



News Release

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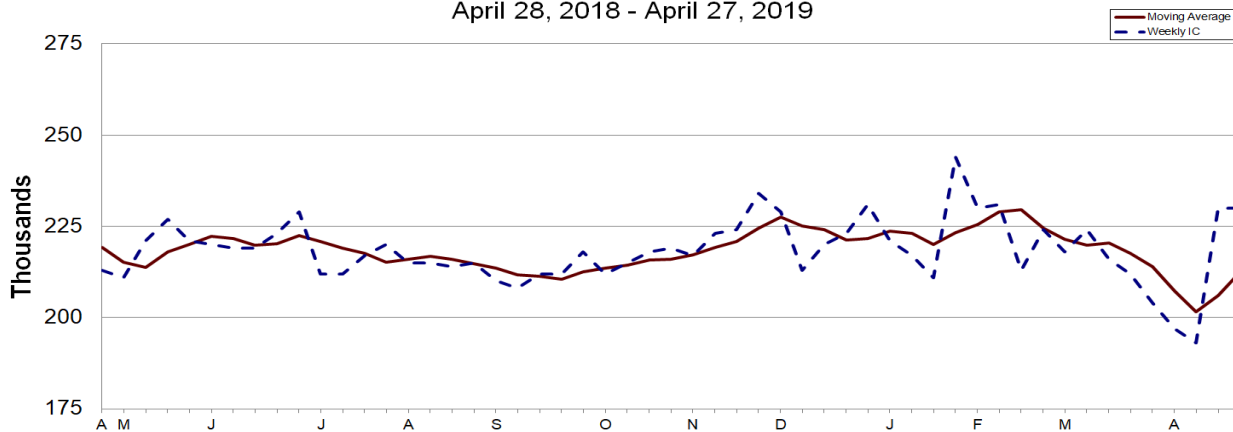
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending April 27, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 230,000, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised level of 230,000. The 4-week moving average was 212,500, an increase of 6,500 from the previous week's unrevised average of 206,000.

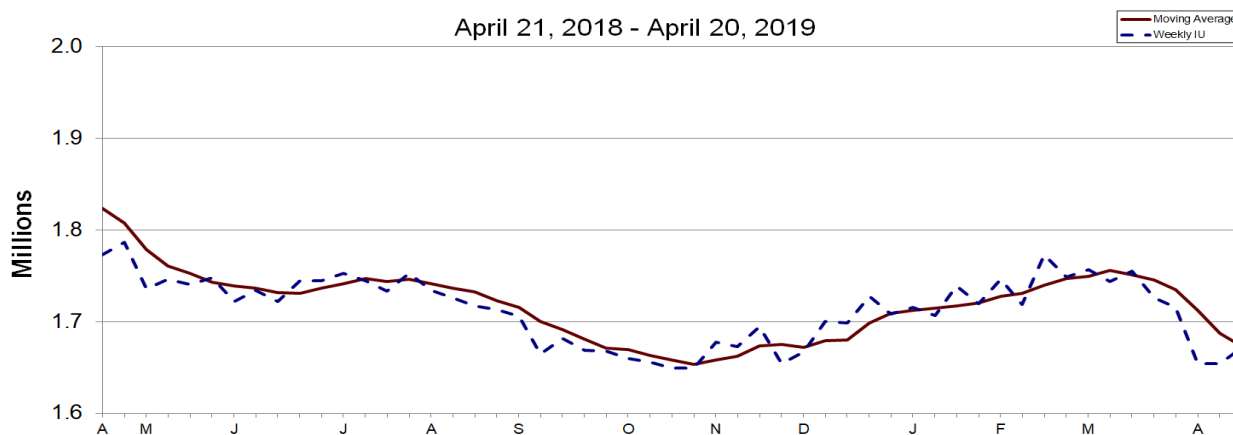
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending April 20, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending April 20 was 1,671,000, an increase of 17,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 1,000 from 1,655,000 to 1,654,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,673,750, a decrease of 13,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 250 from 1,687,750 to 1,687,500.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
April 28, 2018 - April 27, 2019



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

April 21, 2018 - April 20, 2019



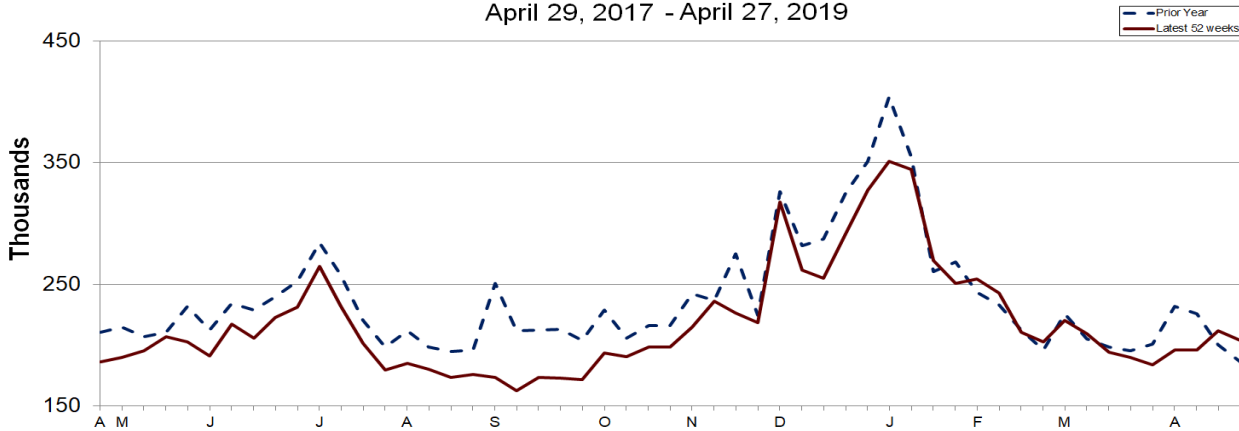
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 204,035 in the week ending April 27, a decrease of 7,759 (or -3.7 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 6,914 (or -3.3 percent) from the previous week. There were 186,451 initial claims in the comparable week in 2018.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.1 percent during the week ending April 20, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,647,464, a decrease of 56,133 (or -3.3 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 72,775 (or -4.3 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.2 percent and the volume was 1,738,881.

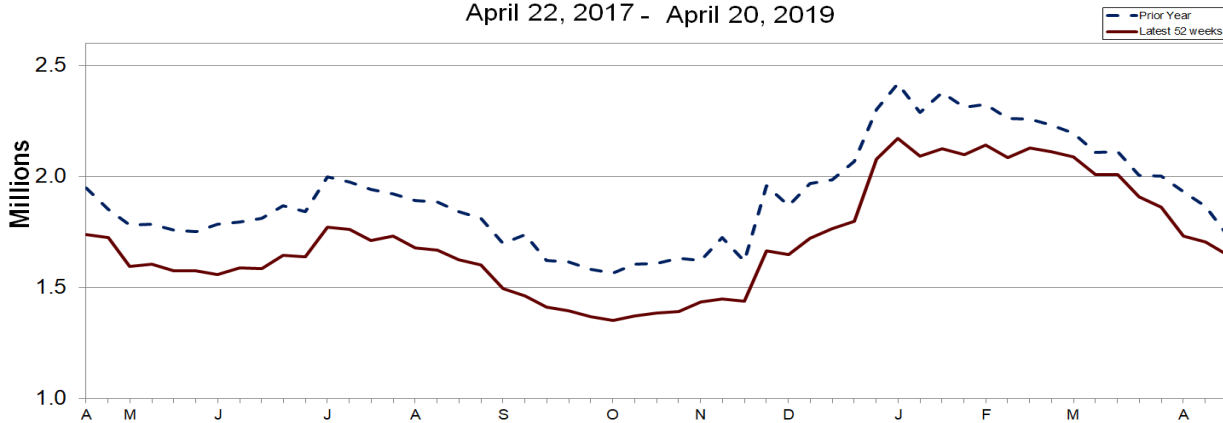
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

April 29, 2017 - April 27, 2019



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

April 22, 2017 - April 20, 2019



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending April 13 was 1,731,156, a decrease of 26,708 from the previous week. There were 1,896,716 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 13.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 533 in the week ending April 20, a decrease of 39 from the prior week. There were 460 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 66 from the preceding week.

There were 9,224 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending April 13, an increase of 104 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,745, a decrease of 92 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending April 13 were in Alaska (2.5), California (2.1), Connecticut (2.1), New Jersey (2.1), Illinois (1.8), Massachusetts (1.7), Montana (1.7), Pennsylvania (1.7), Puerto Rico (1.7), and Rhode Island (1.7).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending April 20 were in Massachusetts (+6,811), California (+4,471), Connecticut (+4,008), New Jersey (+3,096), and Rhode Island (+2,833), while the largest decreases were in Texas (-2,429), Washington (-1,191), Michigan (-737), Georgia (-593), and Arizona (-518).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	April 27	April 20	Change	April 13	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	230,000	230,000	0	193,000	213,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	204,035	211,794	-7,759	196,397	186,451
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	212,500	206,000	+6,500	201,500	219,250
WEEK ENDING	April 20	April 13	Change	April 6	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,671,000	1,654,000	+17,000	1,654,000	1,773,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,647,464	1,703,597	-56,133	1,730,199	1,738,881
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,673,750	1,687,500	-13,750	1,712,750	1,823,750
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.3%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.1%	1.2%	-0.1	1.2%	1.2%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 20	April 13	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	533	572	-39	568
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	460	526	-66	543

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 13	April 6	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	1,700,710	1,727,352	-26,642	1,862,865
Federal Employees	9,224	9,120	+104	9,685
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,745	5,837	-92	7,830
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	375
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	6,005	6,088	-83	7,194
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	9,472	9,467	+5	8,767
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,731,156	1,757,864	-26,708	1,896,716

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 27			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended April 20		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,759	1,935	-176	13,514	13,870	-356
Alaska	1,140	862	278	7,497	7,792	-295
Arizona	4,804	5,330	-526	20,219	21,027	-808
Arkansas	1,196	1,413	-217	8,889	9,669	-780
California	41,169	43,900	-2,731	340,290	361,762	-21,472
Colorado	1,955	1,989	-34	18,773	19,035	-262
Connecticut	5,699	7,462	-1,763	40,375	34,116	6,259
Delaware	1,113	353	760	4,335	4,270	65
District of Columbia	440	409	31	6,379	6,625	-246
Florida	5,734	5,911	-177	29,910	33,688	-3,778
Georgia	4,274	4,655	-381	23,030	23,737	-707
Hawaii	1,307	989	318	6,864	6,276	588
Idaho	710	917	-207	5,447	6,070	-623
Illinois	7,403	8,141	-738	94,707	105,530	-10,823
Indiana	2,323	2,719	-396	16,622	16,019	603
Iowa	2,164	1,823	341	16,231	18,430	-2,199
Kansas	1,311	1,167	144	7,651	7,767	-116
Kentucky	1,656	1,983	-327	15,072	17,427	-2,355
Louisiana	1,833	1,593	240	11,415	13,218	-1,803
Maine	708	688	20	6,919	6,947	-28
Maryland	2,433	3,257	-824	24,066	24,780	-714
Massachusetts	4,575	11,276	-6,701	62,553	59,708	2,845
Michigan	4,592	4,842	-250	50,046	62,658	-12,612
Minnesota	2,778	3,123	-345	43,956	46,356	-2,400
Mississippi	1,534	872	662	5,826	6,641	-815
Missouri	2,309	2,381	-72	16,609	17,337	-728
Montana	854	767	87	6,685	7,558	-873
Nebraska	499	758	-259	3,589	3,822	-233
Nevada	2,286	2,660	-374	17,274	17,599	-325
New Hampshire	832	474	358	3,309	3,651	-342
New Jersey	13,701	10,737	2,964	87,258	84,194	3,064
New Mexico	685	687	-2	8,678	8,908	-230
New York	18,685	12,048	6,637	128,770	126,256	2,514
North Carolina	2,695	2,657	38	17,356	18,705	-1,349
North Dakota	370	217	153	3,583	3,757	-174
Ohio	5,631	6,076	-445	48,508	51,094	-2,586
Oklahoma	1,690	2,037	-347	13,100	13,531	-431
Oregon	3,270	4,021	-751	26,833	27,923	-1,090
Pennsylvania	11,815	12,458	-643	94,877	100,301	-5,424
Puerto Rico	1,233	1,044	189	13,214	13,900	-686
Rhode Island	1,123	3,584	-2,461	9,891	8,010	1,881
South Carolina	2,039	1,871	168	13,264	13,119	145
South Dakota	109	179	-70	1,612	1,955	-343
Tennessee	2,022	1,961	61	13,698	15,172	-1,474
Texas	12,041	11,439	602	111,240	107,033	4,207
Utah	1,038	1,103	-65	7,751	8,146	-395
Vermont	650	944	-294	4,652	4,399	253
Virgin Islands	25	12	13	682	118	564
Virginia	2,251	2,263	-12	18,971	18,495	476
Washington	5,507	5,748	-241	50,745	51,556	-811
West Virginia	890	801	89	11,913	9,800	2,113
Wisconsin	4,905	4,902	3	30,346	31,454	-1,108
Wyoming	270	356	-86	2,470	2,386	84
US Total	204,035	211,794	-7,759	1,647,464	1,703,597	-56,133

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 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	1,654	0	1,687.50	1.2
April 20, 2019	230	37	206.00	1,671	17	1,673.75	1.2
April 27, 2019	230	0	212.50				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED APRIL 20					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED APRIL 13						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	1935	-446	-117	12	3	13870	0.7	-97	-582	61	60	13991
Alaska	862	-130	-122	5	0	7792	2.5	-61	-2100	106	18	7916
Arizona	5330	-518	-651	6	2	21027	0.8	1291	-3808	141	40	21208
Arkansas	1413	-38	-11	1	1	9669	0.8	-590	-1373	76	33	9778
California	43900	4471	3227	98	79	361762	2.1	14739	-25228	2283	1305	365350
Colorado	1989	-48	-335	6	12	19035	0.7	799	-2304	217	192	19444
Connecticut	7462	4008	3110	6	2	34116	2.1	616	-6334	51	52	34219
Delaware	353	-129	-88	0	1	4270	1.0	-250	-445	9	10	4289
District of Columbia	409	-10	154	20	3	6625	1.2	-90	-1031	334	7	6966
Florida	5911	-434	-470	16	22	33688	0.4	445	-5049	168	89	33945
Georgia	4655	-593	-149	30	21	23737	0.6	-1100	-1641	167	152	24056
Hawaii	989	-139	-204	3	6	6276	1.0	-303	-563	74	58	6408
Idaho	917	-31	62	4	4	6070	0.9	-401	166	93	12	6175
Illinois	8141	413	-322	9	10	105530	1.8	-4715	-8128	364	157	106051
Indiana	2719	349	739	4	2	16019	0.5	296	-404	23	27	16069
Iowa	1823	-13	77	5	3	18430	1.2	-1887	-932	43	29	18502
Kansas	1167	-131	-246	3	6	7767	0.6	-232	-1188	35	22	7824
Kentucky	1983	-125	49	0	6	17427	0.9	649	-1002	90	87	17604
Louisiana	1593	-294	-367	4	2	13218	0.7	-196	-2254	45	13	13276
Maine	688	-23	24	0	0	6947	1.2	-244	-136	31	10	6988
Maryland	3257	477	421	15	3	24780	1.0	-714	-4647	216	87	25083
Massachusetts	11276	6811	2558	5	5	59708	1.7	-4781	2142	130	79	59917
Michigan	4842	-737	16	9	8	62658	1.5	1853	2562	137	62	62857
Minnesota	3123	319	72	3	2	46356	1.6	-2655	-4488	79	58	46493
Mississippi	872	-221	-165	4	2	6641	0.6	-2	-695	89	18	6748
Missouri	2381	-443	-188	3	6	17337	0.6	-696	-4168	91	24	17452
Montana	767	-48	-55	5	1	7558	1.7	-538	-767	205	19	7782
Nebraska	758	192	178	2	0	3822	0.4	-450	-570	21	8	3851
Nevada	2660	464	382	2	4	17599	1.3	148	-1676	123	40	17762
New Hampshire	474	-7	-49	2	0	3651	0.6	-202	-550	1	2	3654
New Jersey	10737	3096	3532	11	8	84194	2.1	-4569	-9270	198	180	84572
New Mexico	687	-128	-22	1	3	8908	1.1	-238	-629	171	38	9117
New York	12048	-83	-1401	28	26	126256	1.4	-6368	-14697	331	316	126903
North Carolina	2657	-395	86	7	20	18705	0.4	-544	-813	96	111	18912
North Dakota	217	-55	-58	6	1	3757	0.9	-697	-1230	14	2	3773
Ohio	6076	841	852	9	7	51094	1.0	-3847	-5618	99	116	51309
Oklahoma	2037	213	698	6	4	13531	0.9	83	98	51	55	13637
Oregon	4021	-331	621	18	10	27923	1.5	-713	183	388	64	28375
Pennsylvania	12458	963	56	57	21	100301	1.7	-523	-17660	440	210	100951
Puerto Rico	1044	-386	-15	2	0	13900	1.7	-1097	-5699	135	41	14076
Rhode Island	3584	2833	953	0	2	8010	1.7	-856	-590	18	15	8043
South Carolina	1871	-167	-73	3	3	13119	0.6	-415	-1203	47	69	13235
South Dakota	179	98	22	10	0	1955	0.5	-172	-326	34	3	1992
Tennessee	1961	-203	45	1	16	15172	0.5	-2770	-2943	82	60	15314
Texas	11439	-2429	-782	64	86	107033	0.9	-674	-16957	811	1014	108858
Utah	1103	-261	13	11	4	8146	0.6	145	-81	97	17	8260
Vermont	944	246	-8	2	0	4399	1.5	18	-177	14	1	4414
Virgin Islands	12	0	-14	0	0	118	0.4	-418	-1576	0	2	120
Virginia	2263	-30	-56	8	6	18495	0.5	-760	-3320	175	180	18850
Washington	5748	-1191	57	2	18	51556	1.6	-1025	2266	351	443	52350
West Virginia	801	-157	-106	0	2	9800	1.5	-207	-287	50	15	9865
Wisconsin	4902	218	-347	4	5	31454	1.1	-1669	-2800	88	18	31560
Wyoming	356	-241	72	1	2	2386	0.9	82	-1328	31	5	2422
Totals	211794	15397	11655	533	460	1703597	1.2	-26602	-161850	9224	5745	1718566

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 20, 2019

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MA	+6,811	Layoffs in the educational service and retail trade industries.
CA	+4,471	Layoffs in the service industry.
CT	+4,008	No comment.
NJ	+3,096	Layoffs in the educational service, accommodation and food service, transportation and warehousing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and public administration industries.
RI	+2,833	Layoffs in the educational service industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
TX	-2,429	No comment.
WA	-1,191	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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