



News Release

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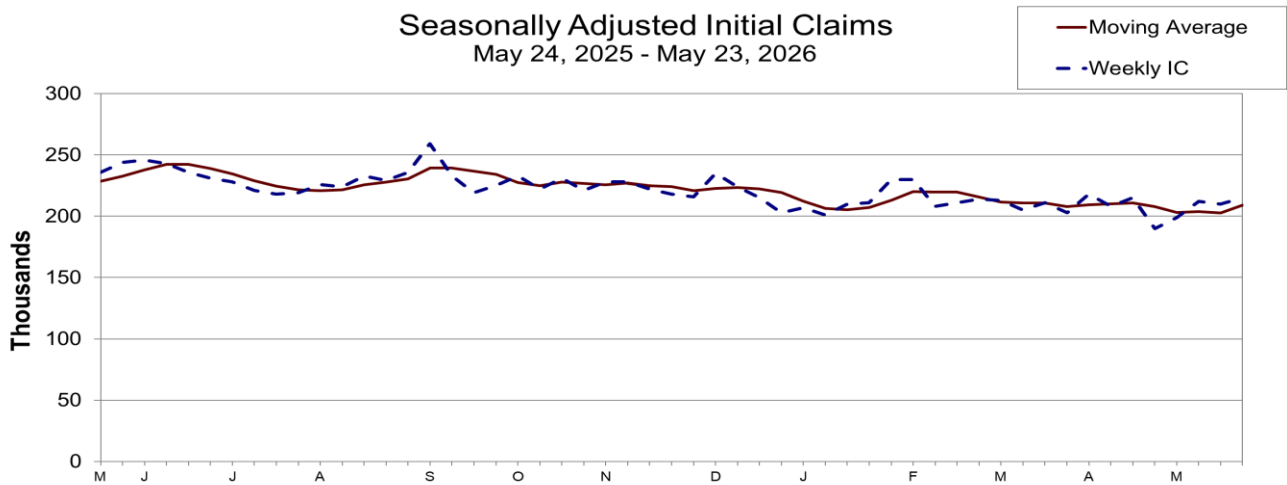
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

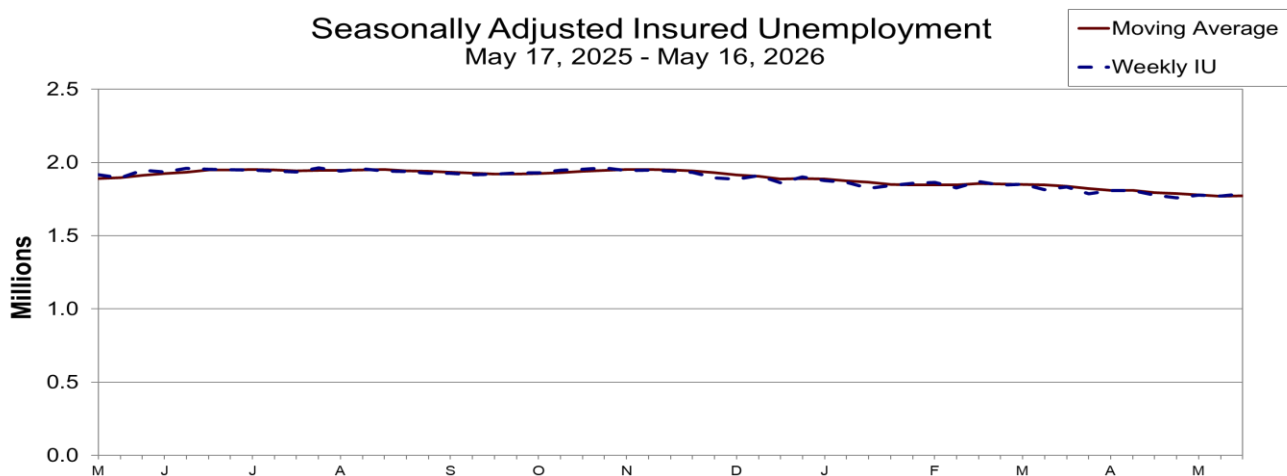
In the week ending May 23, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 215,000, an increase of 5,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 209,000 to 210,000. The 4-week moving average was 209,000, an increase of 6,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 202,500 to 202,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending May 16, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending May 16 was 1,786,000, an increase of 15,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 11,000 from 1,782,000 to 1,771,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,772,750, an increase of 2,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 2,750 from 1,773,000 to 1,770,250.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
May 24, 2025 - May 23, 2026



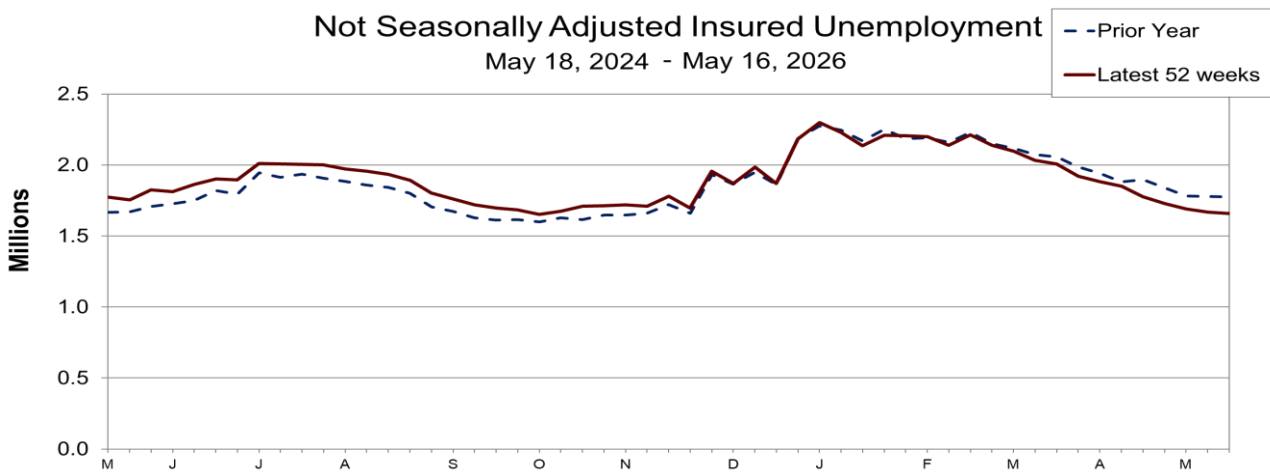
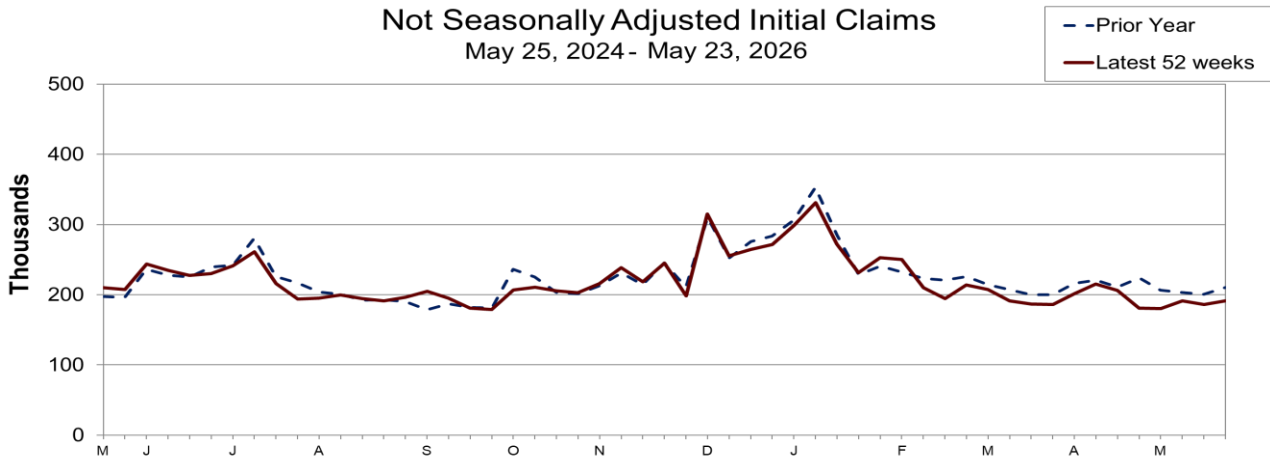
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
May 17, 2025 - May 16, 2026



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 191,134 in the week ending May 23, an increase of 4,796 (or 2.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 210 (or -0.1 percent) from the previous week. There were 210,160 initial claims in the comparable week in 2025.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.1 percent during the week ending May 16, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,659,541, a decrease of 9,081 (or -0.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 23,028 (or -1.4 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.2 percent and the volume was 1,775,510.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending May 9 was 1,697,017, a decrease of 22,143 from the previous week. There were 1,808,299 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2025.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending May 9.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 427 in the week ending May 16, an increase of 3 from the prior week. There were 381 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 14 from the preceding week.

There were 7,304 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending May 9, a decrease of 406 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,270, a decrease of 142 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending May 9 were in New Jersey (2.1), Washington (2.1), California (2.0), Massachusetts (1.9), Rhode Island (1.8), Oregon (1.7), Nevada (1.6), New York (1.6), Puerto Rico (1.6), and Illinois (1.5).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending May 16 were in Ohio (+941), Missouri (+641), Pennsylvania (+433), Massachusetts (+323), and Connecticut (+245), while the largest decreases were in Florida (-1,940), California (-1,398), Michigan (-660), Georgia (-611), and Kentucky (-594).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	May 23	May 16	Change	May 9	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	215,000	210,000	+5,000	212,000	236,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	191,134	186,338	+4,796	191,451	210,160
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	209,000	202,750	+6,250	204,000	228,750

WEEK ENDING	May 16	May 9	Change	May 2	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,786,000	1,771,000	+15,000	1,776,000	1,917,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,659,541	1,668,622	-9,081	1,689,422	1,775,510
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,772,750	1,770,250	+2,500	1,779,500	1,891,500
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.3%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.1%	1.1%	0.0	1.1%	1.2%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	May 16	May 9	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	427	424	+3	592
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	381	395	-14	372

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

WEEK ENDING	May 9	May 2	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,662,772	1,683,555	-20,783	1,773,682
Federal Employees	7,304	7,710	-406	6,377
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,270	4,412	-142	4,569
Extended Benefits ³	33	34	-1	45
State Additional Benefits ⁴	3,643	3,644	-1	3,060
STC / Workshare ⁵	18,995	19,805	-810	20,566
TOTAL	1,697,017	1,719,160	-22,143	1,808,299

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 153,547,535 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 May 23			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended May 16		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,747	1,913	-166	7,310	7,687	-377
Alaska	508	441	67	4,120	4,329	-209
Arizona	2,945	3,054	-109	20,947	22,945	-1,998
Arkansas	1,468	1,454	14	4,913	5,016	-103
California**	37,053	37,301	-248	348,145	353,692	-5,547
Colorado	3,270	2,846	424	32,840	32,282	558
Connecticut	2,712	2,638	74	21,908	20,506	1,402
Delaware	273	240	33	4,881	4,460	421
District of Columbia	709	704	5	7,591	6,833	758
Florida	5,805	6,224	-419	29,907	30,226	-319
Georgia	4,023	3,821	202	24,540	24,810	-270
Hawaii	1,056	1,047	9	6,004	5,740	264
Idaho	757	643	114	4,543	4,945	-402
Illinois	8,357	7,240	1,117	88,730	87,067	1,663
Indiana *	2,433	2,385	48	18,817	18,867	-50
Iowa	2,196	1,343	853	6,789	7,189	-400
Kansas	2,275	1,014	1,261	7,100	6,641	459
Kentucky *	2,625	2,564	61	10,114	10,183	-69
Louisiana	1,586	1,394	192	5,094	5,987	-893
Maine	404	480	-76	5,900	6,093	-193
Maryland	2,075	2,293	-218	21,934	22,012	-78
Massachusetts	5,152	4,829	323	68,706	69,313	-607
Michigan	4,189	4,479	-290	48,452	53,002	-4,550
Minnesota	3,804	3,302	502	38,747	37,765	982
Mississippi	1,545	1,410	135	6,273	6,272	1
Missouri	3,916	2,786	1,130	15,439	15,333	106
Montana	416	423	-7	5,101	5,294	-193
Nebraska	929	817	112	5,118	4,964	154
Nevada	2,223	2,392	-169	24,600	24,842	-242
New Hampshire	316	368	-52	2,981	3,711	-730
New Jersey	8,145	7,882	263	88,894	88,764	130
New Mexico	894	885	9	9,963	9,825	138
New York	13,913	13,355	558	153,233	154,446	-1,213
North Carolina	3,061	3,403	-342	18,058	18,406	-348
North Dakota	452	248	204	2,210	2,055	155
Ohio *	6,062	5,669	393	39,277	39,909	-632
Oklahoma	1,750	1,381	369	9,893	10,053	-160
Oregon	4,271	4,048	223	35,355	33,742	1,613
Pennsylvania	8,954	9,731	-777	75,721	75,888	-167
Puerto Rico	1,293	1,019	274	6,637	14,537	-7,900
Rhode Island	699	815	-116	8,479	8,562	-83
South Carolina	2,013	2,035	-22	13,951	13,919	32
South Dakota	245	213	32	1,169	1,182	-13
Tennessee	3,590	3,127	463	14,744	15,113	-369
Texas	16,480	17,887	-1,407	146,125	141,740	4,385
Utah	1,225	1,327	-102	11,594	11,789	-195
Vermont	348	350	-2	2,718	2,641	77
Virgin Islands	20	24	-4	176	188	-12
Virginia	2,720	2,468	252	20,966	18,995	1,971
Washington	4,927	5,318	-391	76,624	74,080	2,544
West Virginia	587	601	-14	6,051	5,555	496
Wisconsin	2,459	2,420	39	18,180	17,287	893
Wyoming	259	287	-28	1,979	1,940	39
US Total	191,134	186,338	4,796	1,659,541	1,668,622	-9,081

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.

*Denotes OUI estimate.

**Denotes state estimate.

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	
May 17, 2025	225	-1	229.50	1,917	28	1,891.50	1.3
May 24, 2025	236	11	228.75	1,896	-21	1,896.50	1.2
May 31, 2025	244	8	232.75	1,947	51	1,912.25	1.3
June 7, 2025	246	2	237.75	1,935	-12	1,923.75	1.3
June 14, 2025	243	-3	242.25	1,960	25	1,934.50	1.3
June 21, 2025	236	-7	242.25	1,954	-6	1,949.00	1.3
June 28, 2025	231	-5	239.00	1,952	-2	1,950.25	1.3
July 5, 2025	228	-3	234.50	1,949	-3	1,953.75	1.3
July 12, 2025	221	-7	229.00	1,941	-8	1,949.00	1.3
July 19, 2025	218	-3	224.50	1,936	-5	1,944.50	1.3
July 26, 2025	219	1	221.50	1,963	27	1,947.25	1.3
August 2, 2025	226	7	221.00	1,942	-21	1,945.50	1.3
August 9, 2025	224	-2	221.75	1,957	15	1,949.50	1.3
August 16, 2025	233	9	225.50	1,942	-15	1,951.00	1.3
August 23, 2025	229	-4	228.00	1,937	-5	1,944.50	1.3
August 30, 2025	236	7	230.50	1,927	-10	1,940.75	1.3
September 6, 2025	259	23	239.25	1,925	-2	1,932.75	1.3
September 13, 2025	233	-26	239.25	1,916	-9	1,926.25	1.3
September 20, 2025	219	-14	236.75	1,921	5	1,922.25	1.3
September 27, 2025	225	6	234.00	1,929	8	1,922.75	1.3
October 4, 2025	233	8	227.50	1,928	-1	1,923.50	1.3
October 11, 2025	222	-11	224.75	1,947	19	1,931.25	1.3
October 18, 2025	231	9	227.75	1,953	6	1,939.25	1.3
October 25, 2025	221	-10	226.75	1,962	9	1,947.50	1.3
November 1, 2025	228	7	225.50	1,946	-16	1,952.00	1.3
November 8, 2025	228	0	227.00	1,949	3	1,952.50	1.3
November 15, 2025	222	-6	224.75	1,943	-6	1,950.00	1.3
November 22, 2025	218	-4	224.00	1,932	-11	1,942.50	1.3
November 29, 2025	216	-2	221.00	1,894	-38	1,929.50	1.2
December 6, 2025	235	19	222.75	1,887	-7	1,914.00	1.2
December 13, 2025	224	-11	223.25	1,910	23	1,905.75	1.2
December 20, 2025	215	-9	222.50	1,860	-50	1,887.75	1.2
December 27, 2025	203	-12	219.25	1,900	40	1,889.25	1.2
January 3, 2026	207	4	212.25	1,875	-25	1,886.25	1.2
January 10, 2026	201	-6	206.50	1,865	-10	1,875.00	1.2
January 17, 2026	210	9	205.25	1,823	-42	1,865.75	1.2
January 24, 2026	211	1	207.25	1,842	19	1,851.25	1.2
January 31, 2026	230	19	213.00	1,859	17	1,847.25	1.2
February 7, 2026	230	0	220.25	1,865	6	1,847.25	1.2
February 14, 2026	208	-22	219.75	1,827	-38	1,848.25	1.2
February 21, 2026	211	3	219.75	1,871	44	1,855.50	1.2
February 28, 2026	214	3	215.75	1,847	-24	1,852.50	1.2
March 7, 2026	213	-1	211.50	1,851	4	1,849.00	1.2
March 14, 2026	205	-8	210.75	1,816	-35	1,846.25	1.2
March 21, 2026	211	6	210.75	1,832	16	1,836.50	1.2
March 28, 2026	203	-8	208.00	1,787	-45	1,821.50	1.2
April 4, 2026	218	15	209.25	1,809	22	1,811.00	1.2
April 11, 2026	208	-10	210.00	1,808	-1	1,809.00	1.2
April 18, 2026	215	7	211.00	1,776	-32	1,795.00	1.2
April 25, 2026	190	-25	207.75	1,758	-18	1,787.75	1.1
May 2, 2026	199	9	203.00	1,776	18	1,779.50	1.2
May 9, 2026	212	13	204.00	1,771	-5	1,770.25	1.2
May 16, 2026	210	-2	202.75	1,786	15	1,772.75	1.2
May 23, 2026	215	5	209.00				

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED
MAY 16

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED
MAY 9

STATE NAME	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	(%) ²	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	TOTAL INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO			
Alabama	1,913	-105	-178	14	6	7,687	0.4	422	-1,121	70	25	7,782
Alaska	441	-9	-60	2	0	4,329	1.4	-48	-20	30	2	4,361
Arizona	3,054	-40	-633	3	5	22,945	0.7	457	-7,368	68	37	23,050
Arkansas	1,454	-169	191	3	1	5,016	0.4	306	-2,277	17	2	5,035
California	37,301	-1,398	-2,827	116	80	353,692	2.0	-221	-31,032	1,168	1,043	355,903
Colorado	2,846	-203	10	1	9	32,282	1.1	12	1,028	147	166	32,595
Connecticut	2,638	245	-260	2	3	20,506	1.2	-505	-1,288	57	26	20,589
Delaware	240	-25	-55	1	3	4,460	0.9	-91	-147	10	2	4,472
District of Columbia	704	71	-176	18	0	6,833	1.2	166	-3,377	705	8	7,546
Florida	6,224	-1,940	47	16	29	30,226	0.3	650	-3,892	108	67	30,401
Georgia	3,821	-611	-895	15	16	24,810	0.5	-211	-4,612	253	100	25,163
Hawaii	1,047	18	61	1	4	5,740	0.9	-80	296	49	59	5,848
Idaho	643	-74	-321	0	0	4,945	0.6	-150	-381	20	8	4,973
Illinois	7,240	-417	-3,495	6	8	87,067	1.5	-3,444	-8,727	363	92	87,522
Indiana	2,385	-165	-127	1	4	18,867	0.6	-319	-1,670	50	21	18,938
Iowa	1,343	-29	-353	3	2	7,189	0.5	-161	-1,470	7	1	7,197
Kansas	1,014	-89	-333	0	2	6,641	0.5	-69	-1,750	26	18	6,685
Kentucky	2,564	-594	852	1	0	10,183	0.5	-2,864	323	39	22	10,244
Louisiana	1,394	-96	-602	1	5	5,987	0.3	-20	-4,099	31	12	6,030
Maine	480	-12	-56	0	0	6,093	1.0	-497	-342	16	7	6,116
Maryland	2,293	1	-527	28	7	22,012	0.8	-209	-1,973	423	50	22,485
Massachusetts	4,829	323	-1,297	1	0	69,313	1.9	-1,869	3,711	288	49	69,650
Michigan	4,479	-660	-752	6	1	53,002	1.2	-169	-4,168	74	40	53,116
Minnesota	3,302	-94	-269	3	0	37,765	1.3	-4,099	-1,599	64	54	37,883
Mississippi	1,410	221	170	1	1	6,272	0.5	196	-92	56	2	6,330
Missouri	2,786	641	-119	1	5	15,333	0.5	410	-1,278	68	8	15,409
Montana	423	-16	-18	2	1	5,294	1.1	-442	-141	42	10	5,346
Nebraska	817	222	-6	0	0	4,964	0.5	-86	464	13	3	4,980
Nevada	2,392	-460	-16	1	0	24,842	1.6	327	639	54	77	24,973
New Hampshire	368	-54	19	2	0	3,711	0.5	-658	-119	3	1	3,715
New Jersey	7,882	-452	-983	11	12	88,764	2.1	-3,147	-5,120	246	241	89,251
New Mexico	885	92	-16	2	3	9,825	1.2	-19	-393	58	24	9,907
New York	13,355	-386	-728	22	18	154,446	1.6	-1,462	4,156	438	239	155,123
North Carolina	3,403	-134	-211	2	0	18,406	0.4	201	-4,416	69	76	18,551
North Dakota	248	17	-69	1	0	2,055	0.5	-490	-151	5	3	2,063
Ohio	5,669	941	345	4	8	39,909	0.7	-796	-8,333	78	54	40,041
Oklahoma	1,381	179	-76	9	8	10,053	0.6	-76	-184	34	27	10,114
Oregon	4,048	23	313	4	1	33,742	1.7	-258	2,645	146	49	33,937
Pennsylvania	9,731	433	-730	16	7	75,888	1.3	787	-9,036	373	110	76,371
Puerto Rico	1,019	8	-7	8	6	14,537	1.6	-1,582	-470	256	59	14,852
Rhode Island	815	86	-140	3	0	8,562	1.8	-435	-522	30	14	8,606
South Carolina	2,035	-75	-193	6	7	13,919	0.6	165	-499	37	38	13,994
South Dakota	213	37	16	1	1	1,182	0.3	-148	8	16	3	1,201
Tennessee	3,127	60	274	4	4	15,113	0.5	39	72	29	39	15,181
Texas	17,887	64	997	51	85	141,740	1.0	1,637	-9,273	562	782	143,084
Utah	1,327	-144	-39	5	2	11,789	0.7	-175	-540	69	23	11,881
Vermont	350	9	65	0	0	2,641	0.9	-102	-51	1	0	2,642
Virgin Islands	24	-5	6	0	0	188	0.6	24	-38	6	0	194
Virginia	2,468	-91	-247	10	6	18,995	0.5	100	-770	202	78	19,275
Washington	5,318	-114	-331	9	19	74,080	2.1	-600	264	256	386	74,722
West Virginia	601	68	-76	1	1	5,555	0.8	-219	-464	34	7	5,596
Wisconsin	2,420	-185	-426	7	1	17,287	0.6	-858	-1,552	29	6	17,322
Wyoming	287	-26	-18	2	0	1,940	0.7	-120	85	11	0	1,951
Totals	186,338	-5,113	-14,299	427	381	1,668,622	1.1	-20,800	-111,064	7,304	4,270	1,680,196

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 MAY 16, 2026

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
FL	-1,940	Fewer layoffs in wholesale trade and retail trade industries.
CA	-1,398	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. 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](#)

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