



News Release

Connect with DOL at
<https://blog.dol.gov>



TRANSMISSION OF MATERIALS IN THIS RELEASE IS EMBARGOED UNTIL
8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, February 17, 2022

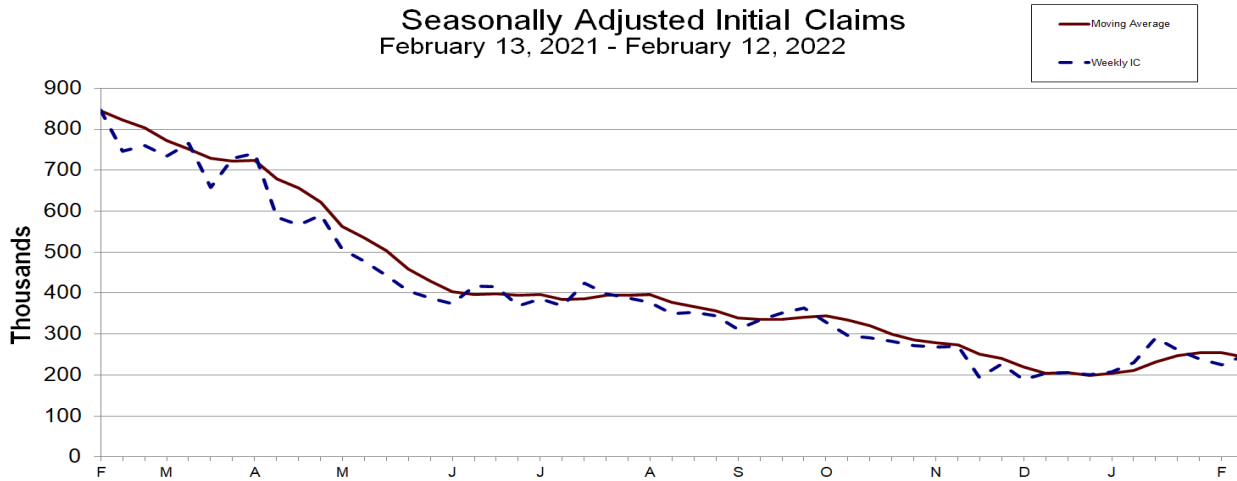
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

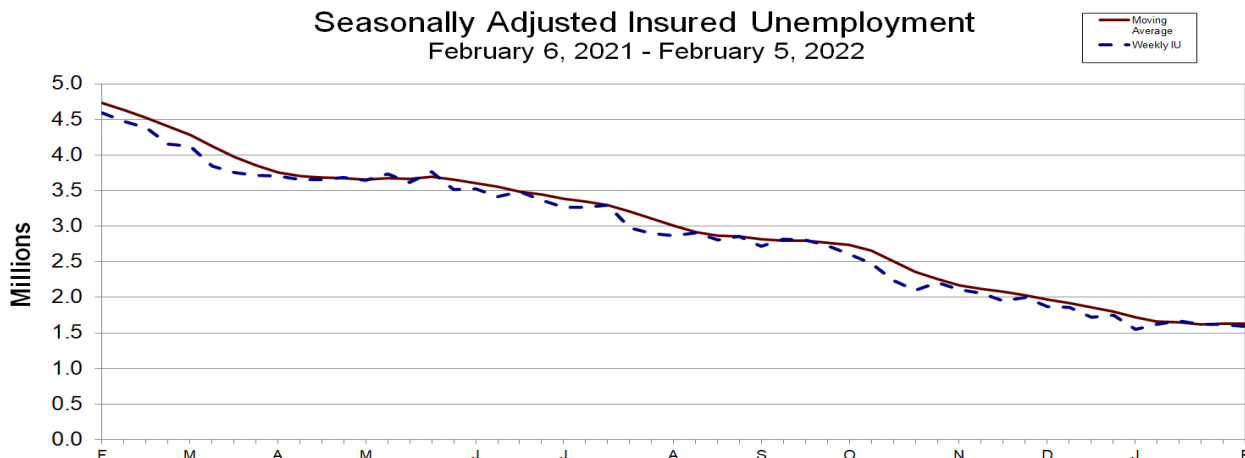
In the week ending February 12, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 248,000, an increase of 23,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 2,000 from 223,000 to 225,000. The 4-week moving average was 243,250, a decrease of 10,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 253,250 to 253,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending February 5, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending February 5 was 1,593,000, a decrease of 26,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 2,000 from 1,621,000 to 1,619,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,626,250, a decrease of 7,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 500 from 1,634,500 to 1,634,000.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
February 13, 2021 - February 12, 2022



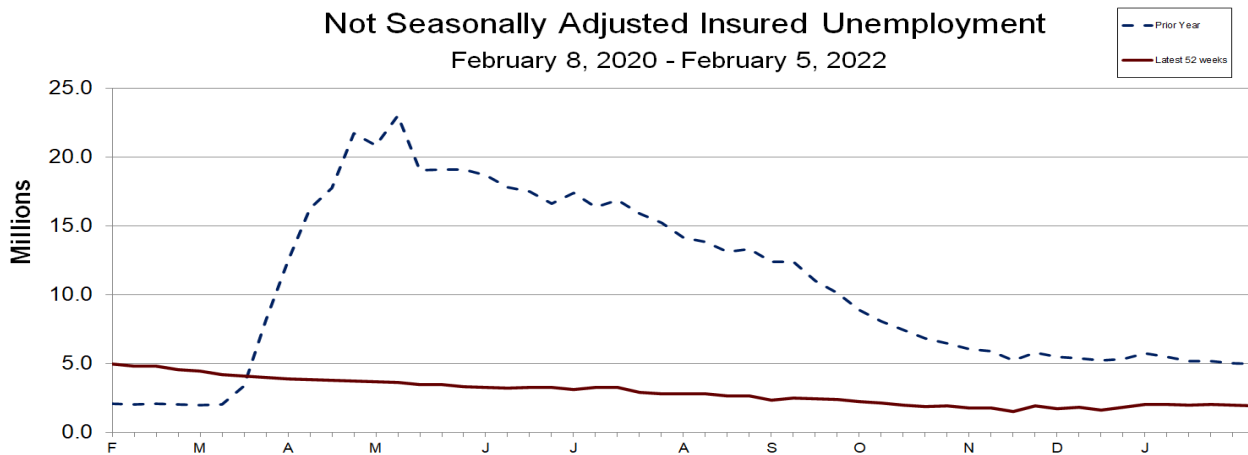
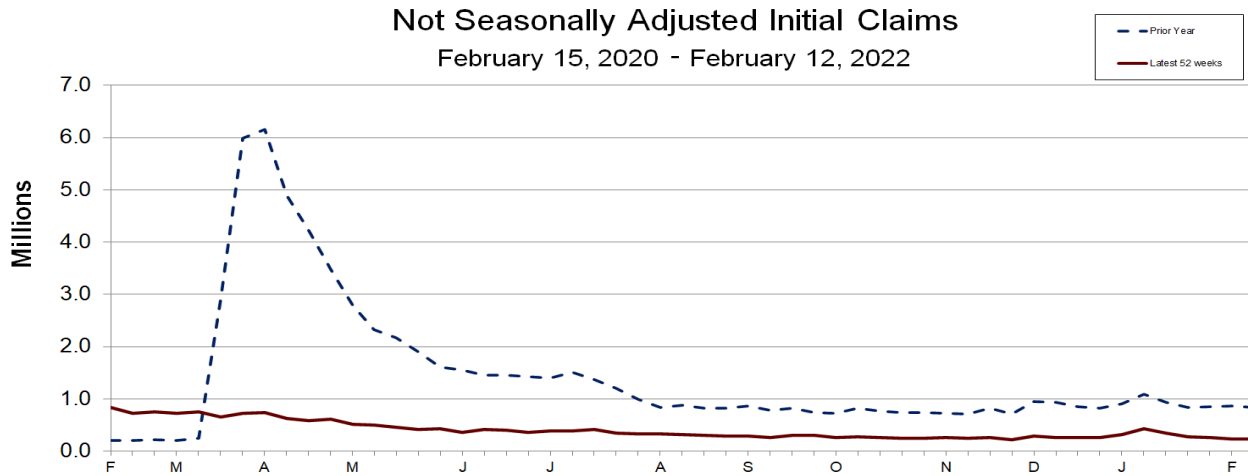
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
February 6, 2021 - February 5, 2022



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 238,482 in the week ending February 12, an increase of 7,742 (or 3.4 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 14,676 (or -6.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 835,045 initial claims in the comparable week in 2021.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending February 5, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,975,407, a decrease of 24,033 (or -1.2 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 1,997 (or 0.1 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 3.5 percent and the volume was 4,971,328.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending January 29 was 2,063,567, a decrease of 36,295 from the previous week. There were 18,906,377 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2021.

During the week ending January 29, Extended Benefits were available in the following 2 states: New Jersey, and New Mexico.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 624 in the week ending February 5, a decrease of 27 from the prior week. There were 372 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 33 from the preceding week.

There were 10,899 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending January 29, an increase of 371 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,592, a decrease of 496 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending January 29 were in Alaska (2.7), California (2.7), New Jersey (2.6), Minnesota (2.5), Rhode Island (2.4), Massachusetts (2.3), New York (2.3), and Illinois (2.2).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending February 5 were in Michigan (+2,884), New Jersey (+406), Kansas (+309), Delaware (+235), and Maryland (+148), while the largest decreases were in California (-4,247), Kentucky (-3,962), Tennessee (-2,916), Illinois (-2,303), and Indiana (-1,760).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	February 12	February 5	Change	January 29	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	248,000	225,000	+23,000	239,000	847,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	238,482	230,740	+7,742	257,583	835,045
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	243,250	253,750	-10,500	255,250	845,750

WEEK ENDING	February 5	January 29	Change	January 22	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,593,000	1,619,000	-26,000	1,621,000	4,592,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,975,407	1,999,440	-24,033	2,034,536	4,971,328
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,626,250	1,634,000	-7,750	1,618,000	4,729,000
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	3.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.5%	3.5%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)³

WEEK ENDING	February 5	January 29	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	624	651	-27	1,660
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	372	405	-33	934

CONTINUED WEEKS CLAIMED FILED FOR UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)³

WEEK ENDING	January 29	January 22	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,994,737	2,029,981	-35,244	5,003,180
Federal Employees	10,899	10,528	+371	19,429
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,592	5,088	-496	8,329
Extended Benefits ⁴	36,029	36,539	-510	1,456,461
State Additional Benefits ⁵	2,197	2,251	-54	1,799
STC / Workshare ⁶	15,113	15,475	-362	104,342
TOTAL⁷	2,063,567	2,099,862	-36,295	18,906,377

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 138,088,262 as denominator.
3. NOTICE: Ongoing claims for PUA and PEUC are no longer included in this news release. Any ongoing claims for these programs represent activity for periods prior to the programs' expiration on September 6, 2021. Claims activity for these programs will continue to be posted online at: [Weekly Pandemic Program Claims](#)
4. Information on the EB program can be found here: [EB Program information](#)
5. 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 4-5 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
6. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-11 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
7. Prior year total includes PUA and PEUC claims.

Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended February 12			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended February 5		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,057	2,495	-438	3,618	5,120	-1,502
Alaska	1,183	1,099	84	7,363	7,708	-345
Arizona	2,426	2,889	-463	10,940	13,150	-2,210
Arkansas	1,120	755	365	9,765	5,749	4,016
California	47,143	47,354	-211	447,653	434,688	12,965
Colorado	2,022	2,212	-190	19,169	18,996	173
Connecticut	2,231	2,988	-757	30,263	31,059	-796
Delaware	354	650	-296	5,528	4,769	759
District of Columbia	701	597	104	5,288	4,830	458
Florida	5,734	5,925	-191	37,287	43,603	-6,316
Georgia	5,575	5,968	-393	36,732	54,914	-18,182
Hawaii	1,495	1,479	16	8,677	8,671	6
Idaho	1,091	1,222	-131	8,374	8,953	-579
Illinois	9,432	8,431	1,001	135,868	119,355	16,513
Indiana	5,519	5,972	-453	32,244	32,063	181
Iowa	1,847	2,018	-171	23,735	23,749	-14
Kansas	2,159	1,829	330	8,014	7,319	695
Kentucky	5,978	1,443	4,535	12,982	14,731	-1,749
Louisiana	1,465	1,720	-255	13,471	15,008	-1,537
Maine	745	671	74	8,183	8,176	7
Maryland	2,434	3,051	-617	24,629	24,705	-76
Massachusetts	5,201	5,988	-787	75,733	76,775	-1,042
Michigan	14,329	13,795	534	65,254	67,405	-2,151
Minnesota	3,951	4,413	-462	69,481	66,536	2,945
Mississippi	852	1,049	-197	4,545	5,380	-835
Missouri	10,766	3,636	7,130	20,184	20,871	-687
Montana	769	881	-112	9,242	8,863	379
Nebraska	696	745	-49	5,841	5,828	13
Nevada	2,431	2,329	102	17,406	19,291	-1,885
New Hampshire	351	387	-36	2,699	3,066	-367
New Jersey	8,455	9,528	-1,073	95,943	96,672	-729
New Mexico	656	673	-17	10,049	10,183	-134
New York	16,295	16,680	-385	196,419	198,676	-2,257
North Carolina	2,942	3,007	-65	14,603	15,634	-1,031
North Dakota	374	419	-45	6,500	6,077	423
Ohio	15,029	9,727	5,302	58,783	57,473	1,310
Oklahoma	1,512	1,719	-207	11,340	12,689	-1,349
Oregon	3,803	4,277	-474	29,295	30,096	-801
Pennsylvania	10,431	12,199	-1,768	97,259	107,683	-10,424
Puerto Rico	1,073	1,243	-170	13,814	16,903	-3,089
Rhode Island	1,026	849	177	13,818	10,669	3,149
South Carolina	1,042	1,585	-543	11,101	12,352	-1,251
South Dakota	151	207	-56	2,772	2,835	-63
Tennessee	4,578	2,938	1,640	17,889	19,652	-1,763
Texas	13,581	14,424	-843	102,509	107,474	-4,965
Utah	824	933	-109	9,154	9,572	-418
Vermont	396	427	-31	4,271	4,131	140
Virgin Islands	24	75	-51	846	714	132
Virginia	2,164	1,995	169	8,146	7,180	966
Washington	4,745	4,974	-229	55,338	53,665	1,673
West Virginia	1,061	1,498	-437	10,960	12,198	-1,238
Wisconsin	5,839	6,871	-1,032	41,386	42,881	-1,495
Wyoming	424	501	-77	3,044	2,700	344
US Total	238,482	230,740	7,742	1,975,407	1,999,440	-24,033

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	
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	3,611	-127	3,667.25	2.6
May 22, 2021	405	-39	458.50	3,769	158	3,689.50	2.7
May 29, 2021	388	-17	428.75	3,517	-252	3,658.75	2.5
June 5, 2021	374	-14	402.75	3,528	11	3,606.25	2.5
June 12, 2021	418	44	396.25	3,412	-116	3,556.50	2.5
June 19, 2021	416	-2	399.00	3,484	72	3,485.25	2.5
June 26, 2021	368	-48	394.00	3,367	-117	3,447.75	2.4
July 3, 2021	386	18	397.00	3,265	-102	3,382.00	2.4
July 10, 2021	368	-18	384.50	3,262	-3	3,344.50	2.4
July 17, 2021	424	56	386.50	3,296	34	3,297.50	2.4
July 24, 2021	399	-25	394.25	2,980	-316	3,200.75	2.2
July 31, 2021	387	-12	394.50	2,899	-81	3,109.25	2.1
August 7, 2021	377	-10	396.75	2,865	-34	3,010.00	2.1
August 14, 2021	349	-28	378.00	2,908	43	2,913.00	2.1
August 21, 2021	354	5	366.75	2,805	-103	2,869.25	2.0
August 28, 2021	345	-9	356.25	2,852	47	2,857.50	2.1
September 4, 2021	312	-33	340.00	2,715	-137	2,820.00	2.0
September 11, 2021	335	23	336.50	2,820	105	2,798.00	2.1
September 18, 2021	351	16	335.75	2,811	-9	2,799.50	2.1
September 25, 2021	364	13	340.50	2,727	-84	2,768.25	2.0
October 2, 2021	329	-35	344.75	2,603	-124	2,740.25	1.9
October 9, 2021	296	-33	335.00	2,480	-123	2,655.25	1.8
October 16, 2021	291	-5	320.00	2,239	-241	2,512.25	1.7
October 23, 2021	283	-8	299.75	2,101	-138	2,355.75	1.6
October 30, 2021	271	-12	285.25	2,209	108	2,257.25	1.6
November 6, 2021	269	-2	278.50	2,109	-100	2,164.50	1.6
November 13, 2021	270	1	273.25	2,055	-54	2,118.50	1.5
November 20, 2021	194	-76	251.00	1,954	-101	2,081.75	1.4
November 27, 2021	227	33	240.00	1,999	45	2,029.25	1.5
December 4, 2021	188	-39	219.75	1,867	-132	1,968.75	1.4
December 11, 2021	205	17	203.50	1,856	-11	1,919.00	1.4
December 18, 2021	206	1	206.50	1,718	-138	1,860.00	1.3
December 25, 2021	200	-6	199.75	1,753	35	1,798.50	1.3
January 1, 2022	207	7	204.50	1,555	-198	1,720.50	1.1
January 8, 2022	231	24	211.00	1,624	69	1,662.50	1.2
January 15, 2022	290	59	232.00	1,672	48	1,651.00	1.2
January 22, 2022	261	-29	247.25	1,621	-51	1,618.00	1.2
January 29, 2022	239	-22	255.25	1,619	-2	1,634.00	1.2
February 5, 2022	225	-14	253.75	1,593	-26	1,626.25	1.2
February 12, 2022	248	23	243.25				

Extended Benefits (EB) Continued Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	EB Claims Filed During Weeks Ended:		
	January 29	January 22	Change
Alabama	0	0	0
Alaska	0	0	0
Arizona	4	20	-16
Arkansas	0	0	0
California	1,953	2,121	-168
Colorado	2	0	2
Connecticut	88	172	-84
Delaware	0	0	0
District of Columbia	1	1	0
Florida	60	86	-26
Georgia	0	0	0
Hawaii	1	1	0
Idaho	0	0	0
Illinois	16	62	-46
Indiana	0	1	-1
Iowa	2	2	0
Kansas	15	21	-6
Kentucky	0	0	0
Louisiana	1	5	-4
Maine	3	1	2
Maryland	24	20	4
Massachusetts	0	0	0
Michigan	1	0	1
Minnesota	0	8	-8
Mississippi	2	2	0
Missouri	3	3	0
Montana	1	1	0
Nebraska	0	0	0
Nevada	9	25	-16
New Hampshire	3	5	-2
New Jersey	31,119	30,926	193
New Mexico	2,190	2,423	-233
New York	79	46	33
North Carolina	12	29	-17
North Dakota	0	0	0
Ohio	0	107	-107
Oklahoma	0	0	0
Oregon	21	18	3
Pennsylvania	117	86	31
Puerto Rico	61	93	-32
Rhode Island	1	1	0
South Carolina	7	6	1
South Dakota	0	0	0
Tennessee	5	6	-1
Texas	204	221	-17
Utah	0	0	0
Vermont	0	0	0
Virgin Islands	0	2	-2
Virginia	0	0	0
Washington	0	0	0
West Virginia	11	3	8
Wisconsin	13	15	-2
Wyoming	0	0	0
US Total	36,029	36,539	-510

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

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED
FEBRUARY 5

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED
JANUARY 29

STATE NAME	CHANGE FROM					CHANGE FROM					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE (%) ²	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
Alabama	2,495	-1,464	-10,969	4	3	5,120	0.3	-261	-12,417	31	19	5,170
Alaska	1,099	-74	-2,898	5	0	7,708	2.7	-389	-11,334	159	8	7,875
Arizona	2,889	124	-4,781	4	1	13,150	0.5	-386	-56,734	156	15	13,321
Arkansas	755	-642	-3,576	5	4	5,749	0.5	-4,731	-18,495	56	22	5,827
California	47,354	-4,247	-90,585	152	78	434,688	2.7	-7,487	-336,849	2,495	975	438,158
Colorado	2,212	-81	-4,035	4	6	18,996	0.7	-1,373	-31,370	192	206	19,394
Connecticut	2,988	-308	-4,255	8	4	31,059	2.0	1,077	-53,470	60	49	31,168
Delaware	650	235	-1,692	2	1	4,769	1.1	-137	-9,017	11	9	4,789
District of Columbia	597	-511	-883	5	1	4,830	0.9	-690	-17,947	89	1	4,920
Florida	5,925	-755	-15,785	17	20	43,603	0.5	-494	-143,871	172	153	43,928
Georgia	5,968	-651	-26,418	25	11	54,914	1.3	16,643	-102,604	336	127	55,377
Hawaii	1,479	-62	-2,145	1	8	8,671	1.7	-491	-15,143	85	76	8,832
Idaho	1,222	-103	-5,235	22	0	8,953	1.2	68	-5,893	328	4	9,285
Illinois	8,431	-2,303	-25,828	4	1	119,355	2.2	-18,947	-173,433	502	130	119,987
Indiana	5,972	-1,760	-7,536	5	1	32,063	1.2	-1,117	-47,232	94	33	32,190
Iowa	2,018	-539	-4,102	2	1	23,749	1.6	9	-24,279	28	16	23,793
Kansas	1,829	309	-3,762	2	2	7,319	0.6	-842	-16,522	30	19	7,368
Kentucky	1,443	-3,962	-9,269	1	0	14,731	0.8	1,864	-26,136	48	62	14,841
Louisiana	1,720	-173	-7,290	4	1	15,008	0.9	-372	-45,703	40	24	15,072
Maine	671	-184	-1,501	2	0	8,176	1.4	2	-10,030	25	9	8,210
Maryland	3,051	148	-16,719	19	12	24,705	1.0	1,028	-49,962	152	90	24,947
Massachusetts	5,988	-83	-14,512	9	6	76,775	2.3	-292	-90,862	146	60	76,981
Michigan	13,795	2,884	-6,086	2	4	67,405	1.7	609	-119,282	168	58	67,631
Minnesota	4,413	-584	-7,834	4	1	66,536	2.5	-867	-54,533	136	56	66,728
Mississippi	1,049	-48	-6,489	6	0	5,380	0.5	-332	-23,429	43	10	5,433
Missouri	3,636	-624	-8,577	5	4	20,871	0.8	-1,095	-36,721	78	19	20,968
Montana	881	20	-1,277	32	0	8,863	2.0	-250	-8,662	663	15	9,541
Nebraska	745	-145	-1,728	0	0	5,828	0.6	-16	-10,826	17	5	5,850
Nevada	2,329	-262	-7,624	6	2	19,291	1.5	-1,136	-60,507	152	36	19,479
New Hampshire	387	-102	-3,207	1	1	3,066	0.5	-87	-24,116	12	1	3,079
New Jersey	9,528	406	-6,677	20	12	96,672	2.6	2,063	-40,811	254	173	97,099
New Mexico	673	-63	-3,036	4	1	10,183	1.4	-94	-28,946	233	22	10,438
New York	16,680	-1,528	-43,303	28	8	198,676	2.3	-5,102	-263,709	478	269	199,423
North Carolina	3,007	-698	-9,687	4	2	15,634	0.4	-599	-56,093	60	82	15,776
North Dakota	419	-84	-735	0	0	6,077	1.6	11	-3,613	17	1	6,095
Ohio	9,727	-597	-130,761	5	12	57,473	1.2	-1,812	-107,063	106	94	57,673
Oklahoma	1,719	-360	-5,482	0	4	12,689	0.8	-173	-24,962	66	43	12,798
Oregon	4,277	-319	-4,570	43	4	30,096	1.7	-1,243	-51,111	767	42	30,905
Pennsylvania	12,199	-1,675	-19,531	16	5	107,683	2.0	3,510	-210,917	317	79	108,079
Puerto Rico	1,243	-343	-166	7	2	16,903	2.0	-186	-16,041	255	94	17,252
Rhode Island	849	-151	-16,875	1	0	10,669	2.4	-363	-17,012	61	23	10,753
South Carolina	1,585	97	-4,754	2	9	12,352	0.6	155	-35,282	76	51	12,479
South Dakota	207	-15	-439	2	0	2,835	0.7	-10	-2,744	60	2	2,897
Tennessee	2,938	-2,916	-7,823	7	10	19,652	0.6	2	-35,727	49	30	19,731
Texas	14,424	-1,508	-32,598	56	102	107,474	0.9	-7,214	-230,173	673	901	109,048
Utah	933	58	-2,335	32	1	9,572	0.6	-417	-7,283	231	18	9,821
Vermont	427	-74	-729	0	0	4,131	1.5	-219	-9,019	3	0	4,134
Virgin Islands	75	14	-93	0	0	714	2.0	-158	-1,724	0	6	720
Virginia	1,995	-162	-12,208	5	4	7,180	0.2	-259	-57,911	28	38	7,246
Washington	4,974	-9	-11,280	17	17	53,665	1.7	-2,291	-104,742	429	265	54,359
West Virginia	1,498	-194	-1,224	3	3	12,198	2.0	564	-9,709	55	39	12,292
Wisconsin	6,871	-778	-8,169	7	3	42,881	1.6	-769	-61,825	116	11	43,008
Wyoming	501	3	-396	7	0	2,700	1.1	0	-2,954	61	2	2,763
Totals	230,740	-26,843	-629,469	624	372	1,999,440	1.4	-35,096	-3,016,750	10,899	4,592	2,014,931

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 FEBRUARY 5, 2022

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MI	+2,884	Layoffs in the wholesale trade industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-4,247	No comment.
KY	-3,962	No comment.
TN	-2,916	No comment.
IL	-2,303	No comment.
IN	-1,760	No comment.
PA	-1,675	Fewer layoffs in the construction, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, and accommodation and food services industries.
NY	-1,528	Fewer layoffs in the construction, transportation and warehousing, and accommodation and food services industries.
TX	-1,508	No comment.
AL	-1,464	Fewer layoffs in the health care and social assistance, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, retail trade, and accommodation and food 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](#)

U.S. Department of Labor news materials are accessible at <http://www.dol.gov>. The Department's [Reasonable Accommodation Resource Center](#) converts Departmental information and documents into alternative formats, which include Braille and large print. For alternative format requests, please contact the Department at (202) 693-7828 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (federal relay).

U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
Washington, D.C. 20210
Release Number: USDL 22-280-NAT

Program Contacts:
Kevin Stapleton: (202) 693-3009
Media Contact: (202) 693-4676