



# News Release

Connect with DOL at

<https://blog.dol.gov>



TRANSMISSION OF MATERIALS IN THIS RELEASE IS EMBARGOED UNTIL  
8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, April 16, 2020

## COVID-19 Impact

The COVID-19 virus continues to impact the number of initial claims and insured unemployment.

### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

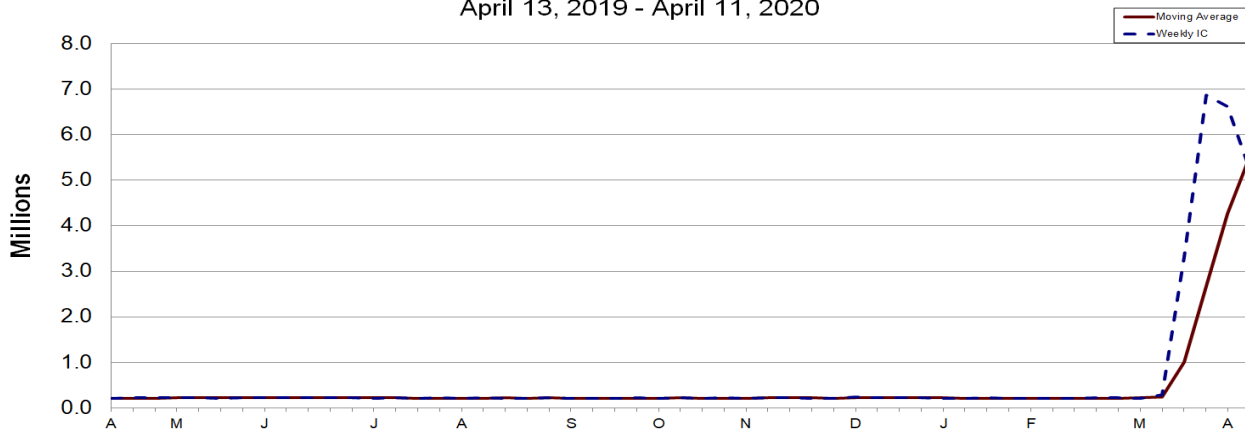
#### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending April 11, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 5,245,000, a decrease of 1,370,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 9,000 from 6,606,000 to 6,615,000. The 4-week moving average was 5,508,500, an increase of 1,240,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 2,250 from 4,265,500 to 4,267,750.

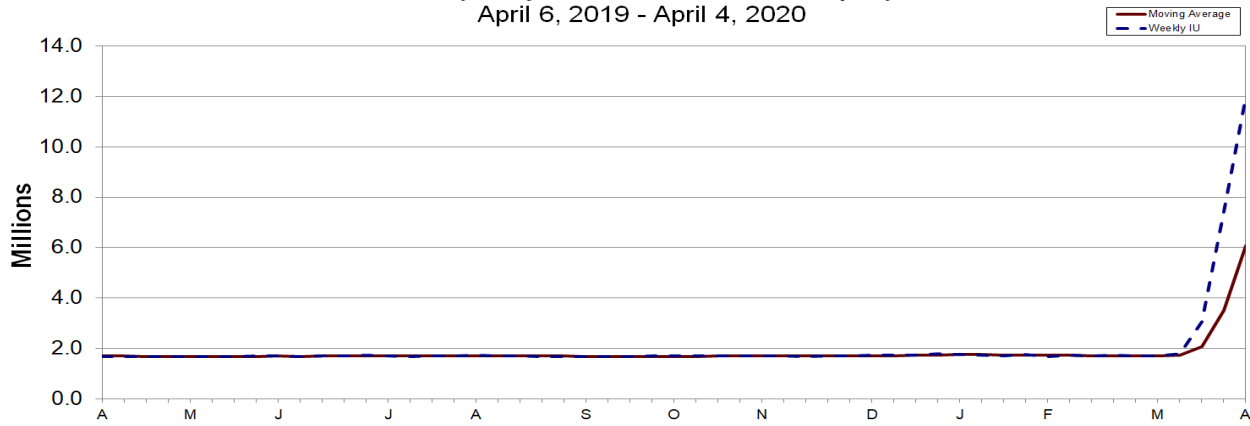
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 8.2 percent for the week ending April 4, an increase of 3.1 percentage points from the previous week's unrevised rate. This marks the highest level of the seasonally adjusted insured unemployment rate in the history of the seasonally adjusted series. The previous high was 7.0 percent in May of 1975.

The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending April 4 was 11,976,000, an increase of 4,530,000 from the previous week's revised level. This marks the highest level of seasonally adjusted insured unemployment in the history of the seasonally adjusted series. The previous week's level was revised down by 9,000 from 7,455,000 to 7,446,000. The 4-week moving average was 6,066,250, an increase of 2,568,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised down by 2,250 from 3,500,000 to 3,497,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims  
April 13, 2019 - April 11, 2020



### Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment April 6, 2019 - April 4, 2020

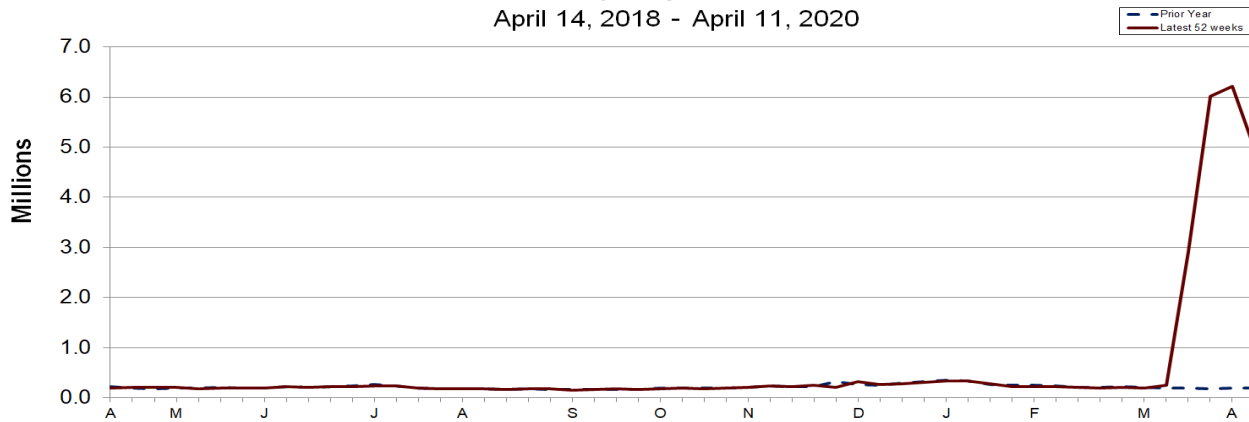


### UNADJUSTED DATA

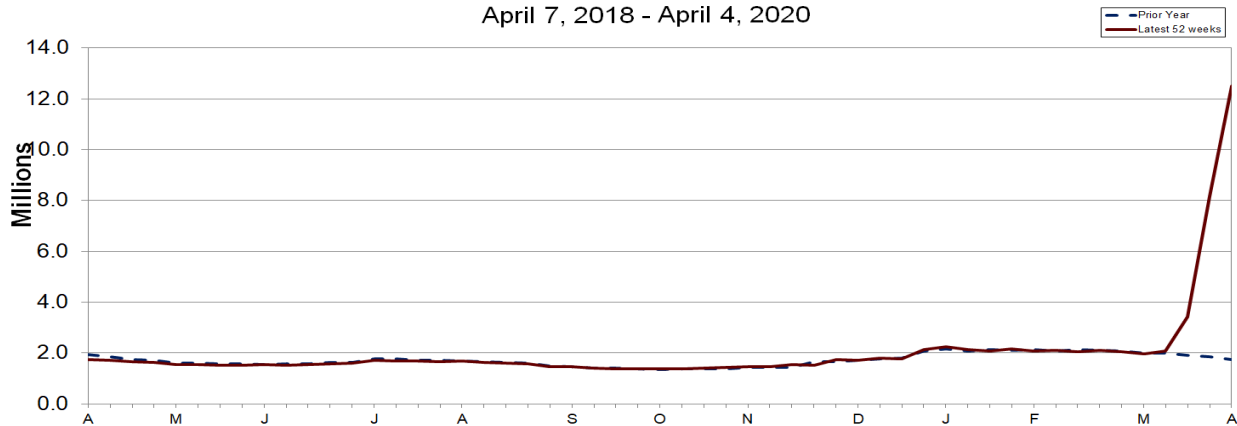
The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 4,971,823 in the week ending April 11, a decrease of 1,239,576 (or -20.0 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 59,534 (or 1.0 percent) from the previous week. There were 196,364 initial claims in the comparable week in 2019.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 8.6 percent during the week ending April 4, an increase of 3.0 percentage points from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 12,526,711, an increase of 4,358,440 (or 53.4 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 379,746 (or -4.6 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.2 percent and the volume was 1,730,108.

### Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims April 14, 2018 - April 11, 2020



### Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment April 7, 2018 - April 4, 2020



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending March 28 was 8,206,806, an increase of 4,759,027 from the previous week. There were 1,890,578 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2019.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending March 28.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 3,395 in the week ending April 4, an increase of 944 from the prior week. There were 2,044 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 292 from the preceding week.

There were 11,008 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending March 28, an increase of 1,630 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 6,328, an increase of 849 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending March 28 were in Rhode Island (11.9), Pennsylvania (9.8), Nevada (9.6), Washington (9.3), Connecticut (8.9), Massachusetts (8.7), Minnesota (8.7), Michigan (8.5), Ohio (8.4), and Georgia (8.2).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending April 4 were in Georgia (+256,312), Michigan (+84,219), Arizona (+43,488), Texas (+38,982), and Virginia (+34,872), while the largest decreases were in California (-139,511), Pennsylvania (-127,037), Florida (-58,599), Ohio (-48,097), and Massachusetts (-41,776).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>April 11</b>	<b>April 4</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>March 28</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Initial Claims (SA)	5,245,000	6,615,000	-1,370,000	6,867,000	203,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	4,971,823	6,211,399	-1,239,576	6,015,821	196,364
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	5,508,500	4,267,750	+1,240,750	2,666,750	208,000
<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>April 4</b>	<b>March 28</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>March 21</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	11,976,000	7,446,000	+4,530,000	3,059,000	1,667,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	12,526,711	8,168,271	+4,358,440	3,416,645	1,730,108
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	6,066,250	3,497,750	+2,568,500	2,061,000	1,705,750
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) <sup>2</sup>	8.2%	5.1%	+3.1	2.1%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) <sup>2</sup>	8.6%	5.6%	+3.0	2.4%	1.2%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>April 4</b>	<b>March 28</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	3,395	2,451	+944	552
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	2,044	1,752	+292	553

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

<b>WEEK ENDING</b>	<b>March 28</b>	<b>March 21</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Prior Year<sup>1</sup></b>
Regular State	8,157,940	3,411,021	+4,746,919	1,859,082
Federal Employees	11,008	9,378	+1,630	10,434
Newly Discharged Veterans	6,328	5,479	+849	5,879
Extended Benefits <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0
State Additional Benefits <sup>4</sup>	5,657	5,449	+208	6,117
STC / Workshare <sup>5</sup>	25,873	16,452	+9,421	9,066
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,206,806</b>	<b>3,447,779</b>	<b>+4,759,027</b>	<b>1,890,578</b>

**FOOTNOTES**

SA - Seasonally Adjusted Data, NSA - Not Seasonally Adjusted Data

1. Prior year is comparable to most recent data.
2. Most recent week used covered employment of 145,671,710 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 4-4 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-8 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

## Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended April 11			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended April 4		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama*	91,079	106,739	-15,660	50,726	52,176	-1,450
Alaska	12,752	14,590	-1,838	35,141	19,845	15,296
Arizona	97,784	132,428	-34,644	116,782	62,597	54,185
Arkansas	34,635	62,086	-27,451	64,356	36,499	27,857
California	660,966	918,814	-257,848	1,440,181	1,076,761	363,420
Colorado	105,073	46,326	58,747	166,170	73,584	92,586
Connecticut	33,962	33,464	498	191,593	147,939	43,654
Delaware	13,272	18,851	-5,579	36,134	19,442	16,692
District of Columbia	9,904	15,329	-5,425	40,440	31,385	9,055
Florida	181,293	169,885	11,408	339,150	98,921	240,229
Georgia	317,526	390,132	-72,606	594,028	360,077	233,951
Hawaii	34,693	53,101	-18,408	48,473	32,123	16,350
Idaho	17,817	30,904	-13,087	58,338	35,915	22,423
Illinois	141,049	201,041	-59,992	453,946	263,057	190,889
Indiana	118,184	127,010	-8,826	152,605	71,737	80,868
Iowa	46,356	64,194	-17,838	128,819	91,631	37,188
Kansas	30,769	49,306	-18,537	79,016	51,425	27,591
Kentucky	115,763	117,575	-1,812	181,130	130,151	50,979
Louisiana	80,045	100,621	-20,576	213,338	116,690	96,648
Maine	13,273	30,910	-17,637	55,033	41,339	13,694
Maryland	60,823	109,489	-48,666	159,533	92,082	67,451
Massachusetts	103,040	139,647	-36,607	358,758	310,211	48,547
Michigan	219,320	388,554	-169,234	744,654	366,426	378,228
Minnesota	89,634	110,260	-20,626	346,689	248,023	98,666
Mississippi	46,160	45,852	308	59,413	29,373	30,040
Missouri	95,785	91,458	4,327	177,479	121,467	56,012
Montana	13,437	21,244	-7,807	54,137	36,819	17,318
Nebraska	16,391	27,054	-10,663	59,295	38,921	20,374
Nevada	60,180	79,285	-19,105	186,619	131,121	55,498
New Hampshire	23,936	39,202	-15,266	81,312	52,166	29,146
New Jersey	140,600	214,836	-74,236	431,254	276,119	155,135
New Mexico	19,494	26,132	-6,638	64,651	44,829	19,822
New York	395,949	344,451	51,498	1,126,867	712,544	414,323
North Carolina	137,934	137,422	512	359,151	245,692	113,459
North Dakota	10,378	15,125	-4,747	26,628	16,036	10,592
Ohio	157,218	226,191	-68,973	618,679	450,061	168,618
Oklahoma	48,977	60,534	-11,557	87,512	55,029	32,483
Oregon	50,930	62,788	-11,858	269,538	118,729	150,809
Pennsylvania**	238,357	277,640	-39,283	621,798	566,464	55,334
Puerto Rico	41,829	66,555	-24,726	84,421	49,669	34,752
Rhode Island	22,805	28,243	-5,438	71,944	56,038	15,906
South Carolina	87,686	86,573	1,113	125,376	75,521	49,855
South Dakota	6,152	8,138	-1,986	4,453	7,568	-3,115
Tennessee	74,772	112,186	-37,414	206,622	116,179	90,443
Texas	273,567	315,167	-41,600	635,516	374,656	260,860
Utah	24,171	33,040	-8,869	68,207	45,161	23,046
Vermont	9,478	16,474	-6,996	31,377	21,953	9,424
Virgin Islands	3	72	-69	782	658	124
Virginia	106,723	147,369	-40,646	237,367	133,184	104,183
Washington	150,516	171,252	-20,736	451,054	309,411	141,643
West Virginia	14,595	14,494	101	53,993	36,690	17,303
Wisconsin	69,884	104,823	-34,939	263,863	208,387	55,476
Wyoming	4,904	6,543	-1,639	12,370	7,790	4,580
US Total	4,971,823	6,211,399	-1,239,576	12,526,711	8,168,271	4,358,440

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	
April 6, 2019	203	-8	212.00	1,667	-38	1,705.75	1.2
April 13, 2019	203	0	208.00	1,659	-8	1,687.50	1.2
April 20, 2019	226	23	210.75	1,682	23	1,678.25	1.2
April 27, 2019	230	4	215.50	1,684	2	1,673.00	1.2
May 4, 2019	225	-5	221.00	1,678	-6	1,675.75	1.2
May 11, 2019	217	-8	224.50	1,683	5	1,681.75	1.2
May 18, 2019	213	-4	221.25	1,675	-8	1,680.00	1.2
May 25, 2019	218	5	218.25	1,695	20	1,682.75	1.2
June 1, 2019	220	2	217.00	1,700	5	1,688.25	1.2
June 8, 2019	220	0	217.75	1,677	-23	1,686.75	1.2
June 15, 2019	219	-1	219.25	1,692	15	1,691.00	1.2
June 22, 2019	224	5	220.75	1,699	7	1,692.00	1.2
June 29, 2019	222	-2	221.25	1,717	18	1,696.25	1.2
July 6, 2019	211	-11	219.00	1,694	-23	1,700.50	1.2
July 13, 2019	217	6	218.50	1,682	-12	1,698.00	1.2
July 20, 2019	211	-6	215.25	1,699	17	1,698.00	1.2
July 27, 2019	216	5	213.75	1,692	-7	1,691.75	1.2
August 3, 2019	214	-2	214.50	1,719	27	1,698.00	1.2
August 10, 2019	218	4	214.75	1,687	-32	1,699.25	1.2
August 17, 2019	215	-3	215.75	1,699	12	1,699.25	1.2
August 24, 2019	215	0	215.50	1,683	-16	1,697.00	1.2
August 31, 2019	219	4	216.75	1,683	0	1,688.00	1.2
September 7, 2019	208	-11	214.25	1,675	-8	1,685.00	1.2
September 14, 2019	211	3	213.25	1,672	-3	1,678.25	1.2
September 21, 2019	215	4	213.25	1,667	-5	1,674.25	1.2
September 28, 2019	218	3	213.00	1,698	31	1,678.00	1.2
October 5, 2019	212	-6	214.00	1,689	-9	1,681.50	1.2
October 12, 2019	218	6	215.75	1,691	2	1,686.25	1.2
October 19, 2019	213	-5	215.25	1,700	9	1,694.50	1.2
October 26, 2019	217	4	215.00	1,695	-5	1,693.75	1.2
November 2, 2019	212	-5	215.00	1,702	7	1,697.00	1.2
November 9, 2019	222	10	216.00	1,697	-5	1,698.50	1.2
November 16, 2019	223	1	218.50	1,665	-32	1,689.75	1.2
November 23, 2019	211	-12	217.00	1,697	32	1,690.25	1.2
November 30, 2019	206	-5	215.50	1,700	3	1,689.75	1.2
December 7, 2019	237	31	219.25	1,725	25	1,696.75	1.2
December 14, 2019	229	-8	220.75	1,716	-9	1,709.50	1.2
December 21, 2019	218	-11	222.50	1,728	12	1,717.25	1.2
December 28, 2019	220	2	226.00	1,775	47	1,736.00	1.2
January 4, 2020	212	-8	219.75	1,759	-16	1,744.50	1.2
January 11, 2020	207	-5	214.25	1,735	-24	1,749.25	1.2
January 18, 2020	220	13	214.75	1,704	-31	1,743.25	1.2
January 25, 2020	212	-8	212.75	1,753	49	1,737.75	1.2
February 1, 2020	201	-11	210.00	1,678	-75	1,717.50	1.2
February 8, 2020	204	3	209.25	1,729	51	1,716.00	1.2
February 15, 2020	215	11	208.00	1,693	-36	1,713.25	1.2
February 22, 2020	220	5	210.00	1,720	27	1,705.00	1.2
February 29, 2020	217	-3	214.00	1,699	-21	1,710.25	1.2
March 7, 2020	211	-6	215.75	1,702	3	1,703.50	1.2
March 14, 2020	282	71	232.50	1,784	82	1,726.25	1.2
March 21, 2020	3,307	3,025	1,004.25	3,059	1,275	2,061.00	2.1
March 28, 2020	6,867	3,560	2,666.75	7,446	4,387	3,497.75	5.1
April 4, 2020	6,615	-252	4,267.75	11,976	4,530	6,066.25	8.2
April 11, 2020	5,245	-1,370	5,508.50				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED APRIL 4					INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 28						ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	CHANGE FROM				STATE	(%) <sup>2</sup>	CHANGE FROM				
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE <sup>1</sup>	UCX <sup>1</sup>	
Alabama	106739	25755	103848	86	36	52176	2.7	34093	37595	52	36	52264
Alaska	14590	816	13699	5	0	19845	6.5	8672	11262	112	19	19976
Arizona	132428	43488	127399	24	24	62597	2.2	36210	43842	194	49	62840
Arkansas	62086	34330	59836	6	3	36499	3.1	20351	26711	65	37	36601
California	918814	-139511	882587	149	72	1076761	6.2	676196	702938	2101	1031	1079893
Colorado	46326	-15512	44423	26	30	73584	2.8	51628	52849	258	158	74000
Connecticut	33464	237	31135	7	3	147939	8.9	67078	111847	56	61	148056
Delaware	18851	-286	18381	6	6	19442	4.4	7936	14627	8	10	19460
District of Columbia	15329	-540	14890	160	1	31385	5.4	13724	24632	269	5	31659
Florida	169885	-58599	163483	100	94	98921	1.1	63845	65668	120	77	99118
Georgia	390132	256312	385490	73	29	360077	8.2	252200	337057	242	161	360480
Hawaii	53101	4505	51816	2	8	32123	5.2	21141	25499	79	58	32260
Idaho	30904	-2037	29987	17	8	35915	4.9	20392	28488	180	25	36120
Illinois	201041	22620	192165	22	13	263057	4.5	130943	143900	326	138	263521
Indiana	127010	-12164	123972	21	28	71737	2.4	42750	52977	37	45	71819
Iowa	64194	8228	62414	37	15	91631	6.0	37981	67992	70	35	91736
Kansas	49306	-5024	47949	3	1	51425	3.8	33867	42782	30	29	51484
Kentucky	117575	4426	114801	3	2	130151	7.0	105790	112064	157	111	130419
Louisiana	100621	3221	98965	60	34	116690	6.2	58663	103022	47	15	116752
Maine	30910	7140	30171	1	1	41339	6.9	19372	33726	17	0	41356
Maryland	109489	24172	107007	30	60	92082	3.6	44109	65523	186	87	92355
Massachusetts	139647	-41776	135351	62	48	310211	8.7	127106	239220	135	120	310466
Michigan	388554	84219	381872	172	228	366426	8.5	278243	295060	212	102	366740
Minnesota	110260	1165	107124	24	22	248023	8.7	87150	193462	131	74	248228
Mississippi	45852	13837	44903	10	5	29373	2.6	19792	22697	63	30	29466
Missouri	91458	-12833	88819	16	5	121467	4.4	71997	100900	100	45	121612
Montana	21244	481	20505	56	15	36819	8.1	17720	27391	423	33	37275
Nebraska	27054	2329	26465	18	7	38921	4.0	22280	33843	26	7	38954
Nevada	79285	7343	77277	9	7	131121	9.6	72323	112823	177	43	131341
New Hampshire	39202	7824	38705	18	8	52166	8.0	24845	48068	18	8	52192
New Jersey	214836	8583	207129	66	9	276119	6.9	119938	180302	215	260	276594
New Mexico	26132	-1717	25258	5	5	44829	5.6	24742	35436	137	39	45005
New York	344451	-22144	331848	45	21	712544	7.6	397834	572533	347	329	713220
North Carolina	137422	-34723	134283	74	76	245692	5.6	170472	226263	181	204	246077
North Dakota	15125	3307	14853	25	6	16036	3.9	7502	11023	11	9	16056
Ohio	226191	-48097	220180	29	154	450061	8.4	235788	390471	146	264	450471
Oklahoma	60534	12790	58510	56	36	55029	3.5	29761	41382	63	54	55146
Oregon	62788	15290	58320	22	12	118729	6.2	54799	88693	515	70	119314
Pennsylvania	277640	-127037	266513	1326	404	566464	9.8	430756	449333	1518	357	568339
Puerto Rico	66555	21161	65392	15	12	49669	5.8	30439	34145	139	83	49891
Rhode Island	28243	443	27574	4	4	56038	11.9	24191	45926	21	6	56065
South Carolina	86573	20098	84464	32	28	75521	3.6	45180	61482	34	62	75617
South Dakota	8138	1337	7995	11	3	7568	1.8	4030	4902	45	3	7616
Tennessee	112186	19686	107868	84	51	116179	3.9	78638	99398	99	70	116348
Texas	315167	38982	302074	222	252	374656	3.1	229959	262942	578	975	376209
Utah	33040	4508	32014	31	11	45161	3.1	20526	36161	164	23	45348
Vermont	16474	1841	15955	1	0	21953	7.2	8156	17278	8	3	21964
Virgin Islands	72	-178	35	0	0	658	1.9	146	294	0	0	658
Virginia	147369	34872	145214	25	36	133184	3.6	91357	113294	200	226	133610
Washington	171252	-11597	164953	36	80	309411	9.3	151386	255787	477	548	310436
West Virginia	14494	-29	13816	5	10	36690	5.5	15545	25724	52	45	36787
Wisconsin	104823	-6111	99442	43	18	208387	7.3	108813	170083	103	41	208531
Wyoming	6543	147	6199	15	3	7790	2.9	3271	5264	64	8	7862
Totals	6211399	195578	6015328	3395	2044	8168271	5.6	4751626	6306581	11008	6328	8185607

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 April 4, 2020

---

### STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

---

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
GA	+256,312	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, trade, health care and social assistance, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, and manufacturing industries.
MI	+84,219	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, retail trade, wholesale trade, and administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services industries.
AZ	+43,488	No comment.
TX	+38,982	Layoffs in the mining, accommodation and food services, manufacturing, health care and social assistance, information, retail trade, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, other services, wholesale trade, and arts, entertainment, and recreation industries.
VA	+34,872	Layoffs in the mining industry.
AR	+34,330	No comment.
AL	+25,755	Layoffs in the retail trade, health care and social assistance, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, manufacturing, transportation and warehousing, and wholesale trade industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
MD	+24,172	No comment.
IL	+22,620	Layoffs in the other services, wholesale trade, retail trade, and accommodation and food services industries.
PR	+21,161	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
SC	+20,098	No comment.
TN	+19,686	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, retail trade, health care and social assistance, other services, and administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
OR	+15,290	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
MS	+13,837	No comment.
OK	+12,790	No comment.
NJ	+8,583	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, and trade industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
IA	+8,228	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, and construction industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
NH	+7,824	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
NV	+7,343	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
ME	+7,140	Layoffs in the retail trade, health care and social assistance, accommodation and food services, manufacturing, educational services, other services, arts, entertainment, and recreation, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, construction, and professional, scientific, and technical services industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
UT	+4,508	No comment.
HI	+4,505	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
KY	+4,426	No comment.
ND	+3,307	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
LA	+3,221	No comment.
NE	+2,329	No comment.
VT	+1,841	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
SD	+1,337	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
MN	+1,165	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.



STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

<b>State</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>State Supplied Comment</b>
CA	-139,511	Fewer layoffs in the construction and manufacturing industries.
PA	-127,037	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services, and manufacturing industries.
FL	-58,599	Fewer layoff in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, construction, service, and manufacturing industries.
OH	-48,097	No comment.
MA	-41,776	No comment.
NC	-34,723	Fewer layoffs in the accommodation and food services, other services, and administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services industries.
NY	-22,144	Fewer layoffs in the accommodation and food services, manufacturing, and health care and social assistance industries.
CO	-15,512	No comment.
MO	-12,833	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, accommodation and food services, and transportation and warehousing industries.
IN	-12,164	No comment.
WA	-11,597	No comment.
WI	-6,111	No comment.
KS	-5,024	No comment.
ID	-2,037	No comment.
NM	-1,717	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. Continued claims are also referred to as insured unemployment. The count of U.S. continued weeks claimed is also a good indicator of labor market conditions. Continued claims reflect the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits in the nation. 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.

[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).

U.S. Department of Labor  
Employment and Training Administration  
Washington, D.C. 20210  
Release Number: USDL 20-632-NAT

Program Contacts:  
Kevin Stapleton: (202) 321-2810  
Media Contact: (202) 693-4676