



# News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, May 20, 2021

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

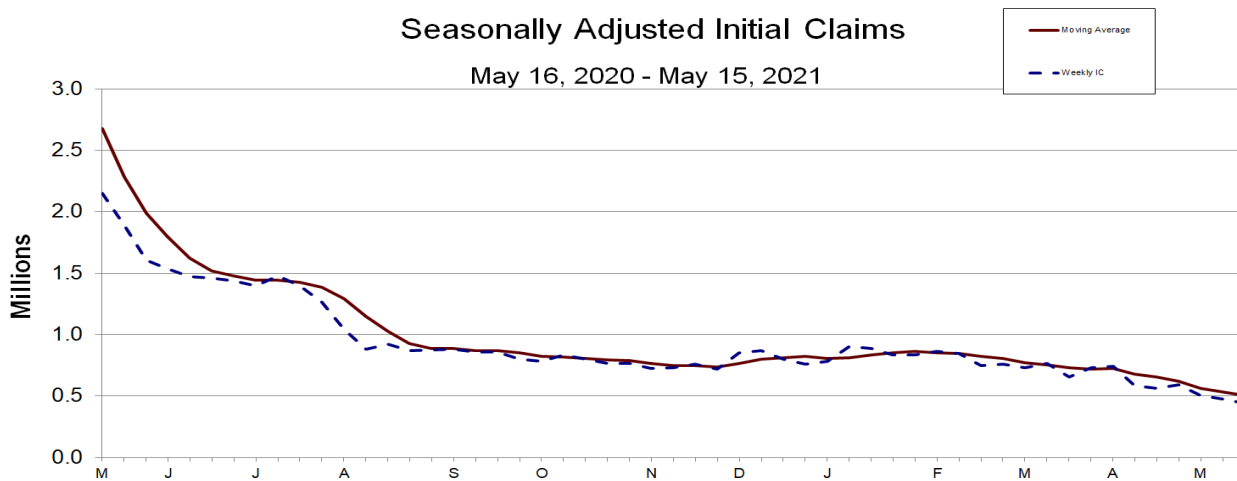
### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending May 15, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 444,000, a decrease of 34,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for initial claims since March 14, 2020 when it was 256,000. The previous week's level was revised up by 5,000 from 473,000 to 478,000. The 4-week moving average was 504,750, a decrease of 30,500 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since March 14, 2020 when it was 225,500. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,250 from 534,000 to 535,250.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 2.7 percent for the week ending May 8, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending May 8 was 3,751,000, an increase of 111,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 15,000 from 3,655,000 to 3,640,000. The 4-week moving average was 3,681,000, an increase of 24,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 8,750 from 3,665,000 to 3,656,250.

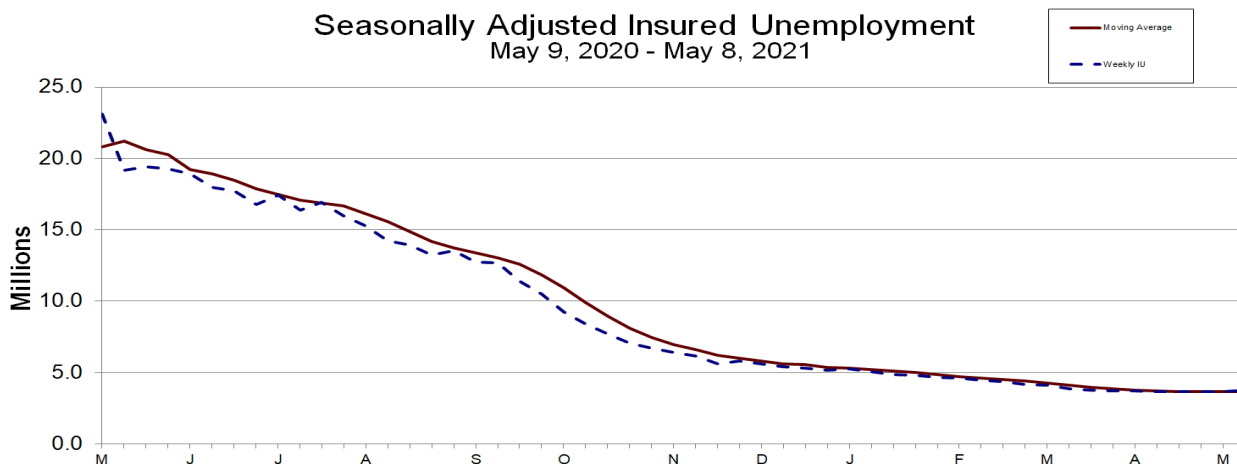
Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

May 16, 2020 - May 15, 2021



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

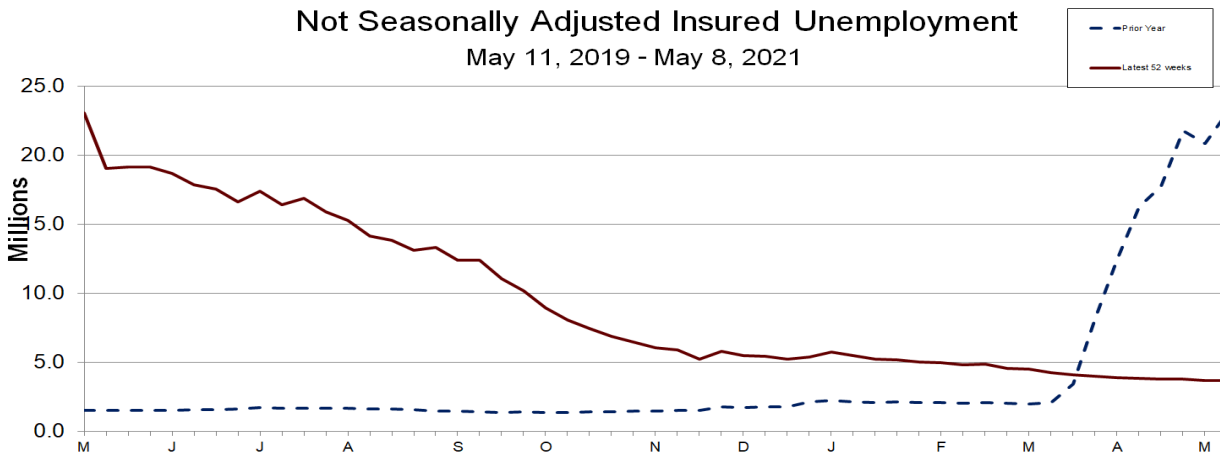
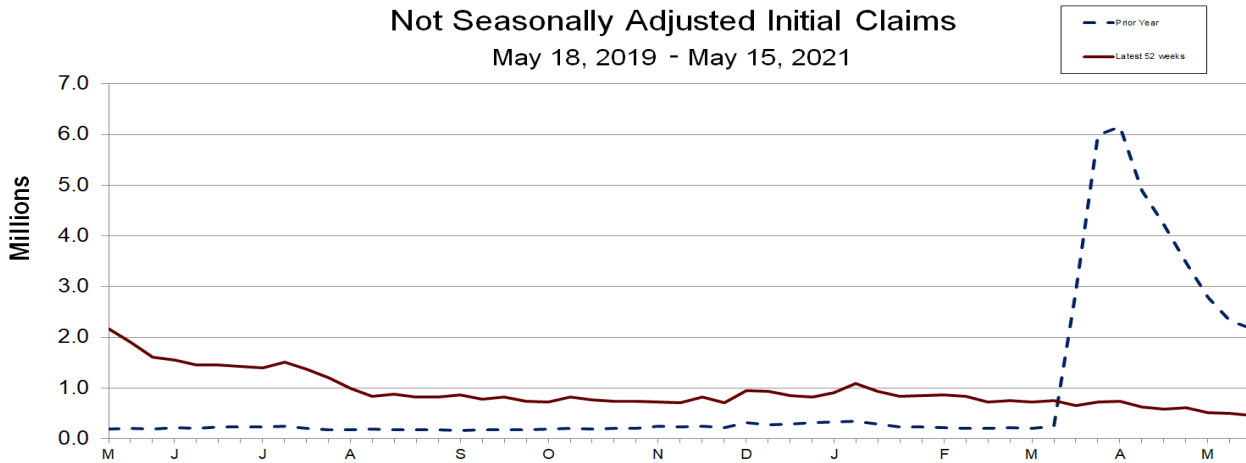
May 9, 2020 - May 8, 2021



**UNADJUSTED DATA**

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 454,634 in the week ending May 15, a decrease of 37,395 (or -7.6 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 3,414 (or -0.7 percent) from the previous week. There were 2,163,595 initial claims in the comparable week in 2020. In addition, for the week ending May 15, 53 states reported 95,086 initial claims for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 2.6 percent during the week ending May 8, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 3,684,082, a decrease of 10,323 (or -0.3 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 121,208 (or -3.3 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 15.8 percent and the volume was 23,037,998.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending May 1 was 15,975,448, a decrease of 886,568 from the previous week. There were 20,974,625 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2020.

During the week ending May 1, Extended Benefits were available in the following 15 states: Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, and the Virgin Islands .

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 931 in the week ending May 8, an increase of 4 from the prior week. There were 609 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 83 from the preceding week.

There were 13,785 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending May 1, a decrease of 759 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 7,321, an increase of 34 from the prior week.

During the week ending May 1, 51 states reported 6,605,416 continued weekly claims for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance benefits and 51 states reported 5,141,311 continued claims for Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending May 1 were in Nevada (6.1), Connecticut (4.6), Puerto Rico (4.6), Alaska (4.3), Rhode Island (4.3), Vermont (4.3), New York (4.1), Pennsylvania (4.0), the Virgin Islands (4.0), and Illinois (3.9).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending May 8 were in Georgia (+7,404), Washington (+6,111), Illinois (+3,221), Pennsylvania (+2,156), and Ohio (+1,371), while the largest decreases were in Michigan (-13,990), New York (-8,106), Vermont (-5,835), Nevada (-2,835), and Florida (-2,210).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>May 15</b>	<b>May 8</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>May 1</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	444,000	478,000	-34,000	507,000	2,149,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	454,634	492,029	-37,395	513,722	2,163,595
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	504,750	535,250	-30,500	562,250	2,674,750

<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>May 8</b>	<b>May 1</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>April 24</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	3,751,000	3,640,000	+111,000	3,680,000	23,128,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	3,684,082	3,694,405	-10,323	3,776,257	23,037,998
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	3,681,000	3,656,250	+24,750	3,673,250	20,817,750
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) <sup>2</sup>	2.7%	2.6%	+0.1	2.6%	15.9%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) <sup>2</sup>	2.6%	2.7%	-0.1	2.7%	15.8%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>May 15</b>	<b>May 8</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>May 1</b>
Pandemic Unemployment Assistance	95,086	103,678	-8,592	101,807

<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>May 8</b>	<b>May 1</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	931	927	+4	1,723
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	609	526	+83	1,076

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CONTINUED WEEKS CLAIMED FILED FOR UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>May 1</b>	<b>April 24</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	3,668,831	3,747,476	-78,645	20,798,651
Federal Employees	13,785	14,544	-759	15,396
Newly Discharged Veterans	7,321	7,287	+34	10,908
Pandemic Unemployment Assistance <sup>3</sup>	6,605,416	7,284,088	-678,672	NA
Pandemic Emergency UC <sup>4</sup>	5,141,311	5,291,528	-150,217	NA
Extended Benefits <sup>5</sup>	456,805	433,209	+23,596	426
State Additional Benefits <sup>6</sup>	1,753	1,665	+88	5,803
STC / Workshare <sup>7</sup>	80,226	82,219	-1,993	143,441
<b>TOTAL<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>15,975,448</b>	<b>16,862,016</b>	<b>-886,568</b>	<b>20,974,625</b>

**FOOTNOTES**

SA - Seasonally Adjusted Data, NSA - Not Seasonally Adjusted Data Continued weeks claimed represent all weeks of benefits claimed during the week being reported, and do not represent weeks claimed by unique individuals.

1. Prior year is comparable to most recent data.
2. Most recent week used covered employment of 139,248,565 as denominator.
3. Information on the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program can be found in UIPL 16-20: [PUA Program information](#)
4. Information on the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program can be found in Unemployment Insurance Program Letter (UIPL) 17-20: [PEUC Program information](#)
5. Information on the EB program can be found here: [EB Program information](#)
6. 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](#)
7. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-8 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
8. Totals include PUA Unemployment for the appropriate corresponding week.

## Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended May 15			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended May 8		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	7,672	10,841	-3,169	15,025	17,946	-2,921
Alaska	3,045	3,093	-48	12,242	12,441	-199
Arizona	4,967	5,959	-992	52,836	55,157	-2,321
Arkansas	2,033	2,791	-758	17,874	20,885	-3,011
California	70,965	69,927	1,038	647,376	590,542	56,834
Colorado	4,541	4,418	123	61,243	59,827	1,416
Connecticut	4,671	4,947	-276	71,733	72,142	-409
Delaware	4,154	4,237	-83	11,395	11,309	86
District of Columbia	1,416	1,870	-454	19,089	19,578	-489
Florida	17,849	17,555	294	119,975	130,069	-10,094
Georgia	24,617	32,833	-8,216	117,110	121,397	-4,287
Hawaii	2,517	2,777	-260	16,991	17,133	-142
Idaho	1,865	2,330	-465	6,964	8,113	-1,149
Illinois	17,268	18,355	-1,087	210,241	216,176	-5,935
Indiana	7,149	7,786	-637	56,385	64,930	-8,545
Iowa	4,131	3,290	841	26,901	25,714	1,187
Kansas	1,695	1,838	-143	10,036	9,810	226
Kentucky	3,992	11,167	-7,175	24,555	24,390	165
Louisiana	5,928	7,129	-1,201	49,859	50,556	-697
Maine	1,167	1,299	-132	11,451	12,413	-962
Maryland	8,982	8,499	483	42,308	45,285	-2,977
Massachusetts	9,165	10,837	-1,672	80,462	90,200	-9,738
Michigan	13,759	17,366	-3,607	128,415	125,603	2,812
Minnesota	5,923	4,062	1,861	76,910	78,840	-1,930
Mississippi	3,240	4,053	-813	25,669	27,296	-1,627
Missouri	5,987	7,227	-1,240	54,813	58,705	-3,892
Montana	1,078	1,484	-406	8,879	9,412	-533
Nebraska	1,411	1,494	-83	7,446	6,970	476
Nevada	4,669	6,144	-1,475	71,789	77,813	-6,024
New Hampshire	817	1,279	-462	17,520	19,256	-1,736
New Jersey	17,840	13,456	4,384	111,956	114,110	-2,154
New Mexico	3,579	3,957	-378	26,399	27,141	-742
New York	20,316	23,417	-3,101	341,830	353,989	-12,159
North Carolina	6,801	7,333	-532	45,215	48,322	-3,107
North Dakota	667	670	-3	4,119	4,092	27
Ohio	17,157	20,068	-2,911	105,897	111,002	-5,105
Oklahoma	11,703	9,475	2,228	29,847	23,379	6,468
Oregon	8,710	9,714	-1,004	62,438	56,232	6,206
Pennsylvania	22,810	24,116	-1,306	211,113	212,896	-1,783
Puerto Rico	1,950	2,969	-1,019	34,967	37,778	-2,811
Rhode Island	8,293	7,521	772	20,053	19,151	902
South Carolina	2,545	3,123	-578	37,251	39,328	-2,077
South Dakota	364	305	59	2,519	2,639	-120
Tennessee	7,405	8,543	-1,138	51,805	53,223	-1,418
Texas	26,621	31,449	-4,828	229,717	252,080	-22,363
Utah	3,042	3,340	-298	13,091	13,262	-171
Vermont	337	537	-200	10,445	12,135	-1,690
Virgin Islands	166	197	-31	876	1,458	-582
Virginia	11,504	11,270	234	68,014	57,844	10,170
Washington	19,200	16,891	2,309	102,405	73,089	29,316
West Virginia	6,404	5,622	782	21,005	17,424	3,581
Wisconsin	9,919	10,395	-476	75,950	80,153	-4,203
Wyoming	628	774	-146	3,678	3,770	-92
US Total	454,634	492,029	-37,395	3,684,082	3,694,405	-10,323

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	
May 9, 2020	2,315	-469	3,188.00	23,128	2,305	20,817.75	15.9
May 16, 2020	2,149	-166	2,674.75	19,181	-3,947	21,199.00	13.2
May 23, 2020	1,887	-262	2,283.75	19,396	215	20,632.00	13.3
May 30, 2020	1,605	-282	1,989.00	19,287	-109	20,248.00	13.2
June 6, 2020	1,537	-68	1,794.50	18,927	-360	19,197.75	13.0
June 13, 2020	1,472	-65	1,625.25	17,993	-934	18,900.75	12.4
June 20, 2020	1,460	-12	1,518.50	17,713	-280	18,480.00	12.2
June 27, 2020	1,436	-24	1,476.25	16,780	-933	17,853.25	11.5
July 4, 2020	1,398	-38	1,441.50	17,413	633	17,474.75	11.9
July 11, 2020	1,479	81	1,443.25	16,385	-1,028	17,072.75	11.2
July 18, 2020	1,398	-81	1,427.75	16,913	528	16,872.75	11.6
July 25, 2020	1,262	-136	1,384.25	15,964	-949	16,668.75	10.9
August 1, 2020	1,043	-219	1,295.50	15,303	-661	16,141.25	10.5
August 8, 2020	883	-160	1,146.50	14,217	-1,086	15,599.25	9.7
August 15, 2020	920	37	1,027.00	13,948	-269	14,858.00	9.5
August 22, 2020	872	-48	929.50	13,246	-702	14,178.50	9.1
August 29, 2020	875	3	887.50	13,528	282	13,734.75	9.3
September 5, 2020	881	6	887.00	12,755	-773	13,369.25	8.7
September 12, 2020	860	-21	872.00	12,706	-49	13,058.75	8.7
September 19, 2020	860	0	869.00	11,381	-1,325	12,592.50	7.8
September 26, 2020	803	-57	851.00	10,477	-904	11,829.75	7.2
October 3, 2020	782	-21	826.25	9,259	-1,218	10,955.75	6.3
October 10, 2020	833	51	819.50	8,384	-875	9,875.25	5.7
October 17, 2020	798	-35	804.00	7,699	-685	8,954.75	5.3
October 24, 2020	768	-30	795.25	7,076	-623	8,104.50	4.8
October 31, 2020	765	-3	791.00	6,724	-352	7,470.75	4.6
November 7, 2020	728	-37	764.75	6,389	-335	6,972.00	4.4
November 14, 2020	732	4	748.25	6,138	-251	6,581.75	4.2
November 21, 2020	762	30	746.75	5,606	-532	6,214.25	3.8
November 28, 2020	719	-43	735.25	5,829	223	5,990.50	4.0
December 5, 2020	853	134	766.50	5,614	-215	5,796.75	3.8
December 12, 2020	873	20	801.75	5,433	-181	5,620.50	3.7
December 19, 2020	803	-70	812.00	5,311	-122	5,546.75	3.6
December 26, 2020	763	-40	823.00	5,180	-131	5,384.50	3.5
January 2, 2021	781	18	805.00	5,240	60	5,291.00	3.7
January 9, 2021	904	123	812.75	5,061	-179	5,198.00	3.6
January 16, 2021	886	-18	833.50	4,878	-183	5,089.75	3.4
January 23, 2021	836	-50	851.75	4,791	-87	4,992.50	3.4
January 30, 2021	837	1	865.75	4,655	-136	4,846.25	3.3
February 6, 2021	863	26	855.50	4,592	-63	4,729.00	3.2
February 13, 2021	847	-16	845.75	4,469	-123	4,626.75	3.1
February 20, 2021	747	-100	823.50	4,383	-86	4,524.75	3.1
February 27, 2021	761	14	804.50	4,157	-226	4,400.25	2.9
March 6, 2021	734	-27	772.25	4,123	-34	4,283.00	2.9
March 13, 2021	765	31	751.75	3,841	-282	4,126.00	2.7
March 20, 2021	658	-107	729.50	3,753	-88	3,968.50	2.6
March 27, 2021	729	71	721.50	3,717	-36	3,858.50	2.6
April 3, 2021	742	13	723.50	3,708	-9	3,754.75	2.7
April 10, 2021	586	-156	678.75	3,652	-56	3,707.50	2.6
April 17, 2021	566	-20	655.75	3,653	1	3,682.50	2.6
April 24, 2021	590	24	621.00	3,680	27	3,673.25	2.6
May 1, 2021	507	-83	562.25	3,640	-40	3,656.25	2.6
May 8, 2021	478	-29	535.25	3,751	111	3,681.00	2.7
May 15, 2021	444	-34	504.75				

## Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	PUA Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended May 15			PUA Continued Claims For Week Ended May 1		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	May 1	Apr 24	Change
Alabama	2,059	2,404	-345	13,137	15,624	-2,487
Alaska	258	227	31	8,423	9,202	-779
Arizona	1,710	1,905	-195	134,084	128,154	5,930
Arkansas	2,245	1,088	1,157	40,425	42,719	-2,294
California	17,258	18,823	-1,565	1,207,992	1,726,234	-518,242
Colorado	721	616	105	40,913	40,898	15
Connecticut	264	241	23	35,816	35,286	530
Delaware	49	51	-2	5,463	1,810	3,653
District of Columbia	44	32	12	11,782	13,271	-1,489
Florida	3,333	2,118	1,215	0	0	0
Georgia	805	899	-94	125,080	126,521	-1,441
Hawaii	387	323	64	37,402	37,565	-163
Idaho	38	51	-13	4,198	4,874	-676
Illinois	3,334	2,619	715	233,353	232,110	1,243
Indiana	3,108	3,751	-643	120,284	122,723	-2,439
Iowa	358	402	-44	10,470	14,750	-4,280
Kansas	264	273	-9	11,919	11,330	589
Kentucky	610	1,625	-1,015	14,425	12,524	1,901
Louisiana	1,344	1,712	-368	104,906	105,433	-527
Maine	101	89	12	12,856	13,207	-351
Maryland	5,705	4,827	878	173,205	173,706	-501
Massachusetts	1,255	1,423	-168	244,733	249,571	-4,838
Michigan	2,190	2,199	-9	309,796	515,103	-205,307
Minnesota	1	0	1	40,399	39,870	529
Mississippi	523	558	-35	26,945	28,521	-1,576
Missouri	894	907	-13	36,648	37,240	-592
Montana	322	267	55	12,674	12,359	315
Nebraska	53	72	-19	2,732	2,746	-14
Nevada	288	360	-72	46,938	47,547	-609
New Hampshire	45	76	-31	8,630	8,931	-301
New Jersey	1,539	2,662	-1,123	310,401	311,765	-1,364
New Mexico	4,530	6,480	-1,950	34,103	33,129	974
New York	2,083	2,073	10	1,085,378	1,082,728	2,650
North Carolina	2,235	2,326	-91	83,052	83,370	-318
North Dakota	83	97	-14	3,207	3,212	-5
Ohio	6,117	8,556	-2,439	331,496	340,369	-8,873
Oklahoma	5,448	3,549	1,899	18,627	18,273	354
Oregon	2,271	3,441	-1,170	88,764	81,954	6,810
Pennsylvania	5,936	7,429	-1,493	515,256	517,664	-2,408
Puerto Rico	3,100	3,226	-126	214,979	214,961	18
Rhode Island	1,459	1,982	-523	37,202	37,951	-749
South Carolina	660	1,248	-588	48,456	48,517	-61
South Dakota	6	1	5	391	534	-143
Tennessee	1,399	1,495	-96	55,478	56,638	-1,160
Texas	2,978	2,745	233	439,986	344,440	95,546
Utah	313	302	11	1,750	1,763	-13
Vermont	6	16	-10	9,458	10,480	-1,022
Virgin Islands	6	6	0	0	0	0
Virginia	1,103	1,175	-72	116,539	150,448	-33,909
Washington	2,307	2,494	-187	104,125	104,162	-37
West Virginia	673	771	-98	8,171	8,424	-253
Wisconsin	1,234	1,628	-394	21,962	22,406	-444
Wyoming	34	38	-4	1,007	1,071	-64
US Total	95,086	103,678	-8,592	6,605,416	7,284,088	-678,672

Note: Information on the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program can be found in UIPL 16-20: [PUA Program information](#). Backdated claims may be included in these figures.

## Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation Continued Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	PEUC Claims Filed During Weeks Ended:				
	May 1	April 24	Change	April 17	April 10
Alabama	51,972	51,452	520	50,755	49,658
Alaska	16,062	16,153	-91	16,274	16,542
Arizona	46,041	51,736	-5,695	54,002	57,614
Arkansas	20,843	21,003	-160	20,394	18,987
California	826,640	1,074,171	-247,531	723,379	1,047,166
Colorado	66,881	67,171	-290	67,603	68,047
Connecticut	87,885	88,028	-143	82,109	77,004
Delaware	14,252	2,962	11,290	14,214	14,222
District of Columbia	4,924	5,353	-429	5,904	6,516
Florida	0	0	0	0	0
Georgia	0	0	0	0	0
Hawaii	32,796	34,639	-1,843	31,814	35,187
Idaho	5,590	6,493	-903	5,990	5,700
Illinois	269,304	264,207	5,097	260,760	260,222
Indiana	67,408	67,277	131	68,456	66,012
Iowa	22,112	24,367	-2,255	23,526	24,074
Kansas	13,175	9,364	3,811	9,446	11,325
Kentucky	28,990	27,067	1,923	29,176	24,800
Louisiana	71,817	72,961	-1,144	73,002	72,261
Maine	16,947	17,108	-161	17,164	17,408
Maryland	86,089	86,570	-481	85,960	84,974
Massachusetts	227,424	227,662	-238	223,986	222,385
Michigan	236,244	259,966	-23,722	256,547	286,913
Minnesota	184,869	181,599	3,270	180,590	180,124
Mississippi	22,435	23,855	-1,420	29,613	25,479
Missouri	51,545	53,585	-2,040	53,943	55,363
Montana	7,661	7,677	-16	8,014	8,140
Nebraska	4,973	5,367	-394	5,158	4,850
Nevada	95,292	96,614	-1,322	98,195	95,574
New Hampshire	6,501	6,773	-272	6,880	7,014
New Jersey	241,206	227,406	13,800	197,613	197,529
New Mexico	39,220	39,931	-711	38,372	40,267
New York	670,088	665,144	4,944	677,876	706,023
North Carolina	163,438	166,668	-3,230	167,808	171,110
North Dakota	6,392	6,724	-332	6,976	5,846
Ohio	121,687	121,234	453	121,884	122,863
Oklahoma	33,748	35,497	-1,749	36,208	37,770
Oregon	83,662	82,597	1,065	81,918	85,120
Pennsylvania	284,996	291,439	-6,443	286,351	307,907
Puerto Rico	50,235	123,238	-73,003	8,648	4,853
Rhode Island	18,112	18,567	-455	18,519	19,005
South Carolina	70,560	71,491	-931	77,607	77,607
South Dakota	1,147	1,277	-130	1,245	1,170
Tennessee	54,433	55,969	-1,536	57,738	58,324
Texas	618,319	441,882	176,437	602,468	426,994
Utah	11,548	11,417	131	11,156	10,884
Vermont	10,589	10,849	-260	10,697	10,728
Virgin Islands	40	20	20	22	21
Virginia	13,689	14,497	-808	16,507	16,936
Washington	7,592	2,255	5,337	2,337	2,560
West Virginia	17,247	17,637	-390	17,368	17,057
Wisconsin	31,663	29,640	2,023	26,650	25,130
Wyoming	5,028	4,969	59	4,982	4,834
US Total	5,141,311	5,291,528	-150,217	4,973,804	5,194,099

Note: Information on the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program can be found in Unemployment Insurance Program Letter (UIPL) 17-20: [PEUC Program information](#)



## Extended Benefits (EB) Continued Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	EB Claims Filed During Weeks Ended:		
	May 1	April 24	Change
Alabama	0	0	0
Alaska	20	13	7
Arizona	161	335	-174
Arkansas	16	27	-11
California	230,779	190,968	39,811
Colorado	22	28	-6
Connecticut	692	1,166	-474
Delaware	6	1	5
District of Columbia	5	7	-2
Florida	0	0	0
Georgia	0	0	0
Hawaii	6	9	-3
Idaho	6	11	-5
Illinois	4,608	6,906	-2,298
Indiana	13	0	13
Iowa	22	14	8
Kansas	610	642	-32
Kentucky	0	0	0
Louisiana	28	20	8
Maine	3	4	-1
Maryland	472	7	465
Massachusetts	3,120	3,392	-272
Michigan	532	2,009	-1,477
Minnesota	0	0	0
Mississippi	191	208	-17
Missouri	79	160	-81
Montana	14	2	12
Nebraska	0	3	-3
Nevada	10,137	11,385	-1,248
New Hampshire	13	16	-3
New Jersey	7,655	11,031	-3,376
New Mexico	387	418	-31
New York	177,175	181,938	-4,763
North Carolina	81	103	-22
North Dakota	0	0	0
Ohio	50	38	12
Oklahoma	0	0	0
Oregon	127	79	48
Pennsylvania	5,745	6,553	-808
Puerto Rico	2,540	4,196	-1,656
Rhode Island	364	410	-46
South Carolina	35	39	-4
South Dakota	0	0	0
Tennessee	34	34	0
Texas	10,334	10,136	198
Utah	0	0	0
Vermont	5	3	2
Virgin Islands	8	14	-6
Virginia	278	360	-82
Washington	16	32	-16
West Virginia	8	8	0
Wisconsin	405	481	-76
Wyoming	3	3	0
US Total	456,805	433,209	23,596

Note: Information on the EB program can be found here: [EB Program information](#)

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED  
MAY 8

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED  
MAY 1

STATE NAME	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	(%) <sup>2</sup>	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	
Alabama	10,841	516	-15,825	40	11	17,946	1.0	-153	-198,910	50	37	18,033
Alaska	3,093	264	-4,714	15	2	12,441	4.3	-508	-38,350	127	20	12,588
Arizona	5,959	-1,308	-25,611	2	8	55,157	1.9	516	-173,649	161	87	55,405
Arkansas	2,791	137	-10,361	8	1	20,885	1.8	832	-101,637	117	28	21,030
California	69,927	-839	-142,740	197	83	590,542	3.6	7,004	-2,259,662	2,562	1,244	594,348
Colorado	4,418	-85	-18,314	4	9	59,827	2.3	-1,482	-202,124	130	135	60,092
Connecticut	4,947	29	-25,099	15	4	72,142	4.6	-3,871	-247,387	315	91	72,548
Delaware	4,237	-1,229	-960	3	3	11,309	2.6	-3	-38,896	65	17	11,391
District of Columbia	1,870	319	-3,912	32	0	19,578	3.6	-313	-45,720	950	6	20,534
Florida	17,555	-2,210	-205,527	38	59	130,069	1.6	3,508	-905,138	443	348	130,860
Georgia	32,833	7,404	-209,939	27	24	121,397	2.9	-18,198	-691,516	521	282	122,200
Hawaii	2,777	-17	-9,552	1	10	17,133	3.1	-304	-93,789	95	80	17,308
Idaho	2,330	-1,062	-3,465	3	2	8,113	1.1	-1,567	-57,365	43	21	8,177
Illinois	18,355	3,221	-54,316	12	7	216,176	3.9	-11,656	-539,736	745	165	217,086
Indiana	7,786	-795	-21,882	16	7	64,930	2.2	588	-220,530	259	104	65,293
Iowa	3,290	145	-12,530	14	1	25,714	1.7	-2,050	-163,929	98	20	25,832
Kansas	1,838	-552	-8,421	0	1	9,810	0.7	1,259	-88,904	28	12	9,850
Kentucky	11,167	-984	-58,205	4	1	24,390	1.3	3,067	-228,796	67	73	24,530
Louisiana	7,129	346	-32,996	12	5	50,556	2.8	-1,462	-274,580	100	20	50,676
Maine	1,299	-92	-4,280	1	0	12,413	2.2	-1,308	-74,867	26	11	12,450
Maryland	8,499	-178	-37,165	19	4	45,285	2.1	156	-209,428	240	59	45,584
Massachusetts	10,837	-1,044	-34,078	41	16	90,200	2.7	-21,669	-485,369	245	106	90,551
Michigan	17,366	-13,990	-37,800	2	6	125,603	3.1	3,106	-847,675	215	43	125,861
Minnesota	4,062	-248	-33,607	9	4	78,840	2.9	-2,013	-350,347	159	88	79,087
Mississippi	4,053	525	-19,565	9	3	27,296	2.5	-94	-180,974	160	30	27,486
Missouri	7,227	-1,078	-23,918	0	2	58,705	2.2	1,228	-207,525	123	31	58,859
Montana	1,484	0	-2,278	10	3	9,412	2.1	-855	-49,493	144	27	9,583
Nebraska	1,494	85	-4,868	3	3	6,970	0.7	-1,451	-61,119	10	4	6,984
Nevada	6,144	-2,835	-15,491	4	1	77,813	6.1	-4,390	-246,631	151	121	78,085
New Hampshire	1,279	780	-8,737	2	1	19,256	3.1	-63	-97,512	47	1	19,304
New Jersey	13,456	-868	-56,233	25	16	114,110	3.0	1,019	-601,323	370	176	114,656
New Mexico	3,957	4	-4,067	1	2	27,141	3.5	-308	-73,991	166	59	27,366
New York	23,417	-8,106	-176,002	29	33	353,989	4.1	-15,336	-1,492,165	468	386	354,843
North Carolina	7,333	282	-50,021	6	7	48,322	1.1	-382	-571,487	192	220	48,734
North Dakota	670	-100	-2,083	1	0	4,092	1.0	-534	-31,829	12	4	4,108
Ohio	20,068	1,371	-32,185	13	20	111,002	2.1	-4,207	-629,736	156	136	111,294
Oklahoma	9,475	-1,502	-29,604	20	5	23,379	1.5	-1,752	-154,743	101	73	23,553
Oregon	9,714	-1,279	-24,222	23	8	56,232	3.1	-2,762	-253,311	349	86	56,667
Pennsylvania	24,116	2,156	-26,183	97	45	212,896	4.0	-1,744	-836,568	1,226	356	214,478
Puerto Rico	2,969	192	-12,098	0	1	37,778	4.6	1,853	-126,256	221	58	38,057
Rhode Island	7,521	-243	1,276	3	5	19,151	4.3	-1,228	-74,932	43	35	19,229
South Carolina	3,123	224	-30,068	9	18	39,328	1.9	-224	-229,373	51	64	39,443
South Dakota	305	41	-4,964	4	0	2,639	0.6	-563	-20,749	47	3	2,689
Tennessee	8,543	288	-19,834	15	13	53,223	1.6	987	-289,989	82	25	53,330
Texas	31,449	1,224	-110,104	79	118	252,080	2.1	1,212	-929,529	833	1,456	254,369
Utah	3,340	-389	-3,736	18	2	13,262	0.9	-308	-78,329	68	18	13,348
Vermont	537	-5,835	-2,376	0	0	12,135	4.3	-460	-44,905	14	0	12,149
Virgin Islands	197	-12	127	0	0	1,458	4.0	142	-1,354	0	2	1,460
Virginia	11,270	-961	-40,869	12	9	57,844	1.6	2,649	-334,829	300	257	58,401
Washington	16,891	6,111	-93,940	13	24	73,089	2.2	-3,257	-666,706	332	511	73,932
West Virginia	5,622	524	-423	2	0	17,424	2.8	215	-89,981	152	25	17,601
Wisconsin	10,395	44	-28,315	16	2	80,153	2.5	-4,551	-233,095	166	57	80,376
Wyoming	774	-84	-2,523	2	0	3,770	1.5	-167	-14,158	40	3	3,813
Totals	492,029	-21,693	-1,834,603	931	609	3,694,405	2.6	-81,852	-17,160,896	13,785	7,321	3,715,511

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 MAY 8, 2021**

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**STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
GA	+7,404	No comment.
WA	+6,111	Layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, insurance, professional and scientific and technical services, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, educational services, health care and social assistance, and accommodation and food services industries.
IL	+3,221	Layoffs in the other services, manufacturing, and wholesale trade industries.
PA	+2,156	Layoffs in the construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, and health care and social assistance industries.
OH	+1,371	No comment.
TX	+1,224	No comment.

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**STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000**

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<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
MI	-13,990	Fewer layoffs in the automobile industry.
NY	-8,106	Fewer layoffs in the professional, scientific, and technical services, educational services, and retail trade industries.
VT	-5,835	No comment.
NV	-2,835	No comment.
FL	-2,210	No comment.
OK	-1,502	No comment.
AZ	-1,308	No comment.
OR	-1,279	No comment.
DE	-1,229	No comment.
MO	-1,078	No comment.
ID	-1,062	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation services industries.
MA	-1,044	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. On a weekly basis, continued claims are also referred to as insured unemployment, as continued claims reflect a good approximation of the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits. The count of U.S. continued weeks claimed is also a good indicator of labor market conditions. 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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