



News Release

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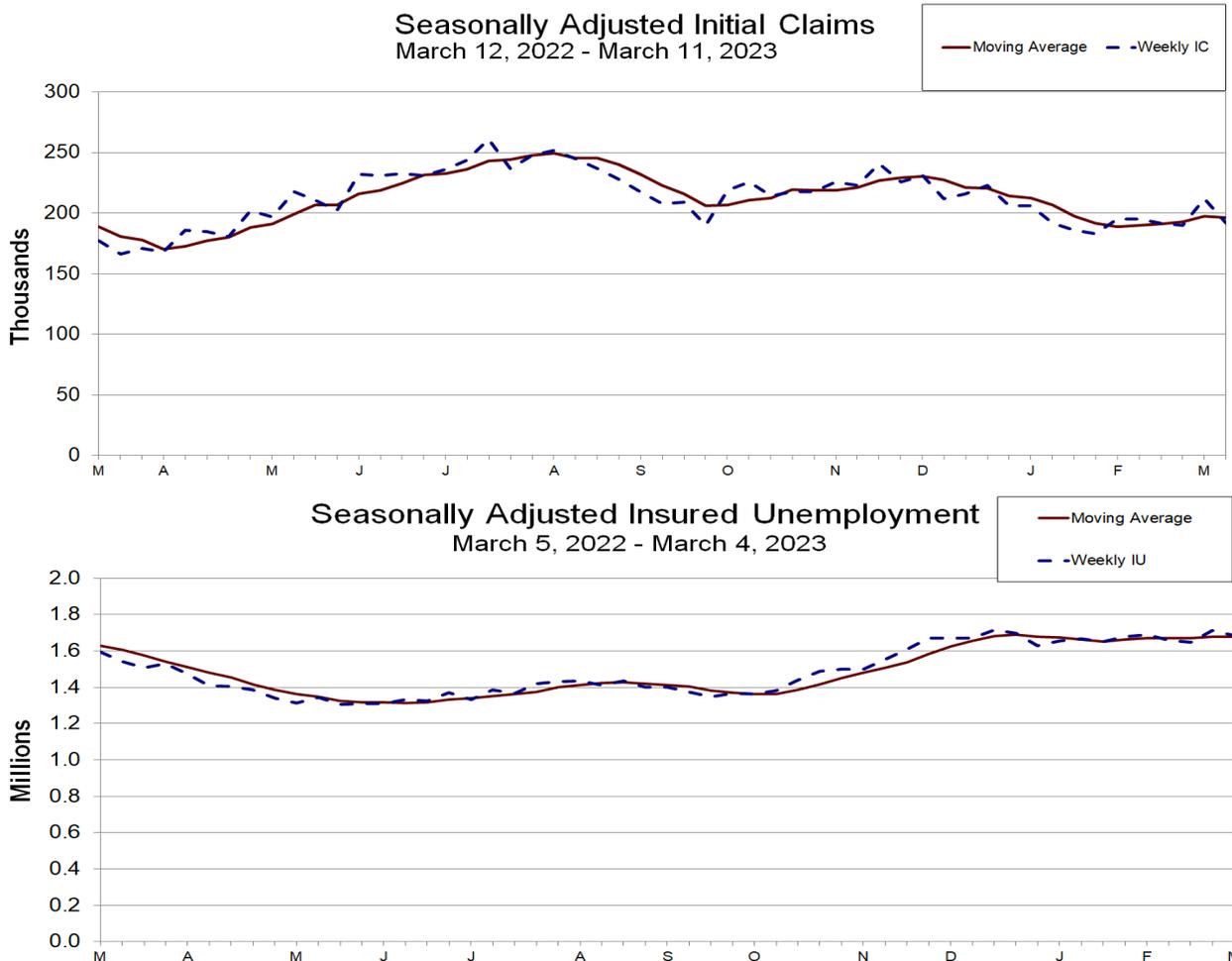
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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, March 16, 2023

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending March 11, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 192,000, a decrease of 20,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 211,000 to 212,000. The 4-week moving average was 196,500, a decrease of 750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 197,000 to 197,250.

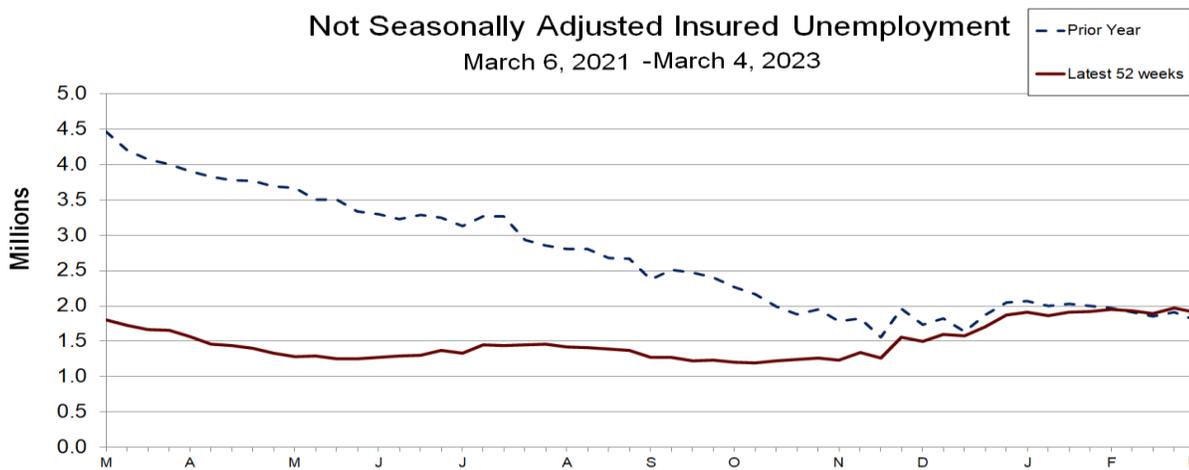
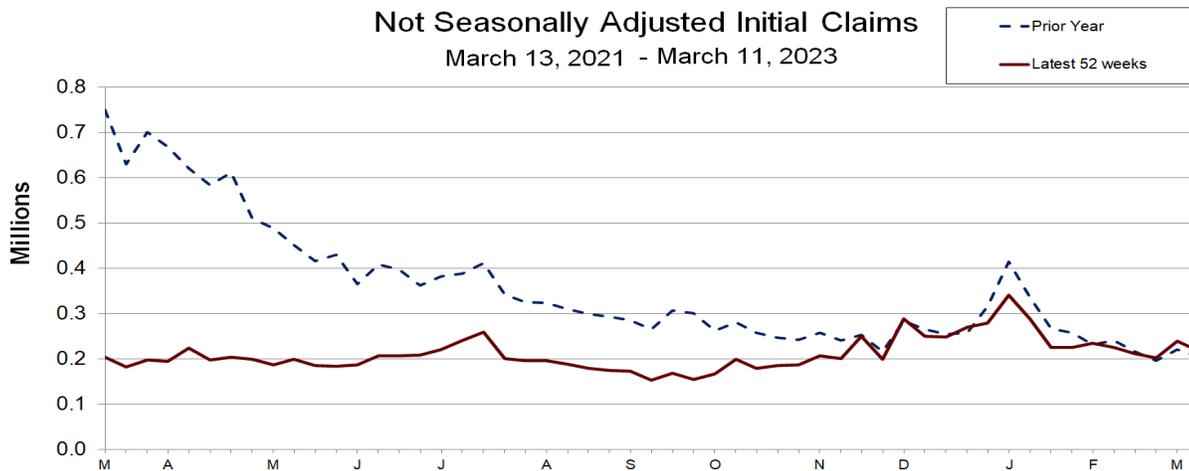
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending March 4, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending March 4 was 1,684,000, a decrease of 29,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 5,000 from 1,718,000 to 1,713,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,676,500, a decrease of 1,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,250 from 1,679,500 to 1,678,250.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 217,444 in the week ending March 11, a decrease of 21,396 (or -9.0 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 1,911 (or 0.8 percent) from the previous week. There were 203,911 initial claims in the comparable week in 2022.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending March 4, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,914,943, a decrease of 55,075 (or -2.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 22,270 (or -1.1 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,804,315.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending February 25 was 2,000,239, an increase of 79,630 from the previous week. There were 1,968,546 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 25.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 401 in the week ending March 4, an increase of 54 from the prior week. There were 384 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 115 from the preceding week.

There were 6,962 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending February 25, a decrease of 116 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,229, a decrease of 155 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending February 25 were in Rhode Island (2.9), New Jersey (2.7), Massachusetts (2.5), California (2.4), Minnesota (2.4), Montana (2.1), New York (2.1), Alaska (2.0), Connecticut (2.0), and Illinois (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending March 4 were in New York (+16,244), California (+9,918), Kentucky (+2,789), Oregon (+1,276), and Ohio (+1,209), while the largest decreases were in Rhode Island (-1,687), Massachusetts (-1,134), District of Columbia (-937), Illinois (-753), and Florida (-428).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	March 11	March 4	Change	February 25	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	192,000	212,000	-20,000	190,000	177,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	217,444	238,840	-21,396	202,156	203,911
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	196,500	197,250	-750	193,000	188,750

WEEK ENDING	March 4	February 25	Change	February 18	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,684,000	1,713,000	-29,000	1,649,000	1,594,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,914,943	1,970,018	-55,075	1,891,795	1,804,315
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,676,500	1,678,250	-1,750	1,670,000	1,628,500
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.1%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.3%	1.4%	-0.1	1.3%	1.3%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	March 4	February 25	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	401	347	+54	565
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	384	269	+115	410

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

WEEK ENDING	February 25	February 18	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,962,723	1,885,242	+77,481	1,907,693
Federal Employees	6,962	7,078	-116	10,700
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,229	4,384	-155	4,683
Extended Benefits ³	1,978	1,514	+464	28,233
State Additional Benefits ⁴	2,058	2,051	+7	2,209
STC / Workshare ⁵	22,289	20,340	+1,949	15,028
TOTAL	2,000,239	1,920,609	+79,630	1,968,546

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 11			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended March 4		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,130	2,207	-77	8,305	9,244	-939
Alaska	777	673	104	5,766	5,986	-220
Arizona	2,820	3,121	-301	18,264	19,711	-1,447
Arkansas	1,256	1,816	-560	7,548	7,917	-369
California	48,143	50,455	-2,312	412,361	408,613	3,748
Colorado	2,474	2,677	-203	26,401	27,914	-1,513
Connecticut	3,619	3,778	-159	30,870	32,264	-1,394
Delaware	226	536	-310	5,042	4,644	398
District of Columbia	841	643	198	4,593	5,775	-1,182
Florida	5,141	4,865	276	32,860	35,110	-2,250
Georgia	4,183	5,372	-1,189	29,289	29,024	265
Hawaii	1,142	1,427	-285	6,012	6,098	-86
Idaho	1,106	1,121	-15	9,443	10,210	-767
Illinois	9,274	8,623	651	112,975	117,503	-4,528
Indiana	5,389	3,572	1,817	27,096	26,026	1,070
Iowa	1,773	1,680	93	20,174	21,096	-922
Kansas	1,045	964	81	5,620	5,396	224
Kentucky	4,535	4,483	52	13,005	13,528	-523
Louisiana	1,547	1,631	-84	10,208	11,426	-1,218
Maine	789	766	23	8,077	7,971	106
Maryland	1,576	1,954	-378	21,845	22,392	-547
Massachusetts	9,996	10,138	-142	84,201	90,728	-6,527
Michigan	5,289	5,342	-53	64,256	68,424	-4,168
Minnesota	3,433	4,461	-1,028	65,179	64,505	674
Mississippi	840	810	30	4,656	5,533	-877
Missouri	2,400	2,394	6	17,740	20,341	-2,601
Montana	527	765	-238	9,019	9,818	-799
Nebraska	622	632	-10	5,572	5,743	-171
Nevada	2,204	2,478	-274	19,522	20,153	-631
New Hampshire	317	744	-427	3,410	3,291	119
New Jersey	7,926	8,313	-387	109,027	109,166	-139
New Mexico	630	677	-47	9,504	9,836	-332
New York	14,817	30,122	-15,305	176,074	189,136	-13,062
North Carolina	3,358	3,578	-220	17,749	19,249	-1,500
North Dakota	309	249	60	5,200	5,224	-24
Ohio	15,078	12,734	2,344	58,611	60,895	-2,284
Oklahoma	1,227	839	388	10,007	10,474	-467
Oregon	4,553	5,682	-1,129	33,670	33,661	9
Pennsylvania	9,297	9,519	-222	97,073	100,199	-3,126
Puerto Rico	1,069	1,075	-6	14,830	15,643	-813
Rhode Island	779	685	94	11,731	13,477	-1,746
South Carolina	1,780	1,815	-35	12,101	12,778	-677
South Dakota	196	267	-71	2,685	2,787	-102
Tennessee	2,185	2,339	-154	15,129	16,052	-923
Texas	14,212	14,183	29	113,741	121,206	-7,465
Utah	1,481	1,618	-137	12,846	13,250	-404
Vermont	276	574	-298	4,026	3,916	110
Virgin Islands *	33	31	2	188	190	-2
Virginia	1,911	1,886	25	13,208	11,615	1,593
Washington	5,190	5,953	-763	60,996	57,709	3,287
West Virginia	614	734	-120	9,282	8,894	388
Wisconsin	4,783	5,446	-663	35,151	35,454	-303
Wyoming	326	393	-67	2,805	2,823	-18
US Total	217,444	238,840	-21,396	1,914,943	1,970,018	-55,075

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	
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	1,713	64	1,678.25	1.2
March 4, 2023	212	22	197.25	1,684	-29	1,676.50	1.2
March 11, 2023	192	-20	196.50				

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED
MARCH 4

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED
FEBRUARY 25

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	2,207	576	395	9	5	9,244	0.5	4,154	4,827	31	11	9,286
Alaska	673	-20	-232	2	1	5,986	2.0	-120	-804	113	8	6,107
Arizona	3,121	331	907	3	1	19,711	0.7	232	6,423	100	12	19,823
Arkansas	1,816	-311	1,126	2	0	7,917	0.7	913	8	25	10	7,952
California	50,455	9,918	12,313	85	82	408,613	2.4	28,767	14,046	1,113	905	410,631
Colorado	2,677	175	208	1	5	27,914	1.0	1,428	2,102	230	146	28,290
Connecticut	3,778	760	1,196	1	1	32,264	2.0	3,801	5,314	27	32	32,323
Delaware	536	288	52	1	4	4,644	1.0	-253	218	18	6	4,668
District of Columbia	643	-937	-1,312	13	0	5,775	1.1	943	1,648	169	3	5,947
Florida	4,865	-428	1,537	11	15	35,110	0.4	-1,139	-974	103	75	35,288
Georgia	5,372	300	176	15	18	29,024	0.6	792	-3,937	110	132	29,266
Hawaii	1,427	295	367	3	11	6,098	1.1	429	-1,907	33	49	6,180
Idaho	1,121	3	196	12	5	10,210	1.3	-69	2,184	184	22	10,416
Illinois	8,623	-753	393	0	5	117,503	2.0	3,491	-16,927	253	109	117,865
Indiana	3,572	341	-117	7	1	26,026	0.9	-648	-2,097	47	18	26,091
Iowa	1,680	-40	216	1	0	21,096	1.4	-382	-1,100	18	10	21,124
Kansas	964	-215	-2,345	1	0	5,396	0.4	-239	-1,072	26	11	5,433
Kentucky	4,483	2,789	741	7	0	13,528	0.7	516	-1,665	30	60	13,618
Louisiana	1,631	257	304	0	2	11,426	0.6	-331	-1,659	37	12	11,475
Maine	766	107	100	1	0	7,971	1.3	365	230	31	12	8,014
Maryland	1,954	265	191	8	3	22,392	0.7	941	35	157	78	22,627
Massachusetts	10,138	-1,134	2,243	7	9	90,728	2.5	7,200	17,131	122	60	90,910
Michigan	5,342	56	-3,401	2	4	68,424	1.6	-1,720	-2,913	131	52	68,607
Minnesota	4,461	1,025	1,321	2	5	64,505	2.4	2,549	3,037	92	51	64,648
Mississippi	810	76	43	1	0	5,533	0.5	10	787	27	13	5,573
Missouri	2,394	50	-1,927	2	4	20,341	0.7	-362	-1,041	81	17	20,439
Montana	765	-131	-106	14	4	9,818	2.1	450	1,478	451	24	10,293
Nebraska	632	35	-32	0	2	5,743	0.6	-80	98	9	4	5,756
Nevada	2,478	342	345	2	1	20,153	1.4	478	3,185	131	36	20,320
New Hampshire	744	253	356	0	0	3,291	0.5	226	362	7	3	3,301
New Jersey	8,313	602	2,140	34	14	109,166	2.7	2,965	19,745	237	169	109,572
New Mexico	677	83	156	0	1	9,836	1.2	-50	7	156	20	10,012
New York	30,122	16,244	16,877	15	13	189,136	2.1	17,913	5,206	279	262	189,677
North Carolina	3,578	688	980	4	1	19,249	0.4	-241	4,159	53	99	19,401
North Dakota	249	-34	-47	0	0	5,224	1.3	59	-518	15	6	5,245
Ohio	12,734	1,209	1,925	3	12	60,895	1.2	-216	1,552	77	84	61,056
Oklahoma	839	-300	-600	6	3	10,474	0.7	-99	-1,455	44	33	10,551
Oregon	5,682	1,276	2,352	24	7	33,661	1.8	1,595	6,944	472	45	34,178
Pennsylvania	9,519	427	312	17	10	100,199	1.8	137	3,130	266	120	100,585
Puerto Rico	1,075	95	233	4	1	15,643	1.8	-601	3,998	126	131	15,900
Rhode Island	685	-1,687	-1,356	0	4	13,477	2.9	1,717	2,969	15	17	13,509
South Carolina	1,815	125	951	4	5	12,778	0.6	-232	2,508	28	37	12,843
South Dakota	267	117	116	1	0	2,787	0.7	169	115	29	0	2,816
Tennessee	2,339	268	-953	3	10	16,052	0.5	-135	-1,321	49	55	16,156
Texas	14,183	1,069	1,781	37	83	121,206	1.0	417	20,310	423	812	122,441
Utah	1,618	158	286	12	5	13,250	0.8	79	4,699	166	8	13,424
Vermont	574	138	-33	0	0	3,916	1.4	296	-16	2	1	3,919
Virgin Islands	31	10	1	1	0	190	0.6	0	-294	2	0	192
Virginia	1,886	501	468	0	5	11,615	0.3	-170	4,804	65	78	11,758
Washington	5,953	1,013	1,508	11	18	57,709	1.7	1,821	9,702	390	237	58,336
West Virginia	734	17	9	0	2	8,894	1.4	-94	314	31	13	8,938
Wisconsin	5,446	406	33	7	2	35,454	1.3	387	-3,246	78	15	35,547
Wyoming	393	-14	-90	5	0	2,823	1.1	164	361	53	6	2,882
Totals	238,840	36,684	42,303	401	384	1,970,018	1.3	78,223	110,690	6,962	4,229	1,981,209

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 MARCH 4, 2023

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
NY	+16,244	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services, and construction industries.
CA	+9,918	Layoffs in the services industry.
KY	+2,789	Layoffs in the automobile industry.
OR	+1,276	No comment.
OH	+1,209	Layoffs in the manufacturing and automobile industries.
TX	+1,069	Layoffs in the manufacturing and wholesale trade industries.
MN	+1,025	No comment.
WA	+1,013	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
RI	-1,687	No comment.
MA	-1,134	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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