



# News Release

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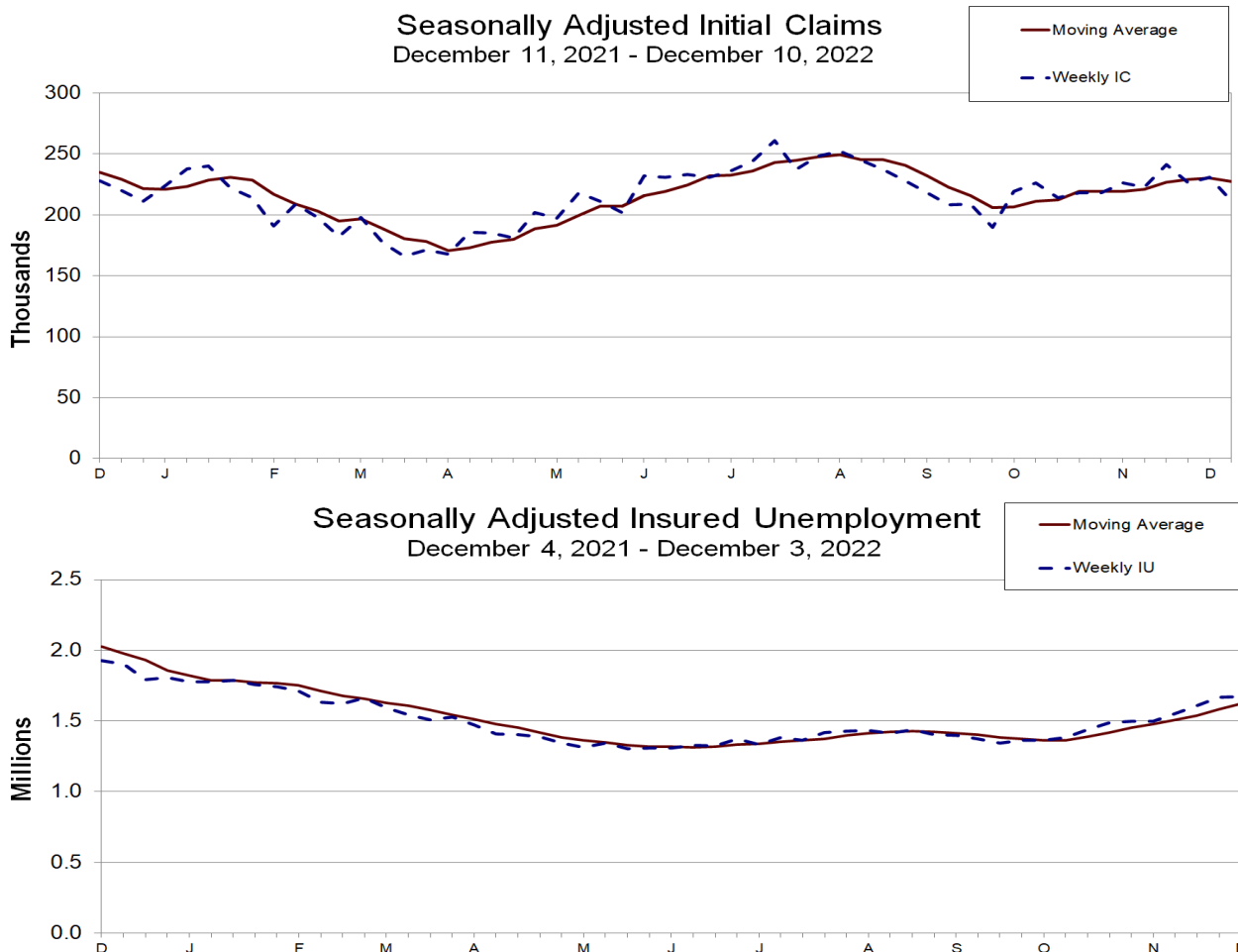
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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, December 15, 2022

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending December 10, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 211,000, a decrease of 20,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 230,000 to 231,000. The 4-week moving average was 227,250, a decrease of 3,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 230,000 to 230,250.

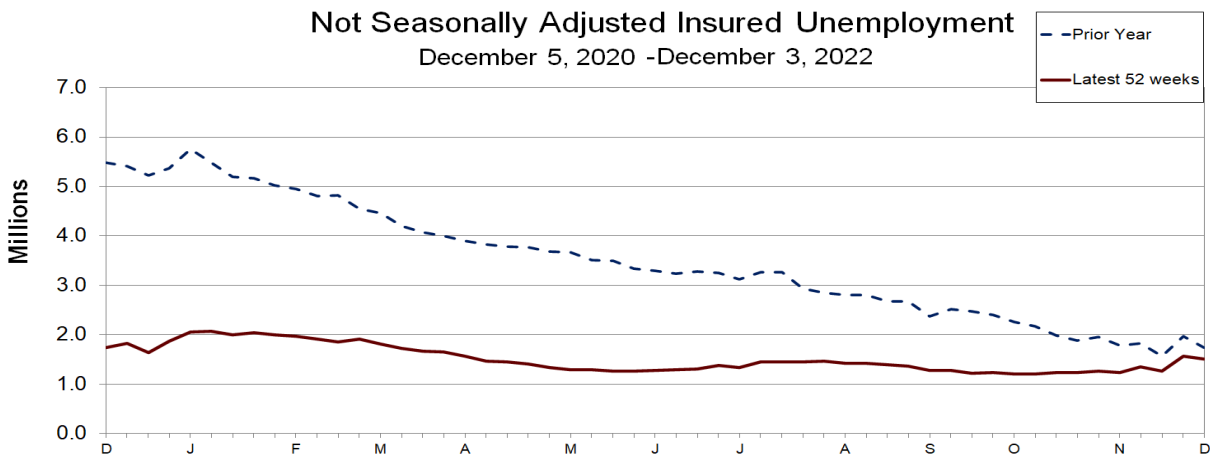
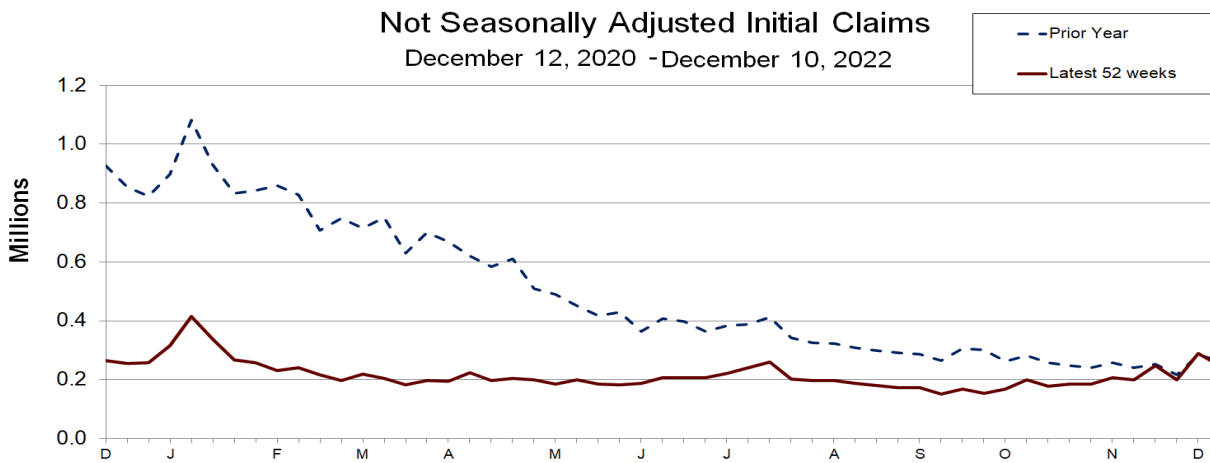
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending December 3, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending December 3 was 1,671,000, an increase of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 1,000 from 1,671,000 to 1,670,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,625,250, an increase of 43,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 250 from 1,582,250 to 1,582,000.



**UNADJUSTED DATA**

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 248,881 in the week ending December 10, a decrease of 39,095 (or -13.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 15,922 (or -5.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 265,692 initial claims in the comparable week in 2021.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.0 percent during the week ending December 3, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,505,805, a decrease of 55,630 (or -3.6 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 56,779 (or -3.6 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,734,628.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending November 26 was 1,586,144, an increase of 302,109 from the previous week. There were 2,458,450 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2021.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending November 26.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 776 in the week ending December 3, an increase of 184 from the prior week. There were 462 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 238 from the preceding week.

There were 6,932 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending November 26, an increase of 1,005 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,524, an increase of 714 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 26 were in Alaska (2.2), California (2.1), New Jersey (2.1), Puerto Rico (2.0), Minnesota (1.7), Montana (1.7), New York (1.6), Massachusetts (1.5), Rhode Island (1.5), and Washington (1.5).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending December 3 were in California (+15,306), New York (+8,777), Texas (+8,639), Georgia (+7,806), and Illinois (+5,083), while the only decrease was in Connecticut (-139).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>December 10</b>	<b>December 3</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>November 26</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	211,000	231,000	-20,000	226,000	228,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	248,881	287,976	-39,095	199,323	265,692
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	227,250	230,250	-3,000	229,000	235,000

<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>December 3</b>	<b>November 26</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>November 19</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,671,000	1,670,000	+1,000	1,609,000	1,927,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,505,805	1,561,435	-55,630	1,261,672	1,734,628
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,625,250	1,582,000	+43,250	1,539,000	2,025,250
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) <sup>2</sup>	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.1%	1.4%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) <sup>2</sup>	1.0%	1.1%	-0.1	0.9%	1.3%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)<sup>3</sup>

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>December 3</b>	<b>November 26</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	776	592	+184	1,092
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	462	224	+238	488

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CONTINUED WEEKS CLAIMED FILED FOR UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)<sup>3</sup>

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>November 26</b>	<b>November 19</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	1,557,145	1,257,937	+299,208	1,960,393
Federal Employees	6,932	5,927	+1,005	9,786
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,524	3,810	+714	5,301
Extended Benefits <sup>4</sup>	3,399	2,884	+515	132,622
State Additional Benefits <sup>5</sup>	1,822	1,581	+241	2,630
STC / Workshare <sup>6</sup>	12,322	11,896	+426	17,116
<b>TOTAL<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>1,586,144</b>	<b>1,284,035</b>	<b>+302,109</b>	<b>2,458,450</b>

**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 143,627,296 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 December 10			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended December 3		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,471	3,268	-797	3,135	4,723	-1,588
Alaska	1,084	1,065	19	6,488	6,474	14
Arizona	2,863	2,941	-78	16,170	17,918	-1,748
Arkansas	1,615	1,786	-171	6,709	7,424	-715
California	47,614	51,801	-4,187	341,098	350,923	-9,825
Colorado	3,095	3,391	-296	20,927	20,786	141
Connecticut	3,923	3,505	418	19,383	20,303	-920
Delaware	340	612	-272	3,936	4,050	-114
District of Columbia	453	303	150	2,768	2,928	-160
Florida	5,685	6,393	-708	35,159	44,840	-9,681
Georgia	6,387	10,885	-4,498	26,425	32,440	-6,015
Hawaii	1,098	1,320	-222	5,494	5,859	-365
Idaho	2,115	2,424	-309	6,530	6,314	216
Illinois	16,521	16,285	236	75,667	78,613	-2,946
Indiana	4,679	6,168	-1,489	23,752	26,097	-2,345
Iowa	3,820	3,630	190	10,954	9,705	1,249
Kansas	1,092	1,570	-478	4,065	4,145	-80
Kentucky	2,001	1,846	155	7,887	9,319	-1,432
Louisiana	1,829	2,205	-376	10,240	11,238	-998
Maine	1,000	1,091	-91	4,681	4,443	238
Maryland	2,029	2,397	-368	19,349	20,411	-1,062
Massachusetts	7,383	7,491	-108	51,991	51,551	440
Michigan	9,166	9,300	-134	39,127	45,641	-6,514
Minnesota	6,714	8,141	-1,427	49,568	45,959	3,609
Mississippi	994	1,617	-623	4,841	5,513	-672
Missouri	2,943	3,784	-841	13,406	15,011	-1,605
Montana	1,393	1,536	-143	8,123	7,809	314
Nebraska	880	878	2	3,502	3,238	264
Nevada	3,084	2,709	375	16,890	17,913	-1,023
New Hampshire	355	431	-76	2,016	2,062	-46
New Jersey	8,727	9,921	-1,194	81,745	81,443	302
New Mexico	786	855	-69	8,567	8,952	-385
New York	17,079	23,966	-6,887	140,373	142,526	-2,153
North Carolina	3,553	4,029	-476	15,135	16,234	-1,099
North Dakota	802	795	7	2,941	2,211	730
Ohio	12,931	13,090	-159	42,355	39,300	3,055
Oklahoma	1,207	1,321	-114	9,865	10,325	-460
Oregon	4,586	5,947	-1,361	25,745	27,089	-1,344
Pennsylvania	12,126	14,873	-2,747	76,077	74,958	1,119
Puerto Rico	1,365	2,112	-747	16,809	17,377	-568
Rhode Island	1,074	1,014	60	6,855	6,501	354
South Carolina	2,290	2,802	-512	11,803	12,436	-633
South Dakota	431	457	-26	1,366	1,327	39
Tennessee	2,261	2,682	-421	12,317	13,308	-991
Texas	15,442	19,890	-4,448	100,811	118,463	-17,652
Utah	2,280	2,256	24	9,171	8,362	809
Vermont	426	595	-169	2,565	2,480	85
Virgin Islands	18	28	-10	182	244	-62
Virginia	1,610	1,211	399	9,514	7,899	1,615
Washington	6,873	8,560	-1,687	53,897	49,404	4,493
West Virginia	1,709	1,774	-65	8,803	7,815	988
Wisconsin	6,210	8,412	-2,202	26,188	27,139	-951
Wyoming	469	613	-144	2,440	1,992	448
US Total	248,881	287,976	-39,095	1,505,805	1,561,435	-55,630

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	
December 4, 2021	228	-12	244.25	1,927	-171	2,025.25	1.4
December 11, 2021	228	0	235.00	1,904	-23	1,976.25	1.4
December 18, 2021	220	-8	229.00	1,793	-111	1,930.50	1.3
December 25, 2021	211	-9	221.75	1,805	12	1,857.25	1.3
January 1, 2022	224	13	220.75	1,778	-27	1,820.00	1.3
January 8, 2022	238	14	223.25	1,776	-2	1,788.00	1.3
January 15, 2022	240	2	228.25	1,787	11	1,786.50	1.3
January 22, 2022	222	-18	231.00	1,757	-30	1,774.50	1.3
January 29, 2022	214	-8	228.50	1,743	-14	1,765.75	1.3
February 5, 2022	191	-23	216.75	1,714	-29	1,750.25	1.2
February 12, 2022	209	18	209.00	1,633	-81	1,711.75	1.2
February 19, 2022	198	-11	203.00	1,623	-10	1,678.25	1.2
February 26, 2022	182	-16	195.00	1,664	41	1,658.50	1.2
March 5, 2022	198	16	196.75	1,594	-70	1,628.50	1.2
March 12, 2022	177	-21	188.75	1,542	-52	1,605.75	1.1
March 19, 2022	166	-11	180.75	1,506	-36	1,576.50	1.1
March 26, 2022	171	5	178.00	1,529	23	1,542.75	1.1
April 2, 2022	168	-3	170.50	1,474	-55	1,512.75	1.1
April 9, 2022	186	18	172.75	1,407	-67	1,479.00	1.0
April 16, 2022	185	-1	177.50	1,403	-4	1,453.25	1.0
April 23, 2022	181	-4	180.00	1,387	-16	1,417.75	1.0
April 30, 2022	202	21	188.50	1,342	-45	1,384.75	1.0
May 7, 2022	197	-5	191.25	1,315	-27	1,361.75	0.9
May 14, 2022	218	21	199.50	1,343	28	1,346.75	1.0
May 21, 2022	211	-7	207.00	1,306	-37	1,326.50	0.9
May 28, 2022	202	-9	207.00	1,309	3	1,318.25	0.9
June 4, 2022	232	30	215.75	1,310	1	1,317.00	0.9
June 11, 2022	231	-1	219.00	1,331	21	1,314.00	1.0
June 18, 2022	233	2	224.50	1,324	-7	1,318.50	0.9
June 25, 2022	231	-2	231.75	1,372	48	1,334.25	1.0
July 2, 2022	236	5	232.75	1,333	-39	1,340.00	0.9
July 9, 2022	244	8	236.00	1,384	51	1,353.25	1.0
July 16, 2022	261	17	243.00	1,365	-19	1,363.50	1.0
July 23, 2022	237	-24	244.50	1,420	55	1,375.50	1.0
July 30, 2022	248	11	247.50	1,430	10	1,399.75	1.0
August 6, 2022	252	4	249.50	1,434	4	1,412.25	1.0
August 13, 2022	245	-7	245.50	1,412	-22	1,424.00	1.0
August 20, 2022	237	-8	245.50	1,437	25	1,428.25	1.0
August 27, 2022	228	-9	240.50	1,402	-35	1,421.25	1.0
September 3, 2022	218	-10	232.00	1,400	-2	1,412.75	1.0
September 10, 2022	208	-10	222.75	1,376	-24	1,403.75	1.0
September 17, 2022	209	1	215.75	1,346	-30	1,381.00	0.9
September 24, 2022	190	-19	206.25	1,365	19	1,371.75	1.0
October 1, 2022	219	29	206.50	1,364	-1	1,362.75	0.9
October 8, 2022	226	7	211.00	1,383	19	1,364.50	1.0
October 15, 2022	214	-12	212.25	1,438	55	1,387.50	1.0
October 22, 2022	218	4	219.25	1,487	49	1,418.00	1.0
October 29, 2022	218	0	219.00	1,498	11	1,451.50	1.0
November 5, 2022	226	8	219.00	1,498	0	1,480.25	1.0
November 12, 2022	223	-3	221.25	1,551	53	1,508.50	1.1
November 19, 2022	241	18	227.00	1,609	58	1,539.00	1.1
November 26, 2022	226	-15	229.00	1,670	61	1,582.00	1.2
December 3, 2022	231	5	230.25	1,671	1	1,625.25	1.2
December 10, 2022	211	-20	227.25				

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED  
DECEMBER 3

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED  
NOVEMBER 26

STATE NAME	CHANGE FROM					CHANGE FROM					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	STATE (%) <sup>2</sup>	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>		
Alabama	3,268	1,236	-430	9	3	4,723	0.2	943	-1,898	40	15	4,778
Alaska	1,065	270	-335	7	0	6,474	2.2	742	-2,272	112	10	6,596
Arizona	2,941	805	244	7	3	17,918	0.6	1,019	2,728	88	14	18,020
Arkansas	1,786	595	-158	1	1	7,424	0.6	981	-3,669	15	13	7,452
California	51,801	15,306	-3,563	158	94	350,923	2.1	85,032	-112,539	966	940	352,829
Colorado	3,391	1,189	1,109	18	5	20,786	0.8	2,658	98	173	108	21,067
Connecticut	3,505	-139	79	2	4	20,303	1.3	3,652	-3,184	46	31	20,380
Delaware	612	147	-24	1	2	4,050	0.9	1,050	-377	12	5	4,067
District of Columbia	303	75	-348	8	0	2,928	0.5	350	-10,152	111	8	3,047
Florida	6,393	2,284	181	11	32	44,840	0.5	11,799	-8,073	121	101	45,062
Georgia	10,885	7,806	6,767	34	19	32,440	0.7	10,182	-53,543	128	130	32,698
Hawaii	1,320	526	-531	2	4	5,859	1.0	688	-5,418	35	59	5,953
Idaho	2,424	562	761	21	2	6,314	0.8	1,423	1,425	133	18	6,465
Illinois	16,285	5,083	2,884	6	5	78,613	1.4	17,539	-42,657	423	116	79,152
Indiana	6,168	2,466	405	8	7	26,097	0.9	7,447	-3,082	45	28	26,170
Iowa	3,630	1,557	-41	1	0	9,705	0.6	1,729	-2,208	14	2	9,721
Kansas	1,570	591	244	2	1	4,145	0.3	494	-1,696	27	15	4,187
Kentucky	1,846	350	241	0	1	9,319	0.5	2,101	-989	68	44	9,431
Louisiana	2,205	761	22	1	1	11,238	0.6	656	-8,931	48	15	11,301
Maine	1,091	319	-165	8	0	4,443	0.7	876	-1,232	22	18	4,483
Maryland	2,397	553	-245	7	3	20,411	0.8	3,362	-3,778	148	104	20,663
Massachusetts	7,491	1,501	-308	8	8	51,551	1.5	5,388	-6,869	125	63	51,739
Michigan	9,300	1,875	-3,896	4	1	45,641	1.1	12,241	-8,751	115	54	45,810
Minnesota	8,141	1,321	-1,232	8	6	45,959	1.7	9,607	-11,710	89	54	46,102
Mississippi	1,617	238	149	1	0	5,513	0.5	1,051	-749	21	17	5,551
Missouri	3,784	1,228	-167	8	8	15,011	0.6	2,281	-1,654	92	24	15,127
Montana	1,536	314	39	71	4	7,809	1.7	1,081	1,507	370	19	8,198
Nebraska	878	267	415	1	0	3,238	0.3	328	464	9	1	3,248
Nevada	2,709	514	308	12	4	17,913	1.4	2,197	-5,335	100	41	18,054
New Hampshire	431	102	-141	2	1	2,062	0.3	184	-418	5	2	2,069
New Jersey	9,921	2,389	1,079	30	10	81,443	2.1	13,583	-11,196	335	176	81,954
New Mexico	855	129	-732	8	1	8,952	1.2	854	-2,322	217	19	9,188
New York	23,966	8,777	576	22	26	142,526	1.6	16,648	-8,400	369	269	143,164
North Carolina	4,029	1,592	-2,436	3	2	16,234	0.4	1,396	-6,326	67	101	16,402
North Dakota	795	149	-12	1	1	2,211	0.6	484	-323	12	9	2,232
Ohio	13,090	2,434	3,779	10	16	39,300	0.8	5,732	-229	71	114	39,485
Oklahoma	1,321	198	-791	7	4	10,325	0.7	888	-5,129	42	51	10,418
Oregon	5,947	1,441	-80	95	8	27,089	1.4	4,464	-6,928	409	38	27,536
Pennsylvania	14,873	3,233	2,982	16	13	74,958	1.3	13,749	-25,471	201	104	75,263
Puerto Rico	2,112	909	1,113	3	4	17,377	2.0	1,555	-3,901	83	82	17,542
Rhode Island	1,014	45	68	1	0	6,501	1.5	739	-801	23	14	6,538
South Carolina	2,802	1,441	1,014	0	4	12,436	0.6	1,167	-266	44	45	12,525
South Dakota	457	200	82	7	1	1,327	0.3	272	-37	15	1	1,343
Tennessee	2,682	73	-1,683	6	5	13,308	0.4	1,719	-5,474	41	40	13,389
Texas	19,890	8,639	788	39	114	118,463	0.9	22,777	-9,242	650	1,072	120,185
Utah	2,256	902	505	43	3	8,362	0.5	589	2,105	118	12	8,492
Vermont	595	98	-234	0	0	2,480	0.9	705	-603	1	1	2,482
Virgin Islands	28	14	-21	0	0	244	0.7	94	-710	0	2	246
Virginia	1,211	723	-2,239	4	5	7,899	0.2	552	-6,699	71	58	8,028
Washington	8,560	2,783	1,586	25	22	49,404	1.5	12,427	-4,089	289	218	49,911
West Virginia	1,774	995	33	0	3	7,815	1.2	2,128	-932	40	15	7,870
Wisconsin	8,412	1,515	-3,309	11	1	27,139	1.0	8,029	-9,051	85	11	27,235
Wyoming	613	272	-7	18	0	1,992	0.8	131	-13	48	3	2,043
Totals	287,976	88,653	4,325	776	462	1,561,435	1.1	299,763	-400,999	6,932	4,524	1,572,891

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.

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**UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 3, 2022**

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**STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
CA	+15,306	No comment.
NY	+8,777	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, construction, and accommodation and food services industries.
TX	+8,639	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services industry.
GA	+7,806	Layoffs in the manufacturing, trade, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, and construction industries.
IL	+5,083	Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, and retail trade industries.
PA	+3,233	Layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, transportation and warehousing, construction, and professional, scientific and technical services industries.
WA	+2,783	Layoffs in the mining, utilities, construction, manufacturing, transportation and warehousing, educational services, and public administration industries.
IN	+2,466	No comment.
OH	+2,434	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
NJ	+2,389	No comment.
FL	+2,284	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, construction, wholesale trade, manufacturing, retail trade, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation services industries.
MI	+1,875	No comment.
NC	+1,592	Layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, professional, scientific and technical services, and accommodation and food services industries.
IA	+1,557	Layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, and professional, scientific, and technical services industries.
WI	+1,515	Layoffs in the construction and transportation and warehousing industries.
MA	+1,501	No comment.
SC	+1,441	No comment.
OR	+1,441	No comment.
MN	+1,321	No comment.
AL	+1,236	Layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation services and retail trade industries.
MO	+1,228	Layoffs in the management of companies and enterprises, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, and retail trade industries.
CO	+1,189	No comment.

**STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
None		



## 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. For further questions on the seasonal adjustment methodology, please see the [official release page for the UI claims seasonal adjustment factors](#) or contact BLS directly through the [Local Area Unemployment Statistics web contact form](#).

[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).

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