



News Release

Connect with DOL at <https://blog.dol.gov>



TRANSMISSION OF MATERIALS IN THIS RELEASE IS EMBARGOED UNTIL
8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, April 25, 2019

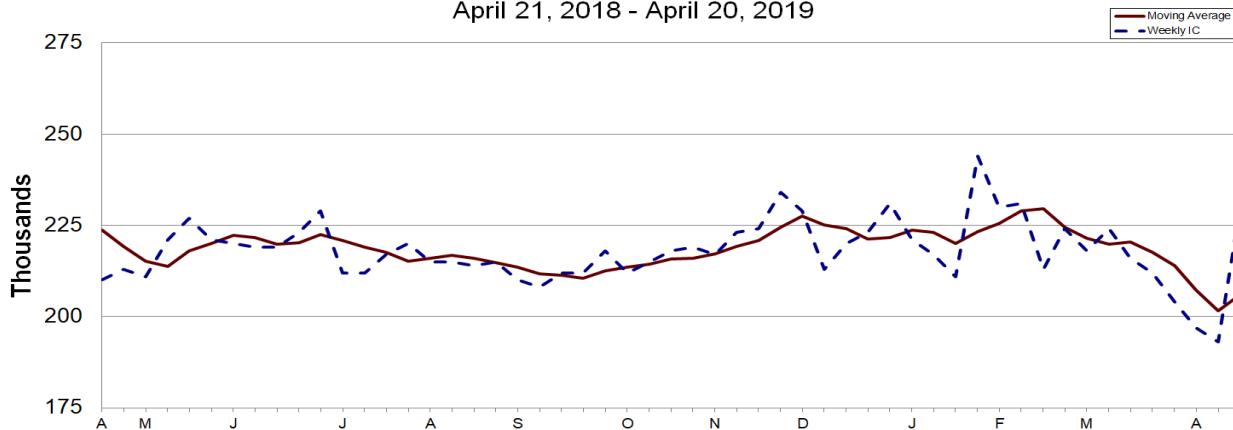
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending April 20, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 230,000, an increase of 37,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 192,000 to 193,000. The 4-week moving average was 206,000, an increase of 4,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 201,250 to 201,500.

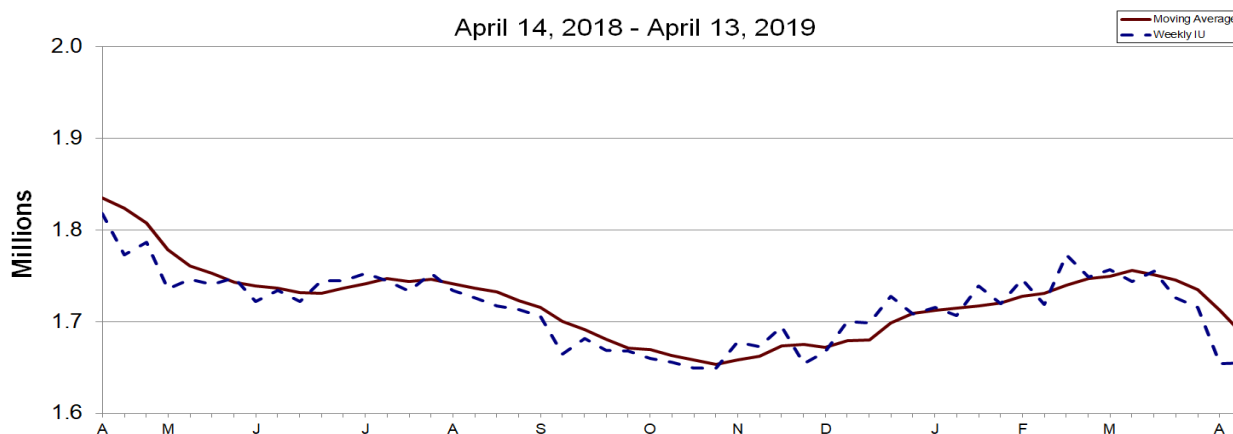
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending April 13, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending April 13 was 1,655,000, an increase of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 1,000 from 1,653,000 to 1,654,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,687,750, a decrease of 25,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 1,712,500 to 1,712,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
April 21, 2018 - April 20, 2019



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

April 14, 2018 - April 13, 2019



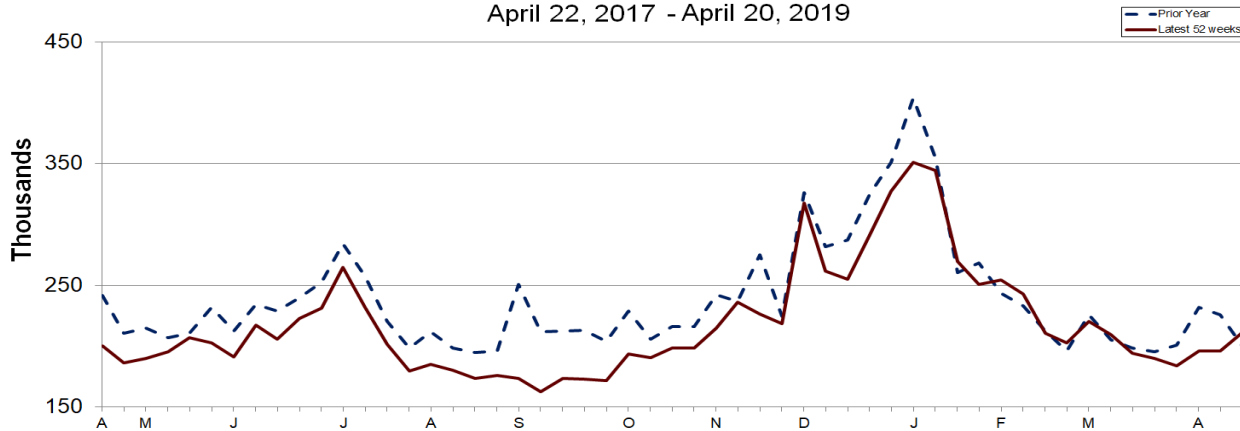
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 211,361 in the week ending April 20, an increase of 14,964 (or 7.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 18,751 (or -9.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 200,139 initial claims in the comparable week in 2018.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.2 percent during the week ending April 13, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,704,208, a decrease of 25,965 (or -1.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 26,465 (or -1.5 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,865,447.

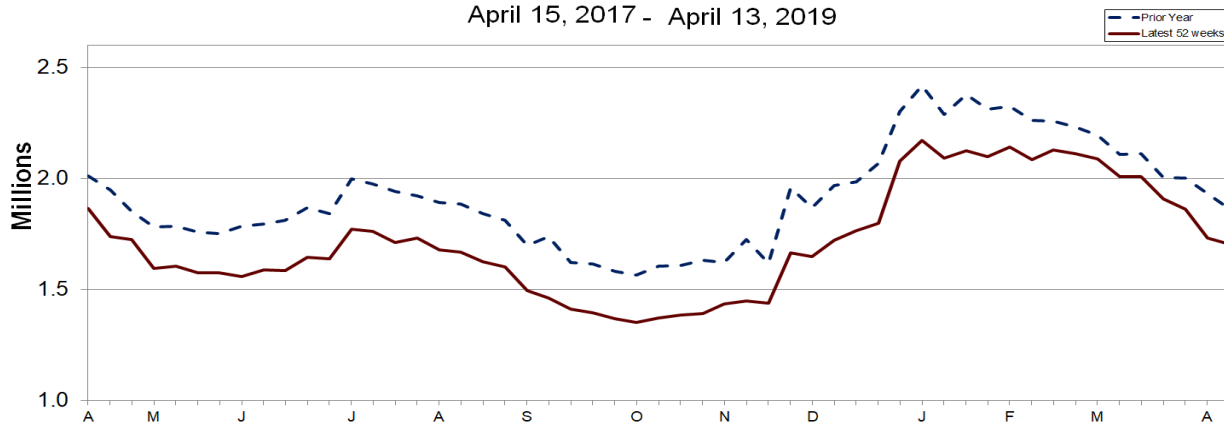
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

April 22, 2017 - April 20, 2019



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

April 15, 2017 - April 13, 2019



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending April 6 was 1,757,838, a decrease of 132,740 from the previous week. There were 1,960,482 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 April 6.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 572 in the week ending April 13, an increase of 20 from the prior week. There were 526 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 27 from the preceding week.

There were 9,120 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending April 6, a decrease of 1,314 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,837, a decrease of 42 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending April 6 were in Alaska (2.6), New Jersey (2.2), California (2.0), Connecticut (2.0), Illinois (1.9), Rhode Island (1.9), Massachusetts (1.8), Montana (1.8), Pennsylvania (1.8), and Puerto Rico (1.8).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending April 13 were in California (+3,202), Connecticut (+1,125), Arizona (+819), Texas (+775), and Washington (+640), while the largest decreases were in Tennessee (-2,154), Illinois (-1,148), Michigan (-1,103), Arkansas (-799), and Ohio (-776).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	April 20	April 13	Change	April 6	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	230,000	193,000	+37,000	197,000	210,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	211,361	196,397	+14,964	196,103	200,139
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	206,000	201,500	+4,500	207,250	223,750
WEEK ENDING	April 13	April 6	Change	March 30	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,655,000	1,654,000	+1,000	1,716,000	1,818,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,704,208	1,730,173	-25,965	1,861,818	1,865,447
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,687,750	1,712,750	-25,000	1,735,250	1,835,000
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u>²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.3%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u>²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.3%	1.3%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 13	April 6	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	572	552	+20	623
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	526	553	-27	612

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 6	March 30	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,727,326	1,859,082	-131,756	1,927,403
Federal Employees	9,120	10,434	-1,314	9,057
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,837	5,879	-42	7,787
<u>Extended Benefits</u>³	0	0	0	1,022
<u>State Additional Benefits</u>⁴	6,088	6,117	-29	6,840
<u>STC / Workshare</u>⁵	9,467	9,066	+401	8,373
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,757,838	1,890,578	-132,740	1,960,482

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 143,629,179 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 April 20			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended April 13		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,807	2,381	-574	13,771	13,967	-196
Alaska	1,167	992	175	7,652	7,853	-201
Arizona	4,805	5,848	-1,043	18,949	19,736	-787
Arkansas	1,303	1,451	-148	8,691	10,259	-1,568
California	44,789	39,429	5,360	368,095	347,023	21,072
Colorado	1,989	2,037	-48	18,452	18,236	216
Connecticut	7,447	3,454	3,993	34,987	33,500	1,487
Delaware	332	482	-150	4,468	4,520	-52
District of Columbia	449	419	30	6,359	6,715	-356
Florida	5,670	6,345	-675	29,453	33,243	-3,790
Georgia	4,459	5,248	-789	22,712	24,837	-2,125
Hawaii	1,008	1,128	-120	6,598	6,553	45
Idaho	845	948	-103	5,767	6,471	-704
Illinois	8,209	7,728	481	106,610	110,245	-3,635
Indiana	2,830	2,370	460	16,498	15,723	775
Iowa	2,003	1,836	167	18,916	20,317	-1,401
Kansas	1,195	1,298	-103	7,796	7,999	-203
Kentucky	1,913	2,108	-195	16,680	16,778	-98
Louisiana	1,425	1,887	-462	11,468	13,414	-1,946
Maine	665	711	-46	7,192	7,191	1
Maryland	3,159	2,780	379	23,847	25,494	-1,647
Massachusetts	11,202	4,465	6,737	59,084	64,489	-5,405
Michigan	4,721	5,579	-858	61,059	60,805	254
Minnesota	3,215	2,804	411	48,320	49,011	-691
Mississippi	726	1,093	-367	5,770	6,643	-873
Missouri	2,241	2,824	-583	16,807	18,033	-1,226
Montana	787	815	-28	7,803	8,096	-293
Nebraska	751	566	185	3,757	4,272	-515
Nevada	2,725	2,196	529	16,366	17,451	-1,085
New Hampshire	464	481	-17	3,379	3,853	-474
New Jersey	10,653	7,641	3,012	85,713	88,763	-3,050
New Mexico	653	815	-162	8,677	9,146	-469
New York	12,109	12,131	-22	127,307	132,624	-5,317
North Carolina	2,534	3,052	-518	17,396	19,249	-1,853
North Dakota	257	272	-15	4,124	4,454	-330
Ohio	6,091	5,235	856	51,397	54,941	-3,544
Oklahoma	1,768	1,824	-56	12,943	13,448	-505
Oregon	4,012	4,352	-340	27,910	28,636	-726
Pennsylvania	12,488	11,495	993	101,886	100,824	1,062
Puerto Rico	952	1,430	-478	11,843	14,997	-3,154
Rhode Island	3,604	751	2,853	8,277	8,866	-589
South Carolina	1,794	2,038	-244	12,959	13,534	-575
South Dakota	158	81	77	1,901	2,127	-226
Tennessee	1,874	2,164	-290	14,022	17,942	-3,920
Texas	11,644	13,868	-2,224	108,970	107,707	1,263
Utah	1,133	1,364	-231	8,106	8,001	105
Vermont	941	698	243	4,641	4,381	260
Virgin Islands	5	12	-7	118	536	-418
Virginia	2,416	2,293	123	18,877	19,255	-378
Washington	5,947	6,939	-992	53,018	52,581	437
West Virginia	770	958	-188	12,049	10,007	2,042
Wisconsin	4,921	4,684	237	32,080	33,123	-1,043
Wyoming	336	597	-261	2,688	2,304	384
US Total	211,361	196,397	14,964	1,704,208	1,730,173	-25,965

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	
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	1,726	-29	1,745.50	1.2
March 30, 2019	204	-8	214.00	1,716	-10	1,735.25	1.2
April 6, 2019	197	-7	207.25	1,654	-62	1,712.75	1.2
April 13, 2019	193	-4	201.50	1,655	1	1,687.75	1.2
April 20, 2019	230	37	206.00				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED APRIL 13					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED APRIL 6					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	2381	-510	386	12	7	13967	0.7	-614	-483	55	65	14087
Alaska	992	101	-96	3	4	7853	2.6	-730	-1537	90	10	7953
Arizona	5848	819	-87	4	4	19736	0.7	981	-3234	160	40	19936
Arkansas	1451	-799	57	1	1	10259	0.9	471	-1071	66	34	10359
California	39429	3202	-5597	119	112	347023	2.0	-26800	-14489	2447	1290	350760
Colorado	2037	134	-154	15	12	18236	0.7	-2499	-1973	188	187	18611
Connecticut	3454	1125	-1394	4	3	33500	2.0	-2592	-6571	46	53	33599
Delaware	482	12	-113	0	1	4520	1.0	-295	-1272	12	7	4539
District of Columbia	419	-20	136	14	0	6715	1.2	-38	-1235	340	5	7060
Florida	6345	-57	-179	18	31	33243	0.4	-10	-3558	116	128	33487
Georgia	5248	606	-354	33	27	24837	0.6	1817	-1837	156	157	25150
Hawaii	1128	-157	-220	3	10	6553	1.1	-69	-316	79	55	6687
Idaho	948	31	15	4	1	6471	0.9	-956	46	97	14	6582
Illinois	7728	-1148	-1188	12	8	110245	1.9	-8912	-8951	305	164	110714
Indiana	2370	-668	-164	1	3	15723	0.5	-3037	-1593	31	31	15785
Iowa	1836	56	139	6	3	20317	1.3	-3322	-1496	33	26	20376
Kansas	1298	-59	-12	4	2	7999	0.6	-644	-1741	32	30	8061
Kentucky	2108	-666	-1003	2	1	16778	0.9	-1309	-2920	78	119	16975
Louisiana	1887	231	-255	3	5	13414	0.7	-254	-2094	52	19	13485
Maine	711	-28	-64	1	0	7191	1.2	-422	-144	30	9	7230
Maryland	2780	298	-14	14	5	25494	1.0	-1065	-5543	222	92	25808
Massachusetts	4465	169	-25	11	8	64489	1.8	-6502	-8611	127	75	64691
Michigan	5579	-1103	753	10	15	60805	1.4	-10561	-4272	160	68	61033
Minnesota	2804	-332	-655	7	2	49011	1.7	-5550	-4955	105	56	49172
Mississippi	1093	144	177	3	2	6643	0.6	-33	-773	89	20	6752
Missouri	2824	185	-33	1	6	18033	0.7	-2534	-5377	95	37	18165
Montana	815	76	-90	12	0	8096	1.8	-1332	-983	242	20	8358
Nebraska	566	-23	-32	4	2	4272	0.4	-806	-759	19	8	4299
Nevada	2196	188	74	3	2	17451	1.3	-847	-2392	128	35	17614
New Hampshire	481	-16	-3	0	1	3853	0.6	-245	-629	1	5	3859
New Jersey	7641	-66	-1350	21	18	88763	2.2	-7054	-16572	209	206	89178
New Mexico	815	-59	30	1	1	9146	1.2	-247	-553	180	46	9372
New York	12131	-472	-19787	27	23	132624	1.4	-7387	-36501	355	301	133280
North Carolina	3052	-87	385	11	18	19249	0.4	-180	-662	102	103	19454
North Dakota	272	0	-41	3	0	4454	1.1	-559	-1349	17	4	4475
Ohio	5235	-776	37	8	11	54941	1.0	-4649	-7522	86	129	55156
Oklahoma	1824	-200	304	7	5	13448	0.9	-199	-92	53	60	13561
Oregon	4352	-116	549	11	6	28636	1.5	-1400	508	411	61	29108
Pennsylvania	11495	368	-560	54	19	100824	1.8	-16307	-17891	434	255	101513
Puerto Rico	1430	267	303	2	5	14997	1.8	-527	-5509	152	45	15194
Rhode Island	751	82	-183	1	1	8866	1.9	-1246	-483	28	20	8914
South Carolina	2038	-71	-111	3	5	13534	0.7	-505	-1559	43	65	13642
South Dakota	81	-62	-44	1	0	2127	0.5	-539	-367	31	3	2161
Tennessee	2164	-2154	91	8	9	17942	0.6	1161	-967	87	54	18083
Texas	13868	775	1170	67	81	107707	0.9	-4007	-8595	499	946	109152
Utah	1364	338	113	5	2	8001	0.6	-999	-328	103	15	8119
Vermont	698	179	73	2	0	4381	1.4	-294	-265	10	1	4392
Virgin Islands	12	-25	-4	0	0	536	1.7	172	-1444	8	4	548
Virginia	2293	106	-29	4	13	19255	0.5	-765	-3306	171	174	19600
Washington	6939	640	843	7	24	52581	1.6	-1043	1659	369	444	53394
West Virginia	958	280	-12	0	4	10007	1.5	-959	-993	49	14	10070
Wisconsin	4684	-697	-1532	4	3	33123	1.2	-5181	-5120	75	22	33220
Wyoming	597	253	57	1	0	2304	0.9	-222	-882	47	6	2357
Totals	196397	294	-29693	572	526	1730173	1.2	-131645	-199556	9120	5837	1745130

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 APRIL 13, 2019

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	+3,202	Layoffs in the service and agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting industries.
CT	+1,125	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
TN	-2,154	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
IL	-1,148	No comment.
MI	-1,103	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](#)

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).

U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
Washington, D.C. 20210
Release Number: USDL 19-715-NAT

Program Contacts:
Kevin Stapleton: (202) 693-3009
Tony Sznoluch: (202) 693-3176
Media Contact: (202) 693-4676