



News Release

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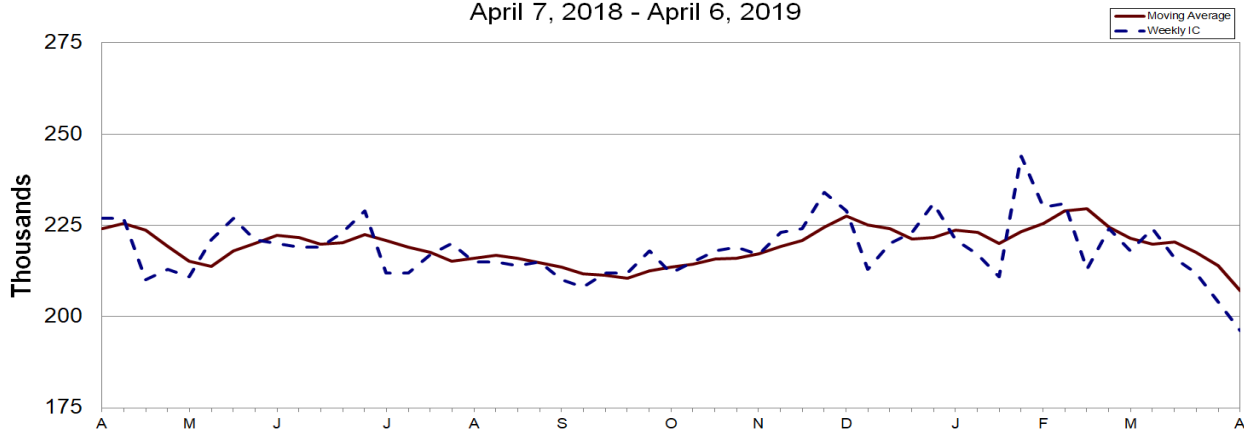
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending April 6, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 196,000, a decrease of 8,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the lowest level for initial claims since October 4, 1969 when it was 193,000. The previous week's level was revised up by 2,000 from 202,000 to 204,000. The 4-week moving average was 207,000, a decrease of 7,000 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since December 6, 1969 when it was 204,500. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 213,500 to 214,000.

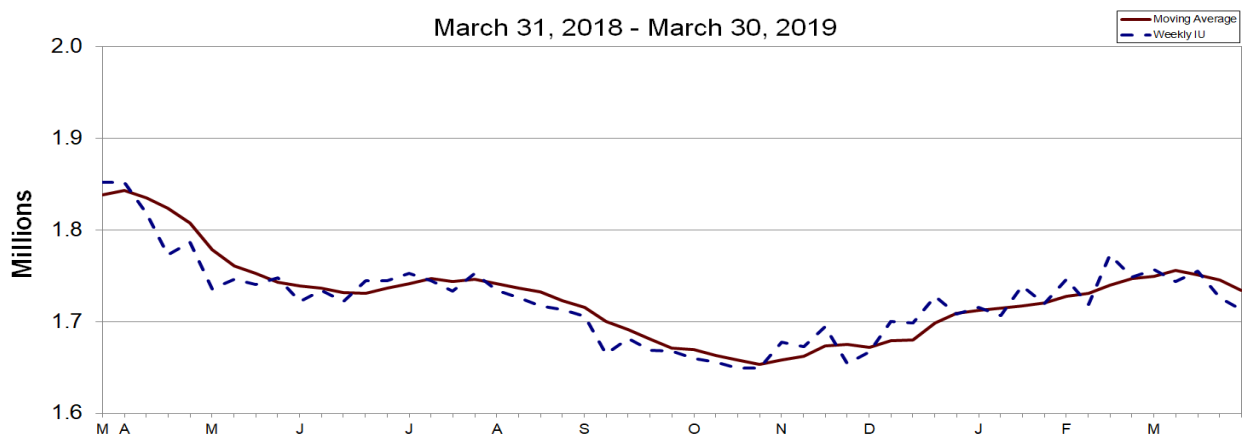
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.2 percent for the week ending March 30, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending March 30 was 1,713,000, a decrease of 13,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 9,000 from 1,717,000 to 1,726,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,734,500, a decrease of 11,000 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 2,250 from 1,743,250 to 1,745,500.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
April 7, 2018 - April 6, 2019



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

March 31, 2018 - March 30, 2019



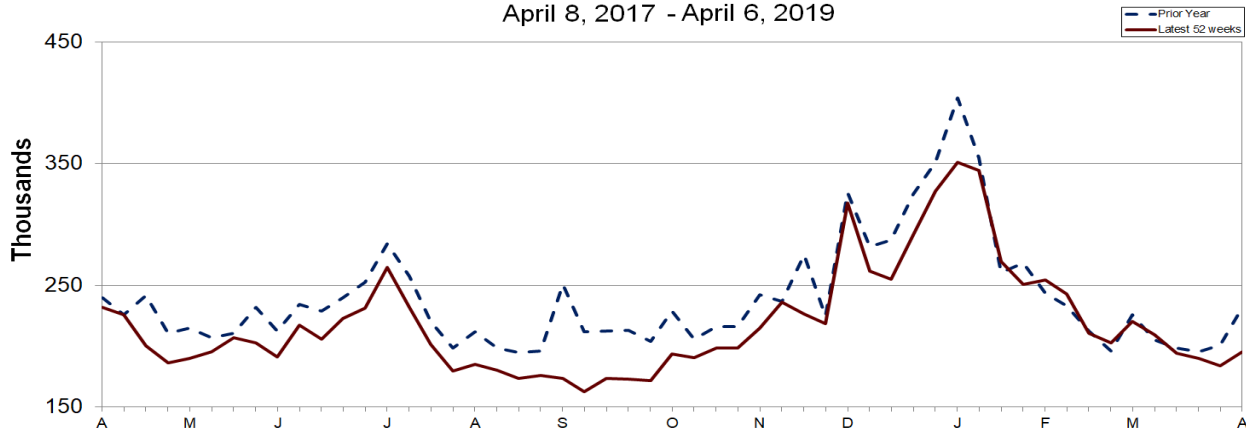
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 195,480 in the week ending April 6, an increase of 11,679 (or 6.4 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 18,930 (or 10.3 percent) from the previous week. There were 231,759 initial claims in the comparable week in 2018.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.3 percent during the week ending March 30, unchanged from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 1,858,086, a decrease of 50,403 (or -2.6 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 36,237 (or -1.9 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.4 percent and the volume was 2,001,558.

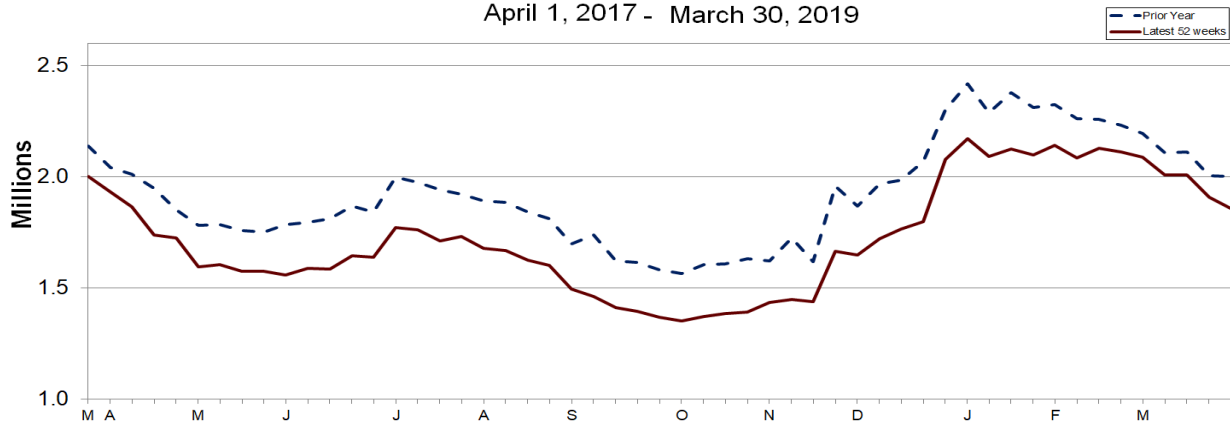
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

April 8, 2017 - April 6, 2019



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

April 1, 2017 - March 30, 2019



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending March 23 was 1,937,322, a decrease of 102,934 from the previous week. There were 2,035,137 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2018.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending March 23.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 571 in the week ending March 30, a decrease of 31 from the prior week. There were 447 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 33 from the preceding week.

There were 10,076 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending March 23, a decrease of 1,003 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 6,103, an increase of 35 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending March 23 were in Alaska (2.8), New Jersey (2.5), Connecticut (2.4), Rhode Island (2.4), California (2.2), Massachusetts (2.2), Montana (2.2), Illinois (2.0), Minnesota (2.0), and Pennsylvania (2.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending March 30 were in Illinois (+1,297), Arizona (+338), New York (+325), Oregon (+311), and Wisconsin (+262), while the largest decreases were in Texas (-2,055), Pennsylvania (-1,377), California (-1,304), Arkansas (-1,044), Missouri (-591), and New Jersey (-591).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	April 6	March 30	Change	March 23	<u>Prior Year¹</u>
Initial Claims (SA)	196,000	204,000	-8,000	212,000	227,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	195,480	183,801	+11,679	190,075	231,759
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	207,000	214,000	-7,000	217,500	224,000
WEEK ENDING	March 30	March 23	Change	March 16	<u>Prior Year¹</u>
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,713,000	1,726,000	-13,000	1,755,000	1,852,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	1,858,086	1,908,489	-50,403	2,009,489	2,001,558
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,734,500	1,745,500	-11,000	1,751,250	1,838,500
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)²</u>	1.2%	1.2%	0.0	1.2%	1.3%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)²</u>	1.3%	1.3%	0.0	1.4%	1.4%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	March 30	March 23	Change	<u>Prior Year¹</u>
Federal Employees (UCFE)	571	602	-31	583
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	447	480	-33	599

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	March 23	March 16	Change	<u>Prior Year¹</u>
Regular State	1,905,761	2,006,493	-100,732	2,000,709
Federal Employees	10,076	11,079	-1,003	9,872
Newly Discharged Veterans	6,103	6,068	+35	8,006
<u>Extended Benefits³</u>	1	0	+1	1,024
<u>State Additional Benefits⁴</u>	6,019	5,854	+165	6,964
<u>STC / Workshare⁵</u>	9,362	10,762	-1,400	8,562
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,937,322	2,040,256	-102,934	2,035,137

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 143,051,794 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 6			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended March 30		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	2,744	2,250	494	14,459	14,131	328
Alaska	994	887	107	8,425	8,523	-98
Arizona	4,678	3,740	938	16,644	19,112	-2,468
Arkansas	2,239	1,219	1,020	8,728	11,003	-2,275
California	36,814	38,528	-1,714	380,673	368,658	12,015
Colorado	1,955	1,483	472	21,288	20,354	934
Connecticut	2,396	1,962	434	37,224	39,190	-1,966
Delaware	449	425	24	5,033	5,949	-916
District of Columbia	495	379	116	6,510	7,017	-507
Florida	6,219	5,304	915	28,668	34,577	-5,909
Georgia	4,438	4,171	267	21,941	23,944	-2,003
Hawaii	1,292	1,249	43	6,899	6,625	274
Idaho	860	1,191	-331	7,107	8,011	-904
Illinois	8,933	9,230	-297	120,361	119,434	927
Indiana	3,130	2,033	1,097	19,267	18,100	1,167
Iowa	1,995	1,882	113	24,182	26,969	-2,787
Kansas	1,404	1,490	-86	8,711	9,195	-484
Kentucky	2,719	2,168	551	17,298	18,417	-1,119
Louisiana	1,482	1,666	-184	11,786	14,283	-2,497
Maine	725	676	49	7,906	8,353	-447
Maryland	2,383	2,396	-13	25,694	28,207	-2,513
Massachusetts	4,232	3,711	521	70,291	77,330	-7,039
Michigan	6,584	4,737	1,847	68,908	70,441	-1,533
Minnesota	3,244	3,068	176	55,103	55,487	-384
Mississippi	731	856	-125	5,974	7,196	-1,222
Missouri	2,467	2,966	-499	19,246	23,092	-3,846
Montana	720	701	19	9,796	9,979	-183
Nebraska	581	663	-82	4,948	6,063	-1,115
Nevada	2,112	2,013	99	16,960	18,779	-1,819
New Hampshire	456	433	23	3,751	4,284	-533
New Jersey	7,610	6,894	716	97,819	100,024	-2,205
New Mexico	864	831	33	9,075	9,539	-464
New York	12,715	13,009	-294	141,280	148,017	-6,737
North Carolina	2,994	2,772	222	18,148	19,778	-1,630
North Dakota	317	266	51	5,542	5,407	135
Ohio	6,194	6,197	-3	59,915	61,777	-1,862
Oklahoma	1,804	1,706	98	12,792	13,558	-766
Oregon	4,454	4,166	288	30,163	29,086	1,077
Pennsylvania	11,135	10,520	615	118,959	117,152	1,807
Puerto Rico	1,074	1,148	-74	13,212	15,503	-2,291
Rhode Island	686	671	15	10,284	11,026	-742
South Carolina	2,026	1,808	218	13,801	14,105	-304
South Dakota	125	149	-24	2,621	2,922	-301
Tennessee	3,977	2,485	1,492	15,675	17,614	-1,939
Texas	13,165	12,327	838	110,383	113,639	-3,256
Utah	1,005	855	150	8,636	9,653	-1,017
Vermont	505	397	108	4,990	4,841	149
Virgin Islands	21	25	-4	370	596	-226
Virginia	2,372	2,100	272	20,409	20,800	-391
Washington	6,590	5,470	1,120	55,096	56,335	-1,239
West Virginia	644	647	-3	13,345	11,545	1,800
Wisconsin	5,407	5,678	-271	38,894	40,083	-1,189
Wyoming	325	203	122	2,896	2,786	110
US Total	195,480	183,801	11,679	1,858,086	1,908,489	-50,403

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	Change from			Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
	Initial Claims	Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
March 31, 2018	231	14	222.75	1,852	34	1,838.50	1.3
April 7, 2018	227	-4	224.00	1,852	0	1,843.25	1.3
April 14, 2018	227	0	225.50	1,818	-34	1,835.00	1.3
April 21, 2018	210	-17	223.75	1,773	-45	1,823.75	1.3
April 28, 2018	213	3	219.25	1,787	14	1,807.50	1.3
May 5, 2018	211	-2	215.25	1,736	-51	1,778.50	1.2
May 12, 2018	221	10	213.75	1,746	10	1,760.50	1.2
May 19, 2018	227	6	218.00	1,741	-5	1,752.50	1.2
May 26, 2018	221	-6	220.00	1,748	7	1,742.75	1.2
June 2, 2018	220	-1	222.25	1,722	-26	1,739.25	1.2
June 9, 2018	219	-1	221.75	1,734	12	1,736.25	1.2
June 16, 2018	219	0	219.75	1,722	-12	1,731.50	1.2
June 23, 2018	223	4	220.25	1,745	23	1,730.75	1.2
June 30, 2018	229	6	222.50	1,745	0	1,736.50	1.2
July 7, 2018	212	-17	220.75	1,753	8	1,741.25	1.2
July 14, 2018	212	0	219.00	1,745	-8	1,747.00	1.2
July 21, 2018	217	5	217.50	1,733	-12	1,744.00	1.2
July 28, 2018	220	3	215.25	1,753	20	1,746.00	1.2
August 4, 2018	215	-5	216.00	1,734	-19	1,741.25	1.2
August 11, 2018	215	0	216.75	1,726	-8	1,736.50	1.2
August 18, 2018	214	-1	216.00	1,717	-9	1,732.50	1.2
August 25, 2018	215	1	214.75	1,713	-4	1,722.50	1.2
September 1, 2018	210	-5	213.50	1,706	-7	1,715.50	1.2
September 8, 2018	208	-2	211.75	1,665	-41	1,700.25	1.2
September 15, 2018	212	4	211.25	1,682	17	1,691.50	1.2
September 22, 2018	212	0	210.50	1,669	-13	1,680.50	1.2
September 29, 2018	218	6	212.50	1,668	-1	1,671.00	1.2
October 6, 2018	212	-6	213.50	1,660	-8	1,669.75	1.2
October 13, 2018	215	3	214.25	1,656	-4	1,663.25	1.2
October 20, 2018	218	3	215.75	1,649	-7	1,658.25	1.2
October 27, 2018	219	1	216.00	1,649	0	1,653.50	1.2
November 3, 2018	217	-2	217.25	1,678	29	1,658.00	1.2
November 10, 2018	223	6	219.25	1,673	-5	1,662.25	1.2
November 17, 2018	224	1	220.75	1,695	22	1,673.75	1.2
November 24, 2018	234	10	224.50	1,654	-41	1,675.00	1.2
December 1, 2018	229	-5	227.50	1,667	13	1,672.25	1.2
December 8, 2018	213	-16	225.00	1,700	33	1,679.00	1.2
December 15, 2018	220	7	224.00	1,699	-1	1,680.00	1.2
December 22, 2018	223	3	221.25	1,728	29	1,698.50	1.2
December 29, 2018	231	8	221.75	1,708	-20	1,708.75	1.2
January 5, 2019	221	-10	223.75	1,716	8	1,712.75	1.2
January 12, 2019	217	-4	223.00	1,707	-9	1,714.75	1.2
January 19, 2019	211	-6	220.00	1,739	32	1,717.50	1.2
January 26, 2019	244	33	223.25	1,720	-19	1,720.50	1.2
February 2, 2019	230	-14	225.50	1,746	26	1,728.00	1.2
February 9, 2019	231	1	229.00	1,719	-27	1,731.00	1.2
February 16, 2019	213	-18	229.50	1,773	54	1,739.50	1.2
February 23, 2019	224	11	224.50	1,749	-24	1,746.75	1.2
March 2, 2019	218	-6	221.50	1,757	8	1,749.50	1.2
March 9, 2019	224	6	219.75	1,744	-13	1,755.75	1.2
March 16, 2019	216	-8	220.50	1,755	11	1,751.25	1.2
March 23, 2019	212	-4	217.50	1,726	-29	1,745.50	1.2
March 30, 2019	204	-8	214.00	1,713	-13	1,734.50	1.2
April 6, 2019	196	-8	207.00				

STATE NAME	INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED MARCH 30						INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 23					
	STATE	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE (%) ²	LAST WEEK	CHANGE FROM		UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
		LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO					LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO			
Alabama	2250	30	-106	7	6	14131	0.7	-138	-866	61	66	14258
Alaska	887	37	-161	3	0	8523	2.8	-741	-1474	131	12	8666
Arizona	3740	338	-129	7	0	19112	0.7	125	-2530	207	48	19367
Arkansas	1219	-1044	-692	3	2	11003	0.9	588	-1616	67	35	11105
California	38528	-1304	-602	147	67	368658	2.2	-16188	6372	2513	1413	372584
Colorado	1483	-67	-208	12	15	20354	0.8	-2532	-1118	194	175	20723
Connecticut	1962	-546	-205	5	4	39190	2.4	-1937	-4136	63	54	39307
Delaware	425	-35	-158	0	2	5949	1.4	546	-865	16	6	5971
District of Columbia	379	-9	131	22	0	7017	1.2	-220	-1135	365	5	7387
Florida	5304	-49	-373	9	34	34577	0.4	-353	-4142	138	97	34812
Georgia	4171	-11	-1445	20	19	23944	0.6	26	-1429	180	168	24292
Hawaii	1249	194	182	6	5	6625	1.1	75	-24	69	64	6758
Idaho	1191	87	-152	6	2	8011	1.1	-655	150	178	12	8201
Illinois	9230	1297	-1159	8	7	119434	2.0	-11880	-4976	311	146	119891
Indiana	2033	-36	14	1	4	18100	0.6	-1568	-403	32	31	18163
Iowa	1882	-390	-263	2	2	26969	1.8	-2361	2661	43	32	27044
Kansas	1490	219	-25	1	1	9195	0.7	-1691	-1398	26	25	9246
Kentucky	2168	211	269	4	2	18417	1.0	-1900	-1457	71	132	18620
Louisiana	1666	47	18	2	0	14283	0.8	209	-1784	49	18	14350
Maine	676	115	18	0	1	8353	1.4	187	88	30	5	8388
Maryland	2396	-527	-1294	13	7	28207	1.1	-706	-6224	223	92	28522
Massachusetts	3711	-590	-332	15	9	77330	2.2	-1264	-6874	169	87	77586
Michigan	4737	-150	-1524	7	3	70441	1.7	-8517	-741	187	60	70688
Minnesota	3068	-245	-22	3	7	55487	2.0	-2192	-1448	99	58	55644
Mississippi	856	-74	77	4	1	7196	0.7	-288	-846	88	14	7298
Missouri	2966	-591	-1053	10	2	23092	0.8	-181	-2946	109	26	23227
Montana	701	-28	-17	6	2	9979	2.2	-789	13	349	21	10349
Nebraska	663	-67	47	4	1	6063	0.6	-836	-121	30	8	6101
Nevada	2013	-102	-172	7	2	18779	1.4	-373	-1706	153	44	18976
New Hampshire	433	-83	-71	0	2	4284	0.7	44	-622	2	1	4287
New Jersey	6894	-591	-2432	18	10	100024	2.5	-4217	-6874	211	241	100476
New Mexico	831	-6	-68	3	0	9539	1.2	-1	-501	242	41	9822
New York	13009	325	-225	23	33	148017	1.6	-4145	-12025	370	298	148685
North Carolina	2772	-24	483	8	12	19778	0.5	-245	-666	110	101	19989
North Dakota	266	55	10	3	0	5407	1.3	-484	-926	13	4	5424
Ohio	6197	216	-582	7	14	61777	1.2	-3458	-4540	96	123	61996
Oklahoma	1706	134	453	5	1	13558	0.9	-659	-269	59	61	13678
Oregon	4166	311	33	13	9	29086	1.6	-1099	360	516	64	29666
Pennsylvania	10520	-1377	-5400	54	25	117152	2.0	-17601	-9763	445	286	117883
Puerto Rico	1148	146	281	6	2	15503	1.8	150	-6047	135	52	15690
Rhode Island	671	-87	-287	2	0	11026	2.4	-471	189	22	7	11055
South Carolina	1808	75	-18	5	9	14105	0.7	-260	-1057	69	68	14242
South Dakota	149	-22	11	2	0	2922	0.7	-327	-45	41	3	2966
Tennessee	2485	118	157	10	9	17614	0.6	-85	-2549	93	108	17815
Texas	12327	-2055	724	37	69	113639	1.0	-4355	-6522	504	1046	115189
Utah	855	-18	-158	6	0	9653	0.7	-477	-51	138	18	9809
Vermont	397	-102	-37	1	0	4841	1.6	-306	-119	10	0	4851
Virgin Islands	25	1	6	1	0	596	1.8	170	-1134	12	4	613
Virginia	2100	-93	-392	1	15	20800	0.6	-899	-2504	196	153	21149
Washington	5470	65	177	16	26	56335	1.7	-3341	3669	446	437	57218
West Virginia	647	-93	-150	1	2	11545	1.7	-1023	-907	48	15	11608
Wisconsin	5678	262	-306	5	1	40083	1.4	-2236	-95	85	12	40180
Wyoming	203	-141	-129	10	1	2786	1.1	-121	-642	62	6	2854
Totals	183801	-6274	-17256	571	447	1908489	1.3	-101000	-94615	10076	6103	1924669

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 MARCH 30, 2019

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
IL	+1,297	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, construction, and manufacturing industries.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
TX	-2,055	No comment.
PA	-1,377	Fewer layoffs in the accommodations and food service, construction, manufacturing, and administrative and support and waste management and remediation service industries.
CA	-1,304	No comment.
AR	-1,044	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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