



News Release

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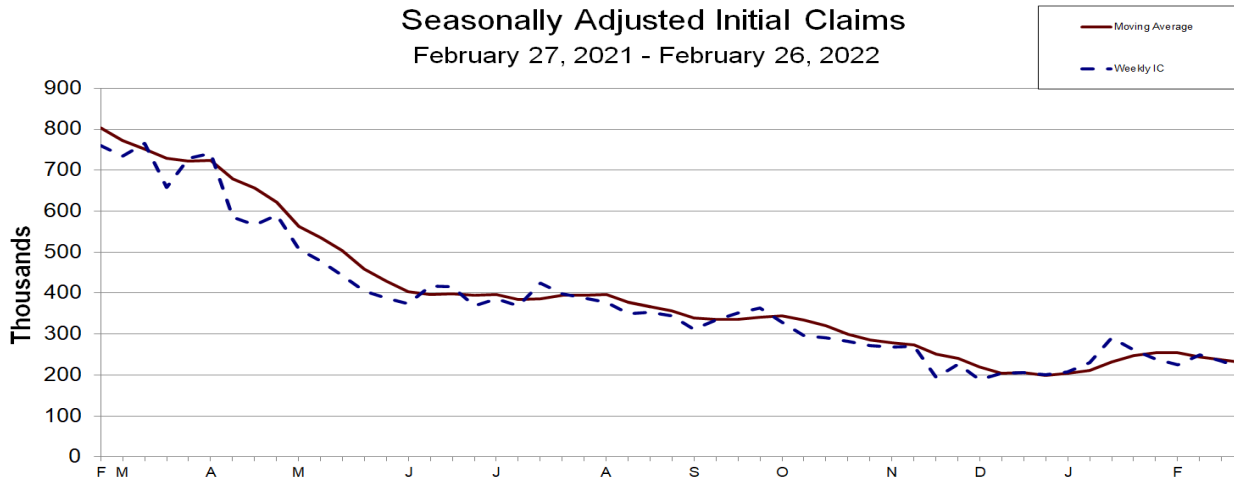
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

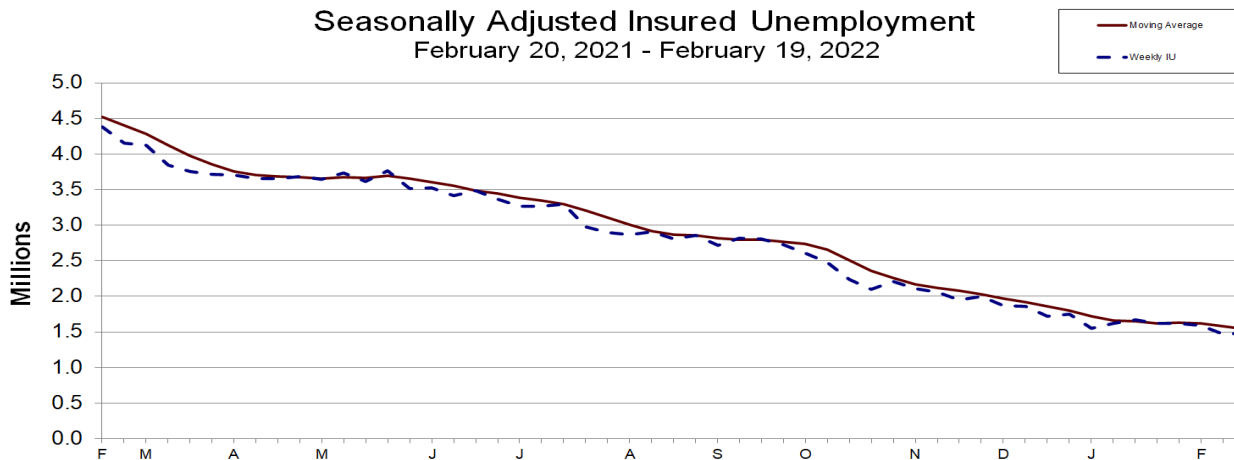
In the week ending February 26, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 215,000, a decrease of 18,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 232,000 to 233,000. The 4-week moving average was 230,500, a decrease of 6,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 236,250 to 236,500.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.1 percent for the week ending February 19, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending February 19 was 1,476,000, an increase of 2,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 2,000 from 1,476,000 to 1,474,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,539,500, a decrease of 36,250 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since April 4, 1970 when it was 1,516,000. The previous week's average was revised down by 250 from 1,576,000 to 1,575,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
February 27, 2021 - February 26, 2022



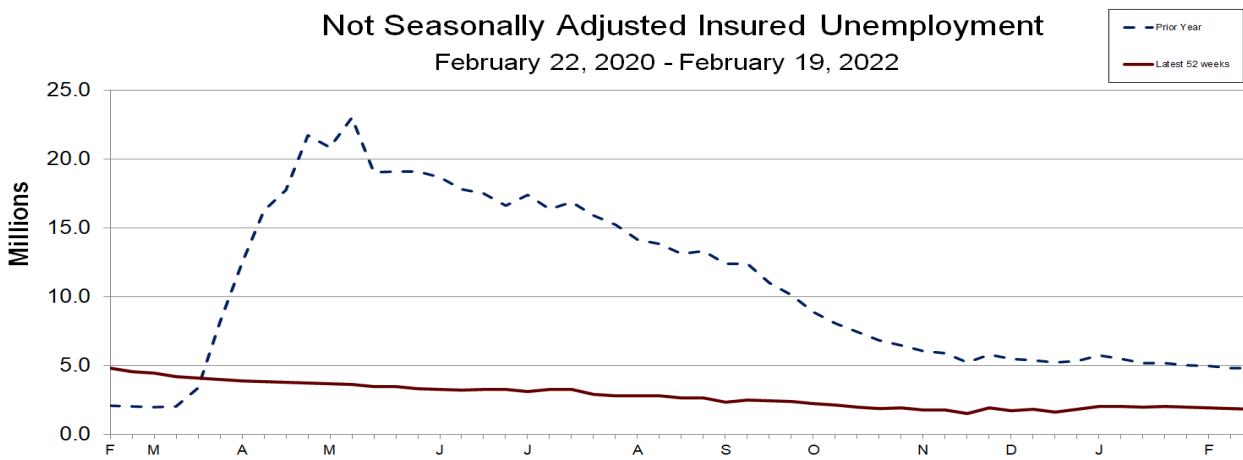
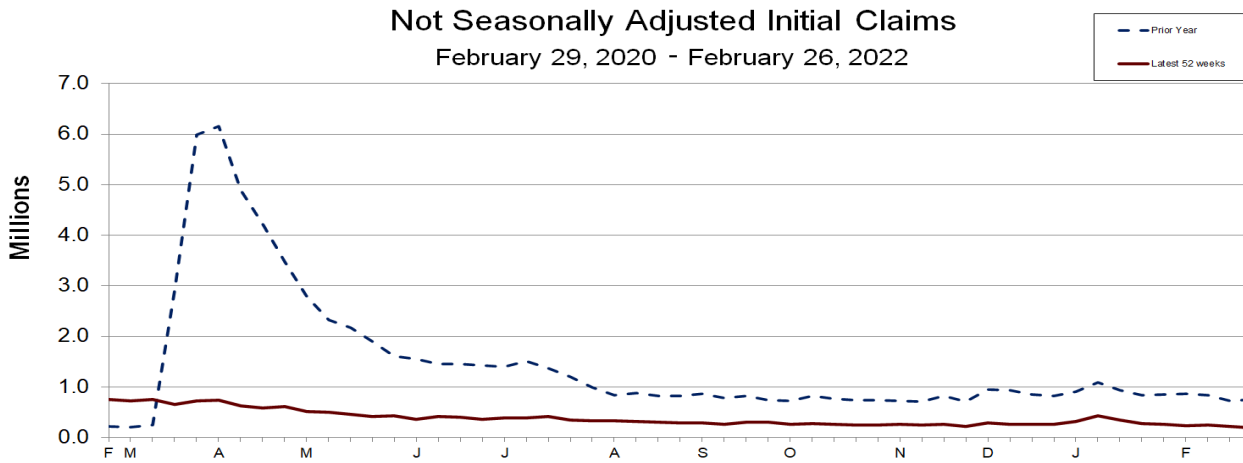
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
February 20, 2021 - February 19, 2022



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 194,693 in the week ending February 26, a decrease of 21,285 (or -9.9 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 2,985 (or -1.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 756,629 initial claims in the comparable week in 2021.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending February 19, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,858,860, a decrease of 51,966 (or -2.7 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 53,662 (or -2.8 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 3.4 percent and the volume was 4,848,404.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending February 12 was 1,971,279, a decrease of 62,625 from the previous week. There were 18,593,212 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2021.

During the week ending February 12, Extended Benefits were available in the following 2 states: New Jersey, and New Mexico.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 526 in the week ending February 19, a decrease of 1,089 from the prior week. There were 338 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 34 from the preceding week.

There were 10,594 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending February 12, an increase of 51 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,645, a decrease of 182 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending February 12 were in Alaska (2.6), California (2.6), New Jersey (2.5), Rhode Island (2.4), Massachusetts (2.3), Minnesota (2.3), New York (2.2), Illinois (2.1), Connecticut (2.0), Montana (1.9), and Pennsylvania (1.9).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending February 19 were in Michigan (+3,500), Kansas (+724), Utah (+454), Connecticut (+349), and District of Columbia (+239), while the largest decreases were in Missouri (-6,949), New York (-3,037), Ohio (-2,212), California (-2,182), and Tennessee (-1,959).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	February 26	February 19	Change	February 12	Prior Year ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	215,000	233,000	-18,000	249,000	761,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	194,693	215,978	-21,285	239,812	756,629
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	230,500	236,500	-6,000	243,500	804,500

WEEK ENDING	February 19	February 12	Change	February 5	Prior Year ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,476,000	1,474,000	+2,000	1,589,000	4,383,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,858,860	1,910,826	-51,966	1,971,483	4,848,404
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,539,500	1,575,750	-36,250	1,625,250	4,524,750
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.1%	1.1%	0.0	1.2%	3.1%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.3%	1.4%	-0.1	1.4%	3.4%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)³

WEEK ENDING	February 19	February 12	Change	Prior Year ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	526	1,615	-1,089	1,206
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	338	372	-34	619

CONTINUED WEEKS CLAIMED FILED FOR UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)³

WEEK ENDING	February 12	February 5	Change	Prior Year ¹
Regular State	1,906,333	1,966,855	-60,522	4,794,198
Federal Employees	10,594	10,543	+51	19,431
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,645	4,827	-182	8,686
Extended Benefits ⁴	32,551	34,256	-1,705	1,305,204
State Additional Benefits ⁵	2,179	2,045	+134	1,649
STC / Workshare ⁶	14,977	15,378	-401	102,200
TOTAL ⁷	1,971,279	2,033,904	-62,625	18,593,212

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 138,088,262 as denominator.
3. NOTICE: Ongoing claims for PUA and PEUC are no longer included in this news release. Any ongoing claims for these programs represent activity for periods prior to the programs' expiration on September 6, 2021. Claims activity for these programs will continue to be posted online at: [Weekly Pandemic Program Claims](#)
4. Information on the EB program can be found here: [EB Program information](#)
5. 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 4-5 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
6. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-11 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
7. Prior year total includes PUA and PEUC claims.

Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended February 26			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended February 19		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,729	1,869	-140	3,293	4,517	-1,224
Alaska	958	972	-14	6,690	7,331	-641
Arizona	2,114	2,521	-407	11,352	12,963	-1,611
Arkansas	596	980	-384	7,002	9,722	-2,720
California	38,881	43,554	-4,673	402,610	422,711	-20,101
Colorado	1,831	1,820	11	18,561	17,811	750
Connecticut	2,578	2,590	-12	27,328	31,031	-3,703
Delaware	305	504	-199	4,874	4,532	342
District of Columbia	1,660	960	700	4,507	4,146	361
Florida	3,122	5,510	-2,388	35,086	40,109	-5,023
Georgia	4,975	5,309	-334	32,357	33,433	-1,076
Hawaii	1,084	1,403	-319	8,087	7,762	325
Idaho	960	955	5	7,701	8,354	-653
Illinois	7,918	10,007	-2,089	135,738	117,255	18,483
Indiana	3,832	4,363	-531	28,065	29,085	-1,020
Iowa	1,594	1,610	-16	22,588	22,381	207
Kansas	3,410	2,722	688	6,600	6,600	0
Kentucky	3,726	5,205	-1,479	14,990	15,990	-1,000
Louisiana	1,191	1,371	-180	11,996	13,838	-1,842
Maine	684	728	-44	7,679	7,923	-244
Maryland	1,515	1,982	-467	21,706	24,007	-2,301
Massachusetts	7,831	4,694	3,137	73,088	74,948	-1,860
Michigan	8,704	17,904	-9,200	69,314	71,194	-1,880
Minnesota	3,256	3,227	29	66,114	62,419	3,695
Mississippi	691	854	-163	4,011	5,155	-1,144
Missouri	4,222	4,055	167	20,979	23,759	-2,780
Montana	840	687	153	8,623	8,544	79
Nebraska	675	629	46	5,661	5,748	-87
Nevada	2,294	1,444	850	15,969	18,008	-2,039
New Hampshire	340	354	-14	2,687	2,981	-294
New Jersey	6,080	7,269	-1,189	90,758	92,788	-2,030
New Mexico	551	599	-48	9,812	9,844	-32
New York	13,275	13,232	43	185,864	188,757	-2,893
North Carolina	2,488	2,768	-280	14,487	15,322	-835
North Dakota	331	295	36	6,123	5,799	324
Ohio	10,760	12,907	-2,147	58,815	59,299	-484
Oklahoma	1,220	1,601	-381	10,743	12,507	-1,764
Oregon	3,324	3,425	-101	26,972	27,453	-481
Pennsylvania	9,335	9,690	-355	96,942	102,357	-5,415
Puerto Rico	843	865	-22	11,787	14,959	-3,172
Rhode Island	2,040	1,001	1,039	10,610	10,597	13
South Carolina	869	1,118	-249	9,808	11,098	-1,290
South Dakota	131	180	-49	2,611	2,700	-89
Tennessee	3,224	2,716	508	16,562	18,246	-1,684
Texas	12,154	13,220	-1,066	97,805	104,556	-6,751
Utah	1,333	1,296	37	8,494	8,837	-343
Vermont	602	369	233	4,166	4,016	150
Virgin Islands	18	53	-35	502	538	-36
Virginia	1,559	1,610	-51	7,694	7,258	436
Washington	4,446	4,455	-9	51,408	48,978	2,430
West Virginia	682	868	-186	9,334	9,246	88
Wisconsin	5,447	5,299	148	39,523	38,714	809
Wyoming	465	359	106	2,784	2,700	84
US Total	194,693	215,978	-21,285	1,858,860	1,910,826	-51,966

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	
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	3,738	98	3,677.75	2.7
May 15, 2021	444	-34	504.75	3,611	-127	3,667.25	2.6
May 22, 2021	405	-39	458.50	3,769	158	3,689.50	2.7
May 29, 2021	388	-17	428.75	3,517	-252	3,658.75	2.5
June 5, 2021	374	-14	402.75	3,528	11	3,606.25	2.5
June 12, 2021	418	44	396.25	3,412	-116	3,556.50	2.5
June 19, 2021	416	-2	399.00	3,484	72	3,485.25	2.5
June 26, 2021	368	-48	394.00	3,367	-117	3,447.75	2.4
July 3, 2021	386	18	397.00	3,265	-102	3,382.00	2.4
July 10, 2021	368	-18	384.50	3,262	-3	3,344.50	2.4
July 17, 2021	424	56	386.50	3,296	34	3,297.50	2.4
July 24, 2021	399	-25	394.25	2,980	-316	3,200.75	2.2
July 31, 2021	387	-12	394.50	2,899	-81	3,109.25	2.1
August 7, 2021	377	-10	396.75	2,865	-34	3,010.00	2.1
August 14, 2021	349	-28	378.00	2,908	43	2,913.00	2.1
August 21, 2021	354	5	366.75	2,805	-103	2,869.25	2.0
August 28, 2021	345	-9	356.25	2,852	47	2,857.50	2.1
September 4, 2021	312	-33	340.00	2,715	-137	2,820.00	2.0
September 11, 2021	335	23	336.50	2,820	105	2,798.00	2.1
September 18, 2021	351	16	335.75	2,811	-9	2,799.50	2.1
September 25, 2021	364	13	340.50	2,727	-84	2,768.25	2.0
October 2, 2021	329	-35	344.75	2,603	-124	2,740.25	1.9
October 9, 2021	296	-33	335.00	2,480	-123	2,655.25	1.8
October 16, 2021	291	-5	320.00	2,239	-241	2,512.25	1.7
October 23, 2021	283	-8	299.75	2,101	-138	2,355.75	1.6
October 30, 2021	271	-12	285.25	2,209	108	2,257.25	1.6
November 6, 2021	269	-2	278.50	2,109	-100	2,164.50	1.6
November 13, 2021	270	1	273.25	2,055	-54	2,118.50	1.5
November 20, 2021	194	-76	251.00	1,954	-101	2,081.75	1.4
November 27, 2021	227	33	240.00	1,999	45	2,029.25	1.5
December 4, 2021	188	-39	219.75	1,867	-132	1,968.75	1.4
December 11, 2021	205	17	203.50	1,856	-11	1,919.00	1.4
December 18, 2021	206	1	206.50	1,718	-138	1,860.00	1.3
December 25, 2021	200	-6	199.75	1,753	35	1,798.50	1.3
January 1, 2022	207	7	204.50	1,555	-198	1,720.50	1.1
January 8, 2022	231	24	211.00	1,624	69	1,662.50	1.2
January 15, 2022	290	59	232.00	1,672	48	1,651.00	1.2
January 22, 2022	261	-29	247.25	1,621	-51	1,618.00	1.2
January 29, 2022	239	-22	255.25	1,619	-2	1,634.00	1.2
February 5, 2022	225	-14	253.75	1,589	-30	1,625.25	1.2
February 12, 2022	249	24	243.50	1,474	-115	1,575.75	1.1
February 19, 2022	233	-16	236.50	1,476	2	1,539.50	1.1
February 26, 2022	215	-18	230.50				

Extended Benefits (EB) Continued Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	EB Claims Filed During Weeks Ended:		
	February 12	February 5	Change
Alabama	0	0	0
Alaska	12	0	12
Arizona	2	63	-61
Arkansas	0	1	-1
California	1,845	1,982	-137
Colorado	3	0	3
Connecticut	60	115	-55
Delaware	0	0	0
District of Columbia	1	1	0
Florida	77	98	-21
Georgia	0	0	0
Hawaii	1	1	0
Idaho	0	0	0
Illinois	29	32	-3
Indiana	0	0	0
Iowa	1	2	-1
Kansas	0	10	-10
Kentucky	0	0	0
Louisiana	2	1	1
Maine	4	2	2
Maryland	11	16	-5
Massachusetts	0	0	0
Michigan	10	20	-10
Minnesota	9	0	9
Mississippi	1	1	0
Missouri	4	0	4
Montana	1	1	0
Nebraska	0	0	0
Nevada	1	4	-3
New Hampshire	1	1	0
New Jersey	28,040	29,218	-1,178
New Mexico	1,964	2,092	-128
New York	11	70	-59
North Carolina	15	26	-11
North Dakota	0	0	0
Ohio	76	29	47
Oklahoma	0	0	0
Oregon	12	6	6
Pennsylvania	80	109	-29
Puerto Rico	70	79	-9
Rhode Island	1	1	0
South Carolina	18	5	13
South Dakota	0	0	0
Tennessee	4	4	0
Texas	138	243	-105
Utah	0	0	0
Vermont	0	0	0
Virgin Islands	0	0	0
Virginia	0	1	-1
Washington	6	0	6
West Virginia	3	17	-14
Wisconsin	38	5	33
Wyoming	0	0	0
US Total	32,551	34,256	-1,705

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

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED
FEBRUARY 19

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED
FEBRUARY 12

STATE NAME	CHANGE FROM					CHANGE FROM					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE (%) ²	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
Alabama	1,869	-353	-9,526	12	2	4,517	0.2	-259	-12,107	29	22	4,568
Alaska	972	-148	-3,022	2	2	7,331	2.6	-150	-9,647	153	8	7,492
Arizona	2,521	23	-1,587	7	0	12,963	0.5	335	-51,850	166	9	13,138
Arkansas	980	-241	-909	0	0	9,722	0.8	-1,074	-9,256	74	15	9,811
California	43,554	-2,182	-46,911	119	65	422,711	2.6	-15,465	-369,409	2,355	930	425,996
Colorado	1,820	-160	-3,891	5	4	17,811	0.7	-1,037	-30,052	197	183	18,191
Connecticut	2,590	349	-4,162	15	4	31,031	2.0	1,259	-46,688	60	38	31,129
Delaware	504	-100	-1,229	0	2	4,532	1.1	-491	-8,797	13	7	4,552
District of Columbia	960	239	-11	4	0	4,146	0.8	-1,107	-16,513	96	1	4,243
Florida	5,510	-534	-13,120	21	25	40,109	0.5	-710	-121,772	178	133	40,420
Georgia	5,309	-600	-20,138	28	8	33,433	0.8	-4,087	-102,630	257	186	33,876
Hawaii	1,403	-71	-1,443	3	8	7,762	1.5	-793	-12,831	80	79	7,921
Idaho	955	-93	-5,155	13	0	8,354	1.1	-354	-7,009	306	6	8,666
Illinois	10,007	88	-58,376	6	9	117,255	2.1	-17,633	-151,667	483	136	117,874
Indiana	4,363	-1,040	-5,372	7	4	29,085	1.1	-2,795	-44,583	83	33	29,201
Iowa	1,610	-74	-3,582	1	3	22,381	1.5	-929	-26,377	42	15	22,438
Kansas	2,722	724	-1,690	2	1	6,600	0.5	-1,412	-23,088	53	14	6,667
Kentucky	5,205	-793	-8,934	0	1	15,990	0.9	2,831	-25,811	85	57	16,132
Louisiana	1,371	-260	-5,076	1	2	13,838	0.8	-920	-38,883	47	19	13,904
Maine	728	-16	-1,470	4	0	7,923	1.4	-330	-9,213	35	10	7,968
Maryland	1,982	-640	-6,438	6	3	24,007	1.0	-762	-39,446	236	96	24,339
Massachusetts	4,694	-570	-11,624	6	10	74,948	2.3	-1,396	-81,580	130	54	75,132
Michigan	17,904	3,500	3,528	2	1	71,194	1.8	3,936	-97,635	173	44	71,411
Minnesota	3,227	-595	-7,582	5	2	62,419	2.3	-3,355	-55,040	145	52	62,616
Mississippi	854	-107	-8,774	6	0	5,155	0.5	-161	-22,526	45	9	5,209
Missouri	4,055	-6,949	-15,111	2	2	23,759	0.9	2,886	-35,537	115	18	23,892
Montana	687	-78	-932	19	1	8,544	1.9	-371	-8,724	626	10	9,180
Nebraska	629	-72	-1,344	0	1	5,748	0.6	-73	-10,212	17	2	5,767
Nevada	1,444	-848	-6,065	5	2	18,008	1.4	-608	-53,626	139	37	18,184
New Hampshire	354	54	-2,579	2	0	2,981	0.5	32	-22,617	6	2	2,989
New Jersey	7,269	-1,318	-3,499	16	8	92,788	2.5	-1,847	-39,131	264	202	93,254
New Mexico	599	-62	-2,544	3	0	9,844	1.3	-226	-26,182	249	38	10,131
New York	13,232	-3,037	-34,582	17	14	188,757	2.2	-5,650	-249,582	527	273	189,557
North Carolina	2,768	-251	-5,706	4	2	15,322	0.4	-10	-50,899	71	86	15,479
North Dakota	295	-36	-563	2	3	5,799	1.5	-270	-4,074	11	1	5,811
Ohio	12,907	-2,212	-88,955	5	9	59,299	1.2	-137	-132,488	82	88	59,469
Oklahoma	1,601	-139	-4,380	10	4	12,507	0.8	-213	-22,611	63	67	12,637
Oregon	3,425	-397	-4,021	21	4	27,453	1.5	-1,138	-43,356	733	38	28,224
Pennsylvania	9,690	-821	-15,361	14	4	102,357	1.9	4,361	-213,697	266	86	102,709
Puerto Rico	865	-287	-410	2	0	14,959	1.8	-535	-13,968	171	68	15,198
Rhode Island	1,001	-36	-7,259	3	2	10,597	2.4	-148	-12,556	32	26	10,655
South Carolina	1,118	74	-2,407	2	7	11,098	0.6	-487	-31,576	32	49	11,179
South Dakota	180	13	-316	1	0	2,700	0.7	-111	-2,799	53	5	2,758
Tennessee	2,716	-1,959	-9,867	4	8	18,246	0.6	-504	-32,898	38	17	18,301
Texas	13,220	-725	-23,181	69	87	104,556	0.9	-1,209	-221,732	633	979	106,168
Utah	1,296	454	-1,231	15	1	8,837	0.6	-381	-7,217	219	12	9,068
Vermont	369	-40	-408	0	0	4,016	1.4	-51	-8,279	6	0	4,022
Virgin Islands	53	-10	-78	0	0	538	1.5	-300	-1,262	12	0	550
Virginia	1,610	-363	-10,334	2	3	7,258	0.2	20	-57,317	38	38	7,334
Washington	4,455	-284	-10,176	14	14	48,978	1.5	-2,833	-92,998	445	305	49,728
West Virginia	868	-237	-1,927	2	2	9,246	1.5	-2,141	-11,950	53	29	9,328
Wisconsin	5,299	-538	-10,951	10	4	38,714	1.4	-1,854	-69,502	111	11	38,836
Wyoming	359	-76	-609	7	0	2,700	1.1	0	-2,888	61	2	2,763
Totals	215,978	-23,834	-491,290	526	338	1,910,826	1.4	-60,657	-2,894,088	10,594	4,645	1,926,065

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 19, 2022

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MI	+3,500	Layoffs in the retail trade industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MO	-6,949	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing and management of companies and enterprises industries.
NY	-3,037	Fewer layoffs in the construction, accommodation and food services, and transportation and warehousing industries.
OH	-2,212	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
CA	-2,182	No comment.
TN	-1,959	No comment.
NJ	-1,318	No comment.
IN	-1,040	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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