



News Release

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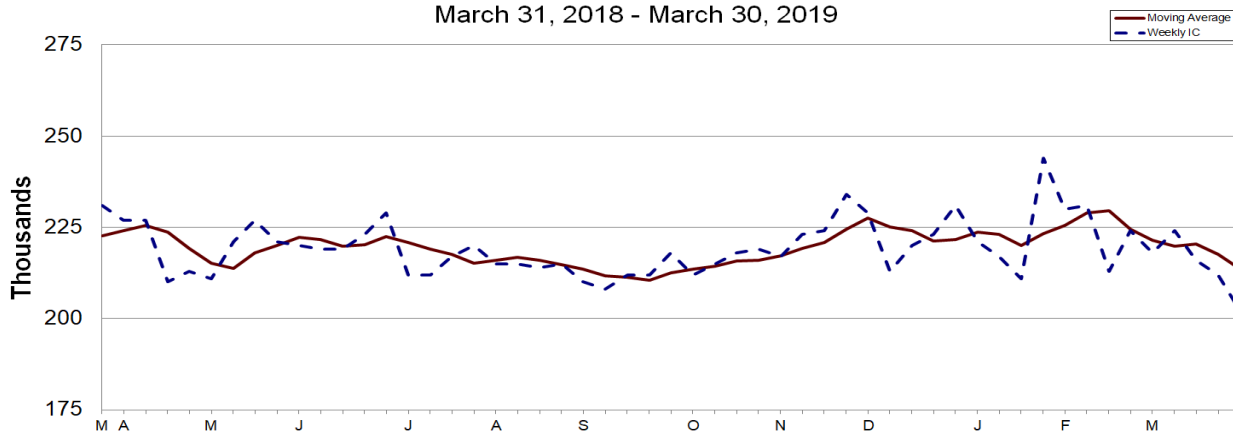
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending March 30, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 202,000, a decrease of 10,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for initial claims since December 6, 1969 when it was 202,000. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 211,000 to 212,000. The 4-week moving average was 213,500, a decrease of 4,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 217,250 to 217,500.

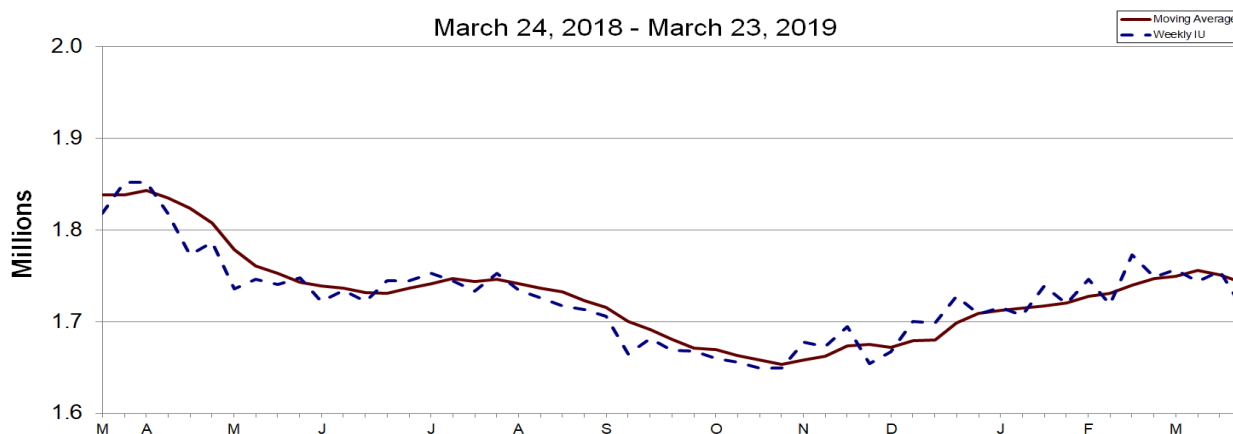
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending March 23, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending March 23 was 1,717,000, a decrease of 38,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 1,000 from 1,756,000 to 1,755,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,743,250, a decrease of 8,000 from the previous week's unrevised average of 1,751,250.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
March 31, 2018 - March 30, 2019



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

March 24, 2018 - March 23, 2019



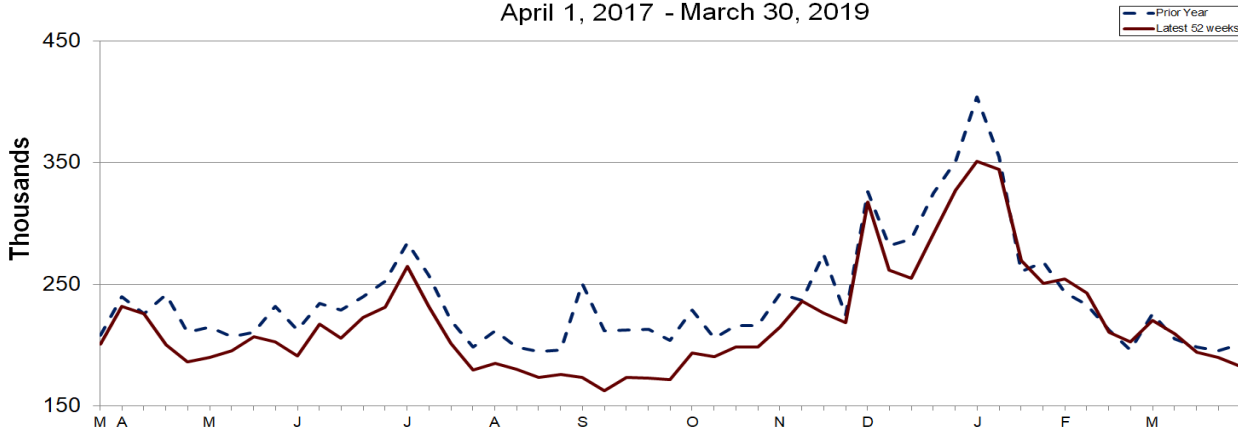
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 182,553 in the week ending March 30, a decrease of 7,522 (or -4.0 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 1,058 (or 0.6 percent) from the previous week. There were 201,057 initial claims in the comparable week in 2018.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending March 23, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,898,456, a decrease of 111,012 (or -5.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 68,445 (or -3.4 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.4 percent and the volume was 2,003,104.

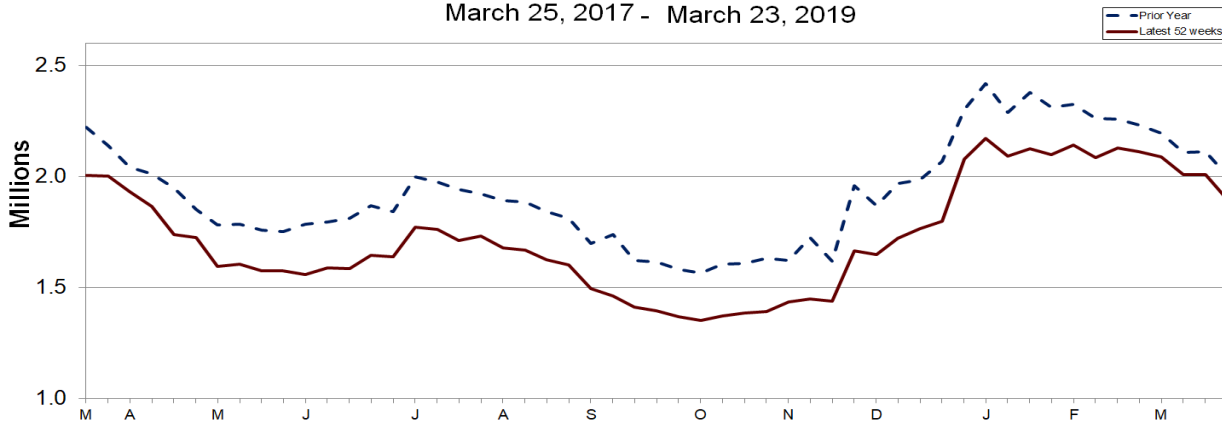
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

April 1, 2017 - March 30, 2019



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

March 25, 2017 - March 23, 2019



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending March 16 was 2,040,235, an increase of 913 from the previous week. There were 2,145,839 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 March 16.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 602 in the week ending March 23, an increase of 23 from the prior week. There were 480 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 27 from the preceding week.

There were 11,079 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending March 16, an increase of 374 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 6,068, a decrease of 67 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending March 16 were in Alaska (3.0), New Jersey (2.6), Connecticut (2.5), Rhode Island (2.5), Montana (2.4), California (2.3), Pennsylvania (2.3), Illinois (2.2), Massachusetts (2.2), and Minnesota (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending March 23 were in Texas (+2,802), Arkansas (+821), Maryland (+330), Missouri (+324), and New Mexico (+160), while the largest decreases were in California (-1,296), Pennsylvania (-1,181), Oklahoma (-1,097), Wisconsin (-583), and Ohio (-468).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	March 30	March 23	Change	March 16	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	202,000	212,000	-10,000	216,000	231,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	182,553	190,075	-7,522	194,382	201,057
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	213,500	217,500	-4,000	220,500	222,750
WEEK ENDING	March 23	March 16	Change	March 9	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,717,000	1,755,000	-38,000	1,744,000	1,818,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,898,456	2,009,468	-111,012	2,008,521	2,003,104
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,743,250	1,751,250	-8,000	1,755,750	1,838,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u>²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.3%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u>²	1.3%	1.4%	-0.1	1.4%	1.4%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	March 23	March 16	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	602	579	+23	582
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	480	507	-27	596

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	March 16	March 9	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	2,006,472	2,005,466	+1,006	2,109,554
Federal Employees	11,079	10,705	+374	11,693
Newly Discharged Veterans	6,068	6,135	-67	7,903
<u>Extended Benefits</u>³	0	1	-1	1,018
<u>State Additional Benefits</u>⁴	5,854	6,063	-209	6,937
<u>STC / Workshare</u>⁵	10,762	10,952	-190	8,734
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,040,235	2,039,322	+913	2,145,839

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 March 30			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended March 23		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,131	2,220	-89	14,028	14,269	-241
Alaska	974	850	124	8,390	9,264	-874
Arizona	3,507	3,402	105	16,810	18,987	-2,177
Arkansas	1,111	2,263	-1,152	9,886	10,415	-529
California*	38,077	39,832	-1,755	372,550	384,846	-12,296
Colorado	1,497	1,550	-53	20,885	22,886	-2,001
Connecticut	1,964	2,508	-544	40,216	41,127	-911
Delaware	410	460	-50	5,232	5,403	-171
District of Columbia	407	388	19	6,791	7,237	-446
Florida	5,113	5,353	-240	29,605	34,930	-5,325
Georgia	4,035	4,182	-147	22,828	23,918	-1,090
Hawaii	1,282	1,055	227	6,916	6,529	387
Idaho	1,129	1,104	25	7,523	8,666	-1,143
Illinois	9,295	7,933	1,362	120,709	131,314	-10,605
Indiana	2,093	2,069	24	18,765	19,668	-903
Iowa	2,084	2,272	-188	27,611	29,330	-1,719
Kansas	1,508	1,271	237	9,488	10,886	-1,398
Kentucky	2,110	1,957	153	17,572	20,317	-2,745
Louisiana	1,521	1,619	-98	11,829	14,074	-2,245
Maine	664	561	103	8,449	8,166	283
Maryland	2,297	2,923	-626	27,347	28,913	-1,566
Massachusetts	3,656	4,301	-645	74,819	78,594	-3,775
Michigan	4,607	4,887	-280	68,550	78,958	-10,408
Minnesota	3,167	3,313	-146	57,931	57,679	252
Mississippi	731	930	-199	5,974	7,484	-1,510
Missouri	2,845	3,557	-712	21,062	23,273	-2,211
Montana	713	729	-16	10,388	10,768	-380
Nebraska	638	730	-92	5,971	6,899	-928
Nevada	2,136	2,115	21	17,516	19,152	-1,636
New Hampshire	400	516	-116	3,923	4,240	-317
New Jersey	6,817	7,485	-668	101,789	104,241	-2,452
New Mexico	810	837	-27	9,154	9,540	-386
New York	13,149	12,684	465	149,335	152,162	-2,827
North Carolina	2,662	2,796	-134	18,346	20,023	-1,677
North Dakota	301	211	90	5,949	5,891	58
Ohio	6,233	5,981	252	62,284	65,235	-2,951
Oklahoma	1,496	1,572	-76	13,026	14,217	-1,191
Oregon	4,176	3,855	321	29,065	30,185	-1,120
Pennsylvania	10,507	11,897	-1,390	118,635	134,753	-16,118
Puerto Rico	1,087	1,002	85	12,891	15,353	-2,462
Rhode Island	678	758	-80	11,187	11,497	-310
South Carolina	1,730	1,733	-3	13,899	14,365	-466
South Dakota	133	171	-38	2,892	3,249	-357
Tennessee	2,426	2,367	59	16,006	17,699	-1,693
Texas	12,355	14,382	-2,027	112,406	117,994	-5,588
Utah	868	873	-5	9,358	10,130	-772
Vermont	389	499	-110	5,188	5,147	41
Virgin Islands	13	24	-11	598	426	172
Virginia	2,253	2,193	60	21,210	21,699	-489
Washington	5,778	5,405	373	57,856	59,676	-1,820
West Virginia	609	740	-131	14,042	12,568	1,474
Wisconsin	5,703	5,416	287	40,693	42,319	-1,626
Wyoming	278	344	-66	3,083	2,907	176
US Total	182,553	190,075	-7,522	1,898,456	2,009,468	-111,012

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 state estimates

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 24, 2018	217	-4	220.75	1,818	-33	1,838.75	1.3
March 31, 2018	231	14	222.75	1,852	34	1,838.50	1.3
April 7, 2018	227	-4	224.00	1,852	0	1,843.25	1.3
April 14, 2018	227	0	225.50	1,818	-34	1,835.00	1.3
April 21, 2018	210	-17	223.75	1,773	-45	1,823.75	1.3
April 28, 2018	213	3	219.25	1,787	14	1,807.50	1.3
May 5, 2018	211	-2	215.25	1,736	-51	1,778.50	1.2
May 12, 2018	221	10	213.75	1,746	10	1,760.50	1.2
May 19, 2018	227	6	218.00	1,741	-5	1,752.50	1.2
May 26, 2018	221	-6	220.00	1,748	7	1,742.75	1.2
June 2, 2018	220	-1	222.25	1,722	-26	1,739.25	1.2
June 9, 2018	219	-1	221.75	1,734	12	1,736.25	1.2
June 16, 2018	219	0	219.75	1,722	-12	1,731.50	1.2
June 23, 2018	223	4	220.25	1,745	23	1,730.75	1.2
June 30, 2018	229	6	222.50	1,745	0	1,736.50	1.2
July 7, 2018	212	-17	220.75	1,753	8	1,741.25	1.2
July 14, 2018	212	0	219.00	1,745	-8	1,747.00	1.2
July 21, 2018	217	5	217.50	1,733	-12	1,744.00	1.2
July 28, 2018	220	3	215.25	1,753	20	1,746.00	1.2
August 4, 2018	215	-5	216.00	1,734	-19	1,741.25	1.2
August 11, 2018	215	0	216.75	1,726	-8	1,736.50	1.2
August 18, 2018	214	-1	216.00	1,717	-9	1,732.50	1.2
August 25, 2018	215	1	214.75	1,713	-4	1,722.50	1.2
September 1, 2018	210	-5	213.50	1,706	-7	1,715.50	1.2
September 8, 2018	208	-2	211.75	1,665	-41	1,700.25	1.2
September 15, 2018	212	4	211.25	1,682	17	1,691.50	1.2
September 22, 2018	212	0	210.50	1,669	-13	1,680.50	1.2
September 29, 2018	218	6	212.50	1,668	-1	1,671.00	1.2
October 6, 2018	212	-6	213.50	1,660	-8	1,669.75	1.2
October 13, 2018	215	3	214.25	1,656	-4	1,663.25	1.2
October 20, 2018	218	3	215.75	1,649	-7	1,658.25	1.2
October 27, 2018	219	1	216.00	1,649	0	1,653.50	1.2
November 3, 2018	217	-2	217.25	1,678	29	1,658.00	1.2
November 10, 2018	223	6	219.25	1,673	-5	1,662.25	1.2
November 17, 2018	224	1	220.75	1,695	22	1,673.75	1.2
November 24, 2018	234	10	224.50	1,654	-41	1,675.00	1.2
December 1, 2018	229	-5	227.50	1,667	13	1,672.25	1.2
December 8, 2018	213	-16	225.00	1,700	33	1,679.00	1.2
December 15, 2018	220	7	224.00	1,699	-1	1,680.00	1.2
December 22, 2018	223	3	221.25	1,728	29	1,698.50	1.2
December 29, 2018	231	8	221.75	1,708	-20	1,708.75	1.2
January 5, 2019	221	-10	223.75	1,716	8	1,712.75	1.2
January 12, 2019	217	-4	223.00	1,707	-9	1,714.75	1.2
January 19, 2019	211	-6	220.00	1,739	32	1,717.50	1.2
January 26, 2019	244	33	223.25	1,720	-19	1,720.50	1.2
February 2, 2019	230	-14	225.50	1,746	26	1,728.00	1.2
February 9, 2019	231	1	229.00	1,719	-27	1,731.00	1.2
February 16, 2019	213	-18	229.50	1,773	54	1,739.50	1.2
February 23, 2019	224	11	224.50	1,749	-24	1,746.75	1.2
March 2, 2019	218	-6	221.50	1,757	8	1,749.50	1.2
March 9, 2019	224	6	219.75	1,744	-13	1,755.75	1.2
March 16, 2019	216	-8	220.50	1,755	11	1,751.25	1.2
March 23, 2019	212	-4	217.50	1,717	-38	1,743.25	1.2
March 30, 2019	202	-10	213.50				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED MARCH 23					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 16						ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE (%) ²	CHANGE FROM					
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
Alabama	2220	71	50	12	6	14269	0.8	-103	-1133	65	68	14402
Alaska	850	-105	-174	4	1	9264	3.0	330	-1771	172	20	9456
Arizona	3402	14	-525	15	5	18987	0.7	-101	-2964	199	40	19226
Arkansas	2263	821	201	2	1	10415	0.9	-558	-1701	75	42	10532
California	39832	-1296	659	121	84	384846	2.3	12540	-14564	2626	1392	388864
Colorado	1550	44	-11	13	15	22886	0.9	1697	-919	287	213	23386
Connecticut	2508	-313	-664	6	4	41127	2.5	59	-6597	58	59	41244
Delaware	460	0	-46	2	5	5403	1.2	-332	-534	13	7	5423
District of Columbia	388	-42	140	18	0	7237	1.3	-22	-916	362	7	7606
Florida	5353	-448	-965	19	34	34930	0.4	179	-4221	171	83	35184
Georgia	4182	-205	-203	20	26	23918	0.6	-764	-2292	160	164	24242
Hawaii	1055	-100	-102	2	7	6529	1.0	-69	-565	80	77	6686
Idaho	1104	61	-105	12	5	8666	1.2	-1031	248	218	12	8896
Illinois	7933	-54	48	4	2	131314	2.2	5852	2200	392	165	131871
Indiana	2069	-19	-72	3	6	19668	0.7	-1014	80	31	26	19725
Iowa	2272	-76	472	3	3	29330	1.9	-1004	2621	40	32	29402
Kansas	1271	-377	-266	1	1	10886	0.8	-307	1	35	27	10948
Kentucky	1957	-148	4	2	3	20317	1.1	172	-1044	96	117	20530
Louisiana	1619	-42	-244	7	3	14074	0.7	-194	-1898	39	14	14127
Maine	561	-58	-152	0	0	8166	1.4	-327	-508	32	6	8204
Maryland	2923	330	-739	16	7	28913	1.1	-1704	-5043	226	95	29234
Massachusetts	4301	-53	-619	2	10	78594	2.2	-980	-6482	159	83	78836
Michigan	4887	-269	97	10	9	78958	1.8	2874	2603	247	80	79285
Minnesota	3313	84	124	2	1	57679	2.0	-855	-989	102	54	57835
Mississippi	930	-205	-72	1	0	7484	0.7	128	-954	80	12	7576
Missouri	3557	324	-42	4	5	23273	0.9	-2518	-2290	112	22	23407
Montana	729	-45	13	7	1	10768	2.4	-833	-174	416	19	11203
Nebraska	730	-58	0	1	1	6899	0.7	-172	138	23	6	6928
Nevada	2115	-173	-89	4	2	19152	1.4	-436	-1900	169	49	19370
New Hampshire	516	-2	38	0	0	4240	0.7	-244	-851	3	1	4244
New Jersey	7485	-368	240	7	13	104241	2.6	-3087	-3387	252	211	104704
New Mexico	837	160	-19	3	3	9540	1.2	-82	-418	258	37	9835
New York	12684	-231	-1106	24	23	152162	1.6	-4814	-12128	359	320	152841
North Carolina	2796	128	266	6	7	20023	0.5	1410	-1178	105	107	20235
North Dakota	211	-77	-90	0	0	5891	1.5	-270	-768	20	4	5915
Ohio	5981	-468	698	6	14	65235	1.2	-2151	-3503	104	135	65474
Oklahoma	1572	-1097	79	6	5	14217	0.9	690	635	50	58	14325
Oregon	3855	149	231	24	5	30185	1.6	-1804	944	554	63	30802
Pennsylvania	11897	-1181	-1580	48	28	134753	2.3	4652	-4419	524	219	135496
Puerto Rico	1002	-173	-116	2	6	15353	1.8	-455	-8716	137	37	15527
Rhode Island	758	-129	123	2	2	11497	2.5	-303	118	17	18	11532
South Carolina	1733	-344	-164	5	8	14365	0.7	-71	-1149	51	72	14488
South Dakota	171	28	13	0	1	3249	0.8	-63	161	41	4	3294
Tennessee	2367	119	234	8	10	17699	0.6	-454	-3091	81	54	17834
Texas	14382	2802	-341	108	84	117994	1.0	4538	-11034	769	1056	119819
Utah	873	-41	-161	7	3	10130	0.7	-628	-422	144	19	10293
Vermont	499	-142	49	1	0	5147	1.7	-72	-290	11	0	5158
Virgin Islands	24	4	-3	0	0	426	1.3	-120	-2168	10	0	436
Virginia	2193	-64	-182	4	11	21699	0.6	-405	-2009	200	169	22068
Washington	5405	-382	-181	13	6	59676	1.8	-3213	5125	511	455	60642
West Virginia	740	-100	-113	0	0	12568	1.9	-964	-706	48	18	12634
Wisconsin	5416	-583	13	8	3	42319	1.5	-1628	-159	86	16	42421
Wyoming	344	22	-4	7	1	2907	1.1	-22	-1536	59	4	2970
Totals	190075	-4307	-5358	602	480	2009468	1.4	947	-102517	11079	6068	2026615

Figures appearing in columns showing over-the-week changes reflect all revisions in data for prior week submitted by state agencies.

1. The Unemployment Compensation program for Federal Employees (UCFE) and the Unemployment Compensation for Ex-servicemembers (UCX) exclude claims filed jointly under other programs to avoid duplication.
2. Rate is not seasonally adjusted. The source of U.S. total covered employment is BLS.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 23, 2019

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
TX	+2,802	Layoffs in the finance and insurance, wholesale trade, transportation and warehousing, and retail trade industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-1,296	No comment.
PA	-1,181	Fewer layoffs in the accommodations and food service, construction, manufacturing, and professional, scientific and technical service industries.
OK	-1,097	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. 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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Employment and Training Administration
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Program Contacts:
Kevin Stapleton: (202) 693-3009
Tony Sznoluch: (202) 693-3176
Media Contact: (202) 693-4676