



News Release

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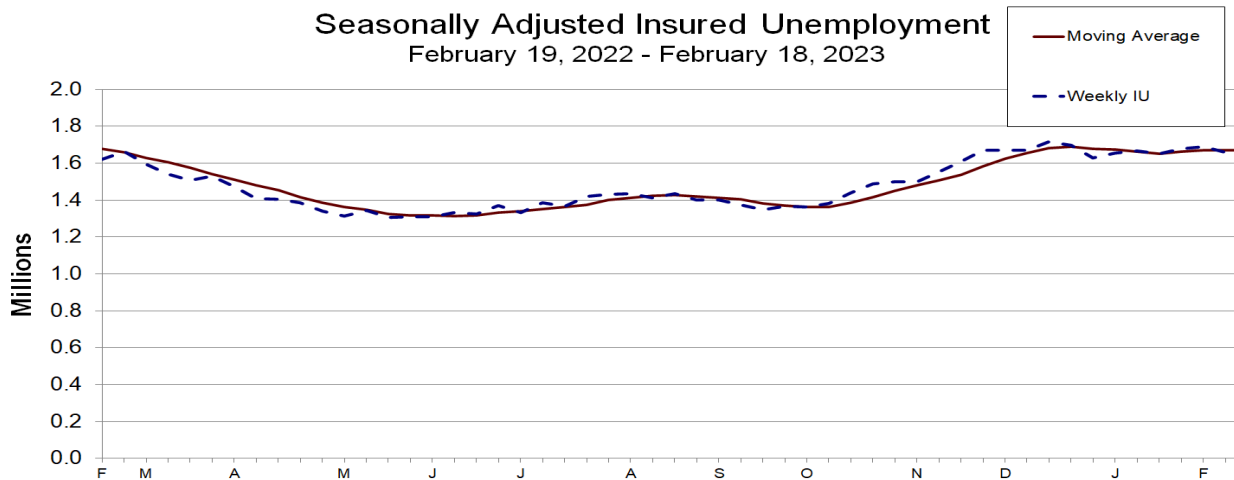
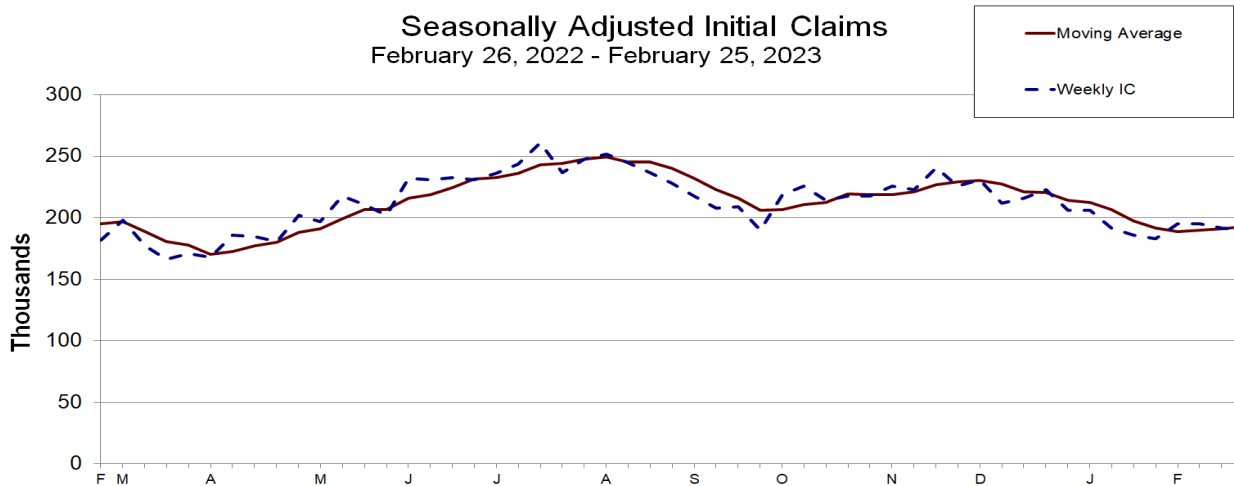
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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, March 2, 2023

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending February 25, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 190,000, a decrease of 2,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 192,000. The 4-week moving average was 193,000, an increase of 1,750 from the previous week's unrevised average of 191,250.

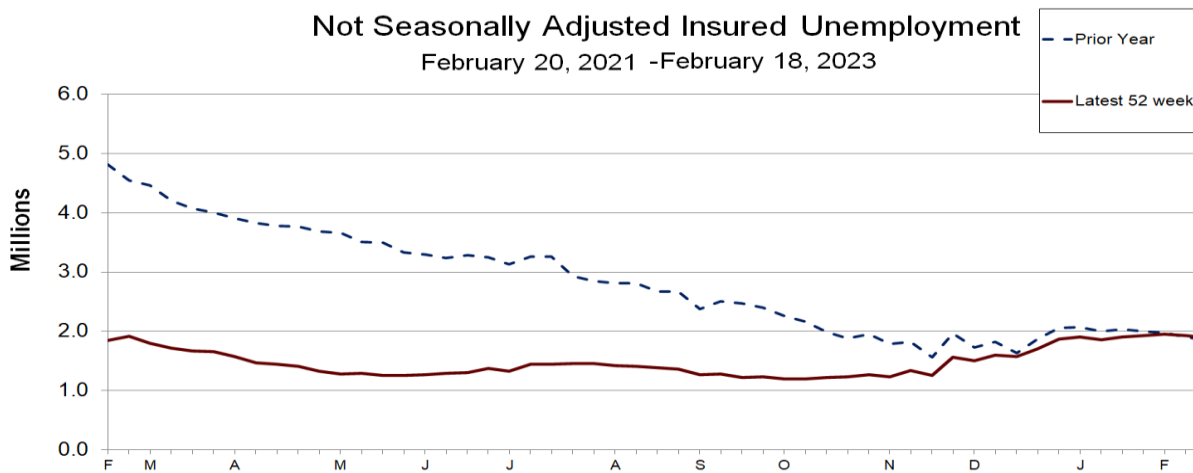
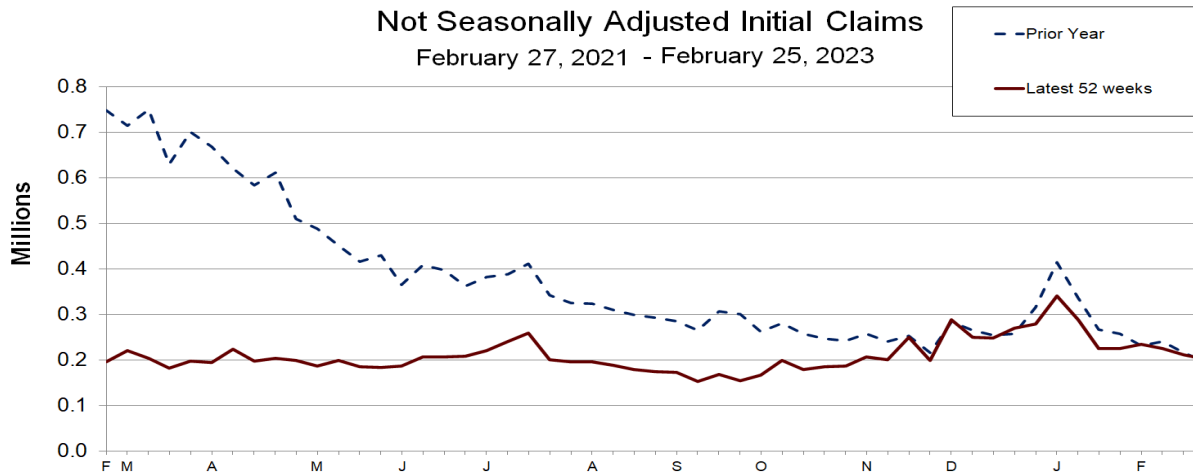
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.1 percent for the week ending February 18, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending February 18 was 1,655,000, a decrease of 5,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 6,000 from 1,654,000 to 1,660,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,671,500, an increase of 1,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,500 from 1,668,750 to 1,670,250.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 201,710 in the week ending February 25, a decrease of 9,297 (or -4.4 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 6,540 (or -3.1 percent) from the previous week. There were 196,047 initial claims in the comparable week in 2022.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending February 18, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,898,517, a decrease of 30,164 (or -1.6 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 24,897 (or -1.3 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,852,099.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending February 11 was 1,959,037, a decrease of 20,276 from the previous week. There were 1,971,285 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2022.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending February 11.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 390 in the week ending February 18, a decrease of 48 from the prior week. There were 313 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 69 from the preceding week.

There were 7,840 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending February 11, an increase of 125 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,172, a decrease of 64 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending February 11 were in New Jersey (2.7), Rhode Island (2.5), California (2.3), Massachusetts (2.3), Minnesota (2.3), Alaska (2.1), Illinois (2.1), Montana (2.0), Connecticut (1.9), New York (1.9), and Puerto Rico (1.9).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending February 18 were in Kentucky (+6,099), New Jersey (+1,063), Kansas (+545), Pennsylvania (+496), and District of Columbia (+378), while the largest decreases were in California (-4,706), Michigan (-2,521), New York (-2,105), Minnesota (-1,479), and Wisconsin (-1,420).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	February 25	February 18	Change	February 11	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	190,000	192,000	-2,000	195,000	182,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	201,710	211,007	-9,297	225,332	196,047
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	193,000	191,250	+1,750	189,750	195,000

WEEK ENDING	February 18	February 11	Change	February 4	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,655,000	1,660,000	-5,000	1,691,000	1,623,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,898,517	1,928,681	-30,164	1,948,436	1,852,099
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,671,500	1,670,250	+1,250	1,671,750	1,678,250
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.1%	1.1%	0.0	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.3%	1.3%	0.0	1.3%	1.3%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	February 18	February 11	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	390	438	-48	526
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	313	382	-69	338

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

WEEK ENDING	February 11	February 4	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,921,643	1,941,327	-19,684	1,906,339
Federal Employees	7,840	7,715	+125	10,594
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,172	4,236	-64	4,645
Extended Benefits ³	2,066	1,840	+226	32,551
State Additional Benefits ⁴	1,885	2,007	-122	2,179
STC / Workshare ⁵	21,431	22,188	-757	14,977
TOTAL	1,959,037	1,979,313	-20,276	1,971,285

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 145,292,485 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 4-5 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-11 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended February 25			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended February 18		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,534	2,033	-499	3,944	5,218	-1,274
Alaska	730	778	-48	6,029	6,106	-77
Arizona	2,696	2,990	-294	17,990	19,669	-1,679
Arkansas	2,072	1,508	564	6,449	9,143	-2,694
California	41,028	43,381	-2,353	386,590	394,717	-8,127
Colorado	2,560	2,525	35	27,068	26,681	387
Connecticut	3,285	3,156	129	29,746	31,185	-1,439
Delaware	239	310	-71	5,250	4,729	521
District of Columbia	1,551	1,086	465	4,637	4,507	130
Florida	5,034	5,353	-319	32,638	36,634	-3,996
Georgia	4,913	5,290	-377	27,201	28,339	-1,138
Hawaii	1,137	1,023	114	5,714	5,496	218
Idaho	1,113	1,148	-35	9,958	10,386	-428
Illinois	9,438	9,049	389	115,424	120,796	-5,372
Indiana	3,525	3,329	196	26,786	28,235	-1,449
Iowa	1,852	1,626	226	21,731	21,527	204
Kansas	1,308	1,618	-310	5,976	5,353	623
Kentucky	1,702	7,858	-6,156	13,113	12,766	347
Louisiana	924	1,576	-652	10,249	12,054	-1,805
Maine	696	636	60	7,855	7,789	66
Maryland	1,433	1,718	-285	20,591	21,766	-1,175
Massachusetts	11,219	6,834	4,385	83,148	83,288	-140
Michigan	5,224	6,306	-1,082	68,572	67,503	1,069
Minnesota	3,482	3,504	-22	66,062	62,075	3,987
Mississippi	680	844	-164	4,849	5,738	-889
Missouri	2,224	2,476	-252	20,181	21,125	-944
Montana	895	665	230	9,640	9,374	266
Nebraska *	543	550	-7	5,839	5,895	-56
Nevada	2,094	2,265	-171	18,950	19,951	-1,001
New Hampshire	358	355	3	2,874	3,212	-338
New Jersey	7,583	6,969	614	107,837	107,465	372
New Mexico	570	631	-61	9,756	9,942	-186
New York	14,050	14,461	-411	173,697	173,538	1,159
North Carolina	2,800	3,184	-384	18,711	19,886	-1,175
North Dakota	301	287	14	5,529	5,253	276
Ohio	11,473	12,799	-1,326	60,472	61,872	-1,400
Oklahoma	1,063	1,727	-664	10,402	10,358	44
Oregon	4,403	4,247	156	32,699	32,757	-58
Pennsylvania	9,406	9,495	-89	99,260	100,067	-807
Puerto Rico	920	1,016	-96	14,034	16,815	-2,781
Rhode Island	2,374	1,162	1,212	11,872	11,506	366
South Carolina	1,608	1,784	-176	12,574	13,504	-930
South Dakota	134	202	-68	2,606	2,698	-92
Tennessee	2,010	2,128	-118	15,554	16,742	-1,188
Texas	12,978	14,540	-1,562	119,159	122,936	-3,777
Utah	1,461	1,604	-143	13,109	13,524	-415
Vermont	430	322	108	3,830	3,760	70
Virgin Islands	17	32	-15	198	182	16
Virginia	1,533	1,597	-64	13,135	11,675	1,460
Washington	4,952	5,067	-115	60,303	56,660	3,643
West Virginia	693	805	-112	9,758	9,164	594
Wisconsin	5,074	4,803	271	36,014	35,489	525
Wyoming	388	355	33	2,954	2,631	323
US Total	201,710	211,007	-9,297	1,898,517	1,928,681	-30,164

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.

*Denote OUI estimate.

Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly UI Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Initial Claims	Change from		Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
		Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
February 19, 2022	198	-11	203.00	1,623	-10	1,678.25	1.2
February 26, 2022	182	-16	195.00	1,664	41	1,658.50	1.2
March 5, 2022	198	16	196.75	1,594	-70	1,628.50	1.2
March 12, 2022	177	-21	188.75	1,542	-52	1,605.75	1.1
March 19, 2022	166	-11	180.75	1,506	-36	1,576.50	1.1
March 26, 2022	171	5	178.00	1,529	23	1,542.75	1.1
April 2, 2022	168	-3	170.50	1,474	-55	1,512.75	1.1
April 9, 2022	186	18	172.75	1,407	-67	1,479.00	1.0
April 16, 2022	185	-1	177.50	1,403	-4	1,453.25	1.0
April 23, 2022	181	-4	180.00	1,387	-16	1,417.75	1.0
April 30, 2022	202	21	188.50	1,342	-45	1,384.75	1.0
May 7, 2022	197	-5	191.25	1,315	-27	1,361.75	0.9
May 14, 2022	218	21	199.50	1,343	28	1,346.75	1.0
May 21, 2022	211	-7	207.00	1,306	-37	1,326.50	0.9
May 28, 2022	202	-9	207.00	1,309	3	1,318.25	0.9
June 4, 2022	232	30	215.75	1,310	1	1,317.00	0.9
June 11, 2022	231	-1	219.00	1,331	21	1,314.00	1.0
June 18, 2022	233	2	224.50	1,324	-7	1,318.50	0.9
June 25, 2022	231	-2	231.75	1,372	48	1,334.25	1.0
July 2, 2022	236	5	232.75	1,333	-39	1,340.00	0.9
July 9, 2022	244	8	236.00	1,384	51	1,353.25	1.0
July 16, 2022	261	17	243.00	1,365	-19	1,363.50	1.0
July 23, 2022	237	-24	244.50	1,420	55	1,375.50	1.0
July 30, 2022	248	11	247.50	1,430	10	1,399.75	1.0
August 6, 2022	252	4	249.50	1,434	4	1,412.25	1.0
August 13, 2022	245	-7	245.50	1,412	-22	1,424.00	1.0
August 20, 2022	237	-8	245.50	1,437	25	1,428.25	1.0
August 27, 2022	228	-9	240.50	1,402	-35	1,421.25	1.0
September 3, 2022	218	-10	232.00	1,400	-2	1,412.75	1.0
September 10, 2022	208	-10	222.75	1,376	-24	1,403.75	1.0
September 17, 2022	209	1	215.75	1,346	-30	1,381.00	0.9
September 24, 2022	190	-19	206.25	1,365	19	1,371.75	1.0
October 1, 2022	219	29	206.50	1,364	-1	1,362.75	0.9
October 8, 2022	226	7	211.00	1,383	19	1,364.50	1.0
October 15, 2022	214	-12	212.25	1,438	55	1,387.50	1.0
October 22, 2022	218	4	219.25	1,487	49	1,418.00	1.0
October 29, 2022	218	0	219.00	1,498	11	1,451.50	1.0
November 5, 2022	226	8	219.00	1,498	0	1,480.25	1.0
November 12, 2022	223	-3	221.25	1,551	53	1,508.50	1.1
November 19, 2022	241	18	227.00	1,609	58	1,539.00	1.1
November 26, 2022	226	-15	229.00	1,670	61	1,582.00	1.2
December 3, 2022	231	5	230.25	1,669	-1	1,624.75	1.2
December 10, 2022	212	-19	227.50	1,669	0	1,654.25	1.2
December 17, 2022	216	4	221.25	1,718	49	1,681.50	1.2
December 24, 2022	223	7	220.50	1,697	-21	1,688.25	1.2
December 31, 2022	206	-17	214.25	1,630	-67	1,678.50	1.1
January 7, 2023	206	0	212.75	1,655	25	1,675.00	1.1
January 14, 2023	192	-14	206.75	1,666	11	1,662.00	1.1
January 21, 2023	186	-6	197.50	1,650	-16	1,650.25	1.1
January 28, 2023	183	-3	191.75	1,680	30	1,662.75	1.2
February 4, 2023	195	12	189.00	1,691	11	1,671.75	1.2
February 11, 2023	195	0	189.75	1,660	-31	1,670.25	1.1
February 18, 2023	192	-3	191.25	1,655	-5	1,671.50	1.1
February 25, 2023	190	-2	193.00				

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED
FEBRUARY 18

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED
FEBRUARY 11

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	2,033	-197	-189	4	5	5,218	0.3	-1,688	442	35	13	5,266
Alaska	778	-47	-342	2	0	6,106	2.1	-122	-1,375	107	9	6,222
Arizona	2,990	-367	492	4	1	19,669	0.7	370	7,041	112	11	19,792
Arkansas	1,508	153	287	1	2	9,143	0.8	713	-1,653	41	6	9,190
California	43,381	-4,706	-2,355	93	58	394,717	2.3	-9,002	-43,459	1,423	837	396,977
Colorado	2,525	-176	-376	4	9	26,681	1.0	445	-1,234	250	137	27,068
Connecticut	3,156	-302	915	0	1	31,185	1.9	2,048	1,413	42	28	31,255
Delaware	310	-13	-294	0	1	4,729	1.1	-155	-294	18	9	4,756
District of Columbia	1,086	378	365	12	0	4,507	0.8	-138	-746	198	23	4,728
Florida	5,353	-534	-691	19	16	36,634	0.4	-128	-4,185	101	75	36,810
Georgia	5,290	-1,220	-619	19	11	28,339	0.6	-1,054	-9,181	103	125	28,567
Hawaii	1,023	-68	-451	0	3	5,496	1.0	-372	-3,062	54	43	5,593
Idaho	1,148	-217	100	7	1	10,386	1.3	-594	1,678	210	22	10,618
Illinois	9,049	-299	-870	2	1	120,796	2.1	8,754	-14,092	290	115	121,201
Indiana	3,329	-820	-2,074	2	4	28,235	0.9	-4,794	-3,645	36	20	28,291
Iowa	1,626	-166	-58	1	3	21,527	1.4	-1,209	-1,783	29	12	21,568
Kansas	1,618	545	-380	0	1	5,353	0.4	-439	-2,659	28	11	5,392
Kentucky	7,858	6,099	1,860	1	0	12,766	0.7	1,508	-393	47	57	12,870
Louisiana	1,576	-190	-55	0	1	12,054	0.7	-242	-2,704	38	12	12,104
Maine	636	-82	-108	0	0	7,789	1.3	120	-464	29	11	7,829
Maryland	1,718	-107	-904	6	1	21,766	0.7	-378	-3,003	171	36	21,973
Massachusetts	6,834	-636	1,570	7	8	83,288	2.3	1,276	6,944	157	65	83,510
Michigan	6,306	-2,521	-8,098	2	1	67,503	1.6	109	245	149	53	67,705
Minnesota	3,504	-1,479	-318	6	2	62,075	2.3	-3,403	-3,699	109	64	62,248
Mississippi	844	-44	-117	2	4	5,738	0.5	-30	422	26	13	5,777
Missouri	2,476	-658	-8,528	0	4	21,125	0.8	-1,230	252	93	19	21,237
Montana	665	-67	-100	18	1	9,374	2.0	-457	459	542	24	9,940
Nebraska	550	-200	-151	0	0	5,895	0.6	-116	74	5	1	5,901
Nevada	2,265	-24	-27	3	0	19,951	1.4	28	1,335	134	35	20,120
New Hampshire	355	-69	55	2	2	3,212	0.5	23	263	1	3	3,216
New Jersey	6,969	1,063	-1,618	21	7	107,465	2.7	-573	12,830	262	145	107,872
New Mexico	631	-80	-30	1	1	9,942	1.3	-156	-128	174	25	10,141
New York	14,461	-2,105	-1,808	16	23	172,538	1.9	-1,143	-21,869	318	248	173,104
North Carolina	3,184	-144	165	3	2	19,886	0.4	-92	4,554	75	99	20,060
North Dakota	287	-13	-44	2	1	5,253	1.3	-241	-816	14	4	5,271
Ohio	12,799	-543	-2,320	3	8	61,872	1.2	-526	2,436	73	90	62,035
Oklahoma	1,727	371	-13	5	4	10,358	0.7	-344	-2,362	39	36	10,433
Oregon	4,247	-534	425	19	5	32,757	1.7	-328	4,166	529	42	33,328
Pennsylvania	9,495	496	-785	11	15	100,067	1.8	-2,042	2,213	279	95	100,441
Puerto Rico	1,016	-390	-136	2	8	16,815	1.9	-867	1,321	123	111	17,049
Rhode Island	1,162	277	125	0	2	11,506	2.5	-125	761	17	17	11,540
South Carolina	1,784	-309	740	0	6	13,504	0.6	-343	1,919	27	39	13,570
South Dakota	202	-12	35	1	1	2,698	0.6	-19	-113	48	4	2,750
Tennessee	2,128	-494	-2,547	4	10	16,742	0.5	-355	-2,008	48	52	16,842
Texas	14,540	-1,109	595	36	55	122,936	1.0	2,178	17,171	430	885	124,251
Utah	1,604	-409	762	14	2	13,524	0.9	-277	4,306	184	9	13,717
Vermont	322	-11	-87	1	0	3,760	1.3	-32	-307	3	1	3,764
Virgin Islands	32	0	-31	0	0	182	0.5	-22	-656	0	2	184
Virginia	1,597	-218	-376	5	2	11,675	0.3	-126	4,437	59	82	11,816
Washington	5,067	-519	328	17	18	56,660	1.7	-1,252	4,849	372	264	57,296
West Virginia	805	-104	-300	1	1	9,164	1.4	-384	-2,223	41	19	9,224
Wisconsin	4,803	-1,420	-1,034	8	1	35,489	1.3	-2,397	-5,079	91	14	35,594
Wyoming	355	-84	-80	3	0	2,631	1.0	-132	-26	56	0	2,687
Totals	211,007	-14,325	-29,495	390	313	1,928,681	1.3	-19,755	-51,687	7,840	4,172	1,940,693

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 18, 2023

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
KY	+6,099	No comment.
NJ	+1,063	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-4,706	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
MI	-2,521	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing industry.
NY	-2,105	Fewer layoffs in the construction, accommodation and food services, and transportation and warehousing industries.
MN	-1,479	No comment.
WI	-1,420	No comment.
GA	-1,220	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, and trade industries.
TX	-1,109	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. For further questions on the seasonal adjustment methodology, please see the [official release page for the UI claims seasonal adjustment factors](#) or contact BLS directly through the [Local Area Unemployment Statistics web contact form](#).

[Weekly Claims Archives](#)
[Weekly Claims Data](#)

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