



News Release

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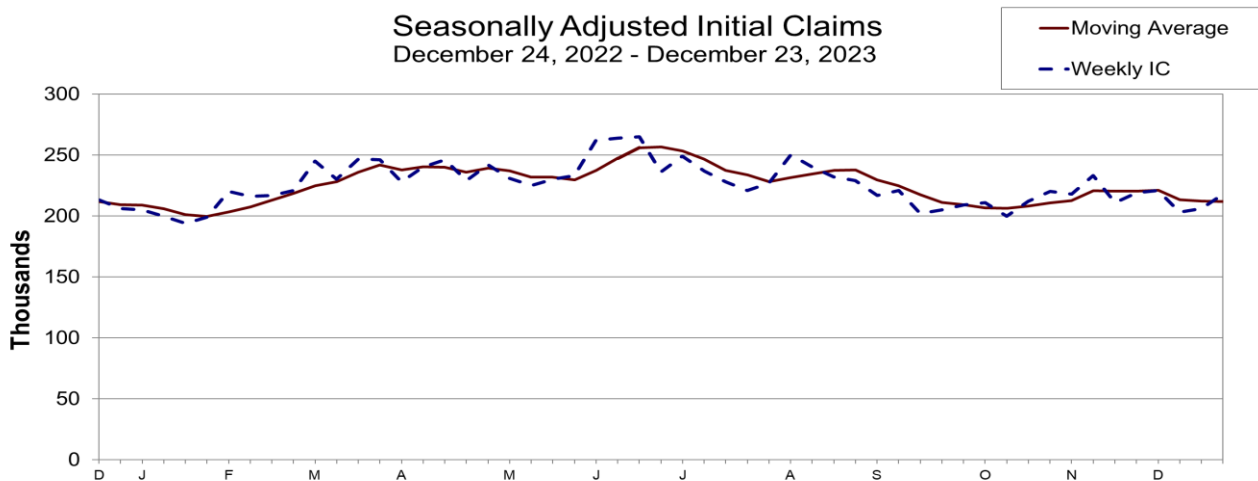
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

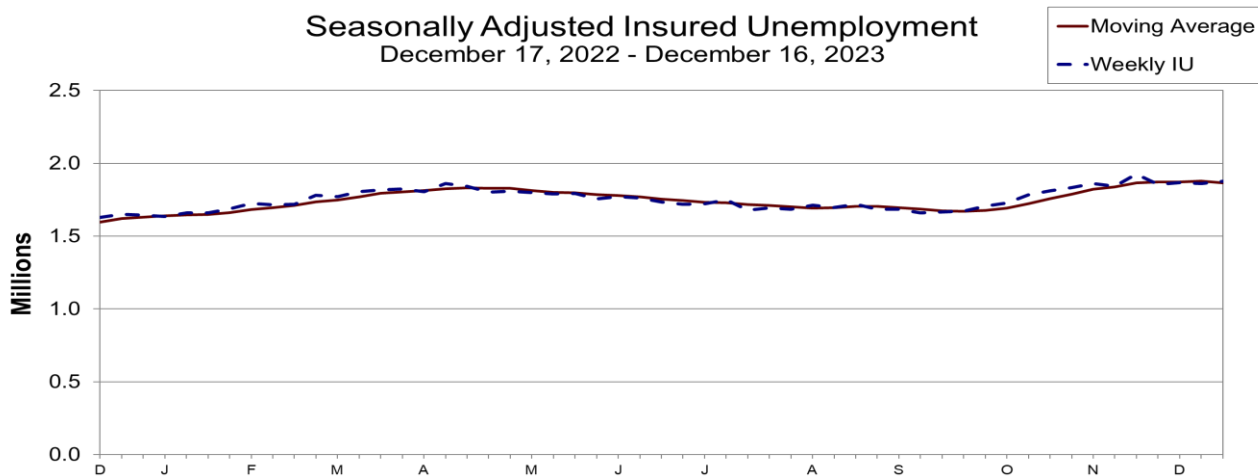
In the week ending December 23, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 218,000, an increase of 12,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 205,000 to 206,000. The 4-week moving average was 212,000, a decrease of 250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 212,000 to 212,250.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.3 percent for the week ending December 16, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's revised rate. The previous week's rate was revised down by 0.1 from 1.3 to 1.2 percent. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending December 16 was 1,875,000, an increase of 14,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 4,000 from 1,865,000 to 1,861,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,864,500, a decrease of 12,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,000 from 1,878,000 to 1,877,000.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
December 24, 2022 - December 23, 2023



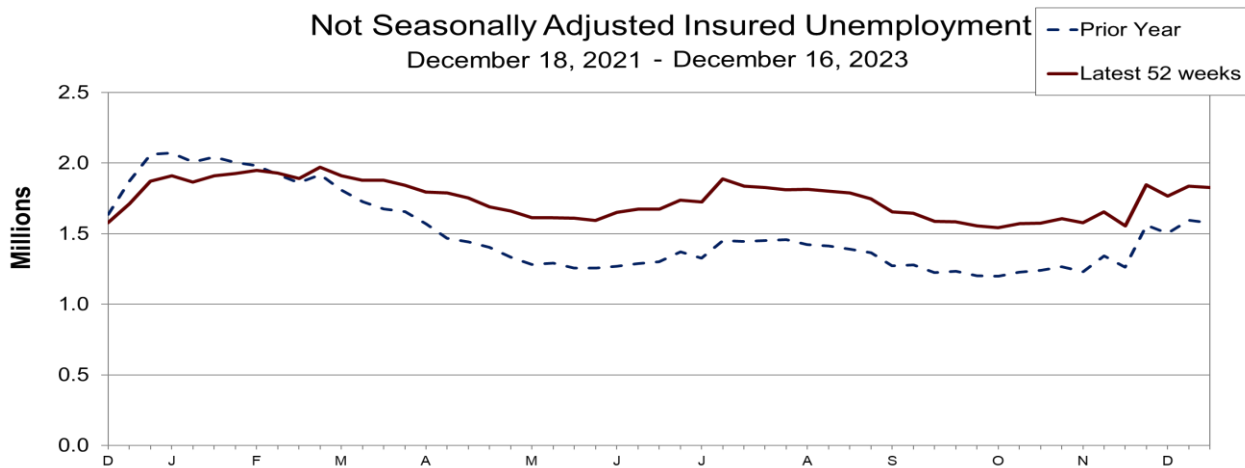
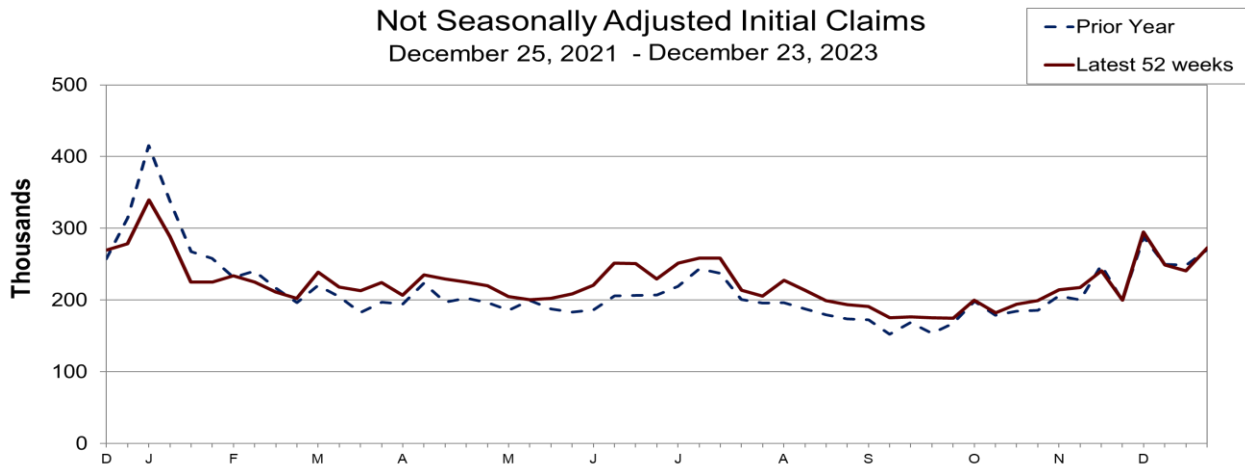
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
December 17, 2022 - December 16, 2023



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 272,610 in the week ending December 23, an increase of 31,570 (or 13.1 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 16,467 (or 6.8 percent) from the previous week. There were 269,877 initial claims in the comparable week in 2022.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.2 percent during the week ending December 16, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,826,178, a decrease of 9,236 (or -0.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 22,338 (or -1.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.1 percent and the volume was 1,577,004.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending December 9 was 1,863,707, an increase of 68,973 from the previous week. There were 1,620,130 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 December 9.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 514 in the week ending December 16, a decrease of 233 from the prior week. There were 355 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 34 from the preceding week.

There were 6,272 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending December 9, an increase of 141 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,383, an increase of 106 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending December 9 were in New Jersey (2.3), Alaska (2.2), California (2.2), Minnesota (2.0), Montana (2.0), Massachusetts (1.9), Puerto Rico (1.9), Washington (1.9), Illinois (1.8), New York (1.8), and Rhode Island (1.8).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending December 16 were in Ohio (+1,304), Oklahoma (+1,029), Michigan (+580), Connecticut (+472), and Massachusetts (+432), while the largest decreases were in California (-3,834), Georgia (-1,684), Pennsylvania (-588), Arkansas (-541), and Minnesota (-500).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	December 23	December 16	Change	December 9	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	218,000	206,000	+12,000	203,000	213,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	272,610	241,040	+31,570	249,090	269,877
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	212,000	212,250	-250	213,500	211,750

WEEK ENDING	December 16	December 9	Change	December 2	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,875,000	1,861,000	+14,000	1,866,000	1,627,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,826,178	1,835,414	-9,236	1,767,271	1,577,004
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,864,500	1,877,000	-12,500	1,872,000	1,596,750
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.3%	1.2%	+0.1	1.3%	1.1%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.1%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	December 16	December 9	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	514	747	-233	607
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	355	389	-34	381

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

WEEK ENDING	December 9	December 2	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	1,829,690	1,761,678	+68,012	1,589,779
Federal Employees	6,272	6,131	+141	7,068
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,383	4,277	+106	4,427
Extended Benefits ³	441	280	+161	2,978
State Additional Benefits ⁴	2,576	2,641	-65	1,788
STC / Workshare ⁵	20,345	19,727	+618	14,090
TOTAL	1,863,707	1,794,734	+68,973	1,620,130

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 149,106,140 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 December 23			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended December 16		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,282	2,274	8	8,674	9,376	-702
Alaska	879	798	81	6,619	6,755	-136
Arizona	2,943	3,264	-321	20,512	21,661	-1,149
Arkansas	2,160	1,493	667	9,709	10,330	-621
California **	49,098	43,504	5,594	382,949	386,931	-3,982
Colorado	1,850	2,118	-268	30,212	29,396	816
Connecticut	6,123	3,859	2,264	25,931	23,529	2,402
Delaware	576	420	156	5,413	4,939	474
District of Columbia	412	458	-46	5,738	6,050	-312
Florida	5,207	5,713	-506	30,782	38,412	-7,630
Georgia	5,398	5,241	157	29,200	30,375	-1,175
Hawaii	1,206	1,138	68	9,498	9,574	-76
Idaho	2,204	2,108	96	8,032	7,734	298
Illinois	14,649	13,518	1,131	105,626	103,045	2,581
Indiana	4,413	3,766	647	23,458	22,482	976
Iowa	6,072	4,552	1,520	13,504	11,546	1,958
Kansas **	1,724	1,449	275	5,792	5,918	-126
Kentucky	3,375	2,020	1,355	7,733	8,383	-650
Louisiana	1,580	1,857	-277	11,496	13,211	-1,715
Maine	858	969	-111	6,383	5,982	401
Maryland	2,846	2,512	334	22,830	22,512	318
Massachusetts	9,688	8,306	1,382	69,898	66,997	2,901
Michigan	10,579	10,663	-84	50,353	54,667	-4,314
Minnesota	6,865	6,777	88	62,993	55,627	7,366
Mississippi	1,155	1,248	-93	5,679	6,734	-1,055
Missouri	7,906	3,350	4,556	17,491	17,374	117
Montana	1,410	980	430	10,853	9,656	1,197
Nebraska	1,577	1,005	572	5,273	5,139	134
Nevada	3,237	3,092	145	23,534	23,226	308
New Hampshire	430	528	-98	3,032	3,169	-137
New Jersey	15,003	10,449	4,554	98,582	96,131	2,451
New Mexico	973	848	125	9,925	9,730	195
New York	16,425	15,676	749	165,754	161,599	4,155
North Carolina	2,622	2,743	-121	18,100	19,095	-995
North Dakota	928	811	117	3,744	2,950	794
Ohio	12,210	9,617	2,593	48,972	47,844	1,128
Oklahoma *	2,031	2,356	-325	9,180	9,609	-429
Oregon	6,193	4,791	1,402	33,406	33,533	-127
Pennsylvania	15,922	13,531	2,391	102,450	100,743	1,707
Puerto Rico	1,749	1,270	479	7,023	17,232	-10,209
Rhode Island	1,670	1,337	333	9,351	8,510	841
South Carolina	2,411	2,173	238	13,328	13,815	-487
South Dakota	362	427	-65	1,984	1,769	215
Tennessee	3,594	3,166	428	16,317	16,174	143
Texas *	12,944	15,192	-2,248	128,570	144,754	-16,184
Utah	1,133	1,400	-267	11,062	11,386	-324
Vermont	551	309	242	3,062	2,607	455
Virgin Islands	21	30	-9	220	240	-20
Virginia	1,969	1,717	252	13,195	12,258	937
Washington	7,474	6,802	672	70,850	66,250	4,600
West Virginia	881	1,343	-462	8,639	8,092	547
Wisconsin	6,352	5,605	747	30,811	28,447	2,364
Wyoming	490	467	23	2,456	1,916	540
US Total	272,610	241,040	31,570	1,826,178	1,835,414	-9,236

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.

**Denotes state 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	
December 17, 2022	212	6	211.75	1,627	26	1,596.75	1.1
December 24, 2022	213	1	211.75	1,650	23	1,619.75	1.1
December 31, 2022	206	-7	209.25	1,645	-5	1,630.75	1.1
January 7, 2023	205	-1	209.00	1,634	-11	1,639.00	1.1
January 14, 2023	200	-5	206.00	1,658	24	1,646.75	1.1
January 21, 2023	194	-6	201.25	1,660	2	1,649.25	1.1
January 28, 2023	199	5	199.50	1,688	28	1,660.00	1.2
February 4, 2023	220	21	203.25	1,723	35	1,682.25	1.2
February 11, 2023	216	-4	207.25	1,714	-9	1,696.25	1.2
February 18, 2023	217	1	213.00	1,718	4	1,710.75	1.2
February 25, 2023	221	4	218.50	1,781	63	1,734.00	1.2
March 4, 2023	245	24	224.75	1,772	-9	1,746.25	1.2
March 11, 2023	230	-15	228.25	1,804	32	1,768.75	1.2
March 18, 2023	247	17	235.75	1,817	13	1,793.50	1.3
March 25, 2023	246	-1	242.00	1,823	6	1,804.00	1.3
April 1, 2023	228	-18	237.75	1,804	-19	1,812.00	1.2
April 8, 2023	240	12	240.25	1,861	57	1,826.25	1.3
April 15, 2023	246	6	240.00	1,843	-18	1,832.75	1.3
April 22, 2023	229	-17	235.75	1,801	-42	1,827.25	1.2
April 29, 2023	242	13	239.25	1,807	6	1,828.00	1.2
May 6, 2023	231	-11	237.00	1,799	-8	1,812.50	1.2
May 13, 2023	225	-6	231.75	1,789	-10	1,799.00	1.2
May 20, 2023	230	5	232.00	1,794	5	1,797.25	1.2
May 27, 2023	233	3	229.75	1,755	-39	1,784.25	1.2
June 3, 2023	262	29	237.50	1,772	17	1,777.50	1.2
June 10, 2023	264	2	247.25	1,761	-11	1,770.50	1.2
June 17, 2023	265	1	256.00	1,733	-28	1,755.25	1.2
June 24, 2023	236	-29	256.75	1,718	-15	1,746.00	1.2
July 1, 2023	249	13	253.50	1,721	3	1,733.25	1.2
July 8, 2023	237	-12	246.75	1,749	28	1,730.25	1.2
July 15, 2023	228	-9	237.50	1,679	-70	1,716.75	1.1
July 22, 2023	221	-7	233.75	1,692	13	1,710.25	1.1
July 29, 2023	227	6	228.25	1,684	-8	1,701.00	1.1
August 5, 2023	250	23	231.50	1,711	27	1,691.50	1.2
August 12, 2023	240	-10	234.50	1,697	-14	1,696.00	1.1
August 19, 2023	232	-8	237.25	1,719	22	1,702.75	1.2
August 26, 2023	229	-3	237.75	1,684	-35	1,702.75	1.1
September 2, 2023	217	-12	229.50	1,683	-1	1,695.75	1.1
September 9, 2023	221	4	224.75	1,658	-25	1,686.00	1.1
September 16, 2023	202	-19	217.25	1,665	7	1,672.50	1.1
September 23, 2023	205	3	211.25	1,672	7	1,669.50	1.1
September 30, 2023	209	4	209.25	1,705	33	1,675.00	1.2
October 7, 2023	211	2	206.75	1,727	22	1,692.25	1.2
October 14, 2023	200	-11	206.25	1,783	56	1,721.75	1.2
October 21, 2023	212	12	208.00	1,812	29	1,756.75	1.2
October 28, 2023	220	8	210.75	1,833	21	1,788.75	1.2
November 4, 2023	218	-2	212.50	1,862	29	1,822.50	1.2
November 11, 2023	233	15	220.75	1,841	-21	1,837.00	1.2
November 18, 2023	211	-22	220.50	1,925	84	1,865.25	1.3
November 25, 2023	219	8	220.25	1,856	-69	1,871.00	1.2
December 2, 2023	221	2	221.00	1,866	10	1,872.00	1.3
December 9, 2023	203	-18	213.50	1,861	-5	1,877.00	1.2
December 16, 2023	206	3	212.25	1,875	14	1,864.50	1.3
December 23, 2023	218	12	212.00				

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED
DECEMBER 16

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED
DECEMBER 9

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	2,274	-176	-432	2	5	9,376	0.5	268	4,683	27	17	9,420
Alaska	798	-130	-76	3	2	6,755	2.2	285	99	93	10	6,858
Arizona	3,264	-282	478	3	0	21,661	0.7	120	3,810	96	26	21,783
Arkansas	1,493	-541	130	1	0	10,330	0.8	37	3,044	28	11	10,369
California	43,504	-3,834	-1,199	129	67	386,931	2.2	3,034	34,949	929	1,081	388,941
Colorado	2,118	-483	-978	1	6	29,396	1.1	2,397	7,914	149	150	29,695
Connecticut	3,859	472	-434	0	0	23,529	1.4	697	3,082	28	28	23,585
Delaware	420	-92	90	0	2	4,939	1.1	145	1,044	8	3	4,950
District of Columbia	458	-9	-117	6	1	6,050	1.1	41	2,900	140	11	6,201
Florida	5,713	-457	44	12	24	38,412	0.4	5,979	-3,489	108	103	38,623
Georgia	5,241	-1,684	-611	25	12	30,375	0.7	43	3,044	123	90	30,588
Hawaii	1,138	-338	153	0	8	9,574	1.6	-924	4,266	37	56	9,667
Idaho	2,108	-32	17	23	2	7,734	1.0	806	228	168	11	7,913
Illinois	13,518	-338	-2,279	6	8	103,045	1.8	9,666	15,460	257	119	103,421
Indiana	3,766	1	-779	4	0	22,482	0.7	50	887	69	39	22,590
Iowa	4,552	-54	606	4	2	11,546	0.8	1,441	-1,136	19	10	11,575
Kansas	1,449	129	-9	0	1	5,918	0.4	549	1,853	37	19	5,974
Kentucky	2,020	237	-371	0	0	8,383	0.4	-1,465	-1,995	24	34	8,441
Louisiana	1,857	73	-221	1	3	13,211	0.7	604	1,555	30	8	13,249
Maine	969	-28	125	1	1	5,982	1.0	534	948	26	5	6,013
Maryland	2,512	-162	208	8	5	22,512	0.9	-460	2,678	191	64	22,767
Massachusetts	8,306	432	-649	6	3	66,997	1.9	2,929	10,925	114	79	67,190
Michigan	10,663	580	1,347	4	3	54,667	1.3	8,096	4,364	111	39	54,817
Minnesota	6,777	-500	614	4	5	55,627	2.0	3,174	6,271	84	42	55,753
Mississippi	1,248	67	-53	1	1	6,734	0.6	390	1,110	36	8	6,778
Missouri	3,350	389	-780	3	1	17,374	0.6	411	2,642	57	20	17,451
Montana	980	-76	-433	20	0	9,656	2.0	1,808	1,421	208	5	9,869
Nebraska	1,005	-70	-108	0	0	5,139	0.5	450	1,353	10	6	5,155
Nevada	3,092	-5	26	4	3	23,226	1.6	832	4,906	96	46	23,368
New Hampshire	528	43	66	2	1	3,169	0.5	104	888	2	1	3,172
New Jersey	10,449	-226	256	23	13	96,131	2.3	2,384	13,076	196	158	96,485
New Mexico	848	-154	49	0	1	9,730	1.2	136	803	137	27	9,894
New York	15,676	-334	-841	15	14	161,599	1.8	2,033	19,539	315	219	162,133
North Carolina	2,743	-357	-855	1	2	19,095	0.4	390	2,377	69	81	19,245
North Dakota	811	123	-127	1	2	2,950	0.7	376	-109	9	5	2,964
Ohio	9,617	1,304	-1,671	5	10	47,844	0.9	2,380	1,338	62	67	47,973
Oklahoma	2,356	1,029	870	7	5	9,609	0.6	-62	-486	30	31	9,670
Oregon	4,791	-362	79	41	3	33,533	1.7	645	7,641	428	46	34,007
Pennsylvania	13,531	-588	867	19	13	100,743	1.7	1,364	22,789	312	154	101,209
Puerto Rico	1,270	-15	56	4	1	17,232	1.9	-401	-122	175	35	17,442
Rhode Island	1,337	261	-261	2	4	8,510	1.8	222	1,384	16	17	8,543
South Carolina	2,173	-222	-287	2	3	13,815	0.6	198	1,371	26	52	13,893
South Dakota	427	-35	94	3	1	1,769	0.4	250	55	38	2	1,809
Tennessee	3,166	-66	420	6	4	16,174	0.5	294	2,897	47	33	16,254
Texas	15,192	-493	197	30	74	144,754	1.1	12,865	28,309	404	903	146,061
Utah	1,400	-317	-836	47	2	11,386	0.7	366	1,267	158	16	11,560
Vermont	309	-144	-170	0	0	2,607	0.9	141	47	1	1	2,609
Virgin Islands	30	9	11	0	0	240	0.7	48	26	0	2	242
Virginia	1,717	48	260	6	6	12,258	0.3	251	3,231	81	69	12,408
Washington	6,802	-167	655	19	25	66,250	1.9	1,916	14,056	320	295	66,865
West Virginia	1,343	-451	200	1	4	8,092	1.2	-527	552	34	16	8,142
Wisconsin	5,605	16	-625	5	2	28,447	1.0	773	1,321	62	7	28,516
Wyoming	467	-41	-120	4	0	1,916	0.7	60	-179	47	6	1,969
Totals	241,040	-8,050	-7,404	514	355	1,835,414	1.2	68,143	240,887	6,272	4,383	1,846,069

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 DECEMBER 16, 2023

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
OH	+1,304	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
OK	+1,029	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-3,834	No comment.
GA	-1,684	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, trade, and accommodation and food services industries.

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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Release Number: USDL 23-2687-NAT

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