



# News Release

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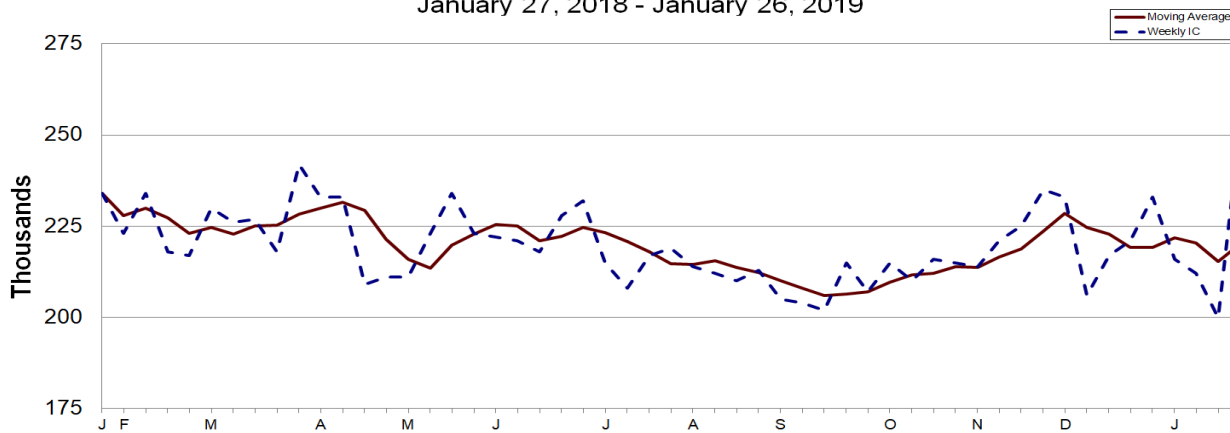
## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending January 26, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 253,000, an increase of 53,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the highest level for initial claims since September 30, 2017 when it was 254,000. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 199,000 to 200,000. The 4-week moving average was 220,250, an increase of 5,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 215,000 to 215,250.

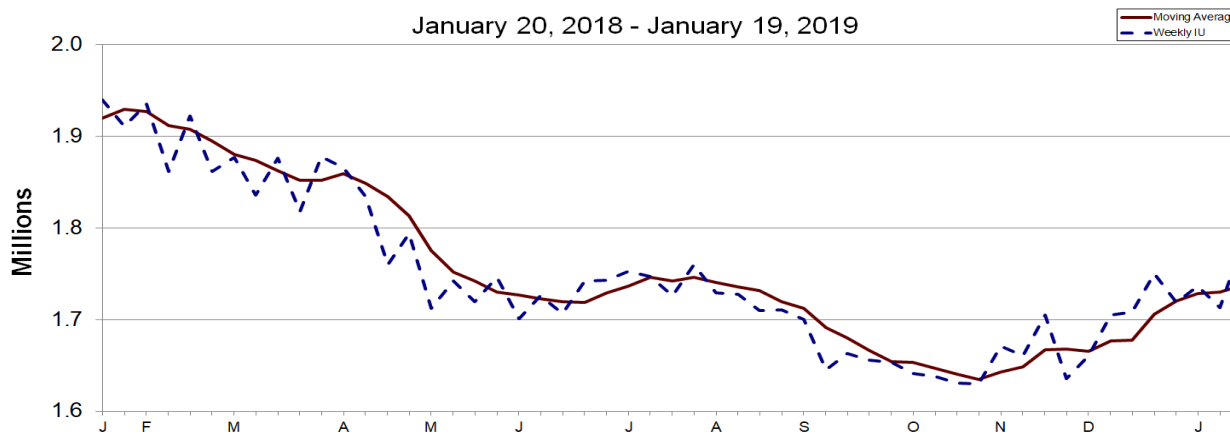
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending January 19, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending January 19 was 1,782,000, an increase of 69,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 1,713,000. This is the highest level for insured unemployment since April 28, 2018 when it was 1,794,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,737,750, an increase of 8,000 from the previous week's unrevised average of 1,729,750. This is the highest level for this average since August 4, 2018 when it was 1,729,000.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims  
January 27, 2018 - January 26, 2019



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

January 20, 2018 - January 19, 2019



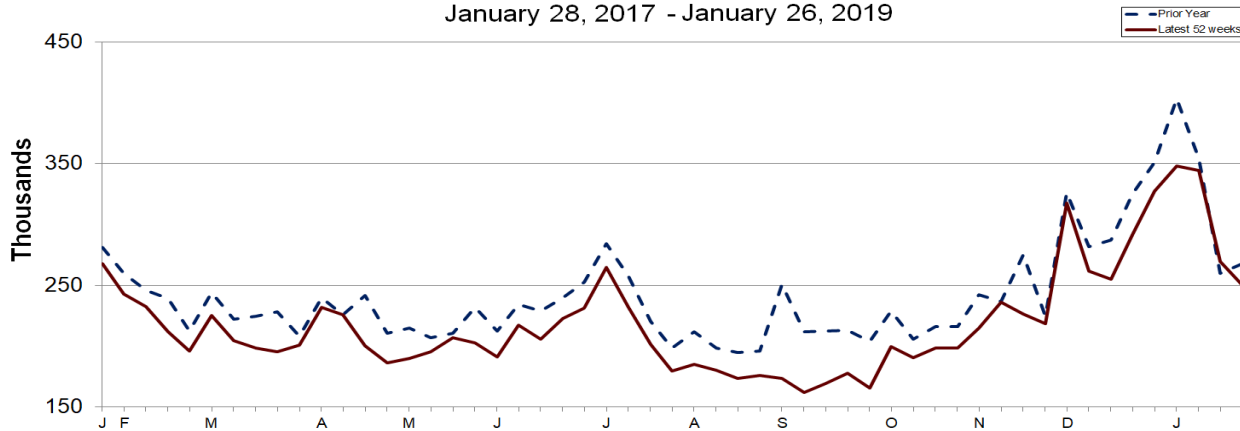
## UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 250,188 in the week ending January 26, a decrease of 19,569 (or -7.3 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 71,347 (or -26.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 267,766 initial claims in the comparable week in 2018.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.5 percent during the week ending January 19, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,129,011, an increase of 38,555 (or 1.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 42,837 (or -2.0 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.7 percent and the volume was 2,376,238.

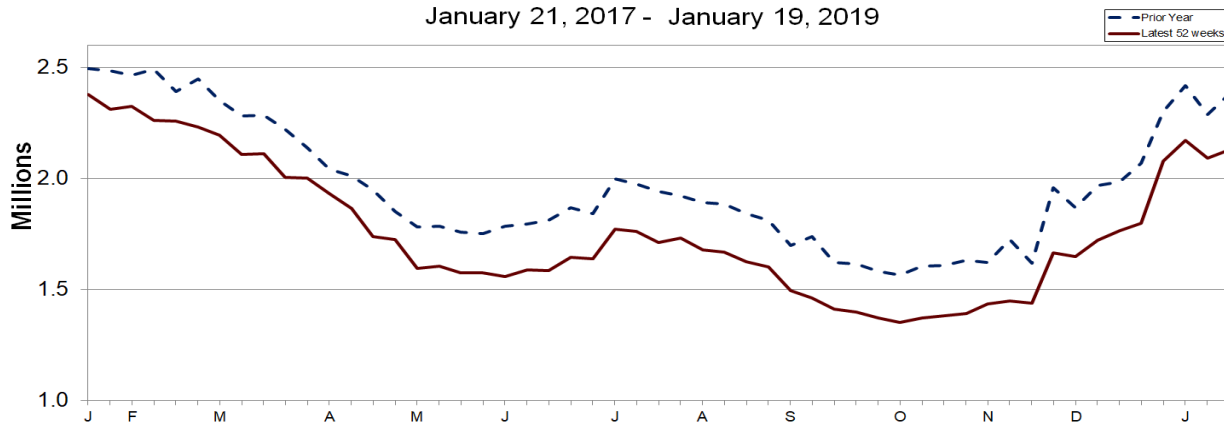
### Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

January 28, 2017 - January 26, 2019



### Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

January 21, 2017 - January 19, 2019



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending January 12 was 2,148,755, a decrease of 66,958 from the previous week. There were 2,321,688 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2018.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending January 12.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 14,739 in the week ending January 19, a decrease of 10,680 from the prior week. There were 615 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 55 from the preceding week.

There were 40,112 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending January 12, an increase of 15,431 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 6,695, a decrease of 56 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending January 12 were in Alaska (3.4), New Jersey (2.7), Connecticut (2.5), Rhode Island (2.5), Montana (2.4), Massachusetts (2.3), Pennsylvania (2.3), California (2.2), Illinois (2.2), Minnesota (2.1), and West Virginia (2.1).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending January 19 were in Ohio (+2,193), Kansas (+630), and Virgin Islands (+8), while the largest decreases were in Kentucky (-8,260), Pennsylvania (-7,942), Michigan (-6,454), Georgia (-5,743), and New York (-5,082).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>January 26</b>	<b>January 19</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>January 12</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	253,000	200,000	+53,000	212,000	234,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	250,188	269,757	-19,569	344,479	267,766
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	220,250	215,250	+5,000	220,500	234,000
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>January 19</b>	<b>January 12</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>January 5</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,782,000	1,713,000	+69,000	1,737,000	1,940,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,129,011	2,090,456	+38,555	2,172,751	2,376,238
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,737,750	1,729,750	+8,000	1,728,500	1,919,750
<a href="#"><u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u><sup>2</sup></a>	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.4%
<a href="#"><u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u><sup>2</sup></a>	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.5%	1.7%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>January 19</b>	<b>January 12</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	14,739	25,419	-10,680	1,004
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	615	670	-55	626

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PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>January 12</b>	<b>January 5</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b><u>Prior Year</u><sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	2,087,886	2,170,301	-82,415	2,285,327
Federal Employees	40,112	24,681	+15,431	11,817
Newly Discharged Veterans	6,695	6,751	-56	8,495
<a href="#"><u>Extended Benefits</u><sup>3</sup></a>	0	0	0	1,310
<a href="#"><u>State Additional Benefits</u><sup>4</sup></a>	5,547	5,244	+303	6,132
<a href="#"><u>STC / Workshare</u><sup>5</sup></a>	8,515	8,736	-221	8,607
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b>2,148,755</b>	<b>2,215,713</b>	<b>-66,958</b>	<b>2,321,688</b>

**FOOTNOTES**

SA - Seasonally Adjusted Data, NSA - Not Seasonally Adjusted Data

1. Prior year is comparable to most recent data.
2. Most recent week used covered employment of 143,051,794 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, extended and emergency 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 4-9 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

## Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended January 26			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended January 19		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,208	3,217	-1,009	16,532	17,574	-1,042
Alaska	1,219	1,423	-204	10,444	10,505	-61
Arizona	3,502	4,210	-708	17,240	19,295	-2,055
Arkansas	1,558	1,804	-246	11,389	13,132	-1,743
California	60,003	48,844	11,159	397,939	371,261	26,678
Colorado	2,426	2,701	-275	23,630	21,748	1,882
Connecticut	3,139	3,652	-513	42,527	41,626	901
Delaware	664	891	-227	6,464	6,114	350
District of Columbia	992	1,193	-201	9,708	9,764	-56
Florida	6,029	9,152	-3,123	32,454	38,589	-6,135
Georgia	5,242	7,402	-2,160	26,850	29,355	-2,505
Hawaii	1,117	1,203	-86	7,326	7,244	82
Idaho	1,363	1,833	-470	10,989	11,276	-287
Illinois	10,706	11,347	-641	132,988	129,588	3,400
Indiana	3,607	3,840	-233	21,369	19,918	1,451
Iowa	4,098	3,127	971	30,345	29,093	1,252
Kansas	2,535	2,795	-260	12,119	10,975	1,144
Kentucky	2,932	3,084	-152	20,624	20,298	326
Louisiana	1,612	2,222	-610	13,555	15,851	-2,296
Maine	867	1,011	-144	8,625	8,155	470
Maryland	3,813	4,735	-922	32,385	32,879	-494
Massachusetts	6,503	7,194	-691	80,149	79,684	465
Michigan	8,581	9,655	-1,074	87,984	82,324	5,660
Minnesota	4,373	4,178	195	63,458	60,466	2,992
Mississippi	817	1,142	-325	7,068	8,404	-1,336
Missouri	5,010	5,894	-884	30,568	28,244	2,324
Montana	1,133	1,197	-64	12,930	10,825	2,105
Nebraska	1,105	1,181	-76	6,878	7,077	-199
Nevada	2,456	2,716	-260	18,993	20,106	-1,113
New Hampshire	567	671	-104	4,456	4,694	-238
New Jersey	11,033	10,190	843	111,043	106,096	4,947
New Mexico	887	1,335	-448	9,923	10,096	-173
New York	14,754	16,585	-1,831	162,908	162,688	220
North Carolina	3,079	3,738	-659	21,028	20,420	608
North Dakota	605	658	-53	7,318	6,406	912
Ohio	8,869	12,361	-3,492	74,992	71,428	3,564
Oklahoma	1,858	2,449	-591	14,363	14,559	-196
Oregon	3,628	4,708	-1,080	30,793	31,577	-784
Pennsylvania	14,605	15,830	-1,225	138,233	132,031	6,202
Puerto Rico	1,023	1,591	-568	13,154	16,630	-3,476
Rhode Island	1,417	1,506	-89	11,680	11,874	-194
South Carolina	2,029	2,983	-954	17,389	18,812	-1,423
South Dakota	258	331	-73	3,024	3,085	-61
Tennessee	2,333	2,859	-526	18,920	20,313	-1,393
Texas	12,234	17,453	-5,219	122,166	128,985	-6,819
Utah	1,307	1,484	-177	12,225	12,262	-37
Vermont	519	576	-57	5,639	5,485	154
Virgin Islands	21	33	-12	448	624	-176
Virginia	3,985	3,856	129	24,517	23,853	664
Washington	6,859	7,031	-172	66,379	64,279	2,100
West Virginia	1,370	1,859	-489	15,778	14,028	1,750
Wisconsin	6,940	6,332	608	45,202	45,888	-686
Wyoming	398	495	-97	3,903	2,973	930
US Total	250,188	269,757	-19,569	2,129,011	2,090,456	38,555

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	
January 20, 2018	229	3	237.50	1,940	18	1,919.75	1.4
January 27, 2018	234	5	234.00	1,911	-29	1,929.25	1.4
February 3, 2018	223	-11	228.00	1,935	24	1,927.00	1.4
February 10, 2018	234	11	230.00	1,862	-73	1,912.00	1.3
February 17, 2018	218	-16	227.25	1,922	60	1,907.50	1.4
February 24, 2018	217	-1	223.00	1,862	-60	1,895.25	1.3
March 3, 2018	230	13	224.75	1,877	15	1,880.75	1.3
March 10, 2018	226	-4	222.75	1,836	-41	1,874.25	1.3
March 17, 2018	227	1	225.00	1,876	40	1,862.75	1.3
March 24, 2018	218	-9	225.25	1,818	-58	1,851.75	1.3
March 31, 2018	242	24	228.25	1,878	60	1,852.00	1.3
April 7, 2018	233	-9	230.00	1,866	-12	1,859.50	1.3
April 14, 2018	233	0	231.50	1,834	-32	1,849.00	1.3
April 21, 2018	209	-24	229.25	1,760	-74	1,834.50	1.2
April 28, 2018	211	2	221.50	1,794	34	1,813.50	1.3
May 5, 2018	211	0	216.00	1,712	-82	1,775.00	1.2
May 12, 2018	223	12	213.50	1,742	30	1,752.00	1.2
May 19, 2018	234	11	219.75	1,720	-22	1,742.00	1.2
May 26, 2018	223	-11	222.75	1,746	26	1,730.00	1.2
June 2, 2018	222	-1	225.50	1,701	-45	1,727.25	1.2
June 9, 2018	221	-1	225.00	1,726	25	1,723.25	1.2
June 16, 2018	218	-3	221.00	1,707	-19	1,720.00	1.2
June 23, 2018	228	10	222.25	1,742	35	1,719.00	1.2
June 30, 2018	232	4	224.75	1,743	1	1,729.50	1.2
July 7, 2018	215	-17	223.25	1,753	10	1,736.25	1.2
July 14, 2018	208	-7	220.75	1,747	-6	1,746.25	1.2
July 21, 2018	217	9	218.00	1,726	-21	1,742.25	1.2
July 28, 2018	219	2	214.75	1,760	34	1,746.50	1.2
August 4, 2018	214	-5	214.50	1,729	-31	1,740.50	1.2
August 11, 2018	212	-2	215.50	1,728	-1	1,735.75	1.2
August 18, 2018	210	-2	213.75	1,710	-18	1,731.75	1.2
August 25, 2018	213	3	212.25	1,711	1	1,719.50	1.2
September 1, 2018	205	-8	210.00	1,700	-11	1,712.25	1.2
September 8, 2018	204	-1	208.00	1,645	-55	1,691.50	1.2
September 15, 2018	202	-2	206.00	1,663	18	1,679.75	1.2
September 22, 2018	215	13	206.50	1,656	-7	1,666.00	1.2
September 29, 2018	207	-8	207.00	1,653	-3	1,654.25	1.2
October 6, 2018	215	8	209.75	1,641	-12	1,653.25	1.2
October 13, 2018	210	-5	211.75	1,638	-3	1,647.00	1.1
October 20, 2018	216	6	212.00	1,631	-7	1,640.75	1.1
October 27, 2018	215	-1	214.00	1,630	-1	1,635.00	1.1
November 3, 2018	214	-1	213.75	1,671	41	1,642.50	1.2
November 10, 2018	221	7	216.50	1,661	-10	1,648.25	1.2
November 17, 2018	225	4	218.75	1,705	44	1,666.75	1.2
November 24, 2018	235	10	223.75	1,636	-69	1,668.25	1.1
December 1, 2018	233	-2	228.50	1,661	25	1,665.75	1.2
December 8, 2018	206	-27	224.75	1,705	44	1,676.75	1.2
December 15, 2018	217	11	222.75	1,708	3	1,677.50	1.2
December 22, 2018	221	4	219.25	1,750	42	1,706.00	1.2
December 29, 2018	233	12	219.25	1,719	-31	1,720.50	1.2
January 5, 2019	216	-17	221.75	1,737	18	1,728.50	1.2
January 12, 2019	212	-4	220.50	1,713	-24	1,729.75	1.2
January 19, 2019	200	-12	215.25	1,782	69	1,737.75	1.2
January 26, 2019	253	53	220.25				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED JANUARY 19					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED JANUARY 12					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE (%) <sup>2</sup>	CHANGE FROM					
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>		
Alabama	3217	-1169	516	137	12	17574	0.9	-2501	-1509	141	83	17798
Alaska	1423	-382	185	16	0	10505	3.4	-100	-1878	274	8	10787
Arizona	4210	-501	596	49	4	19295	0.7	-65	-2689	482	50	19827
Arkansas	1804	-748	-25	10	2	13132	1.1	-1190	-2355	408	38	13578
California	48844	-4675	-2905	2700	94	371261	2.2	5261	31974	4410	1427	377098
Colorado	2701	-376	136	603	17	21748	0.8	533	-2098	548	222	22518
Connecticut	3652	-1946	-605	65	6	41626	2.5	-2317	-2919	167	65	41858
Delaware	891	-173	54	27	1	6114	1.4	-393	-959	79	14	6207
District of Columbia	1193	-771	812	1408	0	9764	1.7	1145	576	3211	6	12981
Florida	9152	-961	1837	370	30	38589	0.5	-934	-3906	390	108	39087
Georgia	7402	-5743	2550	1008	32	29355	0.7	-8705	-2252	2104	241	31700
Hawaii	1203	-517	141	17	7	7244	1.2	-735	-349	311	79	7634
Idaho	1833	-700	53	70	4	11276	1.6	-655	-1049	658	14	11948
Illinois	11347	-1214	1702	107	7	129588	2.2	-7013	-22206	700	183	130471
Indiana	3840	-995	382	80	7	19918	0.7	-192	-2935	233	27	20178
Iowa	3127	-1268	110	67	5	29093	1.9	-1241	-1909	201	22	29316
Kansas	2795	630	476	8	0	10975	0.8	-608	-4257	236	33	11244
Kentucky	3084	-8260	-215	82	4	20298	1.1	-2188	-4882	442	128	20868
Louisiana	2222	-358	485	102	3	15851	0.8	-148	-3299	70	19	15940
Maine	1011	-626	-335	31	2	8155	1.4	-290	-1505	162	9	8326
Maryland	4735	-562	502	968	10	32879	1.3	400	-6736	2168	96	35143
Massachusetts	7194	-1716	-128	210	8	79684	2.3	-521	-8211	936	96	80716
Michigan	9655	-6454	-4614	112	12	82324	1.9	-5258	-8954	330	79	82733
Minnesota	4178	-1613	257	108	1	60466	2.1	-3210	-2421	540	48	61054
Mississippi	1142	-348	203	12	2	8404	0.8	-422	-1675	69	25	8498
Missouri	5894	-193	752	63	2	28244	1.0	-1588	-7839	1107	44	29395
Montana	1197	-586	4	155	3	10825	2.4	-171	-1496	1187	29	12041
Nebraska	1181	-64	98	42	3	7077	0.7	-664	-1903	150	5	7232
Nevada	2716	-259	62	31	1	20106	1.5	-151	-2209	276	59	20441
New Hampshire	671	-137	-14	15	0	4694	0.7	50	-695	27	5	4726
New Jersey	10190	-3977	-616	519	26	106096	2.7	-4573	-9965	1189	238	107523
New Mexico	1335	-329	346	91	2	10096	1.3	-95	-899	612	42	10750
New York	16585	-5082	-1487	966	26	162688	1.8	-10091	-19408	3087	327	166102
North Carolina	3738	-1152	1184	174	25	20420	0.5	-848	-2473	295	111	20826
North Dakota	658	-572	-111	50	0	6406	1.6	304	-1418	150	4	6560
Ohio	12361	2193	4037	112	15	71428	1.3	-1893	-14543	577	164	72169
Oklahoma	2449	-130	977	130	5	14559	0.9	-780	-465	140	78	14777
Oregon	4708	-1237	151	561	11	31577	1.7	-3375	-595	2282	72	33931
Pennsylvania	15830	-7942	-1221	564	41	132031	2.3	-16899	-16214	1692	277	134000
Puerto Rico	1591	-358	-1113	38	4	16630	2.0	-44	-23243	178	52	16860
Rhode Island	1506	-173	-179	16	3	11874	2.5	185	205	55	24	11953
South Carolina	2983	-1878	-742	71	6	18812	0.9	-1146	-1479	102	86	19000
South Dakota	331	-217	17	46	0	3085	0.7	63	-284	160	6	3251
Tennessee	2859	-1039	-476	210	10	20313	0.7	-651	-3761	242	49	20604
Texas	17453	-3040	4660	1705	111	128985	1.1	-902	-15364	2212	1144	132341
Utah	1484	-326	256	348	1	12262	0.9	277	-234	2275	19	14556
Vermont	576	-98	65	15	0	5485	1.8	-233	-307	76	2	5563
Virgin Islands	33	8	19	3	0	624	1.9	118	-2392	8	0	632
Virginia	3856	-1725	84	241	11	23853	0.6	-553	-4202	546	177	24576
Washington	7031	-2111	153	68	31	64279	2.0	-2878	-490	1504	511	66294
West Virginia	1859	-918	107	28	3	14028	2.1	-60	-1184	164	19	14211
Wisconsin	6332	-1657	88	97	5	45888	1.6	-4385	-4700	277	26	46191
Wyoming	495	-277	54	13	0	2973	1.1	35	-1318	272	5	3250
Totals	269757	-74722	9325	14739	615	2090456	1.5	-82295	-197278	40112	6695	2137263

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 JANUARY 19, 2019**

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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>
OH	+2,193	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.

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

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
KY	-8,260	No comment.
PA	-7,942	Fewer layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, construction, and transportation and warehousing industries.
MI	-6,454	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
GA	-5,743	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, wholesale trade, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.
NY	-5,082	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, construction, and public administration industries.
CA	-4,675	Fewer layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry.
NJ	-3,977	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, manufacturing, accommodation and food service, and construction industries.
TX	-3,040	No comment.
WA	-2,111	No comment.
CT	-1,946	No comment.
SC	-1,878	No comment.
VA	-1,725	Fewer layoffs in the administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industry.
MA	-1,716	No comment.
WI	-1,657	Fewer layoffs in the construction, professional, scientific, and technical service, and transportation and warehousing industries.
MN	-1,613	No comment.
IA	-1,268	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
OR	-1,237	No comment.
IL	-1,214	No comment.
AL	-1,169	Fewer layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation service, transportation and warehousing, and manufacturing industries.
NC	-1,152	Fewer layoffs in the accommodation and food service, public administration, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.
TN	-1,039	No comment.

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## 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. Continued claims are also referred to as insured unemployment. The count of U.S. continued weeks claimed is also a good indicator of labor market conditions. Continued claims reflect the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits in the nation. 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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U.S. Department of Labor  
Employment and Training Administration  
Washington, D.C. 20210  
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Program Contacts:  
Kevin Stapleton: (202) 693-3009  
Tony Sznoluch: (202) 693-3176  
Media Contact: (202) 693-4676