



News Release

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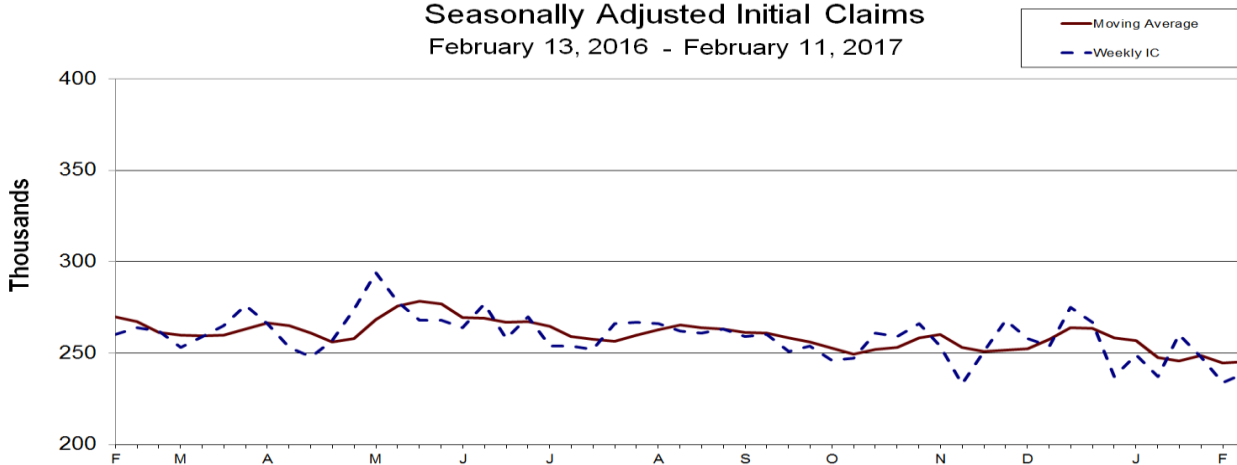
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

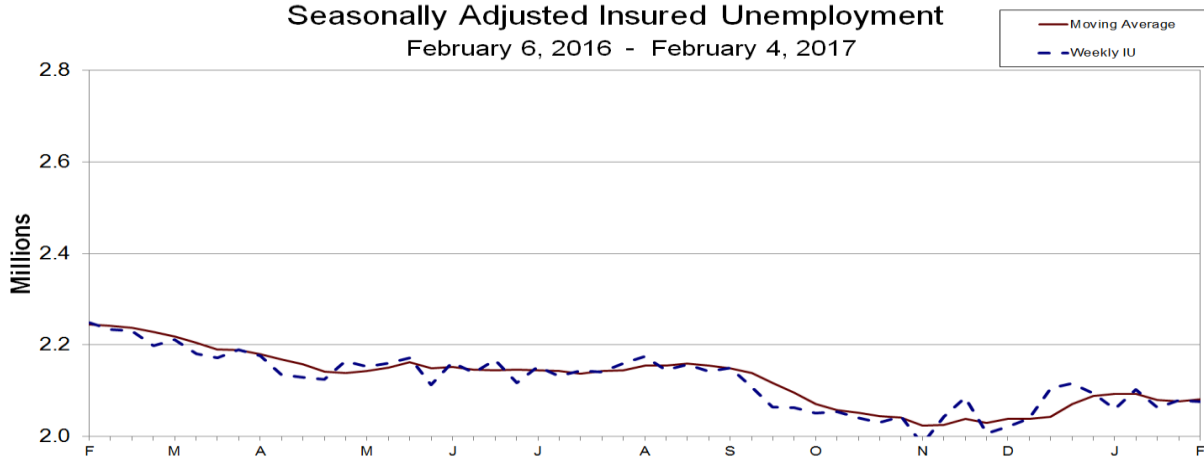
In the week ending February 11, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 239,000, an increase of 5,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 234,000. The 4-week moving average was 245,250, an increase of 500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 244,250 to 244,750.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.5 percent for the week ending February 4, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending February 4 was 2,076,000, a decrease of 3,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 1,000 from 2,078,000 to 2,079,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,080,250, an increase of 4,250 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 2,075,750 to 2,076,000.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
February 13, 2016 - February 11, 2017



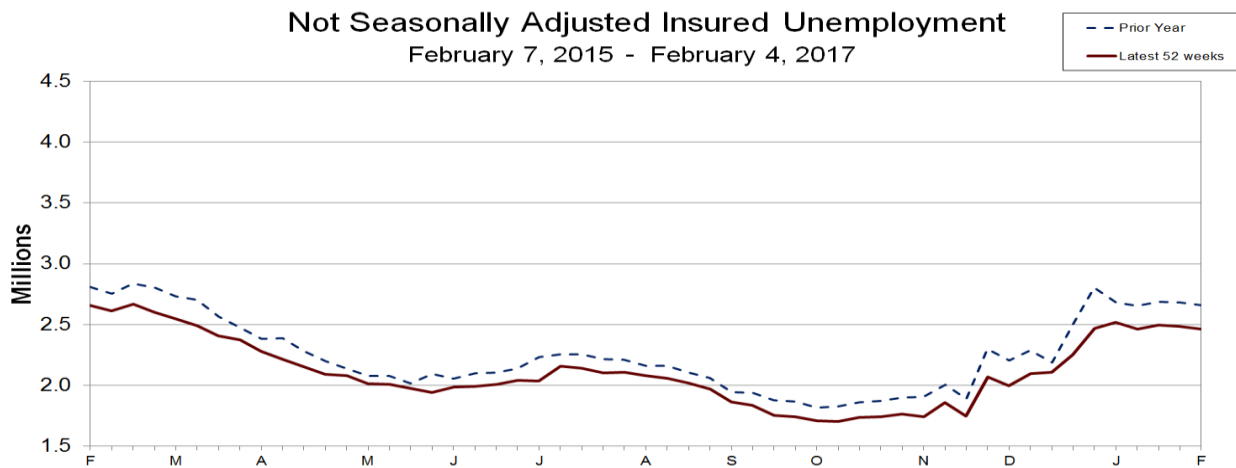
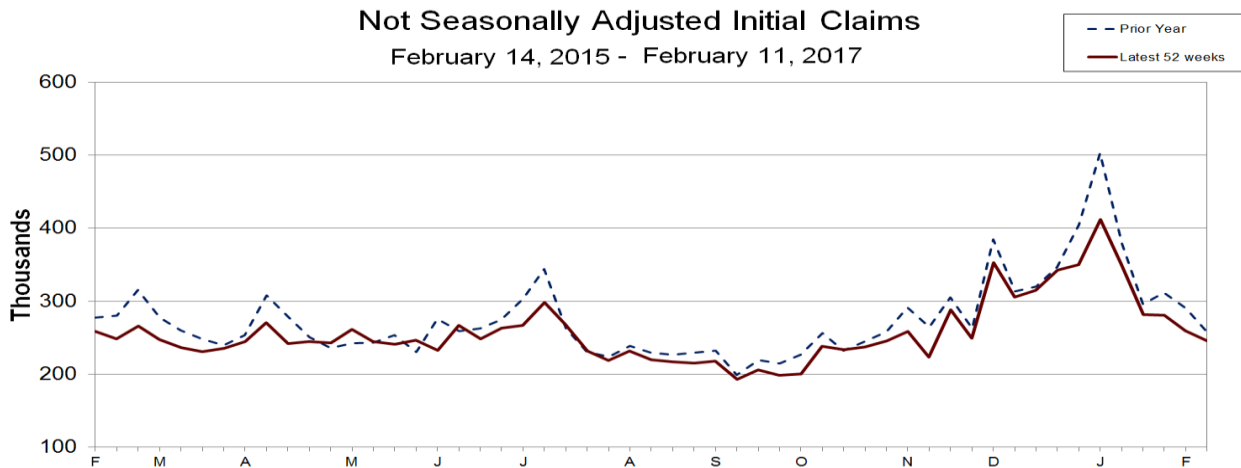
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
February 6, 2016 - February 4, 2017



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 246,076 in the week ending February 11, a decrease of 13,637 (or -5.3 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 18,701 (or -7.2 percent) from the previous week. There were 258,380 initial claims in the comparable week in 2016.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.8 percent during the week ending February 4, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,463,679, a decrease of 19,110 (or -0.8 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 14,556 (or -0.6 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.0 percent and the volume was 2,657,981.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending January 28 was 2,526,820, a decrease of 11,449 from the previous week. There were 2,720,405 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 January 28.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,084 in the week ending February 4, a decrease of 481 from the prior week. There were 983 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 7 from the preceding week.

There were 13,774 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending January 28, a decrease of 1,001 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 12,042, a decrease of 260 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending January 28 were in Alaska (4.5), Montana (3.2), New Jersey (3.1), Connecticut (3.0), Pennsylvania (2.9), Illinois (2.8), Rhode Island (2.8), Massachusetts (2.7), Puerto Rico (2.7), and West Virginia (2.6).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending February 4 were in New York (+909), New Jersey (+809), Minnesota (+263), Texas (+188), and Massachusetts (+101), while the largest decreases were in California (-8,361), Ohio (-2,947), Oregon (-2,680), Connecticut (-1,493), and Michigan (-1,232).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	February 11	February 4	Change	January 28	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	239,000	234,000	+5,000	248,000	260,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	246,076	259,713	-13,637	280,983	258,380
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	245,250	244,750	+500	248,500	270,000
WEEK ENDING	February 4	January 28	Change	January 21	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,076,000	2,079,000	-3,000	2,063,000	2,249,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,463,679	2,482,789	-19,110	2,494,547	2,657,981
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,080,250	2,076,000	+4,250	2,079,500	2,245,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u>²	1.5%	1.5%	0.0	1.5%	1.7%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u>²	1.8%	1.8%	0.0	1.8%	2.0%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	February 4	January 28	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,084	1,565	-481	838
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	983	976	+7	1,267

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	January 28	January 21	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	2,478,304	2,490,787	-12,483	2,665,439
Federal Employees	13,774	14,775	-1,001	13,966
Newly Discharged Veterans	12,042	12,302	-260	15,733
<u>Extended Benefits</u>³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u>⁴	7,525	7,706	-181	7,409
<u>STC / Workshare</u>⁵	15,175	12,699	+2,476	17,858
<u>TOTAL</u>	2,526,820	2,538,269	-11,449	2,720,405

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 138,930,224 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 February 11			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended February 4		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,229	2,718	-489	19,029	20,278	-1,249
Alaska	1,437	1,356	81	14,044	14,104	-60
Arizona	3,810	4,300	-490	22,989	25,502	-2,513
Arkansas	1,540	1,725	-185	15,136	16,705	-1,569
California	50,313	45,464	4,849	430,301	407,599	22,702
Colorado	2,415	2,586	-171	29,811	31,459	-1,648
Connecticut	3,113	3,880	-767	49,229	49,501	-272
Delaware	668	807	-139	7,760	8,324	-564
District of Columbia	577	398	179	8,392	8,958	-566
Florida	7,186	7,822	-636	37,699	44,138	-6,439
Georgia	5,990	7,265	-1,275	32,099	34,315	-2,216
Hawaii	1,350	1,261	89	8,130	8,218	-88
Idaho	1,433	1,802	-369	14,313	15,105	-792
Illinois	9,692	10,978	-1,286	155,747	159,542	-3,795
Indiana	3,241	3,573	-332	32,954	34,200	-1,246
Iowa	2,860	2,697	163	36,709	34,842	1,867
Kansas	2,279	2,364	-85	15,330	15,008	322
Kentucky	2,795	2,823	-28	24,752	26,503	-1,751
Louisiana	2,206	2,356	-150	21,242	21,614	-372
Maine	718	970	-252	10,606	10,384	222
Maryland	3,582	4,417	-835	40,318	44,159	-3,841
Massachusetts	5,705	7,039	-1,334	90,539	92,307	-1,768
Michigan	8,173	9,724	-1,551	93,494	95,347	-1,853
Minnesota	4,118	4,245	-127	71,141	66,763	4,378
Mississippi	956	1,336	-380	10,230	11,996	-1,766
Missouri	3,567	4,423	-856	33,691	36,970	-3,279
Montana	1,053	941	112	13,832	13,911	-79
Nebraska	779	875	-96	8,705	8,560	145
Nevada	2,977	2,857	120	23,592	25,671	-2,079
New Hampshire	532	747	-215	5,409	5,857	-448
New Jersey	8,737	11,135	-2,398	121,923	120,625	1,298
New Mexico	904	1,061	-157	12,492	13,133	-641
New York	17,344	18,612	-1,268	186,349	185,286	1,063
North Carolina	3,626	3,928	-302	26,551	27,893	-1,342
North Dakota	749	704	45	11,570	9,087	2,483
Ohio	8,328	8,920	-592	87,449	87,472	-23
Oklahoma	1,478	1,744	-266	17,415	18,351	-936
Oregon	5,069	4,627	442	34,785	34,744	41
Pennsylvania	16,110	18,659	-2,549	154,942	161,382	-6,440
Puerto Rico	1,852	2,082	-230	20,891	23,845	-2,954
Rhode Island	946	1,106	-160	13,050	12,850	200
South Carolina	2,146	2,595	-449	16,171	17,131	-960
South Dakota	333	333	0	3,896	3,899	-3
Tennessee	2,692	3,112	-420	22,355	23,781	-1,426
Texas	14,616	15,306	-690	154,773	155,865	-1,092
Utah	1,243	1,364	-121	14,720	14,962	-242
Vermont	543	562	-19	6,627	6,254	373
Virgin Islands	14	33	-19	614	438	176
Virginia	4,057	3,549	508	30,744	30,059	685
Washington	8,892	6,954	1,938	68,324	67,306	1,018
West Virginia	1,118	1,368	-250	17,310	17,197	113
Wisconsin	7,378	7,673	-295	57,346	56,601	745
Wyoming	607	537	70	6,159	6,788	-629
US Total	246,076	259,713	-13,637	2,463,679	2,482,789	-19,110

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.

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 6, 2016	259	-27	277.75	2,249	15	2,245.25	1.7
February 13, 2016	260	1	270.00	2,233	-16	2,241.00	1.6
February 20, 2016	264	4	267.25	2,231	-2	2,236.75	1.6
February 27, 2016	262	-2	261.25	2,198	-33	2,227.75	1.6
March 5, 2016	253	-9	259.75	2,212	14	2,218.50	1.6
March 12, 2016	259	6	259.50	2,180	-32	2,205.25	1.6
March 19, 2016	265	6	259.75	2,172	-8	2,190.50	1.6
March 26, 2016	276	11	263.25	2,189	17	2,188.25	1.6
April 2, 2016	266	-10	266.50	2,176	-13	2,179.25	1.6
April 9, 2016	253	-13	265.00	2,135	-41	2,168.00	1.6
April 16, 2016	248	-5	260.75	2,129	-6	2,157.25	1.6
April 23, 2016	257	9	256.00	2,124	-5	2,141.00	1.6
April 30, 2016	274	17	258.00	2,165	41	2,138.25	1.6
May 7, 2016	294	20	268.25	2,153	-12	2,142.75	1.6
May 14, 2016	278	-16	275.75	2,160	7	2,150.50	1.6
May 21, 2016	268	-10	278.50	2,172	12	2,162.50	1.6
May 28, 2016	268	0	277.00	2,112	-60	2,149.25	1.5
June 4, 2016	264	-4	269.50	2,162	50	2,151.50	1.6
June 11, 2016	277	13	269.25	2,139	-23	2,146.25	1.6
June 18, 2016	258	-19	266.75	2,167	28	2,145.00	1.6
June 25, 2016	270	12	267.25	2,117	-50	2,146.25	1.5
July 2, 2016	254	-16	264.75	2,153	36	2,144.00	1.6
July 9, 2016	254	0	259.00	2,132	-21	2,142.25	1.5
July 16, 2016	252	-2	257.50	2,144	12	2,136.50	1.6
July 23, 2016	266	14	256.50	2,141	-3	2,142.50	1.6
July 30, 2016	267	1	259.75	2,160	19	2,144.25	1.6
August 6, 2016	266	-1	262.75	2,175	15	2,155.00	1.6
August 13, 2016	262	-4	265.25	2,145	-30	2,155.25	1.6
August 20, 2016	261	-1	264.00	2,157	12	2,159.25	1.6
August 27, 2016	263	2	263.00	2,142	-15	2,154.75	1.6
September 3, 2016	259	-4	261.25	2,149	7	2,148.25	1.6
September 10, 2016	260	1	260.75	2,108	-41	2,139.00	1.5
September 17, 2016	251	-9	258.25	2,064	-44	2,115.75	1.5
September 24, 2016	254	3	256.00	2,062	-2	2,095.75	1.5
October 1, 2016	246	-8	252.75	2,050	-12	2,071.00	1.5
October 8, 2016	247	1	249.50	2,054	4	2,057.50	1.5
October 15, 2016	261	14	252.00	2,040	-14	2,051.50	1.5
October 22, 2016	259	-2	253.25	2,030	-10	2,043.50	1.5
October 29, 2016	266	7	258.25	2,043	13	2,041.75	1.5
November 5, 2016	254	-12	260.00	1,983	-60	2,024.00	1.4
November 12, 2016	233	-21	253.00	2,043	60	2,024.75	1.5
November 19, 2016	251	18	251.00	2,084	41	2,038.25	1.5
November 26, 2016	268	17	251.50	2,007	-77	2,029.25	1.5
December 3, 2016	258	-10	252.50	2,021	14	2,038.75	1.5
December 10, 2016	254	-4	257.75	2,039	18	2,037.75	1.5
December 17, 2016	275	21	263.75	2,105	66	2,043.00	1.5
December 24, 2016	267	-8	263.50	2,116	11	2,070.25	1.5
December 31, 2016	237	-30	258.25	2,093	-23	2,088.25	1.5
January 7, 2017	249	12	257.00	2,059	-34	2,093.25	1.5
January 14, 2017	237	-12	247.50	2,103	44	2,092.75	1.5
January 21, 2017	260	23	245.75	2,063	-40	2,079.50	1.5
January 28, 2017	248	-12	248.50	2,079	16	2,076.00	1.5
February 4, 2017	234	-14	244.75	2,076	-3	2,080.25	1.5
February 11, 2017	239	5	245.25				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended
February 4

Insured Unemployment For Week Ended January 28
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS CHANGE FROM						CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	(%) 2	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	
Alabama	2718	-218	-191	11	20	20278	1.1	-469	-3058	74	119	20471
Alaska	1356	-77	50	7	1	14104	4.5	-923	-919	217	53	14374
Arizona	4300	95	32	4	7	25502	1.0	-492	-1768	274	94	25870
Arkansas	1725	-222	-642	6	3	16705	1.4	-664	-5307	78	101	16884
California	45464	-8361	-3542	194	189	407599	2.5	-22237	-7033	2748	2403	412750
Colorado	2586	-3	-761	12	36	31459	1.3	2212	-3337	352	439	32250
Connecticut	3880	-1493	-203	14	6	49501	3.0	-1482	-7	78	117	49696
Delaware	807	48	-122	2	3	8324	1.9	1023	-331	15	28	8367
District of Columbia	398	-16	44	110	3	8958	1.6	10	315	808	8	9774
Florida	7822	-311	-666	17	44	44138	0.5	-674	-7990	216	274	44628
Georgia	7265	76	-124	37	54	34315	0.8	-705	-3785	198	345	34858
Hawaii	1261	-59	113	4	18	8218	1.3	352	1900	55	135	8408
Idaho	1802	-110	165	36	4	15105	2.3	160	632	376	44	15525
Illinois	10978	-887	-1512	15	20	159542	2.8	5097	-5150	331	215	160088
Indiana	3573	-1127	-409	10	6	34200	1.2	1420	-2609	78	61	34339
Iowa	2697	3	-179	4	1	34842	2.3	-585	-1267	66	53	34961
Kansas	2364	-146	-47	11	5	15008	1.1	-1914	-3966	57	64	15129
Kentucky	2823	23	-427	5	1	26503	1.5	921	-4028	164	218	26885
Louisiana	2356	-162	-728	2	1	21614	1.1	-485	-1542	44	61	21719
Maine	970	-62	-92	4	3	10384	1.8	-40	-2342	38	25	10447
Maryland	4417	19	-947	48	21	44159	1.8	138	-6643	339	202	44700
Massachusetts	7039	101	344	17	23	92307	2.7	1473	-1399	208	212	92727
Michigan	9724	-1232	94	17	18	95347	2.3	5755	-4223	268	182	95797
Minnesota	4245	263	-177	8	7	66763	2.4	47	-5265	162	91	67016
Mississippi	1336	-107	-355	20	6	11996	1.1	-365	-1831	106	43	12145
Missouri	4423	-618	-280	14	8	36970	1.4	528	-4637	230	89	37289
Montana	941	-36	-248	25	2	13911	3.2	151	-396	692	36	14639
Nebraska	875	-157	-123	4	2	8560	0.9	-735	-474	21	12	8593
Nevada	2857	-247	-432	8	7	25671	2.1	601	-2216	214	104	25989
New Hampshire	747	37	-79	2	3	5857	0.9	30	-1017	8	4	5869
New Jersey	11135	809	461	17	26	120625	3.1	556	-8752	211	388	121224
New Mexico	1061	-54	-284	7	0	13133	1.7	268	-1342	318	66	13517
New York	18612	909	-1394	38	45	185286	2.1	142	-13696	343	586	186215
North Carolina	3928	-25	-521	8	26	27893	0.7	134	-4679	144	275	28312
North Dakota	704	-66	-293	1	1	9087	2.2	193	-750	20	6	9113
Ohio	8920	-2947	-404	3	31	87472	1.7	3150	-6440	125	320	87917
Oklahoma	1744	4	-712	14	8	18351	1.2	-133	-4468	83	144	18578
Oregon	4627	-2680	-924	37	14	34744	1.9	-2543	-2413	736	150	35630
Pennsylvania	18659	-645	-4008	80	52	161382	2.9	10221	-23956	663	441	162486
Puerto Rico	2082	-23	22	0	7	23845	2.7	216	-1798	34	127	24006
Rhode Island	1106	-324	-1099	6	4	12850	2.8	-184	-397	18	41	12909
South Carolina	2595	16	-210	7	18	17131	0.9	-283	-1885	71	134	17336
South Dakota	333	6	19	3	2	3899	1.0	71	225	58	3	3960
Tennessee	3112	-11	-1822	8	1	23781	0.8	953	-7203	430	193	24404
Texas	15306	188	-4003	51	184	155865	1.4	-10027	-18135	544	2087	158496
Utah	1364	-100	-205	15	7	14962	1.1	79	-662	357	24	15343
Vermont	562	-13	-104	2	2	6254	2.1	81	-510	15	3	6272
Virgin Islands	33	1	-9	0	0	438	1.2	-182	-54	0	2	440
Virginia	3549	-540	-1349	101	14	30059	0.8	213	-4660	355	438	30852
Washington	6954	-152	-855	8	12	67306	2.2	-1237	253	376	656	68338
West Virginia	1368	-197	-944	3	2	17197	2.6	332	-7708	46	54	17297
Wisconsin	7673	-429	-638	5	5	56601	2.0	-2043	-7534	129	52	56782
Wyoming	537	-11	-363	2	0	6788	2.5	117	-1552	183	20	6991
Totals	259713	-21270	-31083	1084	983	2482789	1.8	-11758	-197809	13774	12042	2508605

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 FEBRUARY 4, 2017

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
None		

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-8,361	Fewer layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, and service industries.
OH	-2,947	No comment.
OR	-2,680	No comment.
CT	-1,493	No comment.
MI	-1,232	No comment.
IN	-1,127	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing industry.

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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