



# News Release

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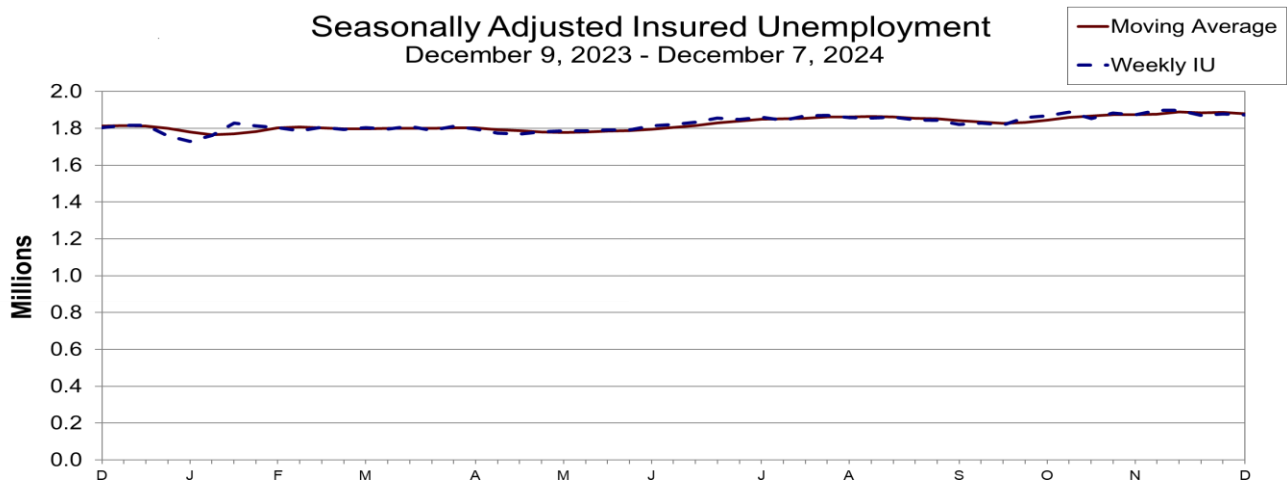
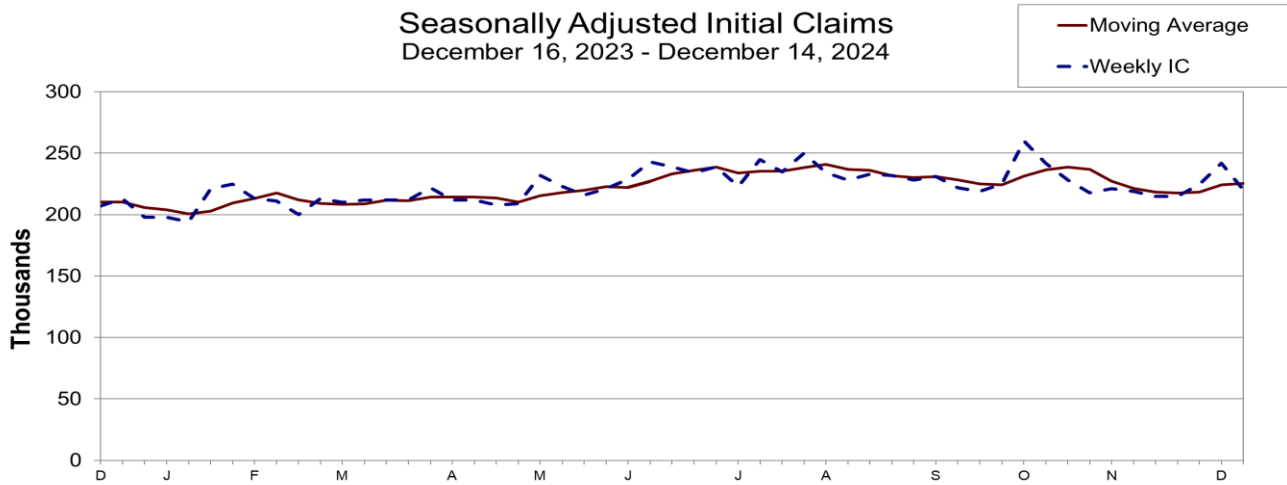
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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, December 19, 2024

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending December 14, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 220,000, a decrease of 22,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 242,000. The 4-week moving average was 225,500, an increase of 1,250 from the previous week's unrevised average of 224,250.

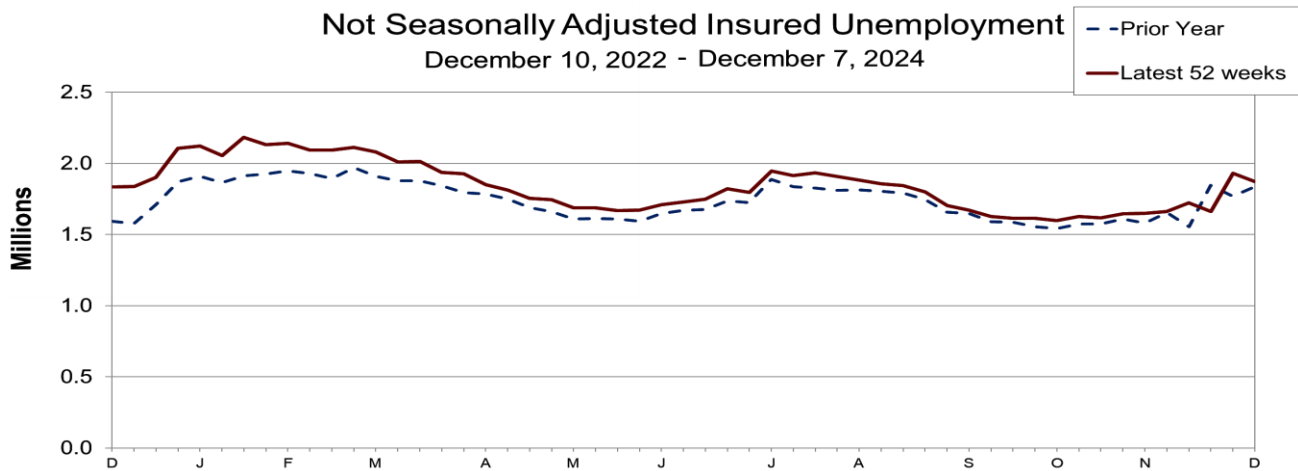
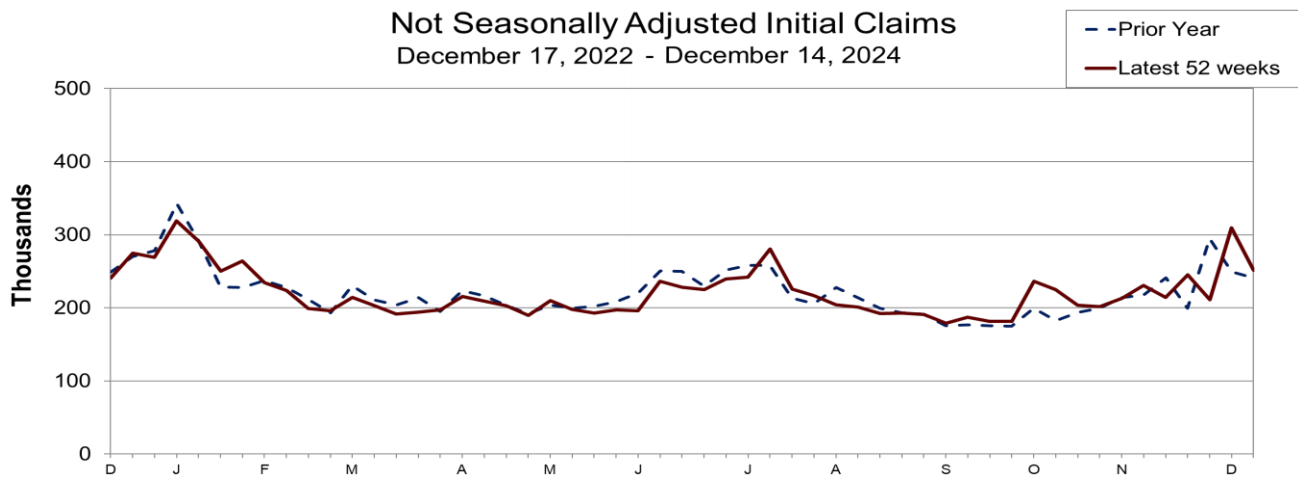
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending December 7, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending December 7 was 1,874,000, a decrease of 5,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised down by 7,000 from 1,886,000 to 1,879,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,880,250, a decrease of 6,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 1,750 from 1,888,000 to 1,886,250.



**UNADJUSTED DATA**

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 251,527 in the week ending December 14, a decrease of 57,932 (or -18.7 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 32,854 (or -10.6 percent) from the previous week. There were 241,040 initial claims in the comparable week in 2023.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.2 percent during the week ending December 7, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted level of insured unemployment in state programs totaled 1,873,935, a decrease of 57,490 (or -3.0 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 52,607 (or -2.7 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.2 percent and the volume was 1,835,427.



The total number of continued weeks claimed for benefits in all programs for the week ending November 30 was 1,960,295, an increase of 272,054 from the previous week. There were 1,794,734 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 November 30.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 755 in the week ending December 7, an increase of 356 from the prior week. There were 500 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 274 from the preceding week.

There were 5,984 continued weeks claimed filed by former Federal civilian employees the week ending November 30, an increase of 896 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 4,754, an increase of 495 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 30 were in New Jersey (2.5), California (2.3), Washington (2.2), Alaska (2.1), Minnesota (2.1), Rhode Island (1.9), Nevada (1.8), Puerto Rico (1.8), Illinois (1.7), Massachusetts (1.7), Montana (1.7), New York (1.7), Oregon (1.7) and Pennsylvania (1.7).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending December 7 were in California (+14,411), Texas (+10,011), New York (+8,926), Illinois (+7,426), and Georgia (+6,119), while the largest decreases were in North Dakota (-788) and Delaware (-163).

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>December 14</b>	<b>December 7</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>November 30</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	220,000	242,000	-22,000	225,000	207,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	251,527	309,459	-57,932	211,226	241,040
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	225,500	224,250	+1,250	218,500	210,250

<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>December 7</b>	<b>November 30</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>November 23</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,874,000	1,879,000	-5,000	1,871,000	1,803,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,873,935	1,931,425	-57,490	1,661,746	1,835,427
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,880,250	1,886,250	-6,000	1,884,500	1,813,000
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) <sup>2</sup>	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) <sup>2</sup>	1.2%	1.3%	-0.1	1.1%	1.2%

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INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>December 7</b>	<b>November 30</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	755	399	+356	747
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	500	226	+274	389

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

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<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>November 30</b>	<b>November 23</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	1,923,608	1,655,715	+267,893	1,761,678
Federal Employees	5,984	5,088	+896	6,131
Newly Discharged Veterans	4,754	4,259	+495	4,277
Extended Benefits <sup>3</sup>	126	113	+13	280
State Additional Benefits <sup>4</sup>	2,593	2,451	+142	2,641
STC / Workshare <sup>5</sup>	23,230	20,615	+2,615	19,727
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,960,295</b>	<b>1,688,241</b>	<b>+272,054</b>	<b>1,794,734</b>

**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 151,636,941 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 14			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended December 7		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,011	2,457	-446	8,075	9,267	-1,192
Alaska	787	731	56	6,215	6,340	-125
Arizona	2,739	3,095	-356	20,733	22,867	-2,134
Arkansas	1,334	1,664	-330	6,913	7,818	-905
California	47,542	52,368	-4,826	389,201	409,278	-20,077
Colorado	3,764	3,471	293	30,211	28,785	1,426
Connecticut	3,782	3,789	-7	25,332	23,948	1,384
Delaware	397	300	97	5,213	5,417	-204
District of Columbia	595	676	-81	7,066	7,071	-5
Florida	5,760	6,299	-539	27,982	37,097	-9,115
Georgia	4,802	9,717	-4,915	27,401	34,676	-7,275
Hawaii	940	1,282	-342	5,520	6,326	-806
Idaho	2,078	2,161	-83	7,040	7,324	-284
Illinois	15,362	18,777	-3,415	102,863	103,389	-526
Indiana	3,887	5,319	-1,432	23,695	24,224	-529
Iowa	4,115	5,650	-1,535	14,279	13,378	901
Kansas	2,037	1,997	40	8,924	7,929	995
Kentucky	3,575	2,942	633	9,848	10,435	-587
Louisiana	1,643	2,075	-432	10,807	12,214	-1,407
Maine	1,067	1,234	-167	6,705	6,059	646
Maryland	2,151	2,943	-792	23,475	23,182	293
Massachusetts	8,757	9,425	-668	63,451	62,279	1,172
Michigan	9,853	11,948	-2,095	53,881	58,415	-4,534
Minnesota	7,639	10,657	-3,018	64,916	60,488	4,428
Mississippi	1,021	1,457	-436	5,764	6,787	-1,023
Missouri	3,116	4,250	-1,134	17,253	18,807	-1,554
Montana	1,129	1,356	-227	8,593	8,487	106
Nebraska	1,583	1,229	354	5,285	5,467	-182
Nevada	2,757	2,936	-179	24,824	27,016	-2,192
New Hampshire	402	506	-104	3,203	3,259	-56
New Jersey	10,648	12,532	-1,884	100,783	102,654	-1,871
New Mexico	757	855	-98	10,607	10,895	-288
New York	16,892	23,388	-6,496	160,502	162,576	-2,074
North Carolina	3,488	4,020	-532	29,223	31,562	-2,339
North Dakota	1,085	1,075	10	4,436	4,751	-315
Ohio	8,579	10,578	-1,999	53,875	51,403	2,472
Oklahoma	1,214	1,283	-69	9,243	10,051	-808
Oregon	5,070	6,407	-1,337	33,713	32,528	1,185
Pennsylvania	14,823	19,609	-4,786	100,055	99,731	324
Puerto Rico	1,173	1,312	-139	15,845	17,022	-1,177
Rhode Island	1,376	1,273	103	9,703	9,142	561
South Carolina	1,949	3,110	-1,161	13,548	15,239	-1,691
South Dakota	441	618	-177	2,234	1,898	336
Tennessee	3,131	4,289	-1,158	16,158	15,398	760
Texas	15,286	20,951	-5,665	142,263	158,256	-15,993
Utah	2,120	2,448	-328	13,023	12,683	340
Vermont	497	613	-116	2,743	2,681	62
Virgin Islands	17	32	-15	308	286	22
Virginia	2,422	2,764	-342	16,966	15,318	1,648
Washington	5,852	8,297	-2,445	82,332	77,388	4,944
West Virginia	1,691	1,797	-106	9,846	8,955	891
Wisconsin	5,949	8,959	-3,010	29,363	30,748	-1,385
Wyoming	442	538	-96	2,498	2,231	267
US Total	251,527	309,459	-57,932	1,873,935	1,931,425	-57,490

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	
December 9, 2023	205	-11	211.75	1,803	-15	1,813.00	1.2
December 16, 2023	207	2	210.25	1,817	14	1,814.00	1.2
December 23, 2023	213	6	210.25	1,815	-2	1,813.25	1.2
December 30, 2023	198	-15	205.75	1,759	-56	1,798.50	1.2
January 6, 2024	198	0	204.00	1,728	-31	1,779.75	1.2
January 13, 2024	194	-4	200.75	1,761	33	1,765.75	1.2
January 20, 2024	221	27	202.75	1,829	68	1,769.25	1.2
January 27, 2024	225	4	209.50	1,813	-16	1,782.75	1.2
February 3, 2024	213	-12	213.25	1,803	-10	1,801.50	1.2
February 10, 2024	211	-2	217.50	1,787	-16	1,808.00	1.2
February 17, 2024	200	-11	212.25	1,805	18	1,802.00	1.2
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	1,874	-5	1,880.25	1.2
December 14, 2024	220	-22	225.50				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 7					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 30						
	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	STATE	(% ) <sup>2</sup>	CHANGE FROM		UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	TOTAL INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO			
Alabama	2,457	991	7	2	5	9,267	0.5	808	159	25	15	9,307
Alaska	731	139	-197	3	1	6,340	2.1	231	-130	73	1	6,414
Arizona	3,095	1,112	-451	9	7	22,867	0.7	834	1,326	94	44	23,005
Arkansas	1,664	384	-370	2	1	7,818	0.6	1,384	-2,475	27	8	7,853
California	52,368	14,411	5,030	198	99	409,278	2.3	81,290	25,381	929	1,324	411,531
Colorado	3,471	1,004	870	15	16	28,785	1.0	463	1,786	141	160	29,086
Connecticut	3,789	776	402	1	0	23,948	1.4	974	1,116	36	14	23,998
Delaware	300	-163	-212	1	3	5,417	1.2	684	623	9	6	5,432
District of Columbia	676	263	209	8	0	7,071	1.2	436	1,062	135	4	7,210
Florida	6,299	2,312	129	4	30	37,097	0.4	7,183	4,664	83	91	37,271
Georgia	9,717	6,119	2,792	31	25	34,676	0.7	10,343	4,344	84	67	34,827
Hawaii	1,282	598	-194	1	5	6,326	1.1	1,437	-4,172	34	55	6,415
Idaho	2,161	111	21	44	5	7,324	0.9	1,227	396	140	4	7,468
Illinois	18,777	7,426	4,921	8	4	103,389	1.7	16,255	10,010	303	112	103,804
Indiana	5,319	2,436	1,554	3	3	24,224	0.8	3,293	1,792	20	22	24,266
Iowa	5,650	2,262	1,044	4	3	13,378	0.9	3,195	3,273	15	6	13,399
Kansas	1,997	966	677	0	1	7,929	0.6	464	2,560	18	17	7,964
Kentucky	2,942	172	1,159	7	0	10,435	0.5	1,738	587	36	48	10,519
Louisiana	2,075	652	291	3	2	12,214	0.7	524	-393	27	11	12,252
Maine	1,234	513	237	2	2	6,059	1.0	761	611	28	11	6,098
Maryland	2,943	767	269	9	14	23,182	0.9	2,081	210	133	71	23,386
Massachusetts	9,425	2,690	1,551	7	9	62,279	1.7	5,195	-1,789	75	68	62,422
Michigan	11,948	2,387	1,865	6	8	58,415	1.3	7,232	11,844	138	37	58,590
Minnesota	10,657	3,297	3,380	16	7	60,488	2.1	13,187	8,035	66	58	60,612
Mississippi	1,457	392	276	3	2	6,787	0.6	644	443	14	14	6,815
Missouri	4,250	1,744	1,289	3	7	18,807	0.7	1,959	1,844	75	22	18,904
Montana	1,356	160	300	51	0	8,487	1.7	1,402	639	329	7	8,823
Nebraska	1,229	213	154	4	0	5,467	0.5	698	778	14	7	5,488
Nevada	2,936	412	-161	12	2	27,016	1.8	1,592	4,622	100	50	27,166
New Hampshire	506	83	21	2	2	3,259	0.5	136	194	1	2	3,262
New Jersey	12,532	2,907	1,857	15	12	102,654	2.5	10,287	8,907	277	169	103,100
New Mexico	855	64	-147	5	4	10,895	1.3	585	1,301	118	28	11,041
New York	23,388	8,926	7,378	26	9	162,576	1.7	16,177	3,010	247	166	162,989
North Carolina	4,020	1,516	920	5	3	31,562	0.7	2,479	12,857	52	121	31,735
North Dakota	1,075	-788	387	1	0	4,751	1.1	2,018	2,177	8	3	4,762
Ohio	10,578	3,233	2,265	9	20	51,403	1.0	6,185	5,939	68	83	51,554
Oklahoma	1,283	145	-44	6	3	10,051	0.6	708	380	17	30	10,098
Oregon	6,407	1,508	1,254	19	2	32,528	1.7	3,129	-360	400	32	32,960
Pennsylvania	19,609	4,528	5,490	13	14	99,731	1.7	12,359	356	212	128	100,071
Puerto Rico	1,312	399	27	3	6	17,022	1.8	624	-611	81	53	17,156
Rhode Island	1,273	67	197	3	4	9,142	1.9	597	854	30	17	9,189
South Carolina	3,110	1,763	715	1	7	15,239	0.7	1,709	1,622	19	41	15,299
South Dakota	618	212	156	11	0	1,898	0.4	511	379	27	1	1,926
Tennessee	4,289	1,373	1,057	0	10	15,398	0.5	845	-482	31	40	15,469
Texas	20,951	10,011	5,266	35	98	158,256	1.2	23,177	26,367	373	943	159,572
Utah	2,448	656	731	63	2	12,683	0.8	883	1,663	136	19	12,838
Vermont	613	14	160	0	0	2,681	0.9	715	215	1	0	2,682
Virgin Islands	32	3	11	0	0	286	0.8	10	94	2	0	288
Virginia	2,764	1,480	1,095	18	4	15,318	0.4	248	3,311	96	86	15,500
Washington	8,297	1,817	1,328	37	36	77,388	2.2	7,952	13,054	454	404	78,246
West Virginia	1,797	1,080	3	3	2	8,955	1.4	2,864	336	34	19	9,008
Wisconsin	8,959	2,527	3,370	7	0	30,748	1.1	7,760	3,074	57	14	30,819
Wyoming	538	163	30	16	1	2,231	0.8	207	375	42	1	2,274
Totals	309,459	98,233	60,369	755	500	1,931,425	1.3	269,679	164,158	5,984	4,754	1,942,163

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 7, 2024**

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
CA	+14,411	No comment.
TX	+10,011	Layoffs in public administration industry.
NY	+8,926	Layoffs in transportation and warehousing, construction, and accommodations and food services industries.
IL	+7,426	Layoffs in construction, administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, and manufacturing industries.
GA	+6,119	Layoffs in manufacturing; administrative and support and waste management and remediation services; health care and social assistance; and professional, scientific, and technical services industries.
PA	+4,528	Layoffs in construction; administrative and support and waste management and remediation services; and professional, scientific, and technical services industries.
MN	+3,297	Layoffs in construction industry.
OH	+3,233	Layoffs in manufacturing industry.
NJ	+2,907	No comment.
MA	+2,690	No comment.
WI	+2,527	Layoffs in construction industry.
IN	+2,436	No comment.
MI	+2,387	Layoffs in construction industry.
FL	+2,312	Layoffs in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting; construction; manufacturing; wholesale trade; and retail trade industries
IA	+2,262	Layoffs in manufacturing and construction industries.
WA	+1,817	No comment.
SC	+1,763	No comment.
MO	+1,744	Layoffs in manufacturing industry.
NC	+1,516	Layoffs in administrative and support and waste management and remediation services; and professional, scientific, and technical services industries.
OR	+1,508	Layoffs in construction and educational services industries.
VA	+1,480	Layoffs in administrative and support and waste management and remediation services; and professional, scientific, and technical services industries.
TN	+1,373	No comment.
AZ	+1,112	No comment.
WV	+1,080	Layoffs in manufacturing and in finance and insurance industries.
CO	+1,004	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
None		



## 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](#)

U.S. Department of Labor news materials are accessible at <http://www.dol.gov>. The Department's [Reasonable Accommodation Resource Center](#) converts Departmental information and documents into alternative formats, which include Braille and large print. For alternative format requests, please contact the Department at (202) 693-7828 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (federal relay).

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