



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, May 27, 2021

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

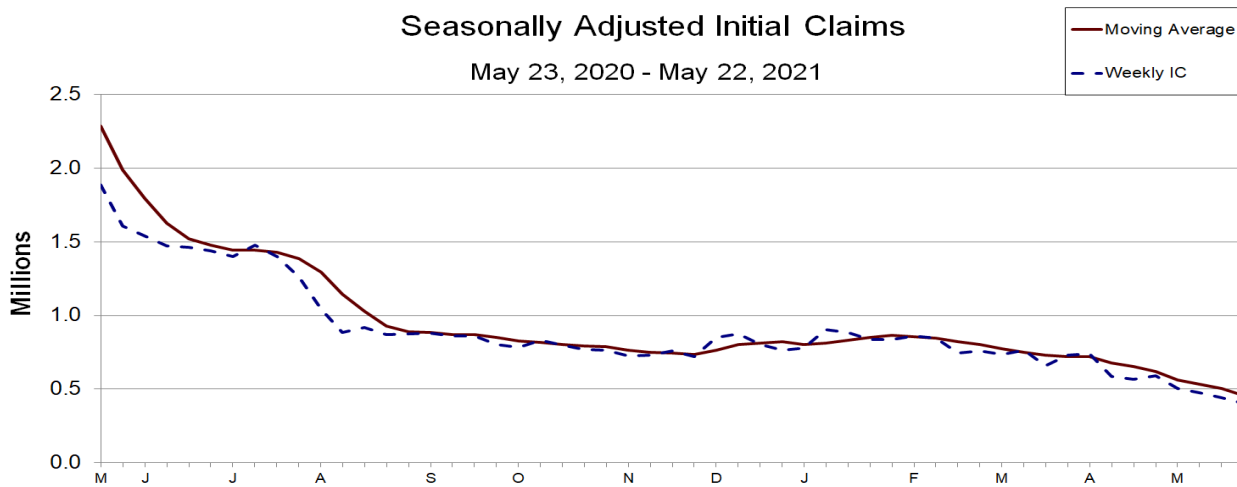
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending May 22, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 406,000, a decrease of 38,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 444,000. This is the lowest level for initial claims since March 14, 2020 when it was 256,000. The 4-week moving average was 458,750, a decrease of 46,000 from the previous week's unrevised average of 504,750. This is the lowest level for this average since March 14, 2020 when it was 225,500.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 2.6 percent for the week ending May 15, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending May 15 was 3,642,000, a decrease of 96,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 13,000 from 3,751,000 to 3,738,000. The 4-week moving average was 3,675,000, a decrease of 2,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 3,250 from 3,681,000 to 3,677,750.

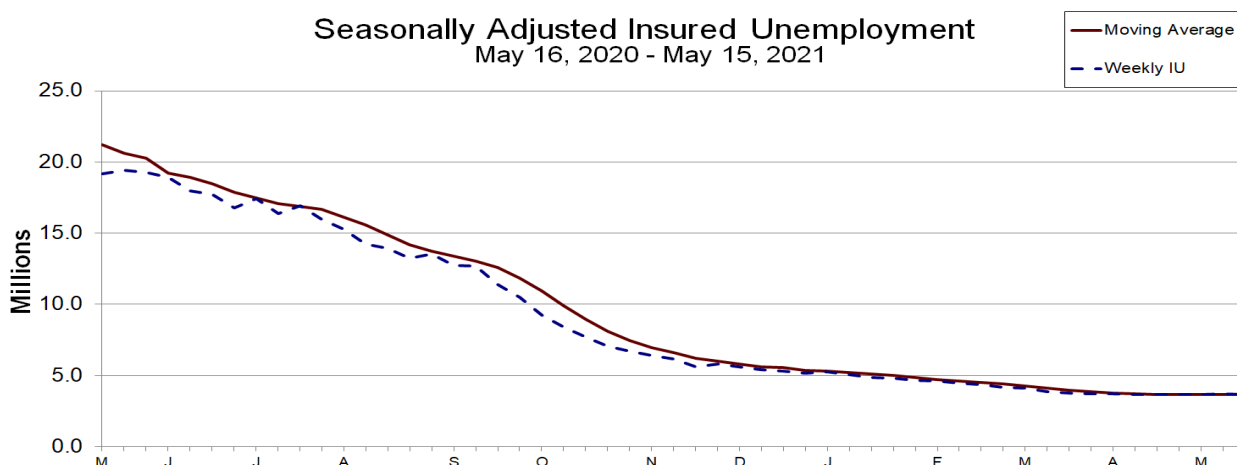
Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

May 23, 2020 - May 22, 2021



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

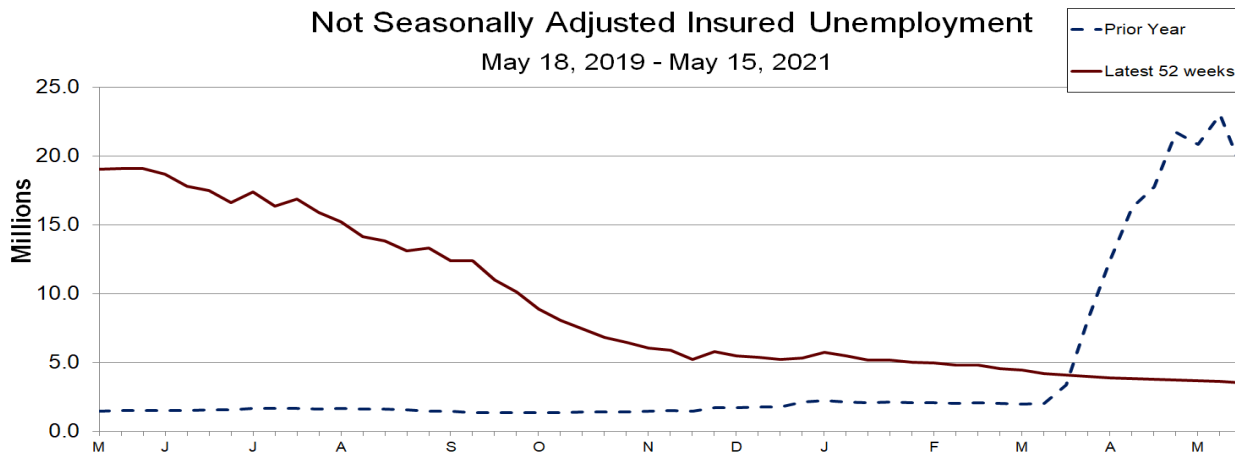
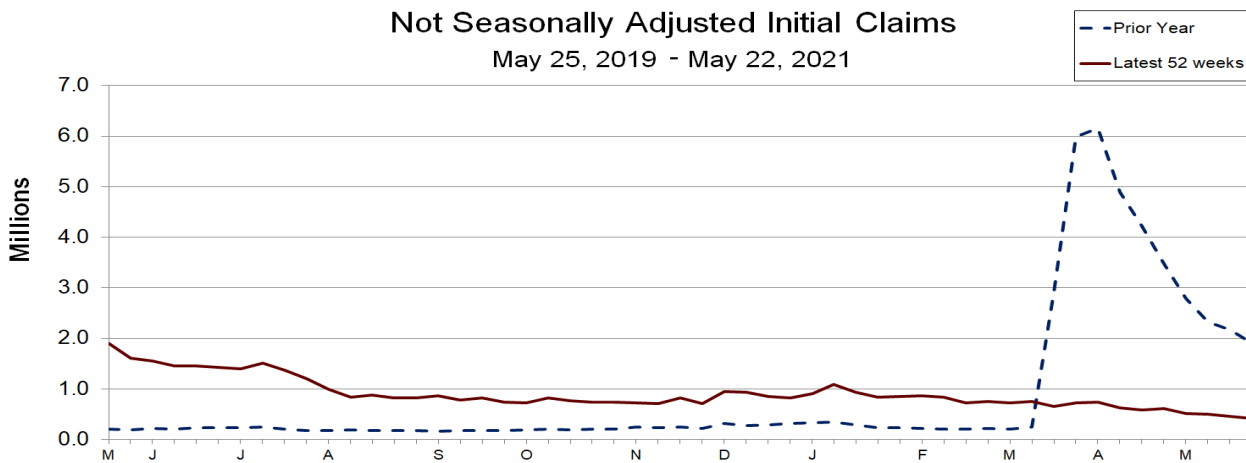
May 16, 2020 - May 15, 2021



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 420,472 in the week ending May 22, a decrease of 34,131 (or -7.5 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 3,932 (or 0.9 percent) from the previous week. There were 1,902,793 initial claims in the comparable week in 2020. In addition, for the week ending May 22, 53 states reported 93,546 initial claims for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 2.5 percent during the week ending May 15, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 3,521,314, a decrease of 149,996 (or -4.1 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 53,483 (or -1.5 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 13.1 percent and the volume was 19,037,741.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending May 8 was 15,802,126, a decrease of 175,255 from the previous week. There were 31,578,845 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2020.

During the week ending May 8, Extended Benefits were available in the following 14 states: Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Texas.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 834 in the week ending May 15, a decrease of 97 from the prior week. There were 606 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 3 from the preceding week.

There were 13,453 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending May 8, a decrease of 332 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 7,300, a decrease of 21 from the prior week.

During the week ending May 8, 51 states reported 6,515,657 continued weekly claims for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance benefits and 51 states reported 5,191,642 continued claims for Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending May 8 were in Nevada (5.7), Connecticut (4.5), Rhode Island (4.5), Alaska (4.3), Puerto Rico (4.3), California (3.9), New York (3.9), Pennsylvania (3.9), Illinois (3.7), and Vermont (3.6).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending May 15 were in New Jersey (+4,812), Washington (+3,023), Minnesota (+1,806), West Virginia (+907), and Rhode Island (+792), while the largest decreases were in Georgia (-7,392), Kentucky (-7,123), Texas (-3,881), Michigan (-3,560), and Florida (-2,994).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	May 22	May 15	Change	May 8	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	406,000	444,000	-38,000	478,000	1,887,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	420,472	454,603	-34,131	492,029	1,902,793
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	458,750	504,750	-46,000	535,250	2,283,750

WEEK ENDING	May 15	May 8	Change	May 1	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	3,642,000	3,738,000	-96,000	3,640,000	19,181,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	3,521,314	3,671,310	-149,996	3,694,436	19,037,741
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	3,675,000	3,677,750	-2,750	3,656,250	21,199,000
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	2.6%	2.7%	-0.1	2.6%	13.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	2.5%	2.6%	-0.1	2.7%	13.1%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	May 22	May 15	Change	May 8	Prior Year¹
Pandemic Unemployment Assistance	93,546	95,142	-1,596	103,675	1,353,285

WEEK ENDING	May 15	May 8	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	834	931	-97	1,826
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	606	609	-3	1,215

CONTINUED WEEKS CLAIMED FILED FOR UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	May 8	May 1	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	3,645,037	3,668,863	-23,826	22,968,771
Federal Employees	13,453	13,785	-332	16,586
Newly Discharged Veterans	7,300	7,321	-21	14,280
Pandemic Unemployment Assistance ³	6,515,657	6,606,198	-90,541	8,139,507
Pandemic Emergency UC ⁴	5,191,642	5,142,370	+49,272	253,292
Extended Benefits ⁵	342,417	456,805	-114,388	931
State Additional Benefits ⁶	1,764	1,753	+11	5,819
STC / Workshare ⁷	84,856	80,286	+4,570	179,659
TOTAL⁸	15,802,126	15,977,381	-175,255	31,578,845

FOOTNOTES

SA - Seasonally Adjusted Data, NSA - Not Seasonally Adjusted Data Continued weeks claimed represent all weeks of benefits claimed during the week being reported, and do not represent weeks claimed by unique individuals.

1. Prior year is comparable to most recent data.
2. Most recent week used covered employment of 139,248,565 as denominator.
3. Information on the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program can be found in UIPL 16-20: [PUA Program information](#)
4. Information on the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program can be found in Unemployment Insurance Program Letter (UIPL) 17-20: [PEUC Program information](#)
5. Information on the EB program can be found here: [EB Program information](#)
6. Some states maintain additional benefit programs for those claimants who exhaust regular benefits, and when applicable, extended benefits. Information on states that participate, and the extent of benefits paid, can be found starting on page 4-4 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
7. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-8 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
8. Totals include PUA Unemployment for the appropriate corresponding week.

Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended May 22			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended May 15		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	8,419	9,377	-958	13,376	17,390	-4,014
Alaska	3,409	2,755	654	11,778	12,403	-625
Arizona	4,334	5,378	-1,044	52,222	55,921	-3,699
Arkansas	2,185	2,371	-186	18,549	19,553	-1,004
California	71,787	70,282	1,505	584,222	635,780	-51,558
Colorado	4,348	4,144	204	61,001	58,462	2,539
Connecticut	4,754	4,675	79	68,855	69,894	-1,039
Delaware	6,392	4,242	2,150	12,682	10,861	1,821
District of Columbia	1,329	1,383	-54	18,654	19,378	-724
Florida	8,864	14,561	-5,697	124,004	128,834	-4,830
Georgia	23,791	25,441	-1,650	122,386	120,243	2,143
Hawaii	2,390	2,543	-153	17,000	16,770	230
Idaho	1,717	2,024	-307	6,576	7,429	-853
Illinois	18,920	17,530	1,390	201,775	208,885	-7,110
Indiana	6,352	6,957	-605	55,644	57,689	-2,045
Iowa	4,342	3,582	760	26,125	26,173	-48
Kansas	2,029	1,873	156	10,970	9,094	1,876
Kentucky	2,821	4,044	-1,223	18,482	24,790	-6,308
Louisiana	5,588	6,327	-739	49,281	51,726	-2,445
Maine	991	1,224	-233	11,361	11,852	-491
Maryland	8,625	8,838	-213	42,895	45,802	-2,907
Massachusetts	8,366	9,494	-1,128	78,093	87,129	-9,036
Michigan	11,079	13,806	-2,727	117,947	131,259	-13,312
Minnesota	5,484	5,868	-384	73,929	72,167	1,762
Mississippi	2,557	3,455	-898	24,853	27,078	-2,225
Missouri	5,842	6,848	-1,006	54,496	57,346	-2,850
Montana	1,081	1,171	-90	8,305	8,938	-633
Nebraska	1,564	1,406	158	7,213	7,428	-215
Nevada	4,155	4,178	-23	69,037	73,361	-4,324
New Hampshire	722	375	347	16,745	17,628	-883
New Jersey	12,569	18,268	-5,699	116,384	112,865	3,519
New Mexico	3,860	3,396	464	25,551	26,698	-1,147
New York	19,109	20,808	-1,699	327,880	341,204	-13,324
North Carolina	6,102	7,137	-1,035	45,245	47,656	-2,411
North Dakota	564	610	-46	3,754	3,822	-68
Ohio	13,479	17,575	-4,096	98,725	107,224	-8,499
Oklahoma	15,545	8,644	6,901	28,902	20,259	8,643
Oregon	7,661	9,235	-1,574	59,327	58,487	840
Pennsylvania	24,266	22,906	1,360	207,640	209,101	-1,461
Puerto Rico	2,321	2,024	297	35,996	35,628	368
Rhode Island	8,890	8,313	577	20,120	19,989	131
South Carolina	2,061	2,588	-527	37,107	38,176	-1,069
South Dakota	197	409	-212	2,447	2,523	-76
Tennessee	6,006	7,721	-1,715	51,329	53,307	-1,978
Texas	23,206	27,568	-4,362	217,085	228,786	-11,701
Utah	3,301	3,042	259	12,942	13,142	-200
Vermont	344	358	-14	8,737	10,177	-1,440
Virgin Islands	409	208	201	1,034	840	194
Virginia	10,520	10,642	-122	59,993	60,413	-420
Washington	11,855	19,914	-8,059	87,535	93,892	-6,357
West Virginia	3,864	6,529	-2,665	19,727	18,294	1,433
Wisconsin	9,590	9,880	-290	71,913	74,157	-2,244
Wyoming	516	676	-160	3,485	3,407	78
US Total	420,472	454,603	-34,131	3,521,314	3,671,310	-149,996

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 claims 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.

Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly UI Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Initial Claims	Change from		Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
		Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
May 16, 2020	2,149	-166	2,674.75	19,181	-3,947	21,199.00	13.2
May 23, 2020	1,887	-262	2,283.75	19,396	215	20,632.00	13.3
May 30, 2020	1,605	-282	1,989.00	19,287	-109	20,248.00	13.2
June 6, 2020	1,537	-68	1,794.50	18,927	-360	19,197.75	13.0
June 13, 2020	1,472	-65	1,625.25	17,993	-934	18,900.75	12.4
June 20, 2020	1,460	-12	1,518.50	17,713	-280	18,480.00	12.2
June 27, 2020	1,436	-24	1,476.25	16,780	-933	17,853.25	11.5
July 4, 2020	1,398	-38	1,441.50	17,413	633	17,474.75	11.9
July 11, 2020	1,479	81	1,443.25	16,385	-1,028	17,072.75	11.2
July 18, 2020	1,398	-81	1,427.75	16,913	528	16,872.75	11.6
July 25, 2020	1,262	-136	1,384.25	15,964	-949	16,668.75	10.9
August 1, 2020	1,043	-219	1,295.50	15,303	-661	16,141.25	10.5
August 8, 2020	883	-160	1,146.50	14,217	-1,086	15,599.25	9.7
August 15, 2020	920	37	1,027.00	13,948	-269	14,858.00	9.5
August 22, 2020	872	-48	929.50	13,246	-702	14,178.50	9.1
August 29, 2020	875	3	887.50	13,528	282	13,734.75	9.3
September 5, 2020	881	6	887.00	12,755	-773	13,369.25	8.7
September 12, 2020	860	-21	872.00	12,706	-49	13,058.75	8.7
September 19, 2020	860	0	869.00	11,381	-1,325	12,592.50	7.8
September 26, 2020	803	-57	851.00	10,477	-904	11,829.75	7.2
October 3, 2020	782	-21	826.25	9,259	-1,218	10,955.75	6.3
October 10, 2020	833	51	819.50	8,384	-875	9,875.25	5.7
October 17, 2020	798	-35	804.00	7,699	-685	8,954.75	5.3
October 24, 2020	768	-30	795.25	7,076	-623	8,104.50	4.8
October 31, 2020	765	-3	791.00	6,724	-352	7,470.75	4.6
November 7, 2020	728	-37	764.75	6,389	-335	6,972.00	4.4
November 14, 2020	732	4	748.25	6,138	-251	6,581.75	4.2
November 21, 2020	762	30	746.75	5,606	-532	6,214.25	3.8
November 28, 2020	719	-43	735.25	5,829	223	5,990.50	4.0
December 5, 2020	853	134	766.50	5,614	-215	5,796.75	3.8
December 12, 2020	873	20	801.75	5,433	-181	5,620.50	3.7
December 19, 2020	803	-70	812.00	5,311	-122	5,546.75	3.6
December 26, 2020	763	-40	823.00	5,180	-131	5,384.50	3.5
January 2, 2021	781	18	805.00	5,240	60	5,291.00	3.7
January 9, 2021	904	123	812.75	5,061	-179	5,198.00	3.6
January 16, 2021	886	-18	833.50	4,878	-183	5,089.75	3.4
January 23, 2021	836	-50	851.75	4,791	-87	4,992.50	3.4
January 30, 2021	837	1	865.75	4,655	-136	4,846.25	3.3
February 6, 2021	863	26	855.50	4,592	-63	4,729.00	3.2
February 13, 2021	847	-16	845.75	4,469	-123	4,626.75	3.1
February 20, 2021	747	-100	823.50	4,383	-86	4,524.75	3.1
February 27, 2021	761	14	804.50	4,157	-226	4,400.25	2.9
March 6, 2021	734	-27	772.25	4,123	-34	4,283.00	2.9
March 13, 2021	765	31	751.75	3,841	-282	4,126.00	2.7
March 20, 2021	658	-107	729.50	3,753	-88	3,968.50	2.6
March 27, 2021	729	71	721.50	3,717	-36	3,858.50	2.6
April 3, 2021	742	13	723.50	3,708	-9	3,754.75	2.7
April 10, 2021	586	-156	678.75	3,652	-56	3,707.50	2.6
April 17, 2021	566	-20	655.75	3,653	1	3,682.50	2.6
April 24, 2021	590	24	621.00	3,680	27	3,673.25	2.6
May 1, 2021	507	-83	562.25	3,640	-40	3,656.25	2.6
May 8, 2021	478	-29	535.25	3,738	98	3,677.75	2.7
May 15, 2021	444	-34	504.75	3,642	-96	3,675.00	2.6
May 22, 2021	406	-38	458.75				

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	PUA Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended May 22			PUA Continued Claims For Week Ended May 8		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	May 8	May 1	Change
Alabama	1,726	2,059	-333	12,981	13,137	-156
Alaska	332	258	74	8,261	8,423	-162
Arizona	1,613	1,755	-142	135,796	134,084	1,712
Arkansas	1,240	2,245	-1,005	39,059	40,425	-1,366
California	13,886	17,258	-3,372	1,146,188	1,207,992	-61,804
Colorado	877	721	156	40,518	40,913	-395
Connecticut	303	264	39	35,720	35,816	-96
Delaware	41	49	-8	5,299	5,463	-164
District of Columbia	34	44	-10	12,763	11,782	981
Florida	2,034	3,333	-1,299	0	0	0
Georgia	685	805	-120	117,504	125,080	-7,576
Hawaii	365	387	-22	37,506	37,402	104
Idaho	37	38	-1	3,940	4,198	-258
Illinois	3,576	3,334	242	219,652	233,353	-13,701
Indiana	2,550	3,108	-558	114,087	120,284	-6,197
Iowa	306	358	-52	11,038	10,470	568
Kansas	259	264	-5	11,153	11,919	-766
Kentucky	1,197	610	587	14,500	14,425	75
Louisiana	1,218	1,348	-130	104,888	104,906	-18
Maine	208	101	107	12,824	12,856	-32
Maryland	5,983	5,705	278	176,873	173,205	3,668
Massachusetts	1,064	1,255	-191	241,409	244,733	-3,324
Michigan	1,935	2,197	-262	503,466	309,796	193,670
Minnesota	1	1	0	37,410	40,399	-2,989
Mississippi	260	523	-263	27,142	26,945	197
Missouri	673	894	-221	36,695	36,648	47
Montana	152	322	-170	12,659	12,674	-15
Nebraska	45	53	-8	2,675	2,732	-57
Nevada	288	288	0	47,415	46,938	477
New Hampshire	52	45	7	8,319	8,630	-311
New Jersey	5,165	1,539	3,626	309,558	310,401	-843
New Mexico	5,374	4,541	833	34,259	34,103	156
New York	1,787	2,083	-296	1,063,881	1,085,378	-21,497
North Carolina	1,930	2,237	-307	82,674	83,052	-378
North Dakota	67	83	-16	3,004	3,207	-203
Ohio	3,281	6,117	-2,836	299,103	331,496	-32,393
Oklahoma	12,263	5,439	6,824	20,801	19,409	1,392
Oregon	2,583	2,271	312	80,308	88,764	-8,456
Pennsylvania	5,719	5,936	-217	504,721	515,256	-10,535
Puerto Rico	2,106	3,100	-994	190,901	214,979	-24,078
Rhode Island	1,323	1,459	-136	37,079	37,202	-123
South Carolina	656	660	-4	45,802	48,456	-2,654
South Dakota	1	6	-5	297	391	-94
Tennessee	1,173	1,395	-222	55,264	55,478	-214
Texas	2,291	2,978	-687	334,765	439,986	-105,221
Utah	244	313	-69	1,706	1,750	-44
Vermont	7	6	1	8,480	9,458	-978
Virgin Islands	14	6	8	0	0	0
Virginia	1,022	1,103	-81	111,824	116,539	-4,715
Washington	1,781	2,307	-526	122,873	104,125	18,748
West Virginia	706	673	33	8,078	8,171	-93
Wisconsin	1,105	1,234	-129	21,916	21,962	-46
Wyoming	8	34	-26	623	1,007	-384
US Total	93,546	95,142	-1,596	6,515,657	6,606,198	-90,541

Note: Information on the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program can be found in UIPL 16-20: [PUA Program information](#). Backdated claims may be included in these figures.

Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation Continued Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	PEUC Claims Filed During Weeks Ended:				
	May 8	May 1	Change	April 24	April 17
Alabama	50,920	51,972	-1,052	51,452	50,755
Alaska	15,898	16,062	-164	16,153	16,274
Arizona	43,804	46,041	-2,237	51,736	54,002
Arkansas	20,244	20,843	-599	21,003	20,394
California	992,469	826,640	165,829	1,074,171	723,379
Colorado	65,776	66,881	-1,105	67,171	67,603
Connecticut	88,299	87,885	414	88,028	82,109
Delaware	14,449	14,252	197	2,962	14,214
District of Columbia	4,872	4,924	-52	5,353	5,904
Florida	0	0	0	0	0
Georgia	0	0	0	0	0
Hawaii	35,340	32,796	2,544	34,639	31,814
Idaho	5,450	5,590	-140	6,493	5,990
Illinois	276,345	269,304	7,041	264,207	260,760
Indiana	67,232	67,408	-176	67,277	68,456
Iowa	22,709	22,112	597	24,367	23,526
Kansas	13,707	13,175	532	9,364	9,446
Kentucky	29,142	28,990	152	27,067	29,176
Louisiana	70,694	71,817	-1,123	72,961	73,002
Maine	16,840	16,947	-107	17,108	17,164
Maryland	86,899	86,089	810	86,570	85,960
Massachusetts	226,989	227,424	-435	227,662	223,986
Michigan	253,269	236,244	17,025	259,966	256,547
Minnesota	184,716	184,869	-153	181,599	180,590
Mississippi	23,097	22,435	662	23,855	29,613
Missouri	51,945	51,545	400	53,585	53,943
Montana	7,345	7,661	-316	7,677	8,014
Nebraska	5,184	4,973	211	5,367	5,158
Nevada	95,243	95,292	-49	96,614	98,195
New Hampshire	6,358	6,501	-143	6,773	6,880
New Jersey	241,020	241,206	-186	227,406	197,613
New Mexico	38,868	39,220	-352	39,931	38,372
New York	717,235	670,088	47,147	665,144	677,876
North Carolina	161,980	163,438	-1,458	166,668	167,808
North Dakota	3,755	6,392	-2,637	6,724	6,976
Ohio	121,738	121,687	51	121,234	121,884
Oklahoma	33,447	34,807	-1,360	35,497	36,208
Oregon	83,603	83,662	-59	82,597	81,918
Pennsylvania	298,976	284,996	13,980	291,439	286,351
Puerto Rico	42,502	50,235	-7,733	123,238	8,648
Rhode Island	17,933	18,112	-179	18,567	18,519
South Carolina	68,728	70,560	-1,832	71,491	77,607
South Dakota	1,353	1,147	206	1,277	1,245
Tennessee	53,646	54,433	-787	55,969	57,738
Texas	438,611	618,319	-179,708	441,882	602,468
Utah	11,484	11,548	-64	11,417	11,156
Vermont	9,771	10,589	-818	10,849	10,697
Virgin Islands	9	40	-31	20	22
Virginia	12,562	13,689	-1,127	14,497	16,507
Washington	3,342	7,592	-4,250	2,255	2,337
West Virginia	17,431	17,247	184	17,637	17,368
Wisconsin	33,923	31,663	2,260	29,640	26,650
Wyoming	4,490	5,028	-538	4,969	4,982
US Total	5,191,642	5,142,370	49,272	5,291,528	4,973,804

Note: Information on the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program can be found in Unemployment Insurance Program Letter (UIPL) 17-20: [PEUC Program information](#)

Extended Benefits (EB) Continued Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	EB Claims Filed During Weeks Ended:		
	May 8	May 1	Change
Alabama	0	0	0
Alaska	39	20	19
Arizona	157	161	-4
Arkansas	14	16	-2
California	190,432	230,779	-40,347
Colorado	20	22	-2
Connecticut	561	692	-131
Delaware	6	6	0
District of Columbia	9	5	4
Florida	0	0	0
Georgia	0	0	0
Hawaii	6	6	0
Idaho	7	6	1
Illinois	5,257	4,608	649
Indiana	15	13	2
Iowa	20	22	-2
Kansas	583	610	-27
Kentucky	0	0	0
Louisiana	18	28	-10
Maine	3	3	0
Maryland	479	472	7
Massachusetts	2,899	3,120	-221
Michigan	283	532	-249
Minnesota	2	0	2
Mississippi	197	191	6
Missouri	60	79	-19
Montana	4	14	-10
Nebraska	2	0	2
Nevada	7,869	10,137	-2,268
New Hampshire	5	13	-8
New Jersey	6,919	7,655	-736
New Mexico	364	387	-23
New York	112,123	177,175	-65,052
North Carolina	83	81	2
North Dakota	1	0	1
Ohio	0	50	-50
Oklahoma	0	0	0
Oregon	149	127	22
Pennsylvania	4,774	5,745	-971
Puerto Rico	926	2,540	-1,614
Rhode Island	321	364	-43
South Carolina	34	35	-1
South Dakota	0	0	0
Tennessee	35	34	1
Texas	6,976	10,334	-3,358
Utah	0	0	0
Vermont	2	5	-3
Virgin Islands	4	8	-4
Virginia	266	278	-12
Washington	18	16	2
West Virginia	13	8	5
Wisconsin	458	405	53
Wyoming	4	3	1
US Total	342,417	456,805	-114,388

Note: Information on the EB program can be found here: [EB Program information](#)

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED MAY 15						INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED MAY 8						ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE (%) ²	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO				
Alabama	9,377	-1,464	-15,773	22	9	17,390	0.9	-556	-186,287	48	43	17,481	
Alaska	2,755	-338	-4,986	15	2	12,403	4.3	-38	-37,646	121	17	12,541	
Arizona	5,378	-581	-26,579	4	5	55,921	2.0	765	-174,645	170	94	56,185	
Arkansas	2,371	-420	-9,056	1	2	19,553	1.7	-1,332	-102,855	111	24	19,688	
California	70,282	355	-174,149	167	82	635,780	3.9	45,238	-2,929,373	2,299	1,299	639,378	
Colorado	4,144	-274	-13,910	5	5	58,462	2.3	-1,365	-188,045	137	129	58,728	
Connecticut	4,675	-272	-21,285	14	5	69,894	4.5	-2,248	-227,194	287	62	70,243	
Delaware	4,242	5	-1,312	4	2	10,861	2.5	-448	-40,149	46	21	10,928	
District of Columbia	1,383	-487	-3,813	32	1	19,378	3.5	-200	-49,466	1,008	13	20,399	
Florida	14,561	-2,994	-210,843	38	68	128,834	1.5	-1,235	-2,022,274	490	272	129,596	
Georgia	25,441	-7,392	-152,290	23	15	120,243	2.8	-1,154	-669,935	527	270	121,040	
Hawaii	2,543	-234	-8,421	4	8	16,770	3.0	-395	-128,941	155	70	16,995	
Idaho	2,024	-306	-3,776	4	0	7,429	1.0	-684	-52,692	34	18	7,481	
Illinois	17,530	-825	-55,250	7	5	208,885	3.7	-7,291	-524,657	921	185	209,991	
Indiana	6,957	-829	-22,479	9	9	57,689	2.0	-7,241	-212,696	309	83	58,081	
Iowa	3,582	292	-8,474	4	5	26,173	1.8	459	-158,468	78	16	26,267	
Kansas	1,873	35	-6,373	0	2	9,094	0.7	-716	-82,541	31	16	9,141	
Kentucky	4,044	-7,123	-43,277	1	2	24,790	1.4	400	-221,785	92	89	24,971	
Louisiana	6,327	-802	-22,218	3	2	51,726	2.9	1,170	-274,778	106	21	51,853	
Maine	1,224	-75	-3,502	0	0	11,852	2.1	-561	-80,355	25	9	11,886	
Maryland	8,838	339	-26,508	19	7	45,802	2.2	517	-207,716	246	90	46,138	
Massachusetts	9,494	-1,343	-29,190	28	22	87,129	2.6	-3,071	-502,416	252	103	87,484	
Michigan	13,806	-3,560	-42,909	5	4	131,259	3.3	5,656	-862,929	119	63	131,441	
Minnesota	5,868	1,806	-23,025	5	5	72,167	2.7	-6,673	-355,523	147	71	72,385	
Mississippi	3,455	-598	-20,787	4	3	27,078	2.5	-218	-162,808	143	24	27,245	
Missouri	6,848	-379	-21,396	2	1	57,346	2.2	-1,359	-204,494	125	19	57,490	
Montana	1,171	-313	-2,489	9	2	8,938	2.0	-474	-44,848	96	18	9,052	
Nebraska	1,406	-88	-4,433	4	3	7,428	0.8	458	-55,534	11	4	7,443	
Nevada	4,178	-1,966	-13,659	6	2	73,361	5.7	-4,452	-295,680	134	84	73,579	
New Hampshire	375	-904	-8,419	3	1	17,628	2.8	-1,628	-96,822	36	1	17,665	
New Jersey	18,268	4,812	-24,097	25	22	112,865	3.0	-1,245	-488,905	292	258	113,415	
New Mexico	3,396	-561	-3,960	0	1	26,698	3.5	-443	-77,251	158	53	26,909	
New York	20,808	-2,609	-208,716	16	30	341,204	3.9	-12,785	-1,801,745	420	397	342,021	
North Carolina	7,137	-196	-39,776	5	12	47,656	1.1	-666	-558,053	183	206	48,045	
North Dakota	610	-60	-2,009	1	0	3,822	1.0	-270	-28,577	14	5	3,841	
Ohio	17,575	-2,493	-29,280	7	24	107,224	2.1	-3,778	-589,152	144	149	107,517	
Oklahoma	8,644	-831	-24,796	24	10	20,259	1.3	-3,120	-114,970	127	73	20,459	
Oregon	9,235	-479	-14,304	19	5	58,487	3.2	2,255	-231,664	315	120	58,922	
Pennsylvania	22,906	-1,210	-18,767	110	32	209,101	3.9	-3,795	-799,785	1,082	336	210,519	
Puerto Rico	2,024	-945	-8,899	4	0	35,628	4.3	-2,150	-117,195	243	69	35,940	
Rhode Island	8,313	792	4,430	2	5	19,989	4.5	838	-69,258	49	31	20,069	
South Carolina	2,588	-535	-27,311	12	9	38,176	1.9	-1,152	-218,500	48	67	38,291	
South Dakota	409	104	-3,482	1	0	2,523	0.6	-116	-22,663	97	2	2,622	
Tennessee	7,721	-822	-20,269	16	8	53,307	1.6	84	-279,438	79	25	53,411	
Texas	27,568	-3,881	-106,497	79	120	228,786	1.9	-23,294	-1,071,790	867	1,372	231,025	
Utah	3,042	-298	-3,186	20	9	13,142	0.9	-120	-73,156	63	18	13,223	
Vermont	358	-179	-1,841	2	0	10,177	3.6	-1,958	-44,926	14	0	10,191	
Virgin Islands	208	11	142	0	0	840	2.3	-618	-2,732	0	2	842	
Virginia	10,642	-628	-34,057	15	8	60,413	1.7	2,569	-343,144	280	247	60,940	
Washington	19,914	3,023	-120,205	12	26	93,892	2.9	20,803	-951,564	328	560	94,780	
West Virginia	6,529	907	1,503	3	2	18,294	2.9	870	-80,500	135	23	18,452	
Wisconsin	9,880	-515	-21,407	15	3	74,157	2.3	-5,996	-234,240	171	57	74,385	
Wyoming	676	-98	-1,627	4	1	3,407	1.3	-363	-13,928	40	2	3,449	
Totals	454,603	-37,426	-1,708,992	834	606	3,671,310	2.6	-23,126	-19,366,688	13,453	7,300	3,692,063	

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 U.S. total covered employment is BLS.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED MAY 15, 2021

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NJ	+4,812	No comment.
WA	+3,023	Layoffs in the construction, professional and scientific and technical services, and educational services industries.
MN	+1,806	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
GA	-7,392	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, and accommodation and food services industries.
KY	-7,123	No comment.
TX	-3,881	No comment.
MI	-3,560	No comment.
FL	-2,994	No comment.
NY	-2,609	Fewer layoffs in the health care and social assistance, retail trade, and accommodation and food services industries.
OH	-2,493	No comment.
NV	-1,966	No comment.
AL	-1,464	No comment.
MA	-1,343	No comment.
PA	-1,210	Fewer layoffs in the health care and social assistance, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, retail trade, and professional, scientific, and technical services 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. On a weekly basis, continued claims are also referred to as insured unemployment, as continued claims reflect a good approximation of the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits. The count of U.S. continued weeks claimed is also a good indicator of labor market conditions. 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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