



News Release

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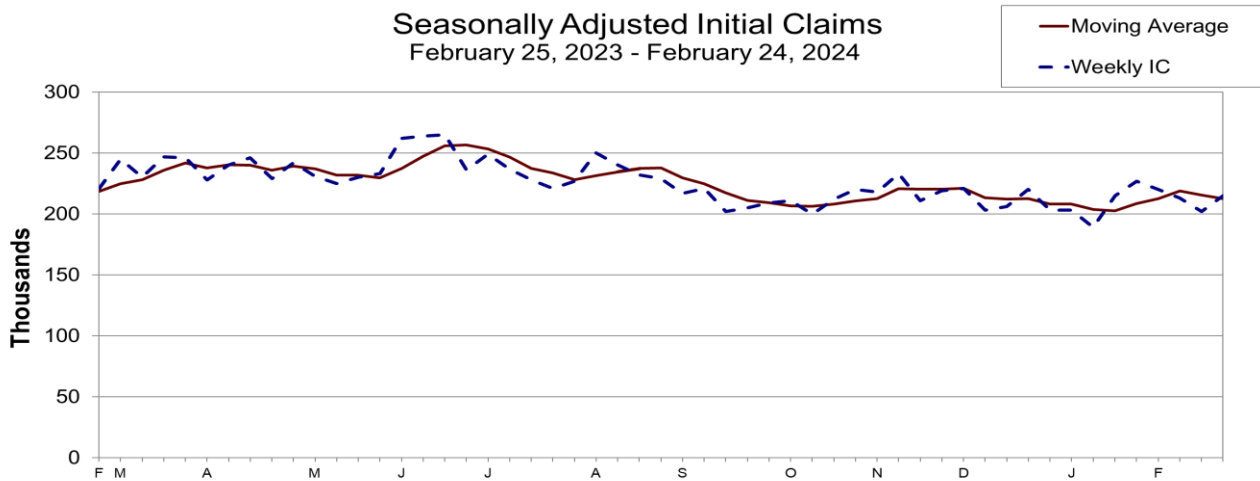
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

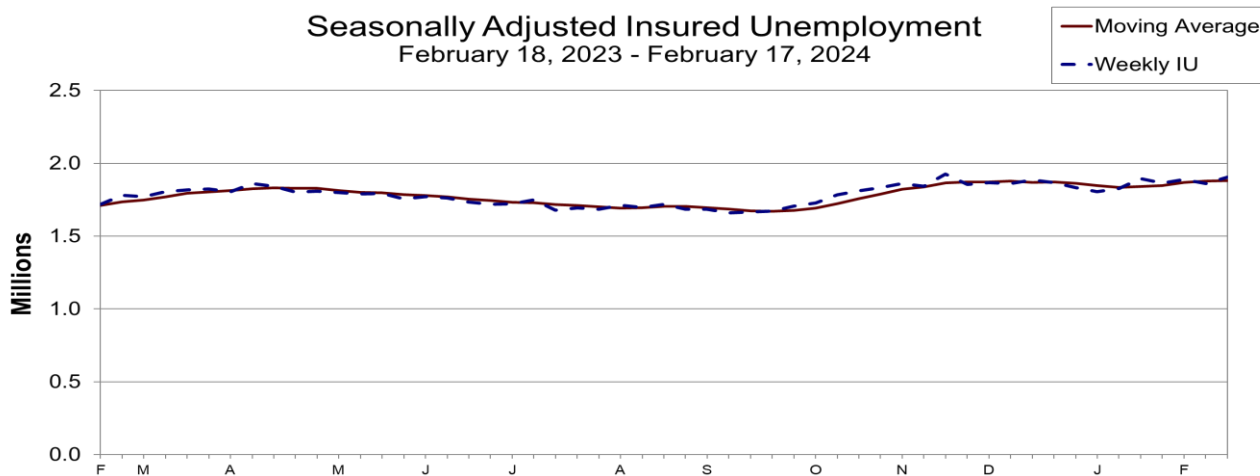
In the week ending February 24, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 215,000, an increase of 13,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 201,000 to 202,000. The 4-week moving average was 212,500, a decrease of 3,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 215,250 to 215,500.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.3 percent for the week ending February 17, 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 17 was 1,905,000, an increase of 45,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 2,000 from 1,862,000 to 1,860,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,879,750, an increase of 2,750 from the previous week's revised average. This is the highest level for this average since December 11, 2021 when it was 1,888,250. The previous week's average was revised down by 500 from 1,877,500 to 1,877,000.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
February 25, 2023 - February 24, 2024



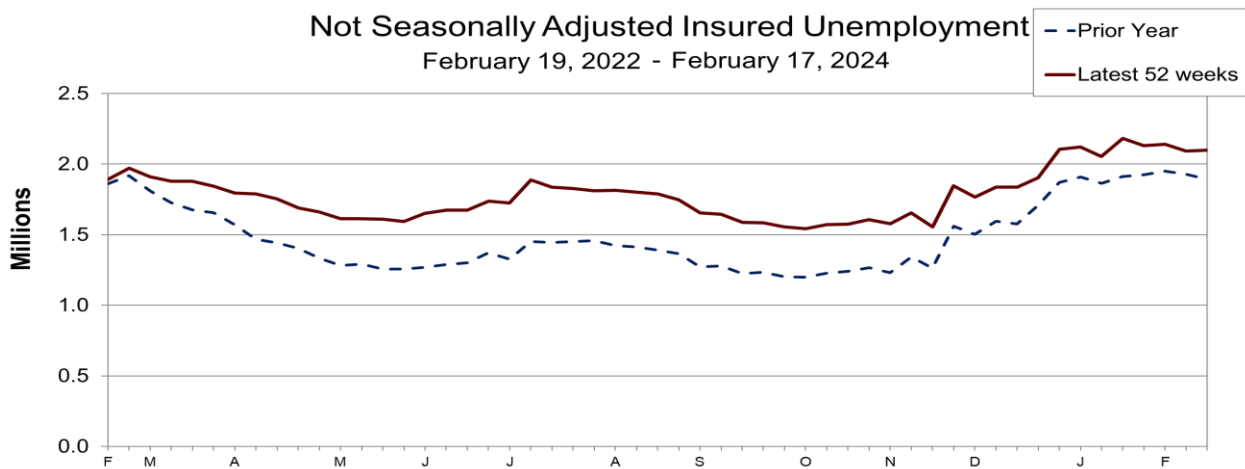
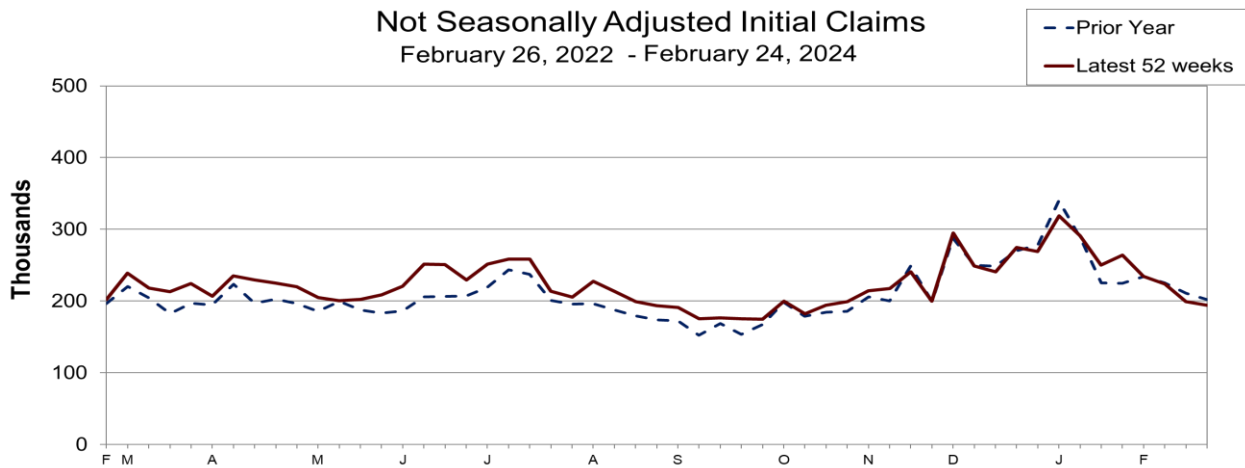
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
February 18, 2023 - February 17, 2024



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 193,988 in the week ending February 24, a decrease of 5,349 (or -2.7 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 16,965 (or -8.5 percent) from the previous week. There were 202,156 initial claims in the comparable week in 2023.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.4 percent during the week ending February 17, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 2,098,851, an increase of 6,057 (or 0.3 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 42,786 (or -2.0 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,891,796.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending February 10 was 2,122,822, a decrease of 48,391 from the previous week. There were 1,959,045 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2023.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending February 10.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 337 in the week ending February 17, a decrease of 45 from the prior week. There were 361 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 31 from the preceding week.

There were 6,819 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending February 10, a decrease of 74 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,014, a decrease of 363 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending February 10 were in New Jersey (2.8), Rhode Island (2.7), Minnesota (2.5), Massachusetts (2.4), California (2.3), Illinois (2.3), Montana (2.1), Alaska (2.0), New York (2.0), Pennsylvania (2.0), and Washington (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending February 17 were in Oklahoma (+1,802), Ohio (+915), Tennessee (+490), Iowa (+387), and District of Columbia (+198), while the largest decreases were in California (-8,980), Kentucky (-3,671), Michigan (-1,905), New York (-1,643), and Illinois (-1,431).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	February 24	February 17	Change	February 10	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	215,000	202,000	+13,000	213,000	221,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	193,988	199,337	-5,349	223,985	202,156
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	212,500	215,500	-3,000	218,750	218,500

WEEK ENDING	February 17	February 10	Change	February 3	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,905,000	1,860,000	+45,000	1,889,000	1,718,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,098,851	2,092,794	+6,057	2,139,965	1,891,796
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,879,750	1,877,000	+2,750	1,869,000	1,710,750
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.3%	1.2%	+0.1	1.3%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.4%	1.4%	0.0	1.4%	1.3%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	February 17	February 10	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	337	382	-45	390
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	361	392	-31	313

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

WEEK ENDING	February 10	February 3	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	2,086,100	2,133,266	-47,166	1,921,650
Federal Employees	6,819	6,893	-74	7,840
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,014	4,377	-363	4,172
Extended Benefits ³	180	392	-212	2,066
State Additional Benefits ⁴	2,721	2,805	-84	1,885
STC / Workshare ⁵	22,988	23,480	-492	21,432
TOTAL	2,122,822	2,171,213	-48,391	1,959,045

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 149,943,945 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 24			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended February 17		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,711	1,782	-71	8,591	9,607	-1,016
Alaska	650	693	-43	5,975	6,095	-120
Arizona	3,022	3,263	-241	20,930	22,354	-1,424
Arkansas	1,179	1,807	-628	9,024	10,721	-1,697
California	41,696	40,900	796	431,567	412,409	19,158
Colorado	2,568	2,671	-103	32,737	32,713	24
Connecticut	3,351	2,821	530	33,135	31,725	1,410
Delaware	120	186	-66	6,393	5,921	472
District of Columbia	498	619	-121	5,696	5,709	-13
Florida	4,796	5,768	-972	33,222	36,436	-3,214
Georgia	5,431	5,511	-80	29,739	30,599	-860
Hawaii	1,076	1,029	47	7,886	8,024	-138
Idaho	1,104	1,140	-36	10,931	11,543	-612
Illinois	8,093	7,951	142	131,779	133,160	-1,381
Indiana	2,593	2,861	-268	26,518	27,131	-613
Iowa	1,772	2,271	-499	21,195	21,135	60
Kansas	1,109	1,115	-6	6,692	5,982	710
Kentucky	1,493	1,416	77	11,438	12,780	-1,342
Louisiana	1,281	1,123	158	10,236	10,396	-160
Maine	786	608	178	8,813	8,506	307
Maryland	1,930	2,513	-583	25,361	25,977	-616
Massachusetts	9,276	5,296	3,980	84,794	85,426	-632
Michigan	4,954	5,944	-990	72,387	74,137	-1,750
Minnesota	3,513	3,568	-55	73,814	70,127	3,687
Mississippi	684	950	-266	5,642	6,518	-876
Missouri	2,264	2,110	154	22,890	24,061	-1,171
Montana	565	725	-160	10,593	10,425	168
Nebraska	550	632	-82	6,804	7,342	-538
Nevada	2,354	2,637	-283	24,972	25,992	-1,020
New Hampshire	462	512	-50	3,693	3,945	-252
New Jersey	8,245	8,704	-459	117,481	115,749	1,732
New Mexico	616	695	-79	10,527	10,272	255
New York	15,261	15,212	49	186,848	187,149	-301
North Carolina	2,756	3,177	-421	19,880	20,869	-989
North Dakota	308	347	-39	6,214	5,794	420
Ohio	5,791	6,284	-493	56,814	58,288	-1,474
Oklahoma	1,103	3,089	-1,986	10,448	9,781	667
Oregon	3,310	4,686	-1,376	34,486	35,655	-1,169
Pennsylvania	10,137	10,609	-472	116,574	118,120	-1,546
Puerto Rico	937	1,017	-80	13,165	15,705	-2,540
Rhode Island	2,712	769	1,943	13,091	12,729	362
South Carolina	1,679	1,777	-98	14,179	14,860	-681
South Dakota	139	167	-28	2,953	2,888	65
Tennessee	3,074	2,899	175	14,720	16,495	-1,775
Texas	12,954	14,253	-1,299	140,510	139,640	870
Utah	899	1,177	-278	12,287	12,861	-574
Vermont	409	316	93	3,803	3,667	136
Virgin Islands *	5	32	-27	70	196	-126
Virginia	1,940	2,272	-332	16,792	15,817	975
Washington	5,079	5,372	-293	72,634	69,271	3,363
West Virginia	734	871	-137	10,306	9,744	562
Wisconsin	4,682	4,839	-157	38,536	37,628	908
Wyoming	337	351	-14	3,086	2,720	366
US Total	193,988	199,337	-5,349	2,098,851	2,092,794	6,057

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 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	
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	1,886	25	1,867.25	1.3
December 23, 2023	220	14	212.50	1,868	-18	1,870.25	1.3
December 30, 2023	203	-17	208.00	1,833	-35	1,862.00	1.2
January 6, 2024	203	0	208.00	1,806	-27	1,848.25	1.2
January 13, 2024	189	-14	203.75	1,828	22	1,833.75	1.2
January 20, 2024	215	26	202.50	1,894	66	1,840.25	1.3
January 27, 2024	227	12	208.50	1,865	-29	1,848.25	1.2
February 3, 2024	220	-7	212.75	1,889	24	1,869.00	1.3
February 10, 2024	213	-7	218.75	1,860	-29	1,877.00	1.2
February 17, 2024	202	-11	215.50	1,905	45	1,879.75	1.3
February 24, 2024	215	13	212.50				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 17					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 10					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE (%) ²	CHANGE FROM					
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
Alabama	1,782	-322	-251	1	5	9,607	0.5	-322	4,389	47	32	9,686
Alaska	693	-66	-85	4	1	6,095	2.0	-153	-11	104	11	6,210
Arizona	3,263	-216	273	4	1	22,354	0.7	-180	2,685	135	20	22,509
Arkansas	1,807	38	299	0	0	10,721	0.9	44	1,578	40	8	10,769
California	40,900	-8,980	-2,481	75	61	412,409	2.3	-23,792	17,692	1,237	1,030	414,676
Colorado	2,671	-495	146	1	10	32,713	1.2	477	6,032	204	122	33,039
Connecticut	2,821	-304	-335	2	1	31,725	1.9	-687	540	37	24	31,786
Delaware	186	13	-124	3	3	5,921	1.3	-161	1,192	3	4	5,928
District of Columbia	619	198	-467	6	1	5,709	1.0	-99	1,202	128	4	5,841
Florida	5,768	-524	415	13	33	36,436	0.4	-706	-198	104	93	36,633
Georgia	5,511	-85	221	22	16	30,599	0.7	-743	2,260	118	94	30,811
Hawaii	1,029	-303	6	4	3	8,024	1.3	-419	2,521	53	57	8,134
Idaho	1,140	-353	-8	8	1	11,543	1.4	-75	1,157	199	13	11,755
Illinois	7,951	-1,431	-1,098	3	1	133,160	2.3	1,438	12,364	268	104	133,532
Indiana	2,861	-360	-468	2	2	27,131	0.9	-626	-1,104	47	28	27,206
Iowa	2,271	387	645	0	2	21,135	1.4	-670	-392	19	2	21,156
Kansas	1,115	-177	-503	0	2	5,982	0.4	-377	629	36	17	6,035
Kentucky	1,416	-3,671	-6,442	0	0	12,780	0.7	1,201	14	35	39	12,854
Louisiana	1,123	-418	-453	0	3	10,396	0.6	-1,841	-1,658	26	7	10,429
Maine	608	-56	-28	0	1	8,506	1.4	-109	717	19	11	8,536
Maryland	2,513	-623	795	12	6	25,977	1.0	-113	4,211	114	57	26,148
Massachusetts	5,296	-350	-1,538	9	9	85,426	2.4	-533	2,138	164	51	85,641
Michigan	5,944	-1,905	-362	4	1	74,137	1.7	-3,487	6,634	124	15	74,276
Minnesota	3,568	-413	64	2	2	70,127	2.5	-926	8,052	109	44	70,280
Mississippi	950	-52	106	0	0	6,518	0.6	-340	780	27	10	6,555
Missouri	2,110	-745	-366	2	1	24,061	0.9	-1,879	2,936	48	20	24,129
Montana	725	18	60	3	0	10,425	2.1	39	1,051	271	6	10,702
Nebraska	632	-93	82	3	1	7,342	0.8	-236	1,447	12	6	7,360
Nevada	2,637	-427	372	3	2	25,992	1.8	380	6,041	97	0	26,089
New Hampshire	512	27	157	3	3	3,945	0.6	21	733	10	2	3,957
New Jersey	8,704	-803	1,154	22	12	115,749	2.8	-3,820	8,284	212	164	116,125
New Mexico	695	-45	64	0	2	10,272	1.3	-31	330	148	23	10,443
New York	15,212	-1,643	751	13	17	187,149	2.0	-1,123	14,611	300	203	187,652
North Carolina	3,177	-219	-7	0	4	20,869	0.4	164	983	47	92	21,008
North Dakota	347	-51	60	2	0	5,794	1.4	4	541	8	4	5,806
Ohio	6,284	915	-6,515	4	12	58,288	1.1	-548	-3,584	57	74	58,419
Oklahoma	3,089	1,802	1,362	0	0	9,781	0.6	-249	-577	22	28	9,831
Oregon	4,686	-22	439	20	3	35,655	1.8	-617	2,898	474	39	36,168
Pennsylvania	10,609	-268	1,114	9	13	118,120	2.0	-988	18,053	248	149	118,517
Puerto Rico	1,017	-281	1	1	5	15,705	1.7	-626	-1,110	140	44	15,889
Rhode Island	769	-318	-393	2	2	12,729	2.7	-154	1,223	19	23	12,771
South Carolina	1,777	-147	-7	4	3	14,860	0.7	-189	1,356	26	48	14,934
South Dakota	167	-69	-35	1	0	2,888	0.7	-70	190	51	2	2,941
Tennessee	2,899	490	771	4	5	16,495	0.5	-1,590	-247	34	42	16,571
Texas	14,253	-1,023	-287	38	77	139,640	1.0	416	16,704	391	712	140,743
Utah	1,177	-35	-427	8	1	12,861	0.8	162	-663	189	12	13,062
Vermont	316	-75	-6	0	0	3,667	1.2	-139	-93	1	1	3,669
Virgin Islands	32	11	0	1	0	196	0.6	12	14	4	0	200
Virginia	2,272	-299	675	2	5	15,817	0.4	306	4,142	88	79	15,984
Washington	5,372	-355	305	8	25	69,271	2.0	-1,684	12,611	387	310	69,968
West Virginia	871	-100	66	2	2	9,744	1.5	-553	580	44	20	9,808
Wisconsin	4,839	-403	36	4	1	37,628	1.3	-1,005	2,139	56	9	37,693
Wyoming	351	-22	-4	3	0	2,720	1.0	25	89	38	5	2,763
Totals	199,337	-24,648	-12,251	337	361	2,092,794	1.4	-47,171	164,106	6,819	4,014	2,103,627

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 17, 2024

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
OK	+1,802	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-8,980	No comment.
KY	-3,671	No comment.
MI	-1,905	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.
NY	-1,643	Fewer layoffs in the accommodation and food services; health care and social assistance; and in art, entertainment, and recreation industries.
IL	-1,431	No comment.
TX	-1,023	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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