



News Release

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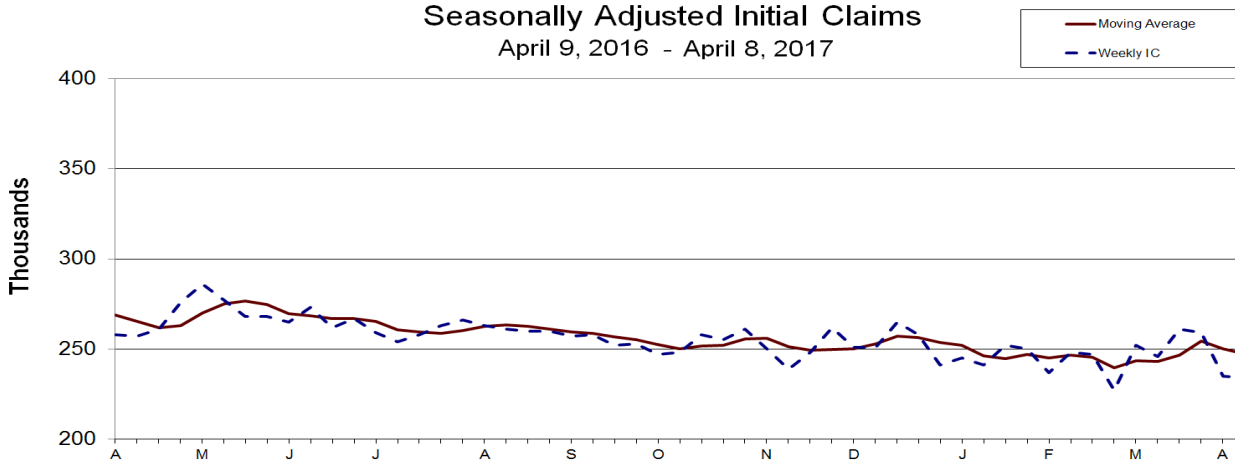
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

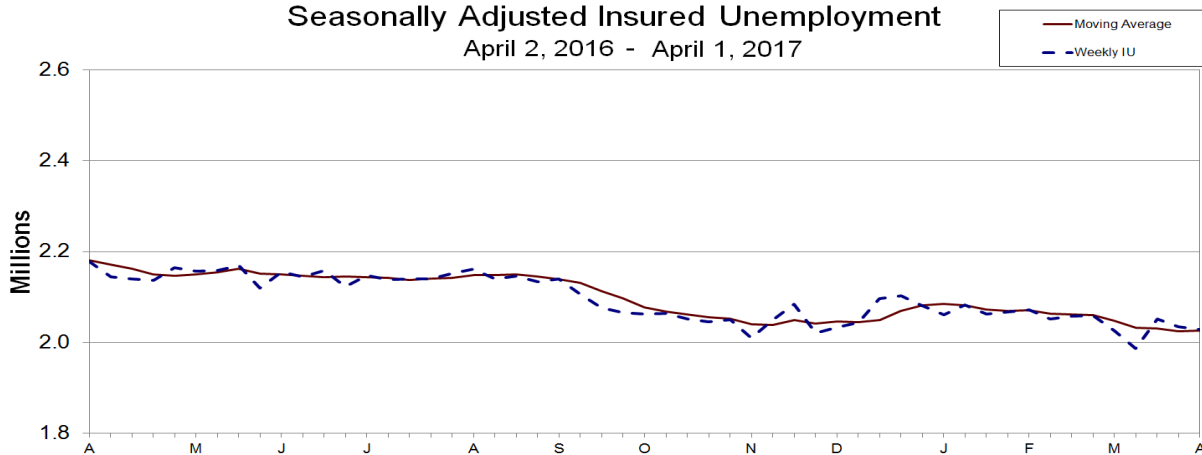
In the week ending April 8, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 234,000, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up by 1,000 from 234,000 to 235,000. The 4-week moving average was 247,250, a decrease of 3,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 250,000 to 250,250.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.5 percent for the week ending April 1, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending April 1 was 2,028,000, a decrease of 7,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 7,000 from 2,028,000 to 2,035,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,025,500, an increase of 750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,750 from 2,023,000 to 2,024,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
April 9, 2016 - April 8, 2017



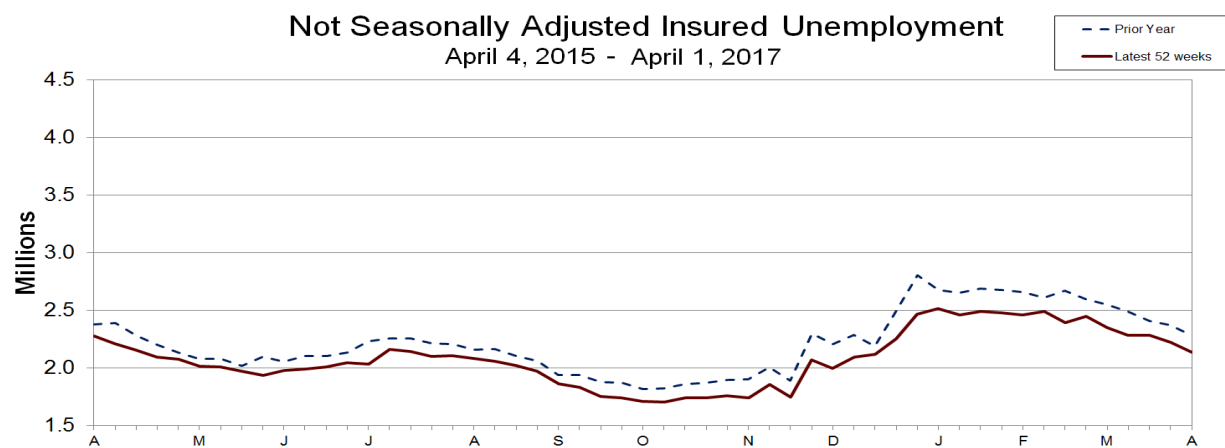
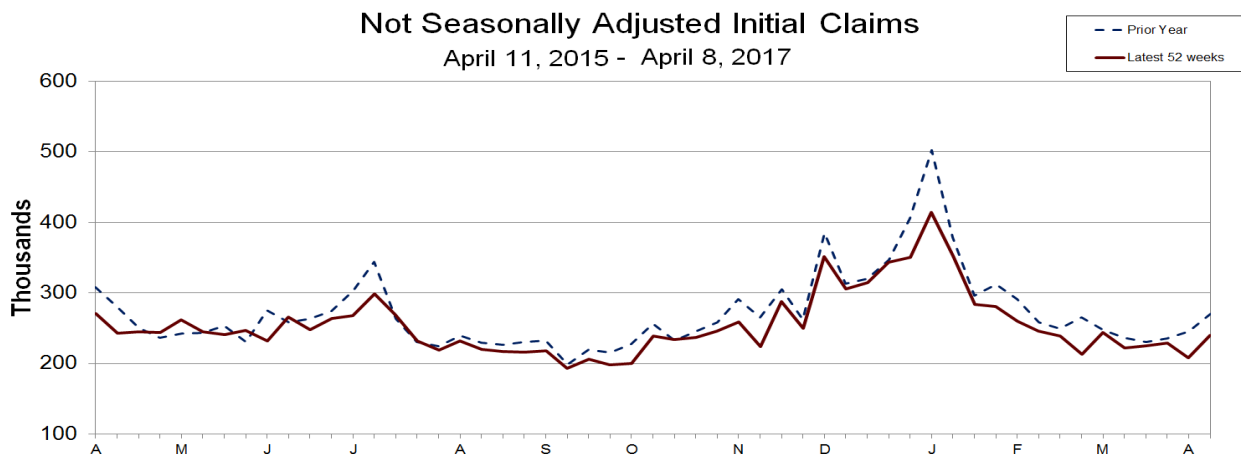
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
April 2, 2016 - April 1, 2017



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 239,944 in the week ending April 8, an increase of 31,443 (or 15.1 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 32,167 (or 15.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 270,419 initial claims in the comparable week in 2016.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.5 percent during the week ending April 1, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,139,027, a decrease of 84,887 (or -3.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 77,318 (or -3.5 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.7 percent and the volume was 2,280,430.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending March 25 was 2,261,867, a decrease of 64,741 from the previous week. There were 2,420,036 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2016.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending March 25.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 600 in the week ending April 1, an increase of 4 from the prior week. There were 784 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 63 from the preceding week.

There were 11,679 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending March 25, a decrease of 1,054 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 10,771, a decrease of 388 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending March 25 were in Alaska (3.7), New Jersey (2.9), Connecticut (2.8), Puerto Rico (2.8), Pennsylvania (2.7), Rhode Island (2.6), Massachusetts (2.5), California (2.4), Illinois (2.4), and Montana (2.4).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending April 1 were in Illinois (+2,060), Oregon (+1,133), Ohio (+1,022), Indiana (+898), and Kansas (+689), while the largest decreases were in California (-7,238), New York (-7,039), Pennsylvania (-4,109), Texas (-2,205), and Connecticut (-1,184).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	April 8	April 1	Change	March 25	Prior Year ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	234,000	235,000	-1,000	259,000	258,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	239,944	208,501	+31,443	228,544	270,419
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	247,250	250,250	-3,000	254,500	268,750
WEEK ENDING	April 1	March 25	Change	March 18	Prior Year ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,028,000	2,035,000	-7,000	2,052,000	2,178,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,139,027	2,223,914	-84,887	2,285,629	2,280,430
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,025,500	2,024,750	+750	2,030,750	2,180,250
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)²	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.5%	1.6%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)²	1.5%	1.6%	-0.1	1.6%	1.7%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 1	March 25	Change	Prior Year ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	600	596	+4	618
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	784	721	+63	1,042

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	March 25	March 18	Change	Prior Year ¹
Regular State	2,220,626	2,282,211	-61,585	2,370,526
Federal Employees	11,679	12,733	-1,054	10,823
Newly Discharged Veterans	10,771	11,159	-388	14,290
Extended Benefits³	0	0	0	0
State Additional Benefits⁴	7,526	7,996	-470	8,133
STC / Workshare⁵	11,265	12,509	-1,244	16,264
TOTAL	2,261,867	2,326,608	-64,741	2,420,036

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 139,505,637 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, extended and emergency 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 4-9 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended April 8			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended April 1		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,565	2,602	-37	16,495	16,724	-229
Alaska	1,538	1,017	521	11,119	11,508	-389
Arizona	6,180	4,393	1,787	21,770	24,321	-2,551
Arkansas	2,080	1,590	490	11,590	13,612	-2,022
California	44,691	35,367	9,324	409,659	393,445	16,214
Colorado	2,843	2,275	568	24,972	26,293	-1,321
Connecticut	3,381	3,014	367	45,948	46,376	-428
Delaware	605	514	91	6,407	7,344	-937
District of Columbia	653	265	388	7,533	8,266	-733
Florida	8,327	6,981	1,346	34,377	41,521	-7,144
Georgia	5,829	5,054	775	27,210	28,116	-906
Hawaii	1,573	1,278	295	7,668	7,816	-148
Idaho	1,185	1,227	-42	8,808	9,984	-1,176
Illinois	11,071	10,232	839	134,952	139,827	-4,875
Indiana	3,337	3,415	-78	26,026	25,610	416
Iowa	2,556	1,982	574	25,819	25,824	-5
Kansas	2,246	2,460	-214	14,849	13,922	927
Kentucky	3,495	2,216	1,279	18,813	21,167	-2,354
*Louisiana	2,251	2,535	-284	21,154	21,638	-484
Maine	910	919	-9	9,424	9,489	-65
Maryland	3,490	2,988	502	33,366	38,404	-5,038
Massachusetts	4,995	4,379	616	80,496	85,971	-5,475
Michigan	6,627	7,441	-814	75,576	85,922	-10,346
Minnesota	3,440	3,168	272	57,432	58,139	-707
Mississippi	1,082	1,053	29	8,170	9,554	-1,384
Missouri	3,960	3,592	368	26,314	30,068	-3,754
Montana	887	778	109	9,396	10,397	-1,001
Nebraska	836	809	27	5,481	5,935	-454
Nevada	2,918	2,247	671	20,286	22,133	-1,847
New Hampshire	574	584	-10	4,697	5,114	-417
New Jersey	8,970	8,213	757	109,236	112,392	-3,156
New Mexico	935	1,026	-91	11,143	12,177	-1,034
New York	15,329	13,818	1,511	167,273	172,815	-5,542
North Carolina	3,571	2,826	745	21,020	22,589	-1,569
North Dakota	584	377	207	7,926	7,033	893
Ohio	7,185	7,335	-150	71,692	74,422	-2,730
Oklahoma	1,509	1,470	39	14,815	15,467	-652
Oregon	5,011	4,461	550	31,018	30,164	854
Pennsylvania	14,983	14,184	799	132,641	151,682	-19,041
Puerto Rico	2,132	1,428	704	20,874	24,363	-3,489
Rhode Island	909	705	204	11,134	11,904	-770
South Carolina	2,390	1,892	498	12,489	13,345	-856
South Dakota	181	165	16	2,583	2,975	-392
Tennessee	2,592	2,859	-267	17,345	18,742	-1,397
Texas	16,735	13,745	2,990	142,120	144,323	-2,203
Utah	1,243	922	321	9,786	10,509	-723
Vermont	752	540	212	5,875	5,710	165
Virgin Islands	25	22	3	524	396	128
Virginia	3,159	2,625	534	26,116	26,335	-219
Washington	7,790	6,284	1,506	57,247	57,472	-225
West Virginia	1,112	809	303	12,551	13,120	-569
Wisconsin	6,056	6,055	1	43,464	46,371	-2,907
Wyoming	666	365	301	4,348	5,168	-820
US Total	239,944	208,501	31,443	2,139,027	2,223,914	-84,887

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 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 staff 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 2, 2016	271	-4	270.25	2,178	-9	2,180.25	1.6
April 9, 2016	258	-13	268.75	2,145	-33	2,171.50	1.6
April 16, 2016	257	-1	265.25	2,140	-5	2,162.50	1.6
April 23, 2016	261	4	261.75	2,137	-3	2,150.00	1.6
April 30, 2016	276	15	263.00	2,165	28	2,146.75	1.6
May 7, 2016	286	10	270.00	2,157	-8	2,149.75	1.6
May 14, 2016	277	-9	275.00	2,158	1	2,154.25	1.6
May 21, 2016	268	-9	276.75	2,169	11	2,162.25	1.6
May 28, 2016	268	0	274.75	2,120	-49	2,151.00	1.5
June 4, 2016	265	-3	269.50	2,155	35	2,150.50	1.6
June 11, 2016	273	8	268.50	2,144	-11	2,147.00	1.6
June 18, 2016	262	-11	267.00	2,158	14	2,144.25	1.6
June 25, 2016	267	5	266.75	2,123	-35	2,145.00	1.5
July 2, 2016	259	-8	265.25	2,147	24	2,143.00	1.6
July 9, 2016	254	-5	260.50	2,138	-9	2,141.50	1.6
July 16, 2016	258	4	259.50	2,140	2	2,137.00	1.6
July 23, 2016	263	5	258.50	2,139	-1	2,141.00	1.6
July 30, 2016	266	3	260.25	2,152	13	2,142.25	1.6
August 6, 2016	263	-3	262.50	2,161	9	2,148.00	1.6
August 13, 2016	261	-2	263.25	2,139	-22	2,147.75	1.6
August 20, 2016	260	-1	262.50	2,146	7	2,149.50	1.6
August 27, 2016	260	0	261.00	2,133	-13	2,144.75	1.5
September 3, 2016	257	-3	259.50	2,139	6	2,139.25	1.6
September 10, 2016	258	1	258.75	2,105	-34	2,130.75	1.5
September 17, 2016	252	-6	256.75	2,076	-29	2,113.25	1.5
September 24, 2016	253	1	255.00	2,066	-10	2,096.50	1.5
October 1, 2016	247	-6	252.50	2,063	-3	2,077.50	1.5
October 8, 2016	248	1	250.00	2,064	1	2,067.25	1.5
October 15, 2016	258	10	251.50	2,052	-12	2,061.25	1.5
October 22, 2016	255	-3	252.00	2,045	-7	2,056.00	1.5
October 29, 2016	261	6	255.50	2,050	5	2,052.75	1.5
November 5, 2016	250	-11	256.00	2,010	-40	2,039.25	1.5
November 12, 2016	239	-11	251.25	2,050	40	2,038.75	1.5
November 19, 2016	248	9	249.50	2,084	34	2,048.50	1.5
November 26, 2016	262	14	249.75	2,020	-64	2,041.00	1.5
December 3, 2016	251	-11	250.00	2,033	13	2,046.75	1.5
December 10, 2016	251	0	253.00	2,044	11	2,045.25	1.5
December 17, 2016	265	14	257.25	2,097	53	2,048.50	1.5
December 24, 2016	258	-7	256.25	2,102	5	2,069.00	1.5
December 31, 2016	241	-17	253.75	2,081	-21	2,081.00	1.5
January 7, 2017	245	4	252.25	2,061	-20	2,085.25	1.5
January 14, 2017	241	-4	246.25	2,083	22	2,081.75	1.5
January 21, 2017	252	11	244.75	2,063	-20	2,072.00	1.5
January 28, 2017	250	-2	247.00	2,067	4	2,068.50	1.5
February 4, 2017	237	-13	245.00	2,071	4	2,071.00	1.5
February 11, 2017	248	11	246.75	2,052	-19	2,063.25	1.5
February 18, 2017	247	-1	245.50	2,057	5	2,061.75	1.5
February 25, 2017	227	-20	239.75	2,059	2	2,059.75	1.5
March 4, 2017	252	25	243.50	2,025	-34	2,048.25	1.5
March 11, 2017	246	-6	243.00	1,987	-38	2,032.00	1.4
March 18, 2017	261	15	246.50	2,052	65	2,030.75	1.5
March 25, 2017	259	-2	254.50	2,035	-17	2,024.75	1.5
April 1, 2017	235	-24	250.25	2,028	-7	2,025.50	1.5
April 8, 2017	234	-1	247.25				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended April 1

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended March 25

STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS							INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	(% ²)	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO			
Alabama	2602	75	-667	12	12	16724	0.9	-722	-4532	66	111	16901
Alaska	1017	-41	-104	5	4	11508	3.7	-817	-1886	133	48	11689
Arizona	4393	407	-114	5	9	24321	0.9	21	-1960	205	84	24610
Arkansas	1590	-957	-372	2	2	13612	1.2	624	-4637	76	62	13750
California	35367	-7238	-1128	104	131	393445	2.4	-22800	-11199	2450	2184	398079
Colorado	2275	426	-737	9	27	26293	1.1	15	-5545	286	451	27030
Connecticut	3014	-1184	-185	11	8	46376	2.8	-2245	2006	76	104	46556
Delaware	514	-65	-811	1	1	7344	1.7	617	-80	12	26	7382
District of Columbia	265	7	-1	11	3	8266	1.5	-89	600	1078	11	9355
Florida	6981	289	-254	23	32	41521	0.5	1042	-6568	194	219	41934
Georgia	5054	-463	-1369	28	38	28116	0.7	-672	-3639	197	272	28585
Hawaii	1278	148	-132	6	15	7816	1.3	551	990	46	113	7975
Idaho	1227	-6	57	10	2	9984	1.5	-612	-350	192	40	10216
Illinois	10232	2060	-830	15	15	139827	2.4	-406	-4446	320	269	140416
Indiana	3415	898	535	8	4	25610	0.9	-1591	-3010	84	58	25752
Iowa	1982	16	-136	4	4	25824	1.7	-3438	-284	58	48	25930
Kansas	2460	689	513	5	12	13922	1.0	25	-740	37	59	14018
Kentucky	2216	179	-429	5	5	21167	1.2	511	-4516	86	206	21459
Louisiana	2535	-36	51	5	8	21638	1.1	-121	-67	57	71	21766
Maine	919	211	-41	1	1	9489	1.6	-445	-1687	40	22	9551
Maryland	2988	-798	-1033	24	16	38404	1.6	-1608	-2204	391	187	38982
Massachusetts	4379	-630	-371	13	15	85971	2.5	-1553	801	195	204	86370
Michigan	7441	-990	1297	13	15	85922	2.1	3503	-2382	203	147	86272
Minnesota	3168	-302	-542	4	1	58139	2.1	-2457	-3021	95	98	58332
Mississippi	1053	-123	-498	3	3	9554	0.9	-715	-1891	104	49	9707
Missouri	3592	-522	-424	7	3	30068	1.1	602	261	102	62	30232
Montana	778	-11	-228	12	0	10397	2.4	-466	-695	435	43	10875
Nebraska	809	23	125	0	3	5935	0.6	-676	258	19	11	5965
Nevada	2247	29	-207	5	6	22133	1.8	63	-2662	170	107	22410
New Hampshire	584	29	-56	2	0	5114	0.8	-201	-671	6	3	5123
New Jersey	8213	-466	-5015	14	17	112392	2.9	-4743	515	204	294	112890
New Mexico	1026	-223	-300	2	0	12177	1.6	350	-2146	224	73	12474
New York	13818	-7039	-6577	19	26	172815	1.9	-10132	-9758	336	530	173681
North Carolina	2826	-169	-484	7	19	22589	0.5	-841	-3477	112	215	22916
North Dakota	377	-1	-296	2	1	7033	1.7	-556	-1739	10	8	7051
Ohio	7335	1022	-816	4	23	74422	1.4	-4065	-2342	122	302	74846
Oklahoma	1470	-11	-486	11	12	15467	1.0	-500	-7954	69	114	15650
Oregon	4461	1133	-154	19	18	30164	1.7	-1052	-2372	543	146	30853
Pennsylvania	14184	-4109	-3113	65	30	151682	2.7	8644	-1124	548	393	152623
Puerto Rico	1428	235	-697	0	2	24363	2.8	942	-771	40	101	24504
Rhode Island	705	-75	-141	3	1	11904	2.6	-675	346	25	37	11966
South Carolina	1892	-183	-928	8	15	13345	0.7	-397	-1767	62	115	13522
South Dakota	165	-15	-21	0	0	2975	0.7	-298	483	37	3	3015
Tennessee	2859	385	-782	8	3	18742	0.7	-331	-5561	416	179	19337
Texas	13745	-2205	-2682	41	162	144323	1.3	-5588	-34433	488	1937	146748
Utah	922	-35	-237	7	5	10509	0.8	-517	-1207	139	26	10674
Vermont	540	71	-198	2	0	5710	1.9	-537	-412	11	7	5728
Virgin Islands	22	0	-2	0	0	396	1.1	-120	-148	2	6	404
Virginia	2625	-230	-1419	13	23	26335	0.7	-1705	-4054	399	427	27161
Washington	6284	290	-451	11	19	57472	1.9	-1075	2430	220	393	58085
West Virginia	809	-32	-405	3	2	13120	2.0	-1273	-5486	43	48	13211
Wisconsin	6055	-534	-2852	4	9	46371	1.7	-3043	-3597	95	32	46498
Wyoming	365	28	-387	4	2	5168	1.9	-143	-3274	121	16	5305
Totals	208501	-20043	-36534	600	784	2223914	1.6	-61715	-151604	11679	10771	2246364

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 US total covered employment is BLS.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED APRIL 1, 2017

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
IL	+2,060	Layoffs in the construction, transportation and warehousing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
OR	+1,133	No comment.
OH	+1,022	No comment.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-7,238	Fewer layoffs in the service industry.
NY	-7,039	Fewer layoffs in the construction, transportation and warehousing, and accommodation and food service industries.
PA	-4,109	Fewer layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, construction, and accommodation and food service industries.
TX	-2,205	No comment.
CT	-1,184	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](#)

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