



# News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, March 14, 2024

## REVISION TO SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT FACTORS

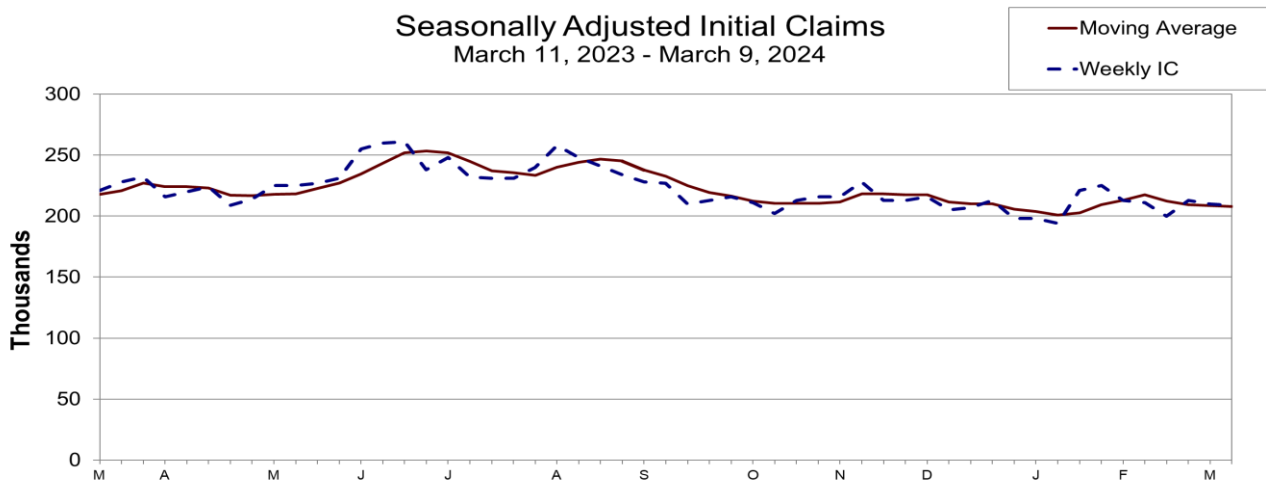
**Note:** This week's release reflects the annual revision to the weekly unemployment claims seasonal adjustment factors. The seasonal adjustment factors used for the UI Weekly Claims data from 2019 forward, along with the resulting seasonally adjusted values for initial claims and continuing claims, have been revised. In addition, please note that this year the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has implemented new models to seasonally adjust both the initial claims and continued claims. For more information regarding the new methodology, please see the additional information at the end of this news release.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

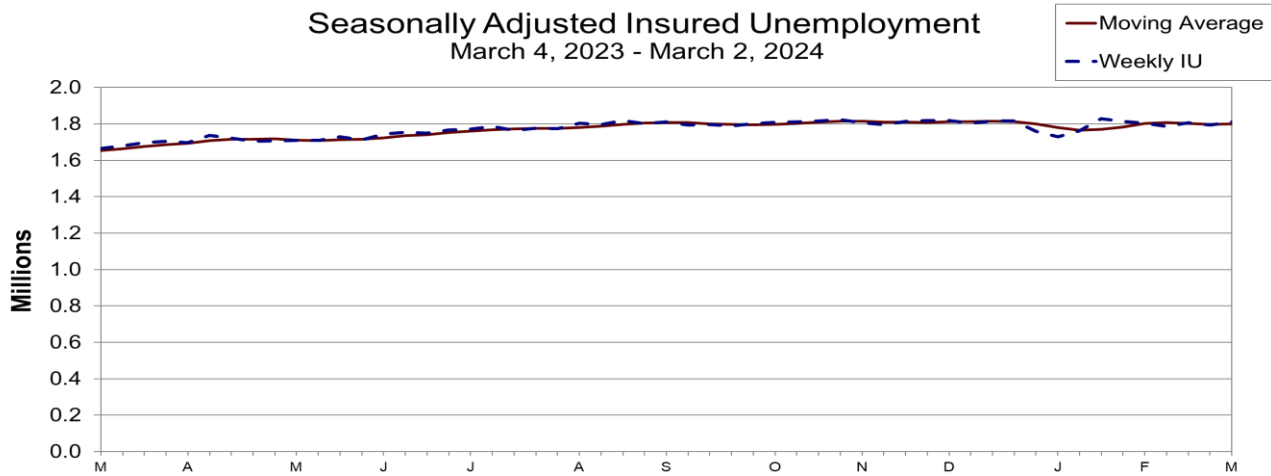
### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending March 9, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 209,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 7,000 from 217,000 to 210,000. The 4-week moving average was 208,000, a decrease of 500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 3,750 from 212,250 to 208,500.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending March 2, unchanged from the previous week's revised rate. The previous week's rate was revised down by 0.1 from 1.3 to 1.2 percent. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending March 2 was 1,811,000, an increase of 17,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 112,000 from 1,906,000 to 1,794,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,799,250, an increase of 2,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 91,000 from 1,888,250 to 1,797,250.



### Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment March 4, 2023 - March 2, 2024

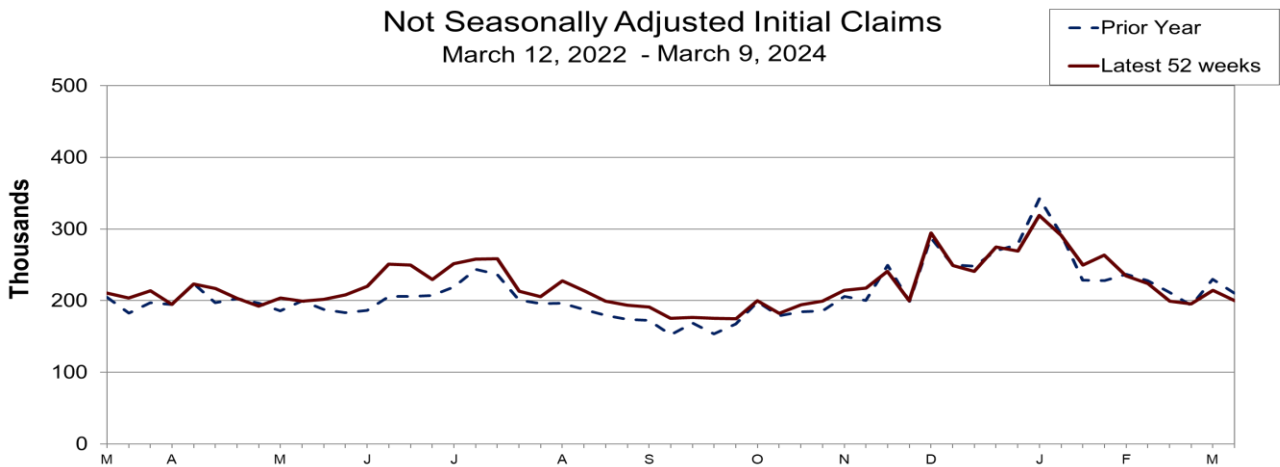


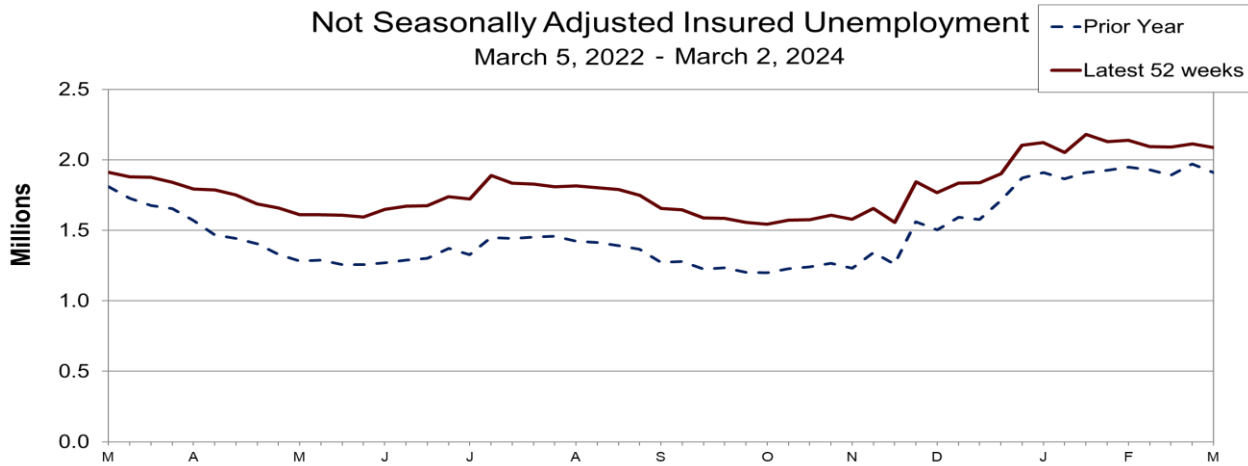
### UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 199,952 in the week ending March 9, a decrease of 14,472 (or -6.7 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 13,244 (or -6.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 210,665 initial claims in the comparable week in 2023.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending March 2, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 2,087,560, a decrease of 25,496 (or -1.2 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 44,844 (or -2.1 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,910,050.

### Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims March 12, 2022 - March 9, 2024





The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending February 24 was 2,143,864, an increase of 22,432 from the previous week. There were 2,000,248 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2023.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending February 24.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 393 in the week ending March 2, an increase of 63 from the prior week. There were 407 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 84 from the preceding week.

There were 6,869 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending February 24, an increase of 280 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,298, an increase of 114 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending February 24 were in Rhode Island (3.1), New Jersey (2.9), Massachusetts (2.6), California (2.4), Minnesota (2.4), Illinois (2.2), New York (2.2), Connecticut (2.1), Montana (2.0), and Pennsylvania (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending March 2 were in New York (+14,176), California (+5,549), Texas (+2,102), Michigan (+979), and Florida (+783), while the largest decreases were in Massachusetts (-3,894), Rhode Island (-1,955), Oregon (-1,063), Georgia (-882), and Tennessee (-335).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>March 9</b>	<b>March 2</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>February 24</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	209,000	210,000	-1,000	213,000	221,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	199,952	214,424	-14,472	195,774	210,665
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	208,000	208,500	-500	209,250	217,750

<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>March 2</b>	<b>February 24</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>February 17</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,811,000	1,794,000	+17,000	1,805,000	1,665,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,087,560	2,113,056	-25,496	2,091,454	1,910,050
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,799,250	1,797,250	+2,000	1,802,000	1,654,500
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) <sup>2</sup>	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.1%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) <sup>2</sup>	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.4%	1.3%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>March 2</b>	<b>February 24</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	393	330	+63	401
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	407	323	+84	384

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

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>February 24</b>	<b>February 17</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,105,587	2,084,410	+21,177	1,962,728
Federal Employees	6,869	6,589	+280	6,962
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,298	4,184	+114	4,229
Extended Benefits <sup>3</sup>	298	215	+83	1,978
State Additional Benefits <sup>4</sup>	2,758	2,502	+256	2,062
STC / Workshare <sup>5</sup>	24,054	23,532	+522	22,289
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,143,864</b>	<b>2,121,432</b>	<b>+22,432</b>	<b>2,000,248</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 149,943,945 as denominator.
3. Information on the EB program can be found here: [EB Program information](#)
4. 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](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-11 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

## Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended March 9			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended March 2		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,854	1,951	-97	8,081	9,151	-1,070
Alaska	801	755	46	5,625	5,729	-104
Arizona	3,267	3,259	8	20,742	22,347	-1,605
Arkansas	953	1,254	-301	9,118	9,739	-621
California	47,728	46,760	968	454,504	428,402	26,102
Colorado	2,630	2,732	-102	32,423	32,218	205
Connecticut	3,073	2,962	111	33,198	34,807	-1,609
Delaware	203	215	-12	6,238	6,120	118
District of Columbia	567	552	15	5,632	5,617	15
Florida	5,752	5,799	-47	31,667	36,279	-4,612
Georgia	4,613	4,709	-96	29,018	30,466	-1,448
Hawaii	1,074	1,073	1	7,017	7,165	-148
Idaho	1,166	1,128	38	10,071	10,857	-786
Illinois	8,123	8,123	0	128,371	129,804	-1,433
Indiana	2,881	2,451	430	26,330	25,154	1,176
Iowa	1,972	1,599	373	18,340	19,452	-1,112
Kansas	1,082	1,051	31	6,162	5,621	541
Kentucky	1,543	1,426	117	10,489	10,014	475
Louisiana	1,466	1,551	-85	9,774	11,249	-1,475
Maine	604	616	-12	8,724	8,809	-85
Maryland	2,123	2,347	-224	24,988	24,457	531
Massachusetts	5,064	5,434	-370	85,058	92,039	-6,981
Michigan	5,906	5,943	-37	68,866	71,565	-2,699
Minnesota	3,793	3,674	119	72,355	69,068	3,287
Mississippi	905	887	18	5,413	6,188	-775
Missouri	2,590	2,513	77	20,985	23,409	-2,424
Montana	631	570	61	10,006	9,942	64
Nebraska	674	556	118	6,223	6,821	-598
Nevada	2,556	2,274	282	24,689	25,823	-1,134
New Hampshire	381	966	-585	4,174	3,995	179
New Jersey	8,981	9,028	-47	120,269	118,714	1,555
New Mexico	769	743	26	10,210	10,148	62
New York	14,893	29,329	-14,436	187,467	203,254	-15,787
North Carolina	2,908	2,905	3	19,369	20,598	-1,229
North Dakota	299	258	41	5,834	5,509	325
Ohio	4,119	5,649	-1,530	53,739	56,408	-2,669
Oklahoma	1,077	1,184	-107	9,370	9,705	-335
Oregon	3,743	2,800	943	30,945	33,371	-2,426
Pennsylvania	10,500	10,450	50	113,982	117,460	-3,478
Puerto Rico	1,074	1,098	-24	13,525	15,907	-2,382
Rhode Island	732	750	-18	12,949	14,540	-1,591
South Carolina	1,695	1,783	-88	13,612	13,990	-378
South Dakota	158	141	17	2,817	2,846	-29
Tennessee	2,622	2,801	-179	17,582	16,272	1,310
Texas	15,513	15,234	279	137,527	140,900	-3,373
Utah	1,144	1,235	-91	11,715	15,037	-3,322
Vermont	310	602	-292	3,934	3,638	296
Virgin Islands	33	40	-7	218	306	-88
Virginia	2,077	2,174	-97	16,701	15,827	874
Washington	5,664	5,394	270	71,177	67,654	3,523
West Virginia	795	880	-85	10,264	9,424	840
Wisconsin	4,516	4,475	41	36,935	36,548	387
Wyoming	355	341	14	3,138	2,693	445
US Total	199,952	214,424	-14,472	2,087,560	2,113,056	-25,496

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 4, 2023	227	19	216.75	1,665	0	1,654.50	1.1
March 11, 2023	221	-6	217.75	1,680	15	1,662.75	1.2
March 18, 2023	228	7	221.00	1,697	17	1,676.75	1.2
March 25, 2023	232	4	227.00	1,704	7	1,686.50	1.2
April 1, 2023	216	-16	224.25	1,696	-8	1,694.25	1.2
April 8, 2023	220	4	224.00	1,737	41	1,708.50	1.2
April 15, 2023	224	4	223.00	1,722	-15	1,714.75	1.2
April 22, 2023	209	-15	217.25	1,705	-17	1,715.00	1.2
April 29, 2023	214	5	216.75	1,706	1	1,717.50	1.2
May 6, 2023	225	11	218.00	1,710	4	1,710.75	1.2
May 13, 2023	225	0	218.25	1,710	0	1,707.75	1.2
May 20, 2023	227	2	222.75	1,729	19	1,713.75	1.2
May 27, 2023	231	4	227.00	1,712	-17	1,715.25	1.2
June 3, 2023	255	24	234.50	1,744	32	1,723.75	1.2
June 10, 2023	260	5	243.25	1,753	9	1,734.50	1.2
June 17, 2023	261	1	251.75	1,750	-3	1,739.75	1.2
June 24, 2023	238	-23	253.50	1,767	17	1,753.50	1.2
July 1, 2023	248	10	251.75	1,770	3	1,760.00	1.2
July 8, 2023	232	-16	244.75	1,786	16	1,768.25	1.2
July 15, 2023	231	-1	237.25	1,765	-21	1,772.00	1.2
July 22, 2023	231	0	235.50	1,776	11	1,774.25	1.2
July 29, 2023	240	9	233.50	1,773	-3	1,775.00	1.2
August 5, 2023	258	18	240.00	1,803	30	1,779.25	1.2
August 12, 2023	248	-10	244.25	1,797	-6	1,787.25	1.2
August 19, 2023	241	-7	246.75	1,819	22	1,798.00	1.2
August 26, 2023	234	-7	245.25	1,802	-17	1,805.25	1.2
September 2, 2023	228	-6	237.75	1,810	8	1,807.00	1.2
September 9, 2023	227	-1	232.50	1,793	-17	1,806.00	1.2
September 16, 2023	210	-17	224.75	1,795	2	1,800.00	1.2
September 23, 2023	213	3	219.50	1,789	-6	1,796.75	1.2
September 30, 2023	216	3	216.50	1,800	11	1,794.25	1.2
October 7, 2023	211	-5	212.50	1,808	8	1,798.00	1.2
October 14, 2023	202	-9	210.50	1,810	2	1,801.75	1.2
October 21, 2023	213	11	210.50	1,816	6	1,808.50	1.2
October 28, 2023	216	3	210.50	1,823	7	1,814.25	1.2
November 4, 2023	216	0	211.75	1,807	-16	1,814.00	1.2
November 11, 2023	228	12	218.25	1,795	-12	1,810.25	1.2
November 18, 2023	213	-15	218.25	1,813	18	1,809.50	1.2
November 25, 2023	213	0	217.50	1,818	5	1,808.25	1.2
December 2, 2023	216	3	217.50	1,818	0	1,811.00	1.2
December 9, 2023	205	-11	211.75	1,803	-15	1,813.00	1.2
December 16, 2023	207	2	210.25	1,817	14	1,814.00	1.2
December 23, 2023	213	6	210.25	1,815	-2	1,813.25	1.2
December 30, 2023	198	-15	205.75	1,759	-56	1,798.50	1.2
January 6, 2024	198	0	204.00	1,728	-31	1,779.75	1.2
January 13, 2024	194	-4	200.75	1,761	33	1,765.75	1.2
January 20, 2024	221	27	202.75	1,829	68	1,769.25	1.2
January 27, 2024	225	4	209.50	1,813	-16	1,782.75	1.2
February 3, 2024	213	-12	213.25	1,803	-10	1,801.50	1.2
February 10, 2024	211	-2	217.50	1,787	-16	1,808.00	1.2
February 17, 2024	200	-11	212.25	1,805	18	1,802.00	1.2
February 24, 2024	213	13	209.25	1,794	-11	1,797.25	1.2
March 2, 2024	210	-3	208.50	1,811	17	1,799.25	1.2
March 9, 2024	209	-1	208.00				

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED  
MARCH 2

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED  
FEBRUARY 24

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	1,951	165	-256	4	5	9,151	0.5	-247	-93	34	25	9,210
Alaska	755	134	82	2	0	5,729	1.9	-316	-257	99	8	5,836
Arizona	3,259	188	138	2	0	22,347	0.7	41	2,636	122	33	22,502
Arkansas	1,254	10	-562	2	3	9,739	0.8	216	1,822	32	10	9,781
California	46,760	5,549	-3,695	82	110	428,402	2.4	3,572	19,789	1,318	1,153	430,873
Colorado	2,732	210	55	2	5	32,218	1.2	10	4,304	205	143	32,566
Connecticut	2,962	-288	-816	3	2	34,807	2.1	3,116	2,543	34	21	34,862
Delaware	215	94	-321	2	5	6,120	1.3	215	1,476	5	1	6,126
District of Columbia	552	53	-91	7	2	5,617	1.0	-76	-158	110	4	5,731
Florida	5,799	783	934	6	28	36,279	0.4	-828	1,169	97	101	36,477
Georgia	4,709	-882	-663	85	22	30,466	0.7	-391	1,442	150	65	30,681
Hawaii	1,073	5	-354	0	12	7,165	1.2	-497	1,061	39	43	7,247
Idaho	1,128	23	7	8	2	10,857	1.3	-437	647	192	18	11,067
Illinois	8,123	77	-500	4	7	129,804	2.2	-637	12,301	290	104	130,198
Indiana	2,451	-143	-1,121	1	4	25,154	0.8	-1,225	-872	35	26	25,215
Iowa	1,599	-26	-81	1	2	19,452	1.3	-1,672	-1,644	18	5	19,475
Kansas	1,051	-90	87	0	1	5,621	0.4	-630	225	27	19	5,667
Kentucky	1,426	-62	-3,057	1	1	10,014	0.5	-1,369	-3,514	28	39	10,081
Louisiana	1,551	127	-80	0	2	11,249	0.6	-399	-177	27	11	11,287
Maine	616	-128	-150	0	0	8,809	1.4	364	838	22	8	8,839
Maryland	2,347	38	393	11	4	24,457	1.0	-595	2,065	129	63	24,649
Massachusetts	5,434	-3,894	3,988	2	3	92,039	2.6	6,736	1,311	119	53	92,211
Michigan	5,943	979	601	1	1	71,565	1.7	-2,257	3,141	132	22	71,719
Minnesota	3,674	194	-787	0	2	69,068	2.4	-347	4,563	104	50	69,222
Mississippi	887	133	77	2	2	6,188	0.5	-274	655	32	8	6,228
Missouri	2,513	93	119	1	1	23,409	0.8	-51	3,068	49	19	23,477
Montana	570	98	-195	2	0	9,942	2.0	-504	124	273	5	10,220
Nebraska	556	-14	-76	4	2	6,821	0.7	-291	1,078	15	8	6,844
Nevada	2,274	-63	-204	1	3	25,823	1.8	-12	5,670	105	50	25,978
New Hampshire	966	464	222	2	1	3,995	0.6	38	704	6	2	4,003
New Jersey	9,028	643	715	17	15	118,714	2.9	2,396	9,548	251	154	119,119
New Mexico	743	102	66	2	1	10,148	1.2	-284	312	137	24	10,309
New York	29,329	14,176	-793	21	10	203,254	2.2	18,291	14,118	306	227	203,787
North Carolina	2,905	71	-673	1	0	20,598	0.4	-78	1,349	50	97	20,745
North Dakota	258	-15	9	1	0	5,509	1.3	-248	285	8	4	5,521
Ohio	5,649	-204	-7,085	2	6	56,408	1.1	-1,146	-4,487	83	66	56,557
Oklahoma	1,184	38	345	3	7	9,705	0.6	-899	-769	20	32	9,757
Oregon	2,800	-1,063	-2,882	15	1	33,371	1.7	-1,227	-290	432	36	33,839
Pennsylvania	10,450	279	931	12	9	117,460	2.0	-226	17,231	235	145	117,840
Puerto Rico	1,098	98	23	8	2	15,907	1.7	498	264	147	60	16,114
Rhode Island	750	-1,955	65	2	0	14,540	3.1	1,688	1,063	23	25	14,588
South Carolina	1,783	7	-32	1	4	13,990	0.6	-529	1,212	26	47	14,063
South Dakota	141	-10	-126	2	0	2,846	0.7	-37	59	38	2	2,886
Tennessee	2,801	-335	462	2	0	16,272	0.5	2,108	220	35	43	16,350
Texas	15,234	2,102	1,051	39	82	140,900	1.1	-1,959	19,694	432	786	142,118
Utah	1,235	269	-383	10	3	15,037	0.9	2,646	1,787	167	13	15,217
Vermont	602	184	28	1	0	3,638	1.2	99	-278	1	1	3,640
Virgin Islands	40	29	9	0	0	306	0.9	236	116	2	2	310
Virginia	2,174	178	288	3	13	15,827	0.4	91	4,212	94	75	15,996
Washington	5,394	276	-559	9	17	67,654	1.9	-126	9,945	400	308	68,362
West Virginia	880	112	146	1	3	9,424	1.4	78	530	44	19	9,487
Wisconsin	4,475	-149	-971	1	1	36,548	1.3	-1,039	1,094	55	10	36,613
Wyoming	341	-10	-52	2	1	2,693	1.0	16	-130	35	5	2,733
Totals	214,424	18,650	-15,724	393	407	2,113,056	1.4	21,602	143,002	6,869	4,298	2,124,223

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 MARCH 2, 2024**

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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>
NY	+14,176	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services, and health care and social assistance industries.
CA	+5,549	No comment.
TX	+2,102	Layoffs in the professional, scientific, and technical services; administrative and support and waste management and remediation services; wholesale trade; and manufacturing industries.

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

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
MA	-3,894	No comment.
RI	-1,955	No comment.
OR	-1,063	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.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON REVISION TO SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT FACTORS**

Beginning with the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Weekly Claims News Release issued Thursday, March 14, 2024, the methodology used to seasonally adjust the national initial claims and continued claims reflects a change in the type of model used for seasonal adjustment. The previous models were regression models that utilized locally-weighted regressions to allow for changing seasonality. The new models are structural time series models similar to those used by the Local Area Unemployment Statistics program at the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) for state labor force data since the late 1980s. A structural time series model has more advanced modeling capabilities than the models used in the past and will be easier for BLS to maintain moving forward. The revised seasonal adjustment factors reflect differences due to data revisions, the addition of another year's worth of data. In addition, this year's revised factors also reflect differences due to the model change. Documentation for the new modeling approach will be posted on the official BLS release page (<https://www.bls.gov/lau/seasonal-adjustment-for-weekly-unemployment-insurance-claims.htm>) for the UI seasonal adjustment factors later this year.

As noted in prior years' annual revision notes, prior to the pandemic, the UI claims series used multiplicative models to seasonally adjust the claims. Starting with March 2020, BLS staff, who provide the seasonal adjustment factors, specified both UI claims series as additive. After the large effects of the pandemic on the UI series lessened, the seasonal

adjustment models were once again specified as multiplicative models. Statistical tests show that the UI series should, in normal times, be estimated using multiplicative adjustments.

While the pandemic period remains within the five-year revision period, the UI series will be treated as a hybrid adjustment. The most volatile economic period of the pandemic, the period running from March 2020 to June 2021, was not revised and will continue to be based on additive adjustments. Before and after this period, both series are adjusted using multiplicative adjustments. For consistency, the published seasonal factors are presented as multiplicative, with additive factors converted to implicit multiplicative factors that will not be subject to revision.

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](#).

[2019\\_2024\\_seasonal\\_factors.txt](#)

[2019\\_2024\\_seasonal\\_factors.xlsx](#)

[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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