



News Release

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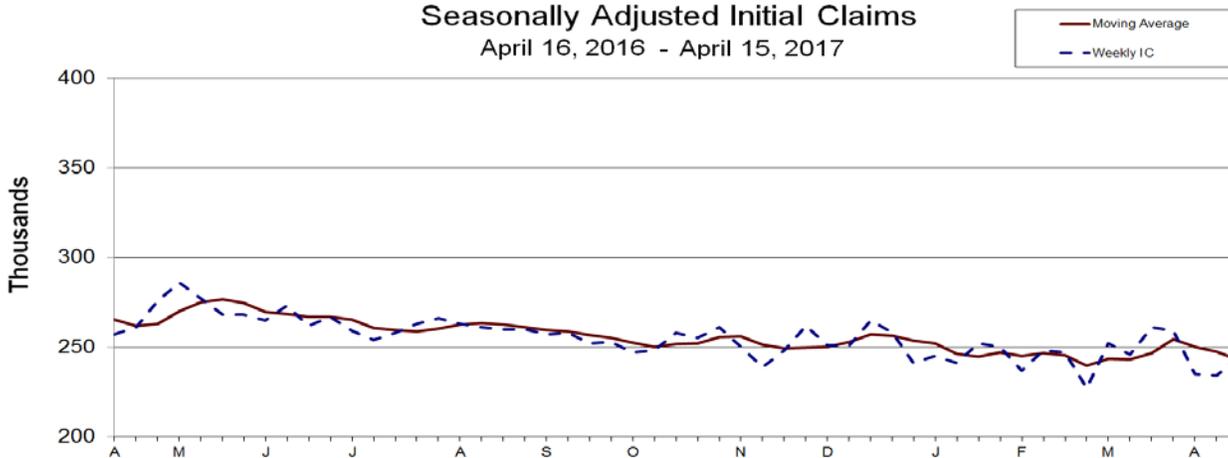
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

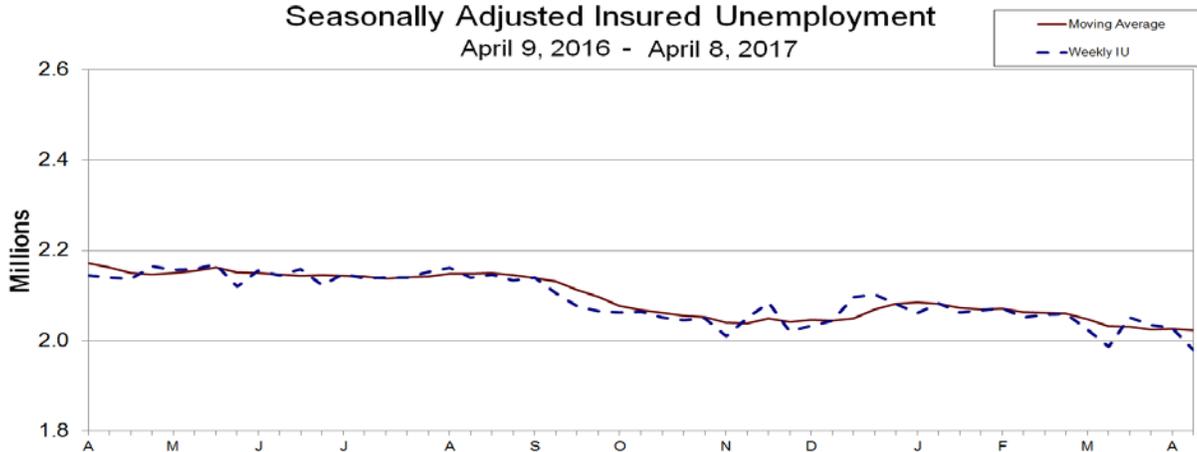
In the week ending April 15, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 244,000, an increase of 10,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 234,000. The 4-week moving average was 243,000, a decrease of 4,250 from the previous week's unrevised average of 247,250.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.4 percent for the week ending April 8, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending April 8 was 1,979,000, a decrease of 49,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 2,028,000. This is the lowest level for insured unemployment since April 15, 2000 when it was 1,962,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,023,500, a decrease of 2,000 from the previous week's unrevised average of 2,025,500. This is the lowest level for this average since June 17, 2000 when it was 2,016,750.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
April 16, 2016 - April 15, 2017



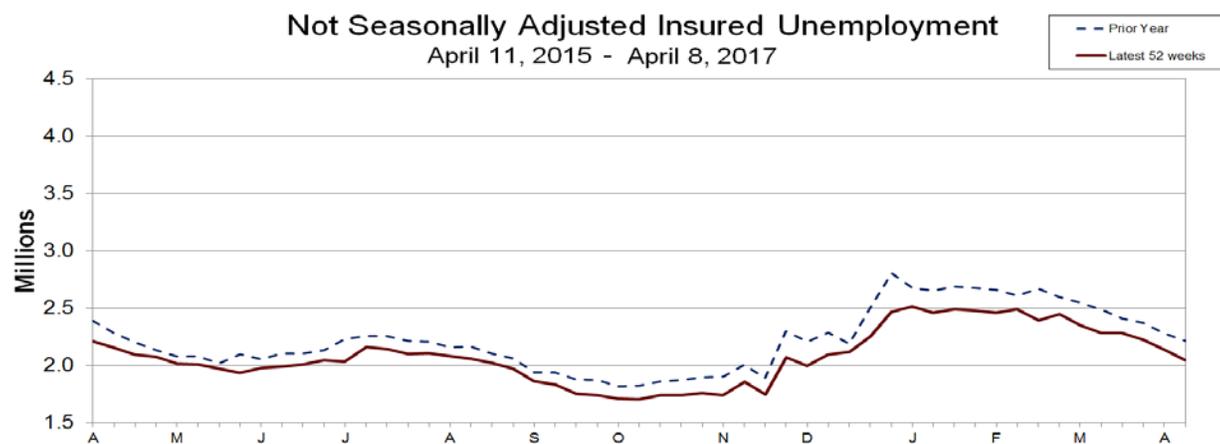
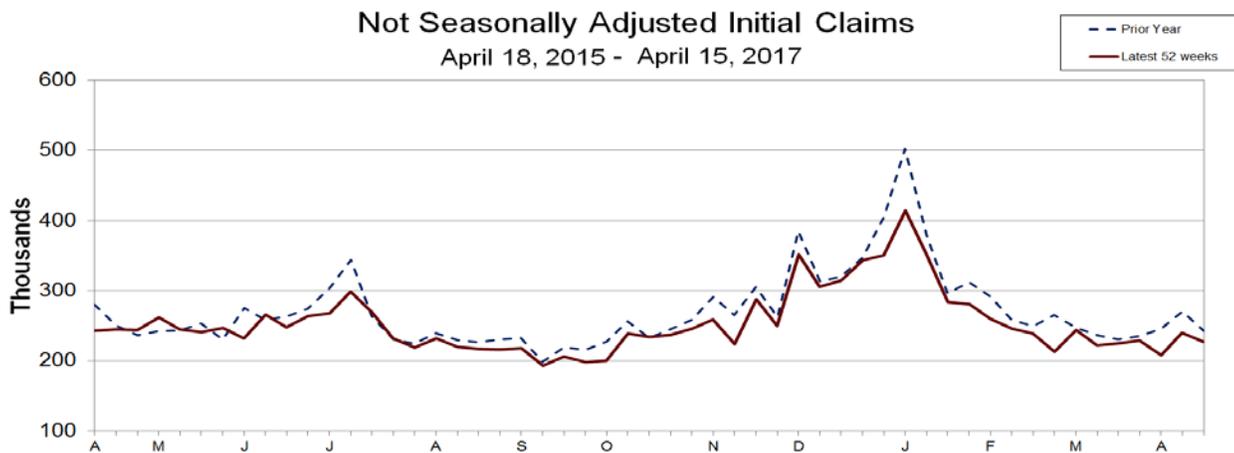
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
April 9, 2016 - April 8, 2017



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 226,679 in the week ending April 15, a decrease of 12,980 (or -5.4 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 22,446 (or -9.4 percent) from the previous week. There were 242,400 initial claims in the comparable week in 2016.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.5 percent during the week ending April 8, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,045,977, a decrease of 93,080 (or -4.4 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 42,578 (or -2.0 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.6 percent and the volume was 2,211,972.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending April 1 was 2,177,513, a decrease of 84,354 from the previous week. There were 2,325,489 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 April 1.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 729 in the week ending April 8, an increase of 129 from the prior week. There were 883 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 99 from the preceding week.

There were 11,641 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending April 1, a decrease of 38 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 10,391, a decrease of 380 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending April 1 were in Alaska (3.6), New Jersey (2.8), Connecticut (2.7), Puerto Rico (2.6), California (2.5), Massachusetts (2.4), Rhode Island (2.4), Illinois (2.3), Pennsylvania (2.3), and Montana (2.1).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending April 8 were in California (+8,386), Texas (+2,880), Arizona (+2,364), Florida (+1,583), and New York (+1,458), while the largest decreases were in Michigan (-688), Kansas (-246), Ohio (-174), Indiana (-157), and Tennessee (-72).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	April 15	April 8	Change	April 1	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	244,000	234,000	+10,000	235,000	257,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	226,679	239,659	-12,980	208,501	242,400
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	243,000	247,250	-4,250	250,250	265,250
WEEK ENDING	April 8	April 1	Change	March 25	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,979,000	2,028,000	-49,000	2,035,000	2,145,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,045,977	2,139,057	-93,080	2,223,914	2,211,972
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,023,500	2,025,500	-2,000	2,024,750	2,171,500
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.4%	1.5%	-0.1	1.5%	1.6%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.6%	1.6%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 8	April 1	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	729	600	+129	744
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	883	784	+99	1,203

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	April 1	March 25	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Regular State	2,135,937	2,220,626	-84,689	2,275,028
Federal Employees	11,641	11,679	-38	10,631
Newly Discharged Veterans	10,391	10,771	-380	13,664
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	7,823	7,526	+297	7,436
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	11,721	11,265	+456	18,730
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,177,513	2,261,867	-84,354	2,325,489

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 15			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended April 8		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,383	2,769	-386	16,712	16,733	-21
Alaska	1,490	1,401	89	10,673	11,309	-636
Arizona	4,843	6,757	-1,914	23,605	24,510	-905
Arkansas	1,688	2,233	-545	11,450	12,257	-807
California	47,903	43,753	4,150	388,842	401,748	-12,906
Colorado	2,251	2,833	-582	25,597	24,542	1,055
Connecticut	4,377	3,386	991	41,763	44,250	-2,487
Delaware	388	635	-247	5,959	6,013	-54
District of Columbia	504	390	114	7,713	7,948	-235
Florida	6,639	8,564	-1,925	35,129	39,845	-4,716
Georgia	5,569	6,065	-496	27,024	28,532	-1,508
Hawaii	1,130	1,535	-405	7,797	7,333	464
Idaho	965	1,256	-291	7,817	9,231	-1,414
Illinois	9,131	11,018	-1,887	134,470	133,518	952
Indiana	2,296	3,258	-962	23,036	25,978	-2,942
Iowa	2,382	2,114	268	23,368	24,367	-999
Kansas	1,585	2,214	-629	14,016	14,181	-165
Kentucky	2,336	3,496	-1,160	19,486	19,020	466
*Louisiana	2,276	2,562	-286	21,197	21,681	-484
Maine	760	940	-180	9,186	9,399	-213
Maryland	4,757	3,490	1,267	31,978	32,220	-242
Massachusetts	4,583	5,056	-473	74,373	81,410	-7,037
Michigan	5,650	6,753	-1,103	71,762	78,304	-6,542
Minnesota	3,135	3,265	-130	52,353	56,503	-4,150
Mississippi	943	1,285	-342	8,030	9,143	-1,113
Missouri	2,802	4,181	-1,379	24,871	27,823	-2,952
Montana	787	888	-101	8,529	9,428	-899
Nebraska	871	818	53	5,004	5,499	-495
Nevada	2,887	2,787	100	20,376	21,854	-1,478
New Hampshire	561	643	-82	4,483	5,073	-590
New Jersey	12,118	9,095	3,023	100,747	107,510	-6,763
New Mexico	831	976	-145	10,974	11,512	-538
New York	15,430	15,276	154	159,168	166,211	-7,043
North Carolina	2,772	3,388	-616	20,461	22,041	-1,580
North Dakota	364	401	-37	6,690	6,516	174
Ohio	8,485	7,161	1,324	64,752	71,491	-6,739
Oklahoma	1,241	1,602	-361	14,751	15,417	-666
Oregon	3,627	5,024	-1,397	28,912	31,101	-2,189
Pennsylvania	14,519	14,991	-472	127,878	131,474	-3,596
*Puerto Rico	1,751	2,219	-468	21,052	22,950	-1,898
Rhode Island	1,362	906	456	10,190	11,059	-869
South Carolina	2,311	2,455	-144	12,484	13,073	-589
South Dakota	143	197	-54	2,054	2,601	-547
Tennessee	2,365	2,787	-422	16,813	17,605	-792
Texas	13,268	16,625	-3,357	139,486	142,058	-2,572
Utah	1,100	1,228	-128	9,024	9,775	-751
Vermont	635	764	-129	5,769	5,541	228
Virgin Islands	26	37	-11	378	522	-144
Virginia	2,710	2,881	-171	25,027	25,255	-228
Washington	6,493	7,505	-1,012	56,967	55,915	1,052
West Virginia	927	1,185	-258	12,281	12,250	31
Wisconsin	5,761	6,028	-267	39,299	42,964	-3,665
Wyoming	568	583	-15	4,221	4,564	-343
US Total	226,679	239,659	-12,980	2,045,977	2,139,057	-93,080

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 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 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	1,979	-49	2,023.50	1.4
April 15, 2017	244	10	243.00				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended April 8

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended April 1

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	2769	167	-397	7	9	16733	0.9	9	-3748	66	108	16907	
Alaska	1401	384	57	6	2	11309	3.6	-199	-1568	160	27	11496	
Arizona	6757	2364	-246	10	9	24510	0.9	189	-2160	173	80	24763	
Arkansas	2233	643	-326	5	3	12257	1.0	-1355	-3991	59	62	12378	
California	43753	8386	-5305	165	142	401748	2.5	8303	16608	2873	2262	406883	
Colorado	2833	558	-371	9	25	24542	1.0	-1751	-5078	215	414	25171	
Connecticut	3386	372	-261	18	8	44250	2.7	-2126	3218	73	87	44410	
Delaware	635	121	-224	1	1	6013	1.4	-1331	-1023	16	17	6046	
District of Columbia	390	125	49	13	0	7948	1.4	-318	338	1051	6	9005	
Florida	8564	1583	-165	26	59	39845	0.5	-1676	-5778	158	212	40215	
Georgia	6065	1011	-1604	41	37	28532	0.7	416	-3989	185	266	28983	
Hawaii	1535	257	169	3	15	7333	1.2	-483	993	65	96	7494	
Idaho	1256	29	85	7	5	9231	1.4	-753	-61	155	31	9417	
Illinois	11018	786	218	8	15	133518	2.3	-6309	-5895	372	321	134211	
Indiana	3258	-157	-288	15	11	25978	0.9	368	-1114	74	49	26101	
Iowa	2114	132	-137	6	2	24367	1.6	-1457	642	49	52	24468	
Kansas	2214	-246	130	8	9	14181	1.1	259	593	35	59	14275	
Kentucky	3496	1280	42	1	6	19020	1.0	-2147	-5248	120	210	19350	
Louisiana	2562	27	-435	5	8	21681	1.2	43	-1260	56	68	21805	
Maine	940	21	-117	0	1	9399	1.6	-90	-1351	36	25	9460	
Maryland	3490	502	-592	17	9	32220	1.3	-6184	-7479	175	180	32575	
Massachusetts	5056	677	-431	14	20	81410	2.4	-4561	1537	187	199	81796	
Michigan	6753	-688	-541	8	15	78304	1.9	-7618	-2930	193	156	78653	
Minnesota	3265	97	-493	1	7	56503	2.0	-1636	-3201	103	79	56685	
Mississippi	1285	232	-488	11	4	9143	0.8	-411	-2054	97	37	9277	
Missouri	4181	589	-179	10	8	27823	1.0	-2245	157	95	63	27981	
Montana	888	110	-233	15	8	9428	2.1	-969	-922	296	36	9760	
Nebraska	818	9	138	0	1	5499	0.6	-436	295	23	10	5532	
Nevada	2787	540	-84	2	5	21854	1.7	-279	-2812	186	95	22135	
New Hampshire	643	59	-199	2	0	5073	0.8	-41	-483	9	6	5088	
New Jersey	9095	882	-1524	11	23	107510	2.8	-4882	-5144	208	288	108006	
New Mexico	976	-50	-334	2	1	11512	1.5	-665	-2515	210	70	11792	
New York	15276	1458	-2902	26	37	166211	1.8	-6604	-7625	354	516	167081	
North Carolina	3388	562	-455	7	21	22041	0.5	-548	-3557	106	214	22361	
North Dakota	401	24	-218	3	0	6516	1.6	-517	-1643	10	7	6533	
Ohio	7161	-174	-221	8	27	71491	1.4	-2931	-2242	121	273	71885	
Oklahoma	1602	132	-582	17	10	15417	1.0	-50	-8060	71	112	15600	
Oregon	5024	563	1431	18	20	31101	1.7	937	1260	543	151	31795	
Pennsylvania	14991	807	-5355	80	45	131474	2.3	-20208	-13725	568	423	132465	
Puerto Rico	2219	791	569	3	6	22950	2.6	-1413	1040	45	68	23063	
Rhode Island	906	201	-187	3	3	11059	2.4	-845	381	26	32	11117	
South Carolina	2455	563	-611	7	18	13073	0.7	-272	-1930	64	105	13242	
South Dakota	197	32	-33	1	1	2601	0.6	-374	225	43	2	2646	
Tennessee	2787	-72	-1038	8	4	17605	0.6	-1137	-5857	402	53	18060	
Texas	16625	2880	-2478	48	161	142058	1.2	-2265	-30579	549	1855	144462	
Utah	1228	306	-223	12	1	9775	0.7	-734	-1506	123	32	9930	
Vermont	764	224	-196	2	2	5541	1.8	-169	-527	12	5	5558	
Virgin Islands	37	15	-4	0	0	522	1.4	126	-14	2	6	530	
Virginia	2881	256	-1205	17	19	25255	0.7	-1080	-5553	387	392	26034	
Washington	7505	1221	-553	11	32	55915	1.8	-1557	1597	202	366	56483	
West Virginia	1185	376	-380	3	3	12250	1.8	-870	-6193	42	48	12340	
Wisconsin	6028	-27	-1410	3	5	42964	1.5	-3407	-7898	93	42	43099	
Wyoming	583	218	-623	5	0	4564	1.7	-604	-3544	105	18	4687	
Totals	239659	31158	-30760	729	883	2139057	1.5	-84857	-141373	11641	10391	2161089	

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 8, 2017

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	+8,386	Layoffs in the service industry.
TX	+2,880	Layoffs in the manufacturing, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
AZ	+2,364	No comment.
FL	+1,583	Layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
NY	+1,458	Layoffs in the professional, scientific, and technical service, information, and construction industries.
KY	+1,208	No comment.
WA	+1,221	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, health care and social assistance, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
GA	+1,011	Layoffs in the manufacturing, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and trade industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
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. 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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