



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, March 31, 2022

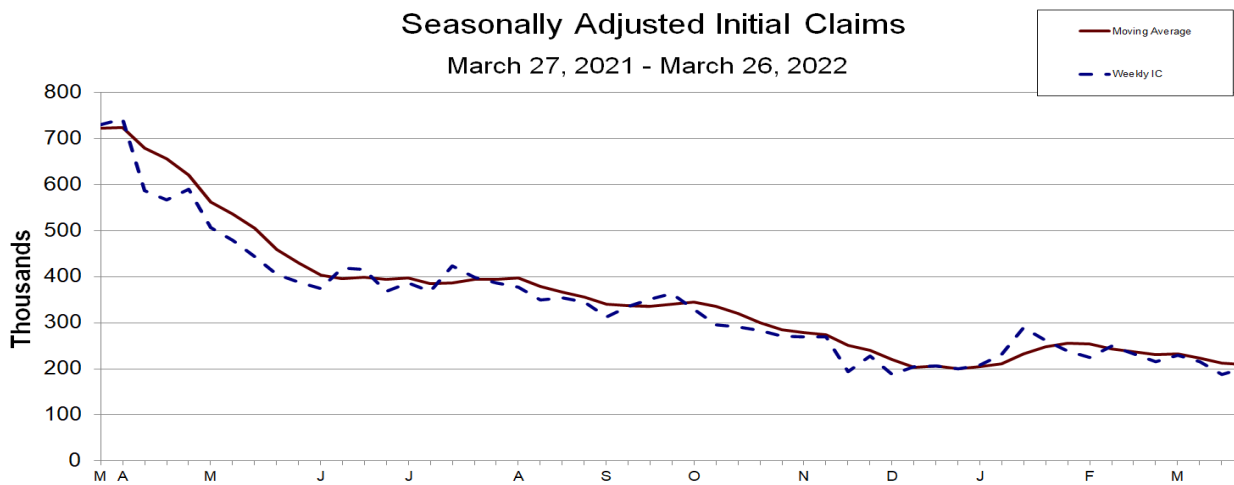
Note: Calendar Year (CY) 2022 seasonal factors and revised seasonal factors for CY 2017-2021 for both initial claims and continued claims will be available at <https://www.bls.gov/lau/seasonal-adjustment-for-weekly-unemployment-insurance-claims.htm> by 12:00 pm (Eastern) on Thursday, April 7, 2022. Revisions to the historical series for CY 2017-2021 for both initial claims and continued claims will be published on April 7, 2022, with the release of the Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims News Release.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

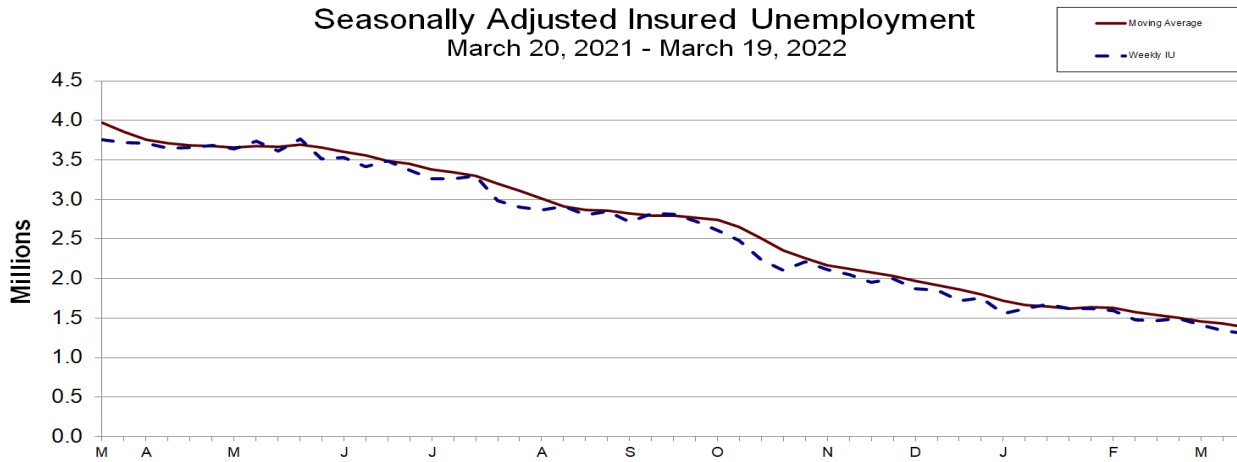
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending March 26, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 202,000, an increase of 14,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 187,000 to 188,000. The 4-week moving average was 208,500, a decrease of 3,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 211,750 to 212,000.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 0.9 percent for the week ending March 19, 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 March 19 was 1,307,000, a decrease of 35,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since December 27, 1969 when it was 1,304,000. The previous week's level was revised down by 8,000 from 1,350,000 to 1,342,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,389,000, a decrease of 40,500 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since February 7, 1970 when it was 1,385,250. The previous week's average was revised down by 2,000 from 1,431,500 to 1,429,500.



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment March 20, 2021 - March 19, 2022

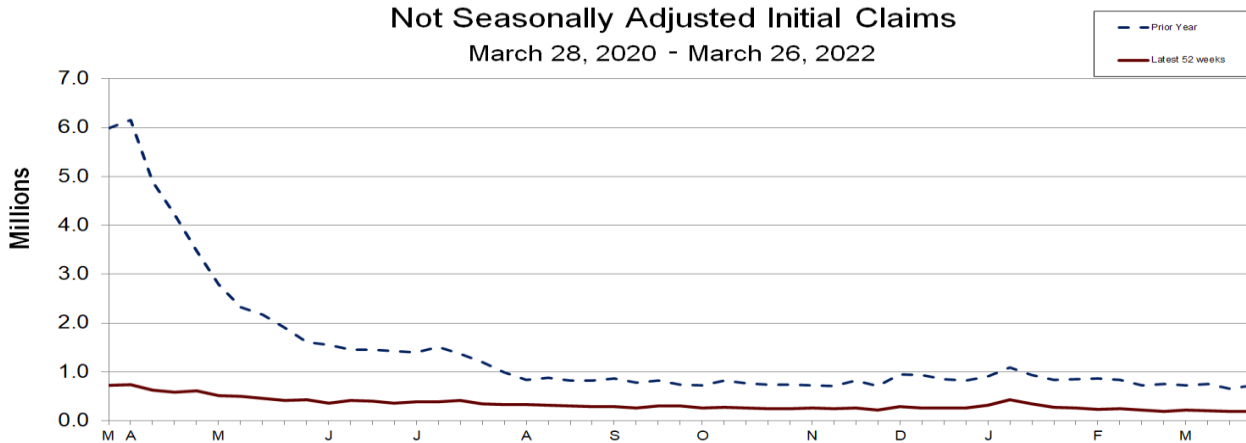


UNADJUSTED DATA

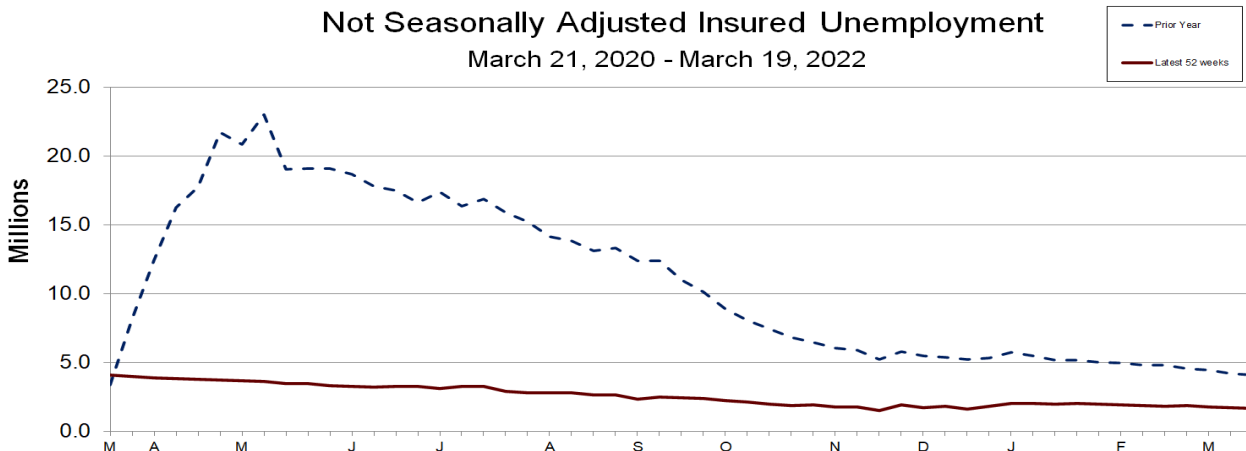
The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 195,460 in the week ending March 26, an increase of 13,121 (or 7.2 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 777 (or -0.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 723,653 initial claims in the comparable week in 2021.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.2 percent during the week ending March 19, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,675,898, a decrease of 46,306 (or -2.7 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 11,326 (or -0.7 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.9 percent and the volume was 4,102,303.

Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims March 28, 2020 - March 26, 2022



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment March 21, 2020 - March 19, 2022



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending March 12 was 1,775,826, a decrease of 81,975 from the previous week. There were 18,463,788 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2021.

During the week ending March 12, Extended Benefits were available in the following state: New Jersey.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 499 in the week ending March 19, an increase of 11 from the prior week. There were 376 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 55 from the preceding week.

There were 9,729 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending March 12, an increase of 105 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,630, an increase of 372 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending March 12 were in California (2.5), Alaska (2.3), New Jersey (2.3), Rhode Island (2.2), Massachusetts (2.1), Minnesota (2.1), New York (2.0), Illinois (1.9), Connecticut (1.7), Montana (1.7), and Pennsylvania (1.7).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending March 19 were in Florida (+956), Pennsylvania (+476), Oklahoma (+400), Tennessee (+328), and Connecticut (+161), while the largest decreases were in California (-5,831), Michigan (-4,876), Kentucky (-2,579), Kansas (-2,070), and Illinois (-2,053).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	March 26	March 19	Change	March 12	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	202,000	188,000	+14,000	215,000	729,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	195,460	182,339	+13,121	203,911	723,653
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	208,500	212,000	-3,500	223,250	721,500

WEEK ENDING	March 19	March 12	Change	March 5	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,307,000	1,342,000	-35,000	1,417,000	3,753,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,675,898	1,722,204	-46,306	1,804,315	4,102,303
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,389,000	1,429,500	-40,500	1,462,500	3,968,500
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	0.9%	1.0%	-0.1	1.0%	2.6%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.3%	2.9%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)³

WEEK ENDING	March 19	March 12	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	499	488	+11	1,160
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	376	321	+55	574

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

WEEK ENDING	March 12	March 5	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,718,352	1,799,782	-81,430	4,200,238
Federal Employees	9,729	9,624	+105	18,467
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,630	4,258	+372	7,975
Extended Benefits ⁴	27,995	27,330	+665	1,017,742
State Additional Benefits ⁵	1,880	2,332	-452	1,702
STC / Workshare ⁶	13,240	14,475	-1,235	102,500
TOTAL⁷	1,775,826	1,857,801	-81,975	18,463,788

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 26			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended March 19		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,991	1,830	161	2,794	3,875	-1,081
Alaska	938	917	21	6,018	6,415	-397
Arizona	2,556	2,358	198	11,352	13,210	-1,858
Arkansas	1,281	914	367	6,638	8,213	-1,575
California	42,948	39,055	3,893	396,544	396,077	467
Colorado	1,503	1,273	230	14,913	15,484	-571
Connecticut	2,211	2,349	-138	25,664	26,919	-1,255
Delaware	256	409	-153	3,928	3,940	-12
District of Columbia	1,459	1,481	-22	5,147	6,249	-1,102
Florida	4,493	4,866	-373	31,213	33,200	-1,987
Georgia	3,855	4,105	-250	28,866	31,712	-2,846
Hawaii	1,152	1,267	-115	6,569	6,960	-391
Idaho	1,089	893	196	5,428	6,343	-915
Illinois	7,531	7,103	428	115,728	104,431	11,297
Indiana	3,401	3,274	127	22,192	23,394	-1,202
Iowa	1,651	1,586	65	17,839	19,397	-1,558
Kansas	1,136	969	167	5,280	6,711	-1,431
Kentucky	2,454	4,502	-2,048	10,505	18,164	-7,659
Louisiana	1,304	1,457	-153	9,848	11,380	-1,532
Maine	601	537	64	7,021	7,167	-146
Maryland	1,594	1,661	-67	20,148	21,997	-1,849
Massachusetts	3,763	3,808	-45	65,047	68,836	-3,789
Michigan	8,441	4,888	3,553	55,834	57,430	-1,596
Minnesota	3,186	3,042	144	57,682	56,450	1,232
Mississippi	877	968	-91	3,738	4,419	-681
Missouri	2,781	2,843	-62	13,743	15,297	-1,554
Montana	571	611	-40	6,721	7,865	-1,144
Nebraska	492	565	-73	4,307	4,857	-550
Nevada	1,791	1,736	55	13,916	15,392	-1,476
New Hampshire	241	317	-76	2,265	2,588	-323
New Jersey	7,168	7,279	-111	90,701	87,586	3,115
New Mexico	718	604	114	8,685	9,142	-457
New York	13,558	12,749	809	165,237	170,971	-5,734
North Carolina	2,478	2,403	75	13,257	13,702	-445
North Dakota	208	224	-16	4,860	5,151	-291
Ohio	16,120	12,602	3,518	47,167	51,199	-4,032
Oklahoma	2,585	2,261	324	10,856	11,622	-766
Oregon	3,498	3,151	347	24,033	25,258	-1,225
Pennsylvania	7,175	7,968	-793	87,359	92,632	-5,273
Puerto Rico	800	909	-109	11,179	12,830	-1,651
Rhode Island	571	648	-77	9,234	9,741	-507
South Carolina	1,501	1,642	-141	8,701	9,617	-916
South Dakota	96	114	-18	2,245	2,510	-265
Tennessee	1,901	2,120	-219	12,484	13,063	-579
Texas	15,266	13,160	2,106	96,209	96,445	-236
Utah	1,637	1,295	342	6,922	7,610	-688
Vermont	293	329	-36	3,546	3,524	22
Virgin Islands	15	36	-21	616	406	210
Virginia	1,809	1,546	263	7,560	6,954	606
Washington	4,259	3,951	308	45,386	43,892	1,494
West Virginia	521	568	-47	7,487	7,459	28
Wisconsin	5,439	4,763	676	32,799	33,818	-1,019
Wyoming	297	433	-136	2,487	2,700	-213
US Total	195,460	182,339	13,121	1,675,898	1,722,204	-46,306

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	
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	1,490	21	1,505.50	1.1
March 5, 2022	229	13	231.75	1,417	-73	1,462.50	1.0
March 12, 2022	215	-14	223.25	1,342	-75	1,429.50	1.0
March 19, 2022	188	-27	212.00	1,307	-35	1,389.00	0.9
March 26, 2022	202	14	208.50				

Extended Benefits (EB) Continued Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	EB Claims Filed During Weeks Ended:		
	March 12	March 5	Change
Alabama	0	0	0
Alaska	0	0	0
Arizona	21	1	20
Arkansas	0	0	0
California	1,410	1,582	-172
Colorado	1	13	-12
Connecticut	17	55	-38
Delaware	0	0	0
District of Columbia	3	7	-4
Florida	69	72	-3
Georgia	0	0	0
Hawaii	1	1	0
Idaho	0	0	0
Illinois	10	8	2
Indiana	0	0	0
Iowa	2	2	0
Kansas	0	11	-11
Kentucky	0	0	0
Louisiana	2	1	1
Maine	3	10	-7
Maryland	6	13	-7
Massachusetts	0	0	0
Michigan	0	19	-19
Minnesota	0	1	-1
Mississippi	1	1	0
Missouri	3	3	0
Montana	0	0	0
Nebraska	0	0	0
Nevada	4	3	1
New Hampshire	1	2	-1
New Jersey	25,904	25,204	700
New Mexico	63	1	62
New York	45	57	-12
North Carolina	13	11	2
North Dakota	0	0	0
Ohio	0	0	0
Oklahoma	0	0	0
Oregon	29	16	13
Pennsylvania	95	81	14
Puerto Rico	53	71	-18
Rhode Island	1	1	0
South Carolina	9	16	-7
South Dakota	0	0	0
Tennessee	2	0	2
Texas	47	56	-9
Utah	0	0	0
Vermont	1	0	1
Virgin Islands	0	0	0
Virginia	0	0	0
Washington	0	0	0
West Virginia	2	2	0
Wisconsin	177	9	168
Wyoming	0	0	0
US Total	27,995	27,330	665

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

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED
MARCH 19

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED
MARCH 12

STATE NAME	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE (%) ²	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
Alabama	1,830	-174	-12,164	5	0	3,875	0.2	-81	-11,789	39	19	3,933
Alaska	917	-80	-1,856	1	3	6,415	2.3	-56	-8,482	135	10	6,560
Arizona	2,358	-300	-2,464	3	0	13,210	0.5	209	-34,940	123	26	13,359
Arkansas	914	-145	-1,411	2	1	8,213	0.7	28	-14,318	53	14	8,280
California	39,055	-5,831	-56,941	106	59	396,077	2.5	-12,648	-283,708	2,301	1,078	399,456
Colorado	1,273	-88	-3,363	3	2	15,484	0.6	-1,318	-31,117	201	125	15,810
Connecticut	2,349	161	-2,223	10	8	26,919	1.7	-2,031	-47,000	54	28	27,001
Delaware	409	100	-1,073	0	5	3,940	0.9	11	-7,514	8	7	3,955
District of Columbia	1,481	4	-502	10	0	6,249	1.2	568	-12,123	132	1	6,382
Florida	4,866	956	-12,483	17	32	33,200	0.4	-2,366	-90,721	157	137	33,494
Georgia	4,105	118	-20,684	31	15	31,712	0.7	809	-104,250	277	134	32,123
Hawaii	1,267	64	-2,020	2	13	6,960	1.3	-787	-11,660	65	96	7,121
Idaho	893	29	-3,154	10	2	6,343	0.8	-566	-5,064	195	4	6,542
Illinois	7,103	-2,053	-8,492	9	4	104,431	1.9	-19,727	-119,867	465	177	105,073
Indiana	3,274	-234	-9,771	5	4	23,394	0.9	-2,096	-35,792	86	30	23,510
Iowa	1,586	111	-3,543	2	1	19,397	1.3	-553	-18,143	33	17	19,447
Kansas	969	-2,070	-1,659	0	2	6,711	0.5	466	-4,334	31	8	6,750
Kentucky	4,502	-2,579	-4,236	0	1	18,164	1.0	2,954	-17,392	71	70	18,305
Louisiana	1,457	-116	-5,011	3	0	11,380	0.7	-438	-29,460	48	17	11,445
Maine	537	52	-913	3	0	7,167	1.2	-307	-7,747	29	20	7,216
Maryland	1,661	-121	-8,782	11	1	21,997	0.9	-1,963	-31,688	202	83	22,282
Massachusetts	3,808	-656	-27,108	14	9	68,836	2.1	-3,284	-65,487	114	50	69,000
Michigan	4,888	-4,876	-7,877	3	7	57,430	1.4	-5,698	-81,098	149	66	57,645
Minnesota	3,042	-87	-5,333	7	13	56,450	2.1	-3,351	-42,436	103	60	56,613
Mississippi	968	48	-3,495	2	1	4,419	0.4	-82	-23,026	83	9	4,511
Missouri	2,843	-950	-4,970	4	3	15,297	0.6	-3,560	-30,880	71	19	15,387
Montana	611	-57	-1,513	21	2	7,865	1.7	30	-6,176	464	16	8,345
Nebraska	565	-26	-1,061	0	1	4,857	0.5	-398	-8,068	13	4	4,874
Nevada	1,736	-122	-5,905	5	1	15,392	1.2	-811	-56,333	141	33	15,566
New Hampshire	317	-6	-692	2	1	2,588	0.4	-539	-19,004	6	3	2,597
New Jersey	7,279	-229	-3,162	17	7	87,586	2.3	-991	-32,573	311	189	88,086
New Mexico	604	48	-1,898	1	1	9,142	1.2	-307	-20,760	195	23	9,360
New York	12,749	-555	-23,242	20	19	170,971	2.0	-7,655	-222,151	461	282	171,714
North Carolina	2,403	-213	-4,767	8	0	13,702	0.3	-161	-38,219	74	91	13,867
North Dakota	224	-161	-454	2	1	5,151	1.3	-100	-3,218	8	3	5,162
Ohio	12,602	-871	-56,795	7	14	51,199	1.0	-1,561	-146,201	70	91	51,360
Oklahoma	2,261	400	-4,633	6	5	11,622	0.8	-225	-32,073	71	45	11,738
Oregon	3,151	-170	-4,761	17	8	25,258	1.4	-748	-35,354	608	67	25,933
Pennsylvania	7,968	476	-11,780	17	8	92,632	1.7	-6,651	-180,684	293	85	93,010
Puerto Rico	909	-27	-683	3	2	12,830	1.5	-2,057	-28,379	239	63	13,132
Rhode Island	648	-106	-3,205	3	1	9,741	2.2	-491	-8,210	32	24	9,797
South Carolina	1,642	32	-1,555	4	1	9,617	0.5	155	-26,748	29	45	9,691
South Dakota	114	-43	-181	1	1	2,510	0.6	-132	-2,317	40	3	2,553
Tennessee	2,120	328	-4,311	4	6	13,063	0.4	-133	-30,689	34	43	13,140
Texas	13,160	-479	-68,297	60	85	96,445	0.8	511	-200,423	617	857	97,919
Utah	1,295	-37	-1,281	13	4	7,610	0.5	-250	-6,472	169	18	7,797
Vermont	329	-27	-453	0	0	3,524	1.3	-277	-7,550	3	0	3,527
Virgin Islands	36	-20	-156	0	0	406	1.2	-82	-1,062	2	0	408
Virginia	1,546	-308	-16,014	2	8	6,954	0.2	270	-51,279	48	44	7,046
Washington	3,951	-352	-7,926	9	11	43,892	1.4	-1,424	-71,670	356	259	44,507
West Virginia	568	-73	-4,628	0	0	7,459	1.2	-381	-11,070	52	20	7,531
Wisconsin	4,763	-289	-7,030	5	3	33,818	1.2	-1,836	-59,530	107	15	33,940
Wyoming	433	32	-371	9	0	2,700	1.1	0	-1,932	61	2	2,763
Totals	182,339	-21,572	-448,282	499	376	1,722,204	1.2	-82,111	-2,478,181	9,729	4,630	1,736,563

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 MARCH 19, 2022

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
None		

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-5,831	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
MI	-4,876	Fewer layoffs in the automobile and wholesale trade industries.
KY	-2,579	No comment.
KS	-2,070	No comment.
IL	-2,053	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](#)

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