



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 9, 2020

COVID-19 Impact

The COVID-19 virus continues to impact the number of initial claims and its impact is also reflected in the increasing levels of insured unemployment.

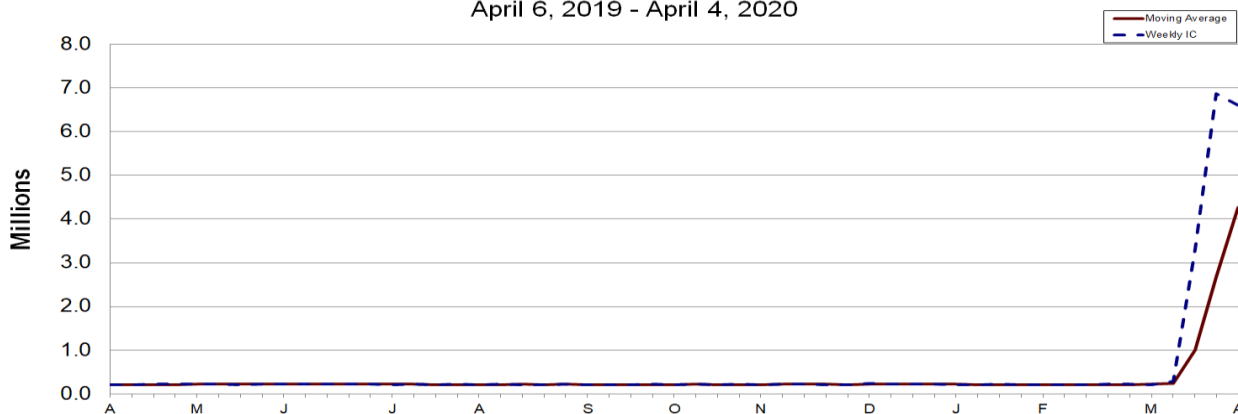
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

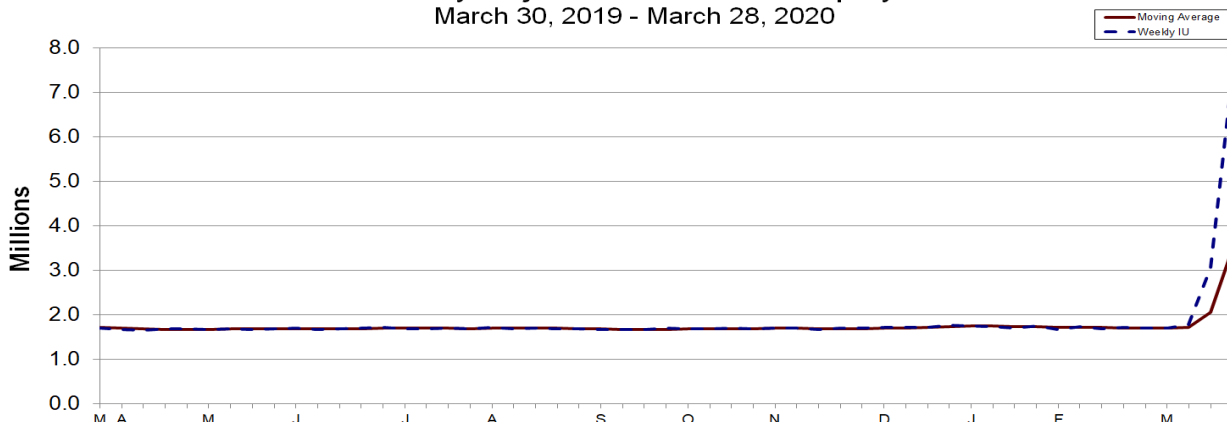
In the week ending April 4, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 6,606,000, a decrease of 261,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 219,000 from 6,648,000 to 6,867,000. The 4-week moving average was 4,265,500, an increase of 1,598,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 54,750 from 2,612,000 to 2,666,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 5.1 percent for the week ending March 28, an increase of 3.0 percentage points from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending March 28 was 7,455,000, an increase of 4,396,000 from the previous week's revised level. This marks the highest level of seasonally adjusted insured unemployment in the history of the seasonally adjusted series. The previous high was 6,635,000 in May of 2009. The previous week's level was revised up 30,000 from 3,029,000 to 3,059,000. The 4-week moving average was 3,500,000, an increase of 1,439,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 7,500 from 2,053,500 to 2,061,000.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
April 6, 2019 - April 4, 2020



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
March 30, 2019 - March 28, 2020



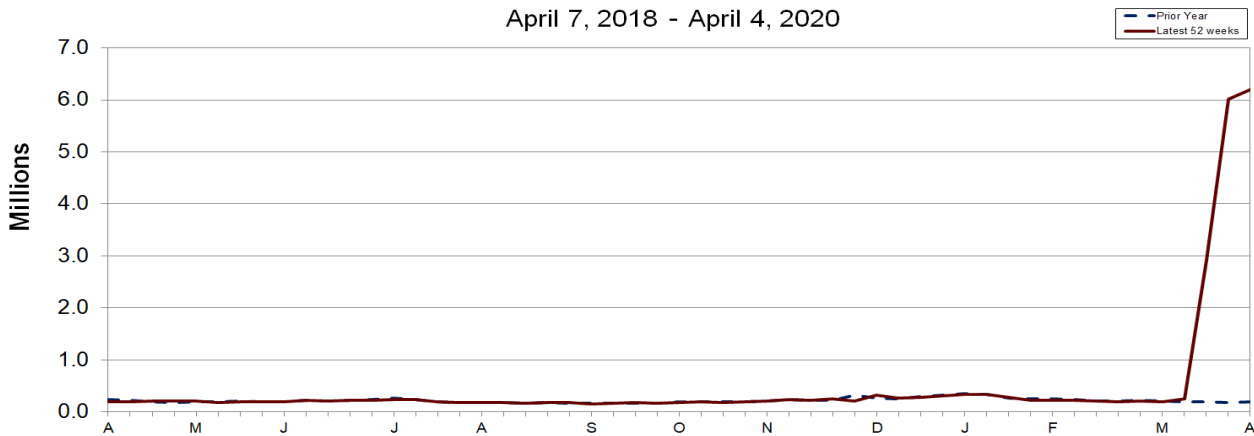
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 6,203,359 in the week ending April 4, an increase of 187,538 (or 3.1 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 432,645 (or 7.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 196,071 initial claims in the comparable week in 2019.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 5.6 percent during the week ending March 28, an increase of 3.2 percentage points from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 8,177,965, an increase of 4,761,372 (or 139.4 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 61,174 (or -1.8 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,861,690.

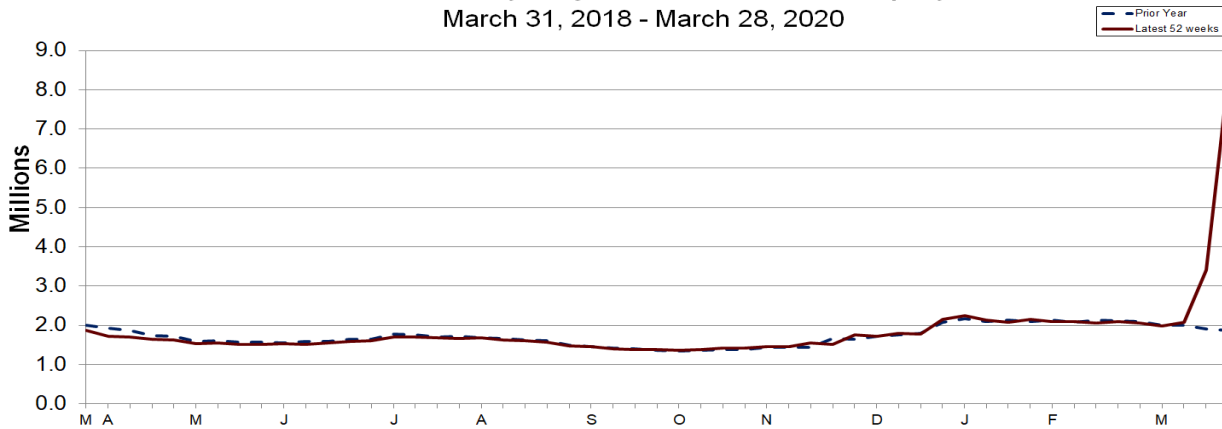
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

April 7, 2018 - April 4, 2020



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

March 31, 2018 - March 28, 2020



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending March 21 was 3,447,727, an increase of 1,342,462 from the previous week. There were 1,937,342 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 March 21.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 2,451 in the week ending March 28, an increase of 1,169 from the prior week. There were 1,752 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 855 from the preceding week.

There were 9,378 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending March 21, a decrease of 414 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,479, a decrease of 112 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending March 21 were in Rhode Island (6.7), Minnesota (5.6), Massachusetts (5.1), Connecticut (4.9), Washington (4.7), Vermont (4.5), Nevada (4.3), Montana (4.2), New Hampshire (4.2), and Ohio (4.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending March 28 were in California (+871,992), New York (+286,596), Michigan (+176,329), Florida (+154,171), Georgia (+121,680), Texas (+120,759), and New Jersey (+90,438), while the largest decreases were in Nevada (-20,356), Rhode Island (-8,047), and Minnesota (-6,678).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	April 4	March 28	Change	March 21	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	6,606,000	6,867,000	-261,000	3,307,000	203,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	6,203,359	6,015,821	+187,538	2,920,162	196,071
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	4,265,500	2,666,750	+1,598,750	1,004,250	212,000
WEEK ENDING	March 28	March 21	Change	March 14	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	7,455,000	3,059,000	+4,396,000	1,784,000	1,705,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	8,177,965	3,416,593	+4,761,372	2,074,782	1,861,690
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	3,500,000	2,061,000	+1,439,000	1,726,250	1,722,500
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	5.1%	2.1%	+3.0	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	5.6%	2.4%	+3.2	1.4%	1.3%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	March 28	March 21	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	2,451	1,282	+1,169	571
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,752	897	+855	447

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	March 21	March 14	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	3,410,969	2,071,116	+1,339,853	1,905,781
Federal Employees	9,378	9,792	-414	10,076
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,479	5,591	-112	6,103
Extended Benefits ³	0	0	0	1
State Additional Benefits ⁴	5,449	5,901	-452	6,019
STC / Workshare ⁵	16,452	12,865	+3,587	9,362
TOTAL	3,447,727	2,105,265	+1,342,462	1,937,342

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 April 4			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended March 28		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	105,607	80,984	24,623	40,882	18,083	22,799
Alaska	15,370	13,774	1,596	19,644	11,173	8,471
Arizona	132,189	88,940	43,249	59,977	26,387	33,590
Arkansas	60,992	27,756	33,236	34,906	16,148	18,758
California	925,450	1,058,325	-132,875	1,084,955	400,565	684,390
Colorado	45,494	61,838	-16,344	73,586	21,956	51,630
Connecticut	33,418	33,227	191	149,490	80,861	68,629
Delaware	18,863	19,137	-274	23,881	11,506	12,375
District of Columbia	15,393	15,869	-476	29,526	17,661	11,865
Florida	169,885	228,484	-58,599	98,924	35,076	63,848
Georgia	388,175	133,820	254,355	359,105	107,877	251,228
Hawaii	53,082	48,596	4,486	32,459	10,930	21,529
Idaho	30,022	32,941	-2,919	35,211	15,523	19,688
Illinois	200,940	178,421	22,519	263,732	132,114	131,618
Indiana	133,639	139,174	-5,535	75,522	28,987	46,535
Iowa	67,334	55,966	11,368	92,962	53,650	39,312
Kansas	49,756	54,330	-4,574	51,786	17,558	34,228
Kentucky	117,135	113,149	3,986	130,152	24,361	105,791
Louisiana	102,985	97,400	5,585	116,752	58,027	58,725
Maine	30,631	23,770	6,861	40,592	21,967	18,625
Maryland	107,408	85,317	22,091	90,153	47,973	42,180
Massachusetts	139,582	181,423	-41,841	306,580	183,105	123,475
Michigan	384,844	304,335	80,509	363,885	88,183	275,702
Minnesota	111,119	109,095	2,024	256,689	160,873	95,816
Mississippi	46,504	32,015	14,489	27,948	9,581	18,367
Missouri	82,399	104,291	-21,892	118,924	49,470	69,454
Montana	20,011	20,763	-752	37,393	19,099	18,294
Nebraska	26,788	24,725	2,063	37,805	16,641	21,164
Nevada	79,865	71,942	7,923	129,127	58,798	70,329
New Hampshire	36,214	31,378	4,836	51,509	27,321	24,188
New Jersey	213,897	206,253	7,644	277,761	156,181	121,580
New Mexico	26,606	27,849	-1,243	46,620	20,087	26,533
New York	345,246	366,595	-21,349	715,750	314,710	401,040
North Carolina	137,573	172,145	-34,572	246,082	75,220	170,862
North Dakota	16,093	11,818	4,275	17,507	8,534	8,973
Ohio	224,182	274,288	-50,106	447,494	214,273	233,221
Oklahoma	51,124	47,744	3,380	54,469	25,268	29,201
Oregon	56,646	47,498	9,148	118,995	63,930	55,065
Pennsylvania *	283,718	404,677	-120,959	571,732	135,708	436,024
Puerto Rico	66,349	45,394	20,955	41,491	19,230	22,261
Rhode Island	28,255	27,800	455	56,668	31,847	24,821
South Carolina	85,018	66,475	18,543	73,653	30,341	43,312
South Dakota	7,916	6,801	1,115	7,492	3,538	3,954
Tennessee	116,141	92,500	23,641	116,345	37,541	78,804
Texas	313,832	276,185	37,647	376,955	144,697	232,258
Utah	33,076	28,532	4,544	43,962	24,635	19,327
Vermont	16,176	14,633	1,543	22,175	13,797	8,378
Virgin Islands	11	250	-239	660	512	148
Virginia	149,758	112,497	37,261	133,601	41,827	91,774
Washington	176,827	182,849	-6,022	315,085	158,025	157,060
West Virginia	14,145	14,523	-378	41,404	21,145	20,259
Wisconsin	104,776	110,934	-6,158	209,288	99,574	109,714
Wyoming	4,900	6,396	-1,496	8,719	4,519	4,200
US Total	6,203,359	6,015,821	187,538	8,177,965	3,416,593	4,761,372

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 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	
March 30, 2019	211	-4	217.25	1,705	-14	1,722.50	1.2
April 6, 2019	203	-8	212.00	1,667	-38	1,705.75	1.2
April 13, 2019	203	0	208.00	1,659	-8	1,687.50	1.2
April 20, 2019	226	23	210.75	1,682	23	1,678.25	1.2
April 27, 2019	230	4	215.50	1,684	2	1,673.00	1.2
May 4, 2019	225	-5	221.00	1,678	-6	1,675.75	1.2
May 11, 2019	217	-8	224.50	1,683	5	1,681.75	1.2
May 18, 2019	213	-4	221.25	1,675	-8	1,680.00	1.2
May 25, 2019	218	5	218.25	1,695	20	1,682.75	1.2
June 1, 2019	220	2	217.00	1,700	5	1,688.25	1.2
June 8, 2019	220	0	217.75	1,677	-23	1,686.75	1.2
June 15, 2019	219	-1	219.25	1,692	15	1,691.00	1.2
June 22, 2019	224	5	220.75	1,699	7	1,692.00	1.2
June 29, 2019	222	-2	221.25	1,717	18	1,696.25	1.2
July 6, 2019	211	-11	219.00	1,694	-23	1,700.50	1.2
July 13, 2019	217	6	218.50	1,682	-12	1,698.00	1.2
July 20, 2019	211	-6	215.25	1,699	17	1,698.00	1.2
July 27, 2019	216	5	213.75	1,692	-7	1,691.75	1.2
August 3, 2019	214	-2	214.50	1,719	27	1,698.00	1.2
August 10, 2019	218	4	214.75	1,687	-32	1,699.25	1.2
August 17, 2019	215	-3	215.75	1,699	12	1,699.25	1.2
August 24, 2019	215	0	215.50	1,683	-16	1,697.00	1.2
August 31, 2019	219	4	216.75	1,683	0	1,688.00	1.2
September 7, 2019	208	-11	214.25	1,675	-8	1,685.00	1.2
September 14, 2019	211	3	213.25	1,672	-3	1,678.25	1.2
September 21, 2019	215	4	213.25	1,667	-5	1,674.25	1.2
September 28, 2019	218	3	213.00	1,698	31	1,678.00	1.2
October 5, 2019	212	-6	214.00	1,689	-9	1,681.50	1.2
October 12, 2019	218	6	215.75	1,691	2	1,686.25	1.2
October 19, 2019	213	-5	215.25	1,700	9	1,694.50	1.2
October 26, 2019	217	4	215.00	1,695	-5	1,693.75	1.2
November 2, 2019	212	-5	215.00	1,702	7	1,697.00	1.2
November 9, 2019	222	10	216.00	1,697	-5	1,698.50	1.2
November 16, 2019	223	1	218.50	1,665	-32	1,689.75	1.2
November 23, 2019	211	-12	217.00	1,697	32	1,690.25	1.2
November 30, 2019	206	-5	215.50	1,700	3	1,689.75	1.2
December 7, 2019	237	31	219.25	1,725	25	1,696.75	1.2
December 14, 2019	229	-8	220.75	1,716	-9	1,709.50	1.2
December 21, 2019	218	-11	222.50	1,728	12	1,717.25	1.2
December 28, 2019	220	2	226.00	1,775	47	1,736.00	1.2
January 4, 2020	212	-8	219.75	1,759	-16	1,744.50	1.2
January 11, 2020	207	-5	214.25	1,735	-24	1,749.25	1.2
January 18, 2020	220	13	214.75	1,704	-31	1,743.25	1.2
January 25, 2020	212	-8	212.75	1,753	49	1,737.75	1.2
February 1, 2020	201	-11	210.00	1,678	-75	1,717.50	1.2
February 8, 2020	204	3	209.25	1,729	51	1,716.00	1.2
February 15, 2020	215	11	208.00	1,693	-36	1,713.25	1.2
February 22, 2020	220	5	210.00	1,720	27	1,705.00	1.2
February 29, 2020	217	-3	214.00	1,699	-21	1,710.25	1.2
March 7, 2020	211	-6	215.75	1,702	3	1,703.50	1.2
March 14, 2020	282	71	232.50	1,784	82	1,726.25	1.2
March 21, 2020	3,307	3,025	1,004.25	3,059	1,275	2,061.00	2.1
March 28, 2020	6,867	3,560	2,666.75	7,455	4,396	3,500.00	5.1
April 4, 2020	6,606	-261	4,265.50				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED MARCH 28						INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 21						ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE (%) ²	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹			
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO				LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO					
Alabama	80984	70092	78734	48	32	18083	0.9	5596	3952	50	36	18169	
Alaska	13774	5927	12887	8	0	11173	3.6	2661	2650	125	13	11311	
Arizona	88940	59592	85200	22	19	26387	0.9	8279	7275	171	32	26590	
Arkansas	27756	18481	26537	3	3	16148	1.4	5160	5145	65	35	16248	
California	1058325	871992	1019797	186	72	400565	2.3	-21347	31907	2222	977	403764	
Colorado	61838	42064	60355	24	38	21956	0.8	647	1602	210	122	22288	
Connecticut	33227	8127	31265	8	1	80861	4.9	36667	41671	44	57	80962	
Delaware	19137	8361	18712	1	9	11506	2.6	6209	5557	9	14	11529	
District of Columbia	15869	1407	15490	97	0	17661	3.1	10283	10644	195	7	17863	
Florida	228484	154171	223180	95	164	35076	0.4	1348	499	145	93	35314	
Georgia	133820	121680	129649	32	28	107877	2.5	80370	83933	187	131	108195	
Hawaii	48596	39779	47347	2	41	10930	1.8	4458	4284	55	47	11032	
Idaho	32941	19355	31750	23	3	15523	2.1	7654	7512	180	19	15722	
Illinois	178421	64307	169191	13	22	132114	2.2	6677	12680	365	132	132611	
Indiana	139174	79419	137141	22	20	28987	1.0	8209	10887	19	30	29036	
Iowa	55966	15014	54084	19	4	53650	3.5	27154	26681	55	26	53731	
Kansas	54330	30767	52840	1	1	17558	1.3	7585	8363	27	30	17615	
Kentucky	113149	64126	110981	3	4	24361	1.3	2033	5944	134	97	24592	
Louisiana	97400	24962	95734	47	25	58027	3.1	43884	43744	47	14	58088	
Maine	23770	2311	23094	2	4	21967	3.6	13264	13614	51	13	22031	
Maryland	85317	42336	82921	21	28	47973	1.9	21506	19766	186	81	48240	
Massachusetts	181423	32971	177712	64	45	183105	5.1	99978	105775	111	118	183334	
Michigan	304335	176329	299598	89	152	88183	2.1	13108	17742	205	93	88481	
Minnesota	109095	-6678	106027	31	22	160873	5.6	94086	105386	113	78	161064	
Mississippi	32015	26496	31159	6	6	9581	0.9	2914	2385	65	16	9662	
Missouri	104291	62045	101325	11	12	49470	1.8	27932	26378	95	29	49594	
Montana	20763	5414	20062	40	11	19099	4.2	9281	9120	385	19	19503	
Nebraska	24725	9025	24062	17	2	16641	1.7	11782	10578	20	7	16668	
Nevada	71942	-20356	69929	7	4	58798	4.3	38976	40019	125	40	58963	
New Hampshire	31378	1999	30945	13	10	27321	4.2	23297	23037	11	2	27334	
New Jersey	206253	90438	199359	29	7	156181	3.9	50341	56157	227	260	156668	
New Mexico	27849	9744	27018	2	2	20087	2.5	10799	10548	147	29	20263	
New York	366595	286596	353586	33	21	314710	3.4	147496	166693	307	323	315340	
North Carolina	172145	78062	169373	92	97	75220	1.7	54568	55442	120	114	75454	
North Dakota	11818	6156	11552	16	6	8534	2.1	2365	3127	15	4	8553	
Ohio	274288	77979	268091	44	163	214273	4.0	145950	152496	120	163	214556	
Oklahoma	47744	25818	46038	45	22	25268	1.6	8414	11710	58	51	25377	
Oregon	47498	17444	43332	26	9	63930	3.4	33407	34844	518	55	64503	
Pennsylvania	404677	27226	394157	819	246	135708	2.3	7679	18556	498	190	136396	
Puerto Rico	45394	25246	44246	11	1	19230	2.3	3991	3727	161	73	19464	
Rhode Island	27800	-8047	27129	3	1	31847	6.7	20990	20821	19	6	31872	
South Carolina	66475	34649	64667	18	25	30341	1.5	15230	16236	34	61	30436	
South Dakota	6801	5040	6652	13	1	3538	0.8	864	616	40	3	3581	
Tennessee	92500	54423	90015	66	36	37541	1.3	19191	19927	80	58	37679	
Texas	276185	120759	263858	147	212	144697	1.2	18270	31058	396	939	146032	
Utah	28532	8842	27677	41	12	24635	1.7	13809	14982	139	16	24790	
Vermont	14633	10849	14236	1	1	13797	4.5	8987	8956	8	4	13809	
Virgin Islands	250	127	225	0	0	512	1.5	-72	-84	10	0	522	
Virginia	112497	66220	110423	24	24	41827	1.1	20199	21182	169	190	42186	
Washington	182849	52940	177379	28	60	158025	4.7	95402	101690	453	454	158932	
West Virginia	14523	10987	13876	4	9	21145	3.2	6991	9600	41	40	21226	
Wisconsin	110934	59903	105256	20	14	99574	3.5	55967	59491	85	33	99692	
Wyoming	6396	2743	6193	14	1	4519	1.7	1322	1733	61	5	4585	
Totals	6015821	3095659	5832046	2451	1752	3416593	2.4	1341811	1508238	9378	5479	3431450	

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 28, 2020

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	+871,992	Layoffs in the services industries.
NY	+286,596	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, retail trade, and health care and social assistance industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
MI	+176,329	Layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, retail trade, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, and health care and social assistance industries.
FL	+154,171	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and other services industries.
GA	+121,680	No comment.
TX	+120,759	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, manufacturing, other services, health care and social assistance, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, professional, scientific, and technical services, arts, entertainment, and recreation, information, mining, agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, retail trade, real estate rental and leasing, construction, transportation and warehousing, and management of companies and enterprises industries.
NJ	+90,438	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
IN	+79,419	Layoffs in the manufacturing, arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
NC	+78,062	Layoffs in the health care and social assistance, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, accommodation and food services, and other services industries.
OH	+77,979	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
AL	+70,092	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, professional, scientific, and technical services, arts, entertainment, and recreation, educational services, and construction industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
VA	+66,220	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
IL	+64,307	Layoffs in the other services, accommodation and food services, and retail trade industries.
KY	+64,126	No comment.
MO	+62,045	Layoffs in the manufacturing, retail trade, arts, entertainment, and recreation, and health care and social assistance industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
WI	+59,903	Layoffs in the manufacturing and retail trade industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
AZ	+59,592	No comment.
TN	+54,423	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, retail trade, health care and social assistance, transportation and warehousing, and administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services industries.
WA	+52,940	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services industry.
MD	+42,336	No comments.
CO	+42,064	Layoffs in the arts, entertainment, and recreation, accommodation and food services, and other services industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
HI	+39,779	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
SC	+34,649	No comment.
MA	+32,971	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
KS	+30,767	No comment.
PA	+27,226	Layoffs in the construction, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, and accommodation and food services industries.
MS	+26,496	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
OK	+25,818	No comment.
PR	+25,246	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
LA	+24,962	No comment.
ID	+19,355	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
AR	+18,481	No comment.
OR	+17,444	No comment.

IA	+15,014	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, other services, educational services, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, and construction industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
WV	+10,987	No comment.
VT	+10,849	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
NM	+9,744	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, retail trade, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, other services, arts, entertainment, and recreation, manufacturing, information, and educational services industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
NE	+9,025	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
UT	+8,842	No comment.
DE	+8,361	No comment.
CT	+8,127	Layoffs in the educational services and other services industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
ND	+6,156	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
AK	+5,927	No comment.
MT	+5,414	Layoffs in the retail trade and accommodation and food services industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
SD	+5,040	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
WY	+2,743	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, construction, mining, and retail trade industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
ME	+2,311	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, retail trade, manufacturing, arts, entertainment, and recreation, other services, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, educational services, construction, and wholesale trade industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
NH	+1,999	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
DC	+1,407	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NV	-20,356	No comment.
RI	-8,047	No comment.
MN	-6,678	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 20-592-NAT

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