carolina	2,376	3,066	-690	13,860	15,003	-1,143
South Dakota	191	230	-39	1,844	2,376	-532
Tennessee	2,372	3,825	-1,453	21,167	23,462	-2,295
Texas	16,619	19,103	-2,484	178,459	172,637	5,822
Utah	1,501	1,451	50	10,850	11,281	-431
Vermont	798	960	-162	6,323	6,068	255
Virgin Islands	39	41	-2	500	536	-36
Virginia	3,577	4,086	-509	30,438	30,808	-370
Washington	7,255	8,058	-803	54,341	54,318	23
West Virginia	1,076	1,565	-489	19,012	18,443	569
Wisconsin	5,921	7,438	-1,517	45,533	50,862	-5,329
Wyoming	780	1,206	-426	7,808	8,108	-300
US Total	241,862	270,419	-28,557	2,214,391	2,280,430	-66,039

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.

*estimated by OUI staff

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	
April 11, 2015	289	9	280.50	2,314	32	2,303.25	1.7
April 18, 2015	289	0	281.50	2,265	-49	2,289.50	1.7
April 25, 2015	266	-23	281.00	2,242	-23	2,275.75	1.7
May 2, 2015	267	1	277.75	2,237	-5	2,264.50	1.7
May 9, 2015	273	6	273.75	2,233	-4	2,244.25	1.7
May 16, 2015	276	3	270.50	2,233	0	2,236.25	1.7
May 23, 2015	281	5	274.25	2,231	-2	2,233.50	1.7
May 30, 2015	277	-4	276.75	2,265	34	2,240.50	1.7
June 6, 2015	277	0	277.75	2,247	-18	2,244.00	1.7
June 13, 2015	271	-6	276.50	2,246	-1	2,247.25	1.7
June 20, 2015	272	1	274.25	2,272	26	2,257.50	1.7
June 27, 2015	280	8	275.00	2,304	32	2,267.25	1.7
July 4, 2015	291	11	278.50	2,233	-71	2,263.75	1.7
July 11, 2015	278	-13	280.25	2,229	-4	2,259.50	1.7
July 18, 2015	263	-15	278.00	2,270	41	2,259.00	1.7
July 25, 2015	269	6	275.25	2,260	-10	2,248.00	1.7
August 1, 2015	274	5	271.00	2,269	9	2,257.00	1.7
August 8, 2015	273	-1	269.75	2,261	-8	2,265.00	1.7
August 15, 2015	278	5	273.50	2,259	-2	2,262.25	1.7
August 22, 2015	272	-6	274.25	2,259	0	2,262.00	1.7
August 29, 2015	281	9	276.00	2,261	2	2,260.00	1.7
September 5, 2015	275	-6	276.50	2,246	-15	2,256.25	1.7
September 12, 2015	269	-6	274.25	2,244	-2	2,252.50	1.7
September 19, 2015	271	2	274.00	2,208	-36	2,239.75	1.6
September 26, 2015	277	6	273.00	2,216	8	2,228.50	1.6
October 3, 2015	267	-10	271.00	2,186	-30	2,213.50	1.6
October 10, 2015	262	-5	269.25	2,188	2	2,199.50	1.6
October 17, 2015	265	3	267.75	2,171	-17	2,190.25	1.6
October 24, 2015	265	0	264.75	2,190	19	2,183.75	1.6
October 31, 2015	278	13	267.50	2,185	-5	2,183.50	1.6
November 7, 2015	276	-2	271.00	2,183	-2	2,182.25	1.6
November 14, 2015	275	-1	273.50	2,176	-7	2,183.50	1.6
November 21, 2015	264	-11	273.25	2,191	15	2,183.75	1.6
November 28, 2015	274	10	272.25	2,230	39	2,195.00	1.6
December 5, 2015	279	5	273.00	2,245	15	2,210.50	1.7
December 12, 2015	275	-4	273.00	2,195	-50	2,215.25	1.6
December 19, 2015	269	-6	274.25	2,212	17	2,220.50	1.6
December 26, 2015	285	16	277.00	2,226	14	2,219.50	1.6
January 2, 2016	277	-8	276.50	2,248	22	2,220.25	1.6
January 9, 2016	280	3	277.75	2,217	-31	2,225.75	1.6
January 16, 2016	291	11	283.25	2,250	33	2,235.25	1.7
January 23, 2016	275	-16	280.75	2,248	-2	2,240.75	1.6
January 30, 2016	286	11	283.00	2,234	-14	2,237.25	1.6
February 6, 2016	259	-27	277.75	2,249	15	2,245.25	1.7
February 13, 2016	260	1	270.00	2,233	-16	2,241.00	1.6
February 20, 2016	264	4	267.25	2,231	-2	2,236.75	1.6
February 27, 2016	262	-2	261.25	2,198	-33	2,227.75	1.6
March 5, 2016	253	-9	259.75	2,212	14	2,218.50	1.6
March 12, 2016	259	6	259.50	2,180	-32	2,205.25	1.6
March 19, 2016	265	6	259.75	2,172	-8	2,190.50	1.6
March 26, 2016	276	11	263.25	2,189	17	2,188.25	1.6
April 2, 2016	266	-10	266.50	2,176	-13	2,179.25	1.6
April 9, 2016	253	-13	265.00	2,137	-39	2,168.50	1.6
April 16, 2016	247	-6	260.50				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended April 9								Insured Unemployment For Week Ended April 2				
INITIAL CLAIMS								INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT				
CHANGE FROM								CHANGE FROM				
STATE	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	(%) ²	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
Alabama	3166	-103	-965	15	19	20481	1.1	-775	-1844	55	159	20695
Alaska	1344	223	-39	6	1	12877	4.1	-517	1496	140	47	13064
Arizona	7003	2496	-107	8	15	26670	1.1	389	-2657	185	134	26989
Arkansas	2559	597	-189	14	2	16248	1.4	-2001	-4683	70	99	16417
California	49058	12563	-1120	149	204	385140	2.4	-19504	471	2634	2676	390450
Colorado	3204	192	-120	16	34	29620	1.2	-2218	-2619	232	540	30392
Connecticut	3647	448	-593	6	4	41032	2.5	-3338	-7330	62	121	41215
Delaware	859	-466	-741	4	2	7036	1.7	-388	-71	19	23	7078
District of Columbia	341	75	-15	7	0	7610	1.4	-56	-536	284	12	7906
Florida	8729	1494	-1645	26	62	45623	0.6	-2466	-14241	126	347	46096
Georgia	7669	1246	1106	28	58	32521	0.8	766	-3401	180	412	33113
Hawaii	1366	-44	-107	3	14	6340	1.1	-486	-1557	79	122	6541
Idaho	1171	1	-298	8	5	9292	1.4	-1042	-839	186	42	9520
Illinois	10800	-262	-155	14	9	139413	2.4	-4860	-1068	338	426	140177
Indiana	3546	666	-1021	4	10	27092	0.9	-1528	-1416	83	96	27271
Iowa	2251	133	-325	6	2	23725	1.6	-2383	1550	53	81	23859
Kansas	2084	137	-1849	3	20	13588	1.0	-1074	-2134	56	87	13731
Kentucky	3454	809	-2839	3	19	24268	1.4	-1415	-484	92	256	24616
Louisiana	2997	513	-65	8	15	22941	1.2	1236	937	63	47	23051
Maine	1057	97	-68	1	1	10750	1.9	-426	-1857	44	36	10830
Maryland	4082	61	-464	24	23	39699	1.6	-909	-5703	307	222	40228
Massachusetts	5487	737	571	16	25	79873	2.4	-5297	-10464	181	296	80350
Michigan	7294	1150	-2257	13	27	81234	2.0	-7070	-1062	247	178	81659
Minnesota	3758	48	20	2	9	59704	2.2	-1456	4230	121	134	59959
Mississippi	1773	222	-274	2	4	11197	1.0	-248	-981	99	48	11344
Missouri	4360	344	-1381	2	5	27666	1.0	-2141	-3649	120	87	27873
Montana	1121	115	40	15	4	10350	2.4	-742	816	304	43	10697
Nebraska	680	-4	-280	1	7	5204	0.6	-473	-1599	33	17	5254
Nevada	2871	417	-524	5	5	24666	2.0	-129	-2608	172	124	24962
New Hampshire	842	202	80	0	1	5556	0.9	-229	-1364	2	18	5576
New Jersey	10619	-2609	-3923	11	19	112654	2.9	777	-4101	228	387	113269
New Mexico	1310	-16	-72	10	10	14027	1.8	-296	-522	189	69	14285
New York	18178	-2217	-6220	36	49	173836	2.0	-8737	-23041	393	668	174897
North Carolina	3843	533	-1020	12	32	25598	0.6	-468	-9216	123	253	25974
North Dakota	619	-54	-92	5	1	8159	1.9	-613	2363	8	11	8178
Ohio	7382	-769	-1281	9	32	73733	1.4	-3031	-2580	121	365	74219
Oklahoma	2184	228	71	9	16	23477	1.5	56	3310	54	131	23662
Oregon	3593	-1022	-1633	23	19	29841	1.7	-2695	-5205	513	219	30573
Pennsylvania	20346	3049	-2100	79	50	145199	2.6	-7607	-394	532	495	146226
Puerto Rico	1650	-475	-993	6	13	21910	2.5	-3224	-3402	29	183	22122
Rhode Island	1093	247	198	1	4	10678	2.3	-880	-1586	26	41	10745
South Carolina	3066	246	-486	9	16	15003	0.8	-109	-883	64	135	15202
South Dakota	230	44	-9	1	2	2376	0.6	-116	156	26	15	2417
Tennessee	3825	184	-315	11	17	23462	0.9	-841	-2447	127	129	23718
Texas	19103	2676	-1920	48	180	172637	1.5	-6119	19553	492	2075	175204
Utah	1451	292	-155	17	5	11281	0.9	-435	-658	130	31	11442
Vermont	960	222	192	1	0	6068	2.0	-54	-118	27	3	6098
Virgin Islands	41	17	19	0	1	536	1.4	-8	-60	8	12	556
Virginia	4086	42	515	18	32	30808	0.9	419	838	265	495	31568
Washington	8058	1323	-440	21	84	54318	1.8	-724	-3295	429	844	55591
West Virginia	1565	351	-515	2	4	18443	2.7	-163	2322	59	54	18556
Wisconsin	7438	-1469	-2277	3	10	50862	1.8	894	-10392	130	83	51075
Wyoming	1206	454	326	3	1	8108	2.9	-334	2542	91	36	8235
Totals	270419	25384	-37754	744	1203	2280430	1.7	-95088	-101483	10631	13664	2304725

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 APRIL 9, 2016

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	+12,563	Layoffs in the service industry.
PA	+3,049	Layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, construction, and manufacturing industries.
TX	+2,676	Layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, information, and retail trade industries.
AZ	+2,496	No comment.
FL	+1,494	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, construction, wholesale trade, retail trade, and service industries.
WA	+1,323	Layoffs in the finance and insurance, real estate, rental and leasing, and health care and social assistance industries.
GA	+1,246	Layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, manufacturing, trade, and construction industries.
MI	+1,150	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NJ	-2,609	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, education service, and public administration industries.
NY	-2,217	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food service, and healthcare and social assistance industries.
WI	-1,469	No comment.
OR	-1,022	No comment.

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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