



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, April 30, 2020

COVID-19 Impact
The COVID-19 virus continues to impact the number of initial claims and insured unemployment.

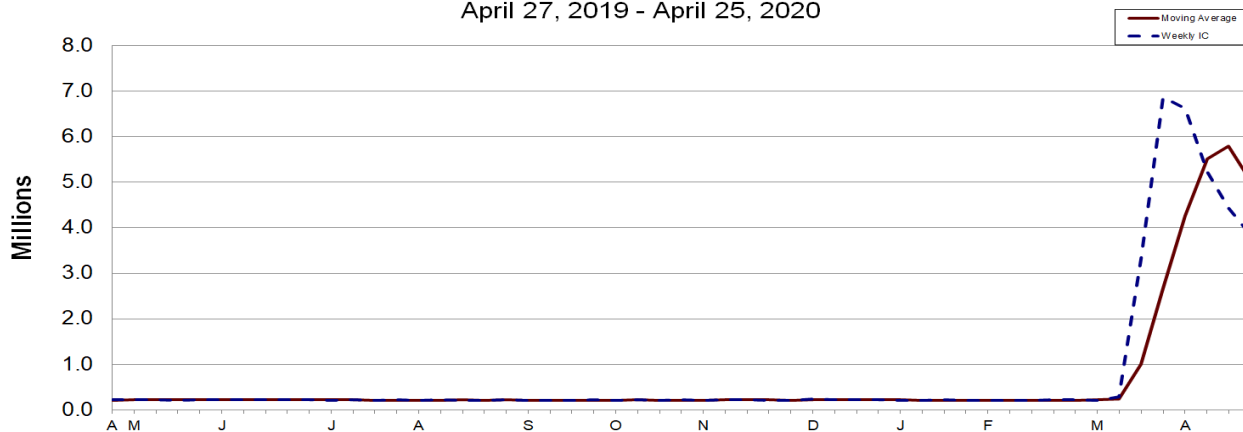
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending April 25, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 3,839,000, a decrease of 603,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 15,000 from 4,427,000 to 4,442,000. The 4-week moving average was 5,033,250, a decrease of 757,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 3,750 from 5,786,500 to 5,790,250.

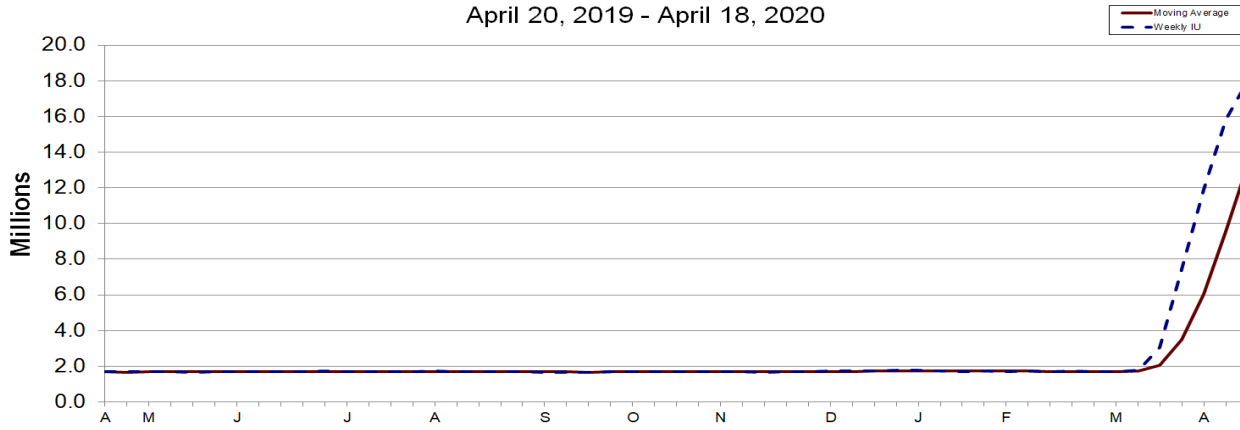
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 12.4 percent for the week ending April 18, an increase of 1.5 percentage points from the previous week's revised rate. This marks the highest level of the seasonally adjusted insured unemployment rate in the history of the seasonally adjusted series. The previous week's rate was revised down by 0.1 from 11.0 to 10.9 percent. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending April 18 was 17,992,000, an increase of 2,174,000 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 week's level was revised down by 158,000 from 15,976,000 to 15,818,000. The 4-week moving average was 13,292,500, an increase of 3,733,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 39,000 from 9,598,250 to 9,559,250.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
April 27, 2019 - April 25, 2020



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

April 20, 2019 - April 18, 2020



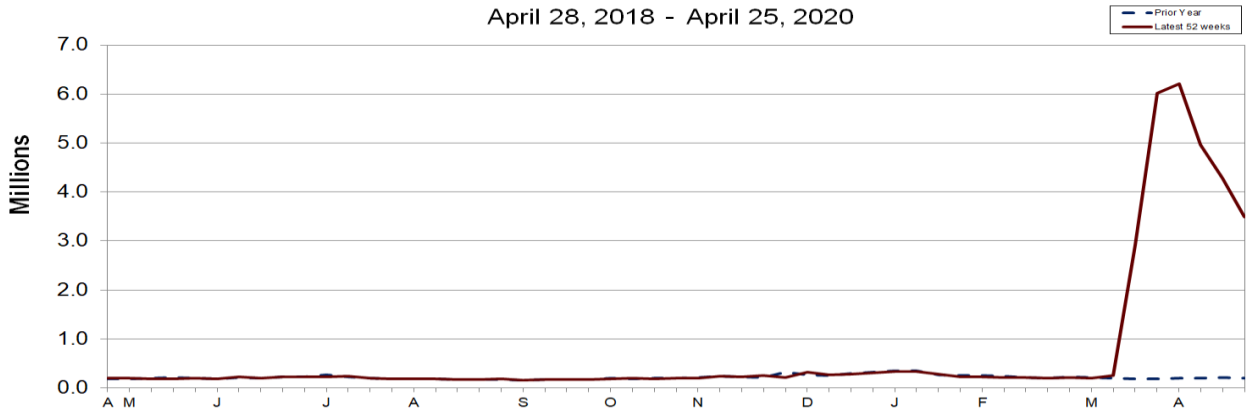
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 3,489,261 in the week ending April 25, a decrease of 792,387 (or -18.5 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 244,285 (or -5.7 percent) from the previous week. There were 204,755 initial claims in the comparable week in 2019.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 12.2 percent during the week ending April 18, an increase of 1.0 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 17,776,006, an increase of 1,498,784 (or 9.2 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 648,558 (or -4.0 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.1 percent and the volume was 1,647,874.

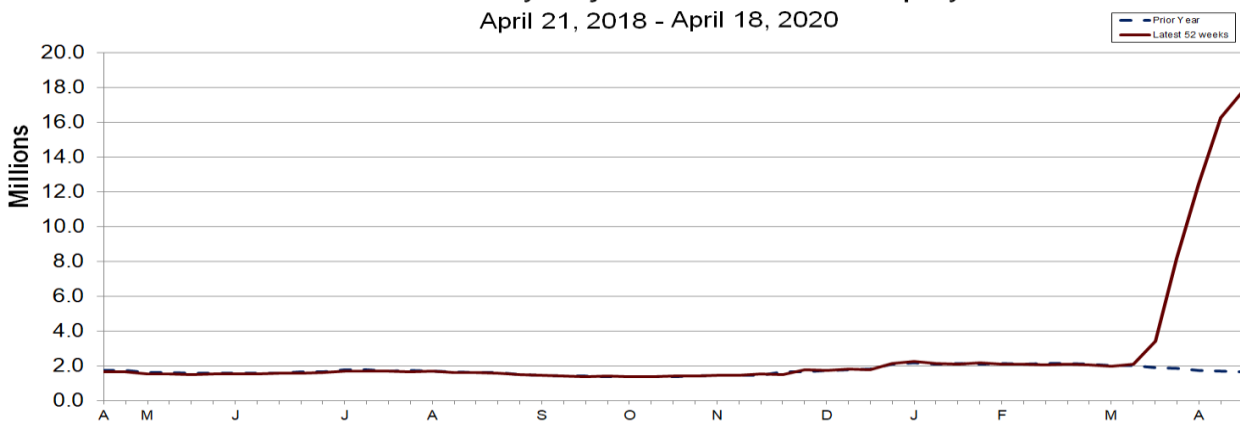
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

April 28, 2018 - April 25, 2020



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

April 21, 2018 - April 18, 2020



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending April 11 was 16,339,149, an increase of 3,830,654 from the previous week. There were 1,731,181 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 April 11.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 2,141 in the week ending April 18, a decrease of 703 from the prior week. There were 1,515 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 306 from the preceding week.

There were 13,335 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending April 11, an increase of 1,639 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 8,202, an increase of 1,105 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending April 11 were in Michigan (21.8), Vermont (21.2), Connecticut (18.5), Pennsylvania (18.5), Nevada (16.8), Rhode Island (16.7), Washington (16.0), Alaska (15.6), New York (14.4), and West Virginia (14.4).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending April 18 were in Florida (+326,251), Connecticut (+68,758), West Virginia (+31,811), Louisiana (+12,270), and Texas (+6,504), while the largest decreases were in New York (-189,517), California (-127,112), Michigan (-85,500), Georgia (-72,578), and Washington (-60,980).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	April 25	April 18	Change	April 11	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	3,839,000	4,442,000	-603,000	5,237,000	230,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	3,489,261	4,281,648	-792,387	4,965,046	204,755
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	5,033,250	5,790,250	-757,000	5,506,500	215,500
WEEK ENDING	April 18	April 11	Change	April 4	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	17,992,000	15,818,000	+2,174,000	11,914,000	1,682,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	17,776,006	16,277,222	+1,498,784	12,461,658	1,647,874
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	13,292,500	9,559,250	+3,733,250	6,050,750	1,678,250
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	12.4%	10.9%	+1.5	8.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	12.2%	11.2%	+1.0	8.6%	1.1%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 18	April 11	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	2,141	2,844	-703	533
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,515	1,821	-306	460

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 11	April 4	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	16,249,234	12,444,294	+3,804,940	1,700,735
Federal Employees	13,335	11,696	+1,639	9,224
Newly Discharged Veterans	8,202	7,097	+1,105	5,745
Extended Benefits ³	231	138	+93	0
State Additional Benefits ⁴	5,850	5,406	+444	6,005
STC / Workshare ⁵	62,297	39,864	+22,433	9,472
TOTAL	16,339,149	12,508,495	+3,830,654	1,731,181

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 145,671,710 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 25			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended April 18		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama*	64,170	66,432	-2,262	142,380	144,327	-1,947
Alaska	11,187	12,201	-1,014	51,690	48,096	3,594
Arizona	52,098	72,457	-20,359	192,164	170,262	21,902
Arkansas	16,745	25,404	-8,659	106,460	91,278	15,182
California	328,042	528,360	-200,318	1,895,017	2,422,458	-527,441
Colorado	38,367	67,639	-29,272	229,398	171,434	57,964
Connecticut	33,037	102,808	-69,771	313,212	306,047	7,165
Delaware	7,754	9,446	-1,692	52,392	38,451	13,941
District of Columbia	8,158	8,639	-481	50,626	47,465	3,161
Florida**	432,465	506,670	-74,205	491,643	177,021	314,622
Georgia	264,818	247,003	17,815	756,249	611,889	144,360
Hawaii	22,615	26,591	-3,976	68,732	72,161	-3,429
Idaho	8,268	13,023	-4,755	70,257	67,722	2,535
Illinois	81,245	102,936	-21,691	682,580	569,245	113,335
Indiana	57,397	72,756	-15,359	262,355	206,386	55,969
Iowa	28,827	26,901	1,926	170,990	150,445	20,545
Kansas	28,054	30,596	-2,542	120,557	97,478	23,079
Kentucky	90,824	103,981	-13,157	260,726	199,030	61,696
Louisiana	66,167	91,923	-25,756	294,706	246,296	48,410
Maine	7,478	11,769	-4,291	71,582	66,525	5,057
Maryland	36,471	48,495	-12,024	220,723	201,432	19,291
Massachusetts	70,714	80,969	-10,255	528,178	467,552	60,626
Michigan**	81,312	136,707	-55,395	899,362	937,520	-38,158
Minnesota	53,561	74,829	-21,268	426,449	391,284	35,165
Mississippi**	35,843	36,913	-1,070	91,748	93,005	-1,257
Missouri	52,403	59,602	-7,199	253,499	227,557	25,942
Montana	6,619	11,176	-4,557	67,515	65,073	2,442
Nebraska	8,197	12,222	-4,025	75,380	72,078	3,302
Nevada	45,043	39,496	5,547	272,821	231,618	41,203
New Hampshire	14,347	20,414	-6067	107,088	93,783	13,305
New Jersey	71,017	140,139	-69,122	624,131	556,005	68,126
New Mexico	13,712	13,621	91	94,496	80,986	13,510
New York	218,912	205,184	13,728	1,623,422	1,354,496	268,926
North Carolina	97,232	106,266	-9,034	554,119	468,283	85,836
North Dakota	6,996	8,065	-1,069	38,810	33,563	5,247
Ohio	90,760	109,830	-19,070	766,562	717,842	48,720
Oklahoma	42,577	46,696	-4,119	134,284	112,311	21,973
Oregon	46,722	37,209	9,513	367,950	217,039	150,911
Pennsylvania**	131,282	194,594	-63,312	924,697	1,074,660	-149,963
Puerto Rico	17,087	26,481	-9,394	150,908	109,672	41,236
Rhode Island	13,138	18,078	-4,940	97,501	79,140	18,361
South Carolina	65,159	74,362	-9,203	239,065	179,769	59,296
South Dakota	5,389	5,295	94	22,830	19,664	3,166
Tennessee	43,792	67,226	-23,434	336,089	279,895	56,194
Texas	254,199	280,761	-26,562	971,387	911,923	59,464
Utah	11,830	19,649	-7,819	89,427	88,281	1,146
Vermont	4,971	6,598	-1,627	76,525	64,313	12,212
Virgin Islands	88	13	75	1,472	1,322	150
Virginia	74,043	82,729	-8,686	341,065	297,993	43,072
Washington	145,757	83,475	62,282	596,516	535,185	61,331
West Virginia	29,576	46,755	-17,179	158,581	96,128	62,453
Wisconsin	49,910	55,883	-5,973	321,631	299,532	22,099
Wyoming	2,886	4,381	-1,495	18,059	14,302	3,757
US Total	3,489,261	4,281,648	-792,387	17,776,006	16,277,222	1,498,784

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	
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	7,446	4,387	3,497.75	5.1
April 4, 2020	6,615	-252	4,267.75	11,914	4,468	6,050.75	8.2
April 11, 2020	5,237	-1,378	5,506.50	15,818	3,904	9,559.25	10.9
April 18, 2020	4,442	-795	5,790.25	17,992	2,174	13,292.50	12.4
April 25, 2020	3,839	-603	5,033.25				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED APRIL 18						INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED APRIL 11						ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE (%) ²	WEEK	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
		LAST	YEAR					LAST	YEAR				
Alabama	66432	-11083	64497	38	35	144327	7.5	49002	130457	71	41	144439	
Alaska	12201	194	11339	7	2	48096	15.6	12731	40304	142	27	48268	
Arizona	72457	-26074	67127	14	12	170262	6.0	49670	149235	179	103	170546	
Arkansas	25404	-10225	23991	0	4	91278	7.6	24767	81609	82	42	91402	
California	528360	-127112	484460	267	245	2422458	14.0	992504	2060696	2164	1164	2425786	
Colorado	67639	-36933	65650	31	63	171434	6.4	4841	152399	269	193	171903	
Connecticut	102808	68758	95346	34	10	306047	18.5	116851	271931	50	64	306162	
Delaware	9446	-3812	9093	0	4	38451	8.6	8874	34181	10	15	38476	
District of Columbia	8639	-1335	8230	86	0	47465	8.2	5241	40840	463	6	47934	
Florida*	506670	326251	500759	13	8	177021	2.0	-162427	143333	83	88	177192	
Georgia	247003	-72578	242348	42	34	611889	14.0	16471	588152	293	229	612411	
Hawaii	26591	-8126	25602	0	8	72161	11.6	23871	65860	83	67	72311	
Idaho	13023	-5508	12106	12	1	67722	9.2	8583	61652	127	26	67876	
Illinois	102936	-38224	94795	11	11	569245	9.6	116340	463715	392	193	569840	
Indiana	72756	-40999	70037	30	26	206386	6.8	58803	190367	49	62	206497	
Iowa	26901	-16988	25078	20	7	150445	9.8	23113	132015	109	46	150600	
Kansas	30596	723	29429	1	2	97478	7.1	19144	89711	51	42	97571	
Kentucky	103981	-12296	101998	0	3	199030	10.7	16933	181603	160	146	199336	
Louisiana	91923	12270	90330	72	31	246296	13.0	28764	233078	97	37	246477	
Maine	11769	-1719	11081	2	0	66525	11.0	10802	59578	37	15	66577	
Maryland	48495	-14409	45238	41	28	201432	7.9	40526	176652	228	155	201815	
Massachusetts	80969	-22844	69693	58	33	467552	13.1	105952	407844	178	157	467887	
Michigan	136707	-85500	131865	66	43	937520	21.8	188509	874862	270	131	937921	
Minnesota	74829	-18304	71706	33	30	391284	13.7	49706	344928	159	104	391547	
Mississippi	36913	-8835	36041	5	2	93005	8.4	32268	86364	85	36	93164	
Missouri	59602	-42524	57221	8	1	227557	8.3	48847	210220	136	79	227831	
Montana	11176	-3099	10409	24	7	65073	14.3	11591	57515	425	40	65538	
Nebraska	12222	-4057	11464	5	10	72078	7.5	11662	68256	35	12	72125	
Nevada	39496	-19145	36836	4	0	231618	16.8	42611	214019	158	60	231838	
New Hampshire	20414	-4859	19940	11	7	93783	14.3	13804	90132	24	10	93817	
New Jersey	140139	-1281	129402	65	13	556005	13.8	126617	471811	286	259	556550	
New Mexico	13621	-5422	12934	5	1	80986	10.1	18300	72078	144	55	81185	
New York	205184	-189517	193136	27	30	1354496	14.4	233305	1228240	389	381	1355266	
North Carolina	106266	-33889	103609	87	79	468283	10.6	105294	449578	324	292	468899	
North Dakota	8065	-1437	7848	22	7	33563	8.1	9009	29806	11	16	33592	
Ohio	109830	-49487	103754	30	74	717842	13.4	95173	666748	167	427	718436	
Oklahoma	46696	-7785	44659	39	29	112311	7.2	23981	98780	60	57	112428	
Oregon	37209	-17372	33188	47	8	217039	11.3	40885	189116	582	89	217710	
Pennsylvania	194594	-40274	182136	482	270	1074660	18.5	460464	974359	2442	612	1077714	
Puerto Rico	26481	-15593	25437	7	14	109672	12.8	23198	95772	163	78	109920	
Rhode Island	18078	-4431	14494	7	7	79140	16.7	8205	71130	28	22	79190	
South Carolina	74362	-14785	72491	37	33	179769	8.6	52775	166650	50	80	179907	
South Dakota	5295	-1064	5116	23	4	19664	4.7	5233	17709	52	4	19720	
Tennessee	67226	-4661	65265	46	26	279895	9.4	73423	264723	124	96	280151	
Texas	280761	6504	269322	189	193	911923	7.4	279453	804890	693	1146	913762	
Utah	19649	-4866	18546	24	10	88281	6.0	15483	80135	162	29	88472	
Vermont	6598	-3064	5654	1	0	64313	21.2	33109	59914	7	2	64322	
Virgin Islands	13	7	1	0	0	1322	3.7	546	1204	0	0	1322	
Virginia	82729	-21890	80498	19	8	297993	8.0	61202	279544	287	331	298611	
Washington	83475	-60980	77727	13	20	535185	16.0	92249	483629	512	701	536398	
West Virginia	46755	31811	45954	2	9	96128	14.4	47531	86328	59	72	96259	
Wisconsin	55883	-14117	50981	29	12	299532	10.5	36685	268078	126	57	299722	
Wyoming	4381	-1413	4025	5	1	14302	5.3	3090	11916	58	6	14367	
Totals	4281648	-683398	4069886	2141	1515	16277222	11.2	3815564	14573646	13335	8202	16298990	

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.

* Denotes state estimate.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED APRIL 18, 2020

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
FL	+326,251	Initial claims estimated by state. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
CT	+68,758	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
WV	+31,811	No comment.
LA	+12,270	No comment.
TX	+6,504	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, other services, information, retail trade, health care and social assistance, transportation and warehousing, wholesale trade, and administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NY	-189,517	Fewer layoffs in the retail trade, accommodation and food services, and construction industries.
CA	-127,112	Fewer layoffs in the services industries.
MI	-85,500	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, retail trade, and accommodation and food services industries.
GA	-72,578	Fewer layoffs in the accommodation and food services, trade, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, health care and social assistance, and other services industries.
WA	-60,980	No comment.
OH	-49,487	No comment.
MO	-42,524	Fewer layoffs in the accommodation and food services and retail trade industries.
IN	-40,999	No comment.
PA	-40,274	Fewer layoffs in the construction, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, and health care and social assistance industries.
IL	-38,224	No comment.
CO	-36,933	No comment.
NC	-33,889	Fewer layoffs in the health care and social assistance, accommodation and food services, and manufacturing industries.
AZ	-26,074	No comment.
MA	-22,844	No comment.
VA	-21,890	No comment.
NV	-19,145	No comment.
MN	-18,304	No comment.
OR	-17,372	No comment.
IA	-16,988	No comment.
PR	-15,593	No comment.
SC	-14,785	No comment.
MD	-14,409	No comment.
WI	-14,117	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, and administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services industries.
KY	-12,296	No comment.
AL	-11,083	Fewer layoffs in the retail trade, health care and social assistance, transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, manufacturing, and professional, scientific, and technical services industries.
AR	-10,225	No comment.
MS	-8,835	No comment.
HI	-8,126	No comment.
OK	-7,785	No comment.
ID	-5,508	No comment.
NM	-5,422	No comment.
UT	-4,866	No comment.

NH	-4,859	No comment.
TN	-4,661	No comment.
RI	-4,431	No comment.
NE	-4,057	No comment.
DE	-3,812	No comment.
MT	-3,099	No comment.
VT	-3,064	No comment.
ME	-1,719	Fewer layoffs in the retail trade, manufacturing, health care and social assistance, accommodation and food services, educational services, professional, scientific, and technical services, arts, entertainment, and recreation, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, wholesale trade, and construction industries.
ND	-1,437	No comment.
WY	-1,413	No comment.
DC	-1,335	No comment.
NJ	-1,281	No comment.
SD	-1,064	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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