



News Release

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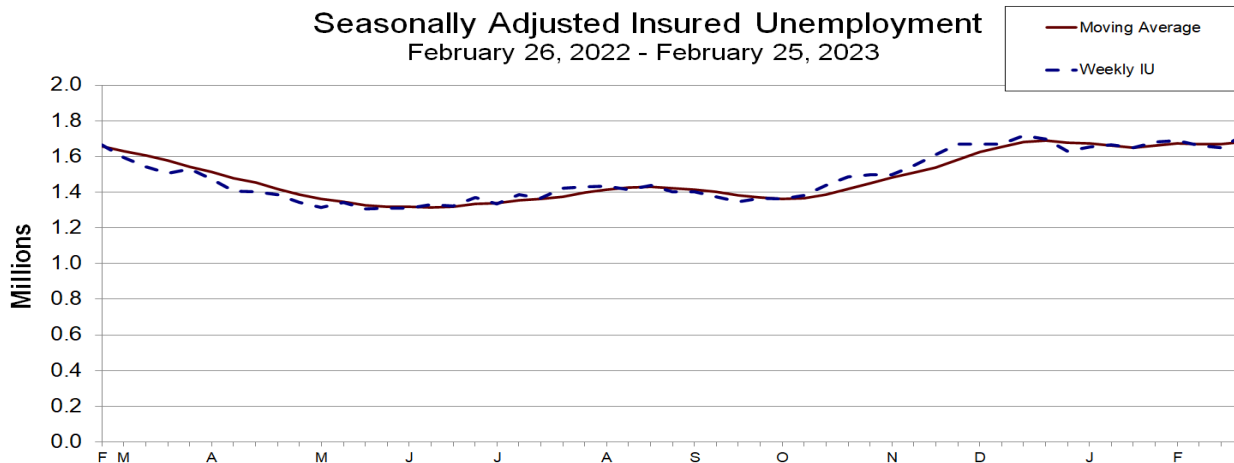
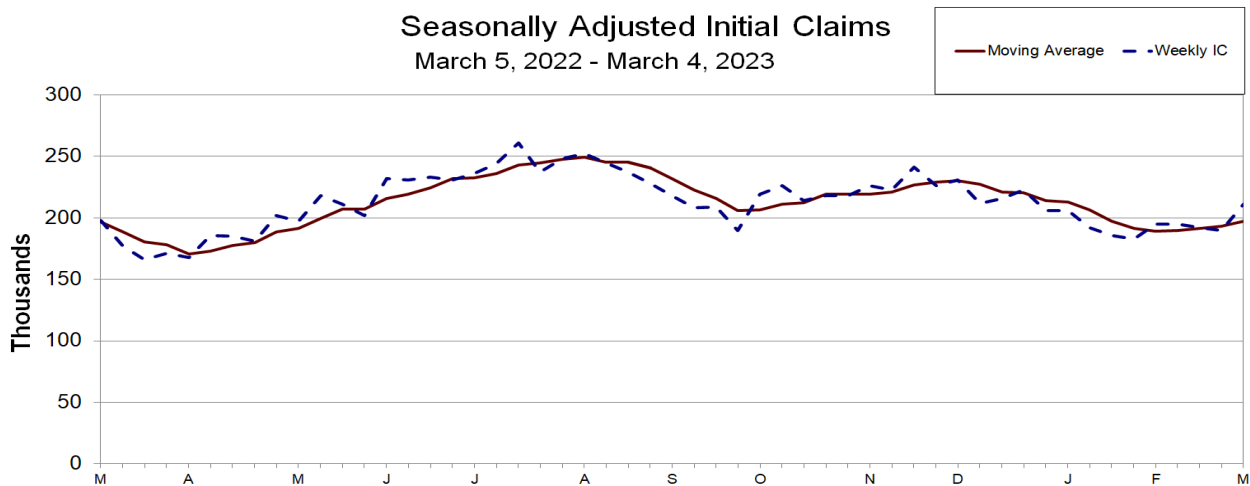
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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, March 9, 2023

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending March 4, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 211,000, an increase of 21,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 190,000. The 4-week moving average was 197,000, an increase of 4,000 from the previous week's unrevised average of 193,000.

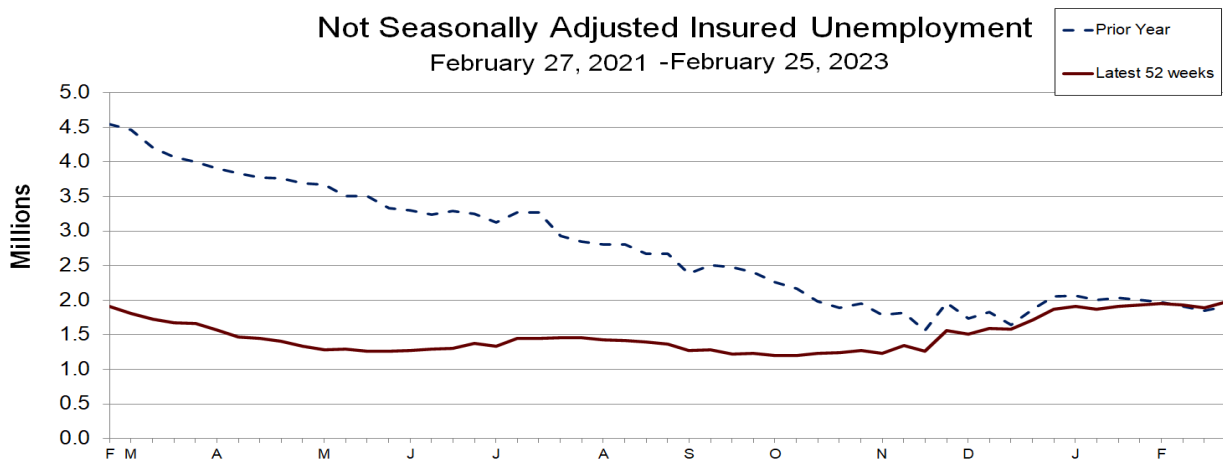
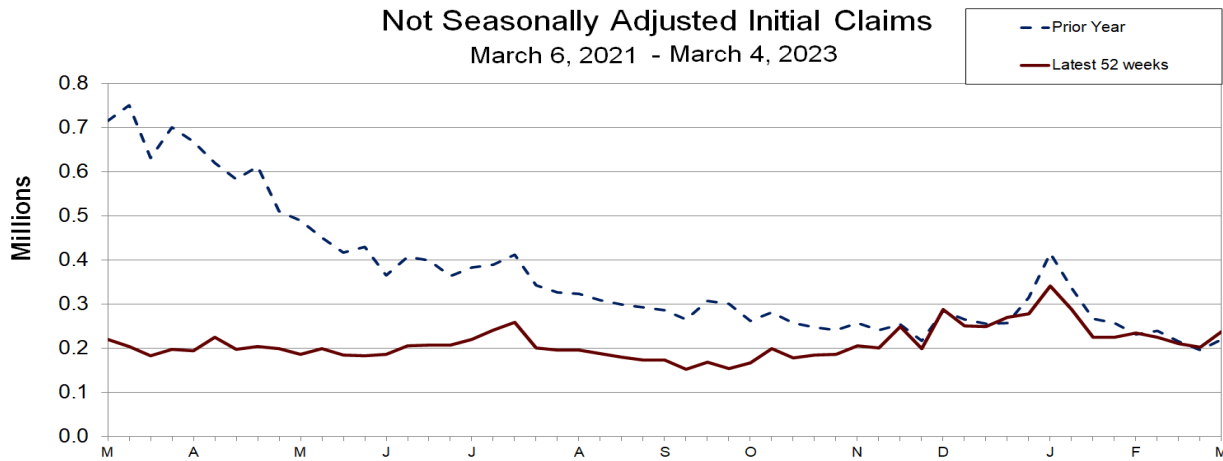
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending February 25, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending February 25 was 1,718,000, an increase of 69,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 6,000 from 1,655,000 to 1,649,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,679,500, an increase of 9,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,500 from 1,671,500 to 1,670,000.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 237,513 in the week ending March 4, an increase of 35,357 (or 17.5 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 11,791 (or 5.8 percent) from the previous week. There were 219,875 initial claims in the comparable week in 2022.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending February 25, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,975,193, an increase of 83,404 (or 4.4 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 4,948 (or 0.3 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.4 percent and the volume was 1,912,171.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending February 18 was 1,920,603, a decrease of 38,441 from the previous week. There were 1,909,028 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 18.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 347 in the week ending February 25, a decrease of 43 from the prior week. There were 269 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 44 from the preceding week.

There were 7,078 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending February 18, a decrease of 762 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,384, an increase of 212 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending February 18 were in New Jersey (2.7), Rhode Island (2.5), Massachusetts (2.3), Minnesota (2.3), California (2.2), Alaska (2.1), Illinois (2.0), Montana (2.0), New York (1.9), Connecticut (1.8), Pennsylvania (1.8), and Puerto Rico (1.8).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending February 25 were in Massachusetts (+4,438), Rhode Island (+1,210), New Jersey (+742), Arkansas (+619), and District of Columbia (+494), while the largest decreases were in Kentucky (-6,164), California (-2,844), Texas (-1,426), Ohio (-1,274), and Michigan (-1,020).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	March 4	February 25	Change	February 18	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	211,000	190,000	+21,000	192,000	198,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	237,513	202,156	+35,357	211,007	219,875
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	197,000	193,000	+4,000	191,250	196,750

WEEK ENDING	February 25	February 18	Change	February 11	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,718,000	1,649,000	+69,000	1,660,000	1,664,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,975,193	1,891,789	+83,404	1,928,688	1,912,171
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,679,500	1,670,000	+9,500	1,670,250	1,658,500
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.2%	1.1%	+0.1	1.1%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.4%	1.3%	+0.1	1.3%	1.4%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	February 25	February 18	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	347	390	-43	430
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	269	313	-44	276

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

WEEK ENDING	February 18	February 11	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,885,236	1,921,650	-36,414	1,847,939
Federal Employees	7,078	7,840	-762	9,963
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,384	4,172	+212	4,658
Extended Benefits ³	1,514	2,066	-552	29,907
State Additional Benefits ⁴	2,051	1,885	+166	2,259
STC / Workshare ⁵	20,340	21,431	-1,091	14,302
TOTAL	1,920,603	1,959,044	-38,441	1,909,028

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 March 4			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended February 25		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,071	1,631	440	8,398	5,090	3,308
Alaska	705	693	12	5,895	6,106	-211
Arizona	2,999	2,790	209	18,383	19,479	-1,096
Arkansas	1,726	2,127	-401	7,350	7,004	346
California	51,026	40,537	10,489	415,464	379,846	35,618
Colorado	2,738	2,502	236	28,836	26,486	2,350
Connecticut	4,140	3,018	1,122	32,333	28,463	3,870
Delaware	305	248	57	5,002	4,897	105
District of Columbia	552	1,580	-1,028	5,615	4,832	783
Florida	4,660	5,293	-633	31,143	36,249	-5,106
Georgia	5,198	5,072	126	27,955	28,232	-277
Hawaii	1,433	1,132	301	6,192	5,663	529
Idaho	1,123	1,118	5	9,807	10,279	-472
Illinois	8,617	9,376	-759	119,106	114,012	5,094
Indiana	3,903	3,231	672	26,560	26,674	-114
Iowa	1,794	1,720	74	21,377	21,478	-101
Kansas	963	1,179	-216	5,850	5,635	215
Kentucky	4,480	1,694	2,786	13,627	13,012	615
Louisiana	1,490	1,374	116	10,481	11,757	-1,276
Maine	774	659	115	8,248	7,606	642
Maryland	1,657	1,689	-32	20,798	21,451	-653
Massachusetts	10,071	11,272	-1,201	88,950	83,528	5,422
Michigan *	5,018	5,286	-268	65,389	70,144	-4,755
Minnesota	4,485	3,436	1,049	68,689	61,956	6,733
Mississippi	716	734	-18	4,817	5,523	-706
Missouri	2,269	2,344	-75	19,251	20,703	-1,452
Montana	760	896	-136	10,155	9,368	787
Nebraska	634	597	37	5,757	5,823	-66
Nevada	2,431	2,136	295	19,269	19,675	-406
New Hampshire	658	491	167	3,115	3,065	50
New Jersey	8,073	7,711	362	112,001	106,201	5,800
New Mexico	651	594	57	9,655	9,886	-231
New York	30,241	13,878	16,363	191,539	171,223	20,316
North Carolina	3,464	2,890	574	18,279	19,490	-1,211
North Dakota	276	283	-7	5,584	5,165	419
Ohio	12,635	11,525	1,110	60,400	61,111	-711
Oklahoma	843	1,139	-296	10,291	10,573	-282
Oregon	5,665	4,406	1,259	34,118	32,066	2,052
Pennsylvania	9,445	9,092	353	99,371	100,062	-691
Puerto Rico	1,022	980	42	13,433	16,244	-2,811
Rhode Island	689	2,372	-1,683	13,685	11,760	1,925
South Carolina	1,717	1,690	27	12,388	13,010	-622
South Dakota	255	150	105	2,789	2,618	171
Tennessee	2,279	2,071	208	15,496	16,187	-691
Texas	14,091	13,114	977	120,493	120,789	-296
Utah	1,618	1,460	158	13,194	13,171	23
Vermont	565	436	129	4,136	3,620	516
Virgin Islands	18	21	-3	200	190	10
Virginia	2,109	1,385	724	12,957	11,785	1,172
Washington	5,871	4,940	931	62,138	55,888	6,250
West Virginia	701	717	-16	9,667	8,988	679
Wisconsin	5,513	5,040	473	36,467	35,067	1,400
Wyoming	376	407	-31	3,100	2,659	441
US Total	237,513	202,156	35,357	1,975,193	1,891,789	83,404

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.

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 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	1,649	-11	1,670.00	1.1
February 25, 2023	190	-2	193.00	1,718	69	1,679.50	1.2
March 4, 2023	211	21	197.00				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 25						INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 18						ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	CHANGE FROM					CHANGE FROM							
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE (%) ²	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹			
Alabama	1,631	-402	-238	4	1	5,090	0.3	-128	573	22	12	5,124	
Alaska	693	-85	-279	2	2	6,106	2.1	0	-1,225	104	10	6,220	
Arizona	2,790	-200	269	2	0	19,479	0.7	-190	6,516	116	17	19,612	
Arkansas	2,127	619	1,147	0	2	7,004	0.6	-2,139	-2,718	28	18	7,050	
California	40,537	-2,844	-3,017	80	61	379,846	2.2	-14,871	-42,865	1,165	862	381,873	
Colorado	2,502	-23	-68	0	7	26,486	1.0	-195	318	240	116	26,842	
Connecticut	3,018	-138	428	0	1	28,463	1.8	-2,722	-2,568	42	33	28,538	
Delaware	248	-62	-256	0	2	4,897	1.1	168	365	19	7	4,923	
District of Columbia	1,580	494	620	6	0	4,832	0.9	325	686	141	3	4,976	
Florida	5,293	-60	-217	9	24	36,249	0.4	-385	-3,860	85	94	36,428	
Georgia	5,072	-218	-237	26	15	28,232	0.6	-107	-5,201	128	115	28,475	
Hawaii	1,132	109	-271	2	5	5,663	1.0	160	-2,105	35	58	5,756	
Idaho	1,118	-30	163	7	1	10,279	1.3	-107	1,925	191	18	10,488	
Illinois	9,376	327	-631	4	1	114,012	2.0	-6,784	-3,243	282	138	114,432	
Indiana	3,231	-98	-1,132	1	1	26,674	0.9	-1,561	-2,411	44	19	26,737	
Iowa	1,720	94	110	1	2	21,478	1.4	-49	-903	19	8	21,505	
Kansas	1,179	-439	-1,543	0	0	5,635	0.4	282	-965	23	12	5,670	
Kentucky	1,694	-6,164	-3,511	0	0	13,012	0.7	246	-2,978	42	58	13,112	
Louisiana	1,374	-202	3	0	3	11,757	0.7	-297	-2,081	44	11	11,812	
Maine	659	23	-69	1	1	7,606	1.3	-183	-317	25	16	7,647	
Maryland	1,689	-29	-293	12	5	21,451	0.7	-315	-2,556	219	87	21,757	
Massachusetts	11,272	4,438	6,578	5	7	83,528	2.3	240	8,580	104	72	83,704	
Michigan	5,286	-1,020	-12,618	2	0	70,144	1.7	2,641	-1,050	158	52	70,354	
Minnesota	3,436	-68	209	4	2	61,956	2.3	-119	-463	91	47	62,094	
Mississippi	734	-110	-120	2	1	5,523	0.5	-215	368	22	13	5,558	
Missouri	2,344	-132	-1,711	2	2	20,703	0.8	-422	-3,056	92	17	20,812	
Montana	896	231	209	11	4	9,368	2.0	-6	824	441	23	9,832	
Nebraska	597	47	-32	0	1	5,823	0.6	-72	75	8	0	5,831	
Nevada	2,136	-129	692	5	2	19,675	1.4	-276	1,667	120	40	19,835	
New Hampshire	491	136	137	1	0	3,065	0.5	-147	84	1	1	3,067	
New Jersey	7,711	742	442	17	4	106,201	2.7	-1,264	13,413	252	139	106,592	
New Mexico	594	-37	-5	0	0	9,886	1.3	-56	42	142	26	10,054	
New York	13,878	-583	646	18	17	171,223	1.9	-1,315	-17,534	266	251	171,740	
North Carolina	2,890	-294	122	4	1	19,490	0.4	-396	4,168	57	98	19,645	
North Dakota	283	-4	-12	4	0	5,165	1.3	-88	-634	13	8	5,186	
Ohio	11,525	-1,274	-1,382	4	2	61,111	1.2	-761	1,812	62	91	61,264	
Oklahoma	1,139	-588	-462	4	3	10,573	0.7	215	-1,934	58	39	10,670	
Oregon	4,406	159	981	22	7	32,066	1.7	-691	4,613	481	44	32,591	
Pennsylvania	9,092	-403	-444	9	10	100,062	1.8	-5	-1,518	240	153	100,455	
Puerto Rico	980	-36	115	3	5	16,244	1.8	-571	1,285	134	129	16,507	
Rhode Island	2,372	1,210	1,371	1	0	11,760	2.5	254	1,163	19	17	11,796	
South Carolina	1,690	-94	572	2	2	13,010	0.6	-494	1,912	32	41	13,083	
South Dakota	150	-52	-30	1	0	2,618	0.6	-80	-82	22	2	2,642	
Tennessee	2,071	-57	-645	7	2	16,187	0.5	-555	-2,059	41	46	16,274	
Texas	13,114	-1,426	-106	35	58	120,789	1.0	-2,147	16,233	414	945	122,148	
Utah	1,460	-144	164	3	0	13,171	0.8	-353	4,334	182	11	13,364	
Vermont	436	114	67	0	0	3,620	1.2	-140	-396	2	1	3,623	
Virgin Islands	21	-11	-32	0	0	190	0.6	8	-348	4	2	196	
Virginia	1,385	-212	-225	2	1	11,785	0.3	110	4,527	64	77	11,926	
Washington	4,940	-127	485	13	2	55,888	1.7	-772	6,910	365	256	56,509	
West Virginia	717	-88	-151	0	2	8,988	1.4	-176	-258	37	14	9,039	
Wisconsin	5,040	237	-259	5	0	35,067	1.2	-422	-3,647	86	16	35,169	
Wyoming	407	52	48	4	0	2,659	1.0	28	335	54	1	2,714	
Totals	202,156	-8,851	-14,418	347	269	1,891,789	1.3	-36,899	-26,247	7,078	4,384	1,903,251	

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 25, 2023

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MA	+4,438	No comment.
RI	+1,210	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services, construction, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation services industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
KY	-6,164	No comment.
CA	-2,844	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
TX	-1,426	No comment.
OH	-1,274	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing and automotive industries.
MI	-1,020	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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