



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, April 2, 2020

COVID-19 Impact

The COVID-19 virus continues to impact the number of initial claims. Nearly every state providing comments cited the COVID-19 virus. States continued to identify increases related to the services industries broadly, again led by accommodation and food services. However, state comments indicated a wider impact across industries. Many states continued to cite the health care and social assistance, and manufacturing industries, while an increasing number of states identified the retail and wholesale trade and construction industries.

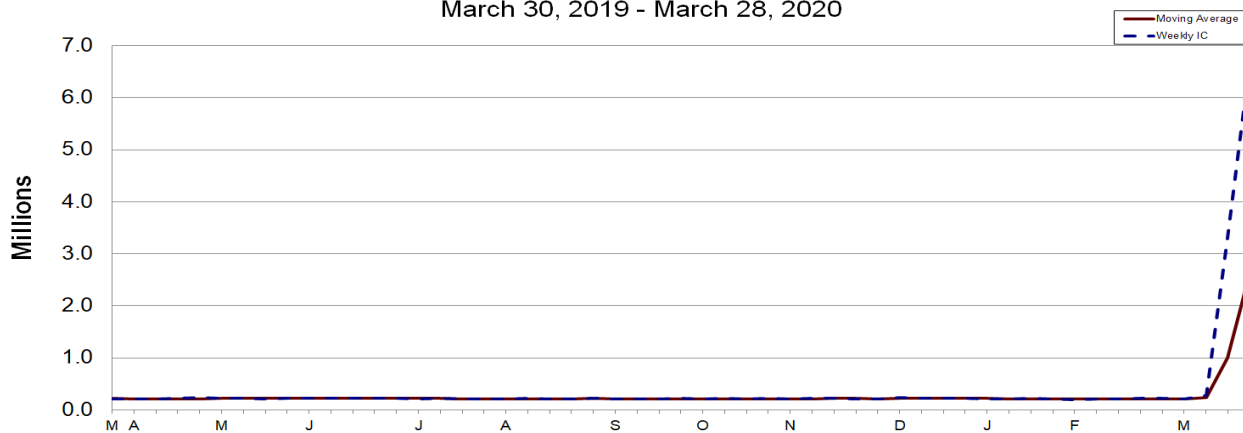
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending March 28, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 6,648,000, an increase of 3,341,000 from the previous week's revised level. This marks the highest level of seasonally adjusted initial claims in the history of the seasonally adjusted series. The previous week's level was revised up by 24,000 from 3,283,000 to 3,307,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,612,000, an increase of 1,607,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 6,000 from 998,250 to 1,004,250.

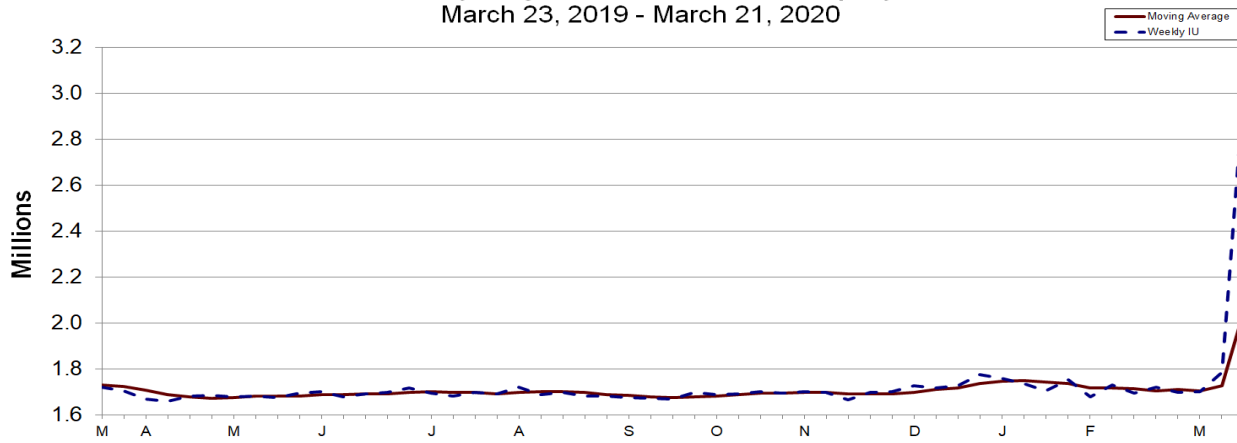
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 2.1 percent for the week ending March 21, an increase of 0.9 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending March 21 was 3,029,000, an increase of 1,245,000 from the previous week's revised level. This is the highest level for insured unemployment since July 6, 2013 when it was 3,079,000. The previous week's level was revised down by 19,000 from 1,803,000 to 1,784,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,053,500, an increase of 327,250 from the previous week's revised average. This is the highest level for this average since January 14, 2017 when it was 2,062,000. The previous week's average was revised down by 4,750 from 1,731,000 to 1,726,250.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
March 30, 2019 - March 28, 2020



Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

March 23, 2019 - March 21, 2020



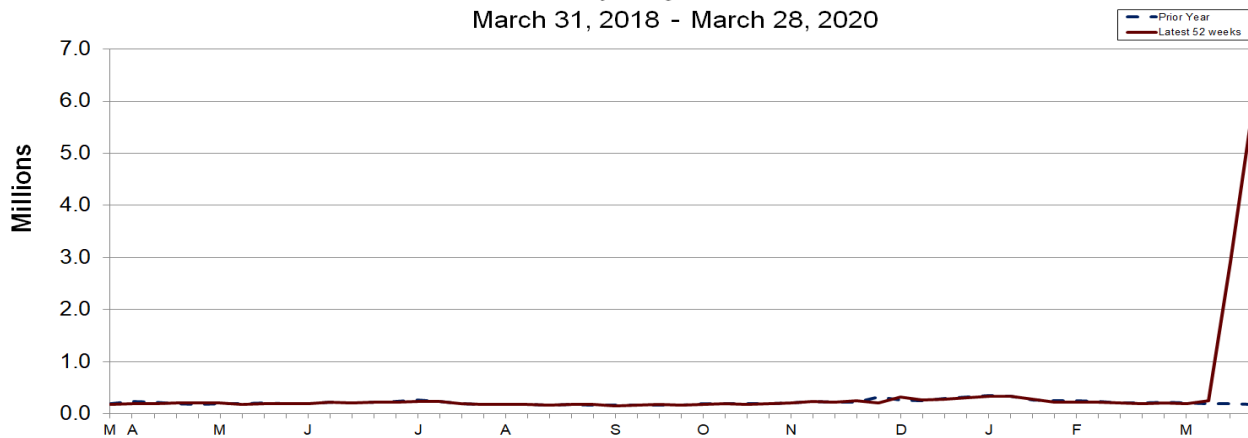
UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 5,823,917 in the week ending March 28, an increase of 2,903,757 (or 99.4 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 23,150 (or -0.8 percent) from the previous week. There were 183,775 initial claims in the comparable week in 2019.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 2.3 percent during the week ending March 21, an increase of 0.9 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 3,383,382, an increase of 1,308,646 (or 63.1 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 82,062 (or -4.0 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.3 percent and the volume was 1,908,355.

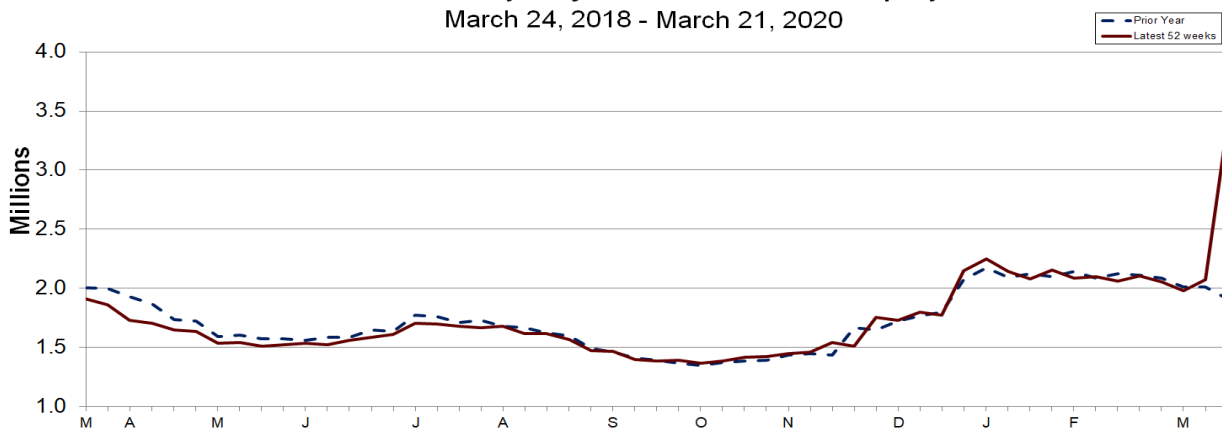
Not Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims

March 31, 2018 - March 28, 2020



Not Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment

March 24, 2018 - March 21, 2020



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending March 14 was 2,105,219, an increase of 98,832 from the previous week. There were 2,040,256 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 14.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,282 in the week ending March 21, an increase of 709 from the prior week. There were 897 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, an increase of 461 from the preceding week.

There were 9,792 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending March 14, an increase of 148 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 5,591, an increase of 384 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending March 14 were in Alaska (2.8), Connecticut (2.7), New Jersey (2.6), California (2.4), Massachusetts (2.3), Minnesota (2.3), Rhode Island (2.3), Montana (2.2), Pennsylvania (2.2), Illinois (2.1), and West Virginia (2.1).

All states reported increases in initial claims for the week ending March 21. The largest increases were in Pennsylvania (+362,012), Ohio (+189,263), Massachusetts (+141,003), Texas (+139,250), and California (+128,727), while the smallest increases were in the Virgin Islands (+79), South Dakota (+1,571), West Virginia (+2,671), Vermont (+3,125), and Wyoming (+3,136).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	March 28	March 21	Change	March 14	Prior Year¹
Initial Claims (SA)	6,648,000	3,307,000	+3,341,000	282,000	211,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	5,823,917	2,920,160	+2,903,757	251,416	183,775
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,612,000	1,004,250	+1,607,750	232,500	217,250
WEEK ENDING	March 21	March 14	Change	March 7	Prior Year¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	3,029,000	1,784,000	+1,245,000	1,702,000	1,719,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	3,383,382	2,074,736	+1,308,646	1,977,272	1,908,355
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,053,500	1,726,250	+327,250	1,703,500	1,728,750
Insured Unemployment Rate (SA) ²	2.1%	1.2%	+0.9	1.2%	1.2%
Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA) ²	2.3%	1.4%	+0.9	1.4%	1.3%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	March 21	March 14	Change	Prior Year¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,282	573	+709	602
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	897	436	+461	480

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	March 14	March 7	Change	Prior Year¹
Regular State	2,071,070	1,973,584	+97,486	2,006,493
Federal Employees	9,792	9,644	+148	11,079
Newly Discharged Veterans	5,591	5,207	+384	6,068
Extended Benefits ³	0	0	0	0
State Additional Benefits ⁴	5,901	5,584	+317	5,854
STC / Workshare ⁵	12,865	12,368	+497	10,762
TOTAL	2,105,219	2,006,387	+98,832	2,040,256

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 145,230,691 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 March 28			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended March 21		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	80,186	10,892	69,294	12,618	12,487	131
Alaska	14,523	7,847	6,676	11,028	8,512	2,516
Arizona	89,064	29,348	59,716	23,761	18,108	5,653
Arkansas	26,944	9,275	17,669	14,733	10,988	3,745
California*	878,727	186,333	692,394	382,466	421,912	-39,446
Colorado	60,784	19,774	41,010	22,395	21,309	1,086
Connecticut	33,182	25,100	8,082	82,176	44,194	37,982
Delaware	18,987	10,776	8,211	12,172	5,297	6,875
District of Columbia	14,868	14,462	406	16,354	7,378	8,976
Florida	227,000	74,313	152,687	30,445	33,728	-3,283
Georgia	132,386	12,140	120,246	107,001	27,507	79,494
Hawaii	48,861	8,815	40,046	11,183	6,426	4,757
Idaho	32,240	13,586	18,654	15,085	7,869	7,216
Illinois	178,133	114,114	64,019	132,838	125,437	7,401
Indiana	146,243	59,755	86,488	30,865	20,778	10,087
Iowa	58,453	40,952	17,501	54,461	26,496	27,965
Kansas	54,739	23,563	31,176	17,545	9,973	7,572
Kentucky	112,726	49,023	63,703	23,817	22,328	1,489
Louisiana	97,830	72,438	25,392	55,602	14,143	41,459
Maine	23,535	21,459	2,076	21,783	8,703	13,080
Maryland	83,536	42,981	40,555	47,225	26,467	20,758
Massachusetts	181,062	148,452	32,610	182,023	83,127	98,896
Michigan	311,086	128,006	183,080	90,359	75,075	15,284
Minnesota	109,896	115,773	-5,877	165,877	66,787	99,090
Mississippi	30,946	5,519	25,427	8,294	6,667	1,627
Missouri	96,734	42,246	54,488	48,699	21,538	27,161
Montana	19,540	15,349	4,191	19,469	9,818	9,651
Nebraska	24,572	15,700	8,872	6,192	4,859	1,333
Nevada	71,419	92,298	-20,879	57,253	19,822	37,431
New Hampshire	27,454	29,379	-1,925	27,624	4,024	23,600
New Jersey	205,515	115,815	89,700	158,254	105,840	52,414
New Mexico	28,182	18,105	10,077	20,953	9,288	11,665
New York	366,403	79,999	286,404	316,791	167,214	149,577
North Carolina	170,881	94,083	76,798	73,597	20,652	52,945
North Dakota	12,591	5,662	6,929	9,640	6,169	3,471
Ohio	272,129	196,309	75,820	213,288	68,323	144,965
Oklahoma	44,970	21,926	23,044	24,519	16,854	7,665
Oregon	42,502	30,054	12,448	63,829	30,523	33,306
Pennsylvania*	405,880	377,451	28,429	136,519	128,029	8,490
Puerto Rico	45,218	20,148	25,070	16,787	15,239	1,548
Rhode Island	28,067	35,847	-7,780	32,200	10,857	21,343
South Carolina	64,856	31,826	33,030	29,656	15,111	14,545
South Dakota	6,645	1,761	4884	3,434	2,674	760
Tennessee	94,492	38,077	56,415	36,300	18,350	17,950
Texas	275,597	155,426	120,171	144,542	126,427	18,115
Utah	28,560	19,690	8,870	23,245	10,826	12,419
Vermont	14,443	3,784	10,659	14,136	4,810	9,326
Virgin Islands	160	123	37	514	584	-70
Virginia	114,104	46,277	67,827	42,200	21,628	20,572
Washington	187,501	129,909	57,592	161,868	62,623	99,245
West Virginia	14,166	3,536	10,630	24,086	14,154	9,932
Wisconsin	110,724	51,031	59,693	100,410	43,607	56,803
Wyoming	4,675	3,653	1,022	5,271	3,197	2,074
US Total	5,823,917	2,920,160	2,903,757	3,383,382	2,074,736	1,308,646

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 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	
March 23, 2019	215	-4	219.50	1,719	-13	1,728.75	1.2
March 30, 2019	211	-4	217.25	1,705	-14	1,722.50	1.2
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	3,029	1,245	2,053.50	2.1
March 28, 2020	6,648	3,341	2,612.00				

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED DURING WEEK ENDED
MARCH 21

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT FOR WEEK ENDED
MARCH 14

STATE NAME	CHANGE FROM					CHANGE FROM					ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT	
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE (%) ²	WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹		
	Alabama	10892	9073	8672	13	4	12487	0.6	-583	-1782		57
Alaska	7847	6727	6997	2	1	8512	2.8	-10	-752	137	11	8660
Arizona	29348	25504	25946	10	1	18108	0.6	513	-879	182	41	18331
Arkansas	9275	7893	7012	2	3	10988	0.9	-526	573	70	35	11093
California	186333	128727	146501	134	83	421912	2.4	70568	37066	2364	1263	425539
Colorado	19774	17453	18224	16	14	21309	0.8	49	-1577	278	142	21729
Connecticut	25100	21660	22592	13	2	44194	2.7	4408	3067	49	60	44303
Delaware	10776	10304	10316	5	9	5297	1.2	-13	-106	11	12	5320
District of Columbia	14462	13249	14074	67	0	7378	1.3	632	141	197	7	7582
Florida	74313	67850	68960	40	72	33728	0.4	1484	-1202	144	103	33975
Georgia	12140	6695	7958	10	9	27507	0.6	2155	3589	155	129	27791
Hawaii	8815	7226	7760	5	1	6426	1.0	231	-126	72	46	6544
Idaho	13586	12555	12482	11	4	7869	1.1	-1467	-797	199	16	8084
Illinois	114114	103244	106181	12	4	125437	2.1	-4888	-5877	305	128	125870
Indiana	59755	57159	57686	11	20	20778	0.7	-695	1110	22	23	20823
Iowa	40952	38723	38680	16	7	26496	1.7	-1320	-2834	47	22	26565
Kansas	23563	21808	22292	1	2	9973	0.7	202	-913	28	27	10028
Kentucky	49023	46238	47066	0	0	22328	1.2	-612	2011	187	121	22636
Louisiana	72438	70183	70819	23	13	14143	0.7	156	69	48	17	14208
Maine	21459	20825	20898	0	2	8703	1.4	252	537	42	10	8755
Maryland	42981	39117	40058	17	14	26467	1.0	-579	-2446	180	75	26722
Massachusetts	148452	141003	144151	39	49	83127	2.3	8791	4533	99	90	83316
Michigan	128006	122668	123119	65	44	75075	1.7	-682	-3883	174	65	75314
Minnesota	115773	111763	112460	28	30	66787	2.3	5006	9108	123	58	66968
Mississippi	5519	4372	4589	3	1	6667	0.6	-431	-817	65	23	6755
Missouri	42246	38230	38689	2	3	21538	0.8	-843	-1735	83	26	21647
Montana	15349	14532	14620	28	3	9818	2.2	-294	-950	457	19	10294
Nebraska	15700	14905	14970	11	4	4859	0.5	-217	-2040	16	8	4883
Nevada	92298	85942	90183	7	4	19822	1.4	347	670	103	46	19971
New Hampshire	29379	28737	28863	4	4	4024	0.6	115	-216	7	2	4033
New Jersey	115815	106348	108330	11	7	105840	2.6	1557	1599	215	275	106330
New Mexico	18105	17236	17268	2	0	9288	1.2	-278	-252	195	41	9524
New York	79999	65727	67315	22	9	167214	1.8	8946	15052	300	305	167819
North Carolina	94083	90550	91287	37	47	20652	0.5	969	629	97	88	20837
North Dakota	5662	5247	5451	9	3	6169	1.5	-180	278	15	3	6187
Ohio	196309	189263	190328	17	82	68323	1.3	-193	3088	101	120	68544
Oklahoma	21926	20090	20354	19	9	16854	1.1	372	2637	54	47	16955
Oregon	30054	25785	26199	33	6	30523	1.6	1521	338	561	58	31142
Pennsylvania	377451	362012	365554	317	48	128029	2.2	-813	-6724	496	183	128708
Puerto Rico	20148	18976	19146	1	4	15239	1.8	-3465	-114	120	72	15431
Rhode Island	35847	34739	35089	0	1	10857	2.3	165	-640	17	7	10881
South Carolina	31826	29733	30093	7	9	15111	0.7	79	746	32	60	15203
South Dakota	1761	1571	1590	4	0	2674	0.6	-196	-575	47	3	2724
Tennessee	38077	35375	35710	35	22	18350	0.6	-100	651	89	51	18490
Texas	155426	139250	141044	85	139	126427	1.0	-1478	8433	554	923	127904
Utah	19690	18385	18817	23	2	10826	0.7	125	696	149	17	10992
Vermont	3784	3125	3285	1	2	4810	1.6	-86	-337	8	2	4820
Virgin Islands	123	79	99	0	0	584	1.7	-8	158	14	0	598
Virginia	46277	43571	44136	10	14	21628	0.6	292	103	176	176	21980
Washington	129909	115669	124504	32	75	62623	1.9	7035	2947	451	427	63501
West Virginia	3536	2671	2796	0	2	14154	2.1	-1240	1586	38	35	14227
Wisconsin	51031	45841	45615	10	9	43607	1.5	2869	1288	99	28	43734
Wyoming	3653	3136	3309	12	0	3197	1.2	-178	290	63	11	3271
Totals	2920160	2668744	2730137	1282	897	2074736	1.4	97464	65419	9792	5591	2090119

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 21, 2020

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
PA	+362,012	Layoffs in the transportation and warehousing, accommodation and food services, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, and health care and social assistance industries.
OH	+189,263	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
MA	+141,003	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
TX	+139,250	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, transportation and warehousing, health care and social assistance, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, mining, retail trade, manufacturing, real estate rental and leasing, and construction industries.
CA	+128,727	Layoffs in the service industry.
MI	+122,668	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, manufacturing, retail trade, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, arts, entertainment, and recreation, service, professional, scientific, and technical services, construction, transportation and warehousing, educational services, information, management of companies and enterprises, and real estate rental and leasing industries.
WA	+115,669	Layoffs in the retail trade, educational services, health care and social assistance, arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services industries.
MN	+111,763	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
NJ	+106,348	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
IL	+103,244	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, and manufacturing industries.
NC	+90,550	Layoffs in the health care and social assistance, and administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services industries.
NV	+85,942	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
LA	+70,183	No comment.
FL	+67,850	Layoffs in the service, retail trade, manufacturing, wholesale trade, construction, and agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting industries.
NY	+65,727	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, arts, entertainment, and recreation, and health care and social assistance industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
IN	+57,159	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, manufacturing, health care and social assistance industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
KY	+46,238	No comment.
WI	+45,841	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services and health care and social assistance industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
VA	+43,571	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services industry.
MD	+39,117	No comments.
IA	+38,723	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, service, educational services, and arts, entertainment, and recreation industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
MO	+38,230	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, and retail trade industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
TN	+35,375	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, retail trade, health care and social assistance, service, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation services industries.
RI	+34,739	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, transportation and warehousing, and arts, entertainment, and recreation industries.
SC	+29,733	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
NH	+28,737	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
OR	+25,785	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
AZ	+25,504	No comment.
KS	+21,808	No comment.
CT	+21,660	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.

ME	+20,825	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, manufacturing, retail trade, arts, entertainment, and recreation, and service industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
OK	+20,090	No comment.
PR	+18,976	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
UT	+18,385	No comment.
CO	+17,453	Layoffs in the arts, entertainment, and recreation and accommodation and food services industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
NM	+17,236	No comment.
NE	+14,905	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
MT	+14,532	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
DC	+13,249	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
ID	+12,555	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
DE	+10,304	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
AL	+9,073	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, retail trade, educational services, and transportation and warehousing industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
AR	+7,893	No comment.
HI	+7,226	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
AK	+6,727	No comment.
GA	+6,695	Layoffs in the accommodation and food services, health care and social assistance, professional, scientific and technical services, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, and retail trade industries.
ND	+5,247	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
MS	+4,372	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
WY	+3,136	Layoffs in the construction, mining, administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services, retail trade, and accommodation and food services industries. Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
VT	+3,125	Increase in initial claims due to COVID-19.
WV	+2,671	No comment.
SD	+1,571	No comment.

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](#)

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).

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Release Number: USDL 20-551-NAT

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