



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, March 10, 2022

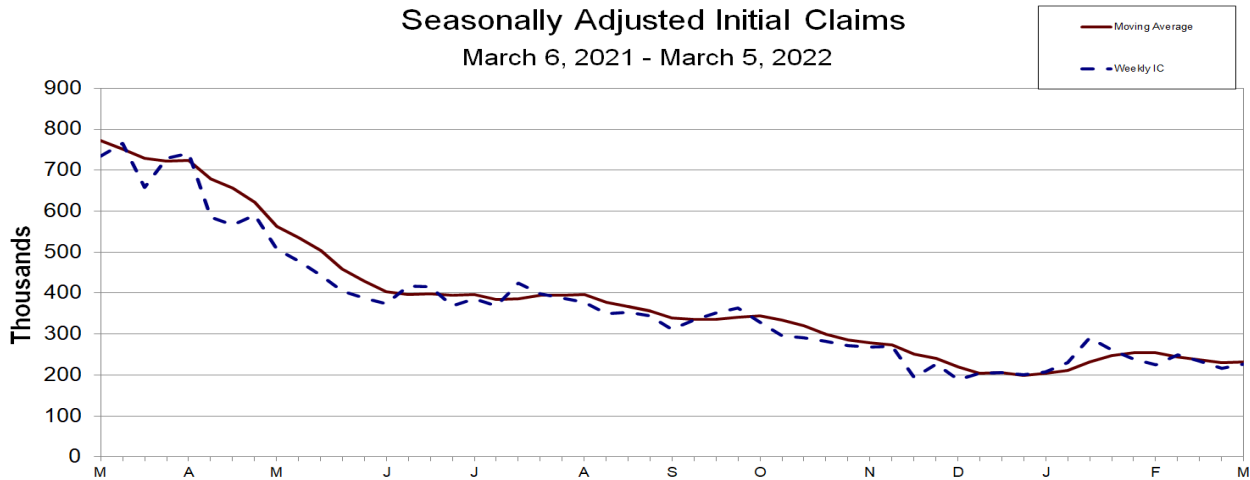
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

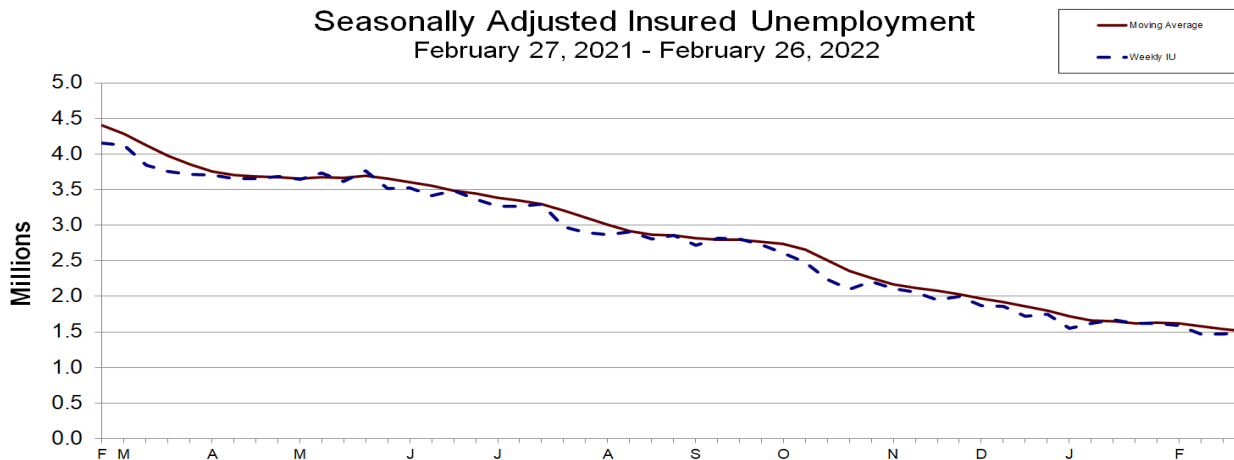
In the week ending March 5, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 227,000, an increase of 11,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 215,000 to 216,000. The 4-week moving average was 231,250, an increase of 500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 230,500 to 230,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.1 percent for the week ending February 26, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending February 26 was 1,494,000, an increase of 25,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 7,000 from 1,476,000 to 1,469,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,506,500, a decrease of 31,250 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since March 28, 1970 when it was 1,483,500. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,750 from 1,539,500 to 1,537,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
March 6, 2021 - March 5, 2022



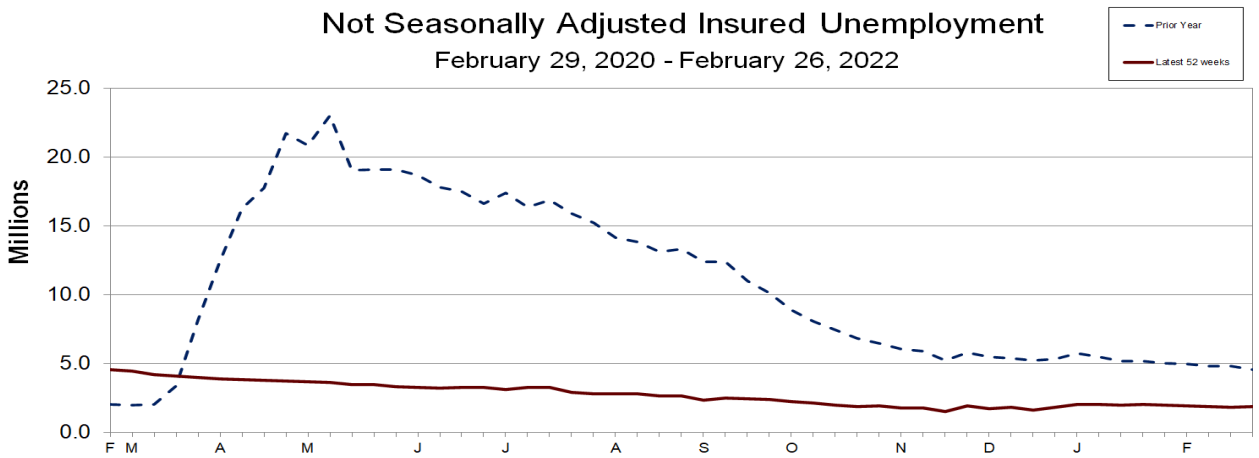
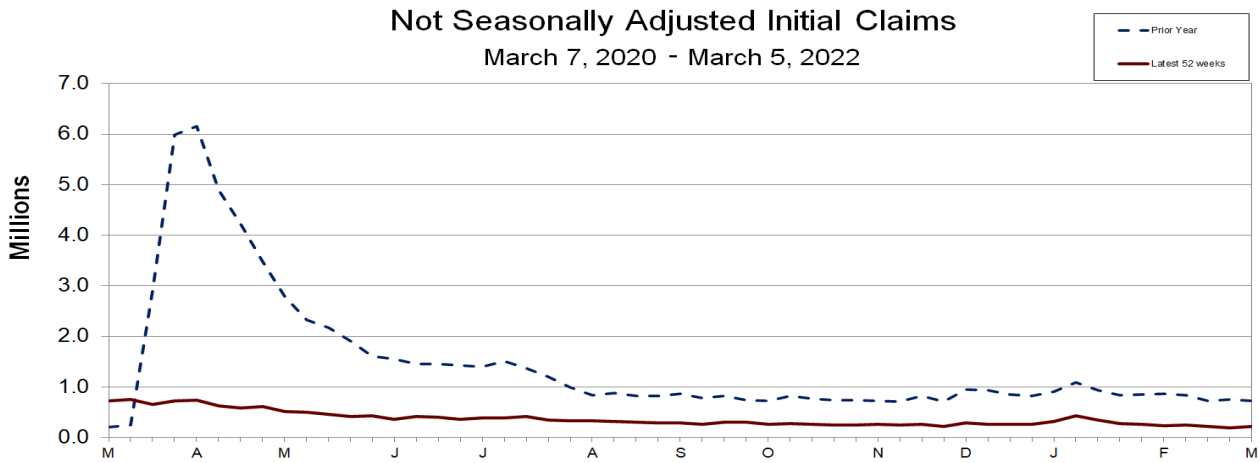
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
February 27, 2021 - February 26, 2022



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 218,072 in the week ending March 5, an increase of 22,025 (or 11.2 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 10,954 (or 5.6 percent) from the previous week. There were 722,180 initial claims in the comparable week in 2021.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending February 26, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,916,175, an increase of 64,079 (or 3.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 39,268 (or 2.1 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 3.2 percent and the volume was 4,582,021.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending February 19 was 1,909,025, a decrease of 62,259 from the previous week. There were 20,837,008 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2021.

During the week ending February 19, 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 430 in the week ending February 26, a decrease of 96 from the prior week. There were 276 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 62 from the preceding week.

There were 9,963 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending February 19, a decrease of 631 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,658, an increase of 13 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending February 19 were in Alaska (2.4), California (2.4), Illinois (2.4), New Jersey (2.4), Rhode Island (2.4), Minnesota (2.3), Massachusetts (2.2), New York (2.2), Michigan (1.8), Montana (1.8), and Pennsylvania (1.8).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending February 26 were in Massachusetts (+3,201), Rhode Island (+1,040), District of Columbia (+995), Nevada (+689), and Kansas (+587), while the largest decreases were in Michigan (-9,161), California (-5,412), Florida (-2,182), Ohio (-2,098), and Illinois (-1,777).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	March 5	February 26	Change	February 19	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	227,000	216,000	+11,000	233,000	734,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	218,072	196,047	+22,025	215,978	722,180
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	231,250	230,750	+500	236,500	772,250

WEEK ENDING	February 26	February 19	Change	February 12	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,494,000	1,469,000	+25,000	1,474,000	4,157,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,916,175	1,852,096	+64,079	1,910,831	4,582,021
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,506,500	1,537,750	-31,250	1,575,750	4,400,250
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.1%	1.1%	0.0	1.1%	2.9%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.4%	1.3%	+0.1	1.4%	3.2%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)³

WEEK ENDING	February 26	February 19	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	430	526	-96	1,384
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	276	338	-62	728

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

WEEK ENDING	February 19	February 12	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,847,936	1,906,338	-58,402	4,808,628
Federal Employees	9,963	10,594	-631	19,937
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,658	4,645	+13	8,540
Extended Benefits ⁴	29,907	32,551	-2,644	1,320,674
State Additional Benefits ⁵	2,259	2,179	+80	1,909
STC / Workshare ⁶	14,302	14,977	-675	114,736
TOTAL⁷	1,909,025	1,971,284	-62,259	20,837,008

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 March 5			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended February 26		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,637	1,812	-175	3,207	4,417	-1,210
Alaska	1,030	905	125	6,611	6,790	-179
Arizona	2,398	2,214	184	11,351	13,288	-1,937
Arkansas	905	690	215	7,786	7,909	-123
California	44,375	38,142	6,233	421,947	394,567	27,380
Colorado	1,490	1,773	-283	17,899	17,805	94
Connecticut	2,571	2,582	-11	30,675	26,950	3,725
Delaware	455	484	-29	4,583	4,426	157
District of Columbia	1,983	1,955	28	5,050	4,127	923
Florida	3,643	3,328	315	35,658	36,084	-426
Georgia	4,452	5,196	-744	82,223	32,961	49,262
Hawaii	1,322	1,060	262	7,739	8,002	-263
Idaho	990	925	65	7,600	8,026	-426
Illinois	8,306	8,230	76	117,367	134,430	-17,063
Indiana	3,378	3,689	-311	26,773	28,123	-1,350
Iowa	1,511	1,464	47	22,340	22,196	144
Kansas	3,177	3,309	-132	7,276	6,468	808
Kentucky	6,876	3,742	3,134	13,617	15,193	-1,576
Louisiana	1,193	1,327	-134	11,295	13,085	-1,790
Maine	660	666	-6	7,942	7,741	201
Maryland	1,725	1,763	-38	22,791	22,357	434
Massachusetts	5,514	7,895	-2,381	76,956	73,597	3,359
Michigan	7,770	8,743	-973	63,112	71,337	-8,225
Minnesota	3,669	3,140	529	65,940	61,468	4,472
Mississippi	760	767	-7	3,890	4,746	-856
Missouri	2,754	4,321	-1,567	19,174	21,382	-2,208
Montana	725	871	-146	9,087	8,340	747
Nebraska	754	664	90	5,780	5,645	135
Nevada	2,122	2,133	-11	15,869	16,968	-1,099
New Hampshire	608	388	220	2,746	2,929	-183
New Jersey	8,127	6,173	1,954	90,676	89,421	1,255
New Mexico	645	521	124	9,453	9,829	-376
New York	29,500	13,245	16,255	200,421	183,930	16,491
North Carolina	2,543	2,598	-55	13,805	15,090	-1,285
North Dakota	308	296	12	6,149	5,742	407
Ohio	11,717	10,809	908	56,498	59,343	-2,845
Oklahoma	1,316	1,439	-123	10,902	11,929	-1,027
Oregon	3,852	3,330	522	27,684	26,717	967
Pennsylvania	7,228	9,413	-2,185	97,154	97,609	-455
Puerto Rico	883	842	41	10,919	11,645	-726
Rhode Island	812	2,041	-1,229	12,137	10,508	1,629
South Carolina	1,634	864	770	9,476	10,270	-794
South Dakota	140	151	-11	2,756	2,672	84
Tennessee	1,875	3,292	-1,417	14,957	17,373	-2,416
Texas	13,162	12,402	760	96,391	100,896	-4,505
Utah	1,449	1,332	117	8,311	8,551	-240
Vermont	382	607	-225	4,302	3,932	370
Virgin Islands	27	30	-3	590	484	106
Virginia	2,005	1,418	587	7,390	6,811	579
Washington	5,281	4,445	836	51,609	48,007	3,602
West Virginia	677	725	-48	9,098	8,580	518
Wisconsin	5,378	5,413	-35	38,270	38,700	-430
Wyoming	378	483	-105	2,943	2,700	243
US Total	218,072	196,047	22,025	1,916,175	1,852,096	64,079

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 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	1,589	-30	1,625.25	1.2
February 12, 2022	249	24	243.50	1,474	-115	1,575.75	1.1
February 19, 2022	233	-16	236.50	1,469	-5	1,537.75	1.1
February 26, 2022	216	-17	230.75	1,494	25	1,506.50	1.1
March 5, 2022	227	11	231.25				

Extended Benefits (EB) Continued Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	EB Claims Filed During Weeks Ended:		Change
	February 19	February 12	
Alabama	0	0	0
Alaska	0	12	-12
Arizona	3	2	1
Arkansas	0	0	0
California	1,527	1,845	-318
Colorado	0	3	-3
Connecticut	27	60	-33
Delaware	0	0	0
District of Columbia	1	1	0
Florida	54	77	-23
Georgia	0	0	0
Hawaii	1	1	0
Idaho	1	0	1
Illinois	37	29	8
Indiana	0	0	0
Iowa	4	1	3
Kansas	10	0	10
Kentucky	0	0	0
Louisiana	1	2	-1
Maine	3	4	-1
Maryland	26	11	15
Massachusetts	0	0	0
Michigan	5	10	-5
Minnesota	0	9	-9
Mississippi	1	1	0
Missouri	3	4	-1
Montana	1	1	0
Nebraska	0	0	0
Nevada	4	1	3
New Hampshire	1	1	0
New Jersey	26,142	28,040	-1,898
New Mexico	1,693	1,964	-271
New York	29	11	18
North Carolina	13	15	-2
North Dakota	0	0	0
Ohio	29	76	-47
Oklahoma	0	0	0
Oregon	12	12	0
Pennsylvania	61	80	-19
Puerto Rico	35	70	-35
Rhode Island	1	1	0
South Carolina	3	18	-15
South Dakota	0	0	0
Tennessee	6	4	2
Texas	168	138	30
Utah	0	0	0
Vermont	0	0	0
Virgin Islands	0	0	0
Virginia	0	0	0
Washington	0	6	-6
West Virginia	3	3	0
Wisconsin	2	38	-36
Wyoming	0	0	0
US Total	29,907	32,551	-2,644

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

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED
FEBRUARY 26

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED
FEBRUARY 19

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	1,812	-57	-9,812	13	3	4,417	0.2	-100	-14,520	26	20	4,463
Alaska	905	-67	-2,876	1	2	6,790	2.4	-541	-10,676	145	8	6,943
Arizona	2,214	-307	-1,877	2	1	13,288	0.5	325	-49,676	157	7	13,452
Arkansas	690	-290	-5,374	0	1	7,909	0.7	-1,813	-19,766	48	12	7,969
California	38,142	-5,412	-50,836	86	19	394,567	2.4	-28,144	-371,358	2,400	1,075	398,042
Colorado	1,773	-47	-3,921	2	4	17,805	0.7	-6	-29,480	211	160	18,176
Connecticut	2,582	-8	-3,198	5	2	26,950	1.7	-4,081	-58,419	59	27	27,036
Delaware	484	-20	-1,322	0	2	4,426	1.1	-106	-9,543	15	6	4,447
District of Columbia	1,955	995	919	6	0	4,127	0.8	-19	-16,482	85	3	4,215
Florida	3,328	-2,182	-15,692	5	14	36,084	0.4	-4,025	-120,411	135	139	36,358
Georgia	5,196	-113	-23,191	37	15	32,961	0.8	-472	-113,219	288	144	33,393
Hawaii	1,060	-343	-1,609	2	8	8,002	1.5	235	-13,177	60	106	8,168
Idaho	925	-30	-4,088	13	0	8,026	1.1	-328	-7,281	275	5	8,306
Illinois	8,230	-1,777	-59,881	6	6	134,430	2.4	17,175	-125,661	385	135	134,950
Indiana	3,689	-674	-6,392	4	4	28,123	1.1	-962	-44,647	110	32	28,265
Iowa	1,464	-146	-2,752	7	3	22,196	1.5	-185	-26,193	32	20	22,248
Kansas	3,309	587	-251	3	2	6,468	0.5	-132	-9,052	22	11	6,501
Kentucky	3,742	-1,463	-10,115	0	1	15,193	0.8	-797	-23,515	47	68	15,308
Louisiana	1,327	-44	-5,654	2	4	13,085	0.8	-753	-40,127	50	20	13,155
Maine	666	-62	-1,011	1	0	7,741	1.3	-182	-9,498	25	10	7,776
Maryland	1,763	-219	-6,116	11	7	22,357	0.9	-1,650	-40,151	143	85	22,585
Massachusetts	7,895	3,201	-6,875	2	3	73,597	2.2	-1,351	-100,422	124	64	73,785
Michigan	8,743	-9,161	-2,754	0	3	71,337	1.8	143	-106,879	137	48	71,522
Minnesota	3,140	-87	-5,666	3	1	61,468	2.3	-951	-50,339	146	59	61,673
Mississippi	767	-87	-17,185	16	1	4,746	0.4	-409	-42,619	43	9	4,798
Missouri	4,321	266	-4,967	2	1	21,382	0.8	-2,377	-48,301	72	16	21,470
Montana	871	184	-562	13	2	8,340	1.8	-204	-8,501	556	11	8,907
Nebraska	664	35	-1,054	1	0	5,645	0.6	-103	-10,090	17	1	5,663
Nevada	2,133	689	-7,075	2	4	16,968	1.3	-1,040	-55,579	131	30	17,129
New Hampshire	388	34	-2,059	1	1	2,929	0.5	-52	-22,278	3	2	2,934
New Jersey	6,173	-1,096	-4,212	17	11	89,421	2.4	-3,367	-43,030	307	154	89,882
New Mexico	521	-78	-2,629	1	0	9,829	1.3	-15	-25,145	228	22	10,079
New York	13,245	13	-46,885	26	18	183,930	2.2	-4,827	-259,977	458	271	184,659
North Carolina	2,598	-170	-5,373	6	2	15,090	0.3	-232	-48,119	72	96	15,258
North Dakota	296	1	-342	2	2	5,742	1.5	-57	-4,020	8	1	5,751
Ohio	10,809	-2,098	-109,697	6	15	59,343	1.2	44	-132,897	92	100	59,535
Oklahoma	1,439	-162	-5,754	7	3	11,929	0.8	-578	-23,465	75	51	12,055
Oregon	3,330	-95	-4,835	17	0	26,717	1.5	-736	-46,232	725	42	27,484
Pennsylvania	9,413	-277	-14,693	15	6	97,609	1.8	-4,748	-210,623	295	80	97,984
Puerto Rico	842	-23	-437	3	2	11,645	1.4	-3,314	-21,033	160	75	11,880
Rhode Island	2,041	1,040	-3,746	0	0	10,508	2.4	-89	-11,647	43	35	10,586
South Carolina	864	-254	-3,039	6	1	10,270	0.5	-828	-33,248	39	45	10,354
South Dakota	151	-29	-290	1	0	2,672	0.6	-28	-3,294	43	4	2,719
Tennessee	3,292	576	-7,486	4	5	17,373	0.5	-873	-41,300	39	13	17,425
Texas	12,402	-818	-43,896	37	78	100,896	0.8	-3,660	-217,652	539	976	102,411
Utah	1,332	36	-890	12	5	8,551	0.6	-286	-7,334	200	12	8,763
Vermont	607	238	-396	0	0	3,932	1.4	-84	-8,155	1	0	3,933
Virgin Islands	30	-23	-101	0	0	484	1.4	-54	-1,256	0	0	484
Virginia	1,418	-192	-10,737	1	3	6,811	0.2	-447	-57,187	39	42	6,892
Washington	4,445	-10	-9,057	14	9	48,007	1.5	-971	-91,134	431	265	48,703
West Virginia	725	-143	-7,068	1	1	8,580	1.4	-666	-14,939	51	27	8,658
Wisconsin	5,413	114	-7,897	5	1	38,700	1.4	-14	-65,574	110	12	38,822
Wyoming	483	124	-498	3	0	2,700	1.1	0	-2,938	61	2	2,763
Totals	196,047	-19,931	-553,204	430	276	1,852,096	1.3	-58,735	-2,968,059	9,963	4,658	1,866,717

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 26, 2022

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MA	+3,201	No comment.
RI	+1,040	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services, and construction industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MI	-9,161	Fewer layoffs in the automobile industry.
CA	-5,412	Fewer layoffs in the services and agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industries.
FL	-2,182	No comment.
OH	-2,098	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
IL	-1,777	No comment.
KY	-1,463	No comment.
NJ	-1,096	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. 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 22-441-NAT

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