



News Release

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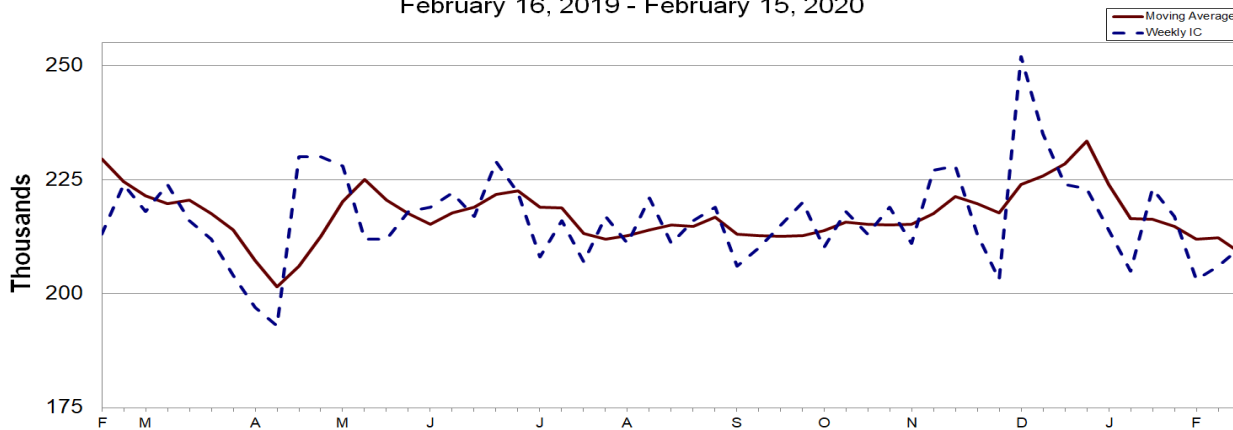
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

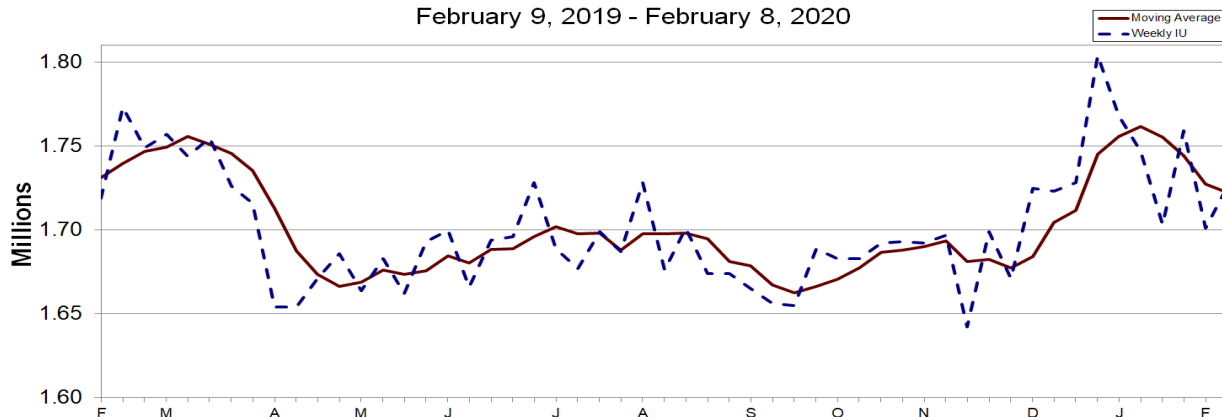
In the week ending February 15, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 210,000, an increase of 4,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 205,000 to 206,000. The 4-week moving average was 209,000, a decrease of 3,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 212,000 to 212,250.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending February 8, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending February 8 was 1,726,000, an increase of 25,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 3,000 from 1,698,000 to 1,701,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,722,250, a decrease of 5,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 1,726,750 to 1,727,500.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
February 16, 2019 - February 15, 2020



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
February 9, 2019 - February 8, 2020



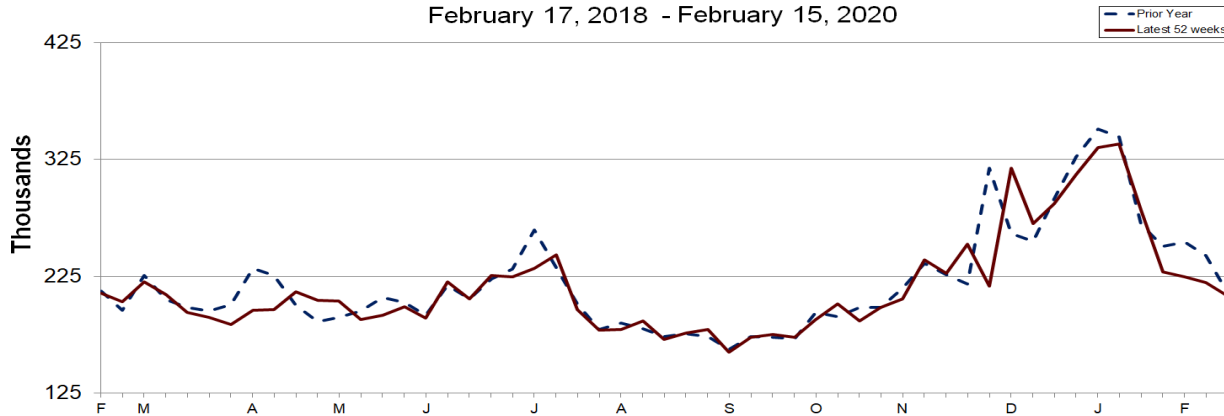
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 208,305 in the week ending February 15, a decrease of 11,296 (or -5.1 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 15,833 (or -7.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 210,718 initial claims in the comparable week in 2019.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending February 8, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,090,131, an increase of 2,633 (or 0.1 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 27,221 (or -1.3 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.5 percent and the volume was 2,084,585.

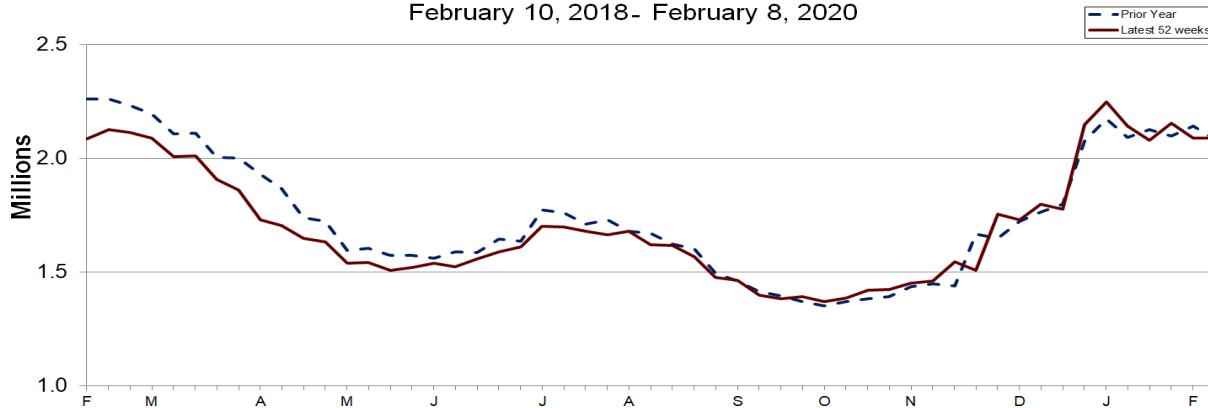
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

February 17, 2018 - February 15, 2020



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

February 10, 2018 - February 8, 2020



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending February 1 was 2,118,088, a decrease of 66,534 from the previous week. There were 2,177,074 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2019.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending February 1.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 663 in the week ending February 8, a decrease of 85 from the prior week. There were 532 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 3 from the preceding week.

There were 11,456 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending February 1, an increase of 34 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,493, a decrease of 230 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending February 1 were in Alaska (3.0), New Jersey (2.7), Puerto Rico (2.7), Connecticut (2.5), Montana (2.5), West Virginia (2.5), Pennsylvania (2.4), Rhode Island (2.3), Illinois (2.2), and Minnesota (2.2).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending February 8 were in New Jersey (+984), Washington (+542), Virginia (+522), Nevada (+508), and Illinois (+451), while the largest decreases were in California (-3,066), New York (-1,535), Pennsylvania (-1,468), Missouri (-1,131), and Iowa (-687).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	February 15	February 8	Change	February 1	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	210,000	206,000	+4,000	203,000	213,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	208,305	219,601	-11,296	224,664	210,718
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	209,000	212,250	-3,250	212,000	229,500
WEEK ENDING	February 8	February 1	Change	January 25	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,726,000	1,701,000	+25,000	1,759,000	1,719,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,090,131	2,087,498	+2,633	2,152,763	2,084,585
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,722,250	1,727,500	-5,250	1,744,250	1,731,000
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.5%	1.5%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	February 8	February 1	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	663	748	-85	919
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	532	535	-3	549

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	February 1	January 25	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	2,084,204	2,148,794	-64,590	2,139,710
Federal Employees	11,456	11,422	+34	14,933
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,493	5,723	-230	6,469
Extended Benefits ³	0	0	0	0
State Additional Benefits ⁴	5,606	5,463	+143	5,640
STC / Workshare ⁵	11,329	13,220	-1,891	10,322
TOTAL	2,118,088	2,184,622	-66,534	2,177,074

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 145,230,691 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 4-4 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-8 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended February 15			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended February 8		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama**	2,011	2,366	-355	16,287	16,911	-624
Alaska	976	980	-4	9,244	9,161	83
Arizona	3,346	3,636	-290	15,965	18,461	-2,496
Arkansas	1,422	1,724	-302	11,479	12,964	-1,485
California**	42,983	40,392	2,591	375,301	359,156	16,145
Colorado	2,246	2,482	-236	22,981	22,881	100
Connecticut	2,513	2,944	-431	40,623	41,633	-1,010
Delaware	592	608	-16	6,257	5,888	369
District of Columbia	478	508	-30	6,848	7,156	-308
Florida	5,017	5,605	-588	29,617	33,176	-3,559
Georgia	6,086	5,577	509	26,186	26,984	-798
Hawaii*	1,115	1,137	-22	6,135	6,173	-38
Idaho	1,050	1,450	-400	10,630	11,391	-761
Illinois	8,068	9,794	-1,726	135,029	130,900	4,129
Indiana	2,658	2,725	-67	23,209	22,212	997
Iowa	2,505	2,379	126	31,523	30,789	734
Kansas	2,097	2,107	-10	11,896	11,809	87
Kentucky	2,807	2,936	-129	23,079	22,937	142
Louisiana	1,643	1,805	-162	12,599	15,051	-2,452
Maine	775	702	73	8,977	8,809	168
Maryland	2,928	3,150	-222	28,803	29,342	-539
Massachusetts	5,330	5,878	-548	76,205	76,492	-287
Michigan	5,278	6,627	-1,349	75,967	79,833	-3,866
Minnesota	3,774	4,108	-334	66,412	64,105	2,307
Mississippi	723	968	-245	6,636	8,261	-1,625
Missouri	3,137	3,670	-533	26,326	27,906	-1,580
Montana	933	935	-2	11,799	11,489	310
Nebraska	559	675	-116	5,448	5,693	-245
Nevada	2,723	2,794	-71	18,354	19,225	-871
New Hampshire	381	507	-126	3,743	4,050	-307
New Jersey	8,430	9,288	-858	112,732	109,931	2,801
New Mexico	726	873	-147	9,731	9,965	-234
New York	14,541	15,010	-469	165,853	163,393	2,460
North Carolina	2,984	3,326	-342	20,487	22,044	-1,557
North Dakota	569	526	43	8,060	6,838	1,222
Ohio	6,495	6,825	-330	70,663	71,442	-779
Oklahoma	1,469	1,715	-246	16,499	17,757	-1,258
Oregon	4,294	4,953	-659	31,170	31,658	-488
Pennsylvania	13,586	14,425	-839	137,576	142,004	-4,428
Puerto Rico**	1,815	1,770	45	18,319	23,157	-4,838
Rhode Island	965	959	6	11,349	11,051	298
South Carolina	2,006	2,054	-48	16,167	16,669	-502
South Dakota	168	223	-55	3,100	3,117	-17
Tennessee	2,167	2,161	6	19,093	20,670	-1,577
Texas	12,755	13,869	-1,114	132,563	128,666	3,897
Utah	1,118	1,303	-185	12,042	12,187	-145
Vermont	532	475	57	5,202	4,824	378
Virgin Islands	33	45	-12	508	522	-14
Virginia**	3,186	3,097	89	22,091	22,049	42
Washington	6,792	7,161	-369	64,637	64,144	493
West Virginia	1,110	1,206	-96	19,529	16,588	2,941
Wisconsin	5,832	6,579	-747	44,826	44,477	349
Wyoming	578	589	-11	4,376	3,507	869
US Total	208,305	219,601	-11,296	2,090,131	2,087,498	2,633

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	
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	1,686	15	1,666.25	1.2
May 4, 2019	228	-2	220.25	1,664	-22	1,668.75	1.2
May 11, 2019	212	-16	225.00	1,683	19	1,676.00	1.2
May 18, 2019	212	0	220.50	1,662	-21	1,673.75	1.2
May 25, 2019	218	6	217.50	1,693	31	1,675.50	1.2
June 1, 2019	219	1	215.25	1,700	7	1,684.50	1.2
June 8, 2019	222	3	217.75	1,666	-34	1,680.25	1.2
June 15, 2019	217	-5	219.00	1,694	28	1,688.25	1.2
June 22, 2019	229	12	221.75	1,696	2	1,689.00	1.2
June 29, 2019	222	-7	222.50	1,728	32	1,696.00	1.2
July 6, 2019	208	-14	219.00	1,689	-39	1,701.75	1.2
July 13, 2019	216	8	218.75	1,677	-12	1,697.50	1.2
July 20, 2019	207	-9	213.25	1,699	22	1,698.25	1.2
July 27, 2019	217	10	212.00	1,687	-12	1,688.00	1.2
August 3, 2019	211	-6	212.75	1,728	41	1,697.75	1.2
August 10, 2019	221	10	214.00	1,676	-52	1,697.50	1.2
August 17, 2019	211	-10	215.00	1,701	25	1,698.00	1.2
August 24, 2019	216	5	214.75	1,674	-27	1,694.75	1.2
August 31, 2019	219	3	216.75	1,674	0	1,681.25	1.2
September 7, 2019	206	-13	213.00	1,665	-9	1,678.50	1.2
September 14, 2019	210	4	212.75	1,656	-9	1,667.25	1.1
September 21, 2019	215	5	212.50	1,655	-1	1,662.50	1.1
September 28, 2019	220	5	212.75	1,689	34	1,666.25	1.2
October 5, 2019	210	-10	213.75	1,683	-6	1,670.75	1.2
October 12, 2019	218	8	215.75	1,683	0	1,677.50	1.2
October 19, 2019	213	-5	215.25	1,692	9	1,686.75	1.2
October 26, 2019	219	6	215.00	1,693	1	1,687.75	1.2
November 2, 2019	211	-8	215.25	1,692	-1	1,690.00	1.2
November 9, 2019	227	16	217.50	1,697	5	1,693.50	1.2
November 16, 2019	228	1	221.25	1,642	-55	1,681.00	1.1
November 23, 2019	213	-15	219.75	1,699	57	1,682.50	1.2
November 30, 2019	203	-10	217.75	1,671	-28	1,677.25	1.2
December 7, 2019	252	49	224.00	1,725	54	1,684.25	1.2
December 14, 2019	235	-17	225.75	1,723	-2	1,704.50	1.2
December 21, 2019	224	-11	228.50	1,728	5	1,711.75	1.2
December 28, 2019	223	-1	233.50	1,804	76	1,745.00	1.2
January 4, 2020	214	-9	224.00	1,768	-36	1,755.75	1.2
January 11, 2020	205	-9	216.50	1,747	-21	1,761.75	1.2
January 18, 2020	223	18	216.25	1,703	-44	1,755.50	1.2
January 25, 2020	217	-6	214.75	1,759	56	1,744.25	1.2
February 1, 2020	203	-14	212.00	1,701	-58	1,727.50	1.2
February 8, 2020	206	3	212.25	1,726	25	1,722.25	1.2
February 15, 2020	210	4	209.00				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 8					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 1					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	2366	75	-293	11	8	16911	0.9	461	529	74	73	17058
Alaska	980	-142	-49	4	1	9161	3.0	-418	-1163	182	9	9352
Arizona	3636	-171	326	7	1	18461	0.7	-393	-1134	223	31	18715
Arkansas	1724	-113	-80	2	5	12964	1.1	-246	129	60	43	13067
California	40392	-3066	-4458	149	74	359156	2.1	-29185	-12540	2541	1070	362767
Colorado	2482	433	272	16	10	22881	0.9	1321	-561	338	151	23370
Connecticut	2944	-50	26	1	5	41633	2.5	-92	17	48	59	41740
Delaware	608	-14	24	1	4	5888	1.3	-942	-542	16	8	5912
District of Columbia	508	-31	-1	15	1	7156	1.2	17	-1494	196	11	7363
Florida	5605	148	-1444	18	16	33176	0.4	-2695	-5042	164	86	33426
Georgia	5577	378	2	29	26	26984	0.6	-1348	-158	170	140	27294
Hawaii	1137	2	-34	4	8	6173	1.0	105	-721	71	59	6303
Idaho	1450	4	-80	29	4	11391	1.6	40	267	345	16	11752
Illinois	9794	451	454	8	12	130900	2.2	-12339	-4868	328	143	131371
Indiana	2725	-291	-737	2	6	22212	0.7	195	-937	26	25	22263
Iowa	2379	-687	-300	1	5	30789	2.0	-101	-2750	52	15	30856
Kansas	2107	107	341	1	1	11809	0.9	-492	-472	33	28	11870
Kentucky	2936	311	555	0	5	22937	1.2	-282	249	238	118	23293
Louisiana	1805	-253	-166	5	5	15051	0.8	-1138	-679	49	15	15115
Maine	702	-179	-44	2	0	8809	1.5	-107	138	41	15	8865
Maryland	3150	-53	16	15	5	29342	1.2	-446	-4097	189	82	29613
Massachusetts	5878	355	252	13	7	76492	2.1	-435	-4931	126	81	76699
Michigan	6627	-242	-3746	10	8	79833	1.9	-2942	-8390	181	82	80096
Minnesota	4108	408	-983	5	5	64105	2.2	1916	-4112	129	56	64290
Mississippi	968	5	-108	15	3	8261	0.7	-413	392	58	20	8339
Missouri	3670	-1131	62	0	0	27906	1.0	-1948	-3522	95	40	28041
Montana	935	33	-482	24	3	11489	2.5	-38	-8	682	22	12193
Nebraska	675	-158	-191	2	0	5693	0.6	-191	-1805	14	10	5717
Nevada	2794	508	391	3	7	19225	1.4	48	-1076	179	45	19449
New Hampshire	507	51	-81	2	1	4050	0.6	17	-664	5	0	4055
New Jersey	9288	984	-470	14	34	109931	2.7	-91	-1605	250	234	110415
New Mexico	873	89	54	5	0	9965	1.2	-101	-261	290	36	10291
New York	15010	-1535	-2404	22	24	163393	1.7	-2322	-2310	287	301	163981
North Carolina	3326	-285	14	11	18	22044	0.5	-298	-4	99	104	22247
North Dakota	526	79	-48	2	0	6838	1.7	56	-103	16	6	6860
Ohio	6825	-504	241	6	9	71442	1.3	-1180	-2964	105	116	71663
Oklahoma	1715	-64	-243	4	6	17757	1.1	306	3364	55	53	17865
Oregon	4953	100	25	44	8	31658	1.7	-218	898	724	53	32435
Pennsylvania	14425	-1468	-3149	46	29	142004	2.4	6053	-4587	573	221	142798
Puerto Rico	1770	-228	186	2	6	23157	2.7	-700	7611	167	89	23413
Rhode Island	959	-12	61	1	2	11051	2.3	9	-1037	22	13	11086
South Carolina	2054	-45	-30	6	5	16669	0.8	-392	-310	31	53	16753
South Dakota	223	6	-111	1	1	3117	0.7	-38	-258	70	3	3190
Tennessee	2161	-201	-91	8	11	20670	0.7	-694	656	103	53	20826
Texas	13869	51	343	36	99	128666	1.1	-12160	13658	588	960	130214
Utah	1303	13	124	16	3	12187	0.8	315	37	245	17	12449
Vermont	475	-6	-25	0	2	4824	1.6	-182	-529	10	0	4834
Virgin Islands	45	10	20	0	0	522	1.5	6	-64	8	0	530
Virginia	3097	522	411	5	10	22049	0.6	-214	-1651	191	162	22402
Washington	7161	542	-4015	18	20	64144	1.9	-1116	2786	522	403	65069
West Virginia	1206	-158	-97	2	5	16588	2.5	-317	1589	61	30	16679
Wisconsin	6579	299	-3601	5	3	44477	1.6	52	-10305	108	27	44612
Wyoming	589	60	200	15	1	3507	1.3	32	370	78	6	3591
Totals	219601	-5063	-23161	663	532	2087498	1.4	-65265	-54964	11456	5493	2104447

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 FEBRUARY 8, 2020

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
CA	-3,066	Fewer layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry.
NY	-1,535	Fewer layoffs in the construction, accommodation and food services, and real estate, rental and leasing industries.
PA	-1,468	Fewer layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation services, and accommodation and food services industries.
MO	-1,131	Fewer layoffs in the construction, transportation and warehousing, and accommodation and food services industries.

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).

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