



News Release

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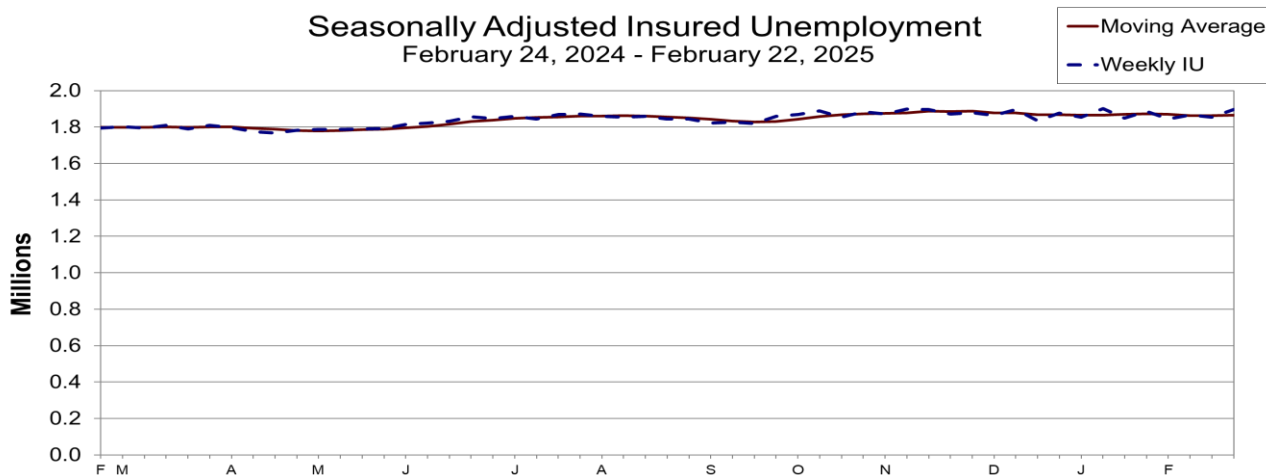
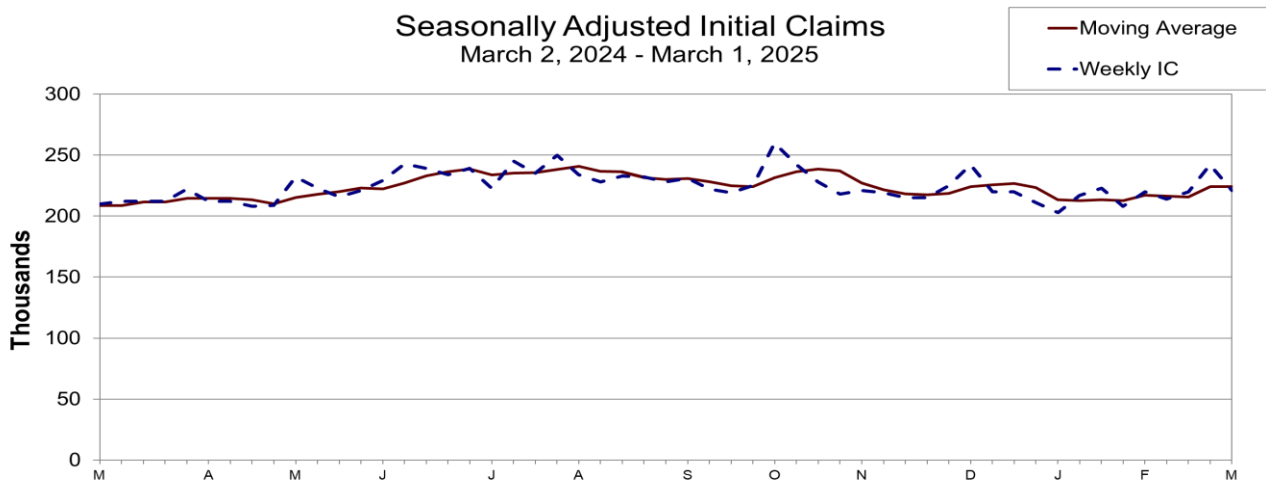
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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, March 6, 2025

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending March 1, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 221,000, a decrease of 21,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 242,000. The 4-week moving average was 224,250, an increase of 250 from the previous week's unrevised average of 224,000.

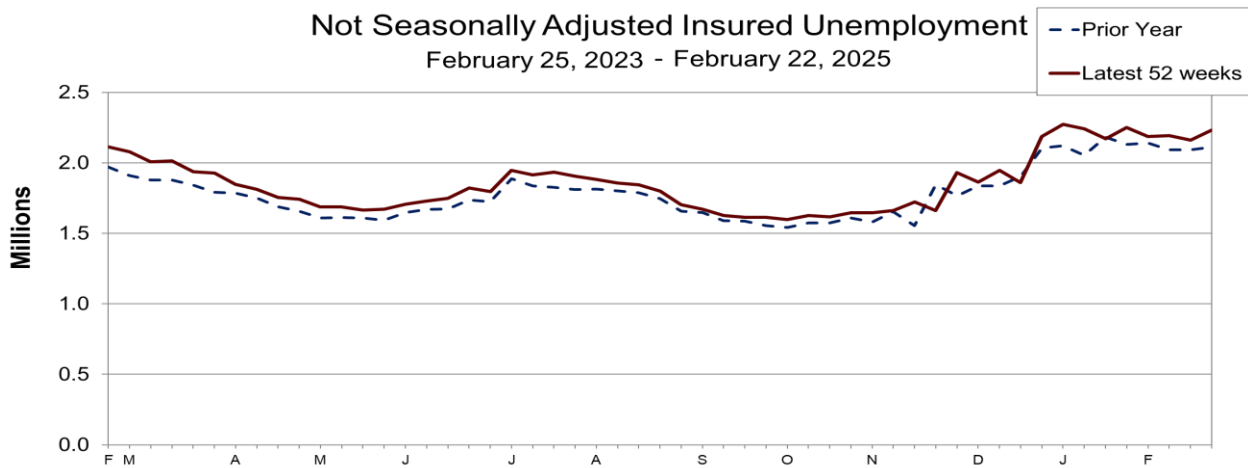
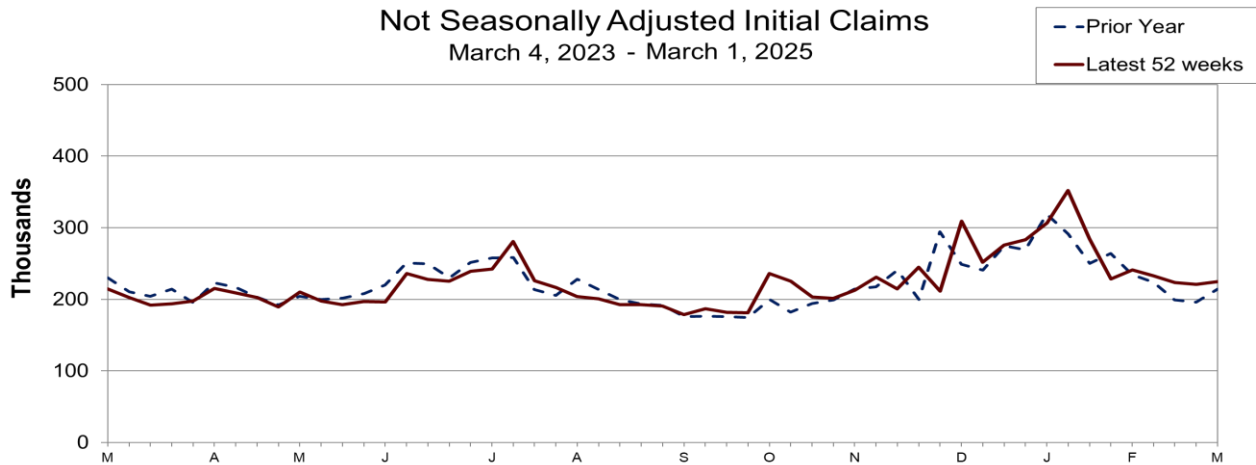
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending February 22, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending February 22 was 1,897,000, an increase of 42,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 7,000 from 1,862,000 to 1,855,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,866,000, an increase of 2,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,750 from 1,865,000 to 1,863,250.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 224,689 in the week ending March 1, an increase of 3,833 (or 1.7 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 25,158 (or 11.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 214,424 initial claims in the comparable week in 2024.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.5 percent during the week ending February 22, an increase of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 2,231,273, an increase of 68,804 (or 3.2 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 18,546 (or 0.9 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.4 percent and the volume was 2,113,068.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending February 15 was 2,194,745, a decrease of 28,985 from the previous week. There were 2,121,432 weekly claims filed for benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2024.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending February 15.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,634 in the week ending February 22, an increase of 1,020 from the prior week. There were 312 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 41 from the preceding week.

There were 7,412 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending February 15, a decrease of 200 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,306, a decrease of 3 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending February 15 were in New Jersey (2.9), Rhode Island (2.9), Minnesota (2.6), Massachusetts (2.4), Montana (2.4), Washington (2.4), California (2.3), Illinois (2.3), Pennsylvania (2.0), Connecticut (1.9), Michigan (1.9), and New York (1.9).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending February 22 were in Massachusetts (+3,808), Rhode Island (+2,081), Illinois (+1,539), Wisconsin (+1,016), and Missouri (+973), while the largest decreases were in Kentucky (-3,074), California (-2,657), Tennessee (-2,550), Washington (-2,000), and Texas (-1,177).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	March 1	February 22	Change	February 15	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	221,000	242,000	-21,000	220,000	210,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	224,689	220,856	+3,833	223,538	214,424
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	224,250	224,000	+250	215,500	208,500

WEEK ENDING	February 22	February 15	Change	February 8	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,897,000	1,855,000	+42,000	1,867,000	1,794,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,231,273	2,162,469	+68,804	2,191,935	2,113,068
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,866,000	1,863,250	+2,750	1,862,000	1,797,250
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	1.5%	1.4%	+0.1	1.4%	1.4%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	February 22	February 15	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,634	614	+1,020	330
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	312	353	-41	323

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

WEEK ENDING	February 15	February 8	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	2,154,612	2,184,081	-29,469	2,084,410
Federal Employees	7,412	7,612	-200	6,589
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,306	4,309	-3	4,184
Extended Benefits ³	56	163	-107	215
State Additional Benefits ⁴	2,791	2,796	-5	2,502
STC / Workshare ⁵	25,568	24,769	+799	23,532
TOTAL	2,194,745	2,223,730	-28,985	2,121,432

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 152,086,893 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 1			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended February 22		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	1,720	1,835	-115	8,184	9,158	-974
Alaska	482	548	-66	5,179	5,653	-474
Arizona	3,034	2,803	231	21,216	22,477	-1,261
Arkansas	1,417	870	547	7,730	7,371	359
California	42,496	42,358	138	436,416	406,590	29,826
Colorado	3,095	3,228	-133	34,506	33,785	721
Connecticut	3,026	3,000	26	34,274	31,968	2,306
Delaware	186	257	-71	6,805	6,253	552
District of Columbia	1,510	1,893	-383	10,796	9,170	1,626
Florida	5,393	5,913	-520	29,164	33,383	-4,219
Georgia	4,607	5,107	-500	28,883	30,303	-1,420
Hawaii	880	885	-5	5,585	5,404	181
Idaho	1,272	1,385	-113	11,334	12,091	-757
Illinois	10,057	11,066	-1,009	140,902	135,561	5,341
Indiana	2,975	3,062	-87	26,417	28,908	-2,491
Iowa	2,042	2,891	-849	24,668	23,401	1,267
Kansas	1,443	1,748	-305	13,557	13,982	-425
Kentucky	2,921	2,023	898	13,615	15,416	-1,801
Louisiana	1,262	1,668	-406	10,231	11,390	-1,159
Maine	666	620	46	9,685	9,012	673
Maryland	2,290	2,784	-494	26,832	26,252	580
Massachusetts	5,267	9,256	-3,989	90,040	85,858	4,182
Michigan	5,627	7,559	-1,932	78,069	81,314	-3,245
Minnesota	4,340	4,980	-640	79,341	74,015	5,326
Mississippi	724	786	-62	6,002	6,850	-848
Missouri	3,210	3,715	-505	25,000	24,814	186
Montana	687	858	-171	11,971	12,027	-56
Nebraska	1,231	877	354	7,748	7,969	-221
Nevada	2,286	2,475	-189	25,417	26,964	-1,547
New Hampshire	896	400	496	3,983	4,147	-164
New Jersey	8,832	9,761	-929	122,861	122,365	496
New Mexico	822	795	27	10,886	10,772	114
New York	30,166	14,538	15,628	197,102	179,650	17,452
North Carolina	3,245	3,291	-46	25,933	27,169	-1,236
North Dakota	365	387	-22	7,124	6,540	584
Ohio	6,378	6,650	-272	67,965	68,393	-428
Oklahoma	1,199	1,224	-25	10,137	10,142	-5
Oregon	4,448	4,360	88	37,404	35,518	1,886
Pennsylvania	11,193	11,885	-692	118,356	118,988	-632
Puerto Rico	1,074	1,055	19	14,241	15,911	-1,670
Rhode Island	987	2,990	-2,003	16,328	14,072	2,256
South Carolina	1,829	2,018	-189	14,295	15,073	-778
South Dakota	177	219	-42	3,321	3,287	34
Tennessee	2,746	3,108	-362	17,812	19,157	-1,345
Texas	16,147	14,541	1,606	150,262	144,088	6,174
Utah	1,542	1,492	50	15,290	15,380	-90
Vermont	664	415	249	4,070	3,679	391
Virgin Islands	31	38	-7	292	222	70
Virginia	2,756	2,473	283	18,980	18,179	801
Washington	6,074	5,849	225	91,729	84,091	7,638
West Virginia	934	805	129	11,363	9,371	1,992
Wisconsin	5,719	5,687	32	38,661	35,947	2,714
Wyoming	319	425	-106	3,311	2,989	322
US Total	224,689	220,856	3,833	2,231,273	2,162,469	68,804

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.

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 24, 2024	213	13	209.25	1,794	-11	1,797.25	1.2
March 2, 2024	210	-3	208.50	1,803	9	1,797.25	1.2
March 9, 2024	212	2	208.75	1,795	-8	1,799.25	1.2
March 16, 2024	212	0	211.75	1,810	15	1,800.50	1.2
March 23, 2024	212	0	211.50	1,789	-21	1,799.25	1.2
March 30, 2024	222	10	214.50	1,810	21	1,801.00	1.2
April 6, 2024	212	-10	214.50	1,797	-13	1,801.50	1.2
April 13, 2024	212	0	214.50	1,774	-23	1,792.50	1.2
April 20, 2024	208	-4	213.50	1,768	-6	1,787.25	1.2
April 27, 2024	209	1	210.25	1,781	13	1,780.00	1.2
May 4, 2024	232	23	215.25	1,786	5	1,777.25	1.2
May 11, 2024	223	-9	218.00	1,787	1	1,780.50	1.2
May 18, 2024	216	-7	220.00	1,790	3	1,786.00	1.2
May 25, 2024	221	5	223.00	1,791	1	1,788.50	1.2
June 1, 2024	229	8	222.25	1,813	22	1,795.25	1.2
June 8, 2024	243	14	227.25	1,821	8	1,803.75	1.2
June 15, 2024	239	-4	233.00	1,832	11	1,814.25	1.2
June 22, 2024	234	-5	236.25	1,856	24	1,830.50	1.2
June 29, 2024	239	5	238.75	1,847	-9	1,839.00	1.2
July 6, 2024	223	-16	233.75	1,860	13	1,848.75	1.2
July 13, 2024	245	22	235.25	1,844	-16	1,851.75	1.2
July 20, 2024	235	-10	235.50	1,869	25	1,855.00	1.2
July 27, 2024	250	15	238.25	1,871	2	1,861.00	1.2
August 3, 2024	234	-16	241.00	1,859	-12	1,860.75	1.2
August 10, 2024	228	-6	236.75	1,855	-4	1,863.50	1.2
August 17, 2024	233	5	236.25	1,860	5	1,861.25	1.2
August 24, 2024	232	-1	231.75	1,845	-15	1,854.75	1.2
August 31, 2024	228	-4	230.25	1,843	-2	1,850.75	1.2
September 7, 2024	231	3	231.00	1,821	-22	1,842.25	1.2
September 14, 2024	222	-9	228.25	1,827	6	1,834.00	1.2
September 21, 2024	219	-3	225.00	1,819	-8	1,827.50	1.2
September 28, 2024	225	6	224.25	1,858	39	1,831.25	1.2
October 5, 2024	260	35	231.50	1,869	11	1,843.25	1.2
October 12, 2024	242	-18	236.50	1,888	19	1,858.50	1.2
October 19, 2024	228	-14	238.75	1,853	-35	1,867.00	1.2
October 26, 2024	218	-10	237.00	1,884	31	1,873.50	1.2
November 2, 2024	221	3	227.25	1,872	-12	1,874.25	1.2
November 9, 2024	219	-2	221.50	1,898	26	1,876.75	1.3
November 16, 2024	215	-4	218.25	1,897	-1	1,887.75	1.3
November 23, 2024	215	0	217.50	1,871	-26	1,884.50	1.2
November 30, 2024	225	10	218.50	1,879	8	1,886.25	1.2
December 7, 2024	242	17	224.25	1,864	-15	1,877.75	1.2
December 14, 2024	220	-22	225.50	1,897	33	1,877.75	1.3
December 21, 2024	220	0	226.75	1,834	-63	1,868.50	1.2
December 28, 2024	211	-9	223.25	1,877	43	1,868.00	1.2
January 4, 2025	203	-8	213.50	1,853	-24	1,865.25	1.2
January 11, 2025	217	14	212.75	1,900	47	1,866.00	1.2
January 18, 2025	223	6	213.50	1,850	-50	1,870.00	1.2
January 25, 2025	208	-15	212.75	1,886	36	1,872.25	1.2
February 1, 2025	220	12	217.00	1,845	-41	1,870.25	1.2
February 8, 2025	214	-6	216.25	1,867	22	1,862.00	1.2
February 15, 2025	220	6	215.50	1,855	-12	1,863.25	1.2
February 22, 2025	242	22	224.00	1,897	42	1,866.00	1.2
March 1, 2025	221	-21	224.25				

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED
FEBRUARY 22

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED
FEBRUARY 15

STATE NAME	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE (%) ²	CHANGE FROM				TOTAL INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT	
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
Alabama	1,835	-65	49	25	6	9,158	0.5	37	-240	22	19	9,199
Alaska	548	13	-73	1	0	5,653	1.8	-26	-392	92	2	5,747
Arizona	2,803	-81	-268	3	0	22,477	0.7	-148	171	108	37	22,622
Arkansas	870	-382	-374	3	0	7,371	0.6	-492	-2,157	21	5	7,397
California	42,358	-2,657	1,147	263	79	406,590	2.3	-23,812	-18,240	1,225	1,094	408,909
Colorado	3,228	39	706	4	3	33,785	1.2	68	1,577	193	161	34,139
Connecticut	3,000	25	-250	3	0	31,968	1.9	357	277	38	32	32,038
Delaware	257	57	136	7	3	6,253	1.3	114	348	9	3	6,265
District of Columbia	1,893	267	1,394	170	0	9,170	1.6	404	3,477	500	4	9,674
Florida	5,913	116	897	42	14	33,383	0.4	227	-3,724	102	71	33,556
Georgia	5,107	96	-484	173	14	30,303	0.6	15	-554	105	59	30,467
Hawaii	885	-31	-183	1	7	5,404	0.9	-65	-2,273	20	67	5,491
Idaho	1,385	-47	280	16	1	12,091	1.4	270	797	229	0	12,320
Illinois	11,066	1,539	3,020	9	2	135,561	2.3	-4,190	5,120	289	102	135,952
Indiana	3,062	-25	468	8	4	28,908	0.9	-1,938	2,529	27	24	28,959
Iowa	2,891	678	1,266	19	3	23,401	1.5	234	2,277	20	7	23,428
Kansas	1,748	487	607	0	1	13,982	1.0	1,541	7,731	4	0	13,986
Kentucky	2,023	-3,074	535	0	2	15,416	0.8	1,459	4,033	25	50	15,491
Louisiana	1,668	96	244	4	0	11,390	0.6	-323	-258	26	10	11,426
Maine	620	108	-124	2	0	9,012	1.4	-78	567	23	12	9,047
Maryland	2,784	125	475	252	7	26,252	1.0	-233	1,200	142	65	26,459
Massachusetts	9,256	3,808	-72	43	7	85,858	2.4	159	555	97	68	86,023
Michigan	7,559	-167	2,595	3	4	81,314	1.9	985	7,492	140	31	81,485
Minnesota	4,980	418	1,500	23	1	74,015	2.6	1,670	4,600	87	52	74,154
Mississippi	786	-125	32	3	1	6,850	0.6	77	388	40	9	6,899
Missouri	3,715	973	1,295	3	2	24,814	0.9	766	1,354	52	34	24,900
Montana	858	-12	386	3	0	12,027	2.4	271	1,581	433	8	12,468
Nebraska	877	78	307	7	0	7,969	0.8	65	857	9	3	7,981
Nevada	2,475	-423	138	4	3	26,964	1.8	-287	1,129	142	59	27,165
New Hampshire	400	-34	-102	10	0	4,147	0.6	-4	190	5	0	4,152
New Jersey	9,761	222	1,376	33	17	122,365	2.9	2,218	6,047	224	202	122,791
New Mexico	795	1	154	0	0	10,772	1.3	4	340	118	22	10,912
New York	14,538	-913	-615	19	8	179,650	1.9	-1,737	-5,313	214	146	180,010
North Carolina	3,291	-661	457	3	1	27,169	0.6	-296	6,493	49	90	27,308
North Dakota	387	-95	114	26	1	6,540	1.6	265	783	8	1	6,549
Ohio	6,650	606	797	29	10	68,393	1.3	-1,373	10,839	84	86	68,563
Oklahoma	1,224	-28	78	10	4	10,142	0.6	-40	-462	37	31	10,210
Oregon	4,360	-812	497	8	2	35,518	1.8	291	920	535	34	36,087
Pennsylvania	11,885	513	1,714	68	7	118,988	2.0	54	1,304	233	128	119,349
Puerto Rico	1,055	-141	55	5	2	15,911	1.7	-214	502	89	47	16,047
Rhode Island	2,990	2,081	285	8	0	14,072	2.9	40	1,220	23	20	14,115
South Carolina	2,018	-37	242	8	1	15,073	0.7	-159	554	32	40	15,145
South Dakota	219	-28	68	10	0	3,287	0.7	111	404	44	2	3,333
Tennessee	3,108	-2,550	142	2	7	19,157	0.6	1,454	4,357	31	36	19,224
Texas	14,541	-1,177	1,409	135	51	144,088	1.1	-4,949	1,229	391	810	145,289
Utah	1,492	3	526	91	2	15,380	0.9	-269	2,989	238	17	15,635
Vermont	415	88	-3	0	0	3,679	1.2	-79	140	1	0	3,680
Virgin Islands	38	-1	27	1	0	222	0.6	-2	152	2	0	224
Virginia	2,473	-426	477	26	5	18,179	0.5	600	2,443	119	59	18,357
Washington	5,849	-2,000	731	16	29	84,091	2.4	-2,381	16,311	572	406	85,069
West Virginia	805	-119	37	4	0	9,371	1.4	-580	25	34	18	9,423
Wisconsin	5,687	1,016	1,063	25	1	35,947	1.2	374	-1,640	53	21	36,021
Wyoming	425	-24	74	3	0	2,989	1.1	79	312	56	2	3,047
Totals	220,856	-2,682	25,252	1,634	312	2,162,469	1.4	-29,466	70,361	7,412	4,306	2,174,187

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 22, 2025

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
MA	+3,808	Layoffs in educational services industry.
RI	+2,081	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services, construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, health care and social assistance, and educational services industries.
IL	+1,539	Layoffs in the construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, and retail trade industries.
WI	+1,016	Layoffs in the construction industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
KY	-3,074	No comment.
CA	-2,657	No comment.
TN	-2,550	No comment.
WA	-2,000	No comment.
TX	-1,177	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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